



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Contact: Brittany Kershaw | (386) 586-2637 | bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com

Rushing-Griffen Pleads to 30 Years in Prison **No Chance of Early Release**

Charles Eugene Rushing-Griffen, DOB 9/12/1990, was arrested on December 15, 2017, and charged with robbery with a weapon, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and driving with a suspended license after robbing the Shell gas station clerk at 320 Palm Coast Parkway at gunpoint.

Additional charges were later added for an armed robbery of Terranova's Pizzeria in Bunnell and an attempted robbery of a Mobil gas station in Palm Coast.

Wednesday morning, Rushing-Griffen pleaded to 30 years in prison for the charges. He had faced two life sentences. Judge Dennis Craig made it clear that Rushing-Griffen would serve the full 30-year sentence "day for day" and would not be eligible for early release.

"I'm glad to see he's going to state prison for 30 years," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "I am sure there are a lot of people who are going to sleep easy tonight knowing that he's going away for a long time."

Rushing-Griffen will be 57 years old when released in 2048.

Original News Story below.

Date: Friday, December 15, 2017

Contact: Brittany Kershaw | (386) 586-2637 | bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com

Serial Armed Robber Arrested

Deputies responded to the Shell gas station at 320 Palm Coast Parkway at 7:30 p.m. Thursday evening after receiving reports of an armed robbery. The store clerk reported to deputies that a male entered the store, pointed a firearm at her and demanded the money from the cash register and a pack of Newport cigarettes. The clerk gave approximately \$200.00 and the cigarettes to the man and he fled on foot.

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Deputies set up a perimeter to search for the suspect but could not locate him. Detectives responded to review surveillance video from the Shell robbery and were able to identify the suspect as Charles Eugene Rushing-Griffen, DOB 9/12/1990. He was identified through previous encounters with law enforcement, as well as surveillance video from a suspicious incident on December 12 at the Mobil gas station at 295 Pine Lakes Parkway where Rushing-Griffen is seen running to the front of the building but finds the doors locked and quickly retreats.



Charles Eugene Rushing-Griffen, DOB 9/12/1990, in the current booking photo at the jail.

Deputies went to Rushing-Griffen's last known address, 6B Ryall Lane in Palm Coast, and saw a blue Ford Crown Victoria in the driveway. A short time later, the driver of the vehicle exited and walked to the house and then back to the car. Detectives positively identified the driver as Rushing-Griffen. They followed the vehicle until they could safely conduct a felony traffic stop. Rushing-Griffen and the two passengers of the vehicle, Dhaighamyosuf Tariq Khawaja and Camerae Lateice Hubbert, were taken into custody. Rushing-Griffen was found to be in possession of \$270.00.

During the clearing of the vehicle, deputies located a silver revolver matching the description of the firearm used in the robbery. Through investigative measures, deputies were able to link Rushing-Griffen to a recent armed robbery spree within Flagler County: the Shell armed robbery on Thursday night, a possible attempted robbery at the Mobil gas station on December 12, and an armed robbery at Terranova's Pizzeria located at 208 North State Street in Bunnell on December 5.

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Surveillance photos from the Mobil gas station (left) and the Shell gas station (right).

Rushing-Griffen is a four-time convicted felon. His charges for the Shell robbery are robbery with a weapon, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and driving with a suspended license. He is booked into the Flagler County Detention Facility with a \$515,500.00 bond. Additional charges are pending for the Mobil attempted robbery and by Bunnell Police Department for the Terranova's robbery.

“I am glad that this dangerous felon is off the streets of Flagler County and booked into jail where he cannot hurt anyone,” Sheriff Rick Staly said. “This was a great joint effort between our patrol deputies and detectives using our intelligence led policing model of solving crime. If not for the fast work by our team, this dirtbag would be planning his next victim. Instead he is in jail for the holidays and hopefully his next stop should be prison for life.”

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