



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

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Prepared by: Melissa Morreale
Phone and Email: 386-529-4086; mmorreale@flaglersheriff.com
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Two Juveniles Arrested, Facing Charges for Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon

On Monday morning, the Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) responded to a call in Bunnell about two juveniles who pointed a firearm at another juvenile on a bicycle. Identified as 17-year-old Rylan Shelton and 15-year-old John Melton, both subjects were arrested for Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon.



L: 15-year-old John Melton R: 17-year-old Rylan Shelton and

When deputies made contact with the victim, he stated he was riding his bike on Avocado Boulevard and saw a pickup truck on the side of the road with two subjects outside of the vehicle. As he approached, he recognized one of the subjects to be Melton, who told the victim "you must have a death wish."

The victim continued to pass the truck on his bike towards Lemon Street when the truck began to follow him, then passing him and pointing a black handgun at the victim. At this point, the victim was in fear for his life and fled down a driveway and hid behind a tent.

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The vehicle turned around a second time and called the victim into the road. The victim complied with the demands and upon approaching the vehicle, Shelton took the firearm out of Melton's hands, pointed it at the victim and told him "If you ever touch her again, I swear I'll shoot you" and then drove off.

Deputies were able to locate the vehicle at a residence on Hibiscus Street in Bunnell. Deputies secured the area and noticed a back window of the residence open. Shelton was then observed exiting the window and was immediately secured by deputies without incident. Three additional subjects entered the backyard and surrendered. Melton was then secured without incident.

It was later determined the firearm used during the incident was a black replica handgun that shoots BBs, and had no distinguishing markers from a real firearm. While in route to the Green Roof Inn, both subjects were seen laughing and joking about the arrests. Melton even mentioned his intentions were to flee upon noticing law enforcements presence.

"Parents, please be the Sheriff of your home and know where your kids are and what they're doing," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "This was only a BB gun, however, waving a firearm around is a big deal and not a laughing matter. These kids thought scaring another kid with a fake firearm didn't have consequences and thought it was a joke while being arrested. Reality is it is a felony and their joke is now on their record. I hope they learn a lesson and not start a life of crime."

Shelton and Melton were transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility. They were arrested for Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon and were released to the custody of the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).

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