

Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: July 10, 2025 **Prepared by:** Joseph Bober, Public Information Office **Email:** <u>PIO@flaglersheriff.com</u> **Release #:** 2025 – 125

Uncooperative Woman with Narcotics in Vehicle Arrested After Leaving Traffic Stop

BUNNELL, Fla. — The Flagler County Sheriff's Office has arrested a Palm Coast woman on multiple charges, including three felonies, after she fled from deputies during a traffic stop, then had to be removed from her vehicle because she ignored orders to exit.

On July 9, around 1:30 a.m., deputies conducted a traffic stop on Old Kings Road in Palm Coast after observing a vehicle with an obstructed license plate. As deputies approached the vehicle, the driver, later identified as Amanda Hale, 29, rolled down her window approximately one inch and demanded an explanation for the traffic stop. During the stop, deputies asked Hale multiple times to roll down her window further, but she refused to do so. Deputies then requested a supervisor to speak to Hale.

Hale then told deputies, "I am going to pull into a parking spot at the gas station, and you can tell your supervisor to meet me there," and then pulled away from the traffic stop.

Deputies followed Hale to a nearby RaceTrac gas station, where she reversed into a parking spot. Deputies then blocked her vehicle to prevent her from possibly fleeing again and ordered her to exit the vehicle.

Deputies were then notified by the FCSO Communications Center that Hale was calling into 911, and deputies advised the 911 dispatcher speaking with Hale to inform her that she was under arrest and to exit the vehicle. The dispatcher told Hale that she needed to comply with deputies, but Hale replied that she did nothing wrong and was not going to exit the vehicle.

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A supervisor arrived on scene and asked Hale to roll down her window so that he could communicate with her, but Hale stated that she did not trust him and again refused to lower the window further than an inch. The supervisor informed Hale that if she did not comply, deputies would have to break her window.

After Hale still refused all lawful commands, deputies utilized agency-issued Shatterballs to break the front passenger-side window, unlocked the doors, and removed Hale from the vehicle.

During a search of the vehicle, deputies located a box containing marijuana, THC, and various narcotics paraphernalia including a bong and two grinders. Deputies also located 108.5 pills inside a purse, 10 of which tested positive for fentanyl and 21 of which were identified as oxycodone.

Deputies arrested Hale for failure to obey a law enforcement officer's order to stop, resisting arrest without violence, possession of marijuana (20 grams or less), possession of fentanyl, possession of oxycodone, possession of a schedule IV substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.



Amanda Hale (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mugshot)

"Leaving the scene of a traffic stop and not cooperating never ends well for anyone," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "The correct place to dispute your traffic stop is in court, not resisting lawful orders on the side of the road or driving off as your actions take the minor traffic stop to the next level. Deputies ultimately had to break her window and remove her from her vehicle. Once she was out, deputies found a pharmacy of narcotics in her car and purse. So, what was probably going to just be a warning for an obstructed license plate turned into a trip to the Green Roof Inn with multiple felony charges."

Hale was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where she is being held on an \$7,500 bond.

View <u>footage</u> from Hale's arrest.

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