

Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

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Prepared by: Joseph Bober, Public Information Officer

Email: PIO@flaglersheriff.com

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Man Flees from Traffic Stop; Burglar Arrested Stealing from Palm Coast Business

BUNNELL, Fla. — Flagler County Sheriff's Office deputies made seven arrests this past weekend between 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10, 2025, and 6 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 13, 2025. Deputies handled 788 calls for service and made 124 traffic stops.

Man Arrested After Fleeing Traffic Stop and Throwing Evidence Out Car Window

On Sunday morning, just after midnight, deputies attempted a traffic stop on Belle Terre Boulevard in Palm Coast on a gold Cadillac sedan with an obstructed license plate. Despite deputies activating their lights and sirens, the vehicle failed to stop, making multiple turns until reaching the cul-de-sac on Kaydot Court.

As the vehicle attempted to turn around in the cul-de-sac, deputies observed the driver, later identified as James Timmons, 28, of Palm Coast, throwing an object out the window toward a drainage ditch. Deputies then blocked the vehicle and initiated a high-risk traffic stop.

After the vehicle stopped, Timmons immediately exited with a cellphone in his hand. Deputies ordered Timmons to stop and raise his hands in the air. Timmons put his hands in the air but began to walk toward the front of the vehicle. As deputies repeatedly issued commands, Timmons eventually laid on the ground but intermittently refused to comply with deputies, often dropping his hands, turning away, and failing to let go of his cellphone.

Ultimately, deputies secured Timmons without incident and placed him in a patrol car.

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After Timmons was secured, deputies recovered a vaping device in the grass near the drainage ditch. Timmons would later deny the device was his.

Deputies also searched Timmons' vehicle, where they located marijuana in a pair of jeans on the floorboard, a jar with marijuana residue in the driver's door, and a THC pen in the trunk.

Deputies also determined that Timmons had a suspended license for failing to pay traffic fines.

"This guy should not have been driving in the first place, and he definitely should not have tried to run from deputies," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Unfortunately for him, his attempt to flee was short lived because he turned onto a dead-end road and had nowhere else to go. Now he earned himself a trip to the Green Roof Inn on multiple felony charges."



James Timmons (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shot)

Deputies arrested Timmons for fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer with lights and sirens activated, possession of hashish, tampering with evidence, possession of marijuana (20 grams or less), possession of drug paraphernalia, and driving while license suspended. He was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he was later released on a \$9,000 bond.

View body camera footage from Timmons' arrest.

Burglar Arrested After Being Caught and Reported by Business Owner

In the early hours of Monday morning, deputies responded to a report of an active burglary at Mike Morello Inc., an HVAC service company in Palm Coast. According to the business owner who reported the incident, he observed a black male, possibly wearing tan-colored clothing, drive up to the business in a black Toyota. He further told dispatchers the same suspect had been coming to the business regularly to steal items and that he had been waiting to contact law enforcement until he could catch him in the act.

When deputies arrived, they located a suspect matching the description provided by the business owner standing near a black Toyota, which was parked near a storage container behind the business.

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Deputies also observed three air conditioning units on the ground near the vehicle.

Deputies immediately detained the suspect, who was identified as Ken'Deric Morton, 24, of Palm Coast. When questioned by deputies, Morton stated that he had moved the air conditioning units so that he could break them down for scrap. He further stated that he often visited businesses around the area, including Mike Morello Inc. on multiple occasions, to collect scrap items and had never been previously approached by anyone.

Deputies located numerous burglary tools inside Morton's vehicle, including a crowbar, screwdrivers, bolt cutters, and power tools.

The owner later arrived at the business and told deputies that he had observed Morton numerous times on surveillance footage stealing multiple items, including air handler units, motors, wiring, and copper. He estimated that he had lost between \$3,000 and \$4,000 worth of items that were supposed to be sent out for warranty work and that he had to begin storing parts inside the building to keep them from being stolen.

Deputies reviewed surveillance footage, which showed Morton moving the air conditioning units out of the camera's view and toward his vehicle.

"This would-be thief got caught red-handed by a business owner who was tired of him stealing from him and reported it to law enforcement," said Sheriff Staly. "Our deputies arrived on scene and encountered exactly what the owner said they would, and now this guy has earned himself a trip to the Green Roof Inn."



Ken'Deric Morton (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shot)

Deputies arrested Morton for burglary of an unoccupied structure, grand theft (\$750 or more), possession of burglary tools, loitering or prowling, and criminal mischief (over \$1,000). He was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he is being held on a \$10,150 bond.

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