

## Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## <u>Kentucky Woman Arrested on Flagler County Fugitive</u> <u>Warrant for Felony Grand Theft and Fraud</u>

BUNNELL, Fla. — A Kentucky woman is in custody on a Flagler County Sheriff's Office fugitive warrant for felony grand theft and fraud after stealing thousands of dollars from unsuspecting victims and then purchasing gift cards with the stolen cash.

The Adairville Police Department arrested Judy Nieman Lalone, 70, of Adairville, Kentucky, on Oct. 20, after a warrant was issued for her arrest. Nieman Lalone was located at her residence and taken into custody without incident. She is being held pending extradition proceedings to return to Flagler County to face charges related to the fraud investigation.



Judy Fields Nieman Lalone (Logan County Detention Center mug shot)

FCSO General Assignment Unit detectives, with assistance from the FCSO Community Policing Division, began investigating the case in August after a victim residing in Palm Coast reported multiple unauthorized charges on her bank statement, including a bank card replacement fee.

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Through investigative means, detectives determined that Nieman Lalone fraudulently obtained a replacement card that was mailed to her home in Adairville, Kentucky. Upon receiving the card, she completed four separate unauthorized transactions at bank ATMs between Aug. 20 and Aug. 25, withdrawing thousands of dollars from the victim's checking account, in addition to making a purchase at an Adairville gas station.

The victim has no known connection to the suspect; therefore, detectives are still investigating how Nieman Lalone obtained the victim's information.

"This arrest is a testament to the hard work and coordination between our detectives and law enforcement partners in Kentucky to hold this thief accountable for her crimes," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "This fugitive learned the hard way: You can run, but you cannot hide. State lines will not protect you. If you commit a crime and harm our residents in Flagler County, we will find you and arrest you. A special thank you to the Adairville Police Department and the Logan County Sheriff's Office for their assistance."

At the time of her arrest, Nieman Lalone was in possession of approximately 40 other bank cards and gift cards, in addition to gift card receipts totaling approximately \$16,000 that she had purchased. Detectives from the Logan County Sheriff's Office and FCSO are working to identify any additional victims. Anyone with information regarding this investigation should contact their local law enforcement agency.

Nieman Lalone was arrested for being a fugitive from justice on a Flagler County warrant for felony grand theft and fraudulent use of personal identification information of a victim 60 years of age or older. She was transported to the Logan County Detention Center, where she is being held on a \$10,000 bond.

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