



Rick Staly, Sheriff
FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

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Credit Card Thief Arrested After Identifying Herself in FCSO Social Media Post

BUNNELL, Fla. — A Palm Coast woman, who identified herself as a suspect shown in a Flagler County Sheriff's Office social media post, was arrested after FCSO detectives determined she stole a victim's credit card at a nail salon and used it to make multiple purchases.

On Aug. 9, deputies responded to a fraud investigation reported at the FCSO District 2 Office. The victim told deputies that she had accidentally left her credit card at Palm Nails, a nail salon in Palm Coast, three days earlier. After realizing she did not have her card, she checked her card activity and noticed 10 fraudulent charges had been placed between Aug. 6 and Aug. 9, with over \$500 in purchases at stores and restaurants throughout Palm Coast.

During the investigation, a detective in the General Assignment Unit obtained surveillance footage from multiple stores where the fraudulent charges had been made and identified the suspect as a white female who had long dark hair and was wearing a white camouflage jacket. Beyond that, there was no further identifying information to determine the suspect's identity.

On Sept. 23, the Public Information Office [posted an attempt-to-identify](#) on FCSO's social media pages to request the public's assistance for any information that could identify the suspect. Later that day, detectives were notified that a woman had called the Flagler County Emergency Communications Center and advised that she was the individual in the photo and asked to speak with detectives working on the case.

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Detectives met with the woman, identified as Brynn Gifford, 19, of Palm Coast, at the District 2 Office and conducted an interview. Gifford initially told detectives that she had not done anything. However, when detectives showed Gifford images of the suspect taken from the surveillance footage — one of which showed the suspect in Walmart using the credit card to purchase items including notebooks and pens — she acknowledged that it was her in the photographs. Later during the interview, Gifford showed detectives the contents of her backpack, which contained notebooks and pens appearing to be the same ones purchased at Walmart.

Detectives also determined that Gifford was employed as a receptionist at Palm Nails during the time when the card was stolen. At the conclusion of the interview, detectives determined that Gifford was the suspect seen in the surveillance footage, which clearly showed her using the stolen credit card to make purchases.

On Oct. 15, detectives obtained an arrest warrant for Gifford for fraudulent use of personal identification information of a person 60 years of age or older, fraudulent use of a credit card more than two times in six months, and petit theft.

“This case is a great example of the power of social media and how it can help law enforcement,” said Sheriff Rick Staly. “Less than a day after we posted the suspect’s photo looking for more information, she came forward to speak to our detectives. Of course, her bad decision landed her in jail on multiple felony charges, but at least she ultimately did the right thing, because our detectives would’ve caught her sooner or later.”



Brynn Gifford (Volusia County Correctional Facility mug shot)

The Fugitive Unit assisted in locating Gifford, and she was arrested the next day in Daytona Beach by the Daytona Beach Police Department on her active warrant. She was transported to the Volusia County Correctional Facility in Daytona Beach, where she was later released on a \$4,000 bond.

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