



Rick Staly, Sheriff
FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: March 18, 2026
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Release #: 2026 – 065

Group of Scrap Metal Thieves Arrested Following Investigation into Stolen Restaurant Equipment

One Fugitive Still on the Run

BUNNELL, Fla. — Four suspects have been arrested across multiple jurisdictions for their roles in two thefts of commercial restaurant equipment from a Palm Coast business in January, following an investigation by the Flagler County Sheriff's Office General Assignment Unit. A fifth suspect involved in the thefts is a fugitive.

On Jan. 28, deputies responded to Pelican QSR Solutions, a business specializing in technology installation and service for restaurants, in Palm Coast after the owner reported that thousands of dollars' worth of kitchen equipment had been stolen in the early morning hours. The owner told deputies that employees had put the equipment outside in preparation for pressure washing.

FCSO General Assignment Unit detectives reviewed the surveillance footage from the businesses, which showed an older model Chevrolet Tahoe pulling a small homemade trailer drive near the loading dock, then leave. The Tahoe then returned and was joined by a Ford F-150 pickup. Four men exited the vehicles and loaded the equipment into the truck bed and trailer before leaving.

Two days later, the business owner reported that more kitchen equipment had been stolen. Surveillance footage showed two suspects returning in the same Tahoe, this time towing a double-axle flatbed trailer. During the second theft, two suspects covered their faces and removed numerous large pieces of equipment.

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During the investigation, detectives and analysts in FCSO's Real Time Crime Center identified Jacob Spicer, 30, of Palm Coast, as the registered owner of both vehicles involved in the thefts and discovered multiple pawn tickets indicating the Tahoe had been used in numerous scrap metal transactions at different scrap yards in Flagler County.

On Jan. 30, as detectives were investigating the second theft, the RTCC determined the Tahoe was traveling in Hastings toward Palatka. FCSO notified the Putnam County Sheriff's Office of the thefts and that the vehicle might be headed to a scrap yard in Putnam County. The PCSO Crime Suppression Team located the vehicle towing the trailer with the stolen items at a scrap yard in Palatka. The stolen property was returned to the owners as the investigation continued.

At the conclusion of the investigation, detectives identified four additional suspects — Jesse Fisher, 27, of Palm Coast; Christopher Williams, 45, of Hastings; Brandon Holifield, 28, of Palm Coast; and Stacy Carter, 43, of St. Augustine — and obtained arrest warrants for each for their roles in the thefts. Utilizing investigative means, detectives determined that Spicer, Fisher, Williams, and Holifield were involved in the first theft on Jan. 28, while Fisher and Carter were involved in the second theft on Jan. 30.

On Feb. 15, deputies investigating a traffic crash involving Spicer arrested him on his warrant for grand theft - \$10K to \$20K. He was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he was later released on a \$25,000 bond.

The FCSO Fugitive Unit coordinated with the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office to locate and apprehend three of the four other suspects.

On Feb. 17, SJSO arrested Williams on his warrant for grand theft - \$10K to \$20K, false verification of ownership to a secondary metal recycler, and dealing in stolen property. He was transported to the St. Johns County Detention Center, then transferred to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he is being held on a \$45,000 bond.

On Feb. 20, SJSO arrested Carter on her warrant for grand theft - \$10K to \$20K. She was transported to the St. Johns County Detention Center, then transferred to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where she was later released on a \$25,000 bond.

On Feb. 26, SJSO arrested Fisher on two warrants for grand theft - \$10K to \$20K. He was transported to the St. Johns County Detention Center, then transferred to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he is being held on a \$53,000 bond.

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Jacob Spicer, Christopher Williams, Stacy Carter, and Jesse Fisher (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shots)

“I commend our General Assignment Unit and Real Time Crime Center for their work on this investigation to quickly identify this ‘scrappy’ band of thieves, and I thank our partners in Putnam and St. Johns counties for their assistance,” Sheriff Staly added. “Four out of the five thieves have now seen the inside of the Green Roof Inn. Now, we just need to find the fifth, and he can’t hide forever. In fact, I would encourage him to turn himself in, so he won’t have to look over his shoulder any longer.”

The FCSO Fugitive Unit is still searching for Holifield. He has an active warrant for grand theft.

Anyone with information on Holifield’s whereabouts is asked to contact FCSO by calling 386-313-4911, emailing TIPS@flaglersheriff.com, or submitting a tip through the FCSO website or app. Tips can also be submitted anonymously by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-888-277-TIPS (8477), where you may be eligible for a reward.



Brandon Holifield (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shot from a prior arrest in 2023)

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