

From: [Seminole SO Public Affairs](#)
To: [Bentsen, Kristen M](#)
Subject: NEWS RELEASE: Local pest control worker arrested for stealing client's jewelry
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:33:06 PM
Attachments: [Matthew Blake Booking Photo.jpg](#)
[Matthew Blake Arrest Report.pdf](#)

NEWS RELEASE

Local pest control worker arrested for stealing client's jewelry

Seminole Co. (Feb. 10, 2016) – The Seminole County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) yesterday arrested a local pest control worker after an investigation revealed that he stole several pieces of jewelry from a client and illegally pawned the items.

On October 7, a Winter Springs woman had a scheduled termite inspection and met with the pest control worker at her home. The victim stated that during the inspection, the worker briefly went upstairs unattended to complete part of his inspection. On January 28, the victim went to her jewelry box to retrieve an item and noticed numerous pieces of jewelry were missing. The victim told deputies that the pest control worker, Matthew Blake, was the only person in her home over the last few months.

The investigation revealed that Blake had pawned multiple pieces of jewelry over the last several months. The items were placed on hold for investigators who took photographs of the jewelry. The victim was shown the photographs and positively identified 17 pieces of the pawned jewelry valued at more than \$10,000.

Matthew Adam Blake, 39, of Winter Springs was arrested and charged with eight counts of dealing in stolen property, eight counts of providing false verification of ownership to a pawn dealer, and grand theft.

After Blake's arrest, his work truck was returned to the pest control company and inventoried by his supervisor. During the inventory, cocaine and drug paraphernalia were found and turned over to deputies. Blake was then charged with possession of cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Investigators do not have any evidence at this time that would connect Blake to other thefts.

However, investigators urge anyone who believes they may be a victim to please contact SCSO at (407) 665-6650.

Please do not respond back to this email as the account is not monitored. For more information contact:

Kristen Bentsen (kbentsen@seminolesheriff.org)

(407) 665-6950 - desk

(407) 637-9210 - cell

or

Kim Cannaday (kcannaday@seminolesheriff.org)

(407) 665-6978 - desk

(407) 402-3319 - cell

###