

From: [Seminole SO Public Affairs](#)
To: [Bentsen, Kristen M](#)
Subject: SCSO NEWS RELEASE: Man arrested for stealing hundreds of brass vases from cemetery plots
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Attachments: [Robert Jacobsen Booking Photo.jpg](#)

NEWS RELEASE

Man arrested for stealing hundreds of brass vases from cemetery plots

Seminole Co. (Mar. 29, 2016) – The Seminole County Sheriff’s Office (SCSO) yesterday arrested a man after an investigation revealed that he stole over 300 bronze flower vases from a local cemetery.

Last November, a visitor of Highland Memory Gardens, located in unincorporated Apopka, reported to the cemetery superintendent that their loved one’s bronze flower vase was missing from the tombstone. Upon further inspection, the superintendent discovered that 67 vases were missing from the cemetery. He immediately reported the thefts and SCSO began investigating. During the following week, the cemetery reported another 268 vases had disappeared from the tombstones and were believed to have been stolen.

A short time later, an alert scrap metal dealer contacted law enforcement after a man attempted to sell an unusually large number of bronze cemetery vases to their company. The dealer denied the transaction and the suspect left with the stolen vases. However, the dealer took the suspect’s license and tag information and provided it to authorities.

After a thorough investigation, it was determined that Robert Christopher Jacobsen, 34, of Orlando, stole 335 vases, valued at over \$60,000, from Highland Memory Gardens and sold them to Orlando area scrap metal dealers between November and December of last year. He was arrested and charged with three counts of grand theft and three counts of injuring or removing a tomb or monument. Jacobsen is currently being held at the John E. Polk Correctional Facility on \$18,000 bond.

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

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