

**From:** [Seminole SO Public Affairs](#)  
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**Subject:** SCSO NEWS RELEASE: Brave teenager helps catch Wekiva Cove serial burglary suspect  
**Date:** Friday, June 26, 2015 8:25:03 AM  
**Attachments:** [Sheri Buholtz-Brownlow Arrest Report2\\_Redacted.pdf](#)  
[Sheri Buholtz-Brownlow Mug Shot.jpg](#)

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## NEWS RELEASE

### **Brave teenager helps catch Wekiva Cove serial burglary suspect**

Seminole Co. Fla., (June 26, 2015) – Investigators with the Seminole County Sheriff’s Office arrested a woman on Wednesday for residential burglary after the teenage occupant of a Wekiva Cove home thwarted her crime spree. Sheri Buholtz-Brownlow, 34, of Longwood, was charged with four counts of burglary to a dwelling, one count of burglary to an occupied dwelling and three counts of grand theft.

On June 24 at approximately 9 a.m., the SCSO Communications Center received a 911 call from a concerned mother advising that her teenage daughter, who was home alone, called and told her that an unknown woman had attempted to open the front door of their home. The dispatcher immediately called the teen directly to make sure she was safe and collect first-hand information about the incident. The teen told dispatchers that when the doorbell rang, she went to the front door and observed an unfamiliar woman through the peephole. The woman stood there for approximately one minute, looked under the doormat, and then began to walk away. She then came back and opened the unlocked door approximately three to four inches. The teen was able to push the door closed and quickly locked it. The woman left the home, entered a white vehicle and drove away.

The teen was able to provide dispatchers a good description of the suspect and the vehicle and responding deputies soon spotted the car not far from the home. A traffic stop was conducted and the suspect, later identified as Buholtz-Brownlow, was taken into custody without incident. Investigators learned that after leaving the teen’s house, Buholtz-Brownlow attempted to enter another home nearby. That resident’s house alarm was triggered and their dogs began to bark, scaring the suspect away.

Investigators later determined that the Buholtz-Brownlow is responsible for several other residential burglaries in the Wekiva Cove subdivision that have occurred over the past six weeks. Investigators believe she gained access into the homes by either unlocked doors or by forced entry. In one of the burglaries, she used a house key that she obtained when she burglarized the same home just days prior. Cash, jewelry, and keys were taken in the burglaries.

Buholtz-Brownlow was booked into the John E. Polk Correctional Facility (JEPCF) and remains incarcerated on a no bond status.

- The SCSO reminds residents to follow these safety tips to avoid becoming a burglary victim:
- Always lock doors, windows and sliding glass doors, even when you are home.
- If you are at home and the doorbell rings, go to the door to investigate who is there and let them know that a person is inside.

- Call 911 immediately to report suspicious activity, persons, or vehicles.
- Safeguard valuables inside your home. Keep their value and location confidential. Use a safe deposit box when possible.
- If you are the victim of a burglary and your house keys have been taken, re-key or change the locks immediately.

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

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