

# Volusia County Sheriff's Office

Ben F. Johnson, Sheriff

## News Release

May 18, 2016

For immediate release

### **JOINT NEWS RELEASE:**

#### **SEMINOLE JAIL EMPLOYEE ARRESTED FOR CREDIT CARD FRAUD**

May 18, 2016 -- The Volusia County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) yesterday arrested Seminole County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) employee Luis Rodriguez, 59, for fraudulently using a credit card that he stole from an inmate.

On May 13, a female victim reported to VCSO that her credit card went missing and was fraudulently used while she was incarcerated at the John E. Polk Correctional Facility in Seminole County on May 10. The victim was released from the Correctional Facility approximately eight hours after her arrest, and she believed the credit card was in her wallet when she was booked into the facility. Two days later, she noticed some suspicious charges on her credit card, including one that occurred at a Deltona gas station while she was in custody. The other two charges were at a Deltona car wash. VCSO began an investigation and obtained video of the suspect making a transaction with the credit card at a Deltona car wash. The victim reviewed the footage and recognized the suspect as being an employee at the JEPCF.

SCSO administrators at the JEPCF also reviewed the video and verified to VCSO investigators that the suspect in the car wash video was in fact Rodriguez. The vehicles used at the car wash were also both registered to Rodriguez.

VCSO made contact with Rodriguez at his home yesterday in Deltona. He was booked into the Volusia County Branch Jail in Daytona Beach on a \$5,000 bond. SCSO investigators immediately served him with a notice initiating the termination of his employment. "We adhere to the highest standards in our Correctional Facility, and we have absolutely no tolerance for this type of behavior," said Seminole County Sheriff Donald Eslinger. "I am shocked and extremely disappointed. These actions go against everything we stand for as an agency."

Rodriguez has been employed with SCSO as a civilian detention service officer since 2010 and was responsible for collecting and storing inmates' personal property while they're incarcerated at the JEPCF.