

## **VOLUSIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MEDIA RELEASE**

### **ARREST OF 16-YEAR-OLD WITH STOLEN GUN PROMPTS SHERIFF CHITWOOD TO CALL JUVENILE JUDGES TO ACTION**

A 16-year-old suspect in a string of car breaks ran from Volusia County sheriff's deputies but was arrested Wednesday night while still carrying a gun stolen from one of the vehicles.

Jeremiah Fuller's (DOB 2/19/03) arrest on multiple counts of armed burglary, burglary and grand theft firearm prompted Sheriff Mike Chitwood to call on juvenile judges in Volusia County to do more to prevent prolific juvenile offenders from reoffending without significant consequences.

"Our juvenile judges need to stop being friends to these thugs, and start handing down some real consequences for their actions," Sheriff Chitwood said. "As long as juveniles get off easy for their crimes, we'll continue to see them pillaging our community over and over. Maybe it will take someone getting killed in a gunpoint robbery before our juvenile court system takes action."

Fuller (DOB 2/19/03) was arrested around 10 p.m. Wednesday after he left the Blue Tide Apartments at 311 Riverside Drive in Holly Hill. Fuller bolted from members of a VCSO Crime Suppression Team as they approached, and he ran into the road and in front of a moving patrol vehicle. Fuller was hit by the patrol vehicle but had only minor injuries and refused any medical treatment. He was carrying a Glock handgun reported stolen from an unlocked pickup truck in Deltona on June 13.

Fuller is charged with two counts of armed burglary, two counts of grand theft firearm, four counts of burglary of a conveyance, carrying a concealed firearm and possession with intent to sell a synthetic narcotic. Fuller is already on probation for three counts of burglary, committed his first crime at the age of 13 and has been arrested 8 times on felony charges since then.