



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Walt McNeil, Sheriff

2825 Municipal Way Tallahassee, FL 32304

www.leoncountysos.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Deputy Shade McMillian

Date: March 27, 2020

LCSO S.P.I.D.E.R. Unit Nets Weapon, Drug Arrest in Traffic Stop

On March 26, 2020, deputies with the LCSO S.P.I.D.E.R. (Special Projects Investigations Detection Enforcement Response) Unit conducted a traffic stop on a gray Ford passenger car near the intersection of Mayfair Road and Cherry Grove Lane in northwest Leon County. The driver of the vehicle, 32-year-old Stephen Hililis, was observed not wearing a seatbelt and improperly stopped at a stop sign. Contact was made with Hililis and his passenger in the vehicle. Deputies learned Hililis was currently on probation for firearms charges. A Florida Highway Patrol K9 unit responded to the scene and performed a drug sniff of the vehicle to which the K9 positively alerted.

During a search of the vehicle, deputies found a small black backpack on the driver's side backseat containing several orange pill bottles and several small plastic baggies. Inside one of the pill bottles was a small baggie containing a white substance which tested positive for Alpha PVP (Molly). Furthermore, deputies located a silver .25 caliber handgun, (13) .25 caliber auto rounds, and two photographs inside another compartment in the backpack. Hililis told deputies on scene he did not know anything about what was inside the backpack. After further investigation, Hililis advised he had seen the gun before, and it could have his fingerprints on it. Hililis also identified the person in the found photographs. The handgun was seized on scene.

The passenger was released at the scene.

Hililis was arrested and transported to the Leon County Detention Facility.



ARRESTED: Stephen K. Hililis Jr.

DOB: 4/12/1987

CHARGES: Possession of Controlled Substance Without Prescription

Possession of Narcotic Equipment

Weapon Offense/Use or Display Firearm During Felony

Violation of Probation



Deputy Shade McMillian, Public Information Officer
Office (850)606-3342

mcmillians@leoncountyfl.gov

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