



# Gulfport Police Department News Release



Subject: Sergeant Placed on Leave Following Theft Allegation

Date: April 30, 2018

## Narrative

Gulfport, FL—Sergeant Matthew Parks will be on leave pending the investigation of an incident reported to us by the St. Petersburg Police Department on 4/27/18.

St. Petersburg Police initially referred Sergeant Parks and his wife, Lindsay Parks, to Pinellas County's Adult Pre-Arrest Diversion program (APAD) following their response to a complaint of retail theft at Wal Mart located at 3501 34<sup>th</sup> Street South. The APAD program allows persons facing charges for certain non-violent misdemeanors (including theft with a value of less than \$100) to avoid prosecution if they admit to the offense and agree to pay restitution and perform community service. The Parks's have declined to participate in the APAD program, so the case will be forwarded to the state attorney's office for consideration of criminal charges.

While the internal investigation is being conducted, the agency is prohibited by law from releasing any information. See FSS 112.532(4)(b)

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