



SHERIFF
MIKE PRENDERGAST



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2017

For more information, contact:

Lindsay Blair,
Community Affairs Specialist & Public Information
(352) 341-7460

Potential Suspect in Custody in Suspicious Death Case

Citrus County – At approximately 1am Tuesday morning, Deputy Laborda with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office attempted to stop a vehicle near the intersection of Hwy 200 & Orchid for a broken headlight. The vehicle failed to stop. After a very brief pursuit, the vehicle fled into Marion County. To try and locate the vehicle and owner, deputies responded to the address matching the tag which led them to 5281 W. Cardamon Place in Lecanto.

After no one answered several calls inside the residence and finding an open door, deputies entered the home to check the wellbeing of the 73-year-old homeowner, James Thomas Roman. They found Roman deceased, with no obvious signs of trauma. Around the same time, the truck, owned by Roman, which fled from deputies earlier in the morning, was stopped by FHP in Marion County. The driver was arrested taken into custody on unrelated traffic infractions and is being held at the Marion County jail.

Right now, detectives are actively working the investigation and conducting several interviews. If you have any information, you are asked to call 9-1-1 and ask for a detective from our Major Crimes Unit. You can also remain anonymous by calling Citrus County Crime Stoppers at 1-888-ANY-TIPS and be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$3,000 if your tip leads to an arrest.