

MAN HELD AFTER CARROLLWOOD STANDOFF

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

February 14, 2011 Monday, 4 State / Suncoast Edition

Copyright 2011 Times Publishing Company All Rights Reserved



Section: TAMPA BAY; Pg. 3B

Length: 435 words

Byline: SHELLY ROSSETTER, Times Staff Writer

Dateline: TAMPA

Highlight: The immigrant is a felon who had been deported but re-entered the country illegally.

Body

An illegal immigrant deputies were searching for since an hourslong standoff in Carrollwood on Friday night was caught in a stakeout late Saturday.

Victor Hugo Benavides, 39, was arrested on warrants for aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, resisting arrest and violation of a domestic violence injunction. He was being held in the Hillsborough County jail, where U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement placed a hold on him.

He is a felon who had previously been deported but reentered the county illegally, the Sheriff's Office said.

It started Friday night when deputies responded to a call about a fight in the front yard of 5110 Lawnton Court. The caller reported there were three men in the yard, one of whom was brandishing a shotgun. That man was later identified as Benavides.

Deputies stopped the two other men as they left and determined they were victims. During that time, several people gathered on the front lawn of the Lawnton Court house but ran inside when deputies approached.

From the front yard, deputies said they heard what sounded like the pumping action of a shotgun and called for backup. They then blocked off the house and began trying to make contact with the people inside.

Neighbors told deputies they thought they saw one of the suspects run out the back door.

Members of the county's SWAT team responded and continued negotiations with people inside the house for several hours.

Finally, deputies said, two women, 31-year-old Aisel Burgos and 42-year-old Lara Villavicencio, came outside with four children. Deputies said the women were uncooperative and refused to give information about who else was still inside. About an hour and a half later, another woman, 27-year-old Glenda Gallego, came outside and also was uncooperative.

SWAT members finally entered the house about 2:30 a.m. Saturday, but found no one inside.

MAN HELD AFTER CARROLLWOOD STANDOFF

Deputies don't know what sparked the dispute between Benavides and the two other men. Deputies said it seemed those at the home were drinking.

All three women were arrested on obstruction charges, and Gallego was turned over to investigators from U.S. Border Patrol after deputies said they discovered she was an illegal immigrant from Honduras. A warrant was issued for Benavides.

Two young boys were turned over to child protective services, and two others were put in custody of other family members, deputies said.

Deputies located Benavides about 11 p.m. Saturday after setting up surveillance with ICE agents outside a home on Parson Street where an anonymous tip had led them. When he stepped outside the home to use his cell phone, deputies arrested him.

Graphic

PHOTO: Victor Hugo Benavides, 39, is on an immigration hold after an arrest on multiple warrants.

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Publication-Type: Newspaper

Subject: IMMIGRATION (90%); ARRESTS (90%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (89%); ARREST WARRANTS (89%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (89%); SHERIFFS (89%); INVESTIGATIONS (89%); BORDER CONTROL (78%); DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (77%); CORRECTIONS (77%); CRIMINAL ASSAULT & BATTERY (77%); DOMESTIC OFFENSES (77%); FELONIES (77%); OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE (77%); SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE FORCES (77%); SURVEILLANCE (75%); DEPORTATION (73%); EXCISE & CUSTOMS (73%); FAMILY (68%); CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (60%)

Industry: MOBILE & CELLULAR TELEPHONES (50%)

Geographic: UNITED STATES (79%); NORTH AMERICA (79%)

Load-Date: February 14, 2011