



HIGHLANDS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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PRESS RELEASE: April 21, 2017

Man charged with selling drugs out of motel room

SEBRING -- Members of the Highlands County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Unit got more than they were expecting when they went to a Sebring hotel to arrest a wanted man Sunday morning.

Detectives went to the Quality Inn at 6525 U.S. 27 North just after 9 a.m. to arrest Nicholas Keyontay Fort, 27, who had an active warrant for violation of probation on a felony drug conviction.

Fort was found in room 208, but it was what was the drug store Fort had set up in the room that was interesting -- 51 grams of "molly" (also called MDMA or ecstasy) in both rock and tablet forms, 22 grams of marijuana and 2.4 grams of Pyrrolidinovalerophenone (PVP), better known as Flakka as well as assorted plastic baggies and several digital scales.

Eight of the MDMA tablets were shaped to look like the icon for Instagram, a popular photo-sharing app, and looked more like pieces of candy than drugs. Making ecstasy tablets look like candy is a common tactic, since the they are most commonly taken by young people as a party drug, but the SOU detectives said this was the first time they had seen ones with the Instagram logo.

Detectives determined that Fort had rented the room to use as a distribution point for the illegal drugs. He was charged with six felonies to go along with his violation of probation charge:

- Trafficking over 10 grams of MDMA (rock-like form)
- Possession of controlled substance (MDMA in tablet form)
- Possession of a controlled substance (Flakka)
- Possession of cannabis with intent to sell to within a 1,000 feet of an active worship center
- Possession of drug paraphernalia
- Rent or lease structure for purpose of trafficking a controlled substance
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Note: All arrests do not lead to convictions. Everyone is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.



