



# Flagler County Sheriff's Office

Donald W. Fleming, Sheriff

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Palm Coast Woman Faces Four Counts of Child Abuse**

Flagler County Sheriff's deputies arrested a 32-year-old Palm Coast woman Wednesday morning after deputies said she went to a local convenience store to inject drugs and took along her four children, all under the age of ten.

Deputies charged a passenger in the vehicle with possession of drug paraphernalia, unlawful possession of prescription drugs and possession of cocaine.

Store employees of Kangaroo Smoker's Express on Cypress Point Parkway said Michelle Smith, of 10B Pinehill Lane, went into the restroom and stayed an unusually long length of time. The store manager said he had been notified by another Kangaroo Express manager on Belle Terre Parkway that a woman fitting Smith's description had left a syringe and blood in the sink and on the bathroom counter in his store.

Deputies located Smith sitting in a mini-van in the parking lot of the Cypress Point store. They said the woman appeared nervous and had marks on the inside of her elbows where she had been intravenously injecting the narcotics. Also inside the van were Smith's children, an 8-year-old, 7-year-old and 3-year-old twins who will turn four tomorrow.

"This is a sad situation. These children have already been exposed to situations that no one should have to experience. This woman obviously needs help for her addiction," said Flagler County Sheriff Donald W. Fleming.

Nina Holley was a passenger in the van. Deputies reported finding syringes, spoons, a white powdery substance and prescription pills in the woman's purse. Holley claimed she was holding them for Smith.

Smith and Holley were transported to the Flagler County Inmate Facility where they were being held without bond Thursday.

Smith's husband responded to the scene and took custody of the children and the vehicle. Deputies notified the Florida Department of Children and Families about the incident.



Michelle Smith



Nina Holley

**Honor** ♦ **Integrity** ♦ **Excellence**