



CITY OF MARCO ISLAND

Police Department

51 Bald Eagle Drive
Marco Island, Florida 34145
239-389-5050

PRESS RELEASE

May 5, 2022

On 11/05/2021, the Marco Island Police Department initiated an investigation into an animal abuse which occurred on the South Beach area of Marco Island. It was reported that a male suspect was hitting seagulls with a shovel. The suspect left the scene prior to police arrival.

One of the seagulls struck by the shovel received a broken wing and was no longer able to fly. It was later euthanized at the Conservancy of Southwest due to the severity of its injuries. The seagull is a protected species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Through investigation, the male subject was identified as Paul John Flaucher, age 30, from Jesup, Iowa. With the assistance of our law enforcement partners from the Iowa Department of Public Safety, further information was gathered, and an arrest warrant was issued through Collier County Circuit Court. Flaucher turned himself in at the Collier County Jail on 05/04/2022.

Flaucher is charged with (1) count of Aggravated Animal Cruelty, a third-degree felony.



Paul John Flaucher

Captain Richard Stoltenborg
PIO
Marco Island Police Department