



**MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ROBERT L. CROWDER, SHERIFF**

Arrest Made – Bribery

June 29, 2010—A defendant issued a traffic citation for speeding has been arrested for bribery after repeatedly offering a Deputy \$50 to "make this ticket go away".

On June 28, 2010, at approximately 9:30 p.m. Deputy Thomas Cuty observed 20-year-old Stuart resident Alexis Valdes on NW Federal Highway in Jensen Beach traveling 60 miles per hour in a posted 45 miles per hour area and issued him a traffic citation for speeding (fine amount \$253).

After the citation was issued Valdes drove away, made a u-turn, and returned to Deputy Cuty with the offer of money in exchange for having the citation rescinded. Valdes stated to Deputy Cuty two times and in the presence of another Deputy, "I'll give you fifty dollars to make this ticket go away". At the time the statement was made, Valdes was holding his wallet and the recently issued citation in his hand.

Valdes was arrested for bribery, a second-degree felony, and booked at the Martin County Jail. Bond \$10,000.

Alexis Valdes
a/k/a Alex Valdes
W/M, 08/22/89
337 SE Madrid Street
Stuart, FL 34994

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