



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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**From:** Denise M. Moloney  
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**Re:** Drug Interdiction Operational Plan

**Date:** July 25, 2018

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In an increased effort to eradicate illegal narcotics in Hernando County, deputies conducted a Drug Interdiction Operational Plan late last week.

The operational plan was a proactive approach to identify possible suspects and their associates in the transportation of illegal narcotics within Hernando County. Traffic stops were conducted for traffic violations, with the purpose of identifying and arresting suspects transporting illegal narcotics.

The operation was conducted from 07-17-18 through 07-21-18 and was focused on, but not limited to, known narcotic traffic areas.

Members of the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) also participated in the operation. Statistics from the FHP are **not** included in this release.

During the three-day operation, deputies from the Hernando County Sheriff's Office were very busy. Please see the statistics below:

- Traffic Stops – 143
- Citations – 29
- Verbal Warnings – 112
- Written Warnings – 9
- Arrests – 18.

During the operation, deputies located the following illegal narcotics:

- Marijuana – 48 grams
- Oxycodone – 1.9 grams

- Cocaine – 1.2 grams
- Marijuana Wax
- Hashish Oil.

#### **The Office of Sheriff:**

The Office of the Sheriff is established by the Florida Constitution. As a constitutional officer, the Sheriff has the exclusive authority to administer his or her agency and is responsible for preserving the peace throughout the entire county, carrying out the laws of the state, the orders of Florida courts, and the ordinances of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement and correctional officer of the county.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis was initially appointed as the Sheriff of Hernando County by the Governor in January of 2011. He was then elected by the people of Hernando County in 2012, and remains accountable to them.