



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Update # 2- Deputy Injured in Early Morning Crash

Date: July 1, 2014

Update # 2

Deputy Baker has been released from the hospital and is recovering at home. His doctors have not released him to return to work at this time.

Update

Deputy Baker is still being treated at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa. His condition is listed as fair.

Original Information

On 06-28-14 at approximately 4:43 a.m., Deputy James Baker was traveling westbound on Cortez Boulevard approaching the intersection of U.S. 301 in his marked patrol car. A vehicle traveling northbound on U.S. 301 impacted the driver's door of Deputy Baker's patrol car.

Just after impact, two individuals that were inside the car that impacted with the patrol car fled from the scene.

Hernando County Fire/Rescue was called to the scene to treat the injured and additional law enforcement officers were called to the scene to attempt to locate the individuals that fled.

One individual was located by Sergeant Tom Banks and one individual was located by the Hernando County Sheriff's Aviation Unit. Both individuals were returned to the scene.

Deputy James Baker was evaluated and treated on scene by Hernando County Fire/Rescue and then flown by medical helicopter to St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, where he was admitted. The extent of his injuries is unknown at this time.

The crash investigation is being handled by the Florida Highway Patrol.

There is no additional information available at this time.