



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Hernando County Preparing for Hurricane Matthew

Date: October 5, 2016

Hernando County Sheriff's Office Emergency Management Officials are alerting residents that Hernando County has been placed under a **Tropical Storm Watch**. As a result, a local state of emergency has been declared for Hernando County, effective at 5:30 p.m. on 10-05-16.

According to the National Hurricane Center, the path of Hurricane Matthew has shifted west. On Friday, 10-07-16, impacts to Hernando County may include:

- Maximum potential sustained winds of 40 mph, with gusts up to 55 mph.
- Rainfall is expected to be **less than one inch**.
- Due to offshore flow, **no storm surge is forecast**.
- Residents should prepare for tropical storm force winds. Any items outdoors that could be hazardous, should be brought indoors.
- Expect power outages and plan accordingly.

This information is based on the current storm track and is **subject to change**.

Please stay tuned to your favorite news or weather channel for up-to-date information. Updates will be posted to the Hernando County Sheriff's Office social media platforms, but may not be as up-to-date as live newscasts.

- Hernando County Government Offices will close at noon on Thursday, 10-06-16 and remain closed through Friday, 10-07-16.
- The Hernando County Landfill will be open normal hours on Thursday, 10-06-16. The Landfill will be closed on Friday, 10-07-16 and no garbage will be picked up on Friday.

- School closings and shelter openings will be determined and announced on Thursday, 10-06-16.
- The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will go to a partial activation at 8:00 p.m. on 10-06-16.

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.