



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

P.O. BOX 10070 – BROOKSVILLE, FL 34603-0070 FAX 352 796-0493 PHONE 352 754-6830

### Media Release

---

**From:** Denise M. Moloney  
Community/Media Relations Manager, 352-797-3609

**Re:** CERT Class Starting January 21, 2017

**Date:** November 23, 2016

---

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office Emergency Management Section is seeking volunteers over the age of 18 who are interested in joining the Hernando County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

CERT volunteers receive special training which enhances their ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a disaster situation. As an organized team, they provide vital services in the absence of emergency responders, whose arrival may be delayed due to the severity of the situation.

The next training class will begin on Saturday, January 21, 2017. Classes will be held from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. every Saturday until February 4, 2017 in the Emergency Operations Center, 18900 Cortez Blvd., Brooksville, Florida 34601.

Previous emergency experience is not required. The training, materials, and equipment are provided free of charge. CERT members must pass a required background check including fingerprints.

If you are interested in information, please call 352-754-4083. Applications can be found on our website, [www.hernandosheriff.org/em](http://www.hernandosheriff.org/em), click on the CERT link. All applications must be submitted to the Community Relations Specialist, Michael Terry, by the close of business on Friday, September 2, 2016 to allow for processing.

**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.