



## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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### Media Release

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**From:** Denise M. Moloney  
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**Re:** Celebratory Gunfire During the Holidays

**Date:** December 27, 2016

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For many communities, it's the time of year when some people celebrate the festivities by firing gunshots into the air. Illogical thinking we agree, because we all know that what goes up must come down. In these cases, it's bullets moving at deadly speed.

In years past, many people have been seriously wounded or killed by falling bullets on New Year's Eve. Those tragic deaths and serious injuries, which resulted from stray bullets, have motivated Sheriff Nienhuis to remind everyone that stray bullets can injure or kill innocent bystanders.

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office will be taking a zero tolerance stance on any and all illegal gun use and gun crime during the holiday. Please do your part to make the holiday a happy and safe one.

"There are many safe ways to celebrate the arrival of the New Year. Discharging a firearm is NOT one of them," said Sheriff Al Nienhuis. "It's too easy for people to get injured. Leave the firearms at home in a safe and secure location."

If anyone hears gunfire or sees anything suspicious, they are encouraged to call their local law enforcement agency.