

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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

<u>Media Release</u>

From:	Denise M. Moloney Community/Media Relations Manager, 352-797-3609
Re:	High School Teacher Arrested for Inappropriate Relationship with Student
Date:	March 23, 2017

On 03-22-17, Hernando County Sheriff's detectives received information concerning a possible inappropriate relationship that was occurring between a Central High School teacher and a student at the school.

Detectives responded to the school to interview the male student. During the interview, the student advised detectives that he had engaged in sexual relations with the teacher, at her home in Spring Hill, on at least three occasions.

The teacher, **Valerie Michelle Valvo W/F DOB/03-29-1982**, agreed to respond to the Hernando County Sheriff's Office to be interviewed by detectives. Post Miranda, Valvo admitted to engaging in sexual relations with the student (victim) five to six times.

Both parties advised the relationship was consensual (a juvenile 17 years of age cannot consent to a sexual relationship with an adult).

Both parties admitted to using both marijuana and alcohol while at Valvo's residence.

Valerie Valvo was placed under arrest at the Hernando County Sheriff's Office. She was charged as follows:

- Unlawful Sexual Activity w/a Minor (3 counts)
- Contributing to the delinquency of a Minor (1 count)
- Bond \$15,500.

Detectives remained in contact with the School Resource Officer at Central High School, as well as administrators from the Hernando County School Board, regarding the investigation.

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.