



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: Hernando County Detention Center - Facility Search

Date: May 31, 2017

On 05-31-17 at approximately 3:30 a.m., deputies from the Hernando County Detention Center conducted a full facility search for dangerous weapons and narcotics. The Detention Deputies were assisted by the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (SRT), SWAT, K-9 Unit, and the Sumter County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit. All searches were done simultaneously to prevent the potential for destruction of any illegal items or contraband. In all, the entire facility and current inmate population of 622 inmates were searched.

The search revealed no weapons, actual or improvised, or illegal narcotics. Only minor nuisance contraband was located. Nuisance contraband would be considered extra issued clothing or bedding, stored food from meals, undocumented commissary items, etc.

The lack of serious contraband, weapons, and drugs in the facility illustrates the point that our deputy sheriffs, both inside the Detention Facility and on Patrol do an excellent job, every day, in locating and/or preventing dangerous or illegal items within the jail, thus making it a safer environment for both the deputies and inmates.

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.