



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Missing Couple Recovered in Hernando County

Date: July 14, 2017

On 07-13-17 at approximately 10:20 p.m., Deputy David Greis-Ospina was conducting proactive patrol in the area of Treiman Boulevard (US 301) and Cortez Boulevard (SR 50) when he observed a red Kia Spectra travelling at a very slow rate of speed in the middle of the intersection. Deputy Greis-Ospina also noted the vehicle was making noises indicative of possible mechanical issues.

Deputy Greis-Ospina immediately activated his emergency lights in an attempt to contact the driver to determine if assistance was needed.

Contact was made with the driver of the Kia, who identified himself as Billy King. The passenger, identified herself as Billy's wife, Joan King. The couple told the deputy they had been away from home for quite some time, but were unclear about how long they had been on the road. Mr. King told the deputy he and his wife had grown tired and bored of being at home and decided to get in the car and head south.

Family members in Jackson County Florida had reported the pair missing/endangered earlier in the day, resulting in the issuance of a Silver Alert by authorities in that jurisdiction.

Computer queries of Mr. and Mrs. King revealed that both had been entered as Missing/Endangered Persons by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. Contact was made with authorities at the Jackson County Sheriff's Office to advise them that Mr. and Mrs. King had been located safely in Hernando County. Deputy Greis-Ospina also spoke with a family member who was making arrangements to travel to Hernando County to facilitate the King's trip back to Jackson County.

Mr. and Mrs. King spent the night at a local hotel while waiting for their family member to arrive.

Mr. King advised Deputy Greis-Ospina that he enjoyed his experience in Hernando County and that he did plan on coming back some day!

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.