



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: HCSO K-9 Unit Certified by FDLE

Date: August 16, 2017

On 08-15-17, all four Hernando County Sheriff's Office K-9 teams received certification from FDLE. Additionally, the newest addition to our K-9 Unit, Deputy Greg Locke and K-9 Argo, received their initial certification as a K-9 team.

During the certification process, each canine/handler team is evaluated on building searches, area searches, obedience, and apprehension.

All five of the HCSO teams passed all areas of evaluation.

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office K-9 teams are as follows:

Corporal Stephen Miller (K-9 Unit Supervisor) and K-9 Justice
Deputy Brandon Cox and K-9 Judge
Deputy Jason Jernigan and K-9 Dzel
Deputy Jeff Andrews and K-9 Valor
Deputy Greg Locke and K-9 Argo.

"In an effort to save resources and ensure quality training, the citizens might be surprised to know that all of Argo's training was done in-house. I am happy to report that the outside professionals evaluating and certifying Argo's performance were very impressed with his ability. They advised that the in-house training was impressive, as evidenced by Argo's ability during testing. Our citizens can rest assured that the men and women of the Hernando County Sheriff's Office are constantly looking at ways to save money and, at the same time, ensure the best possible law enforcement services," said Sheriff Al Nienhuis.

Congratulations to our K-9 unit on another job well done!

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.