



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: Unlicensed Contracting During State of Emergency

Date: September 12, 2017

As a result of Hurricane Irma, a local state of emergency was declared in Hernando County.

With that being said, Sheriff Al Nienhuis would like to remind anyone providing contracting services, under this state of emergency, all parties must be currently licensed through the **Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation**.

Failure to comply with appropriate licensing requirements would be a FELONY under Florida State Statute 489.127.

As always, citizens should use due diligence when selecting a contractor. Be cautious of contractors who have estimates that are much less than others.

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.