



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Deputies Thwart Two Suicide Attempts

Date: September 19, 2018

On 09-18-18, at approximately 11:30 p.m., deputies were dispatched to a residence on Northcliffe Boulevard in Spring Hill in reference to a Suicide Attempt.

Upon arrival, deputies spoke to the caller, who advised he stepped outside of his residence and found another resident of the home in the driveway “covered in blood.” The caller told deputies that there was also “an enormous pool of blood” at the victim’s feet. As the caller conversed with the victim about his condition, the caller indicated that he intended to contact law enforcement. The victim then fled, on foot, from the residence.

Aviation and a K-9 team were called to assist in locating the victim.

K-9 Deputy Jason Jernigan and his partner, K-9 Maxx, began tracking the victim. K-9 Maxx quickly located the victim, hiding in a wooded area off Beachwood Court.

The victim was found to have a large laceration to his right bicep. He told deputies he used a razor blade in an attempt to cut an artery. The victim was treated on scene by Hernando County Fire Rescue, then transported to Oak Hill Hospital for treatment by a physician. The victim was then placed under the Baker Act so that he may receive a mental health evaluation and treatment.

Minutes after the Suicide Attempt on Northcliffe Boulevard was dispatched, another call was received regarding a Suicide Threat, this time on Monona Avenue in Spring Hill.

Upon arrival, deputies observed (through a window) the victim, a female, to be standing inside a residence, holding a 12-inch knife to her throat. The victim appeared to be under the influence of an unknown substance.

The victim refused to exit the residence and began barricading the doors with large pieces of furniture.

The victim then began beating on the glass window with the handle of the knife, breaking the window. She then armed herself with a large piece of broken glass – and began swinging the glass around.

During the entire incident, deputies established a dialog with the victim, using skills learned in Crisis Intervention Training. After approximately 35 minutes, deputies convinced the victim to exit the residence.

Upon exiting the residence, the victim had minor injuries (cut marks) which were treated on scene by Hernando County Fire Rescue.

The victim was placed under the Baker Act so that she may receive a mental health evaluation and treatment.

“I am constantly amazed at how often my people, call takers, dispatchers, and deputies, are successful at dealing with people who are in crisis. They never cease to amaze me,” Sheriff Al Nienhuis.

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.