



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: Deputies Negotiate with Barricaded Subject - Situation Ends Peacefully

Date: August 9, 2018

On 08-08-18 at approximately 11 a.m., Hernando County deputies were dispatched to 59 West Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in Brooksville regarding a Verbal Disturbance.

Upon arrival, deputies met with a female occupant of the residence, who was outside in the front yard. The female told deputies that Laurence Taliaferro, who is a family member and also a resident in the home, had been yelling at her all morning.

Deputies then attempted to make contact with Taliaferro, who was still inside the residence. Taliaferro screamed through the closed door that he had a gun and was not coming out. The deputies took cover and awaited the arrival of additional units.

While awaiting the arrival of additional units, the female advised the deputies that Taliaferro had access to a porch-like area, located on the roof of the carport. Within minutes, Taliaferro exited the residence and stood on the porch, armed with a shotgun.

Deputies (in tactical positions) ordered Taliaferro to come down from the patio. He refused, stating that he wanted to see them.

COPPS Deputy Roy McLaughlin arrived on scene and established a rapport with Taliaferro. After speaking with McLaughlin for only a few minutes, Taliaferro agreed to disarm himself. Taliaferro dropped the short-barrel shotgun and a large knife off the porch.

Once Taliaferro was disarmed, deputies removed the female from under the carport to waiting deputies.

Three deputies then entered the residence and placed Taliaferro in custody.

Laurence Taliaferro W/M DOB/02-28-1955 was arrested on scene and charged as follows:

- Felon in Possession of Firearm
- Felon in Possession of Ammunition
- Possession of Short Barrel Shotgun
- Bond - \$25,000.

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.