

## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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## Media Release

From:	Denise M. Moloney Community/Media Relations Manager, 352-797-3609
Re:	Detectives Investigating Domestic Violence - Murder Suicide
Date:	August 31, 2019

On 08-31-19 just after 6 a.m., Hernando County deputies were dispatched to 10032 Scarlett Court in Weeki Wachee (Glen Lakes) regarding a Home Invasion.

A person inside the residence called 9-1-1 to summon help. The caller told the 9-1-1 operator that someone had made entry into the home and that shots were being fired. The caller, and at least one other person, hid in a closet throughout the incident and until the arrival of law enforcement.

Upon arrival, deputies observed broken glass at the front door. Deputies quickly made a tactical entry into the residence.

Once inside, deputies immediately observed evidence of a crime.

Deputies swiftly removed the caller and one other individual from the closet, taking them safely out of the residence.

Thus far, investigation reveals the married couple who once lived in the home together had recently separated or divorced (at this point we are not certain). The husband relocated to another residence in Spring Hill, while the wife remained in the Scarlett Court home.

Early this morning, the husband returned to the Scarlett Court residence, forced entry into the home and began shooting the wife, killing her. The husband then killed himself, inside the Scarlett Court residence.

Due to Marsy's Law, the names of the individuals involved in this incident have been withheld.

If you, or someone you know is the victim of domestic violence, please reach out to one or more of the resources below for help.

- Hernando County Sheriff's Office
  - 9-1-1 for emergencies
  - o 352-754-6830 for non-urgent matters
- The Dawn Center of Hernando County 24-Hour Crisis Hotline 352-686-8430
- <u>https://www.domesticshelters.org/</u>

## 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, ran unopposed in 2016, and remains accountable to them.