Media Release

From: **Denise M. Moloney**
              Community/Media Relations Manager, 352-797-3609

Re: **K-9 Meck Completes Narcotics Detection School - Locates Illegal Narcotics**

Date: **May 14, 2020**

On 05-13-20, Detectives J. Desmond and R. Killingsworth conducted a Traffic Stop near the intersection of West Jefferson Street and East Avenue in Brooksville.

Based on their investigation, the detectives requested a K-9 team respond to the scene of the stop.

Deputy J. Weeks and K-9 Meck, who both completed Narcotic Detection School on Friday, 05-08-20, responded to the scene to conduct a "sniff" of the vehicle.

K-9 Meck alerted to the presence of illegal narcotics in the vehicle; a search was then conducted.

As a result of the search, detectives located the following:

- Methamphetamine – 5.3 grams
- Hashish Wax – 30.6 grams
- Marijuana – 32.6 grams
- Drug Paraphernalia – Numerous items
- Ammunition – 24 rounds of .223.

The driver of the vehicle, **Nicholas Lewis DOB/12-07-65,** was placed under arrest. Lewis was charged as follows:

- Possession of Methamphetamine
- Possession of Hashish
- Possession of Paraphernalia
- Possession of Ammunition by a Convicted Felon.

Great job by K-9 Meck, only days after completing his training.

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.