



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Michael Terry
Deputy PIO, 352-797-3608

Re: HCSO Seeks Assistance in Locating Material Witness in Homicide Trial

Date: July 30, 2021

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office is requesting assistance from our media partners and the community in locating a **Material Witness** in an ongoing homicide trial in Circuit Court.

George Max Badillo H/M DOB/03-26-1992 showed up for the start of Isaac Troy Lemons' homicide trial on 07-27-2021 but left the Hernando County Courthouse before being called to testify.

In response, 5th Judicial Circuit Chief Judge Daniel Merritt Jr. issued a **Writ of Bodily Attachment and Order** to take Badillo into custody.

Upon being located, Badillo will be held without bond until he appears before Judge Merritt to testify. The homicide trial has been continued until 08-02-2021 to give time for Badillo to be located.

If you have seen **George Badillo**, or know his current whereabouts, please call the Hernando County Sheriff's Office at 352-754-6830 or your local law enforcement agency.

Thank you.

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 was re-elected in 2020. Sheriff Nienhuis remains accountable to the people of Hernando County.