



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise Moloney
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Re: Sheriff Reports Inmate Death

Date: October 1, 2021

On 09-28-2021 just before 11 a.m., deputies at the Hernando County Detention Center were preparing inmates for lunch and court proceedings.

During this time, a female inmate alerted deputies that one of her three cellmates was unresponsive. Several detention deputies rushed into the cell and began rendering aid to the unresponsive female inmate. At the same time, a request was made for Hernando County Fire and Emergency Services (HCFES).

Deputies and detention center medical staff continued lifesaving measures until HCFES arrived on scene and took over patient care. The inmate/patient was then transported to a local hospital for more advanced care.

Due to the condition of the inmate, she was released from custody in the early morning hours of 09-29-2021. In the evening hours of 09-29-2021, the woman died at the hospital.

The circumstances involving the woman's need for medical attention and her death are being investigated by the HCSO and the Medical Examiner's Office.

There is no additional information available at this time.

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.