

## Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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## **Media Release**

From: Michael Terry

Deputy PIO, 352-797-3608

Re: Drone Unit Helps Locate Fleeing Suspect

Date: March 30, 2022

On 03-29-2022 at 7:32 p.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to a residence on Elwood Road in Spring Hill in reference to a report of an aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Investigation revealed the suspect, Larry Haller DOB/o6-19-1967, was involved in a verbal argument with a family friend. During the argument, Haller armed himself with a baseball bat and then charged toward the male victim while shouting he was going to hurt the victim.

The victim fled on foot with Haller giving chase. The victim was able to elude Haller.

Deputies were unable to locate Haller at the scene. Deputies were advised that Haller frequents a homeless camp south of Elwood Road, located along the power lines.

A deputy with the Drone Unit was called in to assist with the search.

The deputy was able to use the drone to locate a small group of people gathered along the power lines. The deputy then observed a man in the group matching the suspect's description.

The drone deputy guided deputies to the suspect's location. Following a brief struggle the suspect was taken into custody without further incident.

Haller was transported to the Hernando County Detention Center on a charge of Aggravated Assault. His bond was set at \$2,000.

## 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, ran unopposed in 2016, and was reelected in 2020. Sheriff Nienhuis remains accountable to the people of Hernando County.