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<u>Media Release</u>

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

Re: Human Skeletal Remains Located on Vacant Lot in Brooksville

Date: April 16, 2022

On 04-14-2022 at 4:58 p.m., Hernando County Sheriff's deputies responded to a vacant wooded lot on Winter Street, near Horn Avenue in Brooksville.

Deputies were responding to a tip they received indicating the presence of human skeletal remains on the property.

Deputies were able to locate human skeletal remains on the property, which appeared to have been there for an extended period of time.

The investigation is active and no additional details are 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 reelected in 2020. Sheriff Nienhuis remains accountable to the people of Hernando County.