



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: Efforts of Deputies and Telecommunicators Help Save Suicidal Woman

Date: January 8, 2019

On 01-07-19 Hernando County Sheriff's deputies were called to a residence in Spring Hill regarding a suicidal female.

Upon arrival, deputies met with the caller who advised the female left the residence on foot, earlier, to "cool off" after having a disagreement with someone in the residence.

After being gone for over 30 minutes, the female began sending text messages to persons back at the residence, indicating she wanted to commit suicide. She refused to provide her location and/or answer any incoming calls.

K-9 units responded to the area but were unable to track, due to the significant time lapse.

Patrol deputies and telecommunicators, using electronic investigative tools, were able to determine that the female was in the area of Walgreen's at Cortez Boulevard and Mariner Boulevard in Brooksville.

Deputies located her a short time later, in the parking lot of Texas Roadhouse. She was sitting on the ground sobbing uncontrollably. The female told deputies "her family would be better off if she were dead." The female was placed into protective custody.

While being transported to the mental health facility, the female told the deputy she planned on committing suicide (today) by running into oncoming traffic.

It is believed the diligent work of the deputies and telecommunicators helped to save this person's life. She can now get the help she needs to get back on track.

It should be noted that Hernando County Sheriff's deputies are trained in Crisis Intervention Techniques and often utilize these skills to deescalate situations and assist those in crisis.

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, and remains accountable to them.