



Date: 8/26/2021**NEWS RELEASE****NR# 21-07**

Seminole County Sheriff's Office and FDLE Working Deputy-Involved Shooting

Seminole Co. (August 26, 2021)-Today, at approximately 2:05 a.m. , two Seminole County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to the 400 block of Riverview Avenue in unincorporated Sanford in reference to a call received indicating a disturbance. A citizen reported a physical altercation was occurring at an unknown nearby home between a male and a female. Upon arrival, the deputies were unable to locate a disturbance. Further investigation revealed both parties had left the scene.

Deputies made contact with several residences to determine the exact location of the incident. As they walked up to the home in question, they attempted to make contact at the front door. The suspect, Samuel Thomas Kirk (26 of Sanford), exited the carport area, brandishing a handgun and pointing it at deputies. The deputies immediately identified themselves as law enforcement but Kirk continued to point the gun at the deputies. Gunfire was exchanged between the suspect and deputies, resulting in Kirk being struck multiple times. Deputies quickly began performing life-saving measures on Kirk until fire rescue arrived. He was transported to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Further investigation determined the female victim was able to get away from the suspect and left the scene in a vehicle. She was located and interviewed by detectives. She reported Kirk choked her and threw her to the ground, slamming her against the concrete multiple times until she was able to free herself. She declined medical attention and is cooperating with detectives.

The sequence of events is currently under investigation. Per policy, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement responded to the scene to conduct an independent investigation into the deputy-involved shooting. The names of the deputies involved are not being released at this time.

Copies of the 911 calls related to the incident and the deputies' body-worn camera footage, including a slow-motion clip of the exchange of gunfire, can be accessed at:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zepylkhug1lijxc/AACMh_xe1ciM575FAqHY5vgja?dl=0.

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