

# ALACHUA



# COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Sadie Darnell

Post Office Box 5489 • Gainesville, FL 32627

Greetings:

I'm Alachua County Sheriff Sadie Darnell and I am pleased to take this opportunity to tell you about your Alachua County Sheriff's Office (ACSO). We provide law enforcement services throughout all of Alachua County's more than 900 square miles, to include the following municipalities: Alachua, Archer, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs, LaCrosse, Micanopy, Newberry, and Waldo. The ACSO has exclusive countywide functions of Criminal Warrants service, Civil Process and Courthouse Security (Bailiffs); and manages the Department of the Jail and the Countywide Combined Communications Center via formal interlocal agreements.

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office meets and exceeds our goals each year, working under our Value Statement of *Protect, Serve and Support our Community with Integrity*, and our Mission Statement that says "...through our partnerships we are ACSO – Always Committed to Serving Others."

I am pleased that we have continued to increase our partnerships: while also working hard to ensure we have an open relationship with all those we serve – with equal justice, integrity and respect.

The tragic shooting of 16-year-old Robert Dentmond overshadowed our agency, as well as the Gainesville Police Department, this year. But if anything positive can come from such a tragedy, we are working harder than ever as a community to reach the mentally ill and serve their needs well before law enforcement has to be called.

I continue to place a priority on our employees receiving training which is considered "best practice" for public safety personnel, called Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and Mental Health First Aid. Our School Resource Deputies receive specialized training to enhance their abilities to identify who may be at-risk of self-harm. In addition, our Combined Communications Center (CCC) 9-1-1 call takers/dispatcher personnel have just completed state-of-the-art training in Emergency Health Dispatch Protocol (EMHDP), which involves complex psychological concepts, coupled with intense compassion toward individuals with mental illness. Our CCC is one of the first in the nation to receive this training and certification, and to implement this protocol.

In addition, I am working with local community leaders and our state and local legislative delegations to ban the sale of replica guns in the State of Florida. Even with current federal legislation requiring that fake guns be transparent, brightly colored or have a bright orange tip, these guns have been modified to look real.

Your support of these initiatives is important, so feel free to share your thoughts or support with others.

We had some exciting accomplishments this year. Please feel free to ask for a copy of 2016 Annual Report. You can also read our annual reports, strategic plans, and our goals and objectives online at [www.alachuasheriff.org](http://www.alachuasheriff.org). Remember, you can stay current with us on our Facebook, YouTube and Twitter social media sites, as well as the new Nixle notification system. Go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Gaiensville-FL/Alachua-County-Sheriff/127800077278>, Twitter: <http://twitter.com/AlachuaSheriff>, or Nixle: [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com).

Eleanor Roosevelt said, "With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts." As an agency head, I am very proud of what we did in 2016 to keep our community safe and to build on our good community relationships. As you browse through this report, I think you will agree. Stay informed, stay safe, and stay supportive.

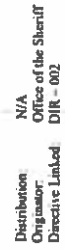
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Sadie Darnell in green ink, with the date 2/17/17 written below it.

Sheriff Sadie Darnell

(352) 367-4000







# **ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

2621 S.E. Hawthorne Road

367-4000

## **Sheriff's Office Tour**

### **1. Tour of ACSO Facilities.**

- Combined Communications Center/Emergency Operations Center
- Fleet Maintenance
- Patrol Operations Division
- Gym
- Property/Evidence Section
- Specialty Vehicles Area
- Forensics Unit
- Criminal Investigations Division
- Trauma Intervention and Special Services Bureau
- Juvenile Relations Bureau
- Warrants Bureau
- Public Information Office
- Administration Offices
- Accounting and Budget
- Office of the Sheriff
- Records Bureau
- Office of Professional Standards
- Human Resources Bureau
- Lobby

### **2. 20 minute presentation by Sheriff Sadie Darnell followed by a question and answer session.**



## **ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PROGRAMS!:**

**RAD for Women** – RAD is a free program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques. It is a comprehensive course for Alachua County women only ages 13 and up that starts with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance and progresses to the basics of hands-on defense training. RAD is taught in three 4-hour blocks. The first block is a classroom discussion of risk reduction strategies, date rape mentality, and continuum of survival, defensive strategies and the basic principles of defense. The second block introduces students to the basics of hands-on defense training and in the third block; students will participate in simulated assault scenarios with RAD instructors wearing protective gear. If you are interested in our free RAD program, please call the Crime Prevention Unit at 352-374-1800 or email [rad@alachuasheriff.org](mailto:rad@alachuasheriff.org).

**RAD for Seniors** – This is a new program that takes the basics of RAD for women and adapts them for seniors, ages 60 and up. This class is for men and women. Currently, classes are being taught at the Senior Recreation Center. For more information, email [rad@alachuasheriff.org](mailto:rad@alachuasheriff.org).

**radKIDS** – radKIDS is a free course for boys and girls, ages 5-12, that provides educational opportunities for children and parents concerning awareness and personal safety strategies, instilling confidence, and reducing the possibility of adverse physical control and/or harm. Currently, the Alachua County Sheriff's Office holds a radKIDS Summer Camp and assists with programs in schools. For more information, email [rad@alachuasheriff.org](mailto:rad@alachuasheriff.org).

**Teen Driver** – Teen Driver is a free teen-driver safety course. In the United States every 12 seconds a vehicle crash occurs and they are the number 1 cause of death in teens. The Teen Driver Challenge is designed for your child to experience many real-time situations that could potentially occur on the road, but in a safe and controlled closed-course environment. The Teen Driver Challenge course is a 2-day program. The first day of instruction is held in a classroom and the 2<sup>nd</sup> day is held on the driving range, where they will be instructed on how to quickly and properly react to road conditions and different scenarios. The maneuvers they will learn will keep them safe during their early years of driving. For more information, please contact the Juvenile Relations Bureau at 352-367-4099 or visit our website, [www.alachuasheriff.org](http://www.alachuasheriff.org) and click on the programs tab.

**Gun Bounty** – In 2010, Sheriff Sadie Darnell partnered with other area law enforcement and Alachua County Crime Stoppers to kick off the Gun Bounty Program via a press conference held at the Alachua Police Department. The Alachua County Gun Bounty Program offers a \$1,000 cash reward for citizen tips that lead to the arrest of individuals within Alachua County involved in crimes where firearms were utilized. This program was designed to expedite the identification and arrest of suspects involved in gun crimes and assist local law enforcement with removing their weapons from the streets. Tipsters can remain anonymous by calling the existing Crime Stoppers number: (352) 372-STOP (7867). One thousand dollars may sound like a lot of money to pay, but it pales in comparison to the costs associated with long term investigations. Our belief is that the bounty money will be an incentive for citizens to come forward and help us shorten these investigations; thereby removing dangerous criminals from our community. Bounty funds will be paid from forfeiture monies seized from other criminals – not taxpayers' funds.

Gun Bounty has been successful in other communities with active citizen participation. Lou Newman, a representative from Alachua County Crime Stoppers said it best, "We need your eyes, your ears and your tips." Help us make Alachua County a safer place for all of us by calling in tips to your nearest law enforcement agency or if you wish to remain anonymous by contacting Crime Stoppers at (352) 372-STOP (7867). For more information, visit [www.stopcrime.tv](http://www.stopcrime.tv).

**Social Sites** –In 2010, ACSO joined the social networking craze with our own Facebook, YouTube and Twitter social media sites. Go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Gainesville-FL/Alachua-County-Sheriff/127800077278> , Twitter: <http://twitter.com/AlachuaSheriff>, YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/alachuasheriff> to find out more. You can also subscribe to Nixle alerts by signing up at their website <http://www.nixle.com> or by texting your zip code to 888777.