



# ***Joint News Release***

***Alachua County Sheriff's Office***

***Gainesville Police Department***

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**For Immediate Release:**

**Today's Date: March 21, 2016**

**Prepared by: Lt. Brandon Kutner and Officer Ben Tobias**

**Release #: 2016-002**

## **Media Advisory: Officer Involved Shooting**

At approximately 10:07 PM last evening, the Alachua County Sheriff's Office Combined Communications Center (CCC) received a 9-1-1 call from Robert Dentmond who stated to call takers that he was walking around the Majestic Oaks Apartment Complex with an "M-16" rifle. Mr. Dentmond also advised CCC personnel that he wanted to shoot himself then disconnected the line.

Several ACSO patrol units were dispatched to the scene. Shortly after arrival, an ACSO patrol supervisor encountered Mr. Dentmond who was armed with what appeared to be an AR-15 style assault rifle. Several additional patrol units from both the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and the Gainesville Police Department responded as backup. Deputies and Officers began a dialogue with Mr. Dentmond who initially dropped his weapon after verbal commands were issued. Responding units attempted to establish a rapport with Mr. Dentmond to get him to step away from the weapon. After several minutes of dialogue, Mr. Dentmond picked up the weapon, arming himself, and began to walk toward one of the occupied apartment buildings inside the complex. Deputies and Officers with both agencies proceeded to again give a series of loud verbal commands directing Mr. Dentmond to drop the weapon. Mr. Dentmond did not respond to the directions he was given and began to, again, walk toward an occupied apartment building within the complex.

Mr. Dentmond was given several warnings by Deputies and Officers that they were not going to let him approach an occupied apartment complex while armed. Mr. Dentmond was given multiple opportunities to stop, accompanied by several warnings that Deputies and Officers would be forced to fire if he continued towards the occupied building while armed. Deputies and Officers made it extremely clear to Mr. Dentmond that if he continued to walk towards the occupied apartment building carrying the rifle, they would have no other option but to utilize deadly force. As a result of Mr. Dentmond's refusal to comply with the directions of Deputies and Officers, lethal force was utilized to stop the threat Mr. Dentmond posed to residents of the complex. Deputies and Officers immediately rendered medical aid to Mr. Dentmond who was treated and transported by Alachua County Fire Rescue to UF Health at Shands Hospital where he was later pronounced deceased.

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The investigation into the officer involved shooting has been turned over to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. The ACSO Office of Professional Standards and GPD's Internal Affairs will also conduct an administrative investigation into the incident pending the conclusion of FDLE's investigation. As a matter of routine procedure, ACSO Deputies and GPD Officers involved in the lethal use of force will be placed on temporary administrative duties within their respective departments until such time as the investigations are concluded.

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