



News Release

Alachua County Sheriff's Office

Sadie Darnell, Sheriff

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Sheriff Darnell Releases Statement re: Orlando Terrorist Attack

As President of the Florida Sheriffs Association, Sheriff Sadie Darnell participated in a joint teleconference with the United States Department of Homeland Security this morning following the terror attacks at Pulse Nightclub in Orlando. There are no known or suspected ties between the attack and Alachua County; however, as part of the Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) the Alachua County Sheriff's Office will provide any assistance or services which may be requested by law enforcement authorities in Orange County related to this incident.

"Our world is no longer a safe and predictable place", said Sheriff Darnell. "We cannot allow ourselves to be lulled into a false sense of security. Today's tragedy is a stark reminder that we are not immune from these types of domestic terror attacks nor the hateful motives which drive these assailants", she continued. "Today's attacks also highlight the importance of local law enforcement agencies having adequate access to, and appropriate funding for, the necessary equipment and training needed to effectively and efficiently deal with these types of threats and the danger they pose to our communities", Sheriff Darnell stated. "No community ever wants to deal with this type of senseless loss of life. The citizens of Alachua County can be assured that their law enforcement officers are well-equipped, well-trained and stand ever ready to confront these issues should the need arise", Darnell said.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of those no longer with us, the survivors, our colleagues throughout Orange County, and the entire LGBT community. We would also like to thank Governor Scott for his swift action in declaring a state of emergency and the support his administration has provided to the public safety community.

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