



News Release

Alachua County Sheriff's Office Sadie Darnell, Sheriff



P.O. Box 5489 Gainesville, Florida 32627

Office (352) 367-4050 • Fax (352) 374-1808 • <http://www.alachuasheriff.org>

For Immediate Release:

Today's Date: July 8, 2016

Prepared by: Lt. Brandon Kutner

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ACSO Investigating the Death of Agency K-9:

ACSO K-9 Robbie was discovered unresponsive in the back seat of his handler's patrol car earlier today. Robbie is a 6 ½ -year-old Belgian Malinois who has served with the Alachua County Sheriff's Office Patrol Support Division since 2010. He was named after Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Robert J. Miller of Oviedo, Florida who was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Staff Sergeant Miller was killed in action on January 25, 2008, in Bari Kowt, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



ACSO K-9 Robbie was the primary canine utilized by Alachua County Sheriff's Office S.W.A.T., and he and his handler, Deputy Tommy Willcox, responded to assist the Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office earlier this morning with a barricaded subject wanted in connection with a homicide investigation in Leesburg, Florida.

Detectives and Crime Scene Investigators assigned to our Criminal Investigations Division are examining the circumstances surrounding the death, and our Office of Professional Standards will be conducting an inquiry to determine if any policy or procedure violations may have contributed to this incident. It appears K-9 Robbie's death is the result of complications related to heat exhaustion.

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PIO Lt. Brandon Kutner
Office: (352) 367-4041
Cell: (352) 260-7681

PIO Art Forgey
Office: (352) 367-4045
Cell: (352) 538-0861