



# News Release

**Alachua County Sheriff's Office**

**Sadie Darnell, Sheriff**

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**For Immediate Release:**

**Today's Date: May 20, 2017**

**Prepared by: PIO Sgt. Chris Sims**

**Release #: 2017-017**

**Location: Micanopy, FL**

**Media Advisory: Sexual Battery upon a Child over 12 Y.O.A.**

On May 16, 2017, Deputies and DCF workers responded to a Micanopy Home regarding allegations of an adult having sexual contact with a minor child.

After DCF conducted interviews with the minor child, the Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division was contacted to further investigate the allegations. Sheriff's Detectives learned that the suspect Tina Christmas had been having inappropriate sexual contact, to include sexual intercourse, with a minor child since the summer of 2014. Detectives developed probable cause to file for an arrest warrant against Christmas, charging her with Sexual Battery on a minor child over the age of 12. On May 19, 2017, Judge Pena signed a warrant for Christmas' arrest with a \$250,000.00 bond.

On May 19, 2017 at approximately 7:16 p.m., Alachua County Deputies made contact with Christmas outside of the North Florida Regional Medical Center, where they took her into custody regarding the active warrant. Christmas was transported to the Alachua County Jail, where she will await arraignment.

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office is dedicated to the protection of our community's youth and takes any investigation into the physical or mental harm of children very serious. The Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division has six dedicated Detectives assigned to the Special Victim's Unit and two Detectives assigned to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. If you have any information regarding a child within Alachua County who is suffering abuse, please report it to the Alachua County Sheriff's Office at 352-955-1818, leave a tip through our NIXLE App or contact the Department of Children and Family Services.

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