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NEWS RELEASE

Date: 6/5/09

Released By: Colonel Steve Burns

NR #: 09-124

Suicide Update

At approximately 8:50 a.m. today Sarasota Sheriff's Deputy Charles Flint made a routine traffic stop on SR-681, east of US-41. During the stop, the driver of the vehicle produced a handgun. Deputy Flint took cover and attempted to start a dialogue with the driver. The driver then shot himself. The driver was transported to Venice Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The victim has been identified as James P. Keenan, W/M, DOB 2/1/49, of 409 Avenida LaPalma, Nokomis. The victim's family has been notified.

The Sheriff's Office has completed the administrative review of this incident and Deputy Flint has been returned to full duty. The investigation of the incident is ongoing.