



THOMAS M. KNIGHT, SHERIFF
SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S MEDIA OFFICE
Post Office Box 4115
Sarasota, Florida 34230-4115
(941) 861-4005 Fax: (941) 861-4089
www.SarasotaSheriff.org



Date: 10/06/09

Released By: Wendy Rose

NR #:09-191

Sarasota County Sheriff's Office First in State to Deploy New Mobile Rapid Identification Technology

The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office has become the first Sheriff's office in the State of Florida to deploy PrintSearchMobile™, idSoftware's mobile rapid identification and booking system using fingerprint biometric technology.

Using forfeiture funds, the Sheriff's Office purchased 14 portable systems, which allow for quick, positive identification of individuals in local and state databases, and the FBI Repository for Individuals of Special Concern (RISC). Unlike most statewide fingerprint systems which must be done at the jail and can take hours to return results, this provides positive identification in a matter of seconds while still in the field.

"Positive identification is a critical requirement for the safety of our deputies," said Sheriff Tom Knight. "The sooner law enforcement knows who they are dealing with and what their criminal history might be, the more quickly they can make better, informed decisions."

The first night of use, deputies were able to positively identify a man as a previously deported convicted felon who had re-entered the United States. Another subject wouldn't provide his correct name, but because of the system, we learned he had a warrant out of Manatee County.

"This community wants a progressive agency with the appropriate tools and latest technology available," Sheriff Knight said, "and the men and women of this office deserve nothing less."

By streamlining the identification process, this technology also makes each call more efficient and can minimize the amount of time a deputy spends at the jail should an arrest be made. Additionally, a book and release function can be utilized for all misdemeanors requiring only a Notice to Appear, eliminating the trip to jail altogether and keeping the deputy on the street.