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Date: 10/21/09

Released By: Wendy Rose

NR #:09-201

Deputy Involved Shooting Review

The State Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit ruled today that the action taken by Deputy Thomas Shirley on September 24, 2009, was a justifiable use of deadly force.

The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office completed an administrative review of Deputy Shirley's action on October 5, 2009 and forwarded the findings to the State Attorney's Office. Deputy Shirley returned to full duty on October 6, 2009.

On September 24, 2009 at 2:57 p.m., Deputy Shirley responded to 1222 Cattlemen Rd., Sarasota, to investigate a report of a man with a gun. He was confronted by Jonas Guerrero, who pointed a gun in Deputy Shirley's direction as he fled into the residence. Deputy Shirley fired three rounds from his department issued handgun, striking the door as it closed. Two subjects inside the residence suffered minor injuries. Guerrero was arrested and charged with Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer, Resisting an Officer with Violence, and Improper Exhibition of a Firearm.