



Rick Staly, Sheriff

## FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

*"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."*

# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** Tuesday, May 14, 2019

**Contact:** Brittany Kershaw; (386) 586-2637; [bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com](mailto:bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com)

## **UPDATE: Evidence Supports Sheriff's Investigation to Charge Student with Written Threats to Kill**

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) began investigating a complaint of two Flagler Palm Coast High School (FPC) students sending threatening and racist messages about an African-American teacher on December 10, 2018 on their school issued computers. The students were questioned and admitted to sending the messages, but denied that they intended to harm the teacher. The school computers used were seized.

On December 19, 2018, a search warrant was executed for the computers used to send the messages and the computers were sent to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) for analysis. On April 24, 2019, FCSO detectives received the forensic analysis of the computers from FDLE and began reviewing the data.

The investigation and evidence was provided by FCSO detectives to the State Attorney's Office on May 10, 2019. The State Attorney's Office supported a charge of written threats to kill for Zoe Putney, age 16, for the threats against the FPC teacher. The State Attorney's Office did not support the charge for the second suspect, due to the fact that there was no evidence indicating that the male ever knew the teacher mentioned in Zoe's messages.

"I made this case a top priority for the Flagler County Sheriff's Office," Sheriff Rick Staly. "Our investigators needed time to do an excellent job, which they did with this case. Our teachers deserve our appreciation and should never feel threatened with harm by anyone. Hatred and threats of violence have no place in our schools or our community."

The warrant on Zoe Putney was signed May 14, 2019 by the Honorable Judge France and Zoe Putney was taken into custody and arrested. She was processed at the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility and turned over to the Department of Juvenile Justice in Daytona Beach, Florida.

###

---

*Proudly Serving the Community for 100 Years – Centennial Anniversary 1917 - 2017*  
*An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



901 East Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL 32110 – 386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820 – [www.flaglersheriff.com](http://www.flaglersheriff.com)