



**Rick Staly, Sheriff**

# **FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Date:** March 21, 2023

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### **Palm Coast Man Arrested After Hours-Long Stand-Off with FCSO SWAT Team**

BUNNELL, FL – On March 19, 2023, FCSO deputies responded to Ricker Place in Palm Coast in reference to an armed domestic disturbance. The reporting party explained that a male, later identified as 56-year-old Luis Ramirez, was intoxicated and had fired one round from a pistol within the home. Ramirez also displayed the firearm in a way that made the reporting party fear for their life. The reporting party, whose identity is being withheld under Marsy's Law, was able to safely exit the home and find a safe place to stay for the remainder of the night. Ramirez was then the only person in the home.

The FCSO Crisis Negotiation Team began to make several attempts to get Ramirez to exit the home peacefully, however, he failed to cooperate. To de-escalate the situation, deputies ended negotiations and their high visibility presence in hopes that Ramirez would cooperate later in the day. Visual surveillance of the home continued due to the danger that was posed to the surrounding neighbors.



*Crisis Negotiators*

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On March 20, 2023, a warrant was obtained for Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon Without Intent to Kill along with a search warrant for the weapon used. The FCSO SWAT Team, Crisis Negotiation Team, and Drone Unit responded to the scene once again to attempt to get Ramirez to exit the home. For several hours attempts were made to contact Ramirez although he continued to refuse to cooperate and would not communicate. Ultimately, after hours of communication attempts, the SWAT Team deployed chemical agents and when Ramirez still did not exit the SWAT Team made entry into the residence and located Ramirez upstairs without further incident.

Ramirez was transported to AdventHealth-Palm Coast for medical clearance and then taken to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility where he is being held on \$25,000 bond. At this time, his photograph and exact address are being withheld due to Florida Statute 119.071 as Ramirez is a former out-of-state law enforcement officer.

“Thankfully, our SWAT Team, CNT, and Drone Unit were able to take this man into custody without anyone being injured,” said Sheriff Rick Staly. “Incidents like this are why our teams train extensively and why we have our tactical and armored equipment. With our technology, equipment, and training we were able to successfully resolve this high-risk situation without anyone being hurt; although there was some damage to the home so that we could safely deploy communications equipment and tactical gas. Thank you to the nearby community that sheltered in place to allow our deputies to do their job safely. Finally, I hope Mr. Ramirez gets the medical help he obviously needs.”



*Sheriff Staly Reviewing Drone Footage from the Scene*

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