



# News Release

*Alachua County Sheriff's Office*

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**For Immediate Release:**

**Today's Date:** January 21, 2017

**Prepared by:** Lt. Brandon Kutner

**Release #:** 2017-002A

**UPDATED Media Advisory: Deputy Involved Shooting at Scottish Inn**

On January 20, 2017, at approximately 11:10 PM, Deputies received a tip through our 911 Communications Center regarding a wanted subject who was staying at the Scottish Inn at 4341 SW 13<sup>th</sup> St. in Gainesville. Deputies arriving on scene encountered a white male subject matching the suspect's description in the parking lot of the hotel. Upon seeing law enforcement, the suspect brandished a firearm and began making threats to either shoot himself or force law enforcement to shoot him. The suspect, still armed, fled on foot and deputies gave chase. The suspect then emerged from between two buildings on the hotel property, with firearm still in hand, where he was again confronted by ACSO deputies who ordered him to drop his weapon. The suspect refused deputies' commands at which time shots were fired striking the suspect. ACSO Deputies and Officers with the Gainesville Police Department attempted to immediately render aid to the suspect, including the deployment of issued trauma kits, but were unsuccessful.

The suspect has been confirmed deceased. No deputies or bystanders were injured during the course of the incident. The ACSO conducted a canvas of the hotel occupants to ensure no other injuries were sustained. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is conducting an investigation into the shooting at the ACSO's request, and our Office of Professional Standards will perform an internal administrative review of the incident per routine procedure.

The deceased suspect has been identified as 39-year-old Gino Martin Palazzollo of Gainesville. Deputy Charles Drake and Deputy Jasper Stephenson discharged their firearms in conjunction with this incident and have been placed on temporary administrative leave as a matter of policy following a deputy involved shooting.

Deputy Drake was hired by ACSO in August of 2009, and Deputy Stephenson was hired by ACSO in November of 2014. Both deputies are currently assigned to the Patrol Operations Division. No additional information regarding the shooting will be available until such time as FDLE and ACSO have completed their respective investigations.

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