



Highlands County Sheriff's Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 27, 2016

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Deputy Adair Honored by Sons and Daughters Of the American Revolution

SEBRING -

On Wednesday, October 25th Rod Dilling, Public Safety Award Committee Chairman attended the Highlands County Sheriff's Office's Quarterly Recognition Ceremony in order to present the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution's Deputy of the Year Award. Accompanied by O.W.Woodard, Immediate Past President, and George Frey, Historian and Secretary, Mr. Dilling presented the award to Highlands County Sheriff's Deputy Ryan Adair.

On August 20, 2016 at approximately 2PM, deputies were patrolling the area of Hal McRae Boulevard and South Delaney Avenue in Avon Park when the driver of a tan vehicle was observed not wearing a seat belt. While attempting a traffic stop on this vehicle, the vehicle sped up and fled the area. After disappearing from sight, the vehicle was later located, abandoned, having struck a parked vehicle during the escape. Neighbors in this area observed a black male fleeing from the site of the crash, carrying what appeared to be a handgun.

Deputy Ryan Adair arrived in the area to assist in locating the fleeing subject, and was directed to a position on the perimeter of the search area. While in this area, Deputy Adair encountered a witness who directed Adair to the back yard of a nearby house. There was a camper located in the back yard, and the door to the camper looked to Deputy Adair as if it had been pushed in. After hearing sounds coming from the camper, Deputy Adair ordered the subject out of the camper. The subject refused to comply with the order to get on the ground, and Adair deployed his Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW) which caused the subject to fall to the ground. The subject continued to resist Deputy Adair and they struggled at which time a handgun fell from the subject's pocket. After chasing the subject once again, and once again taking control of him, eventually Deputy Adair was able to overpower the subject, gain control of the subject and handcuff him.

Once in custody, it was determined that the subject was in possession of marijuana and crack cocaine consistent with street level drug sales, and some currency. In addition a loaded firearm was seized and the subject was charged with carrying a concealed weapon and possession of a weapon by a convicted felon, assault and resisting an officer.

In presenting the Deputy of the Year award to Deputy Adair, Rod Dilling made note of the bravery shown by Adair in taking this dangerous felon off the streets. "We want to show our appreciation for the efforts of Deputy Adair in this situation and are pleased to present him with this honor."