

**VOLUSIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**

**REPORT NUMBER: IA-16-013**

**PERIOD COVERED:** November 14, 2016  
**DATE REPORTED:** November 14, 2016  
**SUBJECT(S) NAME:** Deputy Corey Rittenour #7756  
Deputy Cody Cochran #7964  
**INVESTIGATING OFFICER:** Sergeant Thomas Tatum #2405

**BASIS FOR INVESTIGATION:**

On November 14, 2016, Deputies Corey Rittenour and Cody Cochran responded to a call for service involving a suicidal person at 3626 Plantation Dr, Ormond Beach, FL, which resulted in the use of deadly force. Deputies encountered a white male, identified as Michael Hartman, standing outside his residence. Upon Deputies commands to show his hands, Mr. Hartman retreated to his residence then quickly came out and fired several rounds from a Glock .45 caliber pistol in the direction of Deputies. Deputy Rittenour discharged his department issued Colt .223 rifle four times and Deputy Cochran discharged his department issued Glock 35, .40 caliber pistol four times, fatally striking Michael Hartman. (VCSO report 16-29002)

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Special Agent Nicole Miller, conducted the investigation into the use of Deadly Force by Deputies Rittenour and Cochran that resulted in the shooting of Michael Hartman. The completed FDLE Investigative Summary is listed under FDLE Case #OR-27-0272. (*See Tab – F FDLE Investigative Summary*)

**OFFENSE(S):** None.

**INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY:**

On November 15, 2016 Chief Deputy Eric Dietrich assigned the above described incident to the Internal Affairs Unit for investigation. *(See Tab – B for Official Correspondence)*

On November 15, 2016, Deputy Corey Rittenour and Deputy Cody Cochran were served a Notification of Administrative Leave (with pay) as the result of the Use of Deadly Force on November 14, 2016. *(See Tab – B for Official Correspondence)*

On November 17, 2016, Lieutenant Paugh obtained a copy of the year 2016 annual Firearms qualifications, which read Deputy Rittenour qualified with his firearm (Colt .223 AR-15 rifle – LEO 96247) on January 4, 2016. Deputy Cochran qualified with his firearm (Glock 35- XWB437) on February 3, 2016. *(See Tab- D Firearms Qualification)*

On November 17, 2016, a Fitness for duty examination was conducted on Deputy Rittenour by Dr. Greg Landrum, Ph.D. The finding of the examination is that the subject is “Fit to return to duty without restriction”.

On November 17, 2016, a Fitness for duty examination was conducted on Deputy Cochran by Dr. Greg Landrum, Ph.D. The finding of the examination is that the subject is “Fit to return to duty without restriction”.

On November 17, 2016, Detective Bennett received an e-mail from Risk Management stating the medical specimen report submitted on the day of the shooting (11/14/16) by Deputy Rittenour was negative. *(See Tab - C Drug and Alcohol Screening Results)*

On November 17, 2016, Detective Bennett received an e-mail from Risk Management stating the medical specimen report submitted on the day of the shooting (11/14/16) by Deputy Rittenour was negative. *(See Tab - C Drug and Alcohol Screening Results)*

On March 6, 2017, Special Agent Nicole Miller delivered the completed FDLE Investigative Summary to the Volusia County Sheriff's Office along with a complete copy of the related police use of force case file referenced by #OR-27-0272.

On April 3, 2017, a letter was received from State Attorney R. J. Larizza regarding FDLE Case Number: OR-27-0272; Investigation of Officer Involved Shooting of Michael Hartman.

Mr. Larizza wrote:

*"This office has reviewed all of the investigative reports, witness statements and officer statements provided by your office regarding the "police use of force" involving Deputy Corey Rittenour and Deputy Cody Cochran that occurred on November 14, 2016. Based on our review of the investigation and information provided, no further action by this office is warranted by this office." (See Tab – B for Official Correspondence)*

## **CONCLUSION:**

On September 22, 2017, this investigation was presented to the Sheriff and his administrative staff. After review, the Sheriff and his staff determined the use of deadly force was **JUSTIFIED** as to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm to the Deputies and found **NO** violations of agency policy.

**EXHIBIT(S):**

- A. Report of Investigation
- B. Official Correspondence
- C. Drug Tests
- D. Firearms qualifications
- E. Computer Aided Dispatch report/Incident and supplement reports
- F. FDLE Report Summary OR-27-0272
- G. Voluntary Consent to search form
- H. Use of Force Review Board document

Attached and made part of this case file is the Florida Department of Law enforcement case file #OR-27-0272.

**WITNESSES:**

Deputy Cody Cochran  
Volusia County Sheriff's Office  
LES/Patrol

Deputy Corey Rittenour  
Volusia County Sheriff's Office  
LES/Patrol

Deputy Stephen Corbin  
Volusia County Sheriff's Office  
LES/Patrol

Deputy James Seyboldt  
Volusia County Sheriff's Office  
LES/Patrol

Deputy Michael Coker  
Volusia County Sheriff's Office  
LES/Patrol

Sergeant Keith Peck  
Volusia County Sheriff's Office  
LES/Patrol

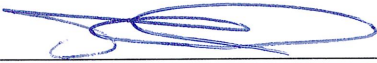
Lieutenant Cory Piser  
Volusia County Sheriff's Office  
LES/Watch Commander

Kayleigh Hartman  
3626 Plantation Dr.  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
407-221-2365

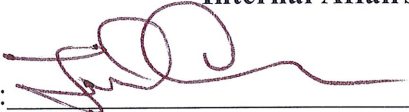
Andrew Wilson  
3626 Plantation Dr.  
Ormond Beach, FL  
407-221-2365

Kaleb Vestal  
3626 Plantation Dr.  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
407-221-2365

I, the undersigned, do hereby swear, under the penalty of perjury, that, to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief, I have not knowingly or willfully deprived, or allowed another to deprive, the suspect of the investigation of any rights contained in ss. 112.532 and 112.533, Florida Statutes.

DETECTIVE:  \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 9/25/17

**Sergeant Thomas Tatum**  
**Internal Affairs Detective**

APPROVED BY:  \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 09/27/17

**Chief Deputy John Creamer**  
**SHERIFF MICHAEL J. CHITWOOD**  
**VOLUSIA COUNTY FLORIDA**