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## **NEWS RELEASE**

NR# 20-02

## Suspect Charged with Murder in Teen Overdose Death

Seminole County (March 11, 2020)-Seminole County Detectives have arrested and charged with murder an acquaintance of a local woman who died of an opioid-related overdose.

On the morning of January 24, 2020, 19-year-old Jessica Ackerman was pronounced dead at AdventHealth Altamonte after ingesting a lethal amount of heroin laced with fentanyl. Further investigation revealed that Ackerman and the suspect, 26-year-old Daniel Ryan Bachert, were doing drugs hours earlier inside a home in the 500 block of Clemson Drive in unincorporated Altamonte Springs.

Detectives have established that Bachert purchased the drugs, gave them to Ackerman, and knew she was severely overdosing. Despite being advised multiple times throughout the night by a roommate to call 911, Bachert failed to do so. He finally dropped off Ackerman at the hospital hours later, where she never regained consciousness.

Bachert was arrested Tuesday afternoon and booked into the John E. Polk Correctional Facility on charges of First Degree Murder by Distribution of a Controlled Substance and possession of Fentanyl. He will make his first court appearance this afternoon.

"We will hold drug dealers accountable when people overdose and die," said Sheriff Dennis Lemma. "In this case the suspect had numerous chances to do the right thing. Had he called for help earlier, Jessica may well have survived.

\*\*\*Sheriff Lemma held a press conference at SCSO Headquarters to comment on this case. The full press conference video can be viewed <u>here</u>.



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