

From: [Cannaday, Kim](#)
To: [Bentsen, Kristen M](#)
Subject: FW: SCSO News Release/Man arrested for pointing laser at SCSO helicopter
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Attachments: [Trevor Ragno arrest report.pdf](#)

From: Seminole SO Public Affairs <cmservice@seminolesheriff.org>
Date: Monday, June 9, 2014 at 9:22 AM
To: Kim Cannaday <kcannaday@seminolesheriff.org>
Subject: SCSO News Release/Man arrested for pointing laser at SCSO helicopter

NEWS RELEASE

Man arrested for pointing laser at SCSO helicopter

SEMINOLE CO. (June 9, 2014) – Deputies with the Seminole County Sheriff’s Office (SCSO) Saturday arrested Trevor Ragno, 19, of Longwood, for shining a laser light several times at Alert 2, one of SCSO’s two helicopters.

Shortly before midnight, Alert 2 was on proactive patrol in the area of Interstate 4 and E.E. Williamson Road, when the flight crew reported a green laser light flashed through the cockpit. The helicopter responded to the area where the light was originating and used Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) to direct deputies on the ground to a residence on Deer View Place, where Ragno was located outside. Ragno was transported to the John E. Polk Correctional Facility and charged with a felony for pointing a laser light at a pilot and culpable negligence. He posted the \$1,100 bond Sunday morning and was released from the facility.

Shining a light into an aircraft creates a glare on the windscreen and generates a temporary flash of blindness, similar to a camera flash. It is highly dangerous for pilots and flight crew who can experience blurred vision or become disoriented. At the time of Saturday night’s laser strikes, Alert 2 was flying at approximately 800 feet.

The FBI Task Force and FAA were also notified of the incident. The FAA has the ability to impose civil penalties of up to \$10,000 and the FBI could file federal charges for pointing a laser into the cockpit of an aircraft.

Video of the incident taken by Alert 2 is available on the SCSO media ftp site. To access the site go to <http://www.seminolesheriff.org/administration/Login.aspx>
Username: scsomedial Password: m3diaUser1

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