

From: [Seminole SO Public Affairs](#)
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Subject: SCSO PRESS RELEASE: Deputy charged with battery after striking handcuffed subject
Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 2:30:49 PM
Attachments: [Press packet O'Connor.zip](#)

Attached press packet includes Lynch booking photo, Lynch arrest report, O'Connor administrative investigation report, and O'Connor criminal investigation report. We will provide access to in-car camera video as soon as download is complete.

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PRESS RELEASE

Deputy charged with battery after striking handcuffed subject

Seminole Co. Fla., (March 30, 2016) - Seminole County Sheriff Donald F. Eslinger today held a press conference to discuss an incident involving misconduct by former Deputy Sheriff Michael O'Connor. On Jan. 12, O'Connor was disrespectful to a subject arrested for domestic violence, then struck him once on the face while he was handcuffed and in the back of a patrol car. The Sheriff's Office learned of the incident on March 18 and immediately began investigating. O'Connor was charged today with one count of battery, a first degree misdemeanor.

"We have a strong and long-standing relationship with the community we serve, and my commitment is to always be transparent with, and accountable to, our residents," said Sheriff Eslinger. "O'Connor's actions were not just a violation of policy and law, they were also contrary to our agency's core values. His behavior was completely inappropriate and totally inconsistent with what is expected of a deputy sheriff at our agency."

O'Connor was placed on suspension at the onset of the investigation and then submitted his resignation on March 24th. He had been employed with the Sheriff's Office as a deputy assigned to Seminole Neighborhood Policing (patrol division) since October 2013.

The case will be prosecuted by the Office of the State Attorney, 18th Judicial Circuit. The Sheriff's Office criminal and administrative investigations will be forwarded to the state's Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission which reviews officer misconduct and determines if action should be taken against a law enforcement officer's certification.

Please do not respond back to this email as the account is not monitored. For more information contact:

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