



NEWS RELEASE Sheriff Dennis Lemma Takes Office

Seminole Co. Fla., (January 3, 2017) - Today, Dennis M. Lemma becomes the 10th sheriff of Seminole County. Sheriff Don Eslinger administered the oath of office to Sheriff Lemma during a private ceremony. As Chief Law Enforcement Officer, Sheriff Lemma will direct the agency's enforcement, investigative, correctional, juvenile and support services, leading a work force of more than 1,300 employees and managing a \$125 million budget.

"I am honored and humbled to serve as Sheriff of Seminole County and I would like to thank the citizens of Seminole County and members of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office for placing their faith and trust in my ability to lead this talented and professional organization. I am looking forward to serving with the men and women of this agency who work hard each and every day to provide the exceptional law enforcement services our residents both expect and deserve," stated Sheriff Lemma.

Sheriff Lemma, a life-long resident of Central Florida, began his career at the Seminole County Sheriff's Office in 1992 as a corrections officer. During his 24-year tenure, has earned promotions to the rank of chief deputy and has supervised and managed virtually every area of the agency. A veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Sheriff Lemma is a graduate of Columbia College and the University of Oklahoma having received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration and a master's degree in administrative leadership. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

Sheriff Lemma and his wife, Diana, reside in Seminole County with their two sons, Dylan, 12 and Dayne, 9.

A video clip of the oath of office ceremony can be accessed <u>here</u>.



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