



SHERIFF

SEMINOLE COUNTY

Date: 02/20/2017

NEWS RELEASE

NR# 17-8

Two men rescued from Lake Harney after boat capsized

Seminole Co. (Feb. 20, 2017) – On Saturday, members of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) Aviation Unit teamed up with the Seminole County Fire Department to rescue two men after their boat capsized on Lake Harney.

At approximately 11:15 a.m., dispatchers received a 911 call from a boater who indicated that he and a friend were in the water and holding on to their capsized boat. He stated the boat suddenly started taking on water and within 10 minutes overturned. Our SCSO Alert helicopter responded and quickly located the men in the middle of the massive lake, still holding on to the sinking boat. Flight crew members deployed emergency inflatable devices to help keep the men afloat and then guided a Seminole County Fire Department rescue team to their location. Both men were assisted into the rescue boat and transported safely back to land.

"This is a great example of our County's collaborative efforts which resulted in the safe rescue of these individuals", stated Sheriff Dennis Lemma.

A copy of the rescue video can be accessed [here](#).

The SCSO Aviation Unit routinely trains on water rescues-drills with the Seminole County Fire Rescue teams. In addition to having the ability to deploy emergency inflatable devices, our Alert helicopter is equipped with a hoist and a 165' cable that is capable of lifting up to 450 pounds at a time. The aircraft also has a "Bambi Bucket" that can hold up to 210 gallons of water and is used for response to fires in areas where it would be difficult, if not impossible to reach by fire trucks.

Please don't respond back to this email. For more information contact:

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