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Passing of SCSO Corrections Sergeant James LaRue

Seminole Co. Fla., (November 21, 2020) – We are saddened to share news about the passing of Seminole County Sheriff's Office Sergeant James LaRue of the Department of Corrections. Sgt. LaRue passed away early this morning from complications of COVID-19.

Sgt. LaRue began his service with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office in 1999 as a Detention Deputy Trainee. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2010. During his career, he received many recognitions, including a Live-Saving Award in 2017. Additionally, Sgt. LaRue served his country in the United States Marine Corps and was honorably discharged in 1996.

In a memorandum to the members of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Dennis Lemma stated, in-part, "Sgt. LaRue was a beloved member of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office and served a majority of his career working the B-Pod. He was loved by his colleagues, and he was also very popular among JEPCF inmates, working closely with those inmates suffering from mental health issues."

Although it is not believed that Sgt. LaRue contracted COVID-19 while working at the John E. Polk Correctional Facility, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office will treat his passing as a Line of Duty Death, consistent with the provisions in the Safeguarding America's First Responders Act of 2020 (S. 3067).

We ask that you please keep the LaRue family and all of the members of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Sgt. LaRue was a beloved member of the agency and will be deeply missed.

No additional information is expected to be released regarding the passing of Sgt. LaRue at this time.



For more information contact:

PIO Bob Kealing (bkealing@seminolesheriff.org)

(407) 665-6950

(407) 473-4698

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