

From: Governor's Press Office [Governor'sPressOffice@eog.myflorida.com]
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Gov. Scott Ends State of Emergency for Law Enforcement Coordination in Alachua County

NAPLES, Fla. – Today, due to the hard work of law enforcement from across the state, Governor Rick Scott signed [Executive Order 17-274](#) to end the state of emergency declared in Alachua County that was requested by Sheriff Sadie Darnell. The Governor issued the state of emergency on Monday to help coordinate state and local law enforcement resources in Gainesville to respond to rallies held yesterday.

Governor Scott said, "On behalf of all Floridians, I would like to thank the brave law enforcement officers from across the state for their hard work in Gainesville yesterday. These men and women selflessly serve our communities every day and I'm grateful that their unified efforts, in coordination with leadership at the University of Florida, kept all involved in yesterday's rallies safe. Florida is a state that respects the First Amendment, but we do not tolerate violence of any kind. Today, and every day, I'm proud to be a Floridian and proud of the strength and resolve of our state."

Alachua County Sheriff Sadie Darnell said, "Under the leadership of Governor Rick Scott, Florida residents and its elected officials sent a powerful message in Alachua County on October 19, 2017 that intentional violence and the erosion of our U.S. Constitutional rights will not be tolerated.

"The goal of the mission was to recognize and support the right to free speech as granted by our U. S. Constitution. Public safety personnel remained neutral in this effort while providing for the safety of all individuals.

"A successful, coordinated response from public safety to this event was vastly due to the unprecedented capacity to mobilize well-trained, well-equipped, agile personnel, and the immense preparation and lessons learned from similar incidents in the nation.

"I commend Governor Scott, the Florida Sheriffs Association and local elected officials to include Alachua County Commission Chair Ken Cornell, Gainesville Mayor Lauren Poe and University President Ken Fuchs for their courage and their unwavering support."

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