FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Lt. Grady Jordan   **Date:** April 3, 2018

Suspect Shot After Attempting to Run Over Deputy

Yesterday, at approximately 4:07 p.m. Deputy Stephen O'Conner, while assigned to motorcycle patrol, attempted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Bull Headley Road. The driver, later identified as **Garrett R. Peterson 26**, initially did not stop. **Peterson** eventually stopped the vehicle in the 1400 block of Manor House Drive. **Peterson** then put the vehicle in reverse and backed into Deputy O'Conner's motorcycle with him still on it. Deputy O'Conner then used his agency issued firearm and fired into the vehicle.

Peterson was shot in the incident and was transported to a local hospital where he is being treated. Peterson is being charged with aggravated battery on a law enforcement officer and fleeing and eluding law enforcement with lights and siren activated. The investigation is continuing.

Deputy Stephen O'Conner is currently assigned to the Traffic Unit and has been employed by the Leon County Sheriff's Office since January of 2008.

At the request of the Leon County Sheriff's Office, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement is conducting an independent investigation to determine the facts regarding the use of force.

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