

ALACHUA



COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Clovis Watson, Jr.

Post Office Box 5489 • Gainesville, FL 32627

July 31st, 2023

Governor Ron DeSantis
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: **ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF CLOVIS WATSON, JR. - RETIREMENT**

To Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis:

After much soul-searching and with a great sense of sadness, I am announcing my retirement from my position as Sheriff of Alachua County effective October 1, 2023. Earlier this year when I announced that I would not be seeking re-election, it was my intention to complete my term in office, but due to my personal health I now feel it would be better for me to go ahead and retire at this time.

After more than forty years in law enforcement and public service, this decision has been very difficult, but I have accepted that my health is such that I fear that I may not be able to meet my own expectations for performing my sworn duties.

Please know that whoever is appointed to complete my term will be supported by a workforce comprised of support staff and deputy sheriffs who are committed to keeping our entire community safe.

As I retire, I wish to thank the citizens of Alachua County who have allowed me the honor to serve as their Sheriff as well as the hard-working men and women of this great agency for all that they do on a daily basis. Please know that I intend to use my remaining time in office helping the Alachua County Sheriff's Office prepare for a smooth transition to new leadership.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Clovis Watson, Jr.

(352) 367-4000