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NEWS RELEASE
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CHARGES FILED AGAINST FORMER DEPUTY SHERIFF AYLER CRUZ

ORLANDO, FL – This morning, our office filed charges against former Deputy Sheriff Ayler Cruz for perjury in official proceeding, perjury when not in an official proceeding, and battery. It is important to note that as a result of this incident, Ayler Cruz is no longer with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. The State Attorney's Office is grateful for the cooperation of Sheriff John Mina and the Orange County Sheriff's Office regarding this matter. The commitment to victims of crime in the 9th Circuit by both of our agencies, no matter the identity of the accused, is paramount to successful community partnerships.

The Sheriff's Office and the State Attorney's Office are also specifically committed to building relationships of mutual trust between law enforcement and the communities that they serve. Part of that effort will be holding all perpetrators of crime accountable, including members of law enforcement, where fairness and justice requires. These endeavors are critical to maintaining public safety, as well as effective policing, for the benefit of all citizens of Orange and Osceola Counties.

For general media inquiries, please contact: PIO@sao9.org.

For media records request, please contact: mediarecordsrequest@sao9.org.

For specific media inquiries pertaining to State Attorney Monique Worrell, please contact Keisha Mulfort at kmulfort@sao9.org.