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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fugitive Investigative Team Honored for Outstanding Work on Floyd Ray Cook Case

PUTNAM COUNTY, TN – At a recent awards ceremony held at the U.S. Marshals Office on June 22, 2016, Sergeant Josh Reams of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office was honored along with other members of the Deputy U.S. Marshals and Task Force Officers from the Middle District of Tennessee Joint Fugitive Task Force, the Western Kentucky Fugitive Task Force, the Technical Operations Group, and the Financial Surveillance Unit for their exceptional tenacity, proficiency, and bravery as they sought to protect the general public by ending the hunt for violent fugitive and career criminal Floyd Ray Cook. Their efforts and determination along with the aid of the Federal Bureau of Investigation brought closure to a terrifying 6-day manhunt that began with the cold-blooded shooting of a Tennessee police officer, continued with dangerous outbursts by Cook that paralyzed communities in two states, and garnered national media coverage.

"I am so proud of Sergeant Reams and his work with the other members of the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force on this case," said Sheriff Eddie Farris. "The shooting and subsequent manhunt was the largest case of its kind that this county has ever been involved in and I have received many words of praise from other agencies as well as the public on the way Josh and our other deputies handled themselves. I also want to thank all of our law enforcement partners who worked with us to bring this incident to a safe conclusion."

On October 30, 2015, in Cumberland County, Kentucky, the U.S. Marshals Joint Fugitive Task Force played a vital role in ending the 6-day manhunt across two states for Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Top Ten Most Wanted Fugitive Floyd Ray Cook. The entire Cumberland Plateau lived on edge as Cook, who shot and wounded an Algood police officer just days earlier, was spotted in various places throughout the region. Cook was a career criminal with a history of escaping from prison. He was running from authorities for distribution of methamphetamine, violating Tennessee's sex offender registry, and violation of parole.

Members of the U.S. Marshals Joint Fugitive Task Force eventually located Cook in a wooded area. After an intense shootout, Cook was fatally wounded. The brave and persistent actions of all of the law enforcement agencies involved helped restore peace and order to a frightened region.

"Today, events are taking place all over the world that place increasing pressure on law enforcement. It is vital that we maintain strong relationships with the citizens in our community and that they are ready to assist us in our ongoing mission to keep everyone in Putnam County safe. If you see something that doesn't look right, call our office. We want to hear from you. We live in a great community and we are committed to making sure that it stays that way," added Sheriff Farris.

The Putnam County Sheriff's Office can be reached at (931) 528-8484 or by emailing sheriff@putnamcountyttn.gov.

"Earning the Public's Trust Every Day!"

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