

Florida teens, police engage in violent shootout

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Two children in Florida ran away from a group home, broke into a house and engaged in a shootout with law enforcement officers responding to the scene, authorities said on Wednesday.

"Drop the gun there now!"

- 1. Florida authorities said on Wednesday two armed children engaged in a violent shootout with law enforcement in the town of Enterprise.
- 2. The Volusia County sheriff's office said a 12-year-old boy and a 14-year-old girl from a group home found guns after breaking into a house.
- 3. There they fired on sheriff's deputies who were responding to the scene.
- 4. Body camera footage released Wednesday showed deputies hiding behind trees as shots rang out around them.
- 5. The girl was shot and wounded after pointing a shotgun at officers, while the boy put down his AK-47 shortly after and was not injured.
- 6. Sheriff Mike Chitwood said the children were "coming out to kill cops."
- "This wasn't a shootout in one area of the house. They were traversing the length of that house and opening fire on deputies from different angles."
- 7. Video footage of the girl being shot was blurred.
- 8. The audio painted a frantic scene as deputies rushed to provide her with medical aid.

- 9. Authorities said the girl has underwent surgery and is in stable condition, and that unspecified charges against the children are pending.
- 10. No sheriff's deputies were hurt in the shooting.
- 11-1. The sheriff's department said the children had run away from Florida United Methodist Children's home Tuesday afternoon, just hours before the reported break-in.
- 12. The home contained a handgun, a shotgun and the AK-47, along with a large amount of ammunition.
- 13. Over the course of about half an hour there were four exchanges of gunfire.
- 14. The sheriff said the girl had a record and was arrested last year for lighting several vacant lots on fire.
- 15. He further blasted Florida's juvenile justice system, calling it broken.
- 16. He also noted that violent teenage offenders are often put into group homes which are not trained to handle them.