

# Charges could be dropped against man accused of shooting deputy

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Published on August 7, 2018

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A man accused of trying to kill three sheriff's deputies is making a case for his freedom.

He said he was legally defending himself and his niece.

In 2015, John DeRossett, 68, of Port St. John, got into a shootout with undercover deputies who were trying to arrest his niece for prostitution.

One deputy was wounded.

A new motion filed Tuesday said two of those deputies have admitted they did not identify themselves. It said DeRossett was justified in using deadly force to prevent black-clad men from seemingly trying to kidnap his niece.

Prosecutors and the Sheriff's Office have not responded to the motion.

A four-day hearing, similar to a "stand your ground" defense, is set for later this month.

If DeRossett wins, he goes free.