

The rattlesnake pictured in these photos and which are circulating on the internet are real. The stories that have been attributed to the incident however, do not accurately portray the events which occurred near the I-95 and State Road 16 interchange. Here's the story...



In July of 2009, deputies received a call of a large snake in the landscaping near the entrance of a newly developed subdivision. The citizens who called, also summoned a local reptile trapper to the area. Upon locating what was by all accounts a very large and venomous Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake the trapper decidedly killed the snake. The animal was killed due to it's proximity to the residences and the trappers permits that did not allow the taking of the "live" venomous snake. The trapper maintained the remains of the snake and notified the Sheriff's Office that it measured 7' 3" in length. The record for this species is 8' in length making the snake quite a specimen, although not the largest ever found and not 15' in length.



Since this incident, our agency has continued to receive numerous emails each week and continuing phone calls regarding the validity of the snakes species, size, why it was killed, who kept the remains. We hope this information is useful in answering your inquiries.

