

## Rick Staly, Sheriff

### FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Contact: Brittany Kershaw; (386) 586-2637; bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com

# Sheriff Urges Citizens to Stay Calm, Be Patient and Work Together During This Storm

Sheriff's deputies responded to a weapons complaint at the Mobil gas station on Pine Lakes Parkway on Tuesday. Witnesses reported that a man pointed a gun at another man as both customers tried to pull up to the same gas pump. The gas station was full of people trying to fill their tanks in preparation for Hurricane Irma.

The investigation and store surveillance video revealed that the suspect, an employee of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, did intentionally jump ahead and back his vehicle into a spot at the gas pump. The camera angle does not capture a display of a firearm, but witness statements and the victim's description of the firearm match the handgun in the suspect's vehicle. Charges for improper exhibition of a firearm were forwarded to the State Attorney's Office.

Sheriff Rick Staly is urging the community to be patient as stores are continually getting shipments to restock their shelves and receive fuel deliveries. While getting supplies and preparing your home is a priority, fighting over fuel and bottled water is not the answer.

"We're all in the same boat, so let's try to help our neighbors and work as a community – as a team – to prepare for the hurricane," Sheriff Staly said. "Our agency is in full hurricane preparation mode so that we will be ready to assist you throughout this storm event."

#### Please remember to only call 9-1-1 to report an emergency. Important phone numbers:

- Flagler County Emergency Information Line: 386-586-5111 (open 6:00 a.m. to 11 p.m.)
- Flagler County Sheriff's Office (non-emergency): 386-313-4911
- City of Palm Coast: 386-986-2360
- City of Flagler Beach: 386-517-2000 ext. 241
- Florida Power and Light: 800-4-OUTAGE

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