



Rick Staly, Sheriff

## FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** Thursday, January 18, 2018

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

## **Elementary Students Approached by Suspicious Man** **Reminder to Speak to Your Children about Safety**

Two elementary aged children reported being approached by a driver in a pickup truck on their way home from a bus stop on Wednesday afternoon. The incident occurred at Rolling Sands Drive and Roxboro Drive in Palm Coast.

The children alerted their parent that a black male between 20-30 years old driving a black pickup truck with chrome wheels stopped beside the boys and told them to "get in the truck." The boys yelled loudly and ran safely to their home while the truck sped away.



Still photo from surveillance video in the area of Roxbury Lane in Palm Coast.

"These boys did the right thing by removing themselves from danger and telling an adult they can trust," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "Please talk about personal safety with your children. Remind them to always use the 'buddy' system and walk with a friend or parent. It is important that they are aware of their surroundings, don't talk to strangers, and report suspicious activity to a trusted adult, the police or the Sheriff's Office."

The suspect and vehicle have not been located at this time. Surveillance video in the area did reveal a vehicle matching the description given by the children driving in the area at the same time the school bus dropped off the children. Deputies are continuing to patrol the area in attempts to identify the suspect and vehicle. We have not received any other reports of similar incidents.

Anyone with information on the incident or this vehicle is asked to contact the Sheriff's Office at 386-313-4911 referencing Case Number 2018-5333. Or, to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers of Northeast Florida at 1-888-277-TIPS (8477). You could be eligible for a reward up to \$5,000.00.

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