



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Saturday, June 30, 2018

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City of Flagler Beach Commissioner Arrested for Domestic Violence

A City of Flagler Beach Commissioner was arrested on Friday night and charged with Domestic Violence after a concerned witness reported violence between the defendant and his girlfriend. Eric Cooley, 43, was arrested at his home on North Central Avenue in Flagler Beach after an investigation by deputies at the 7-Eleven business that Cooley owns at 408 South Ocean Shore Boulevard.



Eric Cooley in the June 29 booking photo.

A witness reported to officers that Cooley had kicked and grabbed the throat of the victim on two separate occasions in the store. Both incidents were confirmed by the victim and as well as additional reports of violence to the victim by the defendant on numerous occasions.

After determining that the suspect was a City of Flagler Beach Commissioner, Flagler Beach Police requested that the Flagler County Sheriff's Office take over the investigation. The investigation revealed a longtime abusive relationship between Cooley and his girlfriend of twenty years, who also works with him at the 7-Eleven store.

"This is an unfortunate situation but it goes to show you that domestic violence has no boundaries," Sheriff Rick Staly said.

Cooley was booked into the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility and will be held without bond until a first appearance before a judge.

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