



**Rick Staly, Sheriff**

## **FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**Date:** Wednesday, November 21, 2018

**Contact:** Shannon Martin-Sabatini; (386) 586-4802; [martin@flaglersheriff.com](mailto:martin@flaglersheriff.com)

## **FCSO Prepares for Thanksgiving Weekend** **Increased Patrols in Shopping Areas and on the Road**

Thanksgiving weekend is one of the biggest holiday shopping weekends of the year. The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) is preparing for large crowds to be present at several retailers throughout the county to help ensure the safety of the customers, retailers and their employees.



FCSO will provide a highly visible uniform presence at business locations as well as traffic control and enforcement for traffic flow within areas that are expected to draw large crowds and traffic congestion. In addition to responding to calls for service, FCSO patrol units will increase patrols in business areas with patrol cars, bicycle and foot patrols.

"The goal is to help prevent holiday crime opportunities," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Our deputies will work closely with retailers and the community to deter criminal activity and ensure a safe holiday shopping experience. But, the best offense is a good defense. Lock your car doors, put your shopping

---

*Proudly Serving the Community for 100 Years – Centennial Anniversary 1917 - 2017*  
*An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



901 East Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL 32110 – 386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820 – [www.flaglersheriff.com](http://www.flaglersheriff.com)

bags in the trunk and, if it's avoidable, do not carry cash.”



**BLACK FRIDAY**  
**Safety Tips**

Sheriff Rick Staly

1. Remove valuables from view: After a successful shopping run, you should place and secure all holiday packages in your trunk, away from prying eyes.
2. Plan your route: Park in well-lighted spots, which thieves tend to avoid. It takes only three minutes for a vehicle to be burglarized or stolen, safety experts say.
3. Don't leave vehicle idling: No matter how quick the trip into the store will take, always turn off the ignition, lock your doors, roll up the windows and take your keys.
4. Report any suspicious activity: Call 911 if you see something fishy and be sure to give a good description of the suspicious subject.
5. Follow all traffic rules: For instance, don't block intersections or rights of way, and park only in marked spaces. If you create a parking space, you risk being towed.
6. Keep your eyes peeled: Watch for shoppers crossing streets and walking in parking lots. Look for cars backing in and out of parking spaces.

Additional patrol units will be on the road as well conducting county-wide D.U.I. enforcement this Thanksgiving weekend. FCSO asks residents planning to celebrate the Holiday to also plan for a sober ride home.

“There is no excuse for operating a vehicle under the influence,” Sheriff Staly said. “If we pull you over, there is no talking your way out of a D.U.I. arrest. You will be brought to the Green Roof Inn in our one-way ‘taxi’ and the nightly rate is much more expensive than a taxi.”

FCSO wants to wish all of Flagler County a very Happy and Safe Thanksgiving! Remember to shop safely and drive responsibly!

###

---

*Proudly Serving the Community for 100 Years – Centennial Anniversary 1917 - 2017*  
*An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



901 East Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL 32110 – 386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820 – [www.flaglersheriff.com](http://www.flaglersheriff.com)