



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

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Kiwanis Club Names 2019 Law Enforcement Officers of the Year

On Wednesday, May 15, the Flagler Palm Coast Kiwanis Club held their annual Law Enforcement Officer Appreciation Luncheon and awards ceremony. Sheriff Rick Staly was the guest speaker and gave an update on the Sheriff's Office and crime reduction in Flagler County.

During the awards ceremony, the Kiwanis Club recognized law enforcement officers of the year for Flagler County. Corporal Fred Gimbel was named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for the Flagler County Sheriff's Office. Cpl. Gimbel was nominated by Sheriff Staly for numerous drug arrests that Cpl. Gimbel and his K9 partner Marko made throughout 2018.



From left: Commander Jon Welker, Corporal Fred Gimbel, Sheriff Rick Staly.

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On April 13, 2018, Corporal Gimbel and K9 Marko seized approximately 24.5 grams of crack cocaine during a traffic stop. Five days later the team seized 31 grams of marijuana during a traffic stop. On May 2, 2018, at another traffic stop, Corporal Gimbel and K9 Marko seized 8 grams of heroin, 8 grams of cocaine, 3 grams of crack cocaine as well as drug paraphernalia. At a traffic stop on May 12, 2018, Corporal Gimbel and K9 Marko seized \$600.00 dollars in counterfeit currency, equipment utilized to make the counterfeit currency and narcotics paraphernalia.

As a result of Corporal Gimbel and K9 Marko's assistance during these incidents, five suspects were arrested for an array of felony criminal charges. Additionally, approximately 74.5 grams of illegal narcotics were removed from the community as well as equipment used to make counterfeit currency.

“Corporal Gimbel and K9 Marko are a great asset to the agency's mission of eradicating illegal narcotics from Flagler County,” Sheriff Rick Staly said. “Corporal Gimbel is very deserving of this honor. Thank you to the Flagler Palm Coast Kiwanis Club for recognizing him.”



From left: Kiwanis President Mike McElroy, Flagler Beach Police Chief Matt Doughney, Flagler Beach Police Officer Sylvester, Bunnell Police Officer Whitman, Bunnell Police Chief Tom Foster, FCSO Cpl. Gimbel, Sheriff Rick Staly, Kiwanis Vice President Frank Consentino, and FCSO Commander Welker.

Officer Michelle Whitman was named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for the Bunnell Police Department and was joined by her Chief, Tom Foster. Officer Dillon Sylvester was named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for the Flagler Beach Police Department and was joined by his Chief, Matt Doughney. Congratulations to all winners!

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