

## Rick Staly, Sheriff FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Date: Thursday, January 16, 2020 Prepared by: Shannon Martin Phone and Email: (386) 586-4380; <u>martin@flaglersheriff.com</u> Release #: 014

## FCSO's K-9 Marko and K-9 Tag Retiring

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) announces the retirements of K-9 Marko and K-9 Tag after a combined total of 17 years of dedicated service to the community of Flagler County.



K-9 Marko was born on May 24, 2011. He began his career with the FCSO when he was a year old and has served on the K-9 Unit for 8 years. During his time at the FCSO, K-9 Marko served as a dual-purpose canine, which means that he was utilized for patrol as well as narcotics detection.

During K-9 Marko's service with the FCSO, he was deployed 796 times, recovered over 16,000 grams of illegal narcotics, and made 62 criminal apprehensions. K-9 Marko has also attended multiple community events, leaving a far-reaching impact on all who had the opportunity to meet him.





Cpl. Gimbel and K-9 Marko at the retirement ceremony on Thursday, January 16, 2020.

K-9 Tag was born on June 28, 2010. He began his career with the FCSO shortly after his first birthday. During his time at the FCSO, K-9 Tag also served as a dual-purpose canine.

While serving FCSO, K-9 Tag was deployed 586 times, recovered over 10,608 grams of illegal narcotics, and made 35 criminal apprehensions. Like K-9 Marko, K-9 Tag has attended multiple community events and has left a tremendous impact on everyone who has had the opportunity to meet him. After 9 years of service, and at the advice of the agency's veterinarian, K-9 Tag is retiring.



Cpl. Tarczewski and K-9 Tag at the retirement ceremony on Thursday, January 16, 2020.

With K-9 Marko's retirement comes K-9 Holmes' promotion to full-time. K-9 Holmes will be the FCSO's first full-time Bloodhound in decades. While on duty, K-9 Holmes will be used for finding missing persons, suicidal persons, and others that may need to be found quickly.



Likewise, K-9 Tag's retirement brings K-9 Odin to the FCO K-9 Unit. K-9 Odin is a two-and-a-half year old German Shepard trained in narcotics detection and apprehension.

"It is always bitter sweet when any member of the FCSO family retires," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "K-9 Marko and K-9 Tag have both gone above and beyond the call of duty and we are going to miss them. They are both very good boys and I was honored to give them each a big retirement bone!"

During their retirements, K-9 Marko will live with his handler, Corporal Fred Gimbel, and his family. Likewise, K-9 Tag will live with this handler, Corporal Robert Tarczewski, and his family. We wish them well!

View video of the retirement here: https://youtu.be/I7IPMPxTGKI

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