



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: March 19, 2020
Prepared by: Brittany Kershaw
Phone and Email: (386) 586-2637; bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com
Release #: 054

FCSO Update on COVID-19 Precautions 3.19.2020

Video News Release available here: https://youtu.be/U66N_edtrrg

Good Afternoon. I'm Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly with another COVID-19 update.

Late yesterday we received updated information on Governor DeSantis' Executive Order regarding bars and pubs closing for 30 days. The order now allows these establishments to stay open, but they are not allowed to sell alcohol.

Please keep in mind that the purpose of this order is to deter groups of people from gathering in close quarters. Social distancing is imperative to stop the spread of this virus.

If you wish to file a complaint on a restaurant or business not adhering to the Governor's order, please contact the Department of Business and Professional Regulation complaint line at 1-850-487-1395.

The County has increased screening procedures at all county-owned public facilities in an effort to protect employees and visitors from the spread of the coronavirus, to include the Government Services Building and the Court house. Employees and visitors must sign in and out daily. In addition, each person will have their temperature taken before entering the building. Anyone with a fever will be turned away immediately. If you do not have a fever, you will be given a wristband and allowed to enter the building. Please remember to sign out when you leave.

Many services at these buildings can be completed by calling or going online and do not require you to go to the facility. An online or phone option is preferred at this time. Check the individual website for these agencies for additional guidance and online assistance.

The Chief Judge has ordered that all normal court operations except those deemed critical will be suspended throughout the Seventh Judicial Circuit. This includes Flagler, St. Johns, Putnam and Volusia Counties.

Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917
A Four Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



Flagler County has also closed all public park pavilions and community centers to the public until April 30th.

County and City Officials have not announced plans to shut down the local beaches at this time. Should those plans be made, they will be announced by City or County Officials. The role of the Sheriff's Office is to enforce the laws, not to create them. Florida Governor DeSantis announced that beachgoers should practice social distancing at the beaches and do not gather in groups of ten or more.

While it is certainly a time to be cautious, it is not a time to panic. It is important to remember this is not the first time we have faced pandemics in America. The most severe pandemic in recent history was the 1918 influenza pandemic, followed by the Asian flu in 1956. The most recent pandemics in the minds of many Americans was the SARS virus in 2003 and the H1N1 Swine Flu in 2009.

These viruses are scary and they should be taken seriously, which is why we are asking you to heed the advice of the Health Department and the CDC and practice social distancing, refrain from group gatherings, and stay at home if you have any symptoms of illness or if you are in a high-risk category. But also keep in mind that we will get past this and we will be stronger for it if we stand united and look out for our neighbors.

As always, the men and women of the Sheriff's Office are here to serve you. Stay up-to-date by following us on social media or visit flaglersheriff.com/coronavirus or you can download the Flagler County Sheriff's Office app in the App Store or Google Play.

###

Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917
A Four Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



1769 East Moody Blvd., Bunnell, FL 32110

386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820

Mailing: P.O. Box 879, Bunnell, FL 32110

www.flaglersheriff.com