



**Rick Staly, Sheriff**

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

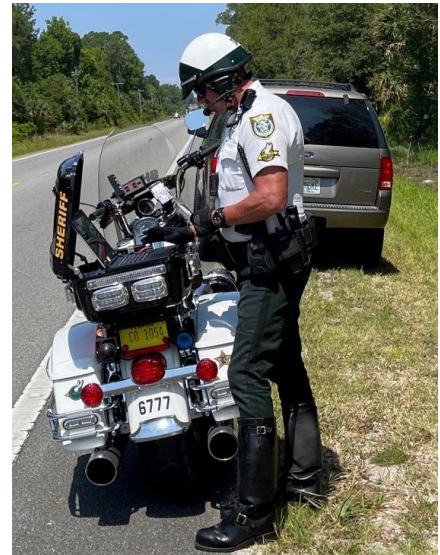
*"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."*

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**Date:** 5/29/2021  
**Prepared by:** Shannon Martin  
**Phone and Email:** 386-281-9733; martin@flaglersheriff.com  
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## **Operation T.I.D.E.S. Gets Results in Flagler County** **Ahead of Memorial Day Weekend**

In March of 2021, the Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), the Flagler Beach Police Department (FBPD), and the Bunnell Police Department (BPD), announced they would be combining efforts to participate in Operations T.I.D.E.S., a countywide traffic operation focusing on deterring Texting while driving, Impaired driving, driving while Distracted or Exhausted, and Speeding (T.I.D.E.S.).



*Left: Narcotics recovered during the Operation. Right: FCSO Deputy Nunziato during a traffic stop.*

On Friday, May 28, the agencies joined forces again to participate in the countywide operation ahead of the Memorial Day weekend. During the operation, the agencies reported making a total of 126 traffic stops resulting in 53 Citations, 70 Written Warnings, and three arrests.

During the Operation, the FCSO arrested two suspects, Qasim Rahim (DOB: 7/22/1990) and James

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1769 East Moody Blvd., Bunnell, FL 32110

386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4888

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

[www.flaglersheriff.com](http://www.flaglersheriff.com)

Watson (DOB: 4/18/77). Qasim was charged with Amphetamine Possession and Hashish Possession after being pulled over for a speeding infraction, he is held on a \$5,000.00 bond.

Watson was charged with Driving While License Suspended and it was additionally discovered that there was currently a warrant for his arrest in reference to Driving While License Suspended and for Failure to Comply with Sexual Predator Requirements. He is held on a \$60,000.00 bond.

Additionally, the FHP made one arrest on a suspect who was driving without a license who was released at the scene.

During the operation, approximately 9 grams of methamphetamine, 1 gram of cocaine, 1 gram of marijuana, and schedule 4 substances were seized.

“I want to thank all of the agencies who are partnering with us and our deputies on another successful Operation T.I.D.E.S.,” Sheriff Staly said. “Reckless driving behaviors are extremely dangerous and will not be tolerated in Flagler County. We look forward to continuing to work together with Bunnell PD, Flagler Beach PD, and the Florida Highway Patrol in future operations to change the tides in Flagler County!”



While there is a high concentration of efforts across multiple agencies for Operation T.I.D.E.S., the FCSO remains vigilant throughout the year on roadways in Flagler County, especially this weekend! During the Memorial Day weekend, the FCSO will have extra patrols focusing enforcement on the roadways and waterways to ensure everyone has a safe holiday weekend. Remember, drive sober or get pulled over!

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