



**Rick Staly, Sheriff**

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

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

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **20 FCSO Employees Receive Medal Of Merit Or Life Saving Medals During 2022 Second Quarter Awards**

**BUNNELL, FL** – An off-duty detective who carried two children from a burning vehicle and six additional sworn members who braved heavy rain to pull a woman out of a sinking vehicle are among those who received the Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Medal Of Merit during the agency's Second Quarter 2022 Awards Ceremony on August 11, 2022 at the Kim C. Hammond Justice Center in Bunnell.

The Medal of Merit is the second-highest award FCSO can bestow to any agency member or non-agency member who shows exceptional courage or bravery while rendering service.

Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly also awarded the Life-Saving Medal to 10 deputies, a corporal and two communications specialists during the ceremony for their roles in successfully saving someone's life.

"The actions of these heroes are in keeping with the highest traditions of law enforcement," Sheriff Staly noted. "I'm proud to lead an amazing team that come to work every day to serve and protect Flagler County and all who live, work or visit here."

128 Unit Citation awards were awarded during the ceremony to FCSO employees for extraordinary achievement in performance of their duties. Among those are capturing a suspect wanted for attempted murder after a nearly four-hour manhunt, arresting a man who confessed to burglarizing approximately 50 vehicles, handling multiple high-risk situations with inmates in a single day at the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility and hosting hundreds of people at the Florida Sheriff's Explorer Association Delegates event last April.

Six sworn FCSO employees – including two deputies, two master deputy sheriffs, a detective and a corporal – received the Certificate of Commendation for assisting a suicidal woman near a major roadway, performing life-saving medical work at a golf course, helping a woman with early onset dementia and saving a dog's life after it was shot in the head.

Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) Supervisor Nichole North received her finalist award for the 2022 Florida Sheriff's Association Civilian of the Year due to her work in building up FCSO's RTCC capabilities.

Three employees received Employee of the Month recognition, while nine others were noted for reaching years of service milestones from five to 30 years of service. Various others were officially sworn in by Sheriff Staly during the ceremony.

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Below is a more detailed summary of each award, including who received it and why.

**MEDAL OF MERIT: Detective Adam Gossett**

At approximately 9:16 p.m. on April 4, while off duty and driving back into Flagler County with his family, Detective Adam Gossett observed a vehicle on fire on Interstate 95 near Mile Marker 287. Detective Gossett pulled over in order to better assess the situation and determine how he could best assist.

Detective Gossett quickly recognized the crash was severe and one of the occupants needed assistance getting the children on scene to safety. Detective Gossett located two injured children leaning against the vehicle and was able to help carry the children away from the fire and to a safe location.

Being off duty, Detective Gossett did not have any emergency equipment with him, but he did remove his shirt to help stop bleeding from one of the severely injured children. On-duty emergency responders responded to the scene shortly thereafter and were able to help extinguish the fire.

The children were transported for medical treatment and several others on scene were treated as well.

**MEDAL OF MERIT: Sergeant Daniel Parthemore, School Resource Deputy Adam Bergman, Deputy First Class Christopher Crego, Deputy Anthony Cuthbert, Deputy Marcus Dawson, Deputy Talor Morgante**

On May 21 at approximately 10:12 p.m., Bravo Squad deputies from Districts 2 and 3 responded in heavy rain to a vehicle in a pond on Grand Reserve Drive.

Sergeant Parthemore along with Deputies Cuthbert, Morgante, Bergman, Crego and Dawson entered the water in an attempt to save the occupant from the quickly sinking vehicle. Rescue personnel arrived on scene and accompanied Bravo Squad into the water.

A female was accessed and brought to the shoreline where she was quickly loaded into a waiting ambulance before being taken to AdventHealth.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Corporal J. Gibson Smith**

On March 4, members of Delta Squad responded to a Palm Coast residence in reference to a shooting. It was determined that a man heard a noise outside of his home. The man obtained his handgun and checked his back yard for a possible intruder.

After locating nothing, the man re-entered his residence and walked to his bedroom. Upon entry, the man accidentally shot himself in one of his legs.

Corporal Smith arrived on scene and observed a substantial amount of blood from the gunshot wound. He applied a tourniquet to the man's leg to stop the bleeding. The man was transported to Halifax Health where it was determined that the bullet struck his femoral artery.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Corporal J. Gibson Smith**

On June 6, units responded to a Palm Coast residence in reference to an overdose. While en route, it was

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determined that a 27-year-old female was suspected to have overdosed on heroin. The caller had begun CPR.

Upon arrival, Corporal Smith observed a female unresponsive with a needle nearby. Corporal Smith administered one dose of Narcan. Shortly after, medical personnel arrived and the female regained consciousness.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Deputy First Class (DFC) Dominic Quintieri**

On June 1, DFC Quintieri responded to a Palm Coast residence in reference to an overdose. The caller said that he located a male subject unresponsive with a needle nearby. Upon DFC Quintieri's arrival, he administered one dose of Narcan. Moments later, the male regained consciousness. The male was transported by ambulance to Advent Health where he made a full recovery.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Deputy Blake Colson, Deputy Bryan Carter**

On April 28, Deputies Blake and Colson responded to a Bunnell residence for an unresponsive man with no pulse. Upon arrival, the patient's spouse was attempting CPR. Deputies quickly took over life-saving measures until Flagler County Fire Rescue arrived on scene. The man was revived and transported to the hospital.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Deputy Talor Morgante, Deputy Bryan Carter**

On May 3, Deputies Morgante and Carter responded to a Palm Coast residence in response to an overdose in progress. Upon arrival, they observed a man experiencing a medical episode and believed the subject may have ingested an unknown narcotic. One dose of Narcan was administered followed by two more subsequent doses, at which point the man was revived.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Deputy Talor Morgante, Deputy Christopher Nguyen**

On April 6, Deputies Morgante and Nguyen responded to a Palm Coast residence in reference to a female that overdosed on fentanyl. Two doses of Narcan were deployed by responding deputies on scene. The subject regained consciousness but refused medical treatment.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Deputy Keaton Ray, Deputy Dennis King**

On June 10, Deputies Ray and King responded to a single-vehicle roll-over in Ormond Beach. As the vehicle was smoking and prior to the vehicle catching fire, the unconscious person inside was removed from the vehicle. That person did regain consciousness and Deputy Ray and Deputy King assisted with aid. Fire personnel extinguished the flames coming from the vehicle.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Deputy Maxwell Dorsey**

On June 6, Deputy Dorsey responded to a Palm Coast residence for a suspected heroin overdose. Deputy Dorsey was able to deploy one dose of Narcan. The subject regained consciousness but refused medical treatment.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Deputy Stacy Rosado**

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On June 21, Deputy Stacy Rosado responded to Hungry Howie's Pizzeria in Bunnell in reference to an overdose. Upon arriving on scene, Deputy Rosado quickly deployed her agency-issued Narcan to the nostril of the unresponsive patient. The female patient started breathing soon after and eventually made a full recovery.

Upon further investigation, it was learned that the female patient had used fentanyl intravenously prior to losing consciousness.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Deputy Alexander Wolfe**

On January 13, Deputy Wolfe responded to a Palm Coast residence in reference to an overdose. Deputy Wolfe proceeded into the bathroom of the residence and observed a female laying on her back unclothed, not breathing and completely unconscious.

Deputy Wolfe grabbed the female's right wrist to check for a pulse and found none. He then applied sternum chest rubs to the female. She continued to show no signs of consciousness, so Deputy Wolfe then administered one dose of Narcan while continuing to apply sternum chest rubs. The female then regained consciousness.

Deputy Wolfe remained with the female and monitored her until rescue units arrived.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Communications Specialist First-Class (CSFC) Sarah "Josie" Gammon**

On March 10, CSFC Gammon answered a 911 call from a mother advising that her child was choking. At the time of the call, it could not be determined what the child was choking on. The child then stopped coughing and it was believed his airway was obstructed.

CSFC Gammon instructed the mother how to perform the Heimlich maneuver in an attempt to dislodge the item. After the pre-arrival instructions were provided, the child vomited and started breathing normal.

It is believed that the pre-arrival instructions that were provided by CSFC Gammon cleared the partial airway obstruction.

**LIFE-SAVING MEDAL: Communications Specialist First-Class Megan Burton**

On April 30, CSFC Burton answered a 911 call from a caller advising that her fiancé was possibly overdosing and not breathing. CSFC Burton asked if they had any Narcan in the home, which they did not. CSFS Burton then instructed the caller to bring the patient to a flat surface so she could begin CPR instructions.

CSFC Burton was able to calm the caller down enough to be able to follow her CPR pre-arrival instructions. CSFC Burton continued to count out loud with the caller to ensure that compressions were being done at the appropriate rate. CPR was instructed by Burton and performed by the caller until units responded on scene.

It is believed the CPR performed prior to the Narcan deployment aided in saving the males life.

**UNIT CITATION: Sergeant Daniel Weaver, Sergeant Shane Meehan, Detective Joseph Costello, Detective Diego Morales, Detective Richard Petkovsek, Detective John-Jack Castanheira, Deputy First Class Marcus Dawson, Deputy Robin Towns, Deputy Brandon Beane, Deputy Jaxon Dorsey, Deputy Benjamin Stamps, Crime Analyst**

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## **Victoria Hanlin, Crime Analyst Hayden Ore, Crime Analyst Tara Coleman**

During the month of April and over the course of a week, ten vehicle burglaries were reported throughout Flagler County in the areas of the C, L, P, and E-sections of Palm Coast.

After utilizing investigative techniques, the General Assignment Unit and the Real Time Crime Center were able to link a suspect vehicle to all of the vehicle burglaries. Detectives retrieved surveillance video from several retail stores in Putnam County. The surveillance video confirmed the suspect vehicle and one male suspect.

During the morning of May 4, the vehicle was located at a Palm Coast residence. Members of the General Assignment Unit and the Community Policing Division started surveillance of the vehicle. When Property Unit detectives interviewed the suspect, he confessed to having burglarized approximately 50 vehicles even though they had not all been reported to law enforcement as well as a stolen vehicle from our jurisdiction.

The suspect was charged with seven counts of burglary, one count of armed burglary, one count of attempted burglary, six counts of petit theft, one count of grand theft firearm and one count of grand theft auto.

**UNIT CITATION: Chief Kim Burroughs, Commander Jason Neat, Commander Mike Lutz, Sergeant Chris Ragazzo, Sergeant Robert Tarczewski, Corporal Joe Dailey, Corporal Robert Myers, Corporal Troy Cavas, Detective Diego Morales, Detective Sierra Held, School Resource Master Deputy Nancy Malheiros, School Resource Master Deputy Mike Spinelli, Deputy First Class Nicholas Champion, Deputy First Class Marcus Dawson, Deputy Sam Cooper, Deputy John Landi, Deputy Ralph Lilavois, Deputy Jason Williams, Deputy Chris Alecrim, Deputy Thomas Douglas, Deputy Robin Towns, Deputy Dennis King, Deputy Phillip Kotowski, Deputy Necole Marsan, Deputy Richard Stanford, Deputy Derek Logsdon, Deputy Alexander Wolfe, Detention Deputy Trainee Austin Chewing, Public Service Officer Kenneth LaVerne, Police Athletic League (PAL) Director Arthur Erlandson, PAL Coordinator Keri Henderson, Family Volunteer Jeanna Neat, Family Volunteer Lyndsey Ragazzo, Family Volunteer Dianna LaVerne, Explorer Corporal Justin Batt, Explorer Corporal Darius Ferreiro, Explorer Piper Bowers, Explorer Damaris Ferreiro, Explorer Izzy Stanford, Explorer Kameron Gordon, Explorer Samantha Sultan, Explorer Ana Hearte, Explorer Sean Scott, Explorer Jada Stanford, Explorer Zach Libby, Explorer Arjay Shaw**

On April 22 and 23, FCSO / Explorer Post hosted the Florida Sheriff's Explorer Association Delegates event, which included 271 people (explorers & advisors). In addition to a pistol competition, training was provided to 171 Sheriff's Explorers from 18 explorer posts across the State of Florida to include unknown risk traffic stops scenarios, domestic violence scenarios, physical abilities testing, crisis intervention and high-risk traffic stop scenarios.

**UNIT CITATION: Chief Jonathan Welker, Chief Kim Burroughs, Commander Kenny Goncalves, Commander Frederick Gimbel, Commander Bernard Woodward, Commander Jennifer Nawrocki, Commander Scott Vedder, Commander Ryan Emery, Sergeant Frank Gamarra, Sergeant Daniel Weaver, Sergeant George Hristakopoulos, Sergeant Jon Reckenwald, Sergeant David Edmonds, Sergeant Paul Kandour, Sergeant Robert Tarczewski, Sergeant Shane Meehan, Sergeant Ronald Mello, Corporal William Lowe, Corporal Troy Cavas, Corporal Jacob West, Corporal Christopher Santoianni, Corporal Agustin Rodriguez, Corporal J. Gibson Smith, Detective James Crosbee, Detective Daniel LaVerne, Detective Adam Gossett, Detective Jordan St. John, Detective Sierra Held, Detective Jorge Fuentes, Detective Diego Morales, Detective Daniel Malta, Detective Austin Dalrymple, Detective Bryan Denker, Deputy Derek Logsdon, Deputy Maxwell Dorsey, Deputy Robin Towns, Deputy Chris Crego, Deputy Trevor Yeoman, Deputy First Class Dominic Quintieri, Deputy Necole**

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**Marsan, Deputy David Lichty, Deputy First Class Bryan Jackson, Deputy Bryan Carter, Deputy Alexander Wolfe, Deputy Jeremy Chambers, Deputy Craig Rossi, Deputy Keaton Ray, School Resource Deputy Dennis King, Deputy Jason Patel, Deputy John Hill, Crime Analyst Victoria Hanlin, Director of Communications Christina Mortimer, Communication Training & Relief Supervisor Genice Caccavale, Communication Supervisor Heather Robinson, Communication Specialist First Class Megan Burton, Communication Specialist First Class Lainie Rittenour, Communication Specialist Lindsey Stanford**

On June 17 with the assistance of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), a warrant service was about to be attempted at a Palm Coast residence. The warrant was for a suspect who had an active warrant for his arrest for attempted murder.

As law enforcement was arriving to attempt a warrant service, a citizen called in that a male matching the suspect's description was fleeing through the woods. K9 tracked through the woods where a loaded firearm and a trafficking amount of narcotics were located underneath a palm branch in the area.

The manhunt lasted nearly four hours using resources from the Flagler County Sheriff's Office before the suspect was safely apprehended. Additionally, another person was arrested for resisting without violence and accessory after the fact for aiding the escapee in trying to evade law enforcement.

**UNIT CITATION: Corporal Stephen Usina, Master Deputy First Class Justin Bailey, Deputy First Class Sara Radford, Deputy David Johnson, Deputy Enise Alcuis, Deputy Joshua Long, Deputy Robert Goetsch, Deputy Ian Christensen, Deputy Michael Bolling, CCTV Operator Margaret Peters, Deputy Trainee Vincenzo Barlotta**

On April 12, 2022, Charlie Shift was able to maintain the safety, security and orderly operation of the Sheriff Perry Inmate Facility while multiple high-risk situations arose throughout the day. Charlie Shift dealt with a medical issue in booking followed shortly thereafter by a possible fire in Annex Housing.

Later in the day, the shift had to contend with simultaneous physical inmate altercations occurring in two different locations within the facility.

**CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION: Corporal Andrew Cangialosi, Detective Bryan Denker, Master Deputy Sheriff Daniel LaVerne, Master Deputy Sheriff Adam Barkoskie**

On April 2, FCSO responded to an animal complaint at a Palm Coast residence. It was reported that gunfire was heard coming from the residence followed by what sounded like a dog screaming in pain. Law Enforcement was met with resistance from the residents as they denied anything of this nature occurring.

Using investigative techniques, Law Enforcement was able to confirm that a dog had been shot inside the residence. It was then found that the dog, named Rocky, had sustained a gunshot wound to the head and that it survived even after being left in its kennel to suffer for almost two and a half hours. The dog was retrieved and escorted to the Flagler Animal Hospital.

Due to the actions taken by FCSO employees, Rocky was able to receive the necessary medical care and make a complete recovery. The suspect was later arrested for felony animal cruelty and for tampering with evidence.

**CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION: Detective Bryan Denker**

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On March 23, Detective Bryan Denker responded to a Palm Coast residence in reference to a 911 investigation. Detective Denker discovered that the caller was an elderly woman with early on-set dementia.

Detective Denker was able to ascertain that the woman was having trouble making telephone calls because some of her residential bills were in arrears. Her deceased husband had previously taken care of paying the residential bills.

Detective Denker personally visited the Flagler County Senior Services Department. Although they could not provide any financial assistance, he was able to arrange a meal train for the woman which provides two hot meals a day for her. In addition to these actions, Detective Denker continued to check on the woman for several weeks to ensure her safety and well-being.

**CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION: Deputy Brandon Beane, Deputy Jake Fowler**

On April 25, Deputy Beane and Deputy Fowler responded to a Palm Coast golf course in reference to an unresponsive male. They arrived on scene and began administering CPR and deployed an automated external defibrillator (AED). Deputy's then continued CPR until medical units arrived on scene and transported the male to the hospital.

**CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION: Deputy John Hill**

On April 6, FCSO received a report of a suicidal female in Flagler County on a bridge threatening to commit suicide. Deputy Hill arrived on scene at the overpass on Interstate 95 at Mile Marker 285 and observed a female crying nearing the guardrail.

Deputy Hill approached the female but kept his distance in order to begin conversation and not alarm the female. The female had numerous self-inflicted lacerations on both legs and was extremely upset. The female expressed that she no longer wished to live multiple times.

Deputy Hill was patient in speaking with the female and was able to convince her to walk to his patrol car.

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

April 2022: Detective Adam Gossett

May 2022: Deputy Talor Morgante

June 2022: Fleet Coordinator Brian Neff

**YEARS OF SERVICE MILESTONES**

30 Years: Communications Supervisor Amy Sisti

20 Years: Sergeant Jon Reckenwald, Deputy First Class Beatrice Rivas, Communications Training & Relief Supervisor Genice Caccavale

15 Years: Corrections Clerical Specialist Karen Perry, Traffic Deputy Craig Rossi

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10 Years: School Resource Master Deputy Nancy Malheiros, Crossing Guard Alfred Franzini

Five Years: Court & Detention Services Division Programs Deputy Jesse O'Neill



*Detective Adam Gossett receives the Medal Of Merit from Sheriff Rick Staly*

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