



**Rick Staly, Sheriff**

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

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

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **WEEKEND ROUNDUP: Five Arrests As Hurricane Ian Comes Towards Florida**

*Man Chokes Teen On Boat Dock | Driver Caught Fleeing Stop | Deputies Save Drowning Girl*

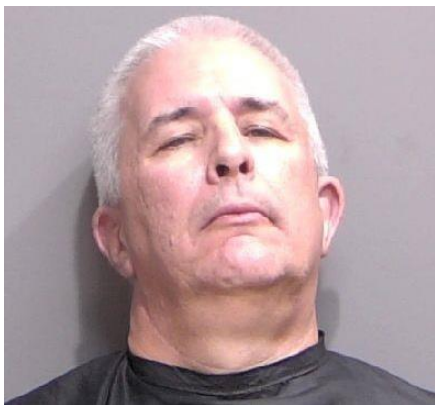
**BUNNELL, FL** – As Hurricane Ian comes closer to Florida, the Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) began its preparations for the storm while also handling a busy weekend of service calls.

1,019 calls for service were handled by FCSO on the weekend of September 23 and 25, 2022, including 336 traffic stops and five arrests. Among those arrests is a Palm Coast man who was captured on camera wrapping his hand around a juvenile's neck while the victim was fishing at a boat dock.

"Everyone has one eye on Hurricane Ian and rightfully so," said Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly. "But we are still watching over the criminals in Flagler County. No matter the weather, those who break the law, flee from us and attack children in anger can expect a green roof over their heads. I'm also very proud of our deputies who saved a young lady's life after she was found having a mental health episode."

Below is a summary of the more notable incidents from this past weekend.

### **Palm Coast Man Chokes Teen In Fishing Dock Confrontation (Case 22-87054)**



A 58-year-old man is free on \$12,500 from the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility after he was seen on video choking a teenager whom he believed was trespassing on the Canopy Walk boat docks.

**Gerald Francis McCarthy** now faces six total charges in that incident, including two felony counts each of aggravated child abuse and false imprisonment. He was booked at the Green Roof Inn late Sunday night.

FCSO was first notified of the matter around 8:45 p.m. Sunday (September 25, 2022) by one of the two victims. He informed deputies

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that an unknown man – later identified as McCarthy – confronted them on the docks while they were fishing and ordered them to leave the property. That verbal dispute turned physical when McCarthy placed the teen in a head lock and then wrapped one of his hands around the teen’s neck as the teen was bent over the dock railing (*photo below*).

McCarthy also got physical with the other 13-year-old victim when he attempted to help his friend break free from McCarthy’s grasp.

A witness to the incident filmed it on his cell phone and provided it to the responding deputies. They used those images to track McCarthy down to his residence nearby and took him into custody.

McCarthy has no prior arrests in Flagler County.



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**Delray Beach Man Caught After Fleeing In Stolen Vehicle (Case 22-86860)**



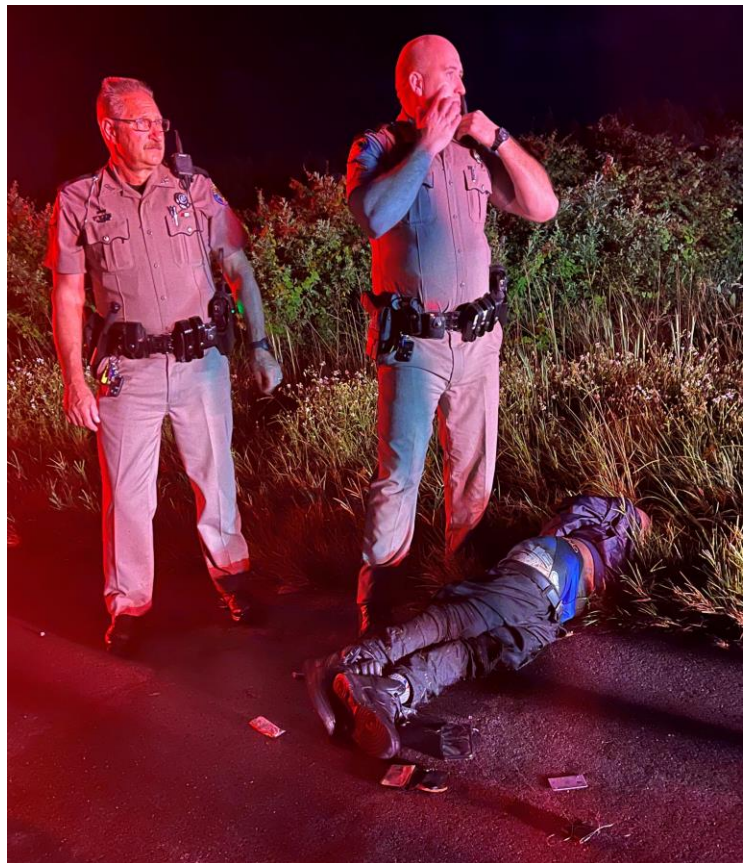
A 35-year-old Delray Beach resident tried but failed to get away from FCSO after a deputy attempted to pull him over for failing to stop at a red light on State Road 100.

**Isaac Brevil** remains locked up at the Green Roof Inn on \$5,000 bond for felony fleeing and eluding from law enforcement at high speed following that Sunday morning incident (September 25, 2022) which ended with Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) troopers stopping his vehicle on Interstate 95 in St. Johns County using a PIT (precision immobilization technique) maneuver.

It all started around 6:00 a.m. when a deputy spotted Brevil's traffic violation while he drove a red Chrysler westbound on SR 100 near Belle Terre Parkway. After the deputy turned on his lights to make the stop, Brevil made a U-turn on SR 100 and sped away eastbound going faster than the posted limit, eventually getting onto I-95 northbound from SR 100 after recklessly driving around traffic and failing to stop for red lights.

The deputy, who did not pursue Brevil because of his dangerous driving, observed the vehicle turning its lights off during the dark early morning hours while fleeing.

An FHP trooper attempted to stop the vehicle after spotting the Chrysler near the Matanzas Woods exit on I-95, but Brevil ignored the trooper's attempt and continued fleeing north into St Johns County, where the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office assisted. Brevil exited the northbound lanes at Mile Marker 306 and immediately fled southbound on I-95 where troopers performed the PIT maneuver, disabling the vehicle and taking him into custody (*photo to right*). The vehicle was determined to be stolen from Brevard County.



FHP arrested Brevil for grand theft auto, fleeing and eluding and multiple traffic violations. FCSO also arrested him for multiple traffic violations. He was booked in to the St. Johns County Jail before coming to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility. He has no prior arrests in Flagler County.

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**Two Deputies Rescue Suicidal Girl From Pond (Case 22-86800)**

Two FCSO deputies pulled a teenage girl out of danger after she consumed drugs and tried to kill herself by walking into a pond.

Deputies Jason Prather and Anthony Bifano took the teen out of the water soon after arriving at the Shangri-La apartment complex on Palm Coast Parkway around 1:30 a.m. Sunday (September 25, 2022).

FCSO was initially notified by a caller who spotted the girl in the pond with a male. Upon arrival, the deputies found the girl conscious in the water but unresponsive. The male was located safely a short time later.

She was transported to AdventHealth for treatment and later placed under a Baker Act for mental health treatment.

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