



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

HURRICANE UPDATE #5

Date: September 1, 2019

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Sheriff Rick Staly released a community alert video at 12pm Sunday on Hurricane Dorian and the latest update for Flagler County. The video is available here: <https://youtu.be/XqzAGxRioE0>

Transcript below:

Good afternoon, I am your Sheriff Rick Staly and I'm here with County Commission Chairman Donald O'Brien and we are at the 9-1-1 Communications Center.

The Hurricane Dorian update for Sunday shows that the storm has strengthened to a category 5. The Weather Service has stated that in 165 years, only 35 storms have reached this category. This is a very dangerous storm and overnight it moved back to the west putting it closer to the Florida coastline. While some models show the storm moving off the coast of Florida, this is not the time to let your guard down and we are still in the cone of uncertainty and this storm has proven to be unpredictable.

In the best case scenario tropical storm force winds are extremely likely in Flagler County on Tuesday night into Wednesday with the possibility of hurricane force winds. The storm surge is expected to be 3-5 feet above ground level at the Atlantic and 2-3 feet above ground level at the intracoastal. 15-20 foot waves are possible on the beach – but we strongly recommend that the surfers stay home. There is a strong possibility of erosion on the beaches and the rip current is already strong. The bridges are currently open to the barrier island and will not close until winds are sustained at 45 MPH.

The expected rainfall has decreased significantly and is expected to be 4-6 inches in Flagler County through Thursday.

Flagler County is asking residents of Evacuation Zones A, B and F and people living in modular homes to be ready for a potential evacuation on Tuesday morning. Stay tuned for the official word on evacuations.

The Inmate Work Crew is available to assist in filling sandbags at Santa Maria Del Mar Catholic Church in Flagler Beach. They will be there today, Sunday, until about 3pm as long as the weather permits.

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This is likely the last day the inmates will be able to assist you. Now I will turn it over to County Commission Chairman Donald O'Brien.

Commissioner O'Brien: The Flagler County Emergency Hotline is up and running 24-hours a day. If you have any storm-related questions, please call 386-586-5111. Please only call 9-1-1 for critical emergencies as the call volume has already increased in the Communications Center.

If you are a business owner, there is a dedicated line for storm related questions. The number is 386-313-4923.

Sheriff, on behalf of the citizens of Flagler County we want to thank you and your department for all the hard work on the preparation side. We feel very confident that we are prepared but we know that the hard work is before us with the storm baring down on us. And to you and all of our first responders we say please be safe and thank you.

Finally, we know this is Labor Day weekend, the sun is out and it appears to be a great weekend for Labor Day celebrations and many of you are having "hurricane parties." We have extra deputies on patrol and we ask that you be responsible but keep your priority planning for the arrival of Hurricane Dorian.

There is still great uncertainty with this storm and we ask that you stay updated with official reports. Please know that your sheriff's office is prepared and ready to serve you. Thank you for joining me as we go Day by Day with Dorian.

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