



**Rick Staly, Sheriff**

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

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

### **NEWS RELEASE**

**Date:** Monday, September 24, 2018

**Contact:** Anna Hackett (386) 281-9880; [ahackett@flaglersheriff.com](mailto:ahackett@flaglersheriff.com)

## **FCSO Continues Search for Missing Endangered Juvenile Rickey Wheeler**

Flagler County Sheriff's Deputies continued the search for missing and endangered juvenile Rickey Wheeler. The Sheriff's office set up a command post near Epic Theater at Town Center in Palm Coast.



Volunteers from the Sheriff's Mounted Posse Unit and Flagler County Radio Emergency Associated Communication Team (REACT), along with the Sheriff's Deputies Marine Unit, Emergency Response Team (ERT), and Sheriff's Investigators and Patrol Units searched the area surrounding the youth's home.

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The FCSO Mounted Posse used horses and were accompanied by a deputy on foot searching the wooded area north of SR100 and east of Madison Green Apartments in Palm Coast.

A REACT Team of volunteers searched on foot in wooded areas north of SR100 and west of Madison Green Apartments. Volunteers traversed heavily wooded areas shouting “Rickey, Rickey Wheeler” repeatedly for hours today.

The Sheriff's Marine Unit searched using small boats in ponds and waterways within the immediate vicinity of Madison Green Apartments and SR100.

FCSO has followed up on all leads and continues to ask for the public's assistance. If you have any information call the Sheriff's non-emergency line (386) 313-4911.

FCSO Sheriff Rick Staly encouraged people to ‘see something, say something’ stating specifically, “Our deputies have combed the areas within the vicinity of Rickey Wheeler's home and continue to ask for the public's assistance in locating this young man. His medical condition could potentially be life-threatening after three days without his medication.”

When Rickey Wheeler was last seen on Friday he was in possession of a water bottle and nothing else. To our knowledge he has no cell phone, no money and no known resources.

The public is encouraged to search their own property in case the youth ended up seeking shelter. “I ask you to look in your sheds, boats, any structure on your property just in case Rickey was looking for shelter,” continued Sheriff Rick Staly.

Please share FCSO social media posts and the pictures of Rickey Wheeler with your friends. Call FCSO Communications (386) 313-4911 with any information about this youth.

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## **Release sent Sunday September 23, 2018:**

The FCSO is searching for Rickey Wheeler, a 17 year old male, who was reported missing by his mother on Friday, September 21. Wheeler is diagnosed with muscular dystrophy and may not be taking his medication. He left his home without a cell phone, medication, or bankcard. He has limited verbal skills. He was last seen at Madison Green Apartments in Palm Coast, FL.

Deputies have been working throughout the weekend searching and passing out flyers to businesses along the SR100 corridor. FCSO is asking all business and property owners in that area to check their property. Check all buildings locked and unlocked, and back yards or wooded areas that you may not frequent. The juvenile could be located in one of these areas.

Fireflight and a blood hound from the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office are also assisting in the search. Deputies are currently focusing the search around the Town Center area and have deputies on bike patrol and members of the Emergency Response Team in the search area.

Wheeler is a 17 year old black juvenile male, 5'9, 105 pounds with black hair and brown eyes. He was last seen wearing camo army shorts, green Nike sneakers and a gray shirt with blue stripes.

"With the public's assistance getting the word out we are hopeful you can help us locate him and bring him home so that he can get the needed medication and be safe," Sheriff Rick Staly said.

Wheeler was last seen by his mother on Friday the 21st and reported him missing just after 5pm because he had never been gone this long before and she was concerned for his safety. The last time he disappeared deputies located him within two hours on Belle Terre.

If seen, please contact the Flagler County Sheriff's Office immediately at 386-313-4911.

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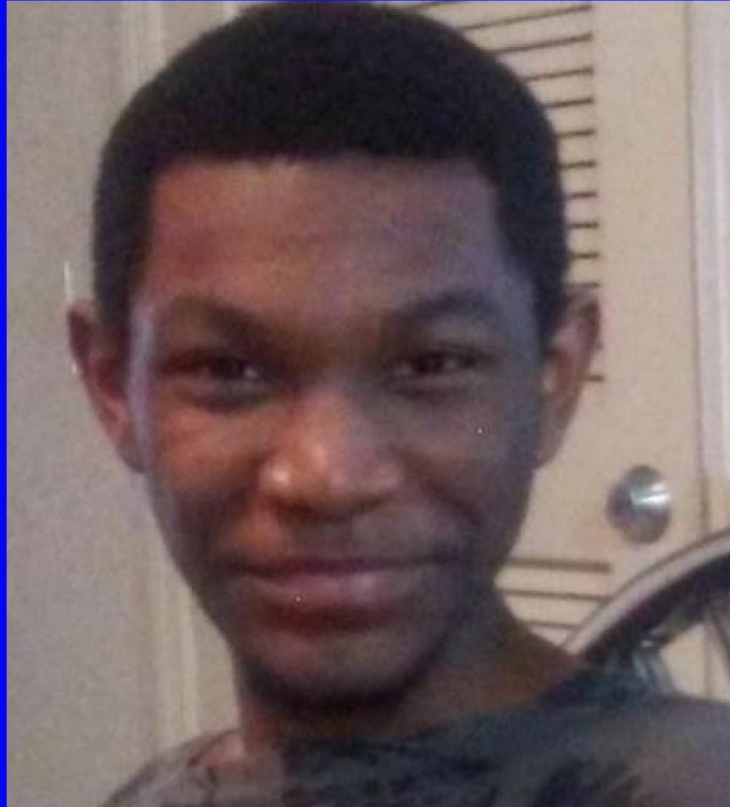
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# MISSING AND ENDANGERED

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PERSON?



## **RICKY WHEELER**

*Considered Missing and Endangered.  
Black male, 17 years old, 5'9, 105 lbs.  
Last seen on September 21, 2018 last seen  
wearing camo army shorts, green Nike sneakers  
and a grey shirt with blue stripes. He was  
carrying a red and white water bottle.*

**If you have any information please  
call FCSO at 386-313-4911**



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