



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2018

Contact: Shannon Martin; (386) 281-9733; martin@flaglersheriff.com

FCSO Detention Deputy Fired After Violating Disciplinary Probation Requirements

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office fired Detention Deputy Mark Sousa on May 16 after Sousa failed to comply with the requirements of his disciplinary probation for previous policy violations.

Mr. Sousa was originally disciplined after he reported to his shift at the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility while under the influence of alcohol. As a result of his actions, Mr. Sousa had been placed on 6 months of disciplinary probation, suspended for 30 days without pay, removed from his special collateral duty, subject to random drug and alcohol testing and attend counseling.

It was recently discovered that Sousa violated the terms of his disciplinary probation when a picture was posted on social media of him inside a bar, drinking alcohol, and making obscene gestures. His actions violated his disciplinary probation by bringing discredit to the Flagler County Sheriff's Office.

"This is an unfortunate situation and I am extremely disappointed in his actions," said Undersheriff Jack Bisland. "This employee was given a second chance by Sheriff Staly to turn his life around and it is truly a shame that he decided to throw his career away. We will not tolerate employees that chose to bring dishonor and discredit to the Sheriff's Office or tarnish the badge."

Mark Sousa was served his notice of intent to discipline with termination of employment on the May 16th. He had until May 29th to appeal his termination.

Mr. Sousa had been employed as a Detention Deputy since 11/13/2013.

Detention Deputy Lauren Gadson was given a written reprimand after policy violations were discovered during the investigation for her behavior that reflected unprofessionally on the Agency.

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901 East Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL 32110 – 386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4820 – www.flaglersheriff.com