



Rick Staly, Sheriff
FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: December 23, 2025

Prepared by: Jake Arthur, Public Information Officer

Email: PIO@flaglersheriff.com

Release #: 2025 – 242

Weekend Round Up December 19-22

Aggravated Battery, Shoplifting and Shooting Investigations Round Out the Weekend

BUNNELL, Fla. — Flagler County Sheriff's Office deputies made 10 arrests this past weekend between 6 p.m. on Friday, December 19, 2025, and 6 a.m. on Monday, December 22, 2025. Deputies handled 911 calls for service and made 180 traffic stops.

Man Charged After Hitting Pregnant Woman with Cellphone

On Sunday, December 21, Flagler County Sheriff's Office deputies arrested Deovion Vickers, 22, of Bunnell, for beating a pregnant woman with a cell phone.

Deputies responded around 10 a.m. to a home in Bunnell to investigate a reported verbal dispute. After interviewing several witnesses and the parties involved, deputies determined the dispute was physical and that Vickers was the primary aggressor.

According to the victim, Vickers became irate over another person who was temperately residing in the home, and during a verbal argument, Vickers put his hands around the victim's throat and forcibly removed her eyelashes. The victim also stated she had been hit by Vickers on the back of the head with a cellphone several times and that he smashed the victim's phone on the ground and broke an iPad.

"Vickers is an angry man who beat a pregnant woman simply because he was too immature to control his temper," said Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly. "If you are the victim of dating violence, or fear that your relationship could become violent, the Flagler County Sheriff's Office should be your first call. Our victims' advocates are here 24/7 to support victims and survivors too. You can also contact the Family Life Center for assistance. Seek help before it's too late."

Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917
A Five Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



Deputies arrested Vickers for aggravated battery on a pregnant woman and criminal mischief. He was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where he is being held on \$22,500 bond.



Deovion Vickers (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shot)

Woman Who Steals from Target Blames Long Checkout Lines

On Saturday, deputies arrested Heather Rateliff, 49, of Palm Coast after she shoplifted from multiple Palm Coast stores.

Target's loss prevention officer advised FCSO deputies they watched Rateliff on security cameras as she took cosmetic items from store shelves and stuffed them into a red, reusable Target bag. Rateliff then left the store without paying for the items.

The loss prevention officer then asked Rateliff to come back into the store with the stolen items. Instead, Rateliff dropped the bag and went to her car. The loss prevention officer later saw a man enter the same car, then leave the parking lot. Deputies located the car at Goodwill, where they watched Rateliff and the man exit the Goodwill with unpaid merchandise.

After deputies questioned Rateliff, she admitted to stealing from Target, Kohl's and Goodwill. She stated she had no intention of stealing; however, the check-out lines were too long for her liking. She believed that she could "sneak out" without being noticed.

The man first stated that he did not see Target's loss prevention officer stop Rateliff; however, later admitted he did see Target's Loss Prevention Officer. He stated that he had intended to purchase some items, but upon seeing Rateliff being stopped by the loss prevention officer, he decided to abandon his cart.

Deputies located several stolen items with Goodwill tags in his backpack. Goodwill chose not to pursue charges.

"Unlike Santa, who carries a red sack of toys, Rateliff's red sack was filled with stolen dietary

*Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917
A Five Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



supplements and shampoo,” said Flagler County Sheriff Rick Staly. “As you go about your last-minute holiday shopping there may be long lines at stores but that is not an excuse to steal. Luckily for Rateliff, we have plenty of shampoo at the Green Roof Inn.”

Deputies arrested Rateliff for petit theft after prior conviction and resisting an operator in recovery of stolen property. She was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where she was later released on \$500 bond.



Heather Rateliff (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shot)

Detectives Investigate F Section Shooting

On Sundy evening, deputies were dispatched to Old Kings Rd. and Farnum Ln. after reports of a shooting in the F Section. There deputies located a man in the passenger seat of a vehicle with a gunshot wound to the shoulder. Deputies also observed a woman sitting nearby. The victim and the woman provided detectives conflicting statements. The investigation is active and ongoing.

###

Proudly Serving the Community Since 1917
A Five Diamond Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

