



Rick Staly, Sheriff
FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

NEWS RELEASE

Date: January 5, 2026

Prepared by: Joseph Bober, Public Information Officer

Email: PIO@flaglersheriff.com

Release #: 2026 – 004

Weekend Roundup: January 3-4

Two Women Arrested Following Aggravated Assault following Physical Disturbances

BUNNELL, Fla. — Flagler County Sheriff's Office deputies made 13 arrests this past weekend between 6 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 2, 2026, and 6 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026. Deputies handled 853 calls for service and made 203 traffic stops.

Palm Coast Woman Arrested After Wielding Knife in Domestic Disturbance

On Saturday night, deputies arrested Julia Smith, 44, of Palm Coast, following a physical disturbance at a residence in the B-Section of Palm Coast.

When deputies arrived at the residence, they encountered Smith, who stated that she had everything under control and would not provide any further details. Deputies noticed that Smith's finger and wrist were bleeding and requested Flagler County Fire Rescue to respond and evaluate her.

While Smith was being treated, deputies spoke with a male victim, who was initially reluctant to provide any information because he did not want anyone to get in trouble.

As deputies continued their investigation, a female victim stated she was involved in the disturbance. She told deputies the disturbance began as a verbal argument in the kitchen, then became physical when Smith struck the male victim. She then stated Smith armed herself with a steak knife and began brandishing it at the male victim while making verbal threats and then threw the knife in her direction. Smith then picked up the knife again and began stabbing the wall. Deputies located the knife on the floor, consistent with the female victim's statement.

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



When deputies returned to speak to the male victim, they observed several injuries on his face, neck, back, and legs. At the female victim's urging, the male victim spoke to deputies about the disturbance, adding that Smith had choked him during the argument while holding the knife toward his chest. He also described additional incidents in which Smith was physical with him in the past.

Following their investigation, deputies arrested Smith for domestic battery, domestic battery by strangulation, and two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill. She was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where she is being held on a \$46,000 bond.



Julia Smith (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shot)

"Nobody should be in fear for their safety in their own home," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "If you are the victim of domestic violence, we have many resources to help, and it is important to speak up so that deputies can help end the cycle of violence."

The male victim was treated by Flagler County Fire Rescue for his injuries. The female victim was unharmed.

Ormond Beach Woman Arrested Following Disturbance

On Sunday, deputies arrested Nicole Watson, 44, of Ormond Beach, after responding to a residence in the R-Section of Palm Coast to investigate a reported physical disturbance.

Prior to deputies' arrival, one of the victims called 911 and told dispatchers that a female had pulled up to the residence and began hitting her and her boyfriend. Once deputies arrived on scene, they determined that Watson was the primary aggressor during the altercation.

According to the male victim, Watson pulled into the driveway so aggressively, and at such a high rate of speed, that he thought she was attempting to hit him and his girlfriend with her vehicle. The male victim further explained that, upon exiting the vehicle, Watson began yelling and cursing at him while striking him in the back and head. Once Watson realized the female victim was recording her with a cellphone, she turned her attention to her, smacking the cellphone out of her hand and striking her in

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

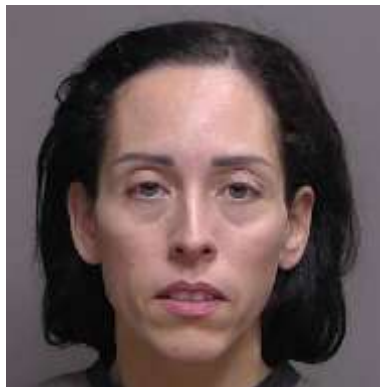


the face several times before they were separated.

Watson had called FCSO earlier that morning to request assistance with removing the female victim from the residence because she was making another person inside the residence feel uncomfortable. When deputies explained they could not simply remove the female from the home, Watson became upset and stated that she would physically remove the female from the residence herself. Deputies advised her that she would be facing battery charges if she followed through with her remarks.

“This woman is now facing a felony and two misdemeanor charges because she chose to take the law into her own hands,” said Sheriff Staly. “Our deputies warned her that she’d be breaking the law, but, unfortunately for her, their warning fell on deaf ears. You cannot simply break the law because you do not agree with it. Perhaps now that she’s had some time to cool off at the Green Roof Inn, she’ll think twice before losing control again.”

Deputies arrested Watson for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill and two counts of battery. She was transported to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility, where she is being held on a \$7,000 bond.



Nicole Watson (Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility mug shot)

View [footage](#) from the arrests.

###

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

