



Annual Report 2018



LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

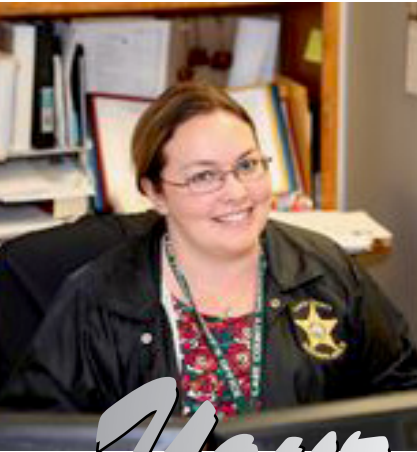
**LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA | WWW.LCSO.ORG
360 W. RUBY ST / TAVARES**

PEYTON C. GRINNELL, SHERIFF



Our Mission

To *serve* people, *support* our community
and *safeguard* our quality of life.



Your LCSO

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INTEGRITY
PROFESSIONALISM
PEOPLE
LEADERSHIP
COMMITMENT
COMMUNITY
ACCOUNTABILITY
LOYALTY

A note from *your* Sheriff
Peyton C. Grinnell

Dear Citizens:

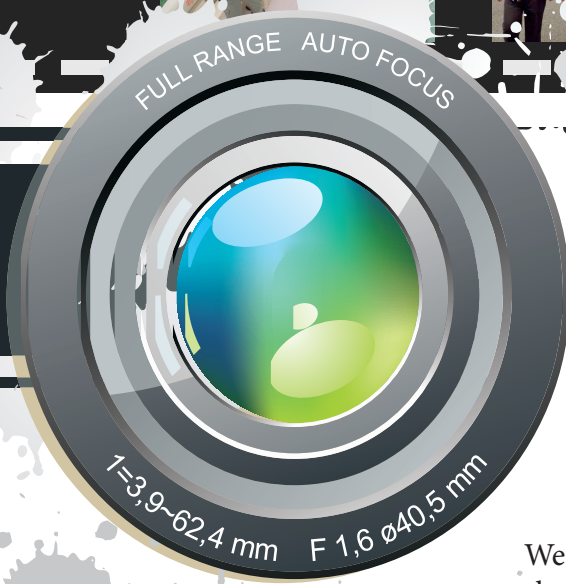
Thank you for taking the time to read the Lake County Sheriff's Office's Annual Report for Calendar Year 2018.

The following pages summarize a year of hard work and dedication, and our continued efforts to best serve the citizens of Lake County. As I reflect over our activities of the past year, I am reminded of all the great things the men and women of the Lake County Sheriff's Office do on a daily basis, and it truly makes me proud to lead and be a part of this great agency.

As your elected Sheriff, I am grateful for your trust and confidence. It is my honor and privilege to serve you. On behalf of all the employees at your Sheriff's Office, I would like to thank you for working in partnership with us to make our community a great place to live, work and play.



Peyton C. Grinnell
Sheriff of Lake County



The Lip Sync Challenge

We were called out and we accepted!

We had some overwhelmingly positive feedback on our attempt at showcasing **your** Sheriff's Office in "The Lip Sync Challenge". The video has reached over 6,778,726 people on Facebook & had more than 3.5 million views - this number increases daily. The endeavor made the front page of Daily Commercial and Lake Sentinel and was featured in the Orlando Sentinel and publications as far away as Detroit and Connecticut.

World Famous!

According to our I.T. department's social media analytics report, our video had tremendous viral penetration. It was viewed in Canada, Iraq, United Kingdom, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Germany, Mexico, Philippines, South America, Australia, Sweden, India, France, Italy, and Nigeria.



Didn't see the video ?
Check it out on
YouTube or Facebook



HURRICANE MICHAEL RESPONSE

Hurricane Michael developed in the Caribbean Sea and moved northward towards the Florida Panhandle, making landfall with maximum sustained winds of 155 MPH. Hurricane Michael was the strongest hurricane to make landfall in the United States since Hurricane Andrew according to the National Hurricane Center.

Bay County declared a Local State of Emergency and ordered a mandatory evacuation for Levels A, B, and C. Bay County opened three (3) shelters, housing a mix of populations. A Hurricane Warning, Storm Surge Warning, and Extreme Wind Warning were issued for Bay County by the National Weather Service prior to and during the storm.

The impact from Hurricane Michael was devastating to Bay County and the surrounding area. Critical infrastructure ranging from public safety communications and facilities to electrical/water utilities service were extremely damaged or destroyed. Outside local, State and Federal resources were requested on behalf of Bay County to assist in response and recovery efforts.

Due to the overwhelming destruction from Hurricane Michael, Bay County law enforcement agencies requested assistance. The Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) responded to this request for assistance (SERT Mission #888844) with an established forward operations at 2713 FL-77, Panama City. The Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) was tasked with assisting the Parker and Springfield Police Departments. These two municipalities were divided into geographical areas organized as Divisions for Parker and Springfield.

During the operational period LCSO provided 24-hour general and unorthodox policing services in the form of strike teams to the cities of Parker and Springfield, Florida. This would include light tactical with less lethal capabilities and ATV/UTV operations if needed during the operational time period. The policing services outside of normal field operations included food and water distribution, light search and rescue and point of distribution security when needed. We also provided fleet services support at Camp Lake and in the field to deployed strike teams. This also included Camp Lake maintenance and sustainability support.



GENERAL COUNSEL / LEGAL

The Lake County Sheriff's Office Legal Department is staffed by our General Counsel and his assistants. The Legal Department is responsible for advising the Sheriff on legal matters that may affect the day to day operations of the Lake County Sheriff's Office to include contract law, employment law, constitutional law, local government law, workers compensation law, public records law, and criminal law.

The General Counsel also advises deputies

on criminal law issues, prosecutes forfeitures, oversees / negotiates contracts, coordinates/defends lawsuits filed against the Sheriff, and handles public records requests.

In 2018, the Legal Department successfully closed out 11 forfeiture cases, which resulted in the Lake County Sheriff's Office obtaining three vehicles and \$92,734 pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act.



In 2018 there were 27 threatened lawsuits/claims pending against the Sheriff's Office, 11 lawsuits in litigation, approximately 250 contracts, and over 900 public records requests fulfilled.

The Office of Professional Standards

The Office of Professional Standards is responsible for maintaining the agency's accreditation, seeking and applying for grant funding, conducting administrative investigations, and handling media inquiries.

Accreditation:

The accreditation process is designed to enhance public and officer safety, reduce liability, and maintain consistency with modern law enforcement practices. By operating at industry standards, the Sheriff's Office reduces the likelihood of successful litigation against the agency. The Sheriff's Office was first accredited through the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation in 2007, and is now entering into the final year of this current three-year accreditation cycle. Thanks to the efforts of everyone in the agency, we are on-track to another successful re-accreditation!

Grants:

In 2018, the agency's grants coordinator was able to secure over \$200,000 in grant funding. These monies paid for items such as new equipment, vehicles, and hundreds of units of Narcan, the life-saving opioid antagonist given to deputies to treat those suspected of overdosing on opiates.

The Sheriff's Office also used this grant funding to train and equip those selected to go through the state-mandated Guardian Program as part of the effort to enhance the safety in our schools.

Internal Affairs:

The Internal Affairs Unit is also part of the Office of Professional Standards. This unit is responsible for conducting thorough and objective investigations when the conduct of agency members is in question. Complaints may originate from an interaction with a citizen who is dissatisfied with the employee's performance or when a supervisor notices an employee has failed to meet an acceptable level. A fair and impartial accountability process is necessary to maintaining the public trust as well as establishing a safer and more effective work environment.

All internal investigations are conducted in strict accordance with governing state statutes to ensure the employee's rights are protected and the citizen receives the law enforcement services he or she deserves. Although not appreciated by everyone, an effective internal affairs function is necessary for a professional organization.

Media Relations:

The agency's two public information officers remained busy throughout 2018 keeping the public apprised on the significant activities and investigations of the agency. The spokespersons work tirelessly to deliver accurate and timely information to the public through the local news media by way of news releases, social media, and on-camera interviews at the scenes of breaking situations.

Lake County Sheriff's Charities, Inc



The Lake County Charities is up and running at full speed since its formation in 2018. The annual bass tournament turned over \$ 25,000 to the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch. "Shop With A Cop" had over 50 law enforcement officers including Citizens on Patrol, Crime Scene Investigators, Sheriff's Explorers, and other personnel participated in serving 75 Lake County children with a budget of \$9,000. Big thanks to Walmart Mount Dora for helping us serve these wonderful children!



Boots, Buckles and Badges Gala

Lake County Sheriff's Charities, Inc.'s First Annual Gala, "Boots, Buckles, and Badges" was a tremendous success, thanks to so many Lake County supporters. Special thanks to everyone who attended and especially our sponsors, who made it all possible. The gala was a wild ride with lots of energy, raffles, silent auction items and loads of fun. The event raised over \$ 150,000.





The Community Services Unit continues to support our community with programs designed for crime prevention and safety. Our unit also manages our thriving volunteer corps as well as our Citizens On Patrol Unit. In 2018, we expanded our involvement in the Stop The Bleed program. "Stop The Bleed" is a program designed to teach students how to quickly tend to someone who has been injured with severe bleeding. One of our Citizens On Patrol volunteers is a certified instructor and teaches the program throughout the year free of charge.

During the month of July 2018 we conducted our second annual Youth Criminal Justice Career Camp. The week long camp was designed for teens who have an interest in pursuing a career in the Criminal Justice field to experience some of what they can expect from areas including patrol, crime scene and the judicial system.

We continue to urge Lake County residents to check out our programs at our website, www.lcso.org. We have many free programs including Senior Watch, Vial of Life and SafetyNet that are designed to keep our residents safe.

Community Engagement Unit

Shortly after Sheriff Grinnell took office, he created our Community Engagement Unit, to enhance the Lake County Sheriff's Office's visibility on social media in an effort to strengthen law enforcement and community relations by keeping our citizens directly informed. As we proved through our participation in "the Lip Sync Challenge", social media interaction helps humanize our Sheriff's Deputies. It's a place where we connect and converse with the general public, but more importantly, it provides a platform for your Sheriff's Office to share information quickly and respond to tips from civilians.

Ultimately our goal is to work with our citizens to prevent, report, and solve crimes, as well as issue warnings and real-time information that protects the public in emergencies, such as weather events, traffic alerts, missing persons, and identifying suspects of crimes that occur in our community. To this end, social media is a wonderful resource and has yielded great results. So please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube, and stay informed.

Senior Watch Program

Crime Prevention Practitioner Erica Stamborski and three LCSO volunteers from our Senior Watch program went to visit Miss Bessie and wish her a happy 102nd birthday.

These volunteers check on approximately 200 seniors every day. These wonderful volunteers took the time to go out and meet our oldest participant in the program.





RETURNS to Lake County Schools

Sheriff Grinnell brought back the D.A.R.E. program to Lake County Elementary Schools as of the 2018-2019 school year. In our initial year of D.A.R.E. we have five D.A.R.E.-certified deputies as well as a D.A.R.E.-certified Sergeant teaching the program to the fifth grade students. Our kickoff term had a total of 524 fifth grade students graduate D.A.R.E. over 37 classes in five schools.



SCHOOL RESOURCE DEPUTIES

The Lake County Sheriff's Office provides a Deputy Sheriff at eight high schools, nine middle schools, five elementary schools, and two charter schools. There are two School Resource Deputies (SRD) assigned at the High Schools with larger populations located in Leesburg, Clermont, Groveland and Minneola. The primary mission of the SRD Unit is to ensure the safety of every student, staff member and visitor throughout the school day.

In response to the recent Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act requiring an SRD, Guardian, or both to be present at each school, we instituted the Guardian Program and currently have 27 guardians that are monitored by the SRD department after the initial appointment to the program. In addition, we increased the communication between agencies including, but not limited to, Law Enforcement Officers, School Board and Mental Health Facilities in regards to the mental health of students only as permitted by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.

We held a School Resource Officer Basic School for the new SRD's and new city School Resource Officers. All of our SRD's were certified in Youth Mental Health First Aid as well as being certified in Crisis Intervention. We implemented a new form in partnership with the Lake County School Board that is a "Release to Parent" form for when a student meets criteria

for LEO Baker Act and the parent wants to transport the child to a mental health provider of their choice or when the child has expressed suicidal ideation and may not currently meet the Baker Act criteria but the school would like the child to be evaluated before returning to school. This form gives parents crucial information for seeking assistance from mental health providers/hospitals as well as protecting the Sheriff and the Schools from liability when releasing the child to their parent.

Additionally, every SRD assigned to a middle school teaches the Cyber Safety presentation provided by the Office of the Attorney General of Florida. This program is designed to educate students about the risks of and tactics used by on-line predators as well as what constitutes as a cybercrime and how to report it. During the school year of 2018-2019, the SRD's taught a total of 3,515 students. LCSO has been near the top in Florida for the number of students taught this program for six years straight!

In 2018, SRDs were responsible for 537 reports, 52 total arrests, 116 Tobacco/Vape Citations and four Sexting Citations. Furthermore, School Resource Deputies made 75 W.I.L.A. referrals. This Work In Lieu of Arrest program allows first-time juvenile offenders a chance at avoiding a Criminal Record by working on community service projects a minimum of three Saturdays in a row. During the summer break, School Resource Deputies interact

with elementary school students at two "Harmony in the Streets" Mobile Summer Camps with Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches (FSYR) at Tavares Middle and Windy Hill Middle. These week-long day camps are held at convenient locations throughout the county and there is no charge for children (ages 6-12) to attend. During these summer camps, we reach approximately sixty elementary aged students per camp. We assisted and sponsored students at the FSYR Residential Youth Camp.

Numerous awards or designations were given to several School Resource Deputies during the 2018-2019 school year. Master Deputy Adam Tytler was presented with the 2018 Lake County Sheriff Officer of the Year award from the Americanism Committee at the Eustis Elks Lodge. Master Deputy Adam Tytler also received the Meritorious Service Medal from the Lake County Sheriff's Office for his quick actions in stopping an armed individual and preventing a probable active shooter situation on school grounds.

In addition to their duties in the schools, the SRD's are also tasked as Shelter Managers during any State of Emergency where public shelters are utilized. The SRD's and city SRO's attended a Shelter Management training. We also held a Principal/Assistant Principal Shelter training for School administration.



In November, LCSO's Corporal Chris Berry was chosen to present the The United States Honor Flag at Krawl'n for the Fallen which was co-hosted by Off Road United Foundation. Chris, also a member of the LCSO Honor Guard, was deeply moved by the opportunity.

by the #'s

Total Received at the LCJ: 9,332
Total Released: 9,279

Average Daily Population

Juveniles: 14
Females: 127
Males: 693

Revenues Received

Weekend Work Program: \$16,780
Subsistence Fees: \$73,985
Medical Charges: \$41,824
(Collected
\$26,434)

Extradition

Females: 252
Males: 740

Commissary Sales

2017: \$350,558
2018: \$339,338

Corrections Operations

Over the past year, many new technologies have been introduced into the Lake County Detention Center. We now have security cameras in every housing unit as well as the hallways for the safety of the Detention Deputies. The cameras also provide another layer of security within the facility that once had blind spots

Besides the strengthening of security through cameras, the implementation of using a K-9 is used monthly to help ensure no drugs are being brought into the facility. This is an effective tool in not only finding contraband, but also as a deterrent to inmates knowing a K-9 is utilized.

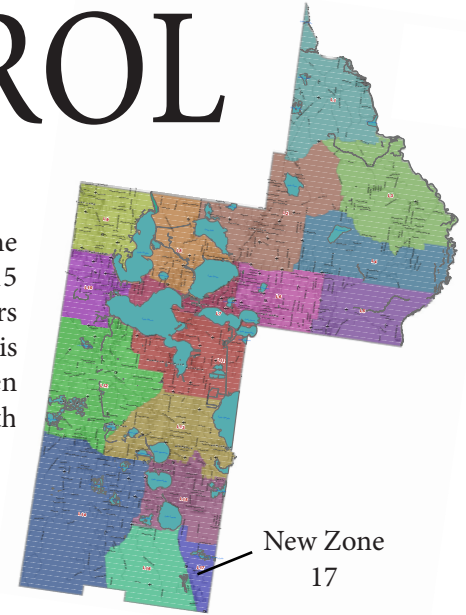
Within the jail, the latest technology is being utilized for inmate communication. Inmates use an advanced kiosk system that provides a safe and efficient way to write requests, grievances, email and receive pictures from family and friends. This has proven to be effective in responding to the needs of the inmate and the reduction of contraband.

Additionally, the newest technological advancement utilized in the detention facility is the use of video visitation. Friends and family can now visit from home which allows them the convenience of not having to physically come into the jail. Both visitors and inmates have the option to schedule multiple visits each week. Between the kiosk, emails, pictures, and the video visitation inmates now have more contact with their friends and loved ones.

One of the newest jail initiatives is the Sewing Textile Program, which is exclusively designed for female inmates to learn a trade. They are taught how to sew, use a commercial press machine, make heat transfer t-shirts, embroiderer and laser engraver. Each inmate is given a certificate with the number of hours they have completed in the program and upon release, they have the ability to seek employment at one of the partnering dry cleaning businesses in Lake County. Additionally, this program saves a substantial amount of taxpayer dollars by making, from raw material, inmate uniforms and mattresses.

UNIFORM PATROL

Four additional deputies were hired to help patrol the south end of the county in the newly established Zone 17. The new patrol zone was created from the existing zones 15 and 16 and added one more deputy per shift to the area, which covers the Four Corners vicinity - the intersection of Orange, Osceola, Lake and Polk counties. The need for this zone was crucial due to 6,551 more calls in zones 15 and 16 in 2017 than there had been six years prior. The population and development in this area increased, bringing with them an increase in crime. More deputies equal a quicker response time.



ANIMAL ENFORCEMENT

For 2018, we responded to 932 calls involving animal cruelty/abuse/or neglect concerns. Of the 932, 88 of them resulted in further investigation either civilly or criminally.

DUI UNIT

The DUI unit, tested and evaluated several different brands of body cameras within a six month period of time. The decision was made to purchase the Axon body camera system. This system allows for cloud storage, which streamlines the download process. We have also seen a decrease in court time, due to the fact that the violator is being videoed from the initial contact. This face to face evidence cannot be obtained with just the use of an in-car camera.

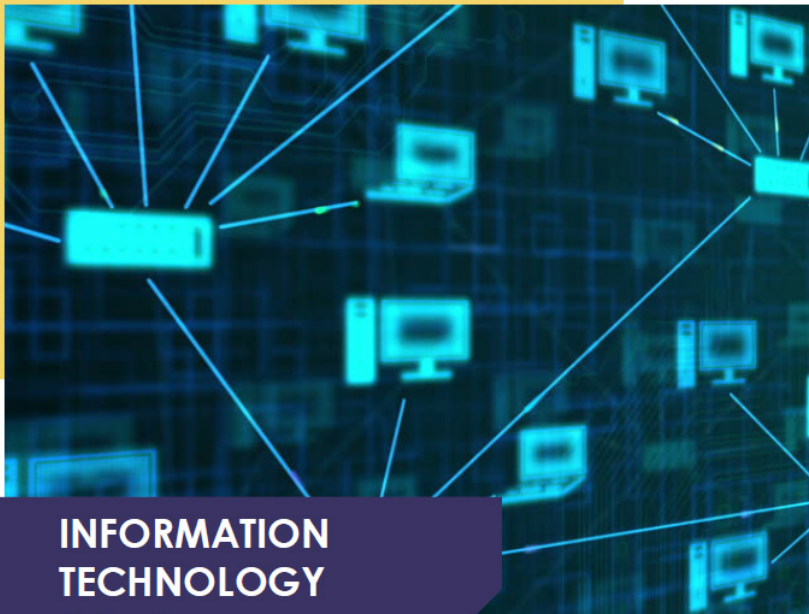
K-9 Unit

The K-9 Unit is comprised of ten full-service K-9 teams, three Bloodhound teams, and two single-purpose detection teams. The term “full-service”, also known as “dual-purpose”, means that the dog is trained to track, locate, and apprehend suspects, but can also detect narcotics or explosives. The bloodhound teams have one purpose and that is to track not only suspects, but also missing or endangered persons. The two single-purpose teams are used for detection only. One of the single-purpose dogs is trained to find narcotics and is assigned to the schools. The other single-purpose dog is assigned to the courthouse and can detect explosives. Currently, both of our single-purpose dogs are Labrador Retrievers.

Thanks to community donations and Sheriff Grinnell, the K-9 Unit has continued to improve our training facility by adding obstacles that replicate some of the challenges the K-9 teams might face on the streets.

The full service K-9 unit also added a new breed of dog to our arsenal. For several years the full service K-9 unit has been comprised of only German Shepherds. This year we added our first Belgian Malinois, imported from Europe, whose name is Messi. Messi and his handler recently finished K-9 School and passed the FDLE certification for full-service K-9 teams.





INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 2018



Corey Pendergraft was appointed as Director of Information Technology & Data Security. Corey has served in the Communications Center and Community Engagement, where he was instrumental in the acquisition of equipment for the Sewing and Textile program at the Lake County Jail.

Anti-Virus (Sophos to Malwarebytes)

We have gone from a self-hosted platform which required manual updating and deployment to a 100% cloud-based platform which allows us to be up-to-date as soon as updates are available and reducing the necessary physical infrastructure to run an anti-virus solution. Malwarebytes also allows us to deploy and monitor remotely with extensive reporting for possible infections as well as a virus removal tool not previously available with Sophos. We have also extended our licensing from 750 users to 1000 to allow us for future growth and at a cost savings from Sophos.

Help Desk Software (Track-IT to Autotask)

In another effort to reduce necessary infrastructure needs we have moved from a self-hosted helpdesk software to a full-featured cloud-based solution. Allowing us access to our ticketing platform from anywhere and provide us with a much more user-friendly experience. It also is used for asset tracking for IT equipment as well as being able to create a knowledge base of self-help documentation for our users should they want to find a solution to a problem themselves.

Email Server Upgrade (Exchange 2010 to Exchange 2016)

Our email server has been upgraded to Exchange 2016 adding much needed functionality to the web version of the email client as well as staying up-to-date with the latest standards and security measures.

Road Patrol Laptops

We negotiated with Panasonic to provide a price-lock on laptops for Road Patrol (and other departments) until March 2019 at a savings of nearly \$300 per laptop from the previous year, which allowed us to utilize the penny sales tax to the fullest extent giving us 40 laptops this year to issue out to Road Patrol. This will leave very few (if any) of the 8+ year old Dell laptops currently in the field.

Disk Burning in CSI

It was brought to our attention that CSI was burning upwards of 30+ disks a day/weekly for the State Attorney's Office for case-related files. We built a web page for our CSI to upload necessary documents and assign a specific State Attorney to be able to download them directly and if they so choose, they can burn as many disks as they like. This reduced the amount of time that CSI spends on physically burning and labeling the disk and has streamlined the process significantly.

ECOC Maintenance for Server-Related Equipment

We are now under a five-year agreement for support on our equipment that was purchased for the ECOC last year, thus locking in a fixed cost for support without the possibility of an increase year-over-year and at a cost savings (yearly savings of nearly \$2,000).

AG and Marine

The Agriculture and Marine Unit responded to multiple search and rescue calls for service throughout the 2018 year. Some of the calls, at a notable level, were the following: A suicide in Lake Griffin near Herlong Park in Leesburg on 3/15/18, where we found and recovered the subject from the water. We responded to Lake Dora on 6/14/18, where we utilized our side scan sonars to locate and recover the victim who had jumped off a vessel and never resurfaced. We responded to Silver Lake on 10/5/18, where we received a call that a subject had gone out on a kayak a few days before and had not returned. We searched the lake along with the Aviation Unit and located the deceased and his vessel, where we then recovered the deceased. On 11/25/18, we responded to Lake Denham in reference to a subject that was located out on the lake deceased. Upon our arrival, we located and recovered the subject. On 12/10/18, we responded to Grasshopper Lake in reference to a missing suicidal subject. We launched our mud boat in Grasshopper Lake and located the subject deceased out in the lake still sitting in a kayak.

The AG/Marine Unit investigated multiple cases throughout the 2018 year. These cases consisted of livestock, trespasses, and theft-related cases and recovered \$89,000 worth of recovered stolen property throughout the year.

On May 12th-16th, we hosted the Florida Agriculture Crimes Intelligence Unit annual conference at Lakeside Inn in Mount Dora. (FACIU)

AVIATION

During 2018, the Aviation Unit received 295 calls for service and flew approximately 233 hours. While on patrol flights or responding to service calls, the Aviation Unit located and assisted in the recovery of several stolen vehicles which estimated a total value of \$62,500.00. Additionally, air crews located 15 missing/endangered persons as well as assisted Patrol Deputies in the apprehension of 16 arrestees. Throughout the year, unit members were able to land and visit dozens of Lake County elementary and middle schools (including summer camps) to speak with students and staff about the Aviation Unit's capabilities. Furthermore, with comprehensive budgeting, the Aviation Unit was able to update one of its helicopter's design schemes with a cost-effective wrap which enhances the aircraft's ability to be safely recognized during the day/night from the ground and the air.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU



CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

In 2018, the General Assignment Unit under Criminal Investigations worked 3,098 cases. Detectives arrested or filed charges on 173 suspects. Our Property Crimes detectives investigated several types of felony offenses to include Grand Theft, Burglary, and Dealing in Stolen Property. In October, Property Crimes detectives investigated the theft of approximately \$250,000 of rare coins and other currency. An alert gold and jewelry store customer observed a suspicious transaction and notified authorities. Our detectives responded to the store and interviewed two suspects. Detectives arrested one suspect for the theft and recovered almost 90% of the stolen valuables.

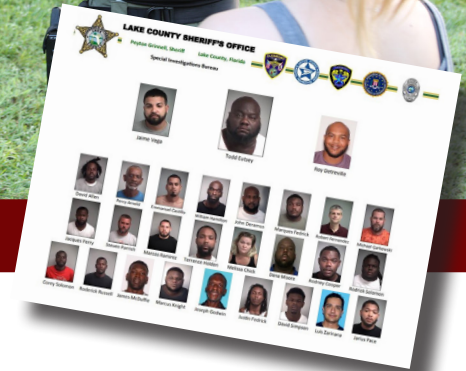
Economic Crimes detectives focused on fraud-related offenses including Identity Theft and Exploitation of the Elderly. In December, Economic Crimes detectives were assigned to investigate a rash of mailbox thefts. Suspects were stealing mail that often included checks. They would then fraudulently cash these stolen checks, further victimizing citizens. After a lengthy investigation, detectives were able to identify ten suspects, all of whom were arrested.

In 2018, the Major Crimes Unit investigated 1,266 cases. Robbery/Homicide and Special Victims detectives arrested or filed charges on 207 suspects. Major Crimes detectives are tasked with investigating serious felony cases including Murder, Aggravated Battery, Sexual Battery, and Child Abuse. In August, a male was shot on Carroll Street in Sorrento. He later died at the hospital. Robbery/Homicide detectives doggedly worked the streets. They were able to obtain enough evidence for a search warrant of a suspect's residence. He was arrested soon after and is awaiting trial.

COLD CASE

The Cold Case Team (CCT) continues to comb through case files dating back to the 1960's. In 2018, the team focused on using the latest scientific methods to identify suspects and unidentified remains. They have reached out to experts in the fields of isotope analysis, DNA phenotyping and genealogical studies to help solve cold cases.

The University of South Florida assisted the CCT with an isotope analysis of a 1988 unidentified body discovered in the Four Corners area. Investigators now know that "Julie Doe" grew up somewhere in Florida, south of S.R. 50. This information will help CCT investigators narrow their search of reported missing persons from that era.



SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

During 2018, the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) conducted a long-term investigation on a drug trafficking organization that was responsible for distributing large amounts of cocaine in the south end of the county. As a result of this investigation, three major high-level drug traffickers were arrested along with twenty-five other members of their organization. Four residential search warrants were executed, approximately one kilogram of cocaine, and approximately \$20,000 was seized as a result of this investigation.

The Special Investigations Unit also assisted the Drug Enforcement Administration on another long-term investigation on a drug trafficking organization, who was responsible for distributing large amounts of heroin and crystal methamphetamine in the Leesburg/Fruitland Park/Lady Lake area of the county. During that investigation, one major drug trafficker was arrested along with seven other members of the organization. Multiple kilograms of heroin and crystal methamphetamine were seized, over \$1.1 million dollars in cash, luxury vehicles, and over a dozen firearms were also seized during this investigation.

Throughout 2018, the Special Investigations Bureau also received 171 narcotics complaints. One hundred six of the narcotics complaints were made anonymously through Crimeline. From those complaints and other narcotics investigations, detectives executed thirty-two residential search warrants and made a total of one hundred thirty-six arrests.

In 2018, the Special Investigations Bureau also conducted an undercover operation targeted at human trafficking. This resulted in the rescuing of a victim of human trafficking and 33 arrests for solicitation of prostitution.

To combat underage drinking, the Special Investigations Bureau conducted an undercover operation utilizing underage confidential informants in an attempt to purchase alcohol from numerous convenience stores located throughout the county. Detectives issued 30 misdemeanor citations to clerks who sold alcoholic beverages to a minor under the age of 21.

DRUG INVESTIGATION RESULTS IN 28 ARREST WARRANTS, \$20,000 IN CASH SEIZED, AND 7 FIREARMS TAKEN FROM DRUG DEALERS

Detectives with the Lake County Sheriff's SIU, with assistance from the Clermont PD, Leesburg PD, and Tavares PD, as well as the FBI and United States Postal Inspectors Office, conducted an operation targeting cocaine dealers in South Lake County. The operation did not discriminate as it targeted high-, mid-, and street-level dealers alike who are responsible for littering our communities with cocaine.

As a result of this operation, detectives obtained 28 arrest warrants for members of this drug ring and executed five search warrants, one of which occurred in Orange County. Detectives seized approximately a kilogram of cocaine (street value of approximately \$32,000), \$20,000 in cash, and seven firearms.

Arrestees Eutsey and Detreville are currently on federal probation and were recently released from federal prison for similar charges. Several others who were arrested as part of this ring were either on federal probation, state probation, or are repeat offenders.



The ladies from the Crime Scene Investigations Unit attended a Self-Defense class held by Lt. Cliff Matthews out at the Lake Technical College's Institute of Public Safety. Lt. Matthews has been teaching these classes for years and our CSIs decided it is better to be prepared than to be a victim.

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS

2018 once again, was a busy and exciting year for the Crime Scene Investigations Unit. We completed renovation on the fourth floor, moving the CSI's offices out of the lab and into a central office area in a bull-pin setup. We updated the lab with new stainless steel drying racks and are preparing for new lab equipment.

Crime Scene Investigators logged nearly 550 calls for service, to include 399 call-outs, and ten autopsies attended. Of the call outs, 13 were homicides, eight of which were in another agency's jurisdiction, but required our services. The CSI's also logged 5,973 pieces of evidence for Latent Fingerprints in the lab. CSI's also presented at four Sheriff's Citizen Academies and numerous schools throughout the county. They also assisted at several events.

With the increased number of call-outs for CSI it also increased the work load on Property/ Evidence, the Photo Lab and the Fingerprint Section. Property/Evidence handled 6,536 cases. This means 30,849 pieces of LCSO evidence and 2,669 pieces of AOA evidence came through the evidence door. Evidence released or disposed of 6,395 pieces of evidence, and turned over \$87,892.40 to the Finance Department. The Fingerprint Section added a third Latent Examiner and were able to increase the number of production. They did 46,280 LCSO computer ID's. They evaluated 14,405 fingerprints, and compared 33,392 fingerprints. Of those comparisons they identified 445 latent fingerprints, 290 were LCSO cases and 155 were AOA's. The fingerprint section had 2,508 walk-ins for fingerprints in which they collected \$4,255.00 in fingerprint fees.

The Photo Lab was just as busy as the rest of CSI, printing 6,805 color prints. 6,302 contact sheets were made, and a total of 113,108 digital images were processed...this produced 3,152 CD/DVD's, of which 3,024 were for LCSO and 128 were for other agencies

MEET MIA

Mia is a two year old English Bulldog owned by CSI Corporal Robert Bedgood. Mia and Cpl. Bedgood recently graduated from the Brevard County Sheriff's Office, Florida (Official) Law Enforcement Investigative Therapy Dog Course. Mia was then sworn in as a Deputy Sheriff by Sheriff Grinnell.



Mia and Cpl. Bedgood will assist the Special Victims Unit in interviews with victims of violent crimes and other calls of special circumstances. Studies show that victims are twice as likely to disclose information regarding their case when an investigative therapy dog is introduced. There's no doubt that Mia will prove those numbers correct.

CHAPLIN / VICTIM ADVOCATE

The position of Chaplain/Victim Advocate was assumed by Mike Levelle on January 29, 2018. Since this time we have sought to lead the LCSO Chaplaincy office in the direction of collective growth. We have begun to accomplish this by bringing about a team approach to our Chaplaincy. Each volunteer Chaplain has been invited to commit to serving at least eight hours each month. This involves ride-a-longs, visits to the Sheriff's Office and training/educational opportunities. Coupled with this we have asked the chaplains to be available for on-call opportunities. This requires each Chaplain to be available for call out for a seven day period. We have developed a roster designating these obligations and submitted a basic Standard Operating Procedures to Professional Standards for consideration.



Our Chaplains have served scores of hours and assisted in a number of death notifications and opportunities to comfort the bereaved. Our Chaplains have also taken the LCSO radio course, required by all new hire deputies to familiarize them with the portable and mobile use of the radio. Each Chaplain has been invited to be part of the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC). With this alignment our goal is to ensure that our Chaplains continue to improve themselves in matters related to Law Enforcement Chaplaincy, such as critical incident defusing, and line of duty issues that impact the lives of every member of the Law Enforcement community. We hope to be engaging in some other opportunities as the year progresses.

The office of the Chaplain is also interested in insuring the health of our community and agency as we seek to enhance our CIT (Critical Incident Team) as they are enabled to become more involved in the lives of our deputies, personnel and the community following a critical incident. This is proving to be complex since we want to make sure that we have the right individuals in place to come to the aid of those in need of emotional and spiritual first-aid. To facilitate this Chaplain Mike attended the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy at Camp Shelby Mississippi. This training was the LEAPS (Law Enforcement Alliance for Peer Support). This basic course deals with helping the interventionists display compassion, line of duty officer shooting, line of duty death and injury, initial defusing etc.

Since coming on board as Chaplain and Victims Advocate, the Chaplains office has assisted a number of individuals seeking to avail themselves to the benefits that have been established for victims of crime. Many of the individuals that have been victims of crime are often left with lifelong scars and placed in financial distress due to the crime. It is the desire of this office to provide relief to the suffering and guidance as these individuals navigate the legal system and interventions for a most troubling event in their life.

We base our involvement off of the Biblical principal found in Romans 13:3,4 "For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vein. FOR HE IS THE SERVANT OF GOD, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer." (ESV) Law Enforcement is a calling contrary to what some might think. An SOP has also been developed to provide guidance for our internal Critical Incident Team.



Finance and Human Resources

2018 Accomplishment in the Finance Department

- Received an unqualified/clean audit opinion
- Created and implemented a new Disaster Pay Policy
- Senior Finance Director, Raymond O. Bailey, graduated from the Leadership of Lake County Class of 2018
- Raymond O. Bailey took command of the Human Resources Department
- Transitioned banking from Wells Fargo to SeaCoast
- Created and implemented an agency-wide Risk Management / Workers' Compensation Committee
- Created and implemented an agency-wide Deferred Compensation Committee
- Facilitated an Agency wide salary survey for all Sworn Personnel

HUMAN RESOURCES received 330 applications for both sworn and civilian employment during the 2018 calendar year. A total of 81 individuals were hired and 29 retired agency-wide.

This year the School Guardian Program was implemented. HR processed 24 guardians to be placed in Lake County Schools for student safety. We also added four additional School Resource Deputies.

Employees continued to use the Care Here health facility, which saw a total of 12,049 appointments scheduled. Care Here continues to be a cost-saving measure for the Sheriff's Office. Care Here performs labs, xrays, occupational and provider visits along with offering personal wellness coaching. This year, we hosted a successful on-site flu shot event for our employees.



Human Resources manages all workers' compensation claims and acts as a liaison between the employee, the health care provider and workers' compensation. Last year, there were 132 worker's comp claims filed through the agency. This year we also offered our employees Long Term Disability at open enrollment.



COMMUNICATIONS CENTER



Our 9-1-1 Communications Center is staffed around the clock with dedicated men and women ready to answer your calls for assistance. These dispatchers are responsible for answering 9-1-1 calls, non-emergency telephone calls and dispatching deputies, law enforcement officers and resources from many jurisdictions.

In order to accomplish the coveted title of fully trained 9-1-1 Telecommunicator, your dispatchers must complete a 232-hour State of Florida 9-1-1 Public Safety Telecommunicator course and successfully pass the state exam. They must then complete approximately 1,000 hours of on the job training with our Certified Communicators Training Officers.

In mid-2018 our center set an ambitious goal to answer 90% or more of all 9-1-1 calls in 10 seconds or less. Through hard work and perseverance our dispatchers successfully met and exceeded this goal by closing out 2018 by answering 93.71% or 145,724 9-1-1 calls in 10 seconds or less.

(Pictured above right) The owner of Lake County Championship Wrestling and Night Owl Commercial Cleaning LLC, Nicholas Vick, stopped by in September with his championship wrestlers to recognize our 911 “championship” dispatchers. Shift supervisor Zoe Hinds-Gracey received the custom championship belt on behalf of her shift. Charlie Shift dispatchers answered every 911 call during their shift in 10 seconds or less during the month of September.

LCSO Annual Telephone Stats

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Incoming 911 Calls	154,977	155,425	155,427	155,497
Abandoned 911 Calls	9,431	7,834	5,313	2,053
Incoming Admin Calls	259,149	266,996	229,799	208,133
Outgoing Admin Calls	132,839	118,979	107,457	116,744
Total Calls	556,396	549,234	497,996	482,427
911 Answer Times %Answered in 10 seconds or less	81.24%	83.78%	82.01%	93.71%



(Left) South Lake District Office Commander, Lt. Mark Stauffer, poses with a few of our sponsors for the Project Kid Connect event. (Above) the SLDO office bunch.

SOUTH LAKE DISTRICT OFFICE

The South Lake District Office offers a variety of law enforcement services that you would normally receive at our main office in Tavares. From filing a report to dropping off unused prescription drugs, the South Lake District Office offers assistance in a professional and courteous manner.

There are two full-time sworn deputies, two clerks, one community services officer, three property crimes detectives and one fraud detective on-hand for assistance. We also have two mechanics that maintain a full-service vehicle shop to maintain and repair our Sheriff's vehicle fleet. Our Jail is staffed full time, 24 hours a day to process arrestees for the south-end deputies and officers of local municipalities. This alleviates the long drive to the Tavares jail, resulting in the law enforcement officer's quick return to their patrol duties.

LCSO Charities hosted its fifth annual "Project Kid Connect" event at the South Lake District Office. This event directly benefits South Lake County's school-age children. We supplied approximately 650 free backpacks full of school supplies to many of our underprivileged students. The event was held on Saturday, July 14th and featured games, music, food and more. We are currently planning our sixth annual event to be held on July 20th, 2019.

A huge thanks to our South Lake Community for their donations and sponsorships. A special thanks also to the Clermont Kiwanis Club, South Lake Kiwanis Club, and many other civic groups and vendors for their continued support and volunteer time to make this event happen! The event was a huge success!

Walk -Ins	Extra Duty Details Assigned and managed	Fingerprints
2,100+	in excess of 2,100	382

UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING

2018

The UCR Program's primary objective is to generate reliable information for use in law enforcement administration, operation, and management; over the years, however, the data has become one of the country's leading social indicators. The program was conceived in 1929 by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to meet the need for reliable uniform crime statistics for the nation. In 1930, the FBI was tasked with collecting, publishing, and archiving those statistics.

VIOLENT CRIMES		
MURDER	Criminal Homicide	3
	Manslaughter	2
SEX OFFENSE	Forcible Rape Committed	82
	Forcible Rape Attempted	1
	Forcible Sodomy	0
	Forcible Fondling	19
ROBBERY	Highway Robbery	18
	Commercial Other	18
	Gas/Service Station	0
	Convenience Store	3
	Residence	9
	Bank	0
	Miscellaneous	4
ASSAULT	Agg Assault	360
	Agg Stalking	6
	Total Violent (excluding manslaughter)	525
	Simple	1,355

Today, four annual publications are produced from data received from more than 18,000 city, university and college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies voluntarily participating in the program. The crime data are submitted either through a state UCR program or directly to the FBI's UCR Program.

Detailed, incident-based data is what the National Incident-Based Reporting System brings to the UCR table as it is set to become the UCR data standard by January 1, 2021. The NIBRS-only data collection will provide more detailed, richer data on more offenses than is currently available through summary data.

The UCR Program consists of four data collections: The National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), the Summary Reporting System (SRS), the Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) Program, and the Hate Crime Statistics Program. The UCR Program publishes annual reports for each of these data collections and a preliminary semiannual report of summary data each winter, as well as special compilations such as Cargo Theft Report, Human Trafficking, and NIBRS topical studies.

In addition to the four major data collections, the UCR Program will manage the new National Use-of-Force Data Collection. The FBI's interactive Crime Data Explorer tool serves as the digital front door for UCR data, enabling law enforcement and the general public to more easily use and understand the massive amounts of UCR data currently collected

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSE

Forcible Entry	333
Unlawful Entry	302
Attempted	25
Residence	466
Night	50
Day	167
Unknown	249
Non -Residence	194
Night	48
Day	34
Unknown	112
Pocket Picking	1
Purse Snatching	1
Shoplifting	110
From Motor Vehicle	445
Motor Vehicle Part	116
Bicycles	43
From Building	336
From Coin Operated.	2
All other	608
\$200 and Over	951
\$50-\$200	343
Under \$50	368
Auto	82
Trucks and Buses	98
Motorcycles	28
Other	73
Total Non-Violent	2,603
Total Offenses	4,483

BIAS BASED PROFILING POLICY

The policy of the Lake County Sheriff's Office is to treat every citizen with courtesy and respect. The purpose of this position is to reaffirm our commitment to unbiased policing in all its encounters between deputy sheriffs and citizens.

A fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States is equal protection under the law. Along with this right to equal protection is the fundamental right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by government agents as guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment. Citizens are free to walk and drive our streets, highways, and other public places without law enforcement interference so long as they obey the law. They also are entitled to be free from the acts of criminals, and to drive and walk our public ways safe from the actions of reckless and careless drivers.

OUR DUTIES:

The Lake County Sheriff's Office is charged with protecting these rights, for all, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or economic status. Law enforcement action which is biased is illegal and violates the equal protection clause and the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. It also alienates citizens, fosters distrust of the Sheriff's Office, and undermines legitimate law enforcement efforts.

The nature of our business requires deputy sheriffs to be observant, to identify unusual occurrences and law violations, and to act upon them. Proactive law enforcement keeps our citizens safe to live and work in a crime free environment. Criminal profiling is a legitimate tool in the fight against crime. Criminal profiling is an investigative method in which a deputy, through observation of activities and environment, identifies suspicious behavior by individuals and develops a legal basis, consistent with the Fourth Amendment, to stop them for questioning.

CRIMINAL PROFILING - VS- BIAS-BASED PROFILING:

Criminal profiling is one of many accepted and necessary law enforcement investigative practices. However, it differs from and should not be confused with bias-based profiling. One is an investigative tool; the other, a discriminatory practice. Illegal profiling refers to a decision by a deputy to stop, detain, interdict, or search an individual based on their race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or economic status. The Lake County Sheriff's Office prohibits illegal profiling as a law enforcement tactic and will not tolerate or condone its use by any of our deputies.

ZERO TOLERANCE:

It is the Sheriff's Office philosophy to accomplish our mission in a way that respects the dignity of all persons and yet sends a strong message of zero tolerance to actual and potential lawbreakers.

COURT SERVICES BUREAU

Courthouse Public Visitors	232,695
Daily Average	927
Teen Court Attendance	2,250
Inmates Transported for Court	5,446
DJJ Juveniles Held in Holding area for Court	306
Arrests made from Court Proceedings	386
Warrant Arrests	75
Warrant Alerts (referred by Clerk's Office or Court)	91
Injunctions Served	18
Escorts: Public, Clerks, Armored Service	589
Building Alarms	300
Unscheduled Inmate Transports	311
Unscheduled Fingerprinting	62
Capital Trials	3
Felony Trials	30
Misdemeanor Trials	35
Civil Trials	14
Grand Jury empaneling	2

We said Good-bye to an icon...



We said good-bye to former Sheriff Noel. E. "Evvie" Griffin in April. Sheriff Griffin was elected Sheriff of Lake County and served from 1980-1988. Several weeks before his death, Sheriff Griffin held a bar-b-q for the LCSO SWAT team and other employees at the Griffin ranch. He presented LCSO with two classic cars from his collection. One was a 1957 Plymouth patrol car very similar to one that he drove during his patrol days. The other was a 1980's era Dodge Ram Charger with the Ranch and Grove Unit painted on the door - Sheriff Griffin helped establish the unit during his tenure.

With the generous donations of Sheriff Noel E. Griffin's Ranch, inmates on our outside work crews learned metal fabrication and welding skills to build the new LCSO smoker. The only items purchased prefabricated were the axles, hubs, wheels and tires. Griffin Ranch provided all of the materials, sandblasting, and paint work. The smoker (with gas backup) will be used for functions with the Lake County Sheriff's Charities, Inc. as well as events within the agency. This was a huge undertaking for our inmate work crews and staff. The end result was amazing.



KUDOS



The LCSO team competed with several other community teams in the King of the Wing competition hosted by the ARC Marion, Inc. at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion - Marion County, FL. The team proudly brought back the 3rd place trophy for People's Choice at the event. Thanks to all who came out, participated, and voted for us!



Deputies Creech and Blackmon to the Rescue

On January 26, 2018, Master Deputy Mitch Blackmon and Deputy Sheriff Ayla Creech responded to a vehicle crash at 61 Royal Drive in the City of Eustis. The deputies were the first to arrive on scene and observed a vehicle submerged in a canal that was approximately 6-8 feet deep located right next to the residence. The vehicle was taking on large amounts water. The deputies observed the elderly driver hanging onto the door of the vehicle and two elderly individuals still entrapped inside.

Deputies Blackmon and Creech were able to quickly enter the water, safely remove the two entrapped passengers and assist them to the shore. Officers with the Eustis Police Department arrived and also entered the water and brought the driver of the vehicle to the shore. The three elderly subjects were transported by Lake EMS to Florida Hospital Waterman due to possible hypothermia and other preexisting health concerns. Deputies Blackmon and Creech's swift actions played a vital role in the positive outcome of this horrible accident and both were honored at the ASIS Awards ceremony.



Each year since 2005, the employees of the Lake County Sheriff's Office have been challenged by the community to raise money to support the March of Dimes. Many Lake County Sheriffs have served as event chair for March of Dimes. Sheriff Grinnell lead the team last year raising over \$12,000. Since the beginning, the LCSO family, with Director of Administration Kristy Marden leading the charge, has raised a staggering \$67,300.



On Wednesday, February 21, 2018 Master Deputy David Causey was recognized as American Legion Post 76 (Tavares, FL) as their Deputy of the Year. David was nominated by our staff because he single-handedly collected and delivered over \$20,000 worth of supplies to the Florida Keys after they were devastated by Hurricane Irma.



Congrats to our Command Officers Management Class XIX attended by our Cpl. Erica Rodriguez and Sgt. Richard Blanchard. Graduates of Saint Leo's Command Officers Management program make the transition from being a police officer patrolling the streets to an administrator managing others!



Former Sheriff Chris Daniels Honored

On June 27, 2018 Representative Larry Metz R-Yalaha and Senator Dennis Baxley R-Ocala, honored former Sheriff Christopher C. Daniels, Sr.'s legacy of service to the citizens of Lake County by dedicating a section of State Road 19 between US 441 and Lane Park Cutoff in his name. These may be just signs to many, but they mean so much more to his family and those who knew "Chris".



A special thank you to Sean M. Parks, Lake County Commission, District 2 for attending LCSO's 21st Annual Volunteer Banquet at Lake-Sumter State College. Our volunteers are amazing and their and Mr. Park's support of our organization is appreciated



Thank you to the Nam Knights of Green Swamp for their \$1000 donation towards the Gator Challenge. The Nam Knights have been amazing supporters of everything we do! They also donated \$500 to the Shop With a Cop program.

Lake County Citizens are the BEST! Here are some shining examples of how some of them have helped us. We are very thankful for their support!



We receive continuing support from Montverde Academy. Sheriff Grinnell was invited to Montverde Academy in November to receive 22 fully assembled bicycles for giveaways at our annual Shop with a Cop program.

Earlier in the year, students with the Montverde Academy's Eighth Grade, State Ranked, Robotics Team saw a need for a drone for law enforcement use in Lake County. These students conducted fund-raisers and purchased a DJI Phantom 3 Drone to donate to LCSO's Hazardous Devices Team (HDT).

The young folks at Montverde Academy are awesome supporters of our community!



Lake County residents are the real rock stars! Your donations to *Presents for the Panhandle* tallied up to over 2,000 gifts. LCSO supplemented the donations with several bicycles and helmets. Your donations were delivered to the Town of Grand Ridge and then distributed to over 300 families in that area alone. More items were transported to Southwestern Georgia and Southern Alabama. You may never know first hand how much of an impact your kindness had on these folks, but trust us, it is immeasurable.



On August 30, 2018 our friends at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie/Auxiliary #4273 generously donated \$1,000 to the LCSO K-9 Unit to assist in the completion of our K-9 Training field. Our charitable community partners made these much needed facilities a possibility. K-9 Sgt. Yancy Isaacs and K-9 Zeus were present with Sheriff Grinnell to personally thank the group.



Sheriff Grinnell and the Lake County Sheriff's Charities, Inc. have once again partnered with Golden Corral to send children to Camp Corral. Camp Corral is a week-long residential camp with locations nationwide geared towards building emotional resiliency. The vast majority of the children that attend Camp Corral have a parent who is wounded, ill, or has fallen due to military service. This is just a small contribution to a huge cause. Thank you to the Jedziniak family for leading this drive to improve children's lives one at a time



