



# Nassau County Sheriff's Office Newsletter

## "Behind The Badge"

"Spotlighting the good men and women of the Nassau County Sheriff's Office"

October-December 2013

### Special points of interest:

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### Sheriff's Message

Welcome to our 2<sup>nd</sup> addition of NCSO's *Behind the Badge* newsletter.

I can't believe 2013 is almost over. This has indeed been a very busy and exciting year for our agency.

We have truly accomplished more than I ever imagined thanks to the hard work and dedication of our staff and all of the employees of the Nassau County Sheriff's Office.

I am proud of all of the men and women of NCSO; a team of devoted public servants who care very deeply about the community they serve.

Our citizens have gained great respect for the pride, enthusiasm and professionalism each employee practices as you do your job day-in and day-out.

Keeping our entire operation serving the community is no easy task, but none does it better than our dedicated team.

This year can be summarized in a few words: *In the face of significant challenges, we made significant progress.*

While there is much work to do and there may be further challenges ahead, I believe we end this year a better agency than we began.

As 2013 comes to a close, I want to take a moment to wish you and your family a safe, happy holiday season and a very happy new year.  
Please stay safe!



Bill Leeper, Sheriff



### Featured Unit of the Quarter Marine/Agriculture Unit

The Marine and Agriculture unit is uniquely combined creating a cost effective and efficient public service; aligning with Sheriff Leeper's commitment to community service.



The detectives assigned to the unit were selected for their expertise, job knowledge, skills and abilities, as well as professionalism. The assignment calls for

a level of dedication placing personal life in second.

Detective Clements served thirteen years in the United States Navy and has spent the last fourteen years committed to Nassau County, working an array of assignments beginning in patrol moving to CID and ending up in the Marine/Agriculture Unit where he also serves as a certified scuba diver.

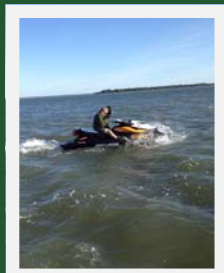
Detective Booth has spent the last eighteen years serving Nassau County beginning his career as a correction officer moving to the courthouse and on to patrol. He also served in CID, Internal Affairs, and currently in the Marine/Agriculture Unit.

Both Detective Clements and Detective

Booth are certified instructors as well as firearms instructors enabling them to assist when the need arises for training and firearms qualifications.

The needs of the Marine/Agriculture Unit, at times, become so demanding the requirement for additional assistance employs Lieutenant Hank Martinez and Sergeant Scott Gearis, who are also certified marine captains.

In addition to patrolling the waterways of Nassau County and assisting disabled vessels, the Marine Unit also assists Homeland Security, the U.S. Navy, the Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Coast Guard, Customs and Boarder Enforcement, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the



*“Ultimately, seven individuals were saved and the stranded vessel was salvaged”*

Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office. Recently, they have assisted with escorts for Navy submarines into Kings Bay and patrolled the waterways when the President of the United States visited.

With thousands of acres in the county, the need for the Agricultural Unit occurs often. They continually look for stolen vehicles,



illegal dumping, trespassing and suspicious activity on the land owners property which requires four wheel drive equipment.

Additional, the Agriculture Unit assists special events with parades, the fair, the car show as well as school career days.

Statically the unit had been involved in the following:

- ◆ 51 special events.

- ◆ 837 Vehicle/Vessel stops. (257 were boating safety checks)
- ◆ 56 arrests

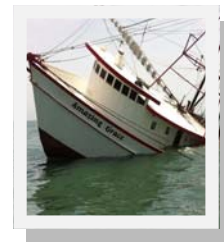
The equipment assigned to the unit, of which they maintain, consists of the following:

- ◆ 29’ Donzi Boat
- ◆ 24’ Seachaser Boat
- ◆ 20’ Angler Bay Boat
- ◆ 14’ Carolina Skiff Boat
- ◆ Seadoo Wave-Runner
- ◆ (5) Four wheelers.



- ◆ (2) side-by-sides.
- ◆ (2) Disaster Trailers.

The most recent call for service involved a water rescue off the coast of Fernandina Beach in eight foot seas. While assisting FWC they found themselves rescuing an FWC Officer who fell overboard. Ultimately, seven individuals were saved and the stranded vessel was salvaged.



*“the new chairperson for the upcoming year is our own Deputy Doc McDonald”*

## New Tobacco Free Partnership

Recently at monthly meeting of the Tobacco Free Partnership, a new chair person was nominated and unanimously voted on; the new chair person for the upcoming year is our own Deputy Doc McDonald.

Over the last several months Doc has devoted himself to assisting this organization in its awareness and enforcement efforts.

Doc also serves as our agency liaison for the NACDAC organization which also works closely with the Tobacco Free Partnership.

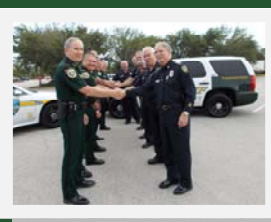
Doc’s efforts and dedication have not gone unnoticed by these organizations or his fellow coworkers.

Thanks again Doc for all of the hard work and keep making us proud!



Doc McDonald

## NASSAU/DUVAL SHERIFFS ANNOUNCE ALLIANCE TO “CATCH THE BAD GUYS”



*“If a criminal lives in Duval County, but robs a store in Nassau, we want our deputies to know they can work that case along with the JSO for the benefit of both communities,”*

Sheriff Leeper and his staff were joined by Duval Sheriff John Rutherford along with members of the JSO’s Zone 6 patrol and enforcement team, during the announcement held at the Dunn Avenue police sub-station.

The north side of Jacksonville/Duval County shares a border with Nassau County, and includes highly travelled roadways such as US 1, I-95, US-17 and Heckscher Drive. Nassau County also borders Georgia to the north. The *Cops Without Borders* cooperative policing agreement already exists between Clay

County and Duval.

The *Cops Without Borders* policing program stemmed from the creation of the Southeast Law Enforcement Alliance Project (LinX), a shared law enforcement database created with funding from NCIS and used by agencies throughout the region to share information about crime and criminal activity.

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with funding from the *Naval Criminal Investigative Service* (NCIS) and used by agencies throughout the region to share information about crime and criminal activity.

Clay County Sheriff Rick Beseler and Duval County Sheriff John Rutherford launched *Cops Without Borders* between Clay and Duval in 2007, so that Clay deputies and JSO officers could expand their partnership. Commanders routinely sit down and discuss cases where suspects are living in one jurisdiction and committing crimes in the adjoining county, for example.

Continued from page 2

### “NASSAU/DUVAL SHERIFFS ANNOUNCE ALLIANCE TO “CATCH THE BAD GUYS”

One example of the agreement is in the event of a pursuit, when the suspect crosses the county line. Officers can follow the suspects into the adjoining county, quickly notify the local authority, get assistance if needed, and then make the arrest in the other jurisdiction. They can return suspects for questioning that have been located in the next county, as well.



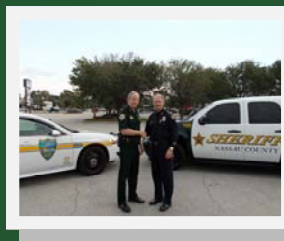
“I am very pleased that we could take this proven concept of policing for the good of the entire area and expanded it to our law enforcement partners in Nassau County,” said Sheriff John Rutherford.

“The bad guys don’t have geographic boundaries. They don’t stop at the county line and rethink their actions...so *Cops Without Borders* is a powerful way to implement the many policing tools and intelligence, and use it cooperatively, with colleagues in neighboring counties,” Rutherford said.

“I like the idea that no matter where you live – if you commit crime in the area – we can investigate and

share that intelligence easily and ultimately, we can come get you,” said Sheriff Leeper. This program is similar with the partnership recently developed between NCSO and Fernandina Beach Police Department.

Officers are meeting regularly to share information and tactics to get the guns, drugs and the criminals who use them. “For the lawbreakers, the message is when you cross the line, so will law enforcement in Nassau or Duval counties” Leeper added.



Sheriff Leeper & Sheriff Rutherford

### Nassau Deputies capture notorious ‘cat burglar’...

Nassau Sheriff’s Deputies captured one of the nation’s most notorious cat burglar in Hilliard, Florida after being notified by Tennessee, Georgia and South Carolina police authorities he might be in the area.

“Blane David Nordahl, 51, from Jacksonville, was arrested on two warrants out of Atlanta, Georgia after he showed up at the Canterbury Apartments in Hilliard to meet his girlfriend’s daughter.

After a short foot pursuit, he was arrested and booked into the Nassau County Detention Facility with no bond. The Warrants were for “Burglary with Intent to Commit a First Degree Felony” and “Conspiracy to Commit a Felony” Sheriff Bill Leeper said.

Blane David Nordahl, known as “The Silver Thief” and “Burglar to the Stars”, made his living pilfering expensive silver items, from fancy homes across the East Coast of America. He is believed to have netted \$3 million in around 150 burglaries throughout his criminal career.

Despite his professional approach to burglary, he has been caught numerous times and served an eight year sentence after being convicted of stealing \$50,000 worth of silver cutlery from the home of Ivana

Trump.

Other notables he stole from were Sportscaster Curt Gowdy and Musician/Singer Bruce Springsteen.

In a burglary typical of his modus operandi, he would approach a target house at night while the owners were asleep and carefully remove panes of glass from a French door, thus avoiding any alarms that may be triggered by picking the lock. He would even sometimes sneak past sleeping dogs. When all alarms were disabled, he would remove entire drawers full of silver items and take them outside to test them with his own silver test kit; plate silver would be thrown away at the scene and he would leave with only the finest and most expensive items.

Nordahl would steal an average of around \$20,000 worth of silver in a single burglary.

“Nordahl mainly stole silver because it is usually kept in the kitchen and dining areas, which made it easier to take and not disturb anyone in the home” said Leeper.



Blane David Nordahl  
“The Silver Thief”

*“his modus operandi, he would approach a target house at night while the owners were asleep and carefully remove panes of glass from a French door”*

## Additional Accomplishments since January 2013...

Re-negotiated Health Services contract at the Detention facility.

Created new Non-emergency telephone lines for the west side of the county.

Conducted Active Shooter training for Nassau County supervisors.

Conducted the first ever competitive promotional exam for Lieutenant.

Completed adding additional security measures around the Administration complex.

Continued additional training in every area of agency.

Completed re-accreditation assessment within the law enforcement area of NCSO.

Conducted fundraising for NCSO Charities, Inc. through the Sheriff's Shootout clay target shooting tournament.

Developed a new training/meeting center with donated trailer from Marines from Blount Island.

Conducted our Shop with Cops program at Walmart and Target.

Donated old computers to Hilliard Jr/Sr High School.

Sold several old and unwanted vehicles at auction.

Developed a new decal package for patrol cars instead of painting the vehicles, which will save money to purchase other much needed equipment for deputies.

Developed and scheduled our first Law Enforcement Citizens Academy.

## Advancements in equipment...What's New?

### In-car Cameras

We are currently conducting trials with three in-car camera manufacturers seeking to upgrade the outdated system currently being used.

Thus far, there has been very positive feedback regarding a particular systems video quality, automatic upload, and expandability to a body camera. We will continue to evaluate the systems, rendering a decision in the very near future.

### Vehicle Replacement

With the start of the new budgeted year you probably have noticed the new patrol vehicles on the road.



The life end of the current vehicles has been at or over the 200,000 mile range. We have found, through a cost benefit analysis, that the up keep and maintenance becomes cost prohibitive. We will be purchasing the Caprice & Tahoe Police Patrol Vehicles (PPV).

The price difference between the Caprice and Tahoe is minimal, not to mention the gas mileage variance is within two to three miles per gallon.

An immediate advantage is the ability to put a Tahoe in an area where off-road conditions prevail.

You will notice the new appearance that Sheriff Leeper approved adds to the cost



savings by not having to paint each vehicle. The reflective striping enhances safety not only to each deputy, but also for every passing vehicle alike.

### Building Security

Surely you have noticed the new security measures that have recently been implemented!

What started out as an upgrade in the facility security for accreditation purposes has a long lasting effect; portability!

Lets start with the controlled access for vehicular traffic. Installing the gate

closer has created a deterrent to unauthorized vehicles.

The addition of the camera and card reader system allows for activity in and around the facility to be observed and captured. More importantly, the system is designed with the future administrative building in mind.



With the exception of the hard wire each mechanism can be relocated to the new facility when the time comes. Strict care was taken to not over install devices and while obtaining necessary security so that there is minimal cost associated with the re-install.



This exemplifies the goal of operating the NCSO in the most efficient and effective manner that the citizens expect.

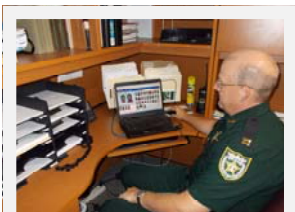
## Crime Fighting Advancements...Facial Recognition Program

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office has obtained a facial recognition system with the assistance from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office through a \$3.5 million grant that the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office received from the U.S. Department of Defense.

Facial recognition is one of the most powerful new technologies being used by law enforcement. By using facial recognition on a pre-booking image, deputies have the ability to compare the suspect's face against the 5,000,000 images already in the database and match the image to the correct identity should the suspect provide false information.

On a typical day the Sheriff's Office will deal with individuals such as: a man arrested for disorderly conduct; an inmate awaiting release from the detention facility; a thief who has used the identities of his

victims to gain access to their finances; and the screening of wanted criminals, etc.



Captain Greg Foster

By using the facial recognition program, deputies can conduct a face recognition search wirelessly to determine if the individual has been previously arrested. As a result, deputies can immediately determine if an individual being questioned has a prior criminal record and/or is wanted in order to make a necessary arrest on the spot.

The NSCO has found the face recognition program to be an invaluable tool in providing quick

and accurate identity information on individuals, allowing officers to correctly identify even the most uncooperative suspects and conduct more efficient investigations.

The NCSO has partnered with other state and local agencies in Florida to maximize the effectiveness of the system. Some of the agencies participating include:

- Florida Department of Corrections •
- Hillsborough County SO •
- Miami Dade PD •
- Orange County SO •
- Leon County SO •
- Duval County SO •
- Hernando County SO •
- Polk County SO •
- Pasco County SO •
- Sumter County SO •

## "Sheriff's Shootout" a success...

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office 1<sup>st</sup> annual NCSO Charities, Inc. *Sheriff's Shootout* was held on Friday, November 8, 2013, at the Amelia Shotgun and Sports in Yulee, Florida.

More than 50 shooters squared off in a battle to outshoot Sheriff Bill Leeper and other local community leaders.

After a brief safety talk by Amelia Shotgun staff, teams began their quest to shoot up to 70 flying clay targets at 10 different stations around the facility.

The top two teams and top & bottom individual overall scorers were recognized with trophies. The top team scored 268 hits out of a possible 280 and the top scorer had a perfect score of 70.

NCSO Charities, Inc. is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization whose main goal is to assist children and families in need within Nassau County.

The following results identify those individuals.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team:



- Skip Gwinn
- Lance Day
- Philip Teague
- Mitch Kinsey

### High Score:

- Wayne Chism



I would like to thank Larry Boatwright, all of the participants and volunteers that made this event a success!

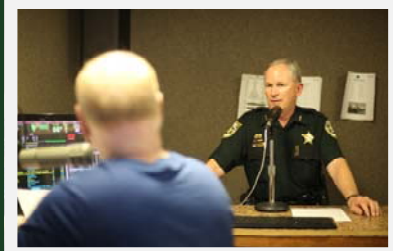


Eric Lazo-Toilet Bowl Winner



Mike Griffin, Foy Maloy, Dr. John McClane, Mike Castner

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office has begun a partnership with WKBX (K-Bay 106.3) in Kingsland, Georgia to broadcast *Nassau's Most Wanted* every Friday afternoon at 5:15 p.m. Sheriff Leeper & other NCSO members will be discussing local issues the community needs to be aware of, as well as publicizing wanted persons. The segment gives NCSO an avenue to communicate with Nassau's citizens via the radio and share common issues to those living in South Georgia and North Florida.



## Crime in the County...

### Marijuana Grow House Bust!

On October 14, 2013, Nassau County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Deputies busted a marijuana grow operation off Haddock Road in Hilliard, Florida. Deputies seized 80 plants, with an estimated street



value of \$80,000. The sophisticated grow operation was planted and maintained by Jerry Lewis Ganey, 59, of Hilliard, who was arrested for Possession of more than 20 grams of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute and Cultivating Marijuana.

### Fingerprint Identification

Patrol deputies arrested two persons in a domestic situation. The female was attempting to hide from the deputies and when questioned gave a name and dob that could not be found in any of the common databases. When they arrived at the jail,



Trooper Healy was in the sally port. He used his fingerprint identification system Rapid ID and obtained the female's identity, Cassie Lane White. It was later learned that Jacksonville had an outstanding warrant for 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder on her. It is believed that she killed her boyfriend on Barth Rd. in Jacksonville on



Sep 2<sup>nd</sup> of this year. Additionally, two JSO homicide detectives were able to question her about the homicide. Great example of interagency cooperation.

### Parent Education on Criminal Activity

Sheriff Bill Leeper is proud to announce that the Nassau County Sheriff's Office will be hosting the first ever Parent Education on Criminal Activity (PECA) session in Nassau County.

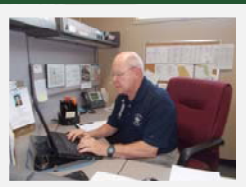
The session is intended to provide parents of school age children with basic knowledge on a wide range of topics which include drug usage, tobacco and alcohol usage, gang activity and general criminal activity. The presenters of this session hope that the information provided will enable the attendees to identify potential problems within their household and in the public.

The information presented during the session will be provided by:

- The Nassau County Sheriff's Office (NCSO).
- Nassau Alcohol Crime and Drug Abatement Coalition (NACDAC)
- Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).
- Tobacco Free Partnership (Nassau County Health Department).

The first PECA session will be held at the West Nassau High School cafeteria on October 28, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. Light refreshments will be provided and the session is open for the general public to attend.

"It is important to realize that it takes a combination of effort from parents, schools, law enforcement and the community to effectively keep children and adolescents drug/alcohol/tobacco and trouble free", said Sheriff Leeper.



JULIAN "BUZ" STEVENSON

### **The Justice Coalition recognizes NCSO Volunteer for Legacy Award**

On October 3, 2013, Julian "Buz" Stevenson was recognized as a Legacy Award winner at the Justice Coalition's Annual dinner. Buzz has volunteered his time, talents, and training with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office for almost four years and during this time has been assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division as an Intelligence Officer liaison. His extensive background in the intelligence field, which includes military and civilian federal intelligence, serves as an important asset to the Criminal Investigations Division and the Narcotics Unit. He works to provide the Investigators with the most current trends, officer safety issues, and legal matters pertaining to the criminal element of society. He also extends this service to the uniform divisions of the NCSO, showcasing his extreme respect and concern for the men and women who serve the public. He has been instrumental in building a tracking system within the Criminal Investigations Division in relation to registered sexual offenders & predators residing in Nassau County. With his assistance, this program has streamlined the procedures allowing detectives to work in conjunction with the Florida Department of Correction's Probation and Parole Department to ensure the safety of the community. NCSO proudly acknowledges him for his tremendous efforts as a volunteer.

## United Way Kick-Off Breakfast...

NCSO employees attended the United Way Kickoff breakfast event at the Fernandina Beach Recreation Auditorium on October 23, 2013.

Representing the Sheriff's Office was Deputy Jenny Wright, Dispatcher Josh Reed, Civil Clerk Linda Starr and Crime Analyst Keisha Tucker.

Deputy Wright was a lucky winner of free ice cream by having the winning raffle ticket!



## Citizens Academy...

Sheriff Leeper has announced a new Citizens Law Enforcement Academy (CLEA), an educational, informational and informative program which allows citizens the opportunity to learn about the issues that face law enforcement in Nassau County.

The ultimate goal of a CLEA is to educate the community, build a partnership and reduce crime; the concept is an extension of the goal of Community Policing.

**The general objectives of our Civilian Law Enforcement Academy (CLEA) are to:**

- Dispel misconceptions of how the Sheriff's Office operates by explaining our procedures and why the agency functions the way it does.
- Create "community ambassadors" who will take information from the CLEA and spread positive information to their neighbors.

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office will host a Citizens Law Enforcement Academy class semiannually. The program is informational only and does not train or promote citizens to act in a law enforcement capacity.

Classes will include a tour of NCSO's facilities, patrol operations, traffic enforcement, hostage negotiations, vice and narcotics, crime scene investigations, corrections, and 911 communications dispatch. Students will also watch a K-9 demonstration and visit the firearms range to take part in weapon safety training.

The CLEA graduate will glean the knowledge desired to become a volunteer for the Nassau County Sheriff's Office.

To be eligible to attend the Civilian Law Enforcement Academy (CLEA) you must:

- Reside in or be employed in Nassau County.
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Have no felony convictions and no misdemeanor convictions in the last 3 years.
- Possess a valid driver's license or other form of government ID.
- Complete an application.

Anyone interested in becoming an informed member of the community is encouraged contact the Nassau County Sheriff's Office Human Resources Department or Larry Boatwright at [lboatwright@nassauso.com](mailto:lboatwright@nassauso.com) for more information.

## October-December 2013 Birthdays...

### October 3<sup>rd</sup>

Stephen Jones  
Chauncey Mason  
Melissa Sutton

### October 4<sup>th</sup>

Eleanor Conway

### October 5<sup>th</sup>

Elizabeth Seagraves

### October 6<sup>th</sup>

Nicholas Gaskill

### October 8<sup>th</sup>

Lisa Jones

### October 14<sup>th</sup>

Rex Randolph

### October 17<sup>th</sup>

Andrew Sasser

### October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Wayne Holt  
Joseph Livingston

### October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Jared Mallard

### October 25<sup>th</sup>

John Anstett  
Virginia Earick  
Dallas Palecek

### October 29<sup>th</sup>

Peggy Wilson

### October 30<sup>th</sup>

Tamalla Vanzant  
Marley Zodel

### November 1<sup>st</sup>

Kellam Paolillo

### November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Jeremy Austin  
Johnny Carter  
Robert Thornley

### November 4<sup>th</sup>

Brandon Schmidt

### November 6<sup>th</sup>

Casey Dopson  
Sherral Pike  
Jon Slebos

### November 7<sup>th</sup>

Ernest Eslinger

### November 8<sup>th</sup>

Mark Hunter

### November 11<sup>th</sup>

Jonathan Booth

### November 12<sup>th</sup>

Joy Edgy  
Eugene Knaga

### November 13<sup>th</sup>

Raymond Woolard

### November 14<sup>th</sup>

Larry Boatwright

### November 15<sup>th</sup>

Cedric Arline

### November 16<sup>th</sup>

Wilson Faircloth

### November 17<sup>th</sup>

Adam Fisher  
David Williams

### November 19<sup>th</sup>

Tim Cooper

### November 20<sup>th</sup>

Dorothy Hodges  
Barbara Nettles  
Ralph Revels

### November 21<sup>st</sup>

Linda Starr  
Robert Westberry

### November 23<sup>rd</sup>

Bobby Smith

### November 26<sup>th</sup>

Teresa Carter

### November 27<sup>th</sup>

Thomas Kelley

### December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Roberta Burch

### December 16<sup>th</sup>

James Hickox

### December 17<sup>th</sup>

Brianna Crews  
Juan Garcia  
Terri Williams

### December 18<sup>th</sup>

Joseph Reynolds

### December 22<sup>nd</sup>

Nicolas Thornton

### December 27<sup>th</sup>

Marcelia Robinson

### December 31<sup>st</sup>

Kenneth Homan  
Eron Thompson

**Chaplaincy Association of the Year...**

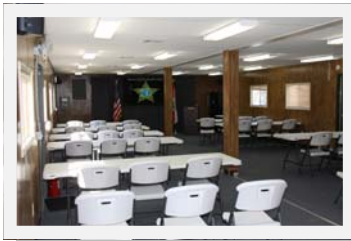
On November 11, 2013, Nassau County Sheriff's Office Senior Chaplain David Drake was presented an award for "Chaplaincy Association of the Year" by the Northeast Florida Baptist Association in Jacksonville. The Award is for Outstanding Service and Commitment to Law Enforcement Chaplaincy.

Chaplain David Drake has been the Director of Missions in the Northeast Florida Baptist Association located in Yulee, Florida since 2002. Drake has been a Chaplain with the Nassau County Sheriff's office since 2005.



**Coming Soon-More Needed Work Space...**

As many of you have observed, we have a new addition to the NCSO complex. The need for additional space evoked the utilization of community contacts which resulted in the procurement, free of charge, of the double wide office trailer.



Thanks to the generosity of the U. S. Government and Mr. Mark Davis with DDI Construction Inc., we now have a "Conference Center".

While this does not address the requirement for a hardened structure, like the future ad-

ministrative building will, it is a welcome addition.



We now have the capability to hold large group meetings, training and celebrations. The center can seat approximately seventy people, forty with tables, and has a full complement of audio visual equipment.

The next time you find yourself needing space to hold your meeting, contact Mrs. Linda Starr to reserve the location and obtain the key.



**October-December 2013 Anniversaries...**

**5 Years of Service**

- Garland Rhoden
- Chauncey Mason
- Larry Boatwright
- Jenny Wright
- Polly Hodges

**10 Years of Service**

- Wilfred Quick
- Rex Randolph
- Kay Lynn Crews

**20 Years of Service**

- Henry Martinez
- Gary Williams



### Accreditation Update ...

As you know we have been diligently working on receiving our first re-accreditation designation with the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA). October 9-11th we had a team of three assessors come in and perform a "Mock" inspection. The three assessors, Agent Tim Elder with FDLE, Major Amy Schmidt with FWC and Officer James Joiner with UNF Police Department reviewed our policies and made suggestions for improvement. They were very impressed with everyone on staff.

After following the Mock team's suggestions and advice, on December 4-6th three assessors with the CFA arrived to conduct our "Onsite" (formal) inspection. The Assessors, Chief

Michelle Morris with Sebastian Police Department, Lieutenant James Fannin with Walton County Sheriffs Office and Accreditation Coordinator, Cynthia Pugsley with Orange County Sheriffs Office spent three days carefully reviewing our policies and practices. The assessors were very complimentary of our staffs working knowledge and professionalism. They were also pleased with the efforts that all members have contributed to improving and moving our agency forward. They are presently working on their final reports for the Commission review.

While we will not officially know our status until the week of February 3rd, when the Commission hearings and voting will take place, we are anticipating that we will receive our reaccreditation sta-

tus.  
Thank you to each and every one of you for your hard work and dedication over these last few months in preparation for these accreditation inspections. Without everyone's assistance we could not reach this goal together.

At the start of the New Year we will begin going through inspections again; only this time it will be for our 2nd re-accreditation at the jail. The Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC) will send assessors to come in for three days to review our policies and procedures at our Detention Center. At this time we are anticipating that we will be holding a mock inspection the first

part of February and the official "Onsite" around the end of March. As we get closer to setting up those dates we will update you.

Again, thanks for all of your help and support!



## Safety Tip of the Quarter...

### Home Security Tips

Since daytime burglaries are becoming more prevalent, we'd like to offer a few tips to help you protect your most valuable asset, your family:

Have a plan of action should a burglar enter your home. Prepare a hiding place and an escape route. It is especially important to practice with the children—just like you would “in case of a fire.”

For the room that is designated as the hiding place, have a wedge ready to put under the door. This makes it even more difficult for a burglar to get through the door.

Teach children the proper use of calling 911. Many kids have been able to save the life of a family member by knowing how to call.

Install daylight sensor lighting

so your property is always lit up at night. Partial lighting that goes full force with motion sensors is OK too.

Put your driver's license number on EVERY item of value you would miss if taken— laptops, TVs, computers and firearms, etc. This makes them more difficult to pawn and easier to find you if they are retrieved. You can also photograph items to show proof of ownership.

Shut and lock your home and garage doors whether you are home or not. Burglars have slipped in and out of homes in a flash to take items off counters or from the garage.

**REMEMBER, your life is more valuable than your property, PLEASE be safe!**

## Employees of the Quarter July – September, 2013

### Deputy of the Quarter



Detective Jeffrey L. Stull, Jr.  
**Civilian of the Quarter**



Philip W. Davis  
**Dispatcher of the Quarter**



Jacquelynn R. Adams

### Detention Deputy Bailiff of the Quarter



Deputy Tara N. Stockling

### Supervisor of the Quarter



Michele D. Schwartz

**Next quarter Issue (January-March 2014)**  
Remember to send all items of interest that you would like posted in the Newsletter...“Behind the Badge” to [dcrigger@nassauso.com](mailto:dcrigger@nassauso.com) By March 10, 2014



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<https://www.facebook.com/NassauCountySheriff>

Nassau County Sheriff's Office  
76001 Bobby Moore Circle,  
Yulee, Florida 32097

Dispatch Emergency—911  
Non-Emergency  
904-225-5174/toll-free 855-725-2632

Sheriff's Office: Information Number  
904-225-5174; 904-548-4009  
Toll-Free 855-725-2630