

NASSAU COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Deputy Eric J. Oliver - End of Watch 11/22/2016

BEHIND THE BADGE NEWSLETTER



October–December
2016

SHERIFF'S MESSAGE

As we close out 2016, I want to thank everyone for your continued support and dedication to serve and protect our citizens in a courteous and professional manner. Preserving freedom and democracy, in a society as complex as ours, is not easy and it takes dedicated professionals to carry out our duties and responsibilities.

Over the past year we have experienced and gone through a lot together. We've experienced setbacks and disappointments, sickness and death, storms and rain, divorce and despair, and heartbreak and heartache. Going through all that together just makes us stronger as an organization made up of individuals who strive to be our best and do our best for the benefit of our community. As an agency we have also accomplished a great deal this past year, but 2017 promises to be even bigger and better.

One of the toughest challenges this year was the loss of Deputy Eric Oliver who died in the line of duty on November 22, 2016.

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office family is a courageous group of men and women who have held

each other close and supported one another during this very difficult time while never failing to protect our community. The support our citizens have shown Eric's family and our agency has been overwhelming and it makes a demanding job a little easier to do knowing our community truly appreciates the sacrifice our law enforcement officers make.

I commend all those who were involved in the planning and coordination of the funeral. It was a beautiful tribute because of your efforts. I especially want to thank Deputy Chris Walton for his heartfelt message that I know was tough to deliver, but he inspired all of us to continue doing what we were sworn to do, and that is to keep our community a safe place and great place. It is our hope that we will never have to go through this again.

Bu



MEMORIAL OF DEPUTY ERIC OLIVER

"DEPUTY ERIC OLIVER—END OF WATCH—11/22/2016"

Deputy Eric J. Oliver began his career with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office on July 1, 2009. He began in the Corrections Division as Detention Deputy and then crossed over to the Patrol Division as a Patrol Deputy on March 17, 2014.

Obituary of Deputy Eric J. Oliver, age 32, of Yulee, passed away on Tuesday, November 22, 2016.

Born in Heidelberg, Germany, he is one of four children born to Douglas Edward and Sharon Elise Drummond Oliver. At the age of 2, Eric's family returned to the states and settled in New Jersey for a brief time before moving to Fort Mill, SC. Eric was a graduate of Fort Mill High School, Class of 2001. His family moved to Fernandina



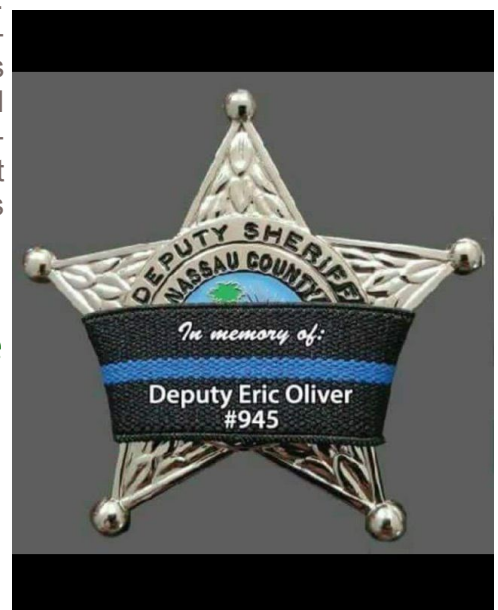
Beach in 2003 and in 2004, Eric enlisted in the United States Navy. He served two tours in Iraq as an Aviation Ordnance Technician, aboard the USS Harry Truman as well as supporting the Humanitarian Aide efforts to New Orleans after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Eric receives his honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy in 2009. Upon returning home to Fernandina Beach Eric joined the Nassau County Sheriff's Department where he served as a Deputy and First Responder to the residents of Nassau County until his passing.

Eric was an avid fan of the Florida Gators, enjoyed four wheeling, motorcycles, playing the guitar and time in the gym. Above his commitment to his profession and all of his hobbies Eric's first priority for his

life was his daughter, Shelby, and their time spent together.

Deputy Oliver had an infectious smile and will be greatly missed.

Rest in Peace - 945



THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE NCSO FAMILY OF DEPUTY ERIC OLIVER

"DEPUTY ERIC OLIVER—END OF WATCH— 11/22/2016"

The loss of Deputy Eric Oliver has been one of the darkest times in recent memory for the Nassau County Sheriff's Office.

Even though our entire agency is hurting, we are blessed to have the Nassau County Sheriff's Office family, a courageous group of men and women who have held each other close and supported one another while never failing to protect our community.

We want to say thank you to our citizens for the love and support you have shown Deputy Oliver's family, as well as our agency as we all mourn his loss. The continuous outpouring of encouragement, gratitude, and respect for him and our deputies that has come from our community and across our state and the nation has brought us the comfort and the strength needed to survive this tragedy. You all have truly touched our hearts.

We also want to thank all of the men & women from law enforcement and fire/rescue agencies who volunteered their time to assist us with the services, as well as attend the funeral. There is truly a bond between public safety professionals who work together every day to protect our residents and make our communities a safer place.

Even though this has been a difficult time for us, our community has given us something positive to build on.



All of the men & women at the Nassau County Sheriff's Office would like to thank you all for your kindness, generosity and willingness to stand with us during this time of mourning. We are fortunate to be policing in a community where there is a type of caring that you have demonstrated. It makes a demanding job a little easier to do knowing this community truly appreciates the sacrifice our law enforcement officers make.

God bless and please stay safe!

Sheriff Bill Leeper



PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER

On November 28, 2016, the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners voted 5-0 to allow the Nassau County Sheriff's Office to go forward with developing a public safety (police and fire) training center on forty (40) acres the county owns off of CR-108 in Sandhill. Director Mike Edwards will be coordinating this development and will start the planning process soon. This may take some time because we have to get the site plans together, but once we are finished, we will have one of the best training sites in the state.

This is another milestone in the history of NCSO and part of our overall plan to make NCSO a premier agency and one of the top law enforcement organizations in the state.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Nassau County Emergency Management After Action Hurricane Matthew Photo. Below are some of the men and women who worked diligently to when the Emergency Management Center was activated during Hurricane Matthew.



SHOP WITH COPS

Christmas was merrier for over 200 Nassau County youngsters who participated in *Shop with a Cop* on Dec. 8th and December 15th at the Yulee Wal-Mart with deputies and correctional officers from the Nassau County Sheriff's Office and troopers from the Florida Highway Patrol.

Shop with a Cop pairs the officers with children from low-income families with officers who treat them to a spirited day of shopping. The program creates a positive bond between the kids and officers.

"Nothing embraces the Christmas spirit more than watching children select the toys and books on their wish lists and making sure they have clothes and other necessities," said Sheriff Bill Leeper.

Each child is allotted \$100, half of which they must spend on necessities like clothing, shoes, school supplies, and other needs. The other half is reserved for toys, movies and other fun items.

The event is made possible by the support of NCSO Charities, Inc. (which holds fundraising events throughout the year), Amelia Island Concours d' Elegance Foundation, Inc., Wal-Mart, and individual donors; Chick-fil-A provided food at both events.

NCSO Charities, Inc. is a Florida Not For Profit Corporation established to organize, promote, and sponsor charitable missions and events in Nassau County.

To donate to Shop with Cops, please contact



Lawanna Ware, Treasurer, at (904) 548-4018. All donations are tax deductible.

PHILANTHROPY

The *NCSO Charities, Inc.* is a Not For Profit Corporation established to organize, promote, and sponsor charitable missions and events in Nassau County. Below are a few of the donations received:



The Amelia Island Concours de'Elegance Foundation donated \$6,200 to the NCSO's Shop with Cops program.

The Marine Corps League of Nassau County donated \$500 to the NCSO's Shop with Cops program.



Blue Knights Motorcycle Club from Brunswick Georgia donates money to NCSO Charities. Lieutenant Jon Slebos accepts a check from the Blue Knights.

OPERATION ALL THERE

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office announced the results of *Operation All There*, which was an operation to reduce illegal drug activity within Nassau County.

Over the past four months the Nassau County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Division has conducted numerous undercover drug operations throughout Nassau County. Based on these operations 24 individuals have been arrested and 6 others are wanted on outstanding arrest warrants.

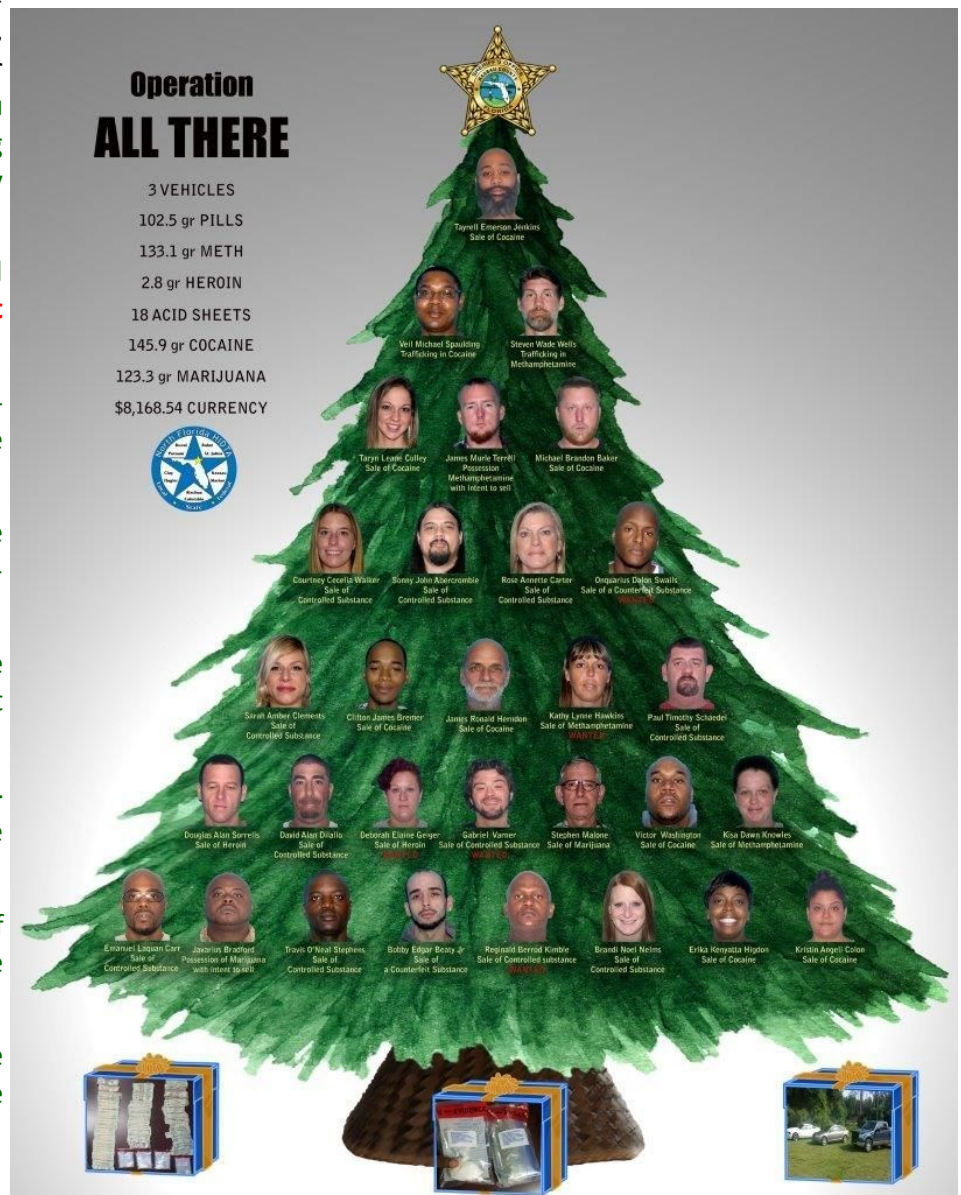
"The people who were involved in this operation are not your casual drug user," said Sheriff Bill Leeper. "These are drug dealers and repeat offenders. If we successfully remove the drug dealers and repeat offenders crime goes down."

A total of 30 people were involved for various drug-related charges during *Operation All There*. Items seized were 3 vehicles (2005 Audi A6, 2004 Ford F-150, 2006 Ford Mustang), \$8,168.54 in cash, 123.3 grams of marijuana, 145.9 grams of cocaine, 102 pills, 133.1 grams of methamphetamine, 2.8 grams of heroin, and 18 acid sheets.

"We see the destruction that these illegal narcotics reek on the homes, individuals and families within our communities," said Leeper. "If you have knowledge of someone dealing illegal drugs within Nassau County please let us know."

Numerous persons were arrested and those **wanted on outstanding arrest warrants are:**

- **Onquarius Dalon Swails** - 27 - Sale of Counterfeit Substance –Yulee (Arrest Warrant Issued)
- **Kathy Lynne Hawkins** - 50 - Sale of Meth - Yulee (Arrest Warrant Issued)
- **Deborah Elaine Geiger** - 35 - Sale of Heroin - Fernandina Beach (Arrest Warrant Issued)
- **Gabriel Abraham Dewayne Varner** - 33 - Sale of Controlled Substance - Yulee (Arrest Warrant Issued)
- **Bobby Edgar Beaty Jr** - 29 - Sale of a Counterfeit Substance – Jacksonville (Arrest Warrant Issued)
- **Reginald Berrod Kimble** - 44 - Sale of Controlled Substance - Yulee (Arrest Warrant Issued)



STOLEN WEAPONS RECOVERED

The Nassau County Sheriff's Office recovers stolen weapons. Sometime between November 23 and 28, 2016, a burglary occurred at the Cube Smart Storage Units located at 1678 South 8th Street Fernandina Beach, where several firearms were stolen.

During the course of their investigation Nassau County Sheriff's Office Detectives identified a suspect and learned of several more firearms that had been stolen from a residence on Airplane Lane in Yulee.



On December 8, 2016, Rocky Blake Nash, 31, from Fernandina Beach, was arrested for Armed Burglary, Grand Theft, and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon.

During the investigation NCSO Detectives recovered nine stolen firearms, two swords, and one knife all worth an estimated \$20,000.



Get Moving!

BENEFITS OF WALKING

ONLY 30 MINUTES OF WALKING A DAY...

- * **WEIGHT LOSS**
- * **INCREASE METABOLISM**
- * **HEALTHIER HEART**
- * **INCREASED SELF ESTEEM**
- * **TONED MUSCLES**
- * **IMPROVED SELF IMAGE**
- * **INCREASED ENERGY**
- * **STRONGER BONES AND JOINTS**
- * **RELIEVES STRESS**
- * **STRENGTHENS IMMUNE SYSTEM**
- * **REDUCING RISK OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE**
- * **GET TO ENJOY THAT FLORIDA SUNSHINE!**



FOURTH QUARTER AWARDS



SERVICE ANNIVERSARY

**SUPERVISOR OF THE
QUARTER**

SERGEANT JON HOOPER



25 YEARS

TERRY NYE

LIEUTENANT - CORRECTIONS



**INVESTIGATOR OF THE
QUARTER**

DETECTIVE TIM BEAZLEY

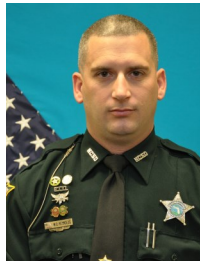
20 YEARS

RYAN VAN TASSELL

LIEUTENANT - CID

**PATROL DEPUTY OF THE
QUARTER**

DEPUTY MICHAEL REYNOLDS



15 YEARS

KATHY HALL

PAYROLL/FINANCE



**DETENTION DEPUTY /
BAILIFF OF THE QUARTER**

DEPUTY J.D. MCCRACKEN

BENITA HUBBARD
SERGEANT—CORRECTIONS

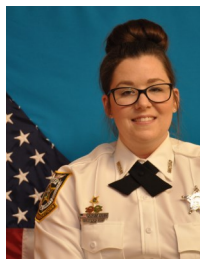
10 YEARS

NICK GASKILL

FLEET MANAGER

**COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
OF THE QUARTER**

CHELSEA BEAZLEY



5 YEARS

JOEY LIVINGSTON

DETECTIVE - CID



CIVILIAN OF THE QUARTER

SHARON TEDDER

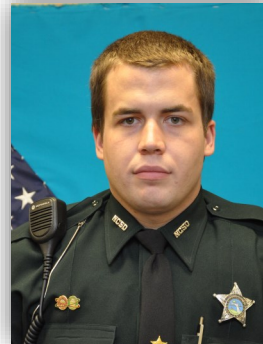
Welcome **OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS**



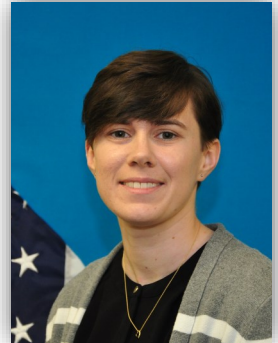
Sidney Lopez
Reserve/Corrections



Scott Clifton
Patrol



Garrett Fedderly
Patrol



Danielle Shough
Victim Advocate



JoAnn Herrington
Finance/Jail



Sharon Conway
Crossing Guard



Cassandra Floyd
Crossing Guard



Virginia Green
Crossing Guard



Cindy Nance
Receptionist



Ryan Goethe
Patrol



Jose Maldonado
Patrol



Ashleigh Harris
HR Clerk

EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

Sandra Jones	01/02
Billy Estep	01/03
Latressa Carroll	01/04
Keith Crean	01/04
Mark Delacruz	01/04
John McGrath	01/04
Ken Clements	01/05
Lawanna Ware	01/13
Nolan Chancey	01/18
Paula Deluca	01/19
Dee Gaston	01/21
KC Griner	01/22
Jonathan McCracken	01/24
Phil Davis	01/26
Jeff Stull	01/27

FEBRUARY

Kay Lynn Crews	02/03
Ryan Goethe	02/06
Robin Patterson	02/07
Philip Crews	02/08
Brian Higginbotham	02/09
Jennifer Hires	02/09
Diana Crigger	02/12
Lance McConnell	02/12
Tracy Osborne	02/13
Alyssa Fender	02/14
Rick Quiles	02/14
Jonathan Hooper	02/15
Lizandro Deleon	02/20
Tim Beazley	02/21
Troy Gill	02/23
Joann Herrington	02/23
Mark Murdock	02/25
Jenny Timberlake	02/25
Brandy Turman	02/25
Shannon Price	02/26
Carie Gatlin	02/28

MARCH

Sharon Tedder	03/01
Renee Graham	03/03
David King	03/03
Bubba Rhoden	03/05
Jeremy Hyers	03/06
Nick Carter	03/10
Charity Rose	03/10
Jayme Woods	03/10
Michelle Fillio	03/13
Rachel Sluder	03/14
Bill Anno	03/17
Nick Hamilton	03/19
Jeff Stull II	03/19
Charles Gander	03/20
Bobby Lippelman	03/21
Adam Bennett	03/22
Ashleigh Harris	03/26
Mary Mercer	03/26
Chris Walton	03/26
Winston Heron	03/27
Peter McTague	03/28
John Levers	03/29



Yesterday at 16:33 · 👤
**I will Protect the. Courthouse ,
 No matter what it takes !!!**



Answers on page 14

Guess who?

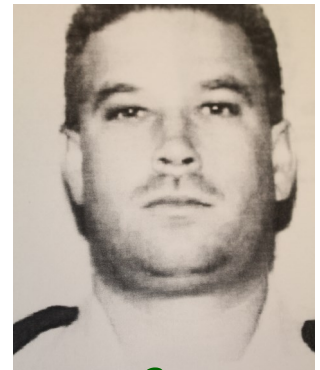


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3



Answers:

1. Captain Butch Osborne 2. Sgt. Robin Patterson 3. Sgt. Monty Wettstein

We hope that you have enjoyed this issue of the Nassau County Sheriff's Office *Behind the Badge* Newsletter! If you have articles or information for the next newsletter, please contact Diana Crigger at 904-548-4063 or by email at dcrigger@nassauso.com

As always, please stay safe!

