

Allⁱⁿ **UPDATE** NEWSLETTER

Leon County Sheriff's Office



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February 2025 EDITION

All in UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Vision

United in a spirit of teamwork, we are committed to being law enforcement's benchmark for excellence by providing World Class public safety and community services to the people of Leon County, while maintaining respect for individual rights and human dignity.

Mission

The mission of the Leon County Sheriff's Office is to safeguard the lives and property of the people we serve, to reduce the incidence and fear of crime, and to enhance public safety by working in partnership with our diverse community.



Walter McNeil, Sheriff

Stay Social

Follow us on your favorite social media sites



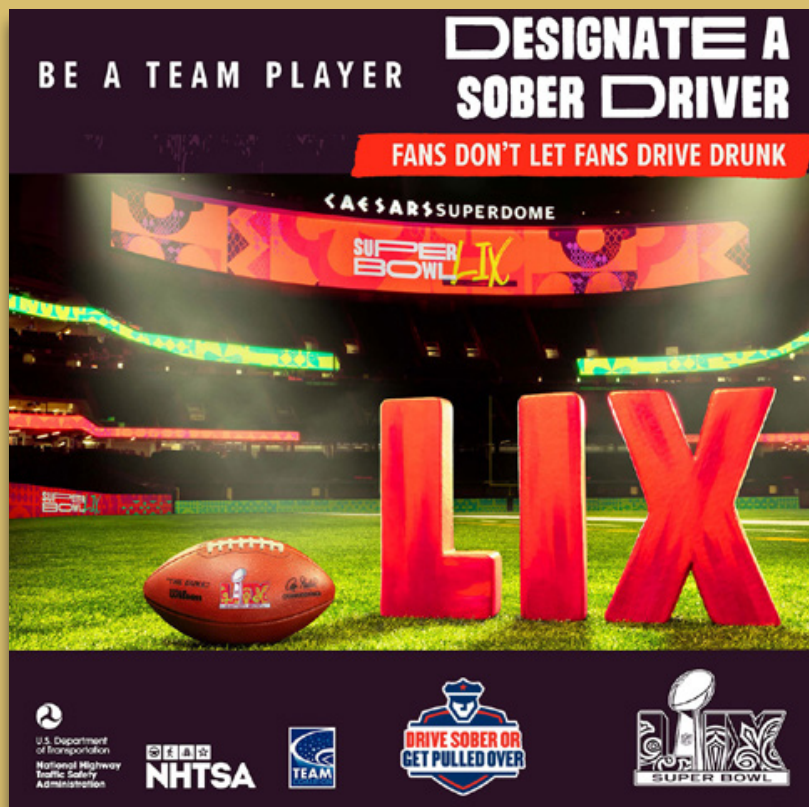
@leonflso



@leoncosheriff



@LeonSheriff



SHERIFF'S CORNER

WALTER MCNEIL

Dear Community Members,

As we welcome February, I want to take a moment to reflect on some key moments from January that showcase the dedication, resilience, and teamwork of our agency and community.

Winter Storm Enzo brought a rare sight to Tallahassee—sleet and snow. A first for many of us. While the weather created unique challenges, our deputies and additional staff responded swiftly, prioritizing emergency calls and ensuring public safety of our citizens. I'm proud to report that there were no injuries or vehicle accidents involving our team, and our [response efforts](#) helped keep our community safe during the storm.

Last month, we came together to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. A special thank you to everyone who participated in [events honoring Dr. King's legacy](#) and the values of equality and justice. Your commitment to these values strengthens our community.

Another highlight from January was the [Capital County Community Classic Basketball Tournament](#), where Team Legacy took home the championship trophy! Congratulations on an outstanding performance, and a special shout out to Team Rickards for earning silver medals after making it to the semi-finals! A big thank you to our Community Relations Team, Council on the Status of Men and Boys (CSMB), and all the sponsors who made this event a success. Your energy brought the court to life! From January 27th to 31st we hosted the American Correctional Association's Behavioral Health Certification course at the Leon County Detention Facility. This is a vital program designed for detention deputies, sergeants, lieutenants, mental health staff, and medical staff to enhance their knowledge in managing individuals with mental health challenges. See our [Facebook Live conversation](#) for more insight on this important initiative. Additionally, I want to recognize the members of Law Enforcement Leadership Class #2, who partnered with Ability First to build a mobility ramp for a local resident in need. This inspiring project, which exemplifies the power of community service and [teamwork in action](#), was highlighted on WCTV for its positive impact in the local community.

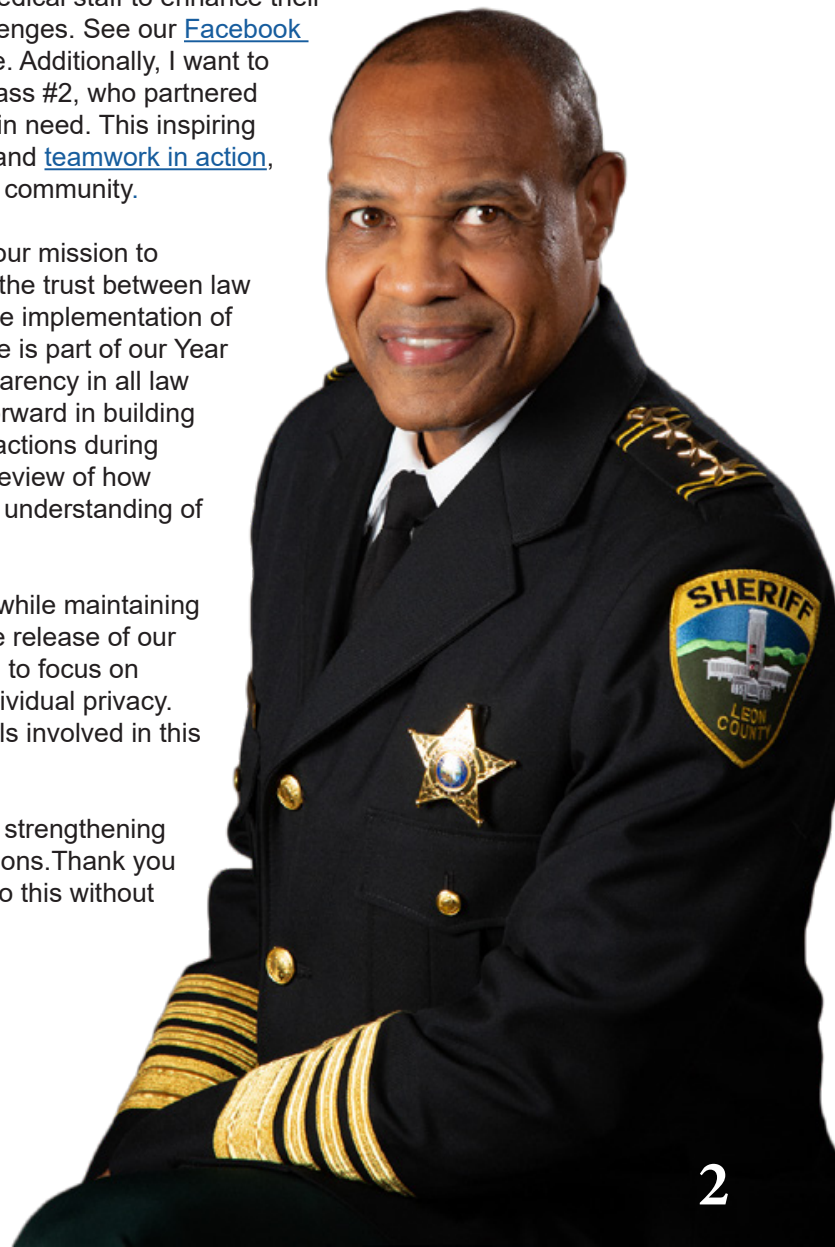
It's been an exciting start to the year, and we're continuing our mission to enhance transparency and public safety and strengthening the trust between law enforcement and our community. I'm thrilled to announce the implementation of body-worn cameras for our detention deputies. This initiative is part of our Year of Balance efforts to improve both accountability and transparency in all law enforcement interactions. The cameras are a crucial step forward in building trust with our community by providing a clear record of our actions during critical moments. Our recent [Deputy on Duty](#) gives you a preview of how these cameras will play a key role in enhancing the public's understanding of our work.

In line with our commitment to protecting individual privacy while maintaining transparency, we have made the decision to discontinue the release of our daily booking report on social media. This change allows us to focus on sharing critical public safety information while protecting individual privacy. Read our official press release [here](#) to learn about the details involved in this decision.

Looking ahead, I'm excited about the continued progress in strengthening our public safety efforts and deepening community connections. Thank you for your continued support and engagement—we couldn't do this without you.



Sincerely,
Walter McNeil
Sheriff of Leon County





Kindness Challenge 2.0

Let's show kindness to every corner of our community!
Tell us about events happening across the county that need support.

Local Events We Are Supporting



Pensacola Street Community Clean-up
Saturday, February 15th, 9AM-12PM



DJ Demp Day: A Day of Giving
Thursday, February 20th, 3PM-6PM



Tip-A-Cop Event (Texas Roadhouse)
Wednesday, March 19th, 3:30PM-8:30PM

Visit our [website](#) for more details about each event.

Join The Challenge
Make a Difference in the Community

Drawing a Path to Rehabilitation at the Leon County Detention Facility: Inmate Art Program Spotlight

In a quiet corner of the Leon County Detention Facility, creativity flourishes. The Passport to the Arts, inmate art program is doing more than producing beautiful works of art—it is reshaping the lives of incarcerated individuals, one sketch at a time.

Recently, art program instructor Kimolyn Ferrell introduced a new initiative to spark engagement: The 2024 Fall Art Competition. Twelve talented participants submitted 19 captivating artworks, competing in four categories: Portrait, Landscape, Animals, and Real-Life Activity. Equipped with just two 11x14 inch sheets of paper, a pencil, and an eraser, participants had two weeks to bring their visions to life. Their work was then judged by community members and art instructor Ferrell. The competition served to reinforce a valuable connection between incarcerated individuals and the community. Competition winners received certificates, additional paper and art supplies, and, most importantly, recognition for their talent and dedication.

Launched in 2014, the art program enrolls over 65 male inmates annually, with female inmates joining for the first time in Fall 2024. Designed as a constructive outlet for self-expression, the Passport to the Arts program equips participants with skills they can carry beyond incarceration. Beyond creativity, the program fosters personal growth, communication, and a sense of accomplishment.



Art student in the Passport to the Arts program at the Leon County Detention Facility.



Art program instructor, Kimolyn Ferrell, holds up artwork to students in the Passport to the Arts program.



Passport to the Arts program instructor Kimolyn Ferrell directs students on their art projects.



Close up of a student's painting in Passport to the Arts program.



Students working on art projects in the detention facility art classroom.

At the Leon County Detention Facility, the impact of the art program extends beyond the classroom. Participants have exhibited calmer demeanor, developed a stronger sense of self-worth, and engaged in meaningful discussions about personal growth and reintegration. Mr. Ricky Morrell, a program participant and 2024 first place competition winner, described the class experience as a journey of self-discovery:

"We enjoy being in the art program, and many of us re-enroll to enhance our skills and become better artists. Mrs. Ferrell is a great teacher and has helped many of us uncover talents we never knew we had."



Citizen's Academy Class 45 members admire artwork made by students in the Passport to the Arts program during a detention facility tour.

Participants artwork is proudly displayed our facility hallways—offering visitors a glimpse into the creativity and potential within the walls.

The Leon County Sheriff's Office has also shared highlights from the competition on our [social media platforms](#), where the community celebrated the participants' talents and growth. To see the Passport to the Arts program in action, watch our "[Deputy on Deputy](#)" feature on YouTube, where we go behind the scenes with Instructor Kimolyn Ferrell and the winners of the Passport to the Arts competition.



Executive Director Shonda Knight and Passport to the Arts program instructor Kimolyn Ferrell speaking with the winners from the 2024 Fall Art Competition winners [live](#) from the Leon County Detention Facility art classroom.

This inmate program is just one of the many initiatives at the Leon County Detention Facility aimed at equipping incarcerated individuals with transferable skills, preparing them for successful careers, and helping them transform their mindsets.

We are proud to support these efforts and we are truly grateful for the community's encouragement in fostering personal growth and rehabilitation.

LCSO HIGHLIGHTS



Deputy Philip Pepper is selected as Sworn Law Enforcement Employee of the Month for February 2025.

Congratulations to Deputy Philip Pepper for being selected as the Leon County Sheriff's Office Sworn Law Enforcement Employee of the Month for February 2025.

Deputy Pepper joined LCSO in November 2020 as a Detention Deputy in the Housing Unit before transitioning to the Uniform Patrol Division in June 2023. Sergeant Matt Sears nominated Deputy Pepper for Employee of the Month for his dedication and proactive policing that recently led to the identification of a serial car burglary suspect in northwest Leon County.

In October, a string of vehicle burglaries occurred in the Lakeshore Drive area. After an intelligence bulletin was issued with surveillance images of a suspect on a scooter, Deputy Pepper took the initiative to review the case details before his shift. On November 4th, while on patrol, he spotted a suspicious individual matching the description and conducted a stop. While there was no immediate probable cause for an arrest, he thoroughly documented the interaction and alerted investigators.

The next morning, another burglary occurred nearby, and with the information provided by Deputy Pepper, the Criminal Investigative Division (CID) gathered enough evidence to charge the suspect with multiple vehicle burglaries. His keen awareness and commitment to solving crime directly contributed to stopping the crime spree in the area.

For his outstanding work and dedication to keeping the community safe, Deputy Pepper is well deserving of this recognition.



Detention Deputy Katrina Williams is selected as Sworn Detention Facility Employee of the Month for February 2025.

Congratulations to Detention Deputy Katrina Williams for being named the Leon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Sworn Detention Employee of the Month for February 2025.

Deputy Williams began her LCSO career in 2003, serving as a Detention Technician before becoming a Detention Deputy. Known for her leadership, consistency, and dedication, she has made significant contributions in both the Classification and Housing Units.

Nominated by Sergeant Kierra Blakely, Deputy Williams was praised for her reliability and strong work ethic. Captain Dent highlighted her positive attitude, adaptability, and willingness to take on challenges, particularly during a recent staffing reassignment in Housing. Her role in reopening the Annex demonstrated her commitment to ensuring a smooth transition for detainees.

Beyond her daily responsibilities, Deputy Williams was selected to serve as an advisory team member for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), contributing her expertise to the Correctional State Officer Certification Examination. She recently completed training for this role and will serve a three-year term beginning in 2028.

Deputy Williams's dedication, resilience, and professionalism continue to earn the respect of her colleagues, leadership, and detainees alike. LCSO is proud to recognize her outstanding contributions and looks forward to her continued success.

LCSO HIGHLIGHTS



Bailiff Technician Shawndreal Smith is selected as Non-Sworn Employee of the Month for February 2025.

Congratulations to Bailiff Technician Shawndreal Smith on being selected as LCSO's Non-Sworn Employee of the Month for February 2025!

Ms. Smith has been a dedicated member of the Leon County Sheriff's Office since 2001, serving in multiple roles, including victim advocate, communications officer, civil process server, and now as a Bailiff Technician in the Bailiff Unit.

Recently nominated by Bailiff Deputy Robert Hamby, Ms. Smith was recognized for her outstanding logistical and communication skills in coordinating the courthouse's demanding schedule. She ensures seamless courtroom operations while fostering a positive and supportive environment for her colleagues. Known for her kindness and professionalism, Ms. Smith's dedication embodies LCSO's mission and values.

We are grateful for her commitment and congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH!



For their hardwork and dedication, each Employee of the Month recipient receives personal recognition from the Sheriff and Command Staff and is awarded an Eddie Bauer tote bag, a \$25 VISA gift card donated by Loyalty Credit Union, a \$20 Red Rapid Car Wash Gift Card, a \$10 Chick-Fil-A and Mission BBQ Gift Card, a Select-A-Gift Card, 8-hours of annual leave, and premium front row parking at the LCSO administration building or Detention Facility!

WE EXTEND A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL PARTNERS: LOYALTY CREDIT UNION, RED RAPID CAR WASH, MISSION BBQ and CHICK-FIL-A FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS.

IF YOU OR YOUR ORGANIZATION IS INTERESTED IN DONATING TO OUR MONTHLY EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS, PLEASE EMAIL KRISTI GORDON AT gordonk2@leoncountyfl.gov.



NOW HIRING
LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DETENTION



**JOIN OUR
TEAM**



STARTING SALARY: \$60,000

**Up to \$76,006 for Sworn Law Enforcement and
Detention Deputies with Prior Experience.**

- ACADEMY SPONSORSHIPS
- 20 YEAR STEP PLAN
- TUITION ASSISTANCE
- REWARDING CAREER PATHS
- SPECIALTY TEAMS SUBSIDIES
- WORLD CLASS TRAINING and EQUIPMENT
- RESIDE IN LEON, GADSDEN, JEFFERSON, LIBERTY, or WAKULLA COUNTIES in FLORIDA
- RESIDE IN GRADY or THOMAS COUNTIES in GEORGIA
- \$5K STATE INCENTIVE BONUS for NEW LEOs
- TAKE HOME AGENCY VEHICLES FOR LEOs
- EXCELLENT BENEFITS

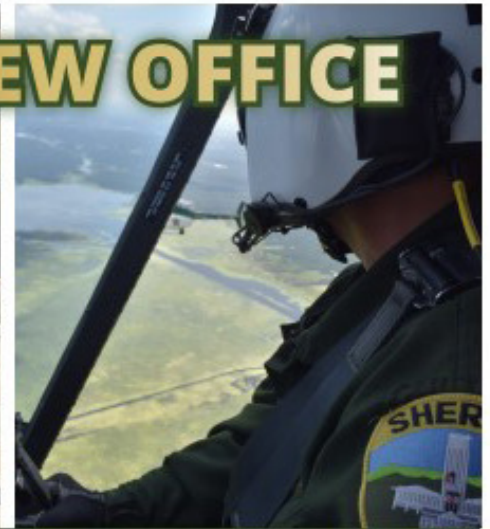


SCAN THE QR CODE for more information and to contact a recruiter,
or VISIT [LEONCOUNTYSO.COM/JOINOURTEAM](https://leoncountysos.com/joinourteam)

THE LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
THAT IS COMMITTED TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN THE WORKPLACE.

ALLin⁸
Working together to make Leon County safer

THIS COULD BE YOUR NEW OFFICE



One-Time Payment

UP TO \$5,000 BONUS
for New Florida Law Enforcement

\$1,000 TOWARDS EDUCATION
for basic recruit training program

UP TO \$1,000 OF EQUIVALENCY TRAINING COSTS
for certified law enforcement officers who relocate to Florida
or members of the special operations forces who become
full-time law enforcement officers

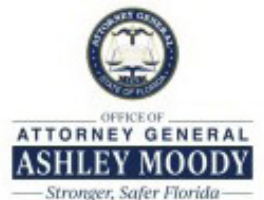
EXEMPTION FROM BASIC SKILLS TEST PREREQUISITE
for Veterans and applicants with an associate degree or higher
to enter a law enforcement officer basic recruit training program

 **UP TO \$25,000 FOR BEING HOMETOWN HEROES**
first time home buyers

NEW FAMILY FRIENDLY INCENTIVES

- Children of law enforcement officers eligible to receive a **Family Empowerment Scholarship** to attend a private school
- Officers who adopt a child from within the state child welfare system will receive a benefit up to **\$25,000**

BE A FLORIDA HERO



WANTED

To remain anonymous and possibly be eligible for a cash
reward up to \$5,000, call Big Bend Crime Stoppers at:

(850) 574-TIPS (8477)

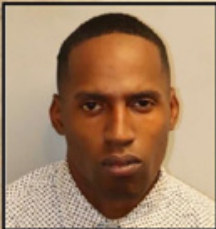
See Something, Say Something



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
2825 Municipal Way, Tallahassee, FL 32304
Phone: (850) 606-3300



WANTED



Name: Edward W. Lee III
Age: 31 years old
Height: 5'04"
Weight: 150 lbs

Subject is currently wanted for:

Fraud-Swindle Obtain Property Under \$20,000
Grand Theft (\$750 or More)



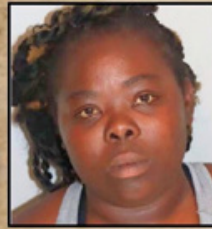
To remain anonymous and possibly be eligible for a cash
reward up to \$5,000, call Big Bend Crime Solvers at:
(850) 574-TIPS (8477).

As of 01/08/2025

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
2825 Municipal Way, Tallahassee, FL 32304
Phone: (850) 606-3300



WANTED



Name: Jamiesha Calhoun
Age: 35 years old
Height: 5'02"
Weight: 253 lbs

Subject is currently wanted for:

Fraud Failure Redeliver Hired Leased
Property \$300 Or Over



To remain anonymous and possibly be eligible for a cash
reward up to \$5,000, call Big Bend Crime Solvers at:
(850) 574-TIPS (8477).

As of 01/15/2025

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
2825 Major James Morgan Jr. Way, Tallahassee, FL 32304
Phone: (850) 606-3300



WANTED



Name: Frederick E. Strain
Age: 58 years old
Height: 6'00"
Weight: 180 lbs

Subject is currently wanted for:

Dealing in Stolen Property
Defrauding A Pawnbroker
Felony Theft



To remain anonymous and possibly be eligible for a cash
reward up to \$5,000, call Big Bend Crime Solvers at:
(850) 574-TIPS (8477).

As of 01/22/2025

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
2825 Major James Morgan Jr. Way, Tallahassee, FL 32304
Phone: (850) 606-3300



WANTED



Name: Reginald Tyrese Burden
Age: 30 years old
Height: 5'09"
Weight: 140 lbs

Subject is currently wanted for:

Possession of Controlled Substance



To remain anonymous and possibly be eligible for a cash
reward up to \$5,000, call Big Bend Crime Solvers at:
(850) 574-TIPS (8477).

As of 01/29/2025

Sexual Predator Notification



These address update notifications are required by Florida Statute!

For more information and to sign up for alerts: www.leoncountysos.com/departments/criminal-investigations/sex-offender



Leon County Sheriff's Office SEXUAL PREDATOR NOTIFICATION

Florida Department of Law Enforcement - Sexual Offender / Predator



THEODORE HUDSON JR
Date of Image : 01/03/2024

Adjudication Date: 2002

Primary Information	
Designation :	Sexual Predator
Name :	THEODORE HUDSON JR
Status :	Released - Subject to Registration
Dept of Correction# :	055458
Date Of Birth :	10/23/1944
Race :	Black
Sex :	Male
Hair :	Black
Eyes :	Brown
Height :	5'09"
Weight :	260 lbs

THEODORE HUDSON JR is a sexual predator under Florida law. Positive identification cannot be established unless a fingerprint comparison is made.

Listed Address: 606 West 4th Avenue, Apt. 5, Tallahassee, FL 32303



Leon County Sheriff's Office SEXUAL PREDATOR NOTIFICATION

Florida Department of Law Enforcement - Sexual Offender / Predator



Hilton Meloy Williams
Date of Image : 08/30/2024

Adjudication Date: 2003

Primary Information	
Designation :	Sexual Predator
Name :	Hilton Meloy Williams
Status :	Released - Subject to Registration
Dept of Correction# :	194876
Date Of Birth :	02/12/1971
Race :	Black
Sex :	Male
Hair :	Black
Eyes :	Brown
Height :	6'00"
Weight :	274 lbs

Hilton Meloy Williams is a sexual predator under Florida law. Positive identification cannot be established unless a fingerprint comparison is made.

Listed Address: 6548 Damon Circle Tallahassee, FL 32304



Leon County Sheriff's Office SEXUAL PREDATOR NOTIFICATION

Florida Department of Law Enforcement - Sexual Offender / Predator



SHAY IAN LEE SMITH
Date of Image : 07/26/2024

Adjudication Date: 2019

Primary Information	
Designation :	Sexual Predator
Name :	SHAY IAN LEE SMITH
Status :	Supervised - FL Dept of Corrections
Dept of Correction# :	B80423
Date Of Birth :	04/25/1997
Race :	White
Sex :	Male
Hair :	Brown
Eyes :	Brown
Height :	6'01"
Weight :	185 lbs

SHAY IAN LEE SMITH is a sexual predator under Florida law. Positive identification cannot be established unless a fingerprint comparison is made.

Listed Address: 5785 Pine Park Circle, Tallahassee, FL 32304



Leon County Sheriff's Office SEXUAL PREDATOR NOTIFICATION

Florida Department of Law Enforcement - Sexual Offender / Predator



DAVID JAMES BROOKS
Date of Image : 01/02/2025

Adjudication Date: 2005

Primary Information	
Designation :	Sexual Predator
Name :	DAVID JAMES BROOKS
Status :	Released - Subject to Registration
Dept of Correction# :	K67317
Date Of Birth :	12/28/1968
Race :	White
Sex :	Male
Hair :	Brown
Eyes :	Blue
Height :	5'05"
Weight :	158 lbs

DAVID JAMES BROOKS is a sexual predator under Florida law. Positive identification cannot be established unless a fingerprint comparison is made.

Listed Address: 5344 West Tennessee St. Rm 104, Tallahassee, FL 32304



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE **COMMUNITY CLEAN UP**



Join us for a community street clean up!

Saturday, February 15, 2025

9am -12pm

Volunteers will meet at the Leon County Sheriff's Office.
The cleanup will take place on Pensacola Street.

All are welcome to join



A PROJECT OF
CESC
Connecting Everyone
with Special Challenges

Leon County Sheriff's Office
2825 Major James Morgan Jr. Way
Tallahassee, FL 32304





LEON COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LCSO SECOND CHANCE BUSINESS EVENT

Join the Leon County
Sheriff's Office as we discuss
second-chance hiring.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025
10 AM - 12 PM

DISC VILLAGE CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 230),
3333 WEST PENSACOLA STREET,
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32304

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- BUSINESS PLEDGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
- LEON COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY INITIATIVES
- NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES
- HEAR SUCCESS STORIES

REGISTRATION:



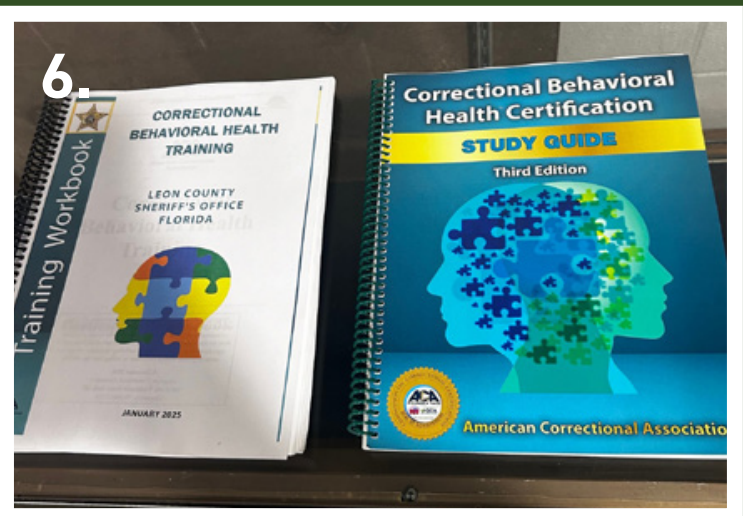
**Scan The QR Code
To Register**

CONTACT US:

For questions or more details about the event
contact, **Administrative Manager Erin Tupper.**
Email: tuppere@leoncountyfl.gov
Phone Number: (850) 591-7017.



January 2025



- 1-2. LCSO's command staff visited the New York Police Department (NYPD) to engage in insightful discussions about crime-fighting strategies and best practices.
3. LCSO Aviation Task Force conducted a joint training exercise in partnership with the TPD Tactical Apprehension and Control (TAC) team, FDLE Aviation, and the Florida State Guard. The exercise simulated a wanted person search in the Wallwood Scout Reservation area.
4. Deputy Jonathon Vaughn was honored at Deliverance Temple Ministries East Campus during their Law Enforcement Appreciation Service. Deputy Vaughn was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the community and his work with local youth.
- 5-6. Employees at the Leon County Detention Facility attended the new Correctional Behavioral Health Certification course which offered valuable tools for enhancing mental health awareness.

Outdoors in Our Community



1. The Leon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) hosted the inaugural Capital County Community Classic Basketball Tournament at Tallahassee State College in partnership with the Council on the Status of Men and Boys to engage local youth.
2. Members of the Leon County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Leadership Class #2, collaborated with Ability First to build a ramp for a local resident with severe mobility challenges.
- 3-4. LCSO was honored to take part in local Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrations commemorating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- 5-6. LCSO deputies actively monitored road conditions across Leon County during Winter Storm Enzo.

Flashback Photo of the Month

This month's featured photo captures the retirement ceremony of Sergeant Junious E. Robinson, a trailblazer in Leon County history. Hired in 1962 by Sheriff W.P. 'Bill' Joyce as the second African-American Deputy, Sergeant Robinson made history as the first African-American to retire from LCSO in 1989. His remarkable legacy continues to inspire, and he is fondly remembered following his passing on January 18, 2014.



Photo Courtesy: State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory

Pictured: Sergeant Junious Robinson and his wife Bernice D. Robinson (in white dress) at retirement ceremony in 1989.

LCSO Trivia

Multiple Choice

The Leon County Detention Facility self-help programs offers which of the following needs to assist the incarcerated population in gaining control of their lives and encouraging behavioral change?

- A. Care, Custody, and Control**
- B. Educational, Spiritual, and Transformational**
- C. Both A and B**

Last month's Question & Answer: True or False

LCSO's Hazardous Devices Team is often deployed with the Drone Team when thermal breaching methods are required and are responsible for the investigation and safe disposal of explosive devices and military ordinance.

Answer: True



Contact Us

Records Department
Records Director - Elethia Chase
Records Requests:

[https://www.leoncountyso.com/citizen-center/
records-reports-requests](https://www.leoncountyso.com/citizen-center/records-reports-requests)

Leon County Sheriff's Office
2825 Major James Morgan Jr. Way,
Tallahassee, FL 32304
Main: (850) 606-3300

Leon County Detention Center
535 Appleyard Dr.
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 606-3500

Leon County Sheriff
Warrants & Civil Division
313 S Calhoun St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301