

NEWS

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JACKSONVILLE BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
Gene Paul N. Smith, Chief of Police

September 2023



All,

The General Investigations Unit (GIU) obtained an arrest warrant for Trafficking in Illegal Drugs that began as an overdose/death investigation. Due to several risk factors, our SWAT team was utilized to arrest the suspect. A vehicle-takedown was initiated on The Greens Way, which resulted in his successful apprehension (See Facebook).

A shooting/homicide occurred in our core downtown area this month. GIU detectives and crime scene investigators were assigned to the case, and they quickly indentified a suspect and obtained an arrest warrant. Because of the nature of the charges, the SWAT team was again utilized. SWAT members contacted the suspect at her residence in Mayport and took her into custody without incident; she is charged with Murder (See Facebook).

The Traffic Unit experiment continued to produce impactful results and continued receiving great support from the community and fellow officers. They also filled in during critical incidents, providing much needed manpower because of staffing shortages (See Facebook).

Dogs are now allowed on the beach all hours of the day as long as they are leashed (See Facebook).

Air Show planning continued for the event which is scheduled this month. The show will be much shorter in duration and have less activities per the US Navy and the City of Jacksonville.

September marked the two-year anniversary of the death of Sergeant Daniel "Dan" E. Watts. Please keep him in your thoughts (See Facebook).

We assisted numerous law enforcement agencies during the Fletcher High School versus Sandalwood High School football game by providing on-duty personnel around the outside of the stadium. This was a rivalry game, and we experienced fights and disturbances in the past. Towards the end of the game, a call was received regarding a possible gunshot, which caused mass panic. There were approximately 25 officers in and around the stadium, and no officers heard any shots. Additionally, no evidence and no witnesses were located to support the allegations. Order was restored, and the game ended early.


Gene Paul N. Smith

Contact Us



904-270-1661



www.jacksonvillebeach.org



@jaxbeachpd



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