



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FCSO Introduces Therapy K-9 for Detention Deputies

BUNNELL, Fla. — The Flagler County Sheriff’s Office is excited to announce the addition of a therapy dog for the Agency’s Court and Detention Services Division. Therapy K-9 Lucy will assist detention deputies in the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility.



*Therapy K-9 Lucy and members of the FCSO Court and Detention Services Division.*

Lucy, a toy Australian Shepherd, was born on July 6, 2017. She and her handler, Cathleen Relyea, who supervises offender programs and services at the inmate facility, have been a certified therapy dog team for two years. Together, the two have participated in various community events, including FCSO’s Shop with a Cop and Joy Beyond Walls events in December 2024.

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Now, Lucy will provide comfort and support to FCSO's detention deputies.

"Detention deputies play an incredibly valuable role in keeping our community safe by keeping offenders where they should be — in the Green Roof Inn," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "The job that our detention deputies do is certainly not an easy one, and there are many unique stressors they face that come from working in a jail. That's why it is important to me that we provide emotional support in whatever way we can so that they can do their jobs to the best of their ability. I'm very excited that Therapy K-9 Lucy is a part of our Detention team and will bring many smiles to our jail staff."

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