

# Sheriff



Edward Spooner • Sheriff Okaloosa County



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## **FOUR OCSO DEPUTIES IN 13TH ANNUAL TOUR DE FORCE BIKE RIDE**

Four deputies from the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office joined 156 other law enforcement officers from across Florida today to ride bikes 54 miles from North Miami Beach to Boynton Beach. The 2010 Tour de Force police charity bicycle ride began today and will end in Daytona Beach Shores on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Officers taking part will pass through 42 law enforcement jurisdictions. Proceeds from the charity event are used to benefit the families of fallen Florida Law Enforcement Officers.

Organizers say the tour is a fully supported ride with police escorts provided by the Florida Highway Patrol, Sheriff's Departments and local Law Enforcement Agencies throughout the state. Last year over 800 law enforcement personnel participated with over 30 riders completing the entire 270-mile trek to Daytona Beach Shores. In 2009, OCSO Sgt. Jon Bush and OCSO Sgt. John Lee rode the entire trek on behalf of fallen Deputy Tony Forgione and helped raise some \$8500.00 dollars for his family.

This year four Okaloosa County Sheriff's Deputies are taking part in memory of fallen officers Deputy Skip York and Deputy Burt Lopez who were killed in the line of duty in April 2009. They are Sergeants Jon Bush and John Lee as well as Deputy Richard Cooper and Deputy David Holt. The Tour de Force event has raised over \$160,000.00 for families of fallen officers and law enforcement related organizations since it started in 1997.

To donate, please contact Sgt. Jon Bush at 651-7410.

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