

Sheriff



Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

1250 Eglin Parkway • Shalimar, Florida 32579-1234
Phone: (850) 651-7410 • Email: sheriff@sheriff-okaloosa.org

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GOOD SAMARITANS RECOGNIZED BY OCSO

Three Northwest Florida residents were recognized Thursday, January 20th by Sheriff Larry Ashley and the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office for their efforts in responding to what was first thought to be a reckless vehicle on Highway 98 on September 16th, 2010.

31-year old John Paravalos of Pensacola was heading westbound on Highway 98 near the Hurlburt Field front gate on that date when he saw a car swerving from side to side of both lanes and going into the median. Paravalos was able to place his vehicle in front of the car and force a slow stop. He then ran to the driver's door, placed the car in park, and turned it off.

43-year old Terence James of Navarre and 60-year old Richard Allen Turner of Fort Walton Beach also stopped to assist and see if the driver was in need of medical assistance.

Okaloosa deputies say the woman driving the car so erratically had in fact become disoriented due to mistakenly taking the wrong medication prior to heading home so her husband could take her to a doctor's appointment.

No charges were filed and due to the quick actions of Paravalos, James, and Turner, no one was injured.

Sheriff Ashley issued the trio "Outstanding Citizen Awards" and praised their willingness to take action to protect others and help prevent a serious accident.

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The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

"The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate"

