

# Sheriff



Edward Spooner • Sheriff Okaloosa County



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## **DEPUTY HAND DELIVERS TOYS TO CRITICALLY ILL CHILDREN**

Critically ill children in hospitals in Florida and Louisiana will have a happier Christmas due to the compassion and generosity of School Resource Officers and other deputies, students, teachers, and parents in Okaloosa County.

Okaloosa County Sheriff's Lt. Bobby Maloney is fighting his own battle with cancer. During recent visits to Cancer Care Centers, he encountered dozens of very ill children also struggling with the disease. Lt. Maloney decided to start a toy drive for these kids and enlisted the help of School Resource Officers and others at Crestview High School, Niceville High School, Ruckel Middle School, and Rocky Bayou Christian School. Carloads of toys, from baby dolls and trucks to stuffed animals and electronic games, were collected.

Lt. Maloney is hand delivering the toys to children at Ochsner Cancer Institute in Kenner Louisiana and Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute in Tampa. Maloney has already had one surgery at Ochsner and is scheduled to undergo another in Tampa but says it's the children in pain he's most concerned about.

"Who could not be called to action when you see these young kids struggling for their lives. Their parents are emotionally and often financially devastated," Maloney said. "Gathering the toys is just one way to put compassion in action and I credit the SRO's, faculty, students, and parents in Okaloosa County for once again providing for kids in need."

For more information you can contact Lt. Maloney at 850-598-1018.

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