

Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

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July 21, 2014

OCSO PRESENTED AWARD TODAY AS TOP SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER UNIT IN STATE OF FLORIDA



The Okaloosa County School Resource Officer Unit today was honored as the "Agency of the Year" by FASRO, The Florida Association of SROs. The award was presented this morning at the organization's Annual Conference in Daytona Beach.

FASRO President Jack Garman cited the commitment of Sheriff Larry Ashley and the Okaloosa County School Board, the amount and quality of programs overseen by OCSO SRO's, and the push to boost safety through training and the placement of deputies with specialized skills in the schools.

"When you look at the comprehensive nature of the program, from security to counseling, it's clear our SRO's have set the bar high and I'm incredibly proud of their dedication," said Sheriff Ashley. "From tracking sexual predators to providing Christmas gifts to needy students, I believe they are a role model for the entire state."

In addition to the presentation of the statewide award, the Okaloosa SRO's today also presented a special Leadership plaque to Supervisor Sgt.



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"



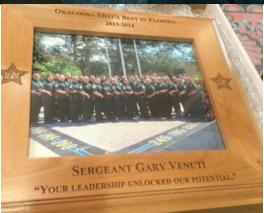
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Gary Venuti, the state's 2012 School Resource Officer of the Year. It states "Your Leadership Unlocked Our Potential".





An overview of the award-winning OCSO SRO Unit can be found on the agency's webpage at sheriff-okaloosa.org and has also been posted to the OCSO Facebook page.

http://www.sheriff-okaloosa.org/wpcontent/pdfs/newsreleases/2014/May%2015%20-%20OCSO%20Youth%20Services%20SRO%20Unit%20Overview.pdf

In addition, the video overview shown at today's event that was part of the awards package can be found at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcB35uKJ4Ps





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