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Deputies Receive Attorney General's "Back the Blue" Award

Seminole County (September 11, 2019)-Seminole County Sheriff Dennis Lemma is proud to announce three SCSO deputies are recipients of the Attorney General's "Back the Blue" award for their actions to save three people overdosing on Fentanyl.

Lt. Dwayne Kvalheim, Deputy Sheriff Caitlin Henry, and Deputy Sheriff James Hennessey responded to a convenience store in the 5500 block of Red Bug Lake Road in unincorporated Seminole County. They located individuals, two men and a woman, near a gas pump unresponsive. It became apparent all three were suffering from a severe overdose. Deputies administered the opioid inhibitor Narcan® to the three individuals and continued to render aid until EMTs arrived. All three people survived.

In addition, Deputy Henry donned a protective gas mask and rubber gloves to search a pickup truck inside which the three had been ingesting a powdery substance. Henry located a small baggie containing illegal drugs which had been laced with Fentanyl, a deadly synthetic opioid often used as a cutting agent. One of the people revived later told deputies she was not aware the substance they had ingested contained Fentanyl.

"I'm proud of our first responders' quick actions who, because of their training, were able to recognize a life-threatening triple overdose," said Sheriff Dennis Lemma. "We're grateful to Attorney General Ashley Moody for this well-deserved recognition." The Back the Blue award highlights extraordinary steps taken by law enforcement as well as everyday citizens to forge positive relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

Media are invited to a ceremony with Attorney General Moody today, September 11, at 1 p.m. at our South Region office located at 120 W. Pineview St. in Altamonte Springs. A video of this incident which took place in August 2018 can be accessed here.

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PIO Bob Kealing (bkealing@seminolesheriff.org) (407)665-6950 (407)473-4698 or

Mgr. Kim Cannaday (<u>kcannaday@seminolesheriff.org</u>) (407) 665-6978 - desk (407) 402-3319 – cell

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