NEWS RELEASE
Seminole County Sheriff's Office Crossing Guard Program Named Top in State

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The Seminole County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) today announced the selection of its School Crossing Guard Program as the 2013 "Florida School Crossing Guard Program of the Year" by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The SCSO Program took home top honors for their exceptional performance and proactive community outreach and education programs. The Program was recognized by FDOT officials at an awards banquet in Sanford. The program received the same distinction in 2011.

"We are very proud of our guards for the work they do to ensure the safety of our school children," said Sheriff Don Eslinger. "Whether rain or shine, they are there every day helping students, and we appreciate their commitment and their dedication."

SCSO crossing guards implemented a new safety program entitled "Carl's Safe Crossing Campaign" which utilizes a mascot, Carl the Crossing Bear, to teach students safe crossing techniques. The guards also hold regular "Safety Zone" campaigns, waving signs in school zone areas to remind motorists to slow down and use caution. Additionally, the guards have secured donations of bicycle helmets and cold weather clothing to provide to local students in need.

The SCSO School Crossing Guard Program has 128 crossing guards who cover posts at 35 elementary schools, 12 middle schools and one high school.

The FDOT certifies school crossing guard trainers statewide. Each year, FDOT recognizes the accomplishments of programs, guards and trainers across the state. The first Friday of each February is recognized as Florida's Crossing Guard Appreciation Day.

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