



Vol 31 Issue 1

# THE WATCH WORD

Rotonda West Neighborhood Watch  
affiliated with the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office

November 2026



## *Insights from Your Support Team*

### Police K9s In Action

A Charlotte County Sheriff Office (CCSO) deputy and K9 Unit conduct a traffic stop on a pickup truck that failed to make a complete stop at a stop sign. This routine stop quickly became a narcotics investigation when the K-9 unit alerted to the vehicle for the presence of narcotics after a free air sniff. A vehicle search resulted in the discovery of 38.5 grams of methamphetamine.

CCSO receives a report of a missing juvenile and the CCSO Bloodhound Team responds. K9 Zoe began her search after examining a scent article that belonged to the juvenile. Starting at the juvenile's last location, Zoe immediately established the trail and followed the scent through several challenging environments including heavy semi-truck traffic and rural areas. Navigating distractions and hazards in the area, including wild hogs, deer, snakes, and alligators, Zoe located the missing child near a residential property several miles from the juvenile's point of disappearance.

These are just two examples of the versatility of police K9s. The newest law enforcement application of K9s is for Electronic Storage Detection (ESD). These K9s are specialized police dogs trained to locate hidden digital storage devices like micro-SD cards, thumb drives, cell phones, and hard drives by sniffing out a specific chemical compound used in circuit board manufacturing. When evidence is hidden in hard to search places, like inside walls, these K9s can conduct thorough searches without the need to demolish parts of a room or building unnecessarily. ESD K9s are essential to locating electronic evidence related to child exploitation, human trafficking, drug trafficking and financial crimes.



### **K-9 Rocket**

K-9 Rocket is a Black Labrador who joined the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) in November 2021 after a career change from a service dog to an electronic detection K9. Rocket is assigned to FDLE's Tallahassee Regional Operations Center and assists with search warrants, victim interviews and demonstrations.

Whether protecting the public, sniffing out contraband, tracking suspects or searching for missing persons, police K9s are a key member of any law enforcement team, and provide a vital service to all those that protect us.

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From the Vice President:



## Patrol Information for September

7 Nights without patrols

7 Nights with one patrol

9 Nights with two patrols

3 Nights with three patrols

4 Nights with all 4 patrols!



**CCSO Non-emergency phone number: 941-639-2101**

**Website: <https://www.ccsso.org/>**



## September Incident Report

Sep 17 8:54pm

Patrol observed 2 small tanker trucks near 33 Medalist Rd. Base contacted the CCSO non-emergency line.

Deputy investigated and reported septic workers doing "damage control", everything checked out ok.

APPRECIATION  
LUNCHEON

**January 23rd-American Legion**

**Registration 11:30/presentations noon  
lunch 12:30pm**

**Free for volunteers and one guest**

**50/50 raffle and raffle baskets!**

**RSVP to [tslawson14836@yahoo.com](mailto:tslawson14836@yahoo.com)**

**Choice of entrée:**

**Half chicken or eggplant parm**

**Please bring a dessert if you can**

