

# THE SHERIFF'S REPORT





# SHERIFFIC NEWS

## HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF



Following the catastrophic damage from Hurricane Helene in South Georgia, our Oconee citizens came together to fill an entire tractor trailer with donations for those affected. **Special thanks to LAD Trucking Lines** for providing the trailer, which our deputies escorted to Vidalia to deliver much-needed relief to citizens in need.

## COFFEE WITH A COP

The best way to start the day is by enjoying a delicious coffee with our citizens! Thank you to Butler's McDonald's for hosting us for a wonderful morning out in the community!



## STRIPLINGS HAY BALE CONTEST

We participated in Striplings Toy Story Hay Bale Contest!

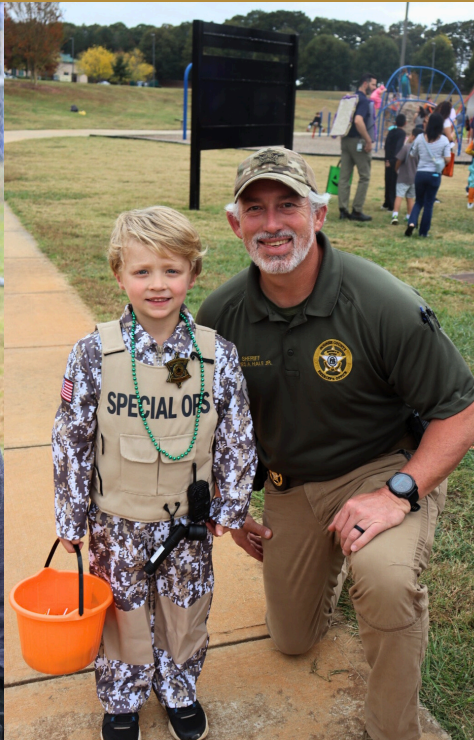
All proceeds go to ESP.



Check out our Forky!



# HAPPY HALLOWEEN



## TRICK OR TREAT TRAIL

The Sheriff looks forward to seeing the cute costumes at OVP's Trick or Treat Trail event each year! Thanks to **Lavender Pest Control** for hosting another wonderful spooky event!

## SCHOOL CROSSING

*Have you ever seen a traffic cone direct traffic?*

Lt. Brown joined the Westminster kids in their fun Halloween spirit!



## TRICK OR TREAT ON MAIN STREET

Even more Halloween fun! Thanks to everyone who stopped by to see us on Main Street! We had so much fun!





# EMPLOYEE TRAINING



## TRAFFIC STOP TRAINING



Our deputies took part in comprehensive traffic stop training, focusing on safe and effective approaches to vehicle encounters. The training emphasized best practices for situational awareness, communication, and positioning when engaging with drivers. By reinforcing these essential skills, our team is better equipped to handle every stop with caution, professionalism, and safety for all parties involved.

## JAIL SCHOOL

Officer Stewart and Officer Chavis recently completed the Basic Jail Officer Mandate Course. This is a two week, 80 hr, intensive training class to prepare jail officers for anything they may encounter on the job. We are so very proud of their accomplishment. Congrats on your certifications!



### STATE OF GA ANNUAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

20 hours of training

- 1 hour Firearms Requalification
- 1 hr Use of Deadly Force
- 1 hour De-escalation
- 2 hrs Community Policing
- 1 hr Gang Awareness
- 1 hr Human Trafficking

**Our agency exceeds  
this standard at 100%  
with an average of  
116.8 hr/year of  
training per officer.**



# SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOUNDATION DONERS

## WHAT IS IT?

*The OCSO Foundation is a certified 501c3 and registered law enforcement foundation, allowing you to deduct your donation amount from state taxes while supporting your local law enforcement agency! It's a win-win!*

*To learn more about the Foundation and how you can contribute to receive and state tax credit, please visit [ocsof.org](http://ocsof.org).*

## FIRST RESPONDERS 5K



We always have a blast at the First Responders 5k! Thanks to Georgia Home Partners for hosting another incredible fundraiser for our local heros!

## OCONEE CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The Oconee County Sheriff's Office would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Margaret Hale for hosting the Oconee Classic Car Show to benefit our agency. Her dedication and generosity brought the community together for a fantastic event, helping to raise funds that support our mission. We're grateful for her efforts and to everyone who came out to show their support!





# ABOVE AND BEYOND



## BARROW CO. PROCLIMATION

Our office had the honor of accepting a special proclamation from Barrow County in recognition of this year's tragic incident at Apalachee High School. The collaboration between our agency, Barrow County, and surrounding law enforcement agencies perfectly exhibits the family bond that defines this profession.

*Together, we are always stronger*



## CLASS SCHEDULING POINT OF CONTACTS

*If you are interested in scheduling a class with us to promote community safety and preparedness, please refer to the following contacts.*

### Car Seat Safety Checks

Sgt. Sunny Burchett  
[sburchett@oconeesherriff.org](mailto:sburchett@oconeesherriff.org)  
(706) 769-3945

### CRASE Class

Cpt. Mark Smith  
[Msmith@oconeesherriff.org](mailto:Msmith@oconeesherriff.org)  
(706) 769-3945

## ATHENS ACADEMY HOMETOWN HERO

Honored to share that Deputy Gabriel received the Hometown Hero Award from the wonderful students at Athens Academy! Thank you to these young citizens for recognizing the dedication and hard work of our deputies. We're proud to serve such a supportive community!





# OUR SCHOOLS



## SCHOOL BUS LAWS

### GA Code § 40-6-163

All drivers must stop when meeting or overtaking a stopped school bus with flashing red lights and an extended stop arm while it is loading or unloading passengers. Drivers should not proceed until the school bus resumes motion or the visual signals are deactivated.



## COMMUNITY BASED VOCATIONAL TRAINING



Proud to highlight the Community-Based Vocational Training Program at Oconee High School! This fantastic program allows special needs students to gain hands-on work experience with businesses around the community, building skills and confidence for the future. SRO Dorsey is there to support and guide them every step of the way. It's partnerships like these that make our community strong!

## MARS HILL PRESCHOOL

Deputy Richards had a blast visiting with some of our youngest community members! Mars Hill Preschool got an up-close look at one of our patrol cars and learned all about what we do at the Oconee County Sheriff's Office. From sirens to safety tips, these little ones were full of curiosity! We love opportunities like this to connect with our future deputies and teach them about the importance of law enforcement.





# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

A SPECIAL THANKS TO YOU!



OCONEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



**LET'S CELEBRATE!**

## **NEW HIRE SWEAR-INS**



**J. Hathoway**  
*Jail*



**K. Simmons**  
*Jail*

Welcome to the Oconee County Sheriff's Office!

## **MEET THE INTERN!**

- Hometown: Winder, Ga
- Academic Interest:  
Criminology
- Career Goals: Join the military
- Hobbies: Volunteering with animals, hiking and watching movies
- Fun fact: I love NCIS!

**Miley**  
*Oconee Highschool*





# COMMUNITY PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

## Four Signs That It's a Scam



**1** Scammers **PRETEND** to be from an organization you know.



**2** Scammers say there's a **PROBLEM** or a **PRIZE**.



**3** Scammers **PRESSURE** you to act immediately.



**4** Scammers tell you to **PAY** in a specific way.

*Please stay vigilant of phone/ internet scams.  
You should never provide your personal  
information or send money to someone over the  
phone without confirming their identity.*

**If you receive a scam call, please hang up  
immediately.**



# JOIN THE TEAM

# WE ARE HIRING

UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL  
APPLY NOW!



Scan code for  
job details and  
application



Oconee County Sheriff's Office

## JOB VACANCIES:

- ✓ Deputy Sheriff
- ✓ 911 Dispatcher
- ✓ Jailer

# JOIN TODAY

## Oconee County Sheriff's Office

1140 Experiment Station Rd

Watkinsville, GA 30677



*Visit Our Website*

OCONEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE