



## **STAFF REPORT**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Town Council

**FROM:** Chief Rick Thomas

**DATE:** April 1, 2024

**RE:** Police Activity

- 1) The Police Department has been busy for a few months investigating three separate sex crimes involving children. We have obtained two separate arrest warrants for our suspects. Both warrants were served, and the suspects were arrested. The third case is still under investigation.
- 2) We also received a complaint regarding the miss-treatment of an endangered adult. We investigated this case thoroughly and the state has declined to prosecute. However, the Adult Protective Services with the e State of Florida, who oversees the facility, is investigating for regulatory action.
- 3) We have recently recovered many types of drugs and several guns from traffic stops (Marijuana and Mushrooms).
- 4) Officer Hemby will be leaving us soon; he has an offer to join Lady Lake Police Department.
- 5) Recruiting is at an all-time low, we are hardly receiving any applicants. Our pay scale is no longer comparable with other local agencies. Plus, the lack of specialized units further reduces the agency's recruitment appeal.
- 6) The Fifth Judicial Circuit, Office of the State Attorney, has made the #2 spot for statewide prison sentencing stats. This simply means we are convicting more felons to state prison time. Law enforcement is doing its job and presenting good cases for prosecution.