



NEWS RELEASE



ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DALE WISE, SHERIFF
P.O. BOX 1210 GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA 32602
OFFICE (352) 367-4050 • FAX (352) 374-1816
<http://www.alachuasheriff.org>

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Prepared By: Sergeant Stephen Maynard
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Gainesville Gator Exchange Club Officer of the Year:

The Gainesville Gator Exchange Club will be recognizing Deputies Tom Latimer and Aaron Brami for their annual Officer of the Year award.

Both deputy sheriffs were involved in an incident on March 9, 2006, in which a drug-impaired driver, who was recently released from prison, was driving recklessly at a very high speed during the morning rush hour while fleeing the scene of two hit-and-run crashes. The driver was subsequently stopped by a box-in technique utilizing the deputy's patrol vehicles just two blocks away from an active school zone. Both deputies sustained minor injuries during the incident.

The quick thinking of Deputy Latimer and Deputy Brami was praised by everyone involved with the incident and their actions potentially saved the lives of the numerous children in the nearby school zone.

The ceremony will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2006, at the Paramount Resort. Friends, family and the media are invited to attend. Any member of the media that would like to participate is encouraged to contact The Public Information Bureau at the Alachua County Sheriff's Office in order to guarantee seating.