

# Press Release

**LAKE CITY**  
**POLICE**  
**DEPARTMENT**



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*Chief of Police Gerald Butler*

**For Immediate Release**

April 20, 2025

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## Officer Injured During Easter Celebration

On Sunday, April 20, 2025, at approximately 8:06 P.M., officers from the Lake City Police Department, alongside deputies from the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, were providing crowd control at a community Easter Celebration held at the Annie Mattox Recreation Center on NE Center Avenue in Lake City, Florida. The annual celebration is attended by a couple thousand people.

During the event, an altercation occurred between several attendees. As officers and deputies attempted to intervene, gunshots were fired, and one Lake City Police Department officer was struck by gunfire.

Three individuals were taken into custody at the scene and are currently being interviewed by detectives to determine their involvement, if any. This remains an active and ongoing investigation. This update reflects information available at this time.

The injured officer was transported to a nearby trauma center for treatment. He was awake and communicative with officers and paramedics during transport.

The Lake City Police Department is asking anyone who witnessed the incident or who may have video footage to contact detectives at (386) 752-4343.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, Florida Highway Patrol, Lake City Fire Department, and Columbia County Emergency Medical Services for their swift and coordinated response.



Report information anonymously by calling the LCPD TIPS line at 386-719-2068  
or Crime Stoppers of Columbia County at 386-754-7099.



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