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New tool for Martin County deputies saves lives



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STUART, Fla. — As Martin County Deputy Erin Stacey climbed into her cruiser for her shift on patrol Wednesday evening, she was bringing along, for the first time, a product called Narcan.

It's not something she'll ever use to fight crime.



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It's something she'll use to save lives.

"We'll be better able to administer first aid," Stacey told a WPBF News crew as they rode along with her on patrol.

Narcan is a product that is used to help people who have overdosed on opioids.

Deputies said this isn't just for people who use street drugs.

"We're not really just talking about heroin, fentanyl and illegal drugs," said detective Leonard DeBellis with MCSO. "We're also talking about all those prescription drugs."

Detective DeBellis has spent the last week training every member of the Sheriff's Office on how to use Narcan.

Officers with other police departments in our region also carry Narcan, but the Sheriff's Office believes its officers are the first ones to carry it in the form of a nasal spray. Other departments employ it as an injection.

Detective DeBellis showed us how simple the nasal spray is to use. He showed how you insert the tube into a patient's nostril and squeeze.

"One thing like that and you just saved a life," he said.

The plan with MCSO is to have every deputy carry Narcan every time they hit the streets.



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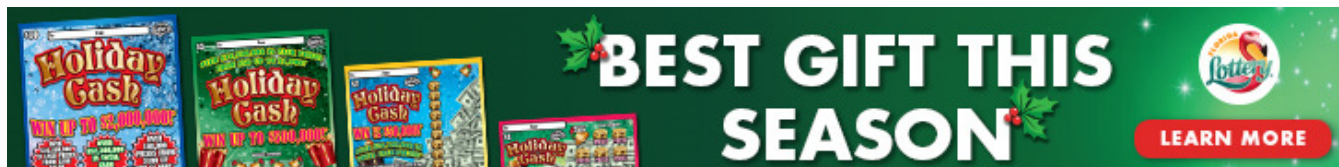
Fire Rescue has been carrying Narcan in their trucks for decades but the Sheriff's Office said its deputies are often first on scene but not able to help as much as they would like. Narcan changes that.

"More of a great deal of relief that we can help in that way, rather than just waiting on fire rescue," Stacey said.

DeBellis also pointed out how cheap Narcan is, telling deputies during their training to not be shy about using the product whenever they have to.

"If you don't really know for sure, give the Narcan," he said. "It only costs \$37.50 and it's really inexpensive to save somebody's life."

MCSO expects within two weeks to have everyone in the department trained in how to administer Narcan.



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We're bringing you the best memes of 2017 #SaltBae style



Updated: 4:54 PM EST Dec 21, 2017

Victoria Ottomanelli

Each year, the internet manages to find new and hilarious ways to communicate and make each other laugh, typically through memes. This year, we compiled a list of our favorite memes from 2017, consisting of some very popular images and videos you might be familiar with that got their start just this year.



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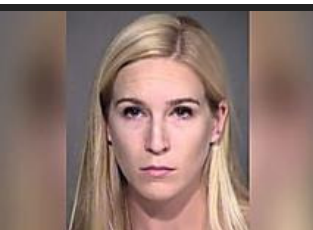
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