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**Released By: Wendy Rose**

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## **Detective Named Local Law Enforcement Officer of the Year**



From left to right, Lt. Gov. Jeff Kottkamp, Gov. Charlie Crist, Det. Kim Northfield, and FDLE Commissioner Gerald Bailey

Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight is pleased to announce that Detective Kim Northfield today was named Local Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation. She accepted the award from Governor Charlie Crist during a ceremony this morning in Tallahassee.

The objective of this day is to raise awareness of currently missing children, educate the public on child safety and abduction prevention, and recognize individuals and law enforcement officers who have made outstanding contributions in the missing children issue.

Northfield, who joined the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office in 1998, was recognized for her remarkable dedication to child abuse investigations.

"We are proud that Detective Northfield could be recognized at the State level for her tireless efforts on behalf of children," said Sheriff Knight. "Her commitment to the most vulnerable citizens in our community is exemplary."