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State Farm[®] Sponsorship of the Road Rangers Program Expands Newly sponsored Northeast Florida region includes Jacksonville and Gainesville

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) today announced that State Farm is the new sponsor of the Road Rangers service patrol in the Northeast Florida region, including Jacksonville and Gainesville.

"This specialized patrol performs a vital service, keeping traffic moving by assisting drivers in times of need, alleviating congestion, reducing pollution and more importantly, helping prevent secondary crashes. The Florida DOT Road Rangers Sponsored by State Farm are expected to assist more than 20,000 travelers in the northeast area of Florida just this year alone," said FDOT Secretary Kevin Thibault. "This is a great example of private and public-sector partnerships that make Florida the best state to live and visit."

The FDOT Road Rangers Sponsored by State Farm patrol helps to reduce congestion and enhance safety on Florida's roadways by proactively patrolling the highways, responding to crashes/incidents, changing a flat tire, jump-starting a car, providing a small amount of gasoline, and making small safety repairs. The patrol will also provide traffic control for scene stabilization, deliver an initial maintenance response (debris clean up, spill control, etc.), and communicate with law enforcement agencies regarding incidents.

"Road Rangers have become an important part of our interstate infrastructure and provide assistance to traveling motorists in the state of Florida," said Greg Evans, FDOT District 2 Secretary. "Since the program's launch in Northeast Florida last summer, Road Rangers have responded to more than 6,000 incidents along Interstate 75 and Interstate 10, oftentimes assisting with vehicle crashes, disabled motorists, and debris. These men and women provide a unique service that benefits all travelers on our roadways, residents and visitors alike."

This sponsorship expansion complements the existing State Farm sponsorship of Road Ranger service patrols throughout the state, including I-4 in Orlando, I-95 in Palm Beach, I-4, I-75, and I-275 in Tampa, as well as Florida's Turnpike.

"Our support of the Florida DOT Road Rangers program embodies our 'good neighbor' philosophy," said Ed Gold, State Farm advertising director. "It also underscores the continued commitment State Farm has to auto safety, while helping people recover from the unexpected, which is the heart of the State Farm mission."

State Farm support helps to offset the costs used for operation of the program. The newly expanded Northeast Florida Road Rangers program is a free service offered to all drivers traveling on covered routes. Disabled motorists can dial *FHP (*347) and the Florida DOT Road Rangers Sponsored by State Farm unit will be notified by the Florida Highway Patrol.

About State Farm®:

The mission of State Farm is to help people manage the risks of everyday life, recover from the unexpected, and realize their dreams. State Farm and its affiliates are the largest providers of <u>auto</u> and <u>home</u> insurance in the United States. Its nearly 19,000 agents and approximately 65,000 employees serve approximately 83 million policies and accounts – approximately 81 million auto, fire, life, health and commercial policies and approximately 2 million <u>bank</u> accounts. <u>Commercial auto insurance</u>, along with coverage for <u>renters</u>, <u>business</u> <u>owners</u>, <u>boats</u> and <u>motorcycles</u>, is available. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is the parent of the State Farm family of companies. State Farm is ranked No. 36 on the 2018 Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit <u>http://www.statefarm.com</u>.

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