

Donald F. Eslinger
Sheriff of Seminole County, Florida



On January 1, 1991, the Governor of Florida appointed Donald F. Eslinger Sheriff of Seminole County for a two-year term. He was elected in 1992; re-elected in 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2012.

Sheriff Eslinger has 36 years of service with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office. His career began in 1978 as a Radio Dispatcher and he advanced through the ranks as a Patrol Deputy, Criminal Investigator, Special Operations Investigator, Watch Commander, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team leader, two tours with the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as a Task Force Agent; and returning as Commander of the City/County Investigative Bureau. At the time of his appointment, Sheriff Eslinger held the position of major, third in command of the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Eslinger earned his Bachelor's Degree in Applied Behavioral Sciences from National Louis University and is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He also attended the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Chief Executive Institute in Tallahassee, Florida and the National Academy of Corrections - U.S. Department of Justice.

Sheriff Eslinger and his wife, Elise, have four children.

Sheriff Eslinger is involved in the following community programs:

- Florida Network of Youth and Family Services – Board of Directors
- Envision Seminole - Board of Directors
- Safe House of Seminole - Founders' Council
- Central Florida Boy Scout Council - Executive Board
- Kids House of Seminole - Executive Board
- Keep Seminole Beautiful – Board of Directors
- Treatment Advocacy Center, Arlington, VA – Board Member

Professional activities include:

- Governor's Criminal & Juvenile Justice Information Systems - Council Member
- Governor's Central Florida Drug Enforcement Strike Force – Co-Chairman
- Florida TaxWatch Center for Smart Justice - Advisory Board Member
- Florida Sheriff's Association Legislative Chairman
- Seminole State College – Law Enforcement Advisory Committee
- Interstate Adult Offender Supervision – Former State Council
- Central Florida Intelligence Exchange – Governance Board
- Law Enforcement Technology, Training, and Research, Inc. – Board of Directors
- Florida Sheriffs' Risk Management Fund – Chairman, Board of Managers
- Florida Sheriffs' Association Task Force - Zone 5 – Chairman
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Missing Children Information Advisory Board – Member
- Central Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) – Executive Board Member and Former Chairman
- Attorney General's Region 5 Gang Reduction Task Force – Former Chairman
- Florida Adult Protective Services Advisory Panel – Former Member
- Florida Attorney General's Law Enforcement Advisory Commission - Former Member

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- Florida Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council – Former Member
- Florida Sheriffs' Association – Past President & Board of Directors
- Florida D.A.R.E. – Former Board of Directors and Chairman
- National Sheriffs' Association – Former Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Drug Enforcement Committee, Resolution Committee – Former Vice-Chairman
- Commission On Accreditation For Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) – Former Commissioner
- Florida Partners In Crisis – Former State Director

Honors and Awards:

- *Egon Bittner Award* from CALEA presented for Excellence in Leadership of a CALEA Accredited LE Agency for a period of fifteen or more continuous years, 2012
- *Silver Beaver Award* which is presented by Boy Scouts of America for distinguished service to young people, 2009
- *Community Service Award* from Seminole Association of School Administrators, 2009
- *Leadership Legends Award* from Leadership Seminole, 2008
- *Seminole County Leadership Award* from the Office of the State Attorney 18th Ju Rev. 10/23/2012 Circuit, 2008
- *Good Government Award* from Private Business Association of Seminole, 2006
- *Friend of Youth Award* from Optimist Club of Sanford, 2006
- *President's Award* from Florida Crime Prevention Association
- *Florida President's Award* from National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)
- *Excellence Award* from Seminole Community Mental Health Center
- *Spirit of Youth Award* from Girls and Boys Town of Central Florida
- *Leadership Award* from Florida Partners in Crisis
- *R. David Thomas Child Advocate of the Year Award* from Children's Home Society
- *Service to Mankind Award* from Sertoma Club
- *Leadership Award* from Seminole County Republican Executive Committee