



# Badger State Sheriffs' Association, Inc.

An Association of Wisconsin Sheriffs  
John R. Gossage, Executive Director

President Sheriff Dale Schmidt  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Sheriff Todd Delain  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Sheriff Brett Semingson  
Secretary Sheriff Mark Podoll  
Treasurer Sheriff Brent York

For Immediate Release

## WI Sheriffs Organizing Florida/North Carolina Hurricane Relief

Following the unprecedented and devastating impact from Hurricanes Helene and Milton on the States of Florida and North Carolina, the WI Badger State Sheriffs' Association (BSSA) has implemented the ***Sheriffs Adopting Sheriffs*** program to help Sheriffs employees in the States of Florida and North Carolina.

The ***Sheriffs Adopting Sheriffs*** relief project is designed to help Sheriffs employees and their families who have been personally impacted by this natural disaster. The relief project was recently authorized by the BSSA Board of Directors. President Dale Schmidt, Sheriff of Dodge County said, "When these types of disasters occur all too often lost in the mix of the disaster is the fact that Sheriff's emergency responders themselves suffer a major personal and family loss while still being expected to go to work, do their jobs, and continue to rescue and help others in need."

The BSSA ***Sheriffs Adopting Sheriffs*** program, said Schmidt, is designed to bring direct relief to those Sheriff's employees who leave their families during times of major emergencies and go to work helping others.

In 2021, the BSSA activated this program following Hurricane Ida and helped many Sheriffs employees in the State of Louisiana. According to BSSA Executive Director, John R. Gossage, the ***Sheriffs Adopting Sheriffs*** program primarily solicits specific donations from Sheriff's personnel and their families. Gossage said that is being done again this year, but because the need following Hurricanes Helene and Milton are so great in Florida and North Carolina, this year's program efforts are being expanded to other law enforcement agencies, emergency service organizations, citizens, businesses, and other civic organizations so they will have the opportunity to participate and help.

Because of the magnitude of damage caused by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, the BSSA is encouraging each County Sheriff to also reach out to the citizens, business and civic organizations in their County and provide an opportunity for them to participate in this effort.

The ***Sheriffs Adopting Sheriffs*** program will run in each County until November 22nd. Anyone seeking additional information is encouraged to contact their County Sheriff or the BSSA.