

Lake County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

Quick Actions of Two Correctional Officers Save Inmate's Life

Lake County Corrections Officers Elvis Fejzic and Mathew Outinen are being praised for saving the life of an inmate who attempted to take his own life.

On September 13, 2020, at approximately 3:00PM, Corrections Officers Fejzic and Outinen were conducting rounds in the housing-pod they are assigned. They came across an inmate cell housing a 20-year-old male and observed the inmate had fabric tied around his neck. Corrections Officers Fejzic and Outinen quickly opened the inmate's door, cut the fabric off the inmate's neck, and administered first-aid.

Their quick life-saving efforts prevented the inmate from being able to take his life. The inmate was transported to Vista East Medical Center in Waukegan by paramedics, where he has since recovered.

Further investigation revealed the inmate utilized a torn shirt to attempt to take his life.

Sheriff John Idleburg praised the quick actions of Corrections Officers Fejzic and Outinen, saying "Being a correctional officer is an incredibly challenging job, but our staff has the very best intentions for our community. Our correctional officers are trained to never hesitate in providing first-aid and calling for an ambulance for any inmate who is in physical distress. We strive to ensure all inmates receive the skills needed to be successful when released and also the emotional support they need while in custody."

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