



## Florida Department of Transportation

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### Florida Department of Transportation Announces Crossing Guard Appreciation Day and Award Winners

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) recognized Florida’s crossing guards who work to ensure our state’s students make it to and from school safely. Governor DeSantis signed a proclamation that declared February 5, 2021, as Crossing Guard Appreciation Day to recognize the hard work and dedication of our state’s crossing guards. Click [here](#) to view the proclamation.

“Each day during the school year, crossing guards help ensure our students make it to and from the classroom safely,” said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. “The work these individuals do daily is essential, and their hard work and dedication to our children’s safety deserves recognition today and every day.”

Every year, the department recognizes individuals and organizations exemplifying professionalism and responsibility for the safety of children.

#### ***2020 Florida School Crossing Guard of the Year:***



**Leo Gomez**  
Seminole County Sheriff's Office

#### ***2020 Florida School Crossing Guard of the Year Extra Mile Award:***



**Janene Romero**  
Melbourne Police Department

In 1992, the Florida legislature passed the “Ramon Turnquest School Crossing Guard Act” that requires school crossing guard programs to train their guards according to guidelines developed by FDOT. Florida has become a national leader in developing crossing guard uniform training guidelines and curriculum, providing FDOT’s train-the-trainer program to educate trainers on the safe, effective techniques and crossing procedures for crossing guards. FDOT also works with law enforcement agencies and other partners to provide uniform training across the state for the consistent, safe operation of school crossings statewide. For more information, visit [www.fdot.gov/safety/2a-programs/schoolcrossingguard.shtm](http://www.fdot.gov/safety/2a-programs/schoolcrossingguard.shtm).

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*The Florida Department of Transportation’s mission is to provide a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of the state’s environment and communities. The department is committed to building a transportation system that not only fits the current needs of Florida’s residents and visitors, but also enhances mobility throughout the state to accommodate its consistent and rapid growth. The unique nature of the Sunshine State and its year-round warm climate provides numerous opportunities to achieve the department’s mission through multiple transportation modes including highways/streets, air, rail, sea, spaceports, transit, and the ever-expanding deployment of bicycle & pedestrian facilities.*