

*Carmine Marceno*

Sheriff



State of Florida  
County of Lee



**Heather Turco**  
**Crime Prevention Specialist**  
**Community Response Unit**

**Sheriff Carmine Marceno launched the Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Response Unit (C.R.U.) in 2019. Members of C.R.U. are out in the community establishing and maintaining direct community contacts to foster grass root partnerships. The partnerships help deputies identify, address, and resolve quality of life issues. Through a three-pronged approach using crime prevention, community contacts, and enforcing the law, C.R.U. is just one example of how we keep you safe in Lee County.**

**Heather Turco started working with the Lee County Sheriff's Office in 2017. Prior to that, she worked as a news anchor/reporter for NBC2. After more than 2 decades of researching and reporting crime stories, she made the career move into law enforcement, in hopes of educating and empowering people on ways to stay safe and live a happy healthy life.**

**She sits on the board of directors for Habitat for Humanity. She is married with two children; a 22-year-old daughter, who just graduated from the University of Florida Nursing School and a 25-year-old son, also a UF grad, who works in golf retail e-commerce. Her husband is a 3-time State Championship Baseball Coach and athletic director at Canterbury School in Fort Myers. Heather grew up in Oklahoma and attended the University of Oklahoma.**

**Please contact her to schedule her to speak at your event or meeting @ (239) 478-7838 or [hturco@sheriffleefl.org](mailto:hturco@sheriffleefl.org)**



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## **LCSO Crime Prevention Program Summaries**

**Personal Safety** – Do you ever get worried when you hear about an assault on the news? Do you ever think, what would **I** have done? How would I react if I were in a similar situation? Not all proactive measures apply to every person, at every location, or even in every situation, but in some cases, putting them into practice may save you or a loved one from serious danger. Trusting your intuition is a crucial aspect of situational awareness. LCSO's Heather Turco will explain ways to deter criminals, along with action you can take if you feel threatened anytime, anywhere. This program is a *must-see* to become empowered to live a healthy happy life!

**READY – Women's Basic Self-Defense** – Respond with **E**mpowerment and **A**wareness to **D**efend **Y**ourself. This special, program just for the ladies, builds upon our Personal Safety program. It's for women, teenaged and up. We do ask you pre-register and dress comfortably. LCSO's Heather Turco will go over personal safety and situational awareness, then teach you important and simple tactics – action you can take, if you are ever threatened, facing a potential assault or worse, if someone puts their hands on you.

**Residential Security** – How secure is your home? What about your valuables? You may be surprised. There are **always** strangers on our streets. From lighting and cameras to landscaping and locks, LCSO's Heather Turco will provide you with simple tips to make sure your home and property are safe from criminals. We also address the, "Squatter Scam."

**Frauds and Scams** – Cybercrime is out of control, with criminals, many overseas, getting their hands on **billions** of our dollars across the U.S. Most of us are sick and tired of scammers trying to steal our money, assets and personal information. Every day their devious plot list grows. In this dynamic program, LCSO's Heather Turco shares her firsthand experience on how quickly criminals can drain our bank accounts. She'll explain how to protect yourself from becoming a victim.

**Identity Theft** – Imagine someone is pretending to be **you** – to get a job, buy a car, get medical treatment or *worse* – get access to everything you own. From data breaches to unfamiliar charges on your credit cards – LCSO's Heather Turco will teach you how to keep your personal information and your identity yours and yours alone!

***What you need to know about 911*** – Ever call 911 to report an emergency? In this insightful presentation, LCSO's Heather Turco walks you through what constitutes an emergency and what to expect when you make that call. From our call taker training to investigations, find out how real-life cases have changed the way we respond, along with the **number one** thing you need to know when you make that potentially lifesaving call.

***LCSO – Here for you when you lose a loved one*** – What would you do if you or a loved one experienced a medical incident or worse? How do you prepare for the unthinkable? Traumatic events often cause feelings of helplessness, anxiety, and aggression. Despite what you may have read about the stages of grief, there is no correct way to feel at any certain time. LCSO's Heather Turco tackles a *tough* topic, so you can be as prepared as possible, **before** the unthinkable happens. She'll explain what happens after you call 911, along with the importance of *living* an active, healthy and social life. Get your bucket list ready!

***All About Artificial Intelligence – How we optimize the benefits and minimize the harms*** – Many of you are asking a lot of questions regarding artificial intelligence. You may not realize it, but we are already exposed to AI in our daily activities, especially online. LCSO's Heather Turco explores the AI world and explains how the sheriff's office is using it to keep you safe and solve crime.

***Personal Safety for Realtors*** – Do you love being a realtor? How safe do you feel when you are showing properties to prospective clients/*strangers*? What would you do if you felt **threatened**? LCSO's Heather Turco suggests valuable tools to use before you *ever* step out of your office. She'll also guide you through best practices on the roads and in homes you're showing - all to make sure you safely make the sale and return home to your family.

***Seniors Driving Safely*** – Most of us appreciate the feeling of independence that driving gives to us; however, as we age, we grow less confident behind the wheel. From knowing your car and your own capabilities to dealing with fender-benders and **road rage**, LCSO's Heather Turco explains what you can do to feel more comfortable in your vehicle and safer on our roads, both absolute necessities for a fulfilling life.

***Bullying within Communities*** – Did you know *bullying* is an increasingly common problem among seniors? In this insightful presentation, LCSO's Heather Turco explains the science of cliques and similar social behaviors, along with the types of bullying behavior, causes, and how to address it. It up to all of us to make the world a better place.

***Social Media and Online Safety*** – No doubt technology is a double-edged sword. Posting is power. Passwords can be pesky. Plus, **who** is really behind those messages? LCSO's Heather Turco explains the dark side of social media, along with ways you can surf and connect safely, while still having fun.

***Safety, While Traveling*** – Many of us enjoy planning and going on a wonderful vacation; however, there's a tendency to leave common sense at home. LCSO's Heather Turco gives you an important checklist to make sure you only bring back great memories and souvenirs, without unpacking travel troubles and nightmares.

***Fighting Fentanyl*** – Deadly drug overdoses and poisonings lead to family heartbreak and tragedy. LCSO's Heather Turco explains the history of opioids, why they are so addictive and how the Lee County Sheriff's Office is working to get them off our streets and out of the hands of our loved ones.

***Active Violence/Shooter – How would you respond?*** – You're at the mall, doctor's office, grocery store and you hear gunfire. How would you react? These cases are rare; but they **do** happen. Do *you* have a plan? LCSO's Heather Turco researched several high profile cases here in Florida. In this incredibly important presentation, she'll share what we've learned from these tragedies and reveal information that could save your life.

***Safety in Faith Communities*** – How safe do you feel when you worship? No matter where you practice your faith, houses of worship are of special concern due to their open and loving nature. So, what would you do if confronted by a *threat*? LCSO's Heather Turco empowers both the staff and those who attend services with safety and security options to consider, bringing peace to your worship community.

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***Crime Prevention within Senior Living Facilities*** – How safe are your valuables in an assisted living residential facility? LCSO’s Heather Turco will discuss expectations of residents and their families, reasons for theft, ways to secure your property and what to do if you or a family member becomes a victim.

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