



CHATHAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Chatham County Police Department Featured in National Television Series After Rescuing Suspect from Alligator-Inhabited Pond

Chatham County, GA (August 6, 2026) – The Chatham County Police Department’s efforts to save a fleeing suspect from two alligators is now highlighted in a new national television series.

The A&E network’s “Swamp Patrol” features the Chatham County Police Department’s Marine Patrol and Patrol Division as they worked to rescue a suspect who jumped into a pond in an attempt to elude officers on July 1, 2022. The suspect didn’t realize that there were two alligators in the pond, who quickly began to circle him before he was rescued.

The episode uses body camera footage to tell the story as it unfolded over nearly two hours at a pond near the Al Henderson golf course. Viewers can watch while the suspect repeatedly ignores officers’ attempts to convince him to leave the pond, and officers do what they can to scare the alligators away from the suspect. The stalemate ends and the rescue is completed when the Chatham County Police Department’s Marine Patrol Unit uses its amphibious vehicle – driven by Corporal Winston Maxey -- to enter the pond. When it becomes apparent that the suspect will not willingly climb on board to save himself, viewers can watch Chatham County Police Department Marine Patrol Corporal Heath Wynn be the first to jump into the alligator-inhabited water to rescue the suspect and take him into custody.

“Swamp Patrol” Season One, Episode Two recently premiered on the network, and can be viewed on YouTube here: [Police Standoff Takes Place in an Alligator-Infested Pond | Swamp Patrol | A&E](#).

The press release sent out by the Chatham County Police Department on July 1, 2022, detailing the incident is attached, along with a still photo of the rescue. Photo Credit: Chatham County Police Department

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