



Flagler County Sheriff's Office

Donald W. Fleming, Sheriff

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Beach Visitor Drowns in Surf

A New Jersey visitor drowned today in rough surf just north of Flagler Beach around 2:40 p.m.

Flagler County Sheriff's deputies reported James Palmer, 55, was at the beach with his wife, daughter and son when he went into the surf.

His family lost sight of him, deputies said. About 10 minutes later, a surfer noticed the man floating in the water and pulled him to shore.

He was pulled from the surf and his wife administered CPR until Flagler County emergency personnel arrived at the scene. He was transported to Florida Hospital Flagler where he was pronounced dead.

Palmer and his family have been staying at a condominium in Beverly Beach.

"This is a tragedy for this family and our sympathies are with them," said Flagler County Sheriff Donald W. Fleming.

The surf off Flagler County beaches remains rough as a result of Hurricane Irene. Waves were reported at four-feet and higher.

Beach visitors should use caution and avoid entering the water.