

Roll Call is the official publication of the Florida PBA
300 East Brevard St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
1-800-733-3722

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Editor In Charge
David Murrell

Publications Specialist
Bob Peterson

Proofreader
Marcia Eggers

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John Rivera

Thank You

I've had so many calls congratulating me on taking over the presidency of the Florida PBA. I appreciate the words of encouragement and support. Some folks thought I was leaving for Tallahassee, but the truth is that I'll be staying in Miami-Dade and continue to run the Dade County PBA as well as the Florida PBA.

Thank you goes out to all who attended the extraordinary swearing in event. It truly was an incredible surprise to see our then **Governor-elect Charlie Crist** take the time to stop by and join us. Not only did he honor us with his presence, but he was most gracious by having his picture taken with as many of those who wanted one. He is a true class act.

All in attendance had a great time and I cannot thank **Immediate Past President Ernie George** enough for his leadership and guiding the Florida PBA during troubled times. I would again like to thank the coalition members (of which I was a part) for the courage they displayed back in 1994 to rid the Florida PBA of the old, not so popular, customs and practices.

Those individuals are **Ernie George** (Palm Beach Co. PBA), **Dick Brickman** (Broward Co. PBA), **Jack Soule** (Pinellas Co. PBA), **Larry Schrecengost** (Northeast Florida PBA), **Vince Champion** (Coastal Florida PBA), **Claude Arnold** (Bay Area PBA), **Mike Clifton** (Dade Co. PBA), **David Murrell**, along with **Attorneys Bill Johnson** (Palm Beach Co. PBA) and **Mike Braverman** (Dade Co. PBA).

Legislative Session

Session has fast approached and soon we'll be lobbying once again for all of our members. As always, stay informed and tuned in with the PBA. The Florida PBA website www.flpba.org will post all the legislative updates, and we will



John Rivera at the swearing in ceremony as he takes the oath to be President of the Florida PBA.



Some of the Charter and Chapter Presidents at the ceremony.

A Message From Your President

notify you of any assistance we may need from you. Get the truth from us and do not allow yourself to be bamboozled by others who love to run their mouths but know little about the facts. Each and every session we get bogged down answering the many rumors that float around the state.

Legal Seminar

By now you should all be aware of my philosophy on our need to remain the most lethal legal entity everywhere in the State of Florida and as such, Dade County PBA hosted a legal seminar for attorneys who represent PBA members throughout the entire State of Florida. Our attorneys from all areas of the state attended and conferred on a variety of issues ranging from workers' compensation and how to deal with cities and counties that ignore the well-being of its workforce, and oftentimes the law, to labor law issues.

My goal is to create a more readily accessible and comprehensive network in order to spread the wealth of knowledge the PBA has to better serve our members.

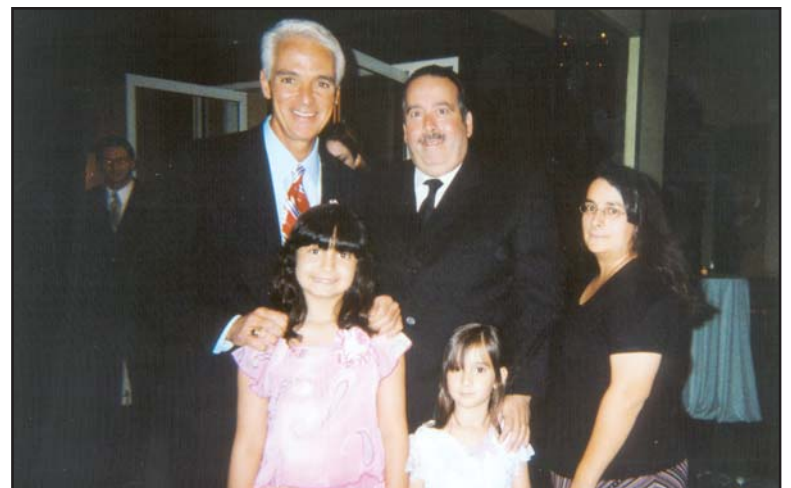
Senseless Killing

The year 2007 started off on a sad note with the senseless killing of one our PBA members. **Florida Trooper Sergeant Nicholas Sottile** was killed on Friday, January 12th, during a routine traffic stop. He leaves behind a wife, **Elizabeth**; daughter, **Heather**, and son, **Nicholas**, who also works for FHP, in the Tampa area. Sergeant Sottile was assigned to the Arcadia area. We are left to ensure that the family is cared for and that Justice is served. The PBA will monitor the progression of the case as it develops.

Until then and on behalf of all Florida PBA members, I wish to offer our deepest sympathy to the entire Sottile family. Until next issue... 🟦



The Florida PBA Executive Committee at the swearing in ceremony.



Governor-Elect Charlie Crist visits with PBA's Vice President for Chapters and SCO Chapter President Jim Baiardi and Jim's wife and daughters.