



James
"Jim"
Baiardi

A Message From Your PBA VP for Chapters

PBA Chapters Working Together For The Good Of All

I want to take the time to thank all the State Law Enforcement Officers from the different Florida PBA Chapters who made the trip to Tallahassee for the rally and made calls/e-mails to their elected leaders throughout the session. I have always been a firm believer in the strength in numbers concept, and several times this session, we called on our members of all of our PBA State Law Enforcement Chapters to let their voices be heard and to show our elected leaders the strength of our membership. But, what was really a bright side to this bad session was the team work between the different chapter presidents and board members—Troopers, Correctional Officers, FDLE Agents, State Law Enforcement Officers and Probation Officers all helping each other out. I recall sitting in a Senate meeting debating against the privatization of Suwannee CI, and seeing **Matt Tyre**, State Law Enforcement Officers Chapter President, sitting there supporting me. I remember going to a meeting with **Telly Sands**, FDLE Agents Association Chapter President, concerning the closing of some of the FDLE offices. I recall the input of **Bill Smith**, Florida Highway Patrol Chapter President, making some important recommendations for the writing of our Joint Resolution (see below). And of course, **Mark Alfieri**, Florida Correctional Probation Officers Chapter President, who met with us weekly and made the rounds around the Capitol fighting against the paycut and layoffs of any more CPO's.

Throughout this session, we as a group had to fight hard, not for gains, but to protect. And as a group, we pushed House Bill 1195 (State Law Enforcement Trust Fund and Retention Bill) that will use bad boy fees such as a fee on inmate canteen purchases to fund longevity pay for all state officers. Although the bill did not pass, for all of our hard work, the bill got several hearings, setting the stage for it to become law in better times. I would like to thank all of the above presidents and board members who helped out throughout the session. Without your hard work and the support of the membership by coming to Tallahassee, making phone calls and sending e-mails, this session would have been far worse.

In closing, I also believed that you know who your friends are in the toughest of times. Last year, **Governor Crist** proved this by vetoing cuts to key positions held by PBA members. During this session, while meeting with a group of officers/members from South Florida, Governor Crist told these officers that he would not be afraid to use his veto pen again to protect PBA members, and he has again kept his word by vetoing the 2% pay decrease and showing his support for all law enforcement. Let the court battles begin. I for one would not want to be the person battling against this or the PEOPLE'S GOVERNOR!

May God Bless you and your family. ●



FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Voice of Florida's Law Enforcement Officers

April 23, 2009

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Honorable Senator Jeff Atwater
President Florida Senate
404 S. Monroe St., Room 312, SOB
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear President Atwater:

On behalf of our combined 23,000 State Law Enforcement Officers, State Troopers, Special Agents and Correctional and Probationary Officers, we the Chapter Presidents of the Florida Police Benevolent Association, call upon you, the members of the Florida Senate, to hold us harmless from layoffs and pay cuts.

The loss of positions and the threat of pay cuts will drastically impact the safety of the citizens of the State of Florida. Law enforcement officers risk their lives daily to make our state safe while enforcing the very laws that many of you have worked so hard to implement.

Respectfully,

James Baiardi
President
State Correctional Officers Chapter

Mark Alfieri
President
Florida Correctional Probation Officers
Chapter

Telly Sands
President
FDLE Agents Association Chapter

Matthew Tyre
President
State Law Enforcement Officers Chapter

William Smith
President
Florida Highway Patrol Chapter

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FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Voice of Florida's Law Enforcement Officers

April 27, 2009

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Governor Charlie Crist
Office of the Governor, State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Dear Governor Crist:

We the undersigned Florida Police Benevolent Association Chapter Presidents representing over 23,000 of Florida's State Law Enforcement, Correctional and Probation Officers, call upon you to veto any proposed layoffs and/or pay cuts relating to law enforcement or correctional personnel proposed in the upcoming 2009-2010 legislative budget.

We share a common interest, the domestic tranquility of our state and the welfare and protection of our citizens to include our most vulnerable, our children and the elderly.

We appreciate your continued support and dedication to public safety.

Respectfully submitted,

James Baiardi
President
State Correctional Officers Chapter

Mark Alfieri
President
Florida Correctional Probation Officers
Chapter

Telly Sands
President
FDLE Agents Association Chapter

Matthew Tyre
President
State Law Enforcement Officers Chapter

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