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John Rivera

A Message From Your President

TIME TO PUT UP OR SHUT UP!

Know that many of our members are fed up with the lack of support they get from many in the so-called political establishment. Gripping may be therapeutic, but doing something about it is even more important. Florida PBA, its charters and chapters, have spent most of the summer and fall searching for candidates who not only talk a good talk but will actually come through. Now it is up to you, our members, to follow through and make it happen. What can I do, you say? Plenty. Most importantly you can vote and convince your family, neighbors, and friends to likewise vote for these endorsed candidates. Remember the 2000 Presidential election here in Florida? Only about 500 votes out of millions cast made a difference. The same thing happens in many local elections. For example, it's not uncommon at all for a candidate to the state legislature to either win or lose by less than 10 votes. Beyond this, we encourage you

to work actively for candidates by going door to door with them, waving signs, working the polls on election day, etc. Candidates are extremely gratified by this, for so few people will really get out and do the "grunt" work. Worker bees are like gold to those seeking office.

"Those candidates who do get elected will determine just about everything regarding your job..."

Those candidates who do get elected will determine just about everything regarding your job as a law enforcement or correctional officer—whether it be who will be your boss, how much of a pay raise or pension you get, or getting the necessary support to do your job and be safe. Make an effort to make a difference. After the election will be too late. Money (hard work for the candidates) talks, bull do-do (sitting on your hands) walks. How true this is in the political arena which will determine your future—or lack thereof.

Stay safe out there and stay united! ●

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