

The voice of local law enforcement



# Florida COPS

Official Publication of the Palm Beach County PBA

All Fore Kaitlin

Page 22



APRIL 2016

## Seal of

## APPROVAL

Palm Beach PBA evaluates  
candidates and makes its  
election selections







# ATTENTION PALM BEACH COUNTY PBA MEMBERS!



You Need to Attend This Retirement Workshop!



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- Debt & Budget Planning
- Selecting a Pension Option
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- Tax Minimization
- Estate Planning

**Steve Olson**, Financial Advisor  
C: (561) 459-9276 E: [steve@centerforplanning.com](mailto:steve@centerforplanning.com)

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# VOTER REVELATION

The results are in. The Palm Beach County PBA conducted its bi-annual political endorsement screenings in advance of the August Primary Election and November General Election, and here are the candidates who have earned the union's seal of approval. The complete list, along with a detailed account of what went into the selections, begins on page 16. Those candidates who the PBA hopes will further its efforts pictured on the front cover with members of the Endorsement Committee include (clockwise from top right): David Silvers, Matt Willhite, Rebecca Negron, Mack Bernard, Irving Slosberg, Mary Lou Berger, David Kerner, Joe Negron and Shelley Vanna.



## A tradition like no other

The 12th annual Kaitlin A. Kazanjian Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament once again played like the great golf event it has become ..... **Page 22**

## Above and beyond

A Palm Beach Sheriff's Office Deputy and West Palm Beach Officer are honored by the PBA for performing heroic rescues ..... **Page 26**

## In Memoriam

PBCPBA members said farewell and paid tribute to three of its brothers ..... **Page 28**

## Legal Eagle

"Meet The Staff" introduces Courtney Lawrenson, who keeps a close eye on all legal matters as the PBA's oh-so-dedicated Legal Assistant ..... **Page 30**

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**MITCHELL KRUGEL**

Publisher/Editor

mitch@floridacopsmagazine.com

**DAN RAPPOPORT**

Sales Director

dan@floridacopsmagazine.com

**GINA CROTCHFELT**

Art Director

**JOSHUA SIGMUND**

Managing Editor

joshua@floridacopsmagazine.com

**JENNIFER TRATTLER**

Editorial Assistant

jennifer@floridacopsmagazine.com

**STEPHANIE JONES**

Copy Editor

stephanie@floridacopsmagazine.com

**DEANNA HUNTER**

Director of Operations

dee@floridacopsmagazine.com

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# CODE THREE

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# Making our election connections



JOHN  
KAZANJIAN

We don't give our seal approval to just any political candidate. The PBA probably has a 90-percent success rate with the candidates we endorse winning, so there might be no better constituency than ours.

Behind all the hand-shaking and picture-taking, we put the politicians through a pretty serious briefing when we met with more than 50 of them in March to set the list of endorsements you will read on page 17 of this issue of *Florida Cops Magazine*. We made sure to get their pictures standing

in the foyer of our offices in West Palm Beach. We wanted them to know that the opportunity to pose on our seal – our seal of approval – comes with a great responsibility and great commitment.

A lot of them absolutely strive to get this endorsement because the candidates know our numbers are there. Having the support of the police means a whole lot. With our reach throughout Palm Beach County and/or Martin County, we can spread their message about as well as anybody. And believe me, people look at that; if cops are endorsing, these candidates must be good.

So what were we looking for in the more than 50 candidates we saw during those two days? We were looking for candidates who will do the right thing. We were looking for candidates who will support the police. And we are looking for candidates who will win.

We can tell who we can count on. And if we can help candidates win, we know we can count on them to represent our best interests. We don't expect them to vote our way on every issue, but we can tell by looking these women and men in the eye and asking them some direct questions who will listen to us.

I know what you are thinking. We absolutely talked to them about COLA levels. We talked with them about pay and benefits. I can tell you in no uncertain terms that every candidate we endorsed knows exactly what our needs are.

Like I said, our endorsement gets them to listen to us, and here's why that is important in today's political landscape: If we have an upcoming collective bargaining session, we can go to the county and municipal officials and tell them, "It's been years since we got this, this and this. We see the economy is doing better and the revenue is pouring into the city and county, so you need to support the police."

Yes, I do believe the ones we are supporting have an open ear when it comes to pay and benefits. And believe me, we will be knocking on their doors to remind them that things have been stagnant since 2009, and that we need to get the ball rolling again to get us back to where we were.

On another political front, I just want to let our members know, especially those in the FRS, that we are taking the lead



Members of the Palm Beach County PBA Executive Board pose with Rebecca Negron, District 18 candidate for Congress.

in the charge to reinstate the 3-percent COLA that has been reduced by Gov. Scott. We're trying to meet with state legislators and the state leadership to address the equation that is adding up to the reduction. We have to make them understand that this just doesn't affect police officers, but firefighters, state legislators, cafeteria workers in the schools and everybody in the FRS, too, and how much it would mean to clean it up.

We can do this. When this went into effect, we lost it in the Supreme Court by one vote – a democrat who voted with Republicans if you can believe it. So you better believe this is a political issue, and the candidates we endorse have told us they will listen. We have made several trips to Tallahassee, and we will make several more. Believe me, they are listening when we tell them.

So I do see some light at the end of this tunnel. We made some inroads during the legislative session that ended in March. Listen, this might not happen in one year. It might take two or three. But we're going to try and get it back.

And you can help. Make sure you vote for the candidates we've endorsed, and if you have some time, go out and volunteer a couple of hours for them. We will win this thing together.

Stay safe and don't forget to vote! ♥

Kaz

JOHN KAZANJIAN, PRESIDENT



# PALM BEACH COUNTY PBA

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Effective Jan. 1, 2015 - Dec. 31, 2018

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**Ernest W. George,**

**Executive Director**

**Rick McAfee, Vice-President**

**Lou Penque, Treasurer**

**Kevin Igo, Secretary**

**Greg Allen, Sgt.-At-Arms**

---

**Vinnie Gray, Labor Relations**

**Coordinator**

**Pete Tartaglione, Corr. Labor**

**Relations Coordinator**

**Larry Fagan, Legal Counsel**

**Rick King, Legal Counsel**

---

### PBA OFFICE STAFF

Angela, Office Manager

Courtney, Legal Assistant

Elizabeth, Membership Secretary

Joanne, Office Assistant

Kathy, Office Assistant

Shannon, Office Assistant

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website at  
[www.pbcpcbpa.org](http://www.pbcpcbpa.org)**

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Daniel Dugger  
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Paul Weber, Alt.  
Scott Privitera, Appt.

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Palm Beach County PBA

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Chris Decker, Alt.

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Butch Altonen, Appt.  
Mike Antonopoulos, Appt.  
Dan Burrows, Appt.  
Bill Gale, Appt.  
Grant Henderson, Appt.  
John Kazanjian, II, Appt.  
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Brandon West, Appt.  
Jay Gallagher, Appt.  
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Josh Leheny, Appt.  
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John Pedone, Appt.

### PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CORRECTIONS

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Pete Tartaglione  
Will Pinto  
Ernie Bussey  
Jeff Jackson  
Brian Ronk, Alt.  
Brenda Smith, Alt.  
Thomas Jordan, Appt.

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Mark Gish  
Kristen Kazanjian  
Tequesta McKinney  
Kara Bannon, Alt.  
Omar Felix, Alt.  
Eddie Aviles, Appt.  
Kayai Graham, Appt.

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Randy Buntin  
Dorian Hawkins  
Randall Anderson

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Steven Langevin, Alt.

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Sean Grant, Alt.  
Lou Collura, Appt.

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Carmine Izzo, Alt.

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Nir Mordechay  
Cornelius McGriff  
Jeremy Summers, Alt.  
Randy Edwards, Alt.

### SOUTH PALM BEACH

Mark McKirchy  
Jason LaForte, Alt.

### STUART

Palm Beach County PBA

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Raymond Korkowski, Alt.

### WEST PALM BEACH

Joseph Herb  
Dennis Hardiman  
Chuck Branch  
Jay Donde  
John Rebholz  
Michael Ferrera, Alt.  
Eric Evrley, Alt.  
Troy Marchese, Appt.





# The First Amendment and Tattoos



RICK KING

The staff at the PBA, all too frequently, is asked questions regarding an agency's ability to require officers to cover their tattoos. Recently, I was asked to review a court case filed by City of Chicago police officers. The officers filed a lawsuit in response to a new city policy requiring police officers with visible tattoos to wear long sleeves or cover the tattoo with flesh-colored tape. All of the officers involved in the case were former military, and argued that the policy violates their First Amendment rights of freedom of speech and

expression, and their rights under the equal protection clause. The City of Chicago argued, in response, that the policy was designed to promote uniformity and professionalism.

This case isn't the first tattoo case brought forward by public employees and, in fact, follows a line of cases, one of which comes from the North District of Texas. Michael Riggs, a Fort Worth law enforcement officer, filed a lawsuit alleging equal protection violations after he was ordered to wear long sleeves and pants to cover his tattoos. Riggs alleged that the City discriminated against him based on his race, sex, national origin and his fundamental right of free expression.

I'll spare you the legalese regarding the level of proof that an equal protection claim plaintiff must mount – suffice to say the Court held that his equal protection claim failed. The Court then evaluated Riggs' claim that his fundamental right of free expression was being violated; they denied that claim as well. The Court reasoned that tattoos are not protected expressions under the First Amendment. The City, in order to enforce the policy, need only show that the policy is rationally related to a legitimate government purpose. In other words, the government employer only has to argue some minimal justification for the policy. In this case, the chief of the Fort Worth Police Department claimed that he wanted to ensure a reflection of professional uniform appearance to the public.

Courts have held that law enforcement agencies may determine the organizational dress, and are entitled to promote a disciplined, identifiable and impartial police force by maintaining police uniforms as a symbol of neutral government authority, free from expression of personal bent or bias (Daniels v. Arlington). The Daniels case involved the Arlington Police De-

partment's refusal to allow an officer to wear a religious pin on his uniform. The Daniels Court invoked the Pickering-Connick test which balances "the interests of the (employee), as a citizen, in commenting upon matters of public concern, and the interests of the State, as an employer, in promoting the efficiency of the public services it performs through its employees."

The Court held that the pin was religious speech, "that receives great protection in civilian life – (but) takes on an entirely different cast when viewed in the context of a police uniform. Although personal religious conviction – even the honestly held belief that one must announce such conviction to others – obviously is a matter of great concern

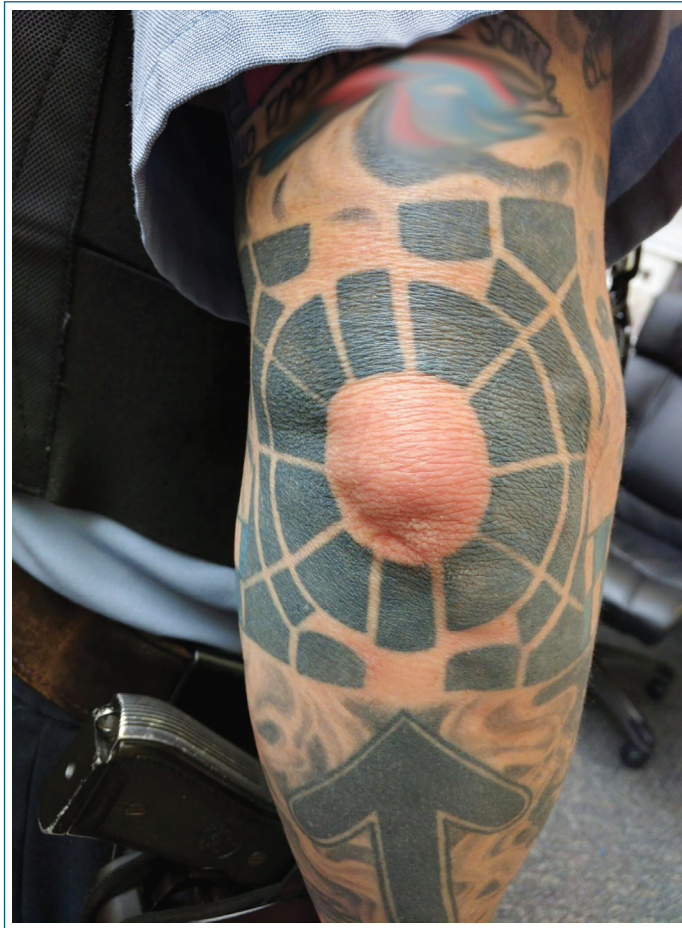
to many members of the public, in this case it simply is not a matter of 'public concern' as that term of art has been used in the constitutional sense."

In Roberts v. Ward, the Court did move a little, holding that a tattoo comes much closer to amounting to a matter of public concern, if that tattoo is intended to show support for the military. "Whether a tattoo is considered speech that is a matter of public concern may turn on whether the speech is generic in nature, or whether it reflects an in-depth attempt to contribute to public discourse," according to Roberts v. Ward. (468 F.3d 963 U.S. Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit)

Now turning to the Chicago PD case, Medina v. City of Chicago, the Court dismissed the officer's case stating that the officer's tattoos were personal forms of expression and not public commentary. The Court analyzed the facts under the Pickering standard, which requires that the officer's speech is with regard to matters of public concern, and

then decides if the speech is outweighed by the government employer's interest in promoting efficiency of the public service. The Court held that the tattoos were a form of personal expression and, as such, collectively creates a risk of misinterpretation. The Court also cited the recent public debate concerning the Confederate Flag. For many, the flag depicts the historical lineage of the South; to others, the flag symbolizes years of oppression and subjugation of an entire race of people. The Court held that the policy was permissible.

All that said, keep in mind any change in the terms and conditions of your employment are subject to bargaining, and should be brought to the staff at the PBA. We can't defend you if we don't know. Be safe and keep up the fight. ♥





# Board of Directors Meeting Attendance – March 3, 2016

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Kazanjian, President ..... ✓  
Ernest W. George, Executive Director ..... ✓  
Rick McAfee, Vice President ..... ✓  
Lou Penque, Treasurer ..... ✓  
Kevin Igo, Secretary ..... ✓  
Greg Allen, Sgt-at-Arms ..... ✓  
Vinnie Gray, Labor Coordinator ..... ✓  
Pete Tartaglione, Corrections Coordinator ..... ✓  
Larry Fagan, Legal Counsel ..... ✓  
Rick King, Legal Counsel ..... ✓

## REPRESENTATIVES

### Boynton Beach

Henry Diehl, Sgt ..... Unexcused  
Daniel Dugger, Det First Grade ..... ✓  
Toby Athol, Det First Grade ..... ✓  
Doug Gilbert, Appt., Officer ..... ✓

### Delray Beach

Gary Ferreri, Officer ..... ✓  
Edward McCabe, Officer ..... Unexcused  
Brian Cambell, Officer ..... Excused  
Vinnie Gray, Lt ..... ✓  
Meer Deen, Alt., Officer ..... ✓  
Paul Weber, Alt., Sgt ..... ✓  
Scott Privitera, Appt., Lt ..... ✓

### FAU

Miguel Cardona, Sgt ..... ✓  
Bill Hernandez, Alt., Officer ..... ✓

### Juno Beach

Michael Graham, Officer ..... Excused

### Jupiter

Jason Vansteenburgh, Detective ..... ✓  
Jason Alexandre, Officer ..... ✓  
Sal Mattino, Officer ..... Unexcused  
Paul Gundlach, Alt., Officer ..... ✓  
Jonathan Gentile, Appt., Appt'd following week but  
attended to learn ..... ✓

### Jupiter Island

Steve Bona, Appt., Officer ..... ✓  
Nick Dicicco, Appt., Officer ..... ✓  
Scott Logsdon, Appt., Sgt ..... ✓  
Andrew Savikas, Appt., Sgt ..... ✓

### Lake Clarke Shores

William Howell, Sgt ..... ✓  
Brandy Rodgers, Alt., Officer ..... Excused

### Lantana

Troy Schaaf, Officer ..... ✓  
Chris Decker, Alt., Sgt ..... ✓  
Janice Brinkman, Appt., Dispatch ..... Excused

### Manalapan

Jose Fernandez, Appt., Officer ..... ✓

## MCSO - Law Enforcement

Karl Nelson, Sgt ..... ✓  
Brian Tison, Deputy ..... ✓  
Wayne Trocan, Deputy ..... ✓  
Jon Hanton, Deputy ..... Excused  
Andrew Porcelli, Deputy ..... ✓  
William Weiss, Alt., Deputy ..... ✓  
James Holloran, Alt., Deputy ..... Unexcused  
Jake Sirmans, Appt., Deputy ..... Excused  
Kenneth Youngblood, Appt., Deputy

## MCSO - Corrections

Samuel Haidy, Deputy ..... ✓  
Tommy Randazzo, Deputy ..... ✓  
Lawrence Lutrin, Alt., Deputy ..... Unexcused  
Rui Dutra, Alt., Deputy ..... ✓

## North Palm Beach

Joseph Yungk, Appt., Detective ..... ✓

## Ocean Ridge

Mario Galluscio, Officer ..... ✓  
David Kurz, Alt. Appt., Officer ..... ✓

## Palm Beach County School Police

Kevin O'Sullivan, Officer ..... Excused  
Ronnie Williams, Officer ..... ✓  
Alex Lopez, Officer ..... ✓  
Brian Qualters, Appt., Officer ..... Excused

## PBSO - Law Enforcement

Paul "Roy" Vrchota, Lt ..... ✓  
Daniel Glisson, Sgt ..... ✓  
Mike Kletzky, Lt ..... ✓  
John McGuire, Sgt ..... ✓  
Chris Caris, Sgt ..... ✓  
Ray Griffith, Alt., Sgt ..... ✓  
Carlos Ugalde, Alt., Sgt ..... ✓  
Butch Altonen, Appt., Sgt ..... ✓  
Mike Antonopoulos, Appt., Lt ..... ✓  
Dan Burrows, Appt. Sgt ..... ✓  
Bill Gale, Appt., Sgt ..... ✓  
Grant Henderson, Appt., Sgt ..... ✓  
John Kazanjian, II, Appt., Deputy ..... ✓  
Alex Nunes, Appt., Deputy ..... ✓  
Brandon West, Appt., Deputy ..... ✓  
Jay Gallagher, Appt., Sgt ..... ✓  
Jason Johnson, Appt., Agent ..... ✓  
Mark Lozano, Appt., Deputy ..... ✓  
Billy Gray, Appt., Deputy ..... ✓  
Josh Leheny, Appt., Deputy ..... ✓  
Matt DeJoy, Appt., Deputy ..... Excused  
John Pedone, Appt., Deputy ..... ✓  
Brandon Aultman, Appt., Deputy ..... ✓

## PBSO - Corrections

Vivian Lawrence, Cpl ..... ✓  
Will Pinto, Lt ..... ✓  
Ernie Bussey, Lt ..... ✓  
Jeff Jackson, Lt ..... ✓  
Brian Ronk, Sgt ..... ✓  
Brenda Smith, Alt., Lt ..... Unexcused  
Thomas Jordan, Appt. Alt., D/S ..... Excused

## PBSO - Civilians

John Costello, Manager ..... ✓  
Kim Wilson, Unit Manager ..... ✓  
Mark Gish, Section Manager ..... ✓  
Kristen Kazanjian, LEA ..... ✓  
Tequesta McKinney-James,  
Corr Support Personnel ..... ✓  
Kara Bannon, Alt., Analyst ..... ✓  
Omar Felix, Alt., Sr Forensic Sci ..... ✓  
Eddie Aviles, Appt., Civilian ..... ✓  
Kayai Graham, Appt., CSP ..... ✓  
**Palm Beach Gardens**  
Greg Allen, Officer ..... ✓  
Randy Buntin, Sgt ..... ✓  
Dorian Hawkins, Officer ..... ✓  
Randall Anderson, Agent ..... ✓  
Brian Naus, Appt., Dispatcher ..... ✓  
Michael Means, Appt., Dispatcher

## Palm Beach Shores

Blasé Pfefferkorn, Officer ..... Excused  
Steve Langevin, Alt., Lt ..... Excused

## Palm Springs

Darrell Diez, Officer ..... ✓  
Sean Grant, Alt., Officer ..... Unexcused  
Louis Collura, Appt., Sgt ..... ✓

## Riviera Beach

Nancy Aspenleitner, Detective ..... Working  
Nir Mordechay, Sgt ..... ✓  
Cornelius McGriff, Officer / Agent ..... ✓  
Jeremy Summers, Alt., Detective ..... ✓  
Michael Brown, Alt. Appt., Officer ..... ✓

## South Palm Beach

Mark McKirchy, Officer ..... ✓  
Jason LaForte, Alt., Officer ..... ✓

## Stuart

David Duran, Appt., Officer ..... Unexcused

## Tequesta

Raymond Korkowski, Officer ..... ✓  
Aaron Johnson, Alt. Appt., Corporal ..... ✓

## West Palm Beach

Joseph Herb, Officer ..... ✓  
Dennis Hardiman, Officer ..... ✓  
Chuck Branch, Officer ..... ✓  
Jay Donde, Officer ..... ✓  
John Rebholz, Officer ..... Unexcused  
Michael Ferrera, Alt., Officer ..... Unexcused  
Eric Evrley, Alt., Officer ..... ✓  
Troy Marchese, Appt., Lt ..... ✓

# Welcome New Members

## NOVEMBER 2015

CHRISTOPHER SCHMIDT ..... Lake Clarke Shores  
 MARY DUGGAN ..... MCSO  
 MICHAEL PORATH ..... PBSO  
 BRITTANY BLACK ..... PBSO  
 JAMES HARRIS ..... PBSO  
 RAFAEL PADILLA-RODRIGUEZ ..... PBSO  
 STEPHANIE HOLST ..... Delray Beach  
 TEO KYOTIKKI ..... Delray Beach  
 LOISE PIMENTEL ..... Delray Beach  
 KAREN BALDWIN ..... PBSO  
 JEFFERY VANCAMP, JR ..... Ocean Ridge  
 ANGIE VASSALOTTI ..... PBSO  
 RICKEY BETHEL JR ..... FAU  
 DIANA BURFIELD ..... PBC School Police  
 CHARLENE FORDE ..... PBSO  
 NATHANIAL WISH ..... PBSO  
 FELIX JEAN-JULIEN ..... PBSO  
 MATTHEW PALLADINO ..... Jupiter  
 GAEL GASSANT ..... FAU  
 GINA GOULETTE ..... PBC School Police  
 KATRINA JONES ..... PBC School Police

## DECEMBER 2015

KEITH DAVIS JR ..... PBSO  
 DAVID SYLER ..... MCSO  
 WILLIAM BRUFFEY ..... PBSO  
 BRIAN BARR ..... Riviera Beach  
 JASON NEITZ ..... PBSO  
 KRISTOPHER KUBIAK ..... Palm Springs  
 NATALIE WAUCHOPE ..... PBSO  
 CASEY STRIPLING ..... West Palm Beach  
 CASEY WALTER ..... West Palm Beach  
 JETARIAN DAVIS ..... PBSO  
 MANDY MANOPLA ..... PBSO  
 SYLVESTER BUTLER ..... PBSO  
 JAMES CLODFELTES ..... PBSO  
 NATHANIEL WEBB ..... PBSO  
 EUGENE MARCAIDA ..... MCSO

## JANUARY 2016

TRACY ANDREWS ..... PBSO  
 ANGEL RODRIGUEZ ..... Palm Beach Gardens  
 ROBERT SEAY ..... Palm Beach Gardens  
 INGRID CARTWRIGHT ..... PBSO  
 LATOYA EDWARDS ..... PBSO  
 SANDY MURRAY-HOLDEN ..... PBSO  
 DARRICK NICHOLS ..... PBSO  
 TARA WASHINGTON ..... PBSO  
 DORIAN PUMALO ..... North Palm Beach

JEFFREY MCINNIS ..... PBSO  
 LEWIS WEST SR ..... PBSO  
 JASON FLESCH ..... Jupiter  
 RYAN PEARLMAN ..... MCSO  
 RYAN BECKFORD ..... PBSO  
 TARANAE STANLEY ..... PBSO  
 KATHERINE BERISH ..... Ocean Ridge  
 JOSHUA JOSEF ..... PBSO  
 VINROY HYLTON ..... Riviera Beach  
 NICOLE ARMSEY ..... PBSO  
 HAROLD ALLEWELT ..... PBSO  
 JASON ANTHONY ..... PBSO  
 AMAMDA BLAKLEY ..... PBSO  
 JONATHON BRYANT ..... PBSO  
 LUCY CALDERON ..... PBSO  
 ASHLEY CARSENI ..... PBSO  
 JACKIE CISSON ..... PBSO  
 AMANDA CONNER ..... PBSO  
 JUSTIN DORFMAN ..... PBSO  
 TYLER EVES ..... PBSO  
 LOUIS FABIEN, JR ..... PBSO  
 DEMERTIUS FERGUSON ..... PBSO  
 CATHY FITZSIMMONS ..... PBSO  
 JULIANA FORESTAL ..... PBSO  
 LISA GARCIA ..... PBSO  
 BRIAN GARCIA ..... PBSO  
 ROBERT GUZMAN ..... PBSO  
 CODY JACOBS ..... PBSO  
 DASHAWN JOHNSON ..... PBSO  
 QUINCY JOSEPH ..... PBSO  
 LINVAL LINDSAY ..... PBSO  
 AMADEO LOPEZ ..... PBSO  
 MICHAEL MILLER ..... PBSO  
 FABIENNE MIOT-CESAR ..... PBSO  
 TREVOR MOCK ..... PBSO  
 ANDREW MOREIRA ..... PBSO  
 GLENN PALMER III ..... PBSO  
 DENESE PEART ..... PBSO  
 SHELDON PERRY ..... PBSO  
 HAROLD PRITCHARD ..... PBSO  
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 REUBEN TUR ..... PBSO  
 RAYMOND WALLS ..... PBSO  
 ERIKA WILCOX ..... PBSO  
 GARY WOZNICK ..... PBSO  
 JOHNNY YOUNG ..... PBSO  
 SABITA KHANAL ..... PBSO

## FEBRUARY 2016

ZACHARY PECCI ..... Stuart  
 MARY BRYANT ..... PBSO  
 DIANA HAYES ..... Boynton Beach  
 ERIC LAMPE ..... Boynton Beach  
 DANIELLE WAGNER ..... Boynton Beach  
 RICHARD ERMERI JR ..... Ocean Ridge  
 DANIEL BUMGARDNER ..... Boynton Beach  
 DANIEL RAMOS ..... Boynton Beach  
 JERVIS DALEY ..... Boynton Beach  
 JENNIFER HARDIMAN ..... West Palm Beach  
 JOEL RIVERA ..... PBSO  
 BELINDA VELASQUEZ ..... PBSO  
 IAN SITZ ..... Delray Beach  
 MICHAEL DELAI ..... PBSO  
 TASHA TOPPIN-DAVIS ..... Palm Beach  
 RICHARD REITANO ..... PBSO  
 DREW PATTERSON ..... MCSO  
 THOMAS GROB ..... PBSO  
 JARRETT SWABY ..... MCSO

## MARCH 2016

GARY LEW ..... North Palm Beach  
 LEAH FEINGOLD ..... PBSO  
 ILEANA VIDAURRE ..... PBSO  
 BILL VANDERMEEREN SANCHEZ ..... Delray Beach  
 SCOTT MARTIN ..... PBSO  
 DEBRA SCHWARZ ..... PBSO  
 DONALD JOSEPH ..... MCSO  
 MARK-ANTHONY MALDONADO ..... Palm Beach Gardens  
 CHRISTOPHER FANDREY ..... Jupiter  
 KEITH GRIESER ..... North Palm Beach  
 ROBERT GAUMOND, JR ..... Retiree  
 KENNETH CRAWFORD ..... West Palm Beach  
 KIMBERLY GARCIA ..... West Palm Beach  
 DREW NOEL ..... West Palm Beach  
 MICHAEL GARGO ..... MCSO  
 SUZIE PIERRE ..... PBSO  
 JACLYN WATTS ..... PBSO  
 YAGO BRILLO ..... West Palm Beach  
 MICHELLE MALAVE ..... Delray Beach  
 CHRISTOPHER CAUDILLO ..... West Palm Beach  
 EDWARD MALONEY ..... Manalapan  
 GILBERT GILBES ..... PBSO  
 SAMUEL KIMMEL ..... MCSO



## SAVE THE DATES



**June 3-4**

### 9th Annual Palm Beach County PBA Police Officer's Ball

PGA National Resort & Spa  
400 Avenue of the Champions, Palm Beach Gardens

Join the Palm Beach County PBA at the 9th Annual Ball celebrating the Officer of the Year Awards on June 4. More activities, like a cookout will take place throughout the weekend. For information, contact the Palm Beach County PBA at 561-689-3745.



### DON'T FORGET TO VOTE

**Aug. 30: Primary Election**

**Nov. 8: General Election**



**July 24-27**

### NAPO's 38th Annual Convention

Eau Palm Beach Resort  
100 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan

The National Association of Police Organizations 38th Annual Convention will bring leaders of law enforcement associations from across the U.S. to Palm Beach County for three days of great information and great activities. The PBCPBA is hosting the convention at the famed Eau Palm Beach Resort, which offers great family fun and fabulous adult escapes. Among the scheduled speakers is Bobby Smith of the Louisiana State Police, who will tell his story of recovering from a shotgun blast to the face during an encounter with a drug offender.



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# Change for the better



JOHN  
PEDONE

On Jan. 31, I was in my home staring at a uniform I once wore more than 20 years ago. I have to say the feeling was a little surreal. I was filled with excitement and hope for the future for the first time in a long while.

Naturally, there were jitters with such a big change. Every question that popped into my mind could not possibly be answered all at once. For our officers, the field training was already completed. For our dispatchers, it had not yet begun. The merger was about to happen. It was long

overdue.

On Feb. 1, the Sheriff's Office took over law enforcement services in Greenacres. Almost every officer in the merger remained in Greenacres. The benefits of the merger were immediately felt. With resources now directly available, an armed robber was quickly apprehended the first day. Since then, resources have started to pour into the area, with more to come. We know it will take time to clean up what has been building up over the past decade, but with the tools to do the job we can now get it done.

On behalf of our Greenacres family, I want to thank everyone involved in making this merger happen. The Greenacres City Council made this merger possible starting with their majori-



The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office officially took over law enforcement services in Greenacres at this Feb. 2 swearing-in ceremony.

ty vote after multiple meetings with members from the Sheriff's Office. The PBA and our reps all played a part to make this merger as smooth as possible internally. Sheriff Ric Bradshaw took the time to personally speak with our officers and civilians to answer questions. Our new commander, Captain Sean Murray, brought in great staff and we are all working well together, learning from one another to make this a success.

On behalf of the Old Guard of Greenacres, we appreciate and are looking forward to being part of the New Guard with PBSO. ♥



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# New issue with new vehicles in West Palm Beach



LOU  
PENQUE  
TREASURER

Vehicles continue to be an issue between the union and city administration in City of West Palm Beach. The main problem is the people who use the equipment have no say about what is best for them, especially when the city's main issue is sustainability. This is extremely frustrating to my members, police administrators and even some city administrators.

We are trying to educate the city about this issue and prevent a terrible decision, which will cost the city millions of dollars in workers' compensation claims and liability lawsuits from accidents and injured prisoners in years to come.

Here is the issue: There are two types of vehicles to choose for road patrol - the Ford Interceptor Sedan and the Ford Interceptor Utility Vehicle. Both vehicles have the same chassis and drive train; the differences are price and body style.

The utility vehicle costs approximately \$1,700 more. The problem with the sedan is the passenger compartment size. It is basically a sardine can. I do not know how an officer is expected to operate efficiently during an 11.5-hour shift working inside this space.

Tactically, this vehicle also presents several obstacles. It is difficult to get in and out of the vehicle quickly due to the positioning of the front seat. And it has limited visibility, especially when backing up. You will see a dramatic increase in crashes as a result of the limited visibility.

Ergonomically, this vehicle is a disaster. There is no room inside your vehicle/office to move around, let alone to type reports. Shoulder and back injuries will result from this poor ergonomic design.

Lastly, the prisoner compartment is so small that I do not know how you can put even an average-size adult in the rear compartment. I believe it is actually cruel to stuff a person in that rear compartment. There will be several injuries resulting of prisoner transport, especially when they are not cooperative. Some officers reported actually laying prisoners across the rear seat in order to transport them to headquarters.

So do you really want to put your police officer inside this sardine can send them on the road and, after a few hours, they will be miserable, uncomfortable and stressed? What type of compassion do you think the customer is going to receive when reporting a crime to that responding officer? This will also affect an officer's ability to de-escalate volatile situations and could result in an increase in use of force when there may have been a chance to verbally de-escalate.

I always believe that you never make a complaint without a solution, and fortunately there is a simple one. That is the utility vehicle. Every issue with the sedan is resolved by purchasing the utility vehicle. That is why you are seeing so many being purchased nationally.

I organized a demonstration with city administration recently and provided both types of vehicles for comparison. They all recognized the issues, but were reluctant to commit to change



The Utility Vehicle.



The Sedan.



The lack of space in the rear seat of the sedan.

because sustainability keeps coming up as the driving force for purchasing sedans instead of utility vehicles. And in case you were wondering, the director from sustainability denied the invitation to actually see what was purchased and what solutions we had to offer.

I did meet with the mayor about the issue, and she is willing to look at the vehicles. I believe that she will realize the problems and switch to the utility vehicle. If she rejects our request, we will continue to address through other means. I will keep you updated. ♥



# The 2016 state legislative session in review



**MATT  
PUCKETT**  
FLORIDA  
PBA  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR

The 2016 Legislature placed emphasis on the sacrifices made by first responders and their families. The harsh realities of the profession were acknowledged with enhancements to the survivor benefit, the continuation of a vital public record exemption and a constitutional amendment for permanently disabled first responders. The recognition of sacrifice was ever present as these three legislative initiatives travelled through the legislative process. Toward the end of session, it seemed at times that SB 7012 and SB 7022 were not going to pass, but the PBA and our partners persisted. We are grateful to Speaker Steve Crisafulli and Senate President Andy Gardiner for leading their chambers in such a manner that all three issues reached completion.

Here is a recap of how we worked to get these and other bills passed and what it means for PBA members:

## **SB 7012: Florida Retirement System Enhanced Benefits for Survivors**

This legislation increases the benefit to survivors (spouse and children) for both Florida Retirement System investment plan and pension plan employees to 100 percent of the officer's salary at the time of death. The legislation is retroactive to Sept. 1, 2013 in order to include the widow of Orange County Deputy Sheriff Scott Pine, who was left with three children and no monthly salary benefit from her husband's investment account. Deputy Pine's wife, Bridget, has been a tireless advocate for this legislation and she deserves our respect and gratitude for standing firm against what appeared to be difficult legislative odds.

The survivor benefits are payable for the life of the surviving spouse. If there is no surviving spouse or the spouse dies, the member's children will receive the benefits until the youngest child's 18th birthday. The benefits may be extended to the 25th birthday of an unmarried child enrolled as a full time student.

Our hope is that we can get the same benefit for all of the municipal first responders in the future. There are constitutional questions regarding unfunded mandates to local government that prevented this benefit from including all first responders regardless of employer.

The Florida PBA worked closely with a number of different people in organizations on this legislation. Please join us and thanking our partners:

- Senate President Andy Gardiner
- Speaker of the House of Representatives Steve Crisafulli
- Senator Jeremy Ring
- Representative Rene Plasencia
- Representative Matt Caldwell
- Representative Mike Hill
- Sara Carroll Glassner, Florida Sheriff's Association
- Captain Dennis Strange, Orange County Sheriff's Office
- The Florida Professional Firefighters
- Karen Camechis, Staff Director, House State Affairs
- Joe McVane, Staff Director Senate Government Over-

sight & Accountability Committee

- Heather Williamson, Staff Director, House Government Operations Subcommittee

## **SB 7022: Public Records Exemption**

SB 7022 provides a public record exemption for a photograph, video or audio recording that depicts the killing of a law enforcement officer who was acting in accordance with his or her official duties. These depictions are exempt from public record requirements and confidential; however the exemption allows for a surviving spouse, parent or adult child to view, copy or listen to any such recording. The surviving relative who has authority to view the recordings may designate in writing an agent to obtain them. Any custodian of the record who knowingly violates these provisions will be subject to a third-degree felony. Unlike the previous exemption, this renewed exemption is not scheduled to expire.

The Tampa PBA, Florida PBA, the Tampa Police Department and the City of Tampa worked together to keep the law enforcement officer depictions excluded from the public record.

This legislation was unique in that it did not have a House companion. The Senate Criminal Justice Committee created the legislation rather late in the process. The delay in the Senate ran the clock out on the House committee process, which, at first, seemed to place the exemption in jeopardy. However, Speaker Crisafulli and his staff made sure the Senate's exemption language got to the House floor where it easily passed the full chamber.

The Florida PBA worked closely with the following people and organizations on this legislation. Please join us in thanking our partners:

- Mayor Bob Buckhorn, City of Tampa
- Senate President Andy Gardiner
- Speaker Steve Crisafulli
- Senator Greg Evers
- Representative Matt Caldwell
- Dave Murzin, Legislative Aide for Senator Evers
- Karen Camechis, Staff Director, House State Affairs;
- Lobbyist Will Peebles, City of Tampa

## **HB 1009: Constitutional amendment providing a Homestead Exemption for Totally and Permanently Disabled First Responders**

The Florida House and Senate passed Joint Resolution HB 1009 placing a constitutional amendment on this year's ballot asking the voters to provide a homestead exemption to first responders who are totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty. The amendment requires at least 60-percent approval by the voters in order to be placed into the Florida Constitution. If passed, the legislature will create implementing language to set the level of the homestead exemption.

Thank you to Senator Joe Negron and Representative Larry Metz for sponsoring this resolution. The PBA joined the Florida Sheriffs' Association, Florida Professional Firefighters, Florida Chiefs' Association and Fraternal Order of Police in support of the resolution. ♥

# NAPO sends letter to President Obama regarding extradition of cop-killers from Cuba

On March 22, NAPO Executive Director Bill Johnson sent a letter to President Barack Obama and Attorney General Loretta Lynch regarding the urgent need to include the extradition of violent criminals as part of the U.S. reopening of diplomatic relations with Cuba.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Department of State must work together to bring back violent criminals who fled to Cuba – such as cop-killer Joanne Chesimard – so that these criminals can be brought to justice. Chesimard is on the FBI's most wanted terrorist list for her role in the killing of New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster in 1973.

The fact that violent felons like Chesimard are living free in Cuba is an affront to the men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting our communities as law enforcement officers, and the families and friends of officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

NAPO strongly believes that the U.S. Government should do everything in its power to ensure the extradition of violent criminals and cop-killers from Cuba.

## DOJ announces resumption of Asset Forfeiture Program

In a victory for NAPO and state and local law enforcement across the country, Attorney General Loretta Lynch and Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates announced on March 28 that the DOJ is resuming the Asset Forfeiture Program. The DOJ will begin processing payments to state and local law enforcement through the equitable sharing program as soon as possible.

There is a backlog of applications for payments dating back to Dec. 21, 2015, when the DOJ suspended the program, as agencies continued to submit payment applications despite the deferral of payments. The DOJ will process the applications in the order in which they were received.

The DOJ is sending a letter and fact sheet to its state and local law enforcement partners about the resumption of this important program. NAPO fought hard to restore the equitable sharing program to ensure the continuation of the successful relationship between the federal government and state and local law enforcement that has allowed agencies to participate in joint-task forces to prevent and foil serious criminal activity and terrorism, purchase equipment, provide training, upgrade technology, engage their communities and better protect their officers.

## Blue Lives Matter Act introduced in the House

On March 16, Representative Ken Buck (R-Colorado) introduced the Blue Lives Matter Act, which extends greater protections to police officers by expanding the federal hate crime



statute to include law enforcement officers.

NAPO endorses this legislation, as it is critical to bolster protections for law enforcement, as violence against officers – as a result of their identity as police officers, alone – has increased sharply in the past couple of years.

NAPO believes that establishing stricter penalties for those who harm – or target for harm – law enforcement officers, will deter crime. Covering law enforcement officers under the hate crime statute will affect important changes in the attitudes of criminals toward officers, and ensure protection for the community.

## NAPO addresses concerns with Public Safety Officers' Benefits

NAPO, the Director of the Bureau for Justice Assistance Denise O'Donnell and Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Director Hope Janke discussed concerns with the PSOB Office's new policies regarding "speeding" cases, involving death or disability as a result of speeding or traffic law violations.

In the new reviewing process for "speeding" cases, the PSOB Office is relying heavily on departments and agencies to provide sufficient evidence that the officer was responding to a request for assistance, and that the actions of the officer – whether they be speeding or an improper lane change – were reasonable under the circumstances.

Without such evidence, the PSOB Office will assert that the officer's death or disability was due to gross negligence and intentional misconduct on behalf of the officer. Under this process, a family's ability to receive death or disability benefits rests in the hands of agencies and their decision to formally recognize that an officer's speeding while responding to a call for assistance is an accepted and reasonable practice. NAPO does not believe that many agencies will be willing to put such a statement in writing.

NAPO reiterated its strong objections to this process, and stated that the PSOB Office must resolve any reasonable doubt arising from the circumstances of an officer's death or disability in favor of payment of the benefit. O'Donnell responded that the PSOB Office could not adopt that policy under current statute, which has a high standard of proof, but she was open to exploring other ideas to address our concerns. ❤





# Ringin'

## Endorsements

The Palm Beach PBA's process to vet candidates for local, county and state races creates a very exhilarating election collection.

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

Enter and sign in please, Political Candidate 86. Have a seat at the head of the table and let's talk about your campaign to be an elected official and represent Palm Beach County PBA members. Are you ready for some questions from our esteemed panel?

Ernie George, Executive Director, please start the questioning.

"Do you believe you can reach compromises with the other party to get things done?"

Treasurer Lou Penque, what do you want to know?

"Do you understand the intricacies of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office budget, one of the largest in the country?"

Turning to you Sergeant-at-Arms Greg Allen...

"How can you help our collective bargaining efforts to secure our pension benefits, pay and all that?"

And President John Kazanjian, what do you want to know?

"Call me Kaz. When the issues that affect police officers come up at the city, county or state level and we come knocking on your door to give our input, how do we know you will listen to us?"

Thank you for coming, Political Candidate 86. As you make your way out, please stop and have your picture taken in the foyer with these gentlemen and the other members of the PBCPBA Endorsement Committee, Secretary Kevin Igo and PBSO Lieutenant Mike Kletzky.





Dave Kerner, candidate for County Commissioner in District 3, with the Endorsement Committee members.

Some 50 candidates passed through PBCPBA headquarters on March 17-18 in what can be characterized as a modern-day version of the 1960s television quiz show *What's My Line?* mixed in, perhaps, with a little *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* This review might have even combined a bit of *American Idol* auditions as candidates for city, county and state offices presented their like-mindedness on issues and concerns affecting law enforcement.

Or maybe it was really *To Tell the Truth* as the PBA gathered to screen candidates and determine its coveted 2016 political endorsements.

"They cherish the PBA endorsement," Kaz explains. "The reason they strive to get that endorsement, and the police endorsement as a whole, is because people look at it as if the cops are endorsing them, they must be good."

The candidates who earned the PBA seal of approval for the Aug. 30 Primary Election and Nov. 8 General Election can trade on the PBA's nearly 90 percent success rate in elections past. The list you see on page 18 resulted from a little interrogation and a little conversation to look for signs of alignment with PBA objectives and goals and who would be an ally in a law enforcement world that has become more and more reliant on politics.

### Political action

George has been screening candidates for 30 years, and so his seat at the other end of the conference room table where the interviewing occurred is one with reason and the necessary apprehension and uncertainty. From his view, he is looking for aspiring elected officials who aren't as far to the right or left as they have been in recent years.

Other signs to tip the scales of justifiable endorsement included an expression of belief in doing what is needed to ensure members can make a decent wage, with the benefits promised and protection for their families in the event of a catastrophic injury or worse. To be a little more candid, the endorsement team was on the lookout for candidates who would, as Penque

notes, "Do the best job for the interest of public safety to help us get the equipment and support we need to do our jobs."

An imminently, if not prototypical, endorsable candidate was one like Matt Willhite, who is running for state representative in District 86, which covers parts of West Palm Beach and Greenacres. Willhite being a captain with Palm Beach Fire Rescue obviously gives him inside information about issues concerning public safety, and his understanding of the challenges with Florida Retirement System targets one of the matters at the top of the PBCPBA agenda.

But a candidate presenting the working relationship with the PBA Willhite advocated is one that piques endorsement.

"Endorsement doesn't mean you have to do something, but you will be there with an open door to listen to their concerns," he reasons. "What I tried to convey is how these people are important to all of us. They put their lives on the line to protect us, then they go home and serve as baseball coaches and are an integral part of the community. Then, they volunteer to raise awareness to support others, and if that's not the basis for what our country should be, than I don't know what is."

Now, not every candidate said as much or said it as well, but Kaz did have a checklist in mind for what candidates needed to articulate:

"If it's a city candidate, of course we ask about collective bargaining agreements so we have their support on pay, benefits and all that," Mr. President outlined.

"If it's a county commissioner race, we're asking the candidate to support the sheriff's office budget, or if they oppose or are in agreement with municipalities merging with the sheriff's office," Kaz detailed.

"If it's the state level, we're pretty much targeting FRS," he added.

And in this foray of *What's My Line?* or *Whose Line is It?*, the ultimate objective is to make sure a candidate is not handing

CONTINUED ON 19



## 2016 Palm Beach County PBA Political Endorsements

### August 15 Primary Election

CANDIDATE	CITY COUNTY	SEAT
Laura Johnson	Circuit Court Judge	Group 3
Greg Tendrich	Circuit Court Judge	Group 4
Hal Valeche	County Commission	District 1
Dave Kerner	County Commission	District 3
MaryLou Berger	County Commission	District 5
Mack Bernard	County Commission	District 7
Brad Harper	County Court Judge	Group 15
Marni Bryson	County Court Judge	Group 7
Joe Sesta	Martin County	Tax Collector
Doug Smith	MC Commission	District 1
John Haddox	MC Commission	District 5
Sharon Bock	Palm Beach County	Clerk & Comptroller
Shelley Vana	Palm Beach County	Property Appraiser
Chris Nocco	Pasco County	Sheriff
Chuck Shaw	School Board	District 2
Frank Barbieri, Jr.	School Board	District 5
Emily Slosberg	State Representative	District 30
Kevin Rader	State Representative	District 81
Matt Willhite	State Representative	District 86
David Silvers	State Representative	District 87
Bill Hager	State Representative	District 89
Lori Berman	State Representative	District 90
Irving Slosberg	State Representative	District 91
Rebecca Negron	U.S. Representative	District 18

### Won March 15 Presidential Primary Election

CANDIDATE	CITY COUNTY	SEAT
Christina Romelus	Boynton Beach	Commission District 3
Jerry Taylor	Boynton Beach	Mayor
Jonathan Pearce	Greenacres	Council District 2
Judy Dugo	Greenacres	District 3
Ilan Kaufe	Jupiter	Commission District 2
Todd Wodraska	Jupiter	Mayor
Scott Maxwell	Lake Worth	Commission District 1
Pam Triolo	Lake Worth	Mayor
Maria Marino	Palm Beach Gardens	Group 2
Tonya Davis Johnson	Riviera Beach	District 3
Terence Davis	Riviera Beach	District 5
Thomas Masters	Riviera Beach	Mayor
Jeff Hmara	Royal Palm Beach	Council Seat 1
Fred Pinto	Royal Palm Beach	Mayor

### Elect Judge Laura Johnson Circuit Judge, Group 3

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them a line.

"Oh, we absolutely can tell who we can count on," Kaz asserts.

Adds George: "Police officers deal with people every day, so we have to be able to know if people are giving you lip service or if you can really believe what they are saying."

### Going to the candidate's debate

There were no hot lights used during this vetting process. And the PBCPBA members participating in the process did not split themselves into good cops and bad cops. David Silvers, who is running as a Democrat for State Representative in District 87 that covers parts of Greenacres, Lake Worth and West Palm Beach, described his meeting as conversational rather than confrontational and added that the committee remembered during his first run in 2014 that he was out there knocking on more than 10,000 doors to campaign.

There is some it-takes-one-to-know-one to this endeavor, according to George. "We have realized that in a law enforcement job, everything revolves around politics," he clarifies. So the committee is campaigning as much as the candidate seeking endorsement. Or more.

"We try to educate them on our issues," George continues. "Like on body cameras to see if they want body cameras no matter what the cost. Do they still want them if they take away police cars and other equipment we need to have to do our jobs in today's atmosphere? We try to educate them to see if they will support our issues."

To determine the candidates invited to the screening meetings, the PBA went to the Supervisor of Elections to see which ones are qualified, then sent out invitations by mail. Appointments were scheduled in 15-to-30-minute time blocks during

CONTINUED ON 20



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## RINGING ENDORSEMENTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

the two days, and candidates arrived early to fill out a questionnaire that set the table for each meeting.

One member of the committee took the lead with each candidate so as not to make it seem like a firing line. And the process was designed to use the questionnaire to detect, perhaps above everything else, if candidates came in with an open mind and an open ear to law enforcement needs.

As for what the process looked like from sitting at the head of the table, Candidate Willhite provided this perspective:

"They want to know if you know what they deal with day-to-day," he relates. "They ask you about you and your campaign, what you stand for, who has endorsed you, how much money you have raised and whether you can advocate for the things important to them and their issues."

### Endorse, endorse, of course, of course

The end result, as members can read, is a group of candidates who can use the PBA endorsement to further their election aspirations. The end game, however, taking advantage of one the biggest benefits labor unions have always provided for their

members: getting candidates elected.

"If you don't do it, then people don't know you," George elaborates. "When you need to see them in the legislative process, whether it's in Tallahassee or locally, by knowing them you can have access to get your points across. If you don't have that relationship, you don't have the chance to do what you need to get done for your members."

So in the end, it was candidates like Mary Lou Bernard, who is running for Palm Beach County Commissioner in District 5, or Dave Kerner, who abdicated his state representative seat to run for County Commissioner in District 3, that made the greatest impact. According to Penque, these and others made the committee members feel like they stand by their side

and understand budget concerns.

That might be the golden ticket at a time when municipal government seems to be experiencing increased revenue and has a chance to give cops some of what they haven't been getting for the past five or six years. Or it might be the value of the endorsement that Silvers expressed.

"I would think it goes back to seeking law enforcement's input," he confides. "If you have the chance to go over a bill with a



Lori Berman, candidate for state representative in District 90, with the Endorsement Committee members.

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Paid by David Silvers, Democrat, for State House







Laura Johnson, candidate for Circuit Court Judge in Group 3, with the Endorsement Committee members.



Brad Harper, candidate for County Court Judge in Group 15, with the Endorsement Committee members.

law enforcement officer, it can open your eyes to an important perspective."

And if there was ever any question about whether two days and meeting 50 candidates made an impact, and whether the PBA furthered its presence in the political arena with such an effort, consider what Penque reports in the aftermath of publishing the endorsements.

"Believe me," he says. "We get a lot of phone calls from the candidates who don't get the endorsement." ♥

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# A Fairway to Remember

A tournament tradition honors the memory of Kaitlin Kazanjian

■ BY ARNIE ROSENBERG  
■ PHOTOS BY KELLY WAGNER

In the early-morning hours of March 5, long before anyone had teed off at Sandhill Crane Golf Course, Rich Tschernia was on a plane for Florida. The night before, he'd attended another law enforcement fundraiser – a Casino Night in Rye Brook, New York, sponsored by the New York State Troopers PBA, as a benefit for its Signal 30 Fund.

But he wasn't about to miss this special event in Palm Beach Gardens: the 12th annual Kaitlin A. Kazanjian Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament.

Beaming as he surveyed more than 150 Palm Beach County PBA members – along with their families and their guests, who had come together for a day of camaraderie and to support one of the PBA's three scholarship funds – Tschernia emphasized why he's been an enthusiastic supporter of events just like this one for roughly 25 years.

"It's not only about working to make money," said Tschernia, whose company, Freedom Mortgage, donated a trip to the Bahamas for the golf tournament. "It's about giving back to these guys who are taking care of us. I wouldn't miss this event."

Golf, of course, is the "social" aspect of the Palm Beach County PBA's annual golf tournament. But underlying this annual day on the links – the fresh-off-the-grill meals served

up all day by Ray Griffith's PBA Grill Team, and prizes ranging from golf equipment and cash to trips and TVs – there's a purpose not lost on those who attended.

The event serves to remember Kaitlin Kazanjian, who was 16 when she died in a car crash on Nov. 3, 2003. When her father, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Sergeant John Kazanjian, became PBA president, he established a scholarship in her memory and began the golf tournament to raise funds that assist children of the Sheriff's Office PBA members.

According to Kazanjian, the annual event continues to help the family heal.

"It's part of the grieving process," he reflected. "It's therapeutic for me and my wife, and it helps keep Kaitlin's memory alive."

Kazanjian's brother, Alan – one of several family members who makes the trip to Florida from Lowell, Massachusetts, each year for the golf tournament – said the family sponsors another charity golf tournament every year in Lowell, to honor Kaitlin's memory. There, while the funds pay for a Christmas party for roughly 200 underprivileged children, Alan stressed that the real purpose is the same as it is in Palm Beach County: "To keep her name alive – to make sure her name is never forgotten."

The city of Palm Beach Gardens has hosted the tournament at its municipal course, which, in the fall, was renamed Sandhill Crane.





"It's one of only three major tournaments we hold here, and it's become a true community event," explained Charlotte Presensky, projects manager for the city of Palm Beach Gardens. "It's a locally-grown event and it serves our youth, so we're excited to be a part of this event every year."

Underscoring both the broad support for the Kaitlin A. Kazanjian Memorial Scholarship and the strong working relationship between the Sheriff's Office leadership and the PBA, both Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw and Chief Deputy Michael Gauger turned out for the tournament.

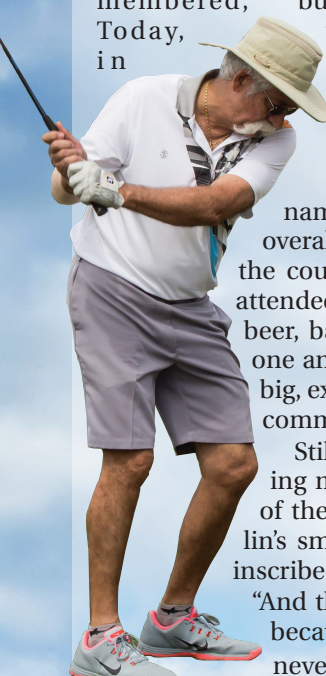
Gauger, in fact, recalled his role in bringing the PBA to the Sheriff's Office in 1973-74.

"I was almost fired. We had no rights back then," he remembered, "but we tried to bring both sides together. Today, we're on opposite sides of an issue once in a while, but we both understand we have a job to do. This is a fun event, and I like being out here in a role that the guys don't usually see me in."

Though everyone enjoyed the tournament, having fun was only part of the overall experience. Just wandering across the course and through the clubhouse area, attendees experienced more than just golf, beer, barbecue and friends catching up with one another. The feeling of family – that this big, extended family had come together for a common purpose – was pervasive.

Still, nothing captured that familial feeling more than the T-shirts some members of the Kazanjian family wore. Bearing Kaitlin's smiling face on the front, the back was inscribed:

"And though she is no longer seen, she lives because she was dearly loved, and love can never end." ♥











The 12th annual  
**Kaitlin A. Kazanjian**  
Scholarship Golf  
Tournament



# Palm Beach County PBA Officer of the Month Honorees

**January 2016**



**PBSO Deputy Sheriff Brandon Serraes**  
Nominated by Sergeant Rick McAfee

In November 2015, Deputy Sheriff Brandon Serraes was first to arrive at a scene of an active fire. He ran into the house, upstairs, through thick smoke, twice and separately carried out two civilian occupants. Both were transported to Delray Medical Center. Deputy Sheriff Serraes displayed great bravery and courage and risked his life in an effort to preserve the lives of others.

**February 2016**



**West Palm Beach Officer Matthew Ward**  
Nominated by Sergeant Lou Penque

On Jan. 20, West Palm Beach Officer Matt Ward represented to 506 Division Avenue in reference to a fire to a structure. Officer Ward was able to kick the door in of a flame-engulfed residence where he discovered an occupant in the back room and guided him out to safety. Because of Officer Ward's bravery and courage a citizen's life was saved.

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# Kaz and Ernie join national pension experts at NAPO Conference

The National Association of Police Organizations hosted its 28th Annual Police, Fire, EMS & Municipal Employee Pension & Benefits Seminar Jan. 24-26 at the Caesars Palace Hotel in Las Vegas. The conference, which was attended by Police Benevolent Association members from many states, is held each year to educate pension and union representatives, along with their providers, on the latest issues surrounding the pension and benefits industry.

The 28th Annual Seminar spotlighted key issues, including the 2016 political outlook, selecting service providers, investment management, Social Security pension issues, healthcare costs and the Cadillac Tax.

One of the most enlightening and well-attended sessions was entitled "How a Pension Board should function." This panel discussion was moderated by Richard White, former Safety Trustee for the Orange County (California) Employees Retirement System.

The panel included John Kazanjian, president of the Palm Beach County PBA, and Ernie George, Executive Director of the Palm Beach County PBA and treasurer of the Florida State PBA. Richard Reimer, general counsel for the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association, and Verne Scazzero, President and CEO of Harvest Investments, were also part of the panel.

"The opportunity for Ernie and myself to participate recog-



Palm Beach PBA President John Kazanjian, second from right, and Executive Director Ernie George, second from left, were part of panel discussion about how a pension board should function at the 2016 NAPO Pension and Benefits Seminar.

nizes the challenges we face every day working to get the best pension benefits within one of the most difficult retirement systems in the country," Kaz noted. "We were honored to share our best practices and best ideas and contribute to what proved to be a very interesting discussion that hopefully helped police officers across the country." ♥

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**Sergeant Bruce Pinkman**  
Martin County Sheriff's Office  
1962-2016

Sergeant Pinkman passed away on Jan. 29 following a courageous battle with cancer.

Pinkman was born in Massachusetts on Jan. 12, 1962, before moving to Florida and graduating from Martin County High School in 1980. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps before beginning his law enforcement career with the Riviera Beach PD in 1986. Three years later, Pinkman was hired as a road patrol deputy at the Martin County Sheriff's Office, where he had a distinguished career with the Criminal Investigations Division as a detective before becoming a school resource officer.

In 2005 he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and returned to the uniform road patrol division. Sergeant Pinkman wrapped

## *In Memoriam*

*'His desire was to motivate'*

### Martin County Sheriff's Sergeant Bruce Pinkman worked to help new drivers 'Stay Alive'

up his law enforcement career in the traffic unit, where he created the "Take 5, Stay Alive" campaign. His desire was to motivate motorists, especially teenagers, to spend five seconds to buckle up before driving. Sergeant Pinkman encouraged positive reinforcement as a tool to save lives. He retired in 2015 from active duty, but remained as a reserve deputy with the Martin County Sheriff's Office.

In his downtime, Pinkman enjoyed playing golf, running, hiking, water and snow skiing, scuba diving and many intramural sports. He was a Florida Gators fanatic, and also enjoyed his Jeep trips and rock-crawling.

Sheriff William Snyder and the members of the Martin County Sheriff's Office send their thoughts and prayers to Sergeant Pinkman's family and friends. ♥



**Officer Sean Alex**  
PBC School Board PD  
1972-2016

"Officer Alex dedicated his life to the betterment of the lives of children. Although he was only with School Police for a short time, he has made an impact. He will be greatly missed," said a representative from the Palm Beach County School District PD via their Facebook page.

A champion of public education and tireless mentor to the younger generation, Alex's early career accomplishments as a young teaching professional led him straight down the challenging but truly rewarding path of a devoted law enforcement officer.

Many will remember Alex for his wisdom and depth of character. "Sean was a great person and a great police officer," stated Office Gordon Lerner of the Palm Beach Shores PD. "Even after 34 years in law enforcement, I learned things from Sean that I still use today."

*What a wonderful role model*

### Palm Beach County School Board PD Officer Sean Alex leaves legacy of service

Others will remember him for his inner spirit and genuine disposition. "Sean was fun and always kind," added longtime friend Marie Falkenberg of Erie, Pennsylvania. "I knew he was a teacher, but did not know he was a police officer. What a wonderful role model!"

But the Palm Beach County School District PD will remember Alex as always being "a part of the School Police family."

Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, on Feb. 23, 1972, Alex began his career as a teacher before transitioning to law enforcement. His values always have revolved around his faith, his family and a devotion to both learning and educating others.

Bravely having fought Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma alongside his loving family and cherished community, Alex passed away on Jan. 7. His enduring legacy will continue to shape and inspire the men, women, children and animals whose lives he changed for the better.

In between long hours as a school board police department officer, Alex always made time for the rescue and rehabilitation of dogs suffering from abandonment and neglect. In lieu of flowers, the Alex family requested donations be made to A Second Chance Puppies and Kittens Rescue, or Hospice of Palm Beach County Foundation. ♥





**Deputy Kevin Romine**  
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office  
1954-2016

## *In Memoriam*

*'An honor to have him in my life'*

### Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office mourns the loss of Deputy Kevin Patrick Romine

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office will remember the lifelong contribution of veteran officer Deputy Kevin Patrick Romine for 28 years of faithful service. After a brief bout with an illness, Romine passed away on March 8 at age 61 at the Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center.

Fellow officers and family members gathered to honor Romine's memory at a private Memorial Service at Scobee Combs Bowden Funeral Home and Crematory in Boynton Beach.

For nearly three decades, Romine served the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and the entire Palm Beach community. A native of Akron, Ohio, Romine made his home in Boynton Beach, the township in which is daughter, Amanda Shepaum, is continuing her father's legacy of public service as a Boynton Beach police officer.

Born on July 1, 1954, to the late James and Joan Romine, Kevin never forgot his Midwestern values. A proud veteran of the U.S. military, he dedicated his life to upholding unwavering American virtues of honor, duty and service. Friends, family and fellow officers will remember him for the conviction and strength of character that spanned his entire career.

"He was a genuine friend. (It was) my honor to have him in my life," asserted Thomas McNamara of West Palm Beach. ♥



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# 'I've learned it all since I've been here'

So where do all the Internal Affairs cases, personnel complaints, grievances and other contract issues go when Palm Beach County PBA members bring their legal issues to the union for action?

To get the detailed attention members need from the PBA, Courtney Lawrenson, the organization's detail-driven legal assistant makes sure every matter is handled like it's the most important case on file. And to Courtney, it is. That's the passion she brings to her job and the difference-making attitude that helps members get access to the legal support they need.

"We don't win all of the cases, but the cases we win, it definitely feels good about what we have accomplished," comments Lawrenson. "In the legal department, we get to interact with a lot of different people, so it's always interesting."

Having studied communications at Florida Atlantic University is part of what makes Courtney such a vital asset to Rick King and Larry Fagan, the PBA's Legal Counsels. She says most of her degree was built on interacting with people of different races and religions and such, and those in and around the office will confirm that is one of the skills that makes Courtney so good at her job.

She is one of those office staff members who puts the "open" in open-door, a person who is always available to chat even when a member walks in to grab a bottle of water or is on a coffee break. Or it's just friendly chatter.

"Sometimes, people will call here right when they have



### Meet Courtney Lawrenson

2009 Present: PBA Legal Assistant

**What I love about working for the PBCPBA:** Each one of us is completely different but in a way it's good because we all mesh together and come up with solutions for everything.

**What I love about my job:** Every single day, it's something different. Every single person is different.

**What it takes to work with police officers:** You have to have tough skin and communicate with them. You can't make it personal.

been handed a termination case and you wind up having to calm them down," Lawrenson relates. "But if you can bring the down from being so upset to having a normal conversation, it's a good feeling."

Perhaps there's no way to prepare to talk people off the ledge, but Courtney brings a unique mix of experience that might make her right for the job. She has spent time working at Bloomingdales, did a stint as a server at a restaurant and also had a job with a bankruptcy attorney.

In November 2009, Courtney was out of job when a friend asked her about working at the Palm Beach County PBA office.

"They were picking up more and more agencies, and the legal assistant that used to be here needed some extra help, so I came on," she recalls. "I came in without really knowing anything about law enforcement. I've learned it all since I've been here."

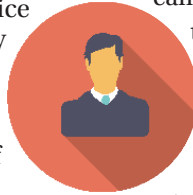
She says she learned much of it from Office Manager Angela Twomey who preceded Courtney as a legal assistant.

"Angela has been the biggest help for me; I can go to her for anything because she's done this job a lot longer than I have," Courtney confides. "She's pretty much taught me 98 percent of everything I do. I literally ask her about 30 questions a day."

This Boston native who moved to Florida at three years old is going on her seventh year with the Palm Beach County PBA because she loves not only her job but the people she works with. She enjoys spending time outdoors, going to the beach, gardening and travelling. Courtney also works out every day (the treadmill is her current apparatus of choice), but even on the weekends she comes in to tend bar for PBA events.

Suffice to say that in seven years, she has developed a deep affection for the PBA and its members. And here's why:

"I love the people that work here. We have become a lot like family," she begins. "But I also love that we are open to our members coming in and having a personal conversation with staff. In a lot of other places, you have to go through the hoops, but here Kaz and Ernie and the rest of the executive board members are open to personal interaction and getting things done." ♥



### ILLUSTRATED PROPERTIES

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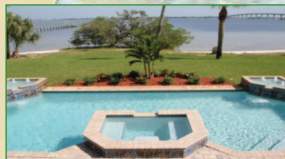
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# Murphy's Law Enforcement Officers



Leaders of the Florida State PBA charters and chapters pose with Patrick Murphy, candidate for U.S. Senate who has picked up endorsements from several prominent Florida labor unions. Pictured from left are: Abe Carmack, Senior Vice-President of the Tampa PBA; Kevin Igo, Palm

Beach County PBA Secretary; Nick Marolda, West Central PBA President; Pete Tartaglione, Palm Beach County PBA; Patrick Murphy; John Kazanjian, Palm Beach County PBA President; Jeff Marano, Broward County PBA President; Ernie George, Palm Beach County PBA Executive Director.

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## Legal report

# Latest court decisions clarify the expanse of heart bill protections



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Ever since the amendments to the “Heart Bill” were passed in 2002, misinformation and out-right lies, in addition to dubious defensive tactics, have been commonly encountered by law enforcement officers attempting to make claims under this important legislation. Readers of this report will recall that the referenced amendments, covering law enforcement and corrections officers, created a presumption that conditions of hypertension and heart disease be recognized as work-related, as a matter of law, due to the dangerous and stressful nature of employment in the profession. A series of recent court decisions have reiterated the expansive nature of coverage for officers with hypertension or heart disease and should embolden anyone wishing to pursue a claim. The following overview should bring you up to date on the current state of the law related to Heart Bill claims.

Since July of 2013, we have won a series of high-profile trials and appellate cases - 26 in all - which have literally redefined coverage for law enforcement and corrections officers under Florida's Heart Bill. Each of these cases can be reviewed at [www.bichlerlaw.com](http://www.bichlerlaw.com), but the most important takeaway from these cases, and the one thing for any officer to remember, is this: these claims are extremely valuable and if you suffer from hypertension (high blood pressure) or any type of heart disease, you should consider those conditions work-related and investigate how to make a claim. While there are exceptions to coverage, no officer should simply accept a denied claim without seeking the advice of competent legal counsel.

The following simple statements help explain how officers should understand the Heart Bill given these recent court decisions:

- Conditions of heart disease and hypertension are work-related as a matter of law for first responders; there is no need to prove a relationship to work.
- First responders must have an actual diagnosis of either heart disease or hypertension to qualify for coverage.
- First responders making claims for Heart Bill protections must have passed a pre-employment physical without evidence of the condition they are claiming.
- First responders making claims for heart bill protections must demonstrate at least some temporary disability related to the condition they are claiming.
- The “disability” requirement does not mandate a particular amount of time be missed from work, only that the condition renders the first responder temporarily incapable of performing normal job functions.
- First responders covered by the Heart Bill are entitled to a lifetime of free medical care and medication along with significant monetary compensation in most cases.

It is hard to overstate the value of Heart Bill claims to officers who suffer from either heart disease or hypertension. The firm of Bichler, Oliver, Longo and Fox was specifically established to assist officers, and other first responders, with these types of cases and we have won hundreds of cases that were initially denied. If you suffer from heart disease or hypertension, call our firm for a free consultation about pursuing a claim. ♥

*Geoff Bichler is the Managing Partner at Bichler, Oliver, Longo and Fox. Bichler/Kelley is a statewide legal practice with a sole focus of assisting first responders with disability claims related to work injuries and occupational disease. A large percentage of the firm's work involves litigation under Florida's Heart Bill. Questions and inquiries can be directed to 866-245-8977 or log on to [www.bichlerlaw.com](http://www.bichlerlaw.com). All consultations are free and there is never a fee unless we make a recovery on your case.*

## Finance

## FRS Update: Spousal option changes



STEVE  
OLSEN

As many of you know, prior to retiring, if you are in the FRS Pension Plan, you will need to decide what pension survivor option to choose. This decision is irrevocable at the time of retirement – or at the time of entering the DROP – and cannot be changed.

There are four options:

1. **Single Life Annuity:** The benefit dies when the member dies.
2. **10-Year Certain Option:** The benefit pays for a minimum of 10 years or the life of the member – the clock starts when you retire or the day you enter the

DROP.

3. **100-percent Joint Survivor Spousal Option:** The benefit pays until the death of both the member and his/her spouse.
4. **66-and-two-thirds Spousal Option:** The benefit pays until either the member or his/her spouse dies; then it is re-

duced to 66-and-two-thirds of the original, reduced benefit amount.

Option 1 is the maximum pension that you earned throughout your career. Your pension is reduced if you select Options 2, 3 or 4 – the reduction is based on your age and your spouse's age at the time of retirement. It reduces the amount of money you receive in the DROP, and for the rest of your life.

Historically, the cost of selecting Option 3 or Option 4 (a survivor option) has been too expensive for many members. Instead they have elected to purchase life insurance to maximize their pension. Now, the cost of selecting a Survivor Option with FRS has been reduced to the benefit of most members.

For example, a 55-year-old with a 50-year-old spouse would – based on 25 years of Special Risk Service and an Average Final Compensation (AFC) of \$100,000 – receive:

**Prior to Jan. 1, 2016:**

- Option 1: \$75,000
- Option 2: \$73,461 (97.948 percent)

- Option 3: \$59,540 (79.387 percent)
- Option 4: \$65,163 (86.884 percent)

#### After Jan. 1, 2016:

- Option 1: \$75,000
- Option 2: \$74,077 (98.77 percent)
- Option 3: \$65,182 (86.91 percent)
- Option 4: \$69,982 (93.31 percent)

#### Difference (annual savings):

- Option 1: \$0
- Option 2: +\$616
- Option 3: +\$5,642
- Option 4: +\$4,819

As you can see, there is significant savings based on the recent changes.

What does this mean for you?

If you have begun preparing for retirement and life insurance is part of your plan, you may want to re-evaluate what is more cost effective and what will provide your family a greater benefit, keeping in mind Term Life Insurance policies expire, and every year your pension amount will rise with your Cost of Living Adjustment. There are times where life insurance still will be beneficial – but because of the changes, everyone needs to sit down with their financial advisor to get updated figures and reevaluate what solution is best for their family. Take the time out of your busy schedule to put a plan together. Remember, you only get one chance to make the right decision! ♥

*The Center for Wealth Planning and Steve Olson do not represent, and are not affiliated with, FRS. Securities and Investment Advisory Services are offered through GWN Securities, Inc., a Registered Investment Advisor located in Palm Beach Gardens. The Center for Wealth Planning, Inc. and GWN Securities, Inc. are not affiliated. Steve Olson is an independent financial advisor and is available to meet with you at no cost. He can be reached at 561-459-9276 or [steve@centerforplanning.com](mailto:steve@centerforplanning.com).*

#### Carole Donohoo, CRPC, LUTCF - Investment Advisor Representative

[www.caroledonohoo.com](http://www.caroledonohoo.com) • 561-844-4543



**Has relocated her office to:**

**2655 North Ocean Drive, #307, Singer Island, FL 33404**

#### As a specialist in Retirement Income Planning, I offer:

- Asset Management (for Qualified & Non-Qualified accounts including DROP)
- Managed Portfolios (including SDBA for the FRS Investment Plan and PBSO 457 Plan)
- Brokerage Accounts • Mutual Funds • Bonds • Annuities • Insurance

**I look forward to meeting with you.**

**CAROLE DONOHO, CRPC, LUTCF**

**(561) 844-4543 • [cdonohoo@regalria.com](mailto:cdonohoo@regalria.com)**

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#### Kevin Coleman

Senior Loan Officer  
NMLS# 209691

**561.307.6405** cell  
**800.333.3004 x3719** office  
[kcoleman@embracehomeloans.com](mailto:kcoleman@embracehomeloans.com)



319 Clematis Street, Suite 310  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

apply at [www.embracehomeloans.com/kevin-coleman](http://www.embracehomeloans.com/kevin-coleman)

Embrace Home Loans, Inc. NMLS ID #2184 ([www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org](http://www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org)) is licensed in CA Licensed by the Department of Business Oversight under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act, FL, VA.



#### About Kevin

Embrace Home Loans is proud to have Kevin P. Coleman as a part of our team. Kevin is a go-getter; he is always up for new challenges and finds it very rewarding to help people become a new homeowner or refinance with an excellent loan. His responsibilities include mortgage origination and gaining new business through realtors and personal referral sources in the state of Florida. Kevin loves being a helpful and reliable source to his team and loyal customers. His goal as a loan officer is to gain a mortgage client for life. 100% of his current mortgage business is from realtor/client referrals along with being a preferred mortgage lender for law enforcement as well. Kevin has been in the mortgage industry for over 9 years. Kevin graduated from the University of Central Florida with his degree in Finance and learned the mortgage process working in Operations and Underwriting for the first year of his mortgage career. He moved to the mortgage origination side and has always been a Top Senior Originator ever since. Due to all his hard work, Kevin has been awarded numerous awards throughout the years for being a Top Producing Loan Officer and Account Executive. Kevin promises to give every potential buyer superior customer service and help them achieve homeownership or help them refinance to a loan that will benefit his client's long term success with their home finances in life.



# THANK-YOU NOTES TO THE PBA

Re-Elect JUDGE MARNI

**BRYSON**

COUNTY COURT - GROUP 7

Paid by Marni Bryson for County Court Judge, Group 7

Dear Lou & Kaz:

Thank you for your support in my re-election campaign for County Court Judge, Group 7. I greatly appreciate your support and I am thankful to have you as part of my team.

Sincerely,

Thank you so much for your continued support!  
Marni

I would like to express my appreciation for your support of my campaign and your generous contribution.

Thank you

With warmest thanks  
for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,  
Jol Haddad





## Treasure Coast Bonito Blast

John Kazanjian,

We want to thank the Palm Beach Police Benevolent Association for supporting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Treasure Coast Bonito Blast. This 501c3 event continues to support the Wounded Warriors of South Florida. Unlike other organizations supporting veterans, this unique nonprofit gives 90% of all proceeds directly to post 9/11 wounded vets returning to South Florida.

The Bonito Blast remains one of the largest fishing tournaments on the Treasure coast. Together with over 100 local sponsors, 136 boats registered and over 500 people attending events, the Bonito Blast raised over \$40,000 for veterans who need our help.

Your generous donation was appreciated. We are proud to work with our community for a great event and cause that we can all feel a part of

We hope you will continue to share our commitment by supporting the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bonito Blast. Please visit our website for opportunities to contribute to this summer's tournament.

[www.treasurecoastbonitoblast.com](http://www.treasurecoastbonitoblast.com)

Thank you,

Committee for the Treasure Coast Bonito Blast

P.O. Box 1313 | Port Salerno FL 34992  
Tournament Contacts: Mark Neild (772) 834-4730 or Kit Munroe (772) 834-2962  
[www.TreasureCoastBonitoBlast.com](http://www.TreasureCoastBonitoBlast.com) | Email: [TCBonitoBlast@gmail.com](mailto:TCBonitoBlast@gmail.com)



Daniel S. Frank  
Principal

Jupiter Community High School  
500 N. Military Trail  
Jupiter, FL 33458  
Phone: 561-744-7900  
Fax: 561-744-7978

February 19, 2016

John Kazanjian  
Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association  
2100 North Florida Mango Road  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33409

Dear Mr. Kazanjian;

On behalf of the Jupiter Medical Center Academy at Jupiter High School, I would like to thank you for your \$150 sponsorship for the "Run Wild in the Park" 5K race. Your financial support will benefit the Academy's Chris Danek scholarship fund. Chris Danek was an outstanding medical academy student and baseball player who died in a tragic accident the summer of his junior year. Former academy students, along with the Danek family vowed to honor Chris's memory by providing scholarships to medical academy students who are who are anxious to begin their graduate and post-graduate degrees. Since its inception, the Chris Danek scholarship has been awarded to numerous students who are now actively pursuing careers in health care and medicine.

The generous support of organizations like yours make it possible for the Medical Academy to continue awarding scholarships to very deserving students. Please accept our most sincere thanks for your very generous donation.

Best regards,

*Meg Beller*  
Meg Beller

JUPITER MEDICAL CENTER

Partnered with

VELOCITY  
community credit union

Bradley  
Harper  
for COUNTY COURT JUDGE  
GROUP 15

04/07/16

Dear John "Kaz" and the entire  
Police Benevolent Association ("PBA"), thank you!  
I am honored to have earned the respect and  
support of men and women who stand off the  
frontlines. I am glad to be your partner  
in protecting the health, safety and welfare of  
the people of Palm Beach County.

Very Truly yours,

Bradley Harper

info@BradleyHarper.com BradleyHarperForJudge.com

(561) 406-8173

P.O. Box 1861, West Palm Beach, Florida 33402

Paid for and approved by Bradley Harper for Palm Beach County Court Judge, Group 15.

Dear John,  
Please convey my gratitude to  
the PBA for their endorsement and  
financial support. It really means  
a lot to me and is greatly  
appreciated.  
Fondly,  
Lori Beeman





# PBC PBA Member Benefits

## KNOW AND ASSERT YOUR RIGHTS!

Remember, as a sworn officer, you have the right...

- To be represented by a PBA attorney during any interrogation.
- To be provided any complaint, all witness statements, and all existing evidence (e.g., audio and video recordings, GPS locator information) for review with an attorney before the beginning of any interrogation.
- To be interrogated at a reasonable hour (e.g., at a time when a PBA attorney can be present for the review and interrogation).
- To refuse a polygraph.
- To refuse to respond to questions if an investigator intentionally fails to comply with requested requirements after being advised of his or her violations of those requirements.

As a dues-paying member, a Palm Beach County PBA attorney can be with you every step of the way.

If you are a member in good standing, and you are suspended or fired, Palm Beach County PBA has attorneys to assist you.

**Carry the card of confidence...your PBA Membership Card**

## LEGAL ADVISORY

**Police shootings, in-custody deaths, or serious traffic accidents**

**What to do?**

**Stay Calm**

Have you been ordered to write a statement about an incident that may be investigated?

Don't forget your rights! Call the Palm Beach County PBA at 561-371-7200.

Do not talk to anyone until you have consulted with a PBA ATTORNEY!

### PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS

The following statement should be written as the first sentences on any statement, report, or memorandum an officer is ordered to write when the officer knows or has a reasonable belief that discipline may result:

It is my understanding that this report is made for administrative, internal police department purposes only. This report is made by me after being ordered to do so by lawful supervisory officers. I have not been permitted a reasonable amount of time to confer with a PBA representative or attorney. It is my understanding that by refusing to obey an order to write this immediately, that I can be disciplined for insubordination and that the punishment for insubordination can be up to, and including termination of employment. This report is made only pursuant to such orders and the potential punishment/discipline that can result for failure to obey that order.

### Legal Reminder

The legal defense policies of the Florida and Palm Beach County PBA have an important provision regarding representation.

If a member elects to secure representation by anyone other than the PBA (a private attorney, for example) that member is considered to have waived representation by the PBA. Once this happens, it is the PBA's option whether to continue to represent the member in that matter.

Please call the PBA office if you have any questions regarding this policy.

**We want our members to be the first to know...**

There's a great new way to stay up-to-date with the PBA on up-to-the-minute breaking news, events, money-saving specials and much, much more by receiving PBA texts and emails directly to your mobile device.

Visit [www.pbc-pba.org](http://www.pbc-pba.org) to sign up today. Signing up for the service is free. (However, standard text message and data rates may apply).

\*Be sure to add [mail@pbc-pba.com](mailto:mail@pbc-pba.com) to your approved sender list.

## E-PBA is Your Source For...

Timely news about what's up at the Florida PBA, helpful information regarding legislative issues, quick tips, and best practices for members. Knowledge about PBA issues is the strength of our Association.

**To sign up...**

visit [www.flpba.org](http://www.flpba.org) or call 1-800-733-3722 today!

(Your e-mail address will not be given to any other group or organization and you will receive no advertising from outside sources. E-PBA is available to PBA members only. Be sure to add "pbamail@flpba.org" to your approved sender list.)

Receive PBA's weekly "Capitol Report" newsletter during the legislative session via E-PBA, PBA's free e-mail service! To sign up, visit [www.flpba.org](http://www.flpba.org) or call 1-800-733-3722 today. The "Capitol Report" is only available via E-PBA.

## Emergency Contact Procedure

Please be advised that the emergency number 561-371-7200 is for **CRITICAL INCIDENTS ONLY!**

Our attorney(s) should **ONLY** be contacted after hours for critical incidents; that is, an officer-involved shooting, an in-custody death, an on-duty vehicle accident with injuries or if Internal Affairs investigators are responding right now to an incident.

If you are attempting to contact a PBA Attorney for any matter that is not a critical incident, please contact the PBA Office 561-689-3745 during regular business hours 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



## PBCPBA Charity Fund Deductions

The Palm Beach County PBA Charity Fund was established in 2004 to assist our members and their children with scholarships to defray the costs of higher education. In addition, the Charity Fund now helps provide charitable assistance to our members and their families who have experienced a life-altering tragedy or a catastrophic event.

The PBA Charity Fund, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions to the fund are fully tax deductible.

If you are a PBCPBA employee and wish to contribute to the Charity Fund, please visit [www.pbcpba.org](http://www.pbcpba.org) for instructions on donating or contact Elizabeth at the PBA 561-689-3745.

## Attention: Retirees

Please take notice that pursuant to §95.11(3), Florida Statutes, lawsuits, including "an action founded on negligence," and "for assault, battery, false arrest, false imprisonment or any other intentional tort..." must be filed "WITHIN FOUR YEARS" of the incident date.

To the extent that such lawsuits may be brought against you after you retire, you need to consider continuing your membership for four years beyond your retirement.

If you are retired but have returned to law enforcement and are currently paying a "RETIREE MEMBERSHIP," you should be aware that if you are subject to such actions at a time when you no longer are paying the appropriate dues, the PBA cannot provide legal assistance. See Palm Beach County Policy 12-1.

Enjoy the full peace of mind your retirement should mean.

## 817.311 Unlawful Use of Badges, Etc.

(1) (817.311 SS) From and after May 9, 1949, any person who shall wear or display a badge, button, insignia or other emblem, or shall use the name of or claim to be a member of any benevolent, fraternal, social, humane, or charitable organization, which organization is entitled to the exclusive use of such name and such badge, button, insignia or emblem either in the identical form or in such near resemblance thereto as to be a colorable imitation thereof, unless such person is entitled so to do under the laws, rules and regulations of such organization, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in S. 775.082 or S. 775.083.

(2) This section shall be cumulative to any and all laws now in force in the state. Florida Statutes (1987).



## Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

2100 N. Florida Mango Road,  
West Palm Beach, FL 33409  
(561) 689-3745 • [www.pbcpba.org](http://www.pbcpba.org)

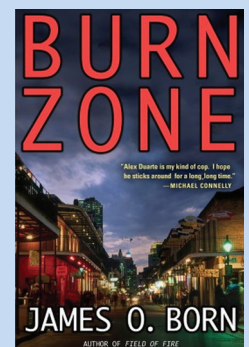


## Get your PBA "Support Law Enforcement" Tag

Proceeds for purchases of The Florida PBA "Support Law Enforcement" license tag are deposited into the Florida PBA Heart Fund. Please ask for the PBA "Support Law Enforcement" tag when you visit your tag office and purchase this tag for your vehicles.

## Get your PBA-Logo Merchandise

Rechargeable Mag Bulbs .....	\$5
Tag Emblems/Decals .....	\$5
Key Chain .....	\$5
Cufflinks .....	\$5
Hitch Cover .....	\$10
Memorial Bands .....	\$1
Lapel Pins .....	\$5
Handcuff Key .....	\$7.50
PBC PBA Navy T-Shirt .....	\$8
PBC PBA Baseball Cap .....	\$12
PBC PBA Polo .....	\$30
MCSO PBA Baseball Cap .....	\$12
James O. Born Novel(s) .....	\$20
Blue Line Stickers .....	\$.35, \$2





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- Dance floor
- Tables & chairs
- Large self-contained parking lot
- Audio-Video availability
- Full prep kitchen with refrigeration and electric hot box

**Hours of Operation: 11 a.m.-midnight**

**\*No admission fees shall be charged for any events**

**\*No alcohol sales permitted**



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