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The Broward Centurion

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BSO Deputies & Sergeants Reject Sheriff's "Final" Offer

BSO's deputies and sergeants overwhelmingly rejected the final contract offer made by the sheriff.

The contract was struck down by a two to one margin. Of the 1,450 members of the bargaining unit, 1,250 cast their votes.

"This offer was overwhelmingly rejected by the deputies and sergeants since they are currently last in the county in top pay. Even if the 3% were accepted they would continue to be well below other law enforcement agencies in the county, which is wholly unacceptable," said Dick Brickman, Broward PBA president. "This offer also greatly reduces the post-retirement benefits available

for newly hired deputies. And the deputies and sergeants are upset by the sheriff's refusal to provide a fair promotional system."

The message is loud and clear: The sheriff needs to do more. Whether he will or not remains to be seen. If he is willing to meet the demands of the bargaining unit, we can proceed toward a resolution. If not, impasse will be declared and the matter will be settled at a public hearing.



BSO Lieutenants Approve Contract

On May 1, the votes were counted for the BSO Lieutenants' Bargaining Unit's proposed three-year agreement. The vote was 36 to accept and 5 to reject the Sheriff's contract offer.

The highlights of the new contract were: a Health Retirement Account for purposes of cashing out sick leave time, 2% longevity after 20 years in the third year of the contract contingent upon funding, critical incident pay, no increase in insurance, sell back of up to 40 hours of accrued annual leave before October 1, 2008, increased sick leave cap each year (1080 hours/ 1120 hours/ 1160 hours), and a 3% wage increase each year.



The contract was signed by the PBA and the Sheriff on May 8.

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The Broward Centurion

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33312

- Letters or articles must be accompanied by the writer's true name and address.
- All articles submitted for publication must be accompanied by a statement giving permission to publish.
- All submissions must be legible.
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President's Letter

In May I attended Police Week in Washington DC; to say the least it was a moving experience. During the Candlelight Vigil on May 13 the names of the 181 officers that were killed in 2007 were read, along with over 300 other names that were added to the memorial this year, bringing the total to 18,274 slain officers honored. Florida lost the second highest number of officers last year, just behind Texas.

One of the other events I attended was the Top Cops Awards. At this ceremony there were reenactments from the honorees -- these stories were heartwrenching. Some were shot several times but survived, some were involved in gunfights and used great police tactics to take down the suspect, one ran into a burning house not once but twice, saving three small children. Talk about cops going beyond the call! It was amazing to me that none of the recipients thought they did something heroic although they thought the others deserved the honor. These officers all thanked their families for being beside them throughout their ordeals; it was evident that God was by their sides as well.

But the most compelling part of the entire evening was when John Walsh, from the TV series "America's Most Wanted," gave a speech about the 181 officers we lost in 2007 and how they are the real heroes. He said, "If there were 181 newspaper writers killed, or 181 judges, or 181 of any profession killed in one year this country would be up in arms, but when 181 police officers are killed we just accept it..That is wrong." He commented on the people who march in protest when a police officer is found not guilty in the shooting of a suspect -- when was the last time there was a protest march when a police officer was killed?

We need more people like John Walsh to step up and let the public know that this many police officers losing their lives in one year is not acceptable.

Dick Brickman

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PBA Rocks On Capitol Hill

By Kathleen Andersen, Rep - School Board Investigative Unit

I recently attended a legislative session sponsored by the Broward County PBA. Until then I thought that passing a bill was as simple as most of us remember on the "School House Rock" melody, "I'm just a bill and I'm sitting here on Capitol Hill". The melody



With School Board Member Robin Bartleman

concept was smashed to pieces by first-hand experience in the process of passing a bill. PBA Executive Directors, Presidents, Board Members, Political Consultants and Legislative Assistants from all over the State of Florida work very hard on our behalf before, during and after the legislative sessions. What I experienced was 22 floors of the Capitol, from the House of Representatives to the Senate, back and forth, up and down chasing legislators and attending committee meetings. The PBA staff put in 12- to 14-hour days depending on the agenda. Standing behind their efforts are the PBA support staff at the Florida PBA Office. They should be commended as well.



With Representative Joe Gibbons

My observation on the work that is done to try to pass a bill is that it is comparable to running uphill carrying a 50-pound boulder for several hours. This carry could include legislative amendments, strike-all, fiduciary questions, meetings, meetings, meetings or extra committee assignments, all of which requires our PBA staff's presence to constantly monitor the progress. Don't get me wrong; I am not putting down our democratic process, but trying to describe it as I saw it. Our PBA staff are not concerned if they haven't eaten breakfast or lunch or that their



With Representative Matt Meadows



With Rep. Franklin Sands (left) and Broward PBA Sr. VP Pat Hanrahan



Kathleen (right) with Beverly Gallagher, Broward County School Board Member

feet are blistered from the ten-mile walk/run pace of the day. It is all about timing and connections to mirror each bill in the House and Senate for the three reads and getting the job done. Thankfully I did not have to witness our staff's disappointment when a bill was declared dead. I also did not have the great opportunity to be present during a passed bill. All in

all to observe them in action was most profound. The Broward PBA allowed me to meet many people, including several Broward School Board Members present for Broward Days.



With Representative Perry Thurston

My experience during this session proved to me that our PBA staff "HAS OUR BACK"! I could not be more proud to have the PBA represent us and I thank all of our Executive Board for providing me the opportunity to witness a legislative session. Forget "School House Rock"; the PBA ROCKS.



With Representative Jim Waldman

Support Those Who Support Law Enforcement

By *Jeff Marano, Treasurer*

For as long as we at the PBA can remember there has been a saying at the Broward Courthouse -- "You don't run against a sitting judge." Once a Judge is elected or appointed, he or she becomes part of a colloquial faction, each bonded to the other. Regardless of their background, party affiliation, race or religion, after the robing ceremony they are considered "untouchable."



Broward PBA Treasurer Debbie Reggio (right) and Judge Mily Rodriguez-Powell

We should all be concerned about this recent, unprecedented attack on several sitting judges who only have one thing in common: their surnames are Hispanic. As law enforcement officers we protect and serve all citizens and should be overtly offended by this initiative. All of these sitting Judges have supported law enforcement and must be retained.



Judge Catalina Avalos

There are currently three Hispanic sitting Judges who have been endorsed by the Broward PBA: Catalina M. Avelos (who is married to member Deputy [Freddy Avelos](#)), Julio E. Gonzalez Jr. and Pedro Di-jols. Their election is being held on

Tuesday, August 26, 2008. Please go out and support those judges who support us.

Microsoft Bundles Forensic Tools For Law Enforcement

Last June, Microsoft distributed a USB memory stick to a handful of law enforcement agencies. That memory stick was loaded with the Computer Online Forensic Evidence Extractor (COFEE).

COFEE is a suite of 150 bundled forensic tools that run from a script. Microsoft combined the already existing tools into one portable tool that can be used in the field before a computer is brought back to the forensic lab.

Using COFEE, an agent can select which of the tools he or she wants to run on a particular machine through an interface. A script is created and copied to a USB device which is then plugged into the computer. Having all the tools bundled together makes the job go much faster and enables investigators to get information -- like data stored temporarily in RAM or network connection information that might be lost if the machine was disconnected and moved before it could be examined.



When the devices were initially distributed, many critics believed that they were using a rumored "back door" built into the Microsoft's operating systems so that law enforcement could bypass the Windows Bitlocker encryption.

According to Microsoft associate general counsel, "COFEE does not circumvent Windows Vista BitLocker encryption or undermine any protections in Windows through secret 'back doors' or other undocumented means."

Source: [wired.com](#)

'America's Most Wanted' Marks 1,000th Arrest

Fox Television's "America's Most Wanted" just marked its 20th year. Now it can add another milestone: the arrest of the 1,000th fugitive featured on the show since it began in 1988.



Dwight Smith, a fugitive for over a year, was arrested on April 19 after a tip from an anonymous caller provided an address in Richmond, Virginia. Smith was captured later that evening.

"America's Most Wanted" is the brainchild of John Walsh, whose

son Adam was abducted and murdered in 1981. His killer was never brought to justice for the crime. Walsh has spent the past 25 years crusading against crimes of all types. And he has made a difference. "On 'AMW' I see some incredible, immediate results," Walsh says, "where you really do catch somebody. Get some justice. And maybe save lives: You know, some killers are gonna continue until they get caught."

Source: The Associated Press

Office Space Available

The Broward County PBA has office space available in our building at 2650 West State Road 84 in Ft. Lauderdale. The space is 994 square feet; the rent is \$14.00 per square ft + C.A.M. charges and state taxes.

Anyone interested in renting the office should contact Linda at the PBA office, 954-584-7600.

Statue To Be Installed At Florida Memorial Site

Tallahassee police memorial to get new addition

Before the next legislative session in Tallahassee gets underway, there will be a new item on the site of the State's law enforcement memorial: a life-size bronze casting honoring officers killed in the line of duty.

"Officer Down" depicts a police officer lying on the ground with his head cradled by another officer reaching for her radio. The casting will be installed under a tree between the old and new Capitol buildings.

The project was funded in part by donations from the Florida, Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade PBAs totaling \$225,000.

Florida PBA Executive Director David Murrell says, "My prediction is that this is

going to be wildly popular, because of how moving it is and how it does justice to fallen police officers. The annual police recognition day is held every May in the plaza, so what more fitting place could there be?"

Source: Tallahassee Democrat



Web Site Rates Officers

Ratemycop.com lets citizens critique cops

A new Web site, *ratemycop.com*, allows the public to express their thoughts regarding encounters with law enforcement.

The site was started by Gino Sesto and Rebecca Costell as a place for people to voice both their praise and criticism of police officers. It allows registered users to leave feedback about their interactions with police and rank the officer's service based on three criteria: professionalism, fair-



ness and satisfaction. Feedback is given anonymously.

"This isn't an anti-cop bashing site," Spelman said. "We provide an opportunity for officers to communicate with the people they serve."

Rate My Cop made public records requests to agencies all over the country asking for names and ID numbers for officers who do not have to remain anonymous for their assignments. The identifying information requested is only that which would be

required to appear on a traffic ticket. Photos and private information are not displayed.

The site went live on February 28 with the names of about 120,000 police officers nationwide. Five hundred different agencies are represented, but only two in Broward County: Coral Spring PD and Hollywood PD (which only lists one officer currently).

Source: Gainesville Sun



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A Busy Week To Honor And Remember Heroes

By Patrick Hanrahan, Senior VP

National Police Week was May 11 through May 17. The names of 358 law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty – 181 of them during 2007 – were formally dedicated on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC, Tuesday evening, May 12th, during a candlelight vigil.

In addition to the 181 officers who were killed in 2007, 177 officers who died in previous years but whose deaths had been lost to history were added to the Memorial this year. The monument now contains the names of 18,274 law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty throughout U.S. history from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, federal law enforcement and military police agencies. Attorney General Michael Mukasey delivered the keynote address and led the lighting of the candles and reading of the names of the fallen officers.

A Deadly Year

Last year was one of the deadliest years for U.S. law enforcement officers in nearly two decades. The number of officers killed in the line of duty last year increased nearly 20 percent from 2006, when there were 151 officer deaths. Outside of 2001, when 72 officers died on 9/11, the last year in which the number of officer fatalities was higher was 1989, when there were 196 deaths.

It was President Kennedy who designated May 15th as National Peace

Officers Memorial Day and a week in mid-May as National Police Week. Marie Tippit often thinks of her first husband, fatally shot in Dallas within an hour of John F. Kennedy's assassination. On Monday, May 12th, she was thinking of Officer J. D. Tippit again, this time as she came to see his name on the National Police Memorial for the first time.

Honoring Our Living Heroes

Also during National Police Week, NAPO (National Association of Police Organization) held their annual "TOP COPS" awards in Washington, DC. The 2008 "TOP COPS" winners from Florida were: Sergeant Eric Mendez, Detective Brad Burke and Officers Edwin Gonzalez, and Richard Hansen, all from the Miami-Dade Police Department.

On Saturday, May 17, the Dade County PBA held their Law Enforcement Awards. The winners for the 2007 Police Officers of the Year were Officers Jose Somohano, Jody Wright, Tomas Tundidor, Michael Madruga and Sergeant Bert Perez, all from the Miami-Dade Police Department. The Rhett McGregor Memorial was awarded to honor the memory of Miami-Dade Police Officer Jose Lazaro Somohano for

his passion, commitment and dedication to law enforcement.

For more information about the National Law Enforcement Memorial, log on to nleomf.com.



Pat Hanrahan takes a rubbing of Chris Reyka's name at the Memorial



IN VALOR
THERE IS HOPE

Florida Heroes Added To The National Law Enforcement Memorial This Year:

Harold Michael Altman
Jackson County Sheriff's Office

Scott Eric Bell
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Owen Karl Bender
Florida Highway Patrol

Corey Douglas Dahlem
Gainesville Police Department

Joe Bill Galloway
Holmes County Sheriff's Office

Alfred Louis Gordon
Orlando Police Department

Ronald Hamlin Harrison
Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office

Michelle A. Lawless
Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Donta J. Manuel, Sr.
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

Paul Rein
Broward County Sheriff's Office

Christopher Reyka
Broward County Sheriff's Office

Jose Lazaro Somohano
Miami Dade Police Department

Nicholas George Sottile
Florida Highway Patrol

Karl Heins Strohsal Jr.
Longwood Police Department

Robin Renee Tanner
Monroe County Sheriff's Office

Delmar H. Teagan
Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Jonathan D. Wallace
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

Henry F. Wilton
Hallandale Beach Police Department



Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Memorial



Legislative Affairs

Dear Members,

Unfortunately, the only news that I can report on the legislative session is bad. The 2008 session was, without a doubt, the worst session that I have ever been involved with. The State's economic woes played a significant role in the Legislature's unwillingness to pass anything with fiscal impacts. As it relates to the eight year DROP, regrettably, we were unable to get it passed. Since the bill was never heard in any of the Senate's appropriation committees, it was never deemed as "cost neutral." Moreover, in the last three weeks of the session the staff determined that without an actuarial study, our bill would be "unconstitutional." This late-stated opinion was contrary to what the staff had told us on several previous occasions. Subsequently, we attempted every possible maneuver to pass the DROP bill unsuccessfully. Despite our unyielding efforts, that opinion essentially killed the bill in the Senate. Nevertheless, our friends in the House of Representatives did take up our bill and passed it. We remain hopeful and have already ordered a study for next year and will continue to make this a priority until it's passed.

Coconut Creek Election

The City of Coconut Creek held a special election due to the resignation of one of their Commissioners. In a bold move, their screening committee chose to endorse the underdog who they felt was stronger on their issues. They did so with full knowledge of the difficulties ahead of them. Consequently, under the leadership of PBA Representatives [Dominic Coppola](#), [Rod Skirvin](#) and [Curt Cuddeback](#) their membership put forth an impressive effort during the campaign. Unfortunately, our candidate did not prevail but their membership sent a strong message to the Mayor and Commissioner that the PBA is a force to be reckoned with.

I would like to thank and recognize the leadership of Dominic, Rod and Curt during the screening process and the election. I would also like to thank the following members for their efforts during the campaign.

Off. Avello
Off. Kohlhorst
Off. Bailey
Off. Leonard, M
Sgt. Bradshaw
Off. Marken
Off. Buckley
Off. Cabrera
Sgt. Markland, C
Off. Capone
Sgt. Markland, K
Off. Christopher

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Off. Karp
Off. Wooly
Off. Klockziem
Off. Zombek

In Solidarity,

Neil Vaughan
Vice President

What's Up?



Hollywood PD's Officers/Employee Of The Month

Congratulations to Officers [Darryl Levy](#) and [Josh Brasso](#) on being chosen as Officers for the Month for March 2008. And congratulations to PBA member and Community Service Officer [Toby Sussman](#) for being named Employee of the Month for March 2008.

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Are You Up To Date?

It's that time of year when we remind you to update your personal information. If you've moved, married, divorced, had kids, changed departments or had any other significant life changes, let us know so we can keep your records accurate.

It's up to you to keep your information current. You can call the PBA office Monday through Friday between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm at 954.584.7600 or come visit us; we'd love to see you!

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Police Unity Tour Has Another Successful Year

Annual ride raises over \$1 million for National Law Enforcement Museum

This year's Police Unity Tour raised more than \$1,227,000 for the National Law Enforcement Museum.

Despite bad weather and difficult bicycling conditions, riders set out from around the country for four days of riding ending on May 12 in Washington, DC, just in time for Police Week.

During a gathering of the riders, the CEO of the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial, Herb Giobbi, said, "It has been an arduous three, four days of riding for you. Through rain, cold, terrible weather... you were really tested this year. But you prevailed. Your story has traveled everywhere. Articles, news reports recorded your journey."

The Police Unity Tour is an annual bicycle trek from various points across the United States to the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial. It was founded in 1997 to raise awareness of police officers who have died in the line of duty

and to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Memorial and Museum. Since its inception, the Tour has raised over \$4,300,000 for the Memorial Fund.

For more information on the Police Unity Tour, check

out our local chapter's Web site at policeunitytourvii.org.



The Broward County PBA was well-represented on the tour by:

For BSO

- Kelli Covet
- Chris Marchese
- Christine Zicarelli

For the Hallandale Beach Police

- Paul Winters
- Donna Carlson
- Chris Keating
- Melanie Marchese
- Andrew Raphael
- Michel Michel

Law Enforcement News

Boise, Idaho – An inmate in a federal prison in Texas was added to the ballot in Idaho for the May 27 Democratic presidential primary. Keith Russell Judd is incarcerated at the Beaumont Federal Correctional Institution for making threats at the University of New Mexico. He's scheduled for release in 2013. He qualified for the ballot by simply submitting a notarized form and paid the \$1,000 fee. This is the second time Judd has run for president in Idaho. In 2004 he declared himself a write-in candidate, which requires only the submission of a declaration. State officials are considering a change in state election law.

Source: *The Associated Press*



Tallahassee, Fla. – Electronic signs on Florida's highways, currently used to broadcast Amber Alerts and traffic information, will now be used to relay information on those suspected of violence against the police. Gov. Crist signed the order in May. Now when an officer is seriously wounded or killed on duty, suspect/vehicle information will be sent to the Florida Highway Patrol through FDLE. That information will then be programmed into the signs either regionally or statewide. Alerts will also be sent to lotto machines and can be received as text messages.

Source: *Miami Herald*

Arapaho, Okla. – Custer County Sheriff Mike Burgess has been charged with coercing and bribing female inmates so he could use them in a sex-slave operation he ran out of his jail. Prosecutors have filed 35 felony counts against him, including 14 counts of second-degree rape. He could be sentenced to 467 years in prison should he be convicted on all counts. No one else from the sheriff's department seems to be implicated.

Source: *The Associated Press*



New York – A patrol horse found his way back to his stable after getting spooked by traffic noise. Aldo, an 8-year-old who has been a police officer for about a year, pitched his rider then took off for home – about eight blocks away. The officer suffered only minor injuries. According to an NYPD spokesperson, the horse “knows its turf.”

Source: *The Associated Press*



Tuxtula Gutierrez, Mexico – A donkey in southern Mexico was jailed for assault and battery after it bit and kicked two men. The donkey will be held until its owner agrees to pay the victims' medical bills. Police in this region have thrown animals in jail before, including a bull that destroyed property and a dog that bit someone. “Around

here, if someone commits a crime they are jailed,” said Officer Sinar Gamez of the Chiapas Police – “no matter who they are.”

Source: *The Associated Press*



New Bedford, Mass. – A Massachusetts firearms instructor has been reassigned after his gun accidentally discharged while he was teaching a class on weapons safety. His Glock fired while he was demonstrating how to safely holster the weapon and ripped a hole in his pants. It missed his leg and foot. Bristol County Sheriff Thomas Hodgons says the officer made a “gross error in judgement” by not emptying the gun before class.

Source: *The Associated Press*



Washington – An investigation is underway at the District of Columbia's fourth District Station after a woman committed suicide there while in custody. Shante Parker, 30, was arrested on charges that she assaulted a man with a knife. She was placed in a secure interview room with a camera, but managed to hang herself anyway. The camera had not been activated since Parker was not being questioned at the time.

Source: *nbc4.com*

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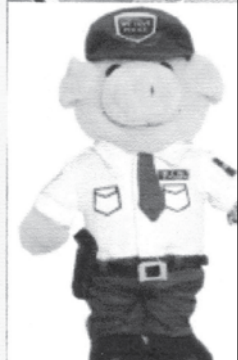
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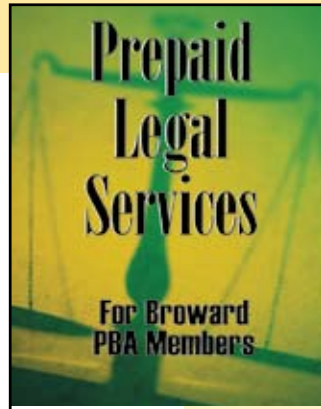
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