

FOP FLORIDA ON PATROL

Winter/Spring 2008



From the President

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Last year, 2007, was especially tragic for law enforcement officers across the nation as the number of officers to die in the line of duty increased to the highest level in decades. In Florida we suffered the loss of 16 of our fellow officers. It is a dangerous profession and takes a special courage to serve. Already in 2008, Miami Police Detective James Walker has been gunned down. This trend must be reversed. This May, we will honor the lives and sacrifice of our fallen heroes as we engrave 16 more names in the black granite panels of the Florida Law Enforcement Memorial. I invite everyone to attend this solemn ceremony which is produced by the FOP Memorial Committee. We will pay our respects to the families and friends of those who have given so much in service to Florida.

Our campaign to raise \$100,000 as the Florida donation to the National Law Enforcement Museum is still in progress and we are reaching our goal. Your donations will make this possible. This year we have produced a stunning lithograph tribute to our Florida Memorial. It is an exceptional piece of art work. The Florida State web site www.floridastatefop.org has been improved with a shopping cart for FOP merchandise including the new lithograph poster.

The public has spoken and agreed with Governor Crist and the Florida Legislature. Amendment #1 has been passed by a 65% margin. Cities and counties now facing severe budget shortfalls will be forced to make drastic cuts. Across the state, it is certain that public safety will feel the impact. Anyone who believes otherwise needs a civics lesson on how much of local government spending is dedicated to public safety. Our strong concern for our men and women serving the front lines and protecting the public cannot be understated. Governor Crist warns local governments not to cut police and fire services and his admonishment is "if they do, vote them out of office". A small consolation to the police officer or deputy sheriff who had their position cut or worse face a layoff; or the vacant position that will now never be filled to bring the agency up to full strength. The FOP and its members have already been impacted even before the vote was taken as cities and counties stalled contract negotiations and implemented hiring freezes while facing the uncertainty of how their operating budgets will be balanced.

Our job as law enforcement officers is to continue delivering quality and professional services to the public. Our job just got tougher.

Florida On Patrol Fall 2007

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The 2008 Legislative Session is upon us. The FOP Legislative Team has prepared an aggressive list of priority bills. We suspect any bill with a financial impact, if not dead on arrival, will prove difficult to find a funding source and support from our legislators. We will still pursue our bills aggressively.

Our Florida FOP License Tag bill has sponsors and will be filed. Samples of the proposed tag are available online. It is exciting to see the progress of this effort. There are obstacles to complete before it becomes a reality and we are actively working on this project. Several bills addressing the Florida Retirement System will again be on our agenda. We have seen increasing efforts by municipalities to abandon private pension funds in favor of FRS. This movement must be watched carefully for our members. Coral Gables Lodge 7 President Gene Gibbons has faced this in his city already in a tough round of contract negotiations.

The Florida State Lodge has been working with local lodges on political endorsements. The endorsement for the office of President of the United States is restricted to the Grand Lodge only. No state or local lodge has the authority to make a Presidential endorsement. We have the opportunity for input in the race as each state will conduct a poll of their membership and provide their preference to the Grand Lodge this summer. Once the major candidates have been determined we will begin the polling process and I encourage everyone to have their voice heard.

We are also rating and endorsing candidates for the office of Sheriff in each of the Florida Counties. The FOP voice will be heard at the ballot box. At the February Board meeting, a new training class on How to Effectively Lobby Your Legislators and How to Conduct Political Screenings will be presented. The class is free and open to any member interested in the political process.

Last June we recognized Officer Charles Turco of the Boynton Beach Police Department as our Officer of the Year. Recently, we submitted his name to the Attorney General's Office for recognition and we are please to announce that Officer Turco has been selected from all the names submitted as one of the 10 top finalists for the Florida Attorney General's Office "Officer of the Year". The winner will be announced on February 26, 2008.

We have accomplished many things in the last two years. Our Labor Council now boasts of over 5400 members and our FOP State Lodge now stands close to 21,000 members state wide. I am very pleased to announce our newest addition Staff Representative Tim Goodwin. Welcome Tim to the team, we look forward to working with him on the Labor front. Thanks to our Legislative Team and Lisa Henning our Legislative victories last session and a new agenda this term have been very positive. I look forward to our "Day on the Hill" in Tallahassee this year and hope you can participate in our legislative efforts as each District takes a week of the session to send a delegation to Tallahassee. The Grand Lodge "Day on the Hill" in Washington, D.C will be February 25-27. Our National Trustee Nelson Cuba will represent Florida. Financial stability, we are stronger than ever thanks to the guidance of Treasurer Tom Bonney. Training classes that draw an increasing number of members and non-members on relevant issues to our profession are well received thanks to our instructors and Training Committee Chair Lisa Dubord. Communications with the membership have greatly improved and will continue to improve even more as we expand the web site. At the National Board Meeting in San Antonio, March 6-9, the Grand Lodge will announce an exciting new format for the National "Journal" that delivers information to the membership. We are the leading law enforcement organization in the nation and right here in Florida, thanks to our membership. ☆

MEMO FOR THE DESK OF:

Chuck Canterbury
National President

TO: Members, Local and State
Lodge Officers

DATE: November 2007

RE: Involvement in Presi-
dential Primaries



No local lodge, State Lodge, or any official committee or subcommittee thereof may issue any endorsement, public statement or other declaration in support of, or opposition to, any candidate for the office of President of the United States.

Decisions made with respect to the FOP's position on a candidate for President is the sole province of the Grand Lodge.

The membership of the FOP has, over the years, adopted and refined the process by which the Grand Lodge chooses which candidate to support for the office President. Our endorsement is valuable, and is highly sought, because we speak for the entirety of our members and we are perceived to speak for all rank-and-file officers. Political campaigns are aware of this and may actively seek to get premature endorsements or other statements of support or opposition in hopes of benefiting their candidate not the FOP or our own procedures.

Such statements or declarations can only serve to weaken the impact of the FOP's ultimate endorsement and actions like these will ultimately be a disservice to a candidate even if that candidate wins the FOP's support next fall.

The Grand Lodge, and only the Grand Lodge, is permitted under the Constitution and By-laws of the Fraternal Order of Police, to take an official position on candidates for the office of President.

Direct any inquiries you may have to me or to Executive Director Jim Pasco in the National Legislative Office. ★

Thought for the day

Calling an illegal alien an "undocumented immigrant" is like calling a drug dealer an "unlicensed pharmacist"

MARIJUANA'S RESURGENCE

By Attorney General Bill McCollum



Apparently California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger was only joking when he recently said marijuana "is not a drug. It's a leaf." I certainly hope so. Statistics show marijuana is the most popular illegal drug in America, with more than half of our young adults between ages of 19-28 saying they have used it. But today's marijuana is no Woodstock rerun; it's potent and dangerous.

The most alarming aspect of marijuana's resurgence is the much greater potency of today's plant, particularly the hydroponic variety. In the 1960's and '70's, the average THC content (THC produces the high and causes physiological problems) in marijuana was approximately four percent. The THC level in the hydroponic marijuana grown today in Florida has tested up to 30 percent, and the level continues to rise through plant cloning by growers. This increase in potency has not only increased the dangerous physical effects of the drug, but also the addictive nature of marijuana use. Experts believe that the rate of addiction among daily marijuana users is now higher than that among daily alcohol drinkers.

The increase in the drug's potency has also caused marijuana's market value to skyrocket. Hydroponic marijuana in some areas actually trades ounce for ounce with cocaine. The drug is so lucrative that grow houses are popping up in some of the most affluent neighborhoods in the state. These "Marijuana McMansions" are home to multi-million dollar growing operations. Grow houses primarily specializing in hydroponic marijuana have been detected in 41 of Florida's 67 counties, and Florida had the second highest number of grow house seizures in the country in 2006.

One such operation was recently discovered and shut down in North Florida, where an organized ring of individuals had been using seven houses to grow and distribute large quantities of marijuana. These grow houses produced 100 pounds of marijuana per month, and traffickers were netting profits of nearly half a million dollars a year.

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THE FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

by *Tim Ingold*



“All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in the Congress of the United States, which shall consist of the Senate and House of Representatives.”

Isn't that the way it always is, just when you think you have figured out all the idiosyncrasies in the State of

Florida with regard to the state legislature, now there is another system of laws that begs our attention, The U. S. Congress. I'll admit up front, I've never been able to figure out how they accomplish anything on the federal level but a quick study has given me a glimmer of hope that we, the Florida State Lodge FOP, can make a difference for our members here at home.

Let's look at the Congress. The Senate is composed of 100 members, two from each state. In the State of Florida we have Sen. Bill Nelson and Sen. Mel Martinez. Their term of office is 6 years and one third of the total senate membership is elected every second year. The terms of each state senator is arranged so that they do not terminate at the same time. The House of Representatives is composed of 435 members elected every two years from among the 50 states, apportioned to their total populations. In Florida, we some have 25 members in the House of Representatives. Under law, Congress must assemble at least once every year at noon of the 3rd day of January. A congress lasts for two years, divided into two sessions. The current congress, the 109th, ends its second session this year so that means the 110th Congress, and with possibly some new faces, will be taking office soon.

The chief function of the Congress is of course, making laws. An example of the various forms of congressional action is as follows. A “Bill” is the form used for most legislation. A bill originating in the House is designated by the letter “H.R.” Bills are presented to the President for action when approved in identical form by both the House and Senate. Joint Resolutions may originate in either the House or Senate and there is little practical difference between a bill and a joint resolution. Joint Resolutions become law

in the same manner as bills. During the 105th Congress, 1997-1998, 7,529 bills were introduced in both Houses.

Any member in the House may introduce a bill at any-time while the House is in session by simply placing it in the “hopper” provided for on the Clerk's desk. The sponsor's signature must appear on the bill and the bill may have an unlimited number of co-sponsors. The bill is assigned a number and referred to the appropriate committee by the Speaker. Committees study the bills, hear public testimony, amendments may be offered and members vote to accept or reject these changes. The bill then proceeds to the floor of the House in what may be a simple or very complex operation, depending upon debate, how much time will be allowed to hear the bill and whether amendments may be again offered. If the bill passes, it proceeds to the Senate for consideration where it must pass both bodies in the same form before it can be submitted to the President for signature into law. If the Senate changes the language of the bill, it must return to the House for concurrence or additional changes. This back and forth negotiation may occur on the House floor or in a conference committee where difference are often ironed out. After a measure has been passed in identical form by both the House and Senate, it is considered “enrolled” and then sent to the President who may sign the measure into law, or veto it and return it to Congress, let it become law without his/her signature or at the end of the session. This of course is a very simplistic explanation of a system limited by the size of this newsletter. You may of visit the internet and spend hours reading of the many twists and turns that a bill may take before we ever see it to fruition, but the point is made, there is nonetheless a system in place which we, the FOP can take advantage of to further our ultimate goal of securing benefits for our members here at home.

The Grand Lodge FOP is currently tracking some numerous bills that require our attention. They have identified four (4) such bills of critical importance to rank and file law enforcement officer during the 108th Congress.

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GOVERNMENTAL PLAN E—BULLETIN—REPORTING OF HELPS \$3000 EXCLUSION

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA) included a provision permitting eligible retired public safety officers to elect to exclude up to \$3000 of their retirement benefit from income if used for qualified health insurance premiums or long-term care insurance premiums. This provision was found in Section 845 of the PPA and is generally referred to as the HELPS election. Although there was some concern over initial guidance from the IRS that indicated that only payments to insured plans would qualify for the exclusion, as noted in the Ice Miller LLP Governmental Plan Alert “Issued notice 2007-99-Guidance Modifies Deduction Exclusion,” the IRS has clarified that payments to self-insured plans are also permissible.

Although many governmental plans anticipated that special reporting would be necessary on the part of plans which chose to offer direct payment of premiums for their members, the IRS has taken a different approach. The governmental plan deducting and paying the insurance premium will not be responsible for reporting the amount paid in premiums on the Form 1099-R issued to the retiree. Rather, the retiree will be required to report the amount claimed as an exclusion on his or her Form 1040. The 2007 Instructions to the Form 1040 instruct the retiree to reflect the taxable amount received from the plan directly by the plan, up to but not exceeding \$3000 on line 16b of the Form 1040. Next to the entry, in the margin, the retiree must write the letters “PSO.”

Some have raised concerns that members who file a Form 1040-EZ will not be able to take advantage of this provision. This does seem to be the case, as there is no mention of claiming the exclusion in the Form 1040-EZ instructions. However, it is also clear from those instructions that Form 1040-EZ may not be filed when the taxpayer has received taxable income re-

ported on a Form 1099-R. Therefore, members of a governmental plan receiving taxable income reported on a Form 1099-R cannot file Form 1040-EZ in any event, in other words. The fact that the HELPS deduction cannot be claimed on a Form 1040-EZ should not pose a problem, as anyone having taxable income from a governmental plan cannot file a Form 1040-EZ.

Although a governmental plan which is deducting and paying qualified premiums for a retiree does not adjust for those amounts in box 1 or 2a of the Form 1099-R, the plan may choose to reflect the qualified premiums paid in the Notes section of the form. This may be helpful to your retirees as they complete their Form 1040 for the year. Alternatively, a governmental plan could provide affected retirees with a separate sheet stating the amount of qualified premiums which you deducted and paid on their behalf. In addition, you may wish to provide additional educational materials to your members, informing them of the definition of eligible retired public safety officer and directing them to the Form 1040 instructions for information on claiming the deduction. However, a governmental plan is not required to determine whether an individual retiree is an eligible retired public safety officer nor to obtain any certification from the individual on that point. Therefore, we recommend that you phrase any additional information you provide carefully so as to provide information and assistance but, make it clear that the retiree must ultimately determine whether he or she qualifies to claim the deduction.

For further assistance with reporting of the HELPS deduction or communications to your retiree, please contact Mary Beth Braitman, Terry A.M. Munford, Lisa E. Harrison or Katrina M. Clingerman or the Ice Miller LLP Employee Benefits attorney with whom you work. ★



“The Voice of Law Enforcement On Line”

FLORIDA STATE LODGE FOP TAG



Brothers and Sisters, the Florida State Lodge will introduce a bill to the 2008 Legislative Session for an FOP tag. This tag in vinyl for display purposes is now available for purchase on the State Lodge web site, www.floridastatefop.org, for \$8.00 (add \$1.25 for shipping).

We will begin the survey process shortly to gather enough signatures required for approval and hope to be able to collect the signatures online. As soon as that is ready we will send another email alert.

This tag with the "Thin Blue Line" and Fraternal Order of Police emblem will be available to FOP members only once adopted by the legislature. Proceeds will benefit the FOP Law Enforcement Memorial Project honoring our fallen heroes. Contact your State Representative and State Senator; ask for their vote on our tag. ★

Legislative Process continued from page 4

The Grand Lodge website is outstanding with regard to up to date information on the status of federal legislation. These bills can do much for our membership and it is equally important that we do as much as possible to see that they pass from the House and Senate where they can be signed into law by our President. You can help today by investing a few minutes to see that your respective House member has co-sponsored an FOP priority bill. When the November elections are over, take a minute to schedule a meeting in their local legislative office to introduce yourself and your lodge to them. Tell them of the importance of our legislation and how they can help us, and equally as important how we can help them in their next campaign which is always right around the corner. ★

LAW ENFORCEMENT MUSEUM GETS PLANNING GROUP'S PRELIMINARY OK

*By Erin Killiam, Staff Reporter
Washington Business Journal*

The National Capital Planning Commission has given preliminary approval to the \$80 million National Law Enforcement Museum at Judiciary Square.

The commission approved two 25-foot entrance pavilions covered with glass at Fourth and E streets NW.

The nod allows the museum's backer, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, to move forward with the rest of the 95,000-square-foot museum, which will be largely underground. The site includes a library and offices, which won't be open to the public.

The fund hired D.C.-based [Davis Buckley Architects](#) and Planners to design the layout.

The National Law Enforcement Museum was authorized by Congress in 2000. In February, the organizers gave the media a sneak preview of the exhibits, including artifacts from the Lindbergh kidnapping and costumes from the 1987 movie "RoboCop."

The museum will also have a national repository of records related to police killed in the line of duty, as well as law enforcement documents and artifacts.

The fund, led by chief executive Craig Floyd, will go back to the planning commission and the arts commission in the spring for final approval. The groundbreaking is expected in the second half of next year, and the opening is scheduled for 2011.

The fund has raised \$32 million of its \$80 million capital campaign. In July, the D.C. Council approved the issuance of \$80 million in industrial revenue bonds on behalf of the organization. The fund is also in talks with D.C. government about getting tax increment financing, according to spokesman Kevin Morison. ★

ISSUES NEW GUIDANCE ON HELPS

IRS Finally Issues New Guidance on HELPS

The *Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety (HELPS) Retirees Act*, which was enacted in Section 845 of H.R. 4/PL 109-280, the *Pension Protection Act*, provision provides a modest tax benefit to retired public safety officers to pay for health care by allowing the use, on a pretax basis, of up to \$3,000 annually from their pension funds (including defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans) to pay for premiums on health care and long-term care insurance. The law went into effect on 1 January 2007. However, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued guidance in February 2007 which defined accident or health insurance plan in a very restrictive manner and excluded self-insured plans. As a result, this important tax benefit was initially unavailable to a significant number of retired public safety officers who would otherwise be entitled to receive it.

At the request of the FOP and other stakeholder groups, the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance sent a joint letter to the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Department of the Treasury communicating the intent of Congress with

respect to the HELPS Retirees Act and requested that the guidance be changed. In May 2007, the U.S. Department of the Treasury responded to that request in a letter to Congress indicating that the IRS will amend their guidance in such a way as to include self-insured plans as eligible under the HELPS Retirees Act. Following the transmission of this letter, self-insured plans which were previously ineligible became eligible, allowing our members can begin to take advantage of the benefit provided by the HELPS Retirees Act.

On 24 December 2007, the IRS formally issued an amendment to their original guidance with respect to their interpretation of the term accident or health insurance plan that is consistent with the original intent of the Act and the information provided by the Treasury Department in May. A copy of the amendment to the guidance can be found here:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/notice2007-99.end.pdf> and a link to this document, as well as an updated version of the FAQ on the HELPS provision can be found on the Legislative page of the Grand Lodge's website.

Members with questions should contact the National Legislative Office in Washington. ★

“HOW DO WE IDENTIFY THE ENEMY?”

By Reinaldo Irizarry, Sr., PhD Miami Police Retired

In today's World, in which we live, who is the enemy? What does he look like? How do we recognize him? What do we look for to identify him? Once we identify him, how do we stop him? These are basic questions, which our government should be asking, if we are going to be successful in handling the coming anarchies that lay ahead for us. For all we know the enemy could be our next-door neighbor checking us out just waiting for the moment to kill us.

It is a fact; humans have been waging war against each other since the beginning of time. They have not developed a harmonious way of living and sharing this planet, which is the only planet we have. As a result, they have fought each other for ages with little regards for the value of life, with no end in sight.

Since the beginning days of the Bible, Brother has attacked Brother with the intent of killing him. If Families kill each other, what makes you think that neighbors would be any different? Family members should support and love one another because they come from the same family inner circle, such as a Mother and a father. However, that is not always the case. At times, during periods of hostilities our neighbors can be more reliable than our own families. However, this is a problem because the way the world is today, so whom can you trust?

Continued on page 8

Identify the Enemy continued from page 7

In early warfare, the enemy would face each other in battle. One will try to be victorious over the other. Countries would wage war where there were boundaries. You new where the enemy was and you could destroy him; that is no longer the case, in today's battles, our soldiers do not know who the enemy is. They come disguised with a smile on their faces. They are very well educated. They are of different colors, ages, gender, religion and they look much like us. They dress like us, they believe in family values like us; they practice their religion like us. Yet because of differences in religious believes in not understating their differences we are engage in a conflict, which will last for a longtime.

Countries in the Middle East have been fighting one another for ages. Not because of economic reason but because of religious believes. Their religious ideology is what governs their lives, and form of government. They have not idea about the word freedom. Ruled by forms of government that were comprise of, Monarchies Kings and Queens, Warlords, and Tyrants who had the power and money to pay armies so they could hold on to power. They would pass it down to their heirs and children at their time of death.

Having engaged in many wars, the U.S., in having good intelligence in identifying its enemy and quickly adapting to his plans has been successful in its victories. That has been the case with most war the U.S., has fought. In allowing our Generals and high military ranking people experience in the art of Warfare to do the planning and setting War plans in motion, not the politicians who are sitting behind a desk in Washington with no military experience. There have been instances where we have made mistake in having our Politicians dictate the tactics use in battles, having to pullout to safe face. The Vietnam Wars was a perfect example. I know, I was there. Now we are engage in another war that will take at least ten (10) years before we can have an idea on its outcome.

Because of the War in Iraq, and the way the War is being handle, the rule of engagement have drastically change giving the enemy an edge over us. By our politically correct people in congress trying to be too politically correct, we are cutting our own throat. The enemy has his own set of rules of engagement during his war against us, and that is to kill us all. Whites,

Black, Asians, Europeans, and not to forget the Jewish people which the Muslin community will like to see disappear from the face of the Earth. It is either the Muslin way, or the Highway...

During the Civil War, we knew who the enemy was. He was our neighbor, and our own family in arms. There was a frontline, which changed back and forth, during battles. Forcing both sides to set up strategic war plans to find ways to defeat each other.

In future wars, there is not going to be a frontline. We are going to be fighting the enemy in our own front lawn. That is going to be after the radiation clouds scatters and it is safe to go outside to fight. We are going to be in a struggle, which will last for years. There is not going to be any law and order in the land. Families will fight for food, and water, and whatever ells they can get from each other. There will be total Anarchic, fighting, and struggling just for the little piece of land they may have in front of them which will be a safe space. This is what our future holds for us. This is what our human intelligence and arrogance has brought us.

I believed that we as Humans are the inheritors of the Universe. In addition, we could spread our species across vast distances one end of the universe to the other for all to enjoy... This is the gift from God that we all enjoy as a privilege, which he has given us and we have failed to realize and accept. In addition, we continue to walk blinded by hatred and greed with no love for one another. Instead, striving to get what the others may have by force or intimidation. As a result, we wage war against one another with the hope that one of us is left standing victorious.

To be continued ☆

Attorney: Officer how far was the defendant's vehicle in front of you?

Officer: Approximately one half mile.

Attorney: Can you see clearly for one-half mile?

Officer: Yes.

Attorney: Well Officer, I'm in doubt that you can see clearly an incident that is occurring one-half mile away. So suppose you tell us all again just how far you can see!

Officer: Well sir, on a clear night, I can see all the way to the moon.

marijuana's resurgence continued from page 3

The Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution is prosecuting this case and aggressively working with law enforcement to pursue other operations throughout the state.

As the profit incentives increase for trafficking hydroponic marijuana, the risks to our children and fellow citizens also increase. Grow houses are often the targets of other violent crimes, including home invasions and robberies carried out by rival criminal groups, as the plants alone are worth tens of thousands of dollars. Marijuana is no longer grown and traded by amateurs – it is being trafficked by organized and dangerous rings of criminals who are intent upon bringing this poison into our communities and neighborhoods.

Taking this threat seriously, our state must pass tougher laws to crack down on these sophisticated growing operations. I am supporting legislation sponsored by Senator Steve Oelrich (R-Gainesville) and Representative Nick Thompson (R-Fort Myers) that lowers from 300 plants to 25 plants the standard for creating a presumption that a person is intending to distribute for profit. The bill also creates a new pen-

alty for growers who own a house for the purpose of cultivating marijuana, as well as a new penalty for people who live in or are the caretakers of marijuana grow houses.

It is our responsibility to not only educate our citizens, especially those who are younger and may be more susceptible to drug use, about highly potent marijuana, but also to implement new strategies for curbing the spread of this new and dangerous threat. ★

Little Sammy's kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station. There they saw pictures tacked to a big bulletin board, The label clearly read, "The 10 Most Wanted."

One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person.

"Yes, said the policeman, "the detectives want him badly."

So little Sammy asked, while tugging on the man's belt, "Um, mister, why didn't you keep them when you took their pictures?"

South Florida Police & Security Expo 2008



Dear F.O.P. member,

The Fraternal Order of Police – Florida State Lodge, proudly endorses the **2008 South Florida Police & Security Expo** which will be held at the Palm Beach County Convention Center in West Palm Beach, Fl, on **June 6th & 7th, 2008**.

The **2008 South Florida Police & Security Expo** will be the most sought-after industry trade show in the Southeast showcasing the latest products and services for law enforcement and security professionals. We invite you to take advantage of **FREE Training and Seminars** and meet face-to-face with exhibitors who will provide you the ability to get "hands-on" with the latest technology.

We highly recommend you **Pre-Register now** to avoid long lines the day of the show. Please note there is a **\$5.00 Pre-Registration fee / \$10.00 fee at the door**. For more information on "**How To Attend**" please visit their website at: www.SouthFloridaPoliceExpo.com

ELI LILLY AND COMPANY DONATES \$100,000 TO NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MUSEUM

Donation will help build first-ever national museum in Washington, DC, dedicated to the history and importance of law enforcement in America

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) has announced a major donation by Eli Lilly and Company to the campaign for the first-ever national museum dedicated to law enforcement in the United States.

Lilly's \$100,000 contribution will help build the National Law Enforcement Museum, an architecturally inspiring, world-class museum scheduled to open in downtown Washington, DC, in 2011.

"Eli Lilly and Company is honored to be a corporate supporter of the National Law Enforcement Museum, and welcomes the opportunity to support the campaign to construct a world-class facility that will educate the public and honor the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers," said Robert M. Reilley, director of global security for Lilly and a retired FBI agent. "We should all be grateful for the dedication of the men and women of law enforcement, particularly those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the freedoms we enjoy. Lilly is privileged to help make this museum a reality," he said.

"Eli Lilly and Company epitomizes what good corporate citizenship is all about," said NLEOMF Chairman Craig W. Floyd. "Through this generous donation,

Lilly has demonstrated how companies across all industries not only rely on law enforcement for their success, but also can express their appreciation for our dedicated peace officers through the establishment of a museum in their honor. Lilly has set an example we hope many others will follow," he added.

Authorized by Congress in the year 2000, the planned National Law Enforcement Museum is a 95,000 square foot, mostly underground museum to be located just blocks from the U.S. Capitol and adjacent to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. When it opens in 2011, the Museum will provide an estimated 600,000 visitors a year with a comprehensive and compelling look at law enforcement in America. The Museum will feature high-tech, interactive exhibitions, interesting historical and contemporary artifacts, and extensive educational programming. Groundbreaking is scheduled for later in 2008.

The privately funded Museum has launched an \$80 million capital campaign, with nearly \$33 million raised to date. For more information about the National Law Enforcement Museum, including a virtual tour, visit www.LawEnforcementMuseum.org. ★

MANATEE LODGE 70 SAYS GOODBYE TO CLYDE GILL

Clyde Gill grew up in Manatee County and knew he would be policeman more than 80 years ago. He was hired in 1944 by the Bradenton Police Department, working 12 hour shifts 6 days a week on the 6 man department. Clyde eventually became the Chief of Police. During his long career, Clyde Gill rose in the Manatee Sheriff's Office to the #2 position under 5 different sheriffs. After 58 ½ years in law enforcement, Clyde was recognized as the longest working deputy in the state.

He received honor as the top officer in the state in 1974 from the Florida Prosecuting Investigators Association and as the Manatee County "Outstanding Citizen" in 1985.

FOP Brother Clyde Gill will be remembered by his many friends, family, brothers and sisters in law enforcement and all who were privileged to have known him.

Rest in Peace Brother Clyde, job well done my friend.



Miami-Dade Police Department

Director's Office



An Internationally
Accredited
Police Service

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November 21, 2007

Mr. James W. Preston, President
Florida State Lodge
Fraternal Order of Police
242 Office Plaza
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Dear Mr. Preston:

We would like to take this opportunity to follow up on a concern and suggestion you made regarding the Miami-Dade Police Department's (MDPD) public web page. When you last wrote, you noticed that the MDPD's main public web page has a link to complain about MDPD employees, but no link to commend an employee.

We are pleased to inform you that this oversight has been corrected. Please visit MDPD.com at your convenience and take note of a new link titled, "Click Here to Commend an MDPD Employee."

Thank you for your comments and support. Please do not hesitate to call us if we can be of any assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely,

Robert Parker
Director

DISTRICT 6 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR DISABLED CHILDREN



The Easter Seals Society of Dade County, Florida and District 5, Fraternal Order of Police, annual Christmas Party for the disabled children was held on December 13, 2007

CHARLOTTE COUNTY CANCER SURVIVOR GIVES BACK TO COMMUNITY

By Nicole Papageorge



CHARLOTTE COUNTY - It's been more than a year and a half since Paul Blanchard has been able to donate blood at the Port Charlotte Florida Blood Center.

The 66-year-old Florida native has made donating his job since 1967. Today marks a major milestone in his career.

"Paul Blanchard is just a very dedicated blood donor," says Barbara Winkler of the Blood Center. "Few and far between people reach those kind of milestones and reach ten, fifteen and twenty gallons and Paul is at 38 gallons."

But, the journey hasn't come without its share of hardship. In August of 2006, Paul was diagnosed with Melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

Months later, one of his best friends and blood donating partner Jeff Steele, disappeared in a tragic accident while fishing in Alaska. Paul says he thinks of his friend every time he gives blood.

"We used to tell Vivian to stick us both at the same time and we'd see who could fill the bag first," says Blanchard.

But, the happy memories and helping others helped Paul overcome these challenges. His cancer has been in remission for the past year.

"You know, I didn't get to come in here much to see all the gals here I missed them," says Blanchard.

Each blood donation can save three lives. Blanchard has donated more than 300 times. Theoretically, he could have saved more than 900 lives so far. ★

WHEN COPS RETIRE:

When a good man leaves the "job" and retires to a better life, many are jealous, some are pleased and yet others, who may have already retired, wonder. We wonder if he [she] knows what they are leaving behind, because we already know. We know, for example, that after a lifetime of camaraderie that few experience, it will remain as a longing for those past times. We know in the law enforcement life there is a fellowship which lasts long after the uniforms are hung up in the back of the closet. We know even if he throws them away, they will be on him with every step and breath that remains in his frame. We also know how the very bearing of the man speaks of what he was and in his heart still is.

These are the burdens of the job. You will still look at people suspiciously, still see what others do not see or choose to ignore and always will look at the rest of the law enforcement world with a respect for what they do; only grown in a lifetime of knowing. Never think for one moment you are escaping from the life. You are only escaping the "job" and we are merely allowing you to leave "active" duty.

So what I wish for you is that whenever you ease into retirement, in your heart you never forget for one moment that "Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called children of God," and you are still a member of the greatest fraternity the world has ever known. LOTS of truth here in this. ★

CIVILIAN FRIENDS VS. POLICE FRIENDS

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Get upset if you're too busy to talk to them for a week.

POLICE FRIENDS: Are glad to see you after years, and will happily carry on the same conversation you were having last time you met.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Never ask for food or alcohol.

POLICE FRIENDS: Are the reason you have no food or alcohol.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Call your parents Mr. And Mrs.

POLICE FRIENDS: Call your parents mom and dad.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Bail you out of jail and tell you what you did was wrong.

POLICE FRIENDS: Would be sitting next to you in jail saying, "Damn...we screwed up...but man, that was fun!"

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Have never seen you cry.

POLICE FRIENDS: Cry with you.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Borrow your stuff for a few days then give it back.

POLICE FRIENDS: Keep your stuff so long they forget it's yours.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Know a few things about you.

POLICE FRIENDS: Could write a book with direct quotes from you.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Will leave you behind if that's what the crowd is doing.

POLICE FRIENDS: Will kick the whole crowds' ass that left you behind.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Would knock on your door.

POLICE FRIENDS: Walk right in and say, "I'm home!"

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Are for a while.

POLICE FRIENDS: Are for life.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Have shared a few experiences...

POLICE FRIENDS: Have shared a lifetime of experiences no Citizen could ever dream of...

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Will take your drink away when they think you've had enough.

POLICE FRIENDS: Will look at you stumbling all over the place and say, "You better drink the rest of that, you know we don't waste...that's alcohol abuse!!" Then carry you home safely and put you to bed...

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Will talk crap to the person who talks crap about you.

POLICE FRIENDS: Will knock them the hell out for using your name in vain. ★

AUTO INSURANCE ENDORSED BY THE NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

Chuck Canterbury

One of the responsibilities of the Grand Lodge, FOP is to discover new ways to benefit our members and their families. Since 1996, the Grand Lodge has endorsed National Computerized Agencies, Inc (NCA) as the personal lines property and casualty agent for FOP members. NCA is a nationwide independent insurance agency with more than 40 years experience meeting the personal lines need of law enforcement professionals.

We are pleased that NCA has teamed up with Response Insurance, an auto insurance industry leader, to offer FOP Brothers and Sisters across the country significant savings on their car insurance. In fact, through its affiliates, Response Insurance has insured FOP members for almost 25 years. They offer among the most competitive car insurance rates, cover thousands of drivers nationwide and provide their customers with 24 hour claim reporting service, 365 days a year. On average, Response Insurance saves their customers over \$400.00 compared to their previous coverage. The brochure provides you with additional information about the Response Insurance auto program made available to you by NCA's COPCOVERAGE. There is no obligation and participation is strictly up to you.

If your are interested in finding out how much you could save on your car insurance, I encourage you to

get a free no-obligation rate quote from Response Insurance. You can contact them directly at 1-800-727-5068 between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. EST Monday through Friday (8:30 a.m.—5 p.m. on Saturday). For the most accurate quote, have your current policy, drivers license, social security and vehicle identification numbers available when you call. Or, you can receive an instant car insurance rate quote online by visiting www.COPCOVERAGE.com.

Everyone knows how expensive car insurance is. Finding quality companies who can provide you the greatest value for your car insurance dollar is just another example of how the National FOP is working hard to help you and your family. So, why pay more than you have to?

If you need insurance for your home, motorcycle, boat or personal excess liability, NCS has programs available to protect these assets as well. Visit www.COPCOVERAGE.com for more information. ☆

You Protect People Every Day.

Now, Let Us Protect You.

Auto Insurance Endorsed By The National Fraternal Order of Police

www.policehumor.com



I need some excessive force to open this pickle jar.

The Traffic Stop

A truck driver was pulled over by a State Trooper. The patrolman told him to get out of the truck, and noticed that the driver appeared to be putting something in his mouth as he stepped out of the cab. Figuring that the driver was putting away his pep pills, the patrolman asked "Did I just see you swallow something?"

"Yep, that was my birth control pill," said the driver.

"Birth control pill?" asked the patrolman.

"Yep, when I saw your flashing light, I knew I was screwed."

BILL TO ENHANCE SENTENCING FOR CRIMINALS USING AUTOMATIC WEAPONS



The Fraternal Order of Police joined with Senator Gwen Margolis and State Representative Evan Jenne at the State Capitol as they announced the co-filing of a bill that would enhance the sentencing for criminals who use an automatic weapon in the commission of a crime. Senator Margolis referred to the recent increase in the use of automatic weapons in South Florida where several police officers were fatally shot last year. As recent as January 2008, Miami Police Detective James Walker was gunned down by a thug using an AK-47. ★

BILL TO PERMIT CHARITABLE BOXING EVENTS LIKE THE GUNS N' HOSES FUND RAISER



State Senator Wise meets with Florida State Lodge President Jim Preston, Jacksonville Lodge 5/30 President Nelson Cuba and a strong delegation from Jacksonville in presenting a bill to permit Charitable Boxing events like the Guns N' Hoses fund raiser produced by Lodge 5/30. We thank Senator Wise for his effort in support of the bill which passed out of committee and will now go to the Senate for a vote. ★

"IN THE LINE OF DUTY" MEMORIAL LITHOGRAPH



Talented artist Brian Womack delivered the original oil painting titled "In the Line of Duty". Brian is in the graphic arts industry and works in the motion picture business art work section of Dreamlynx Digital Studios working with Universal Studios in Orlando and California. Brian was a Corrections Officer, early in his career. His father was a deputy sheriff in Hendry County.

This beautiful painting will now be digitally scanned and reproduced in a lithograph poster and made available for sale to the members in either a 24" X 36" or 11" X 17". The first 250 of each size will be signed by the artist and come with a Certificate of Authenticity. This fund raising project for the Florida State Lodge Memorial Committee depicts the Honor Guard standing vigil over the Florida Law Enforcement Monument in Tallahassee, the thin blue line rising to the heavens with the Motorcade escort officers saluting our fallen hero imposed over the Florida State flag and the U.S. flag,. Our hero fading from view but never from our memory. We pledge to "Never forget" them. ★

**FALLEN HERO DOG TAGS
NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!**



Your Heroes Image, agency and end of watch date is embossed on the face with agency patch embossed on the reverse.

Pricing: Orders of less than 10 are \$20.00 each. Orders of 10 or more are only \$15.00 each. Add Shipping and handling of \$1.25 per order. Proceeds will benefit the Florida FOP donation to the National Law Enforcement Officers's Museum Project in Washington, D.C.

Order Form

Provide the Name and Agency of your Fallen Hero to be embossed on your dog tag. If you have a favorite photo you would like to use, contact us at info@floridastatefop.org

Hero: _____

Agency: _____

EOW Date: _____ Quantity: _____

Shipping Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail to: Florida State Lodge
242 Office Plaza
Tallahassee, Florida 32301



**FLORIDA 25TH ANNIVERSARY FOP
MEMORIAL CHALLENGE COIN**



(1.5 inch actual size)

2007 Marks the 25th Anniversary of the Florida State Lodge Memorial Service in Tallahassee. On May 6th and 7th this year we gathered once again to honor our heroes and renew our pledge to "Never Forget" our fallen brothers and sisters and offer our everlasting support to their families.

Join hundreds of officers in their support of the Memorial Service. You can purchase this beautiful commemorative coin to help the FOP State Lodge Memorial Committee continue this valuable service and remember those who have made the supreme sacrifice.

On sale now from the Florida State Lodge for only \$20.00, available in gold or silver, this is a keepsake everyone will proudly carry. Order yours today.

Visit the Florida State Lodge Web Site at www.floridastatefop.org ☆



9-1-1 Fire

A blonde woman calls 911. In a panic she tells the dispatcher that her house is on fire and that she need the fire department there immediatly. The dispatch tells her, just calm down and tell us how to get there. The blonde lady replies "DUH, BIG RED TRUCK"

J.L. PEGGS FINANCIAL

J.L. "Larry Peggs, R.F.C.



Larry Peggs is widely known throughout the State of Florida in Municipalities and Law Enforcement Circles as a specialist in Retirement, Investment, Insurance, and Tax Planning. As an independent financial professional, he has met with large and small groups, as well as with individuals, regarding the education and implementation of various retirement and estate plans.

Larry is registered with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, and is an Investment Adviser Representative of Woodbury Financial Services, Inc., a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and SIPC, 500 Bielenberg Dr., Woodbury, MN. 55125, 800-800-2000. Woodbury is a member of the Hartford Financial Services Group, one of the largest financial services companies in North America. He was admitted to the International Association of Registered Financial Consultants as a Registered Financial Consultant (RFC), in 1998.

Larry began his financial career in 1970 after majoring in Agricultural Economics and Business Management at Purdue University. He has been a resident of Florida since 1976, when he moved from Indiana with his wife Karen, and their two children.

Larry may be contacted by calling 727-391-1707 or 1-800-293-6784, Nextel DC# 158*35*718, or emailing larry@jlpeggs.com. There are no fees for consultations.

Larry Peggs is a licensed Investment Adviser Representative in CO, FL, GA, KY, IN, MA, MI NC, NE, NM, NY, OH, OR, TN, VA, WA, and a Florida Resident.

Larry Peggs is a licensed Registered Representative in FL, IN, NC, OH, WA, OR, GA and a Florida resident.

* Securities and Investment Advisory Services offered through a representative of Woodbury Financial Services, Inc., Member FINRA, SIPC, and a Registered Investment Adviser, PO Box 64284, St. Paul, MN 55164 800-800-2000

A scenic photograph of a tropical beach. The foreground shows dark, jagged rocks in the shallow, clear turquoise water. The middle ground features a wide, sandy beach leading to a dense line of green palm trees and other tropical vegetation. In the background, there are rolling hills under a bright blue sky filled with large, white, fluffy clouds.

**Visit the FOP Travel Store on the
Florida State Lodge web site**

Your continued loyal support of the Florida FOP entitles you, your family and friends to join us at the *FOP Travel Store* where you will enjoy great competitive rates on all your travel needs that our law enforcement members earn. You receive great rates on airlines, hotels, rental cars and so much more. At the same time, you support the Florida FOP each time you book travel online.

Visit www.ytbtravel.com/fop