April
Volume 19 Issue 4

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April 9 Don’t Miss Event!
Law Enforcement Appreciation Night with The Florida Panthers
proceeds to benefit The Hope Fund
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Get in Touch

Write
Letters to the Editor
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Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312
Email editor@bcpba.org
Fax 954-583-0405
Twitter @gobcpba

Letters or articles submitted must include the writers’ true full name, address and daytime phone number. Any letters or articles submitted for publication must be accompanied by a statement giving permission to publish. The Broward County PBA reserves the right of the Executive Board or Editor to amend or to add an editor’s comment to any article or letter submitted.

The Broward Centurion is published 12 times a year and distributed to over 2,800 County PBA members and associates.

Advertising rates effective 1/1/15
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Members:

On Tuesday, March 10th several cities represented by the BCPBA held municipal elections. The process for supporting candidates begins months in advance when they go through our screening interview. Those seeking public office, and a BCPBA endorsement, come to our office and meet with officer and deputy representatives to request support and discuss relevant issues. During the recent election, BSO deputies staffed polling locations in Deerfield. Officers from Miramar and Coconut Creek staffed polling locations in their cities for 12 hours so we could participate in the political process. At the end of the day the PBA did very well countywide. Thank you volunteers!

In Florida state news, the BCPBA attended the first week of the March legislative session. We also attended several committee meetings in February to assist the Florida PBA’s Tallahassee staff. As usual, we are on the defensive with proposed legislation relating to body cameras and pension bills. The omnipresence of the PBA at the state capitol showed very clearly that we are the dominant voice for law enforcement in Tallahassee and for the state of Florida.

March 11, 2015 marked the kickoff event for Broward Sheriff Scott Israel’s campaign. The event was held at the Broward PBA hall. The BCPBA attended along with members and supporters throughout the county.

Please monitor the BCPBA.org website and Facebook for current news from the capitol as well as local information. We look forward to seeing you at Law Enforcement Appreciation Night with the Florida Panthers on April 9.

Be safe,

Jeff Marano

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Retired Members

Broward Sheriff’s Office
William “Bill” Hawley
Detective David Currie and Detective Rich Engels conducted a 40 hour course in Kingston, Jamaica on the topic of Crime Scene Management to INDECOM investigators in conjunction with the US Embassy and the Department of State.

The Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) undertake investigations concerning actions by members of the Security Forces and other agents of the State that result in death or injury to persons or the abuse of the rights of persons and all other connected matters. The group investigates all Jamaica Constabulary Force police involved homicides much in the same way that internal investigation monitors U.S. police forces. In 2013, the JCF killed over 200 civilians using death squads. The detectives will be returning to teach advanced crime scene photography and shooting reconstruction.
On the Road
with Secretary Lee Martin

Lee Martin

Congratulations to all the BSO Deputies and Sergeants who recently participated in the promotion process. It is an understatement to say that attempting to obtain a promotion can be exhausting and frustrating. I have received many inquiries about how the “Rule of Five” works and will explain it here.

Think about the top five promotion candidates as a revolving group that changes every time there is a selection process. Once an individual is selected out of the top five, a new spot opens up. The person who is number six on the list then moves up to number five. That person is now in the top five. With each promotion, someone new enters the top five until the Sheriff gets his pick. With every 6th pick, the Sheriff can choose from any candidate on the list no matter what number he/she is on the list.

I reviewed the now expired list for Sergeant and Lieutenant and found no administrative violations. In fact, the process BSO uses to keep track of when and who they promote is very organized. The BCPBA will continue to monitor the process and look for ways to improve the promotion experience.

As we closeout February and March, I am reminded of a quote from Martin Luther King Jr. He said: “I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to share.” Let us remember to appreciate, love, and get to know each other. I love you all!

Call me at 954.347.2515 or send an email to lmartin@bcdba.org if there is anything you wish to discuss or with any ideas you may have.

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Deputy Receives Broward TRIAD Award

Pictured above (left to right): Fernando Cuellar, Citizens on Patrol volunteer Weston District; Capt. Scott Russell Y&NS (Youth and Neighborhood Services); Chaplain Nathaniel Knowles, BSO Head Chaplain; Deputy Kevin Bolling, BSO K-9 (Bloodhound), TRAID Board Member, Crime Prevention Practitioner; Ann Zucker, Triad Member, BSO Fire Services Educator; Deputy Debra Wallace, Oakland Park Dist, K-9 (Bloodhound); Lloyd Edelstein, BSO Retired, VP TRAID Executive Board

Congratulations to BSO Deputy Kevin Bolling who received the Broward TRIAD 2014 Officer of the Year Award.

Broward TRIAD is a three way collaboration between law enforcement, seniors and community service organizations working to improve the safety and quality of life for Broward seniors since 1992.

The group meets every first Thursday at the Davie Police Department at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome.

Broward TRIAD is a member of NATI, the National Association of TRIADS.

For further information about TRIAD please contact Broward Sheriff’s Office Youth & Neighborhood Services at (954) 321-4100.

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In April We Remember

R. Dwight Johnston
Ft. Laud. PD 4/5/1947

Philip G. Billings
Sheriff’s Office 4/6/2003

Henry F. Wilton
Hallandale PD 4/19/1956

James Taylor Thomas
Dania PD 4/19/1977

Phillip Lee
Hallandale PD 4/29/1928
Thousands Attend Support Our Police Motorcycle Ride

By Lieutenant Gregory Solowsky
Lauderhill PD & PBA Rep

On Sunday, February 8th the Dade County PBA, Miami-Dade Commissioner Jose “Pepe” Diaz and members of the community came together to host a “Support Our Police” motorcycle ride and rally as a show of support and appreciation for our law enforcement community.

The event began in the parking lot of the Dade County PBA (10680 PBA Memorial Blvd.) in Doral, Florida and ended at the Dade County Law Enforcement Memorial at Tropical Park (7900 SW 40 St.) in Miami. Proceeds from the event went to benefit the Love Fund, which assists officers and their families during times of need.

The event was attended by thousands of motorcyclists from all over South Florida including members from the Broward County PBA (pictured above). As the well-choreographed route began, thousands of bikes spilled out onto the streets of Doral in a long parade to the cheers of people lining both sides of the roadway. Thousands of people stopped in traffic and came out of their businesses to wave, cheer, and yell “thank you” to the passing riders. Many waved American flags and took pictures as the bikes passed.

Once at our final destination (Tropical Park), uniformed officers blocked the roadway for the bikes to get into the park and stood at attention providing a salute as the bikes went by in a show of support for why the bikes and crowds were there that day. It was a touching sight to see.

Once inside Tropical Park, there were lines of food trucks, bounce houses, live music, bike shows and a collection of Police Motor units and Police Honor Guard on display for the event. It was truly a family atmosphere with children running around the park and coming over to see all the incoming bikes. Some children even wore their own home made police uniforms to be part of the celebration.

The event was a great way for our South Florida community to get out and put support behind those men and women who protect and serve each day in their own communities and to take the time to remember those who have fallen while in service of those communities. All around the day’s event were posters, flyers, bumper stickers and t-shirts worn by the riders with a simple but lasting direction for all who attended the day’s event. The message read: “IT WAS THEIR DUTY TO SERVE. IT IS OUR DUTY TO REMEMBER.”
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Enter code BCPBA

For more information, please contact Zachary Eisenberg
at 954.835.8890 or EisenbergZ@FloridaPanthers.com

FLORIDAPANTHERS.COM
The Broward County PBA Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications. The application deadline is April 15, 2015 at 4:30 pm.

Please read the rules and eligibility requirements and download the application at:

http://www.bcpba.org/scholarship_awards.html

Applicants can phone the PBA office to have a PDF version of the application emailed or faxed to them.

To be eligible, all participants must:

1. Be the son or daughter of a Broward County PBA member who has at least two years membership, and is currently a member in good standing.

2. Be, or plan to be, a part-time or full-time student at an accredited two- or four-year college or university.

3. Meet the following grade and test criteria:
   - An overall GPA of 3.0 or higher
   - An SAT score of 1,350 or higher
   - An ACT composite score of 20 or higher

4. Include an essay of no more than 500 words that answers the following question: With the possibility of Social Security not being there for you when you reach that age, how will you prepare financially for your retirement?

5. The completed application packet and essay should be mailed or faxed to:

Broward County PBA Scholarship Committee
2650 West State Road 84
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312
Fax (954) 583-0405

Applicants should realize that many scholarships are based on financial need as well as merit. The information furnished will be kept strictly confidential.

This scholarship is given once a year. The deadline for submission is April 15, 2015 (by 4:30 pm).

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The V.P.’s VISION

The past several weeks have been busy ones for the PBA. I have recently made three trips to Tallahassee to help fight for your rights and benefits. It is a fight that will never end! We are closely watching bills that may impact local and state pensions, as well as items related to body cameras, ticket quotas and other issues that can have an impact on your careers long after you have left service with your agency. We are PBA for life!

The Broward PBA thanks all the members who took time out of their busy lives to participate in our local election campaigns. We were overwhelmingly successful in the fight for our candidates. As we band together to walk with the candidates, and stand at the polls, the candidates realize the PBA’s impact. We are a force like no other. No other group can bring the manpower and recognition that the PBA can bring. No other organization is as involved in politics as the PBA. And no other organization can bring change to local and state legislation like the PBA can. If we stick together and unite behind our candidates and issues of importance to law enforcement, we will impact the outcome. We will not win every battle, but we will win the war! We don’t give up, we just find another way to win.

I have been working on several projects to improve member benefits, something we now call Member Extras. Many of you have already taken advantage of the discounted hotel rates in Orlando for all PBA members. If you haven’t, please visit castleberrytravel.com for details. We will soon have this and other benefits located on our new website that will be up and running shortly. If you have contacts that would like to offer PBA members special rates, please call or email me the details. Look for more of these types of discounts in the future.

Finally, we have an exciting fundraiser with the Florida Panthers coming up on Thursday, April 9th. Celebrate Law Enforcement Appreciation Night with the PBA and Florida Panthers. A portion of the proceeds will go to the PBA Hope Fund. Please attend the game and help our brothers and sisters in need. I hope to see you there.
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