

# BROWARD COUNTY POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BROWARD COUNTY PBA CONSIDERING LEGAL ACTION AGAINST CITY OF HALLANDALE BEACH**

**Ft. Lauderdale** – The Broward County Police Benevolent Association (PBA) is considering filing a lawsuit against the City of Hallandale Beach to block a proposed change to the city’s ordinance on its police and fire pension plan.

The revisions under consideration would prevent residents from sitting on the pension board as well as let members of the city commission hold two seats on the board. The PBA, which represents the police officers covered by ordinance, feels there is a conflict of interest if pension trustees are elected officials. “How can we expect a Commissioner to put pension issues first when they represent the City’s interests?” says Jeff Marano, treasurer of the Broward PBA. “You cannot serve two masters. The residents of Hallandale Beach have never been informed that the City wants to prevent them from sitting on the pension board.”

This is not the first time that objections have been raised to these same proposals. Both the PBA and the Firefighters union protested these changes, on the record, at the

## **PBA Considering Lawsuit Against Hallandale**

Page 2

January 22 City Commission meeting.

The PBA has informed the City that they want to address the compilation of the pension board and any and all changes to the ordinance in future police contracts through the collective bargaining process. The union has also put Hallandale Beach on notice that all available civil and administrative challenges to the changes will be implemented should they pass, and that the PBA will be seeking the removal from commission seats of any commission member who serves as member of the pension board.

The Broward County Police Benevolent Association is a non-profit organization providing labor relations assistance and collective bargaining services for its members. The PBA's mission is to promote professionalism in law enforcement and to protect the rights and privileges of individual law enforcement officers and civilian employees, as well as to keep citizens informed of the challenges facing law enforcement today.

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