AGENDA FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT January 18, 2018

Attachments to the items below can be viewed at the following link: http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/Cabinet/Cabinet-Packages

ITEM 1 Respectfully submit the **Minutes of the October 17, 2017 Cabinet Meeting.**

(See Attachment 1)

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

ITEM 2 Respectfully submit the **department's FY 17-18 1st Quarter Performance Measures Report and Contracts Agreements and Purchases over \$100,000** for July 1 to September 30, 2017.

(See Attachment 2)

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

ITEM 3 Respectfully submit the **2018 Florida Law Enforcement Hall of Fame nominees**.

(See Attachment 3)

RECOMMEND APPROVAL



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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next we get to watch Rick do his presentation. You've got a few people in the audience, so I hope you do a good job.

ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Can I say something really guick, Governor?

8 All of you -- this is such good memories out 9 here. Well, for me, maybe not you. I've been 10 calling all of you for probably 20 years as a young prosecutor, way before this -- I need DNA analyzed; 12 I've got to get this murderer.

13 And it never failed, never wavered. You 14 didn't know who I was, I mean you just knew I was a 15 prosecutor who wanted to get my job done. And 16 thank you, thank you, thank you for everything 17 vou've done.

Thanks to these women and gentlemen, we have 18 19 solved so many murders, rapes, horrible crimes, 20 because of all of you. Thank you.

(APPLAUSE).

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22 COMMISSIONER SWEARINGEN: Thank you. And good 23 morning again.

24 We have three agenda items today. First I 25 respectfully submit the minutes from the

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1 August 16th, 2017 Cabinet meeting for your 2 approval. 3 Is there a motion? GOVERNOR SCOTT: 4 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So move. 5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second? 6 CFO PATRONIS: Second. 7 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections? 8 (NO RESPONSE). 9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion 10 carries. 11 COMMISSIONER SWEARINGEN: Next is an addendum 12 to the Department's fiscal year '18/'19 Legislative 13 Budget Request. This item was not included in the 14 LBR request I presented at the August meeting, as 15 it was going to be part of the Department of 16 Management Services' budget request. That has 17 changed, and funds to build a new Pensacola 18 facility has been added to our request. 19 It totals about \$30 million and will be one of 20 our top priorities in the upcoming session. This 21 will be the third year the Department has requested 2.2 funding for construction of the building. The 2016

> Legislature appropriated \$3 million to begin the architectural and engineering planning.

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We were not successful in obtaining funding

1 this fiscal year. We must get funding next year to 2 prevent going down a very unfortunate and expensive 3 path. Thank you for consideration. 4 I'm happy to answer any questions about 5 Number 2. 6 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the 7 item? 8 CFO PATRONIS: So moved. 9 Is there a second? GOVERNOR SCOTT: 10 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Second. 11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Florida law requires the 12 Governor to independently submit budget 13 recommendations. Accordingly, I am abstaining from 14 the vote on this item. 15 Any other comments or objections? 16 (NO RESPONSE). 17 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion is 18 approved with one abstention. 19 COMMISSIONER SWEARINGEN: Thank you. 20 The last item is the Commissioner's fiscal 21 year '16/'17 annual report; leadership assessment; 22 and contracts, agreements, and purchases over 23 \$100,000 for April 1st to June 30th, 2017. 24 In the interest of time, I'm going to skip 25 going through those individually, but I'll be happy

	8
1	to answer any questions.
2	GOVERNOR SCOTT: Are there any questions
3	first off?
4	COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Looks good.
5	GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Is there a motion
6	to accept?
7	COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So moved.
8	GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?
9	ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.
10	GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?
11	(NO RESPONSE).
12	GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
13	carries.
14	COMMISSIONER SWEARINGEN: Thank you.
15	GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thanks, Rick. Good job.
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FDLE Performance Measures - 1st Quarter FY 17-18						
Number	Objective	Weight	Range	Result	Score	Weighted Score
			5 = 70% or more			
	Percentage of investigative resources		4 = 68-69%	70.00/		
1	dedicated to conducting major		3 = 66-67%	78.0%		
	investigative activities	15%	2 = 64-65%			
		15%	1 = 63% and below 5 = 25% and above			
	Percentage of service requests		4 = 18-24%			
2	completed as function of staffing and		4 - 18-24% 3 = 11-17%	16.0%		
2	optimal performance		2 = 4-10%	10.0%		
		15%	1 = 3% and below			
		1370	5 = 97-100%			
			4 = 93-96%			
3	Percentage of criminal history records		3 = 89-92%	N/A		
5	compiled accurately		2 = 85-88%	17/2		
		10%	1 = 84% and below			
		2070	5 = 100%			
	Percentage of criminal history record		4 = 98-99%			
4	checks responded to within the		3 = 96-97%	100.0%		
-	defined timeframe		2 = 94-95%	100.076		
		5%	1 = 93% and below			
		570	5 = 97-100%			
	Percentage of Biometric Identification		4 = 93-96%			
5	System searches performed in 10		4 - 95-96% 3 = 89-92%	94.0%		
5	minutes or less		2 = 85-88%	54.076		
	minutes or less	5%	1 = 84% and below			
		570	5 = 95-100%			
			4 = 90-94%			
6	Percentage of time critical technology		4 = 90-94 <i>%</i> 3 = 85-89%	99.9%		
0	systems are online and accessible		2 = 80-84%	55.576		
		10%	1 = 79% and below			
		1070	5 = 800 or more			
			4 = 750-799 hours			
-	Number of training hours delivered to local, state and federal agencies		3 = 700-749 hours	N/A (200)		
7			2 = 650-699 hours	N/A (200)		
			1 = less than 650			
		5%	hours			
			5 = 97-100%			
-	Percentage of officer certification		4 = 94-96%			
8	applications processed within defined		3 = 90-93%	100.0%		
	timeframe		2 = 89-86%			
		5%	1 = 85% and below			
			5 = 95-100%			
	Percentage of customers with positive		4 = 90-94%	N/A		
9	service rating		3 = 85-89%	N/A		
		1.00/	2 = 80-84%			
	Tatal	10%	1 = 79% and below			
	Total	80%				

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS AND PURCHASES OVER \$100,000



Q1 - FY 17-18 (July 1 - Sept. 30, 2017)

<u>P.O.#</u>	VENDOR/SERVICE	AMOUNT
B16D46	 3k Technologies IT staff augmentation - Career Offender Application for Statewide Tracking (COAST) and Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse (MEPIC) Systems. State Term Contracts Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$156,000
B175BE	 A Child Is Missing A Child Is Missing notifications and alert services. Exempt Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$232,461
B116D3	 AB Sciex, LLC Maintenance and repairs for laboratory spectrometer equipment located in Orlando and Tallahassee Regional Crime Laboratories. Single Source Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$165,943
B1692A	 Ado Staffing, Inc. IT staff augmentation – Computerized Criminal History (CCH) System project. State Term Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$180,000
B16936* B16914* B16D48*	 Advanced Systems Design, Inc. IT staff augmentation - CCH, COAST and MEPIC Systems. State Term Contracts Term: 7/17/1/17-6/30/18 	\$156,000 \$156,000 \$152,000
B1D611	AutoNation CDJR Pembroke Pines, Inc. Purchase of seven vehicles. State Term Term: One Time Purchase	\$181,860
B16C51 B16C60	 Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc. Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) testing fees. Invitation to Bid Term: 7/1/17-3/31/18, 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$492,810 \$258,347
B16ACD B16AC9 B16ACB	 Brandt Information Services, Inc. IT staff augmentation - Libra Mainframe and CCH Systems. State Term Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$152,000 \$176,000 \$152,000

<u>P.O.#</u>	VENDOR/SERVICE	<u>AMOUNT</u>
B1BCDF	 Dell Marketing Configuration and installation of a new Compellent SC9000 series Storage Area Network (SAN) to be installed in FDLE's disaster recovery location. Alternate Contract Source One Time Purchase 	\$184,999
B16675 FDLE-005-18	 Diverse Computing, Inc. Maintenance and technical support services for the Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC) and upgrade and modification of communication protocols for compatibility with the new CCH System and existing National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System. Single Source Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18, 8/15/17-5/21/18 	\$128,550 \$107,000
B16C64 B16C65	 DNA Labs International, Inc. Non-Sexual Assault Kit (Non-SAK) testing fees and SAK testing fees. Alternate Contract Term: 7/1/17-4/20/18 	\$226,000 \$217,900
B1D544	 Emergent, LLC Red Hat Enterprise software licenses and maintenance. Alternate Contract Term: 10/1/17-9/30/18 	\$179,552
FDLE-003-18	 Georgia Tech Applied Research Corp. IT and business consulting services for creating a National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) System. Exempt Term: 8/1/17-6/30/18 	\$416,000
B168AB* B16AC4* B16933* B16892* B1690E* B1688B* B168AF* B1692C* B16D47* B1691D*	 Global Information Services IT staff augmentation – Quality Assurance and Performance Testing System, Enterprise Document Management, Rap-Back and Automated Fingerprint ID System, Sexual Offender/Predator Registry, Firearms Eligibility System (FES), CCH System, Uniform Crime Reporting and other IT systems. State Term Contracts Terms: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$158,000 \$160,000 \$164,000 \$165,000 \$165,000 \$152,000 \$160,000 \$160,000 \$160,000
B16911	 Infinity Software Development, Inc. IT staff augmentation – Various IT systems. State Term Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$170,000

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS AND PURCHASES OVER \$100,000



Q1 - FY 17-18 (July 1 - Sept. 30, 2017)

<u>P.O.#</u> B16AC2	VENDOR/SERVICE KLC Consulting, Inc. IT staff augmentation – Sexual Offender/Predator Registry. State Term Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18	<u>AMOUNT</u> \$160,000
B168A9 B168C5 B168B3 B16916 B1691A B16930 B16AD2	 Kyra Solutions, Inc. IT staff augmentation - Sexual Offender/Predator Registry, Revenue Accounting Management Systems, Business Systems, Grants Information Management System, Automated Training Management System, Professionalism system and other IT systems. State Term Contracts Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$242,000 \$169,000 \$168,000 \$164,000 \$154,000 \$152,000 \$175,000
B1232A	LexisNexis Risk Solutions FL, Inc. Software license for Accurint LE Plus. Alternate Contract Source Term: 7/1/17-6/30/17	\$106,300
B1A5F8 B1C9C6 B1901C	Life Technologies Corp. Reagents for Orlando, Tallahassee and Tampa Bay Regional Crime Laboratories. Single Source Term: One Time Purchase	\$163,831 \$289,597 \$188,921
FDLE-031-17	 MorphoTrak, Inc. Biometric Identification Solution (BIS) Upgrade and modification to interface directly with new CCH System. Single Source Term: 9/1/16-8/31/23 	\$249,900
B1EB15	NicheVision Forensics, LLC Probabilistic genotyping software and license, upgrade/training for all FDLE crime laboratories. Single Source Terms: One Time Purchase	\$286,705
FDLE-007-16	 Northrop Grumman Information Technology, Inc. Maintenance and support for the Regional Law Enforcement Exchange (RLEX) replacement System and new mappings to an existing sharing system connected to Florida Law Enforcement Exchange (FLEX). Invitation to Negotiate Terms: 12/23/15-3/14/20 	\$3,522,987

<u>P.O.#</u> B1DC99*	VENDOR/SERVICE Optimum Software Solutions, Inc. IT staff augmentation - Project Manager for Sexual Offender / Predator Registry Improvement Project. • State Term Contract • Terms: 9/22/17-6/30/18	<u>AMOUNT</u> \$152,600
B16862	 Presidio Networked Solutions, Inc. Maintenance and technical support for Cisco Enterprise routers, network switches and VOIP Phone System. Alternate Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$187,810
B16860	 Randstad Technologies, LP IT staff augmentation - Florida Fusion Center SharePoint Site. State Term Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$170,000
B16AAE*	 Sanrose Information Services, Inc. IT staff augmentation – Sexual Offender / Predator Registry Improvement Project. State Term Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/17 	\$140,000
B168A1	 Seva Technologies, LLC IT staff augmentation – MEPIC System. State Term Contract Term: 7/29/17-6/30/18 	\$158,000
PO1351966 PO1454762	 SHI International Corp. Oracle Database Enterprise Edition software licenses and maintenance for new CCH System and Oracle software license and support update. Alternate Contract Terms: 1/1/17-12/31/20, 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$683,760 \$616,419
B16C66	Sorenson Forensics, LLC SAK testing fees. Invitation to Bid Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18	\$892,200
B16ABF B1692E B1692B	 Strategic IT Alignment Group, LLC IT staff augmentation – Business systems, Sexual Offender/Predator Registry and Professionalism system. State Term Contracts Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$150,000 \$156,000 \$158,000

CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS AND PURCHASES OVER \$100,000



Q1 - FY 17-18 (July 1 - Sept. 30, 2017)

<u>P.O.#</u> B15370	VENDOR/SERVICE Summit East Investors Lodging for Special Agent Training Class 39. Direct Pay to Motel Term: 8/27/17-11/9/17	<u>AMOUNT</u> \$197,200
B16863 B16ACF B168B0	 System Soft Technologies, LLC IT staff augmentation – FES, FLEX and Sexual Offender/Predator Registry. State Term Contracts Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$160,000 \$150,000 \$160,000
B168AD B16AC7 B16872	 Tal Search Group, Inc. IT staff augmentation – Statewide Law Enforcement Data Project, Sexual Offender/Predator Registry and FCIC II Message Switch and Hot Files System. State Term Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$180,000 \$150,000 \$156,000
PO1455422	 Tampa Electric Company Utility services for Tampa Bay Regional Operations Center. Exempt Term: 6/14/17-6/17/18 	\$282,000
PO1455347	 Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology, Inc. Safeguard extended warranty and protection plan for laboratory equipment located in Tampa and Jacksonville. Single Source Term: 7/1/17-6/30/19 	\$220,800
B19439	 Vcarve, Inc. IT staff augmentation - Project Manager for Open Arrest Disposition Research Project. State Term Contract Term: 7/31/17-6/30/18 	\$172,480
B16898*	 Vitaver & Associates, Inc. IT staff augmentation - Enterprise Content Management. State Term Contract Term: 7/1/17-6/30/18 	\$193,000



The Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame recognizes and honors law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line for the safety and protection of Florida's citizens and visitors through their works, service and exemplary accomplishments.

Nominations were accepted from the Florida Sheriffs Association, the Florida Police Chiefs Association, the Police Benevolent Association, the Fraternal Order of Police and the State Law Enforcement Chiefs' Association. One representative from each association also served as the Selection Committee that identified five nominees for consideration for approval by the Governor and Cabinet. An induction ceremony will be held on May 19, 2018.

2018 Hall of Fame Nominees

Robert E. Blackburn began his career in 1941 with the Florida Highway Patrol. He also served as a deputy in Volusia and Hillsborough counties prior to being elected Hillsborough County Sheriff in 1952, where he served 12 years. He was an active member of the Florida Sheriffs Association, serving as president from 1964-1965. He successfully lobbied for legislation that led to the creation of the Florida law enforcement academy, established professional standards for law enforcement and standardized the Sheriff badge and vehicles. He was instrumental in the creation of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, which has served more than 145,000 young men and women throughout the state. From 1968-1978, he was a member of the Florida House of Representatives, where he was considered the "voice of law enforcement". He was successful in passing bills enhancing the Florida Crime Information System and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's statewide crime laboratory system. In 1979, he was appointed as Interim Commissioner of FDLE. Blackburn, who died in 1997, will be remembered as a pioneer for modern Florida law enforcement.

Donald F. Eslinger began his career as a radio dispatcher in 1978 before he advanced through the ranks as a patrol deputy, investigator, watch commander and special weapons and tactics team leader with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office. He was appointed Seminole County Sheriff on January 1, 1991, elected in 1992, and reelected for five additional terms until his retirement in 2017. He served 38 years with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office and is the longest serving sheriff in Seminole County history. His tenure as sheriff was marked with drastic reductions in crime, along with advocacy for mental health and youth programs. Contributions to youth include founding Kids House, "Shop with the Sheriff" and "Christmas Village", assuming responsibility for child protective services from the state and creating a successful civil citation diversion program. Under his leadership, the agency grew from 539 positions with a \$25.8 million budget to 1,184 positions with a 107.5 million budget.

Ernest W. George began his career with the West Palm Beach Police Department in 1975, where he remained until he retired in 2005. In his early career, he worked in the roughest areas of West Palm Beach. He became a D.A.R.E. officer working with elementary school children on the dangers of drugs in the late 1980s and was promoted to sergeant in January 1996. He also served as the president of the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association from 1987-2006 and president of the Florida Police Benevolent Association (PBA) from 1996-2006. His passion to raise the standards for law enforcement led him to an appointment to the Criminal Justice and Standards Training Commission in 2001, which he chaired from 2010-2013. While on the Commission, he strengthened the professional standards for Florida's law enforcement and correctional officers, while remaining firm in his belief that every officer deserves equal and fair treatment. As president of the PBA, he achieved numerous legislative enhancements including creating uniform guidelines for the use of dart firing stun guns, creating the Florida Retirement System Deferred Retirement Option Program and enhancing law enforcement officer death benefits.

Frederick A. Maas is a 43-year veteran of law enforcement and continues to serve his community today. He began his career at the Miami-Dade Police Department in 1975 and served in multiple roles until he retired in 1998. In 1998, he was hired at Sunny Isles Beach Police Department and promoted to chief in October 1999. He leads by example and demonstrates this by covering a shift so officers can be at home with their family on Christmas or attend a significant family event. He was appointed by the Governor to the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council. After years of receiving the "Outstanding Law Enforcement Leadership Award" from the Dade County Police Benevolent Association, they named the award in his honor. "The Fred Maas Law Enforcement Leadership Award" is for individuals who embody true leadership, inspire those around them and make a difference in the lives of those they serve. In 2008, he received the highest law enforcement award from the Vatican, when he was named a Knight of St. Sylvester by Pope Benedict for his lifetime of dedication and service in law enforcement.

James W. Smith began his career in 1964 as the first African American police officer with the Miami Beach Police Department. At the age of 34, he was one of the oldest rookies. He earned the reputation of being professional, sincere and empathetic towards others. He was promoted to sergeant in 1971 and quickly promoted through the ranks. In 1989, he was promoted to Major, the position he led until he retired in September 1990. He worked in or supervised every major unit at the department throughout his career. He displayed a commitment to the community he served, and helped to create a youth group for at risk boys in the Liberty City area. In his honor, the Miami Beach Police Department named their community room the "Major James W. Smith Community Room". Smith, who died in 2017, overcame the racial divide in America to inspire others with his fair but firm leadership.



ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST:

Summary of nominee's professional law enforcement history.

Two page description of why nominee should be selected (include description of their contributions to law enforcement).

Agency/Department photo

■ Proof of nominee's outstanding performance, actions, accomplishments, and character (e.g. any professional acts of excellence above and beyond minimum standards). Examples include letters of recommendation, official reports, statements, newspaper article(s), and/or other media archive historical references.

■ Summary of civic contributions and/or humanitarian activities. Describe as completely as possible, the nominee's local, state and national level of service in civic organizations. Include information about community involvement in crime prevention, charitable activities, etc. Also describe as completely as possible the nominee's contributions in any humanitarian service.

List of awards and honors

Any additional information to consider

NOTE: Required items are in bold.

Documents should be typed using 11 pt font, or larger, and packets must not exceed 10 pages.

Application deadline is August 31 of the year prior to the year of induction (e.g., August 31, 2015 for induction in 2016).



Deadline – August 31

NOMINEE INFORMATION: (please print)

Full Legal Name: Rober	t Edward Blackburn			
Home Address:				
City:	State:	Zip Code:		
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:		
Resident of Florida? 🗏 Ye	s □ No If yes, how many	years? 85	_	
State of birth:	Date of birth: Day	Month	Year	
Is nominee deceased? 🔳 Y	Yes 🗆 No If yes, year decea	sed:		
Was nominee's death cau	sed by an incident in the lin	ie of duty? 🗆 Yes 🔳	No	
If yes, explain				
Years in Law Enforcemen	t: Retired? 🔳 Ye	es□No_Mo./Year	retired:	
	f of Hillsborough Co			
Any honor/awards received? I Yes I No If yes, please include a list as an attachment.				
If Nominee is deceased, p	ease provide family point o	of contact:		
Full Name:				
Relationship to deceased:				
Home Address:				
City:	State:	Zip Code:		
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:		
Email Address:				
NOTE: Nominee and nom	inator will be contacted if n	ominee is selected	to be inducted.	



NOMINATOR INFORMATION: (please print)

Full Name: Sheriff Ben Stewart

Title:

Association/Organization: Florida Sheriffs Association

Work Address: 2364 W. US 90

_{City:} Madison

______State: FL _____Zip Code: 32340

Work #: 850-973-4151

Email Address: _sheriff@mcso-fl.org

I hereby affirm the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understanding. The information provided is in congruence with the Nomination Eligibility Requirements and Guidelines. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Signature (Required): _

_{Date:} 8/14/2017

NOTE: Only nominator will be contacted if the nominee is not selected.

Please mail this form and corresponding attachments postmarked by August 31 to:

Florida Department of Law Enforcement ATTN: Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator P.O. Box 1489 Tallahassee, FL. 32302-1489

Should you have any questions or concerns contact the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator at (850) 410-8600 or <u>FLEOHOF@fdle.state.fl.us</u>.

Summary of nominee's professional law enforcement history

A native of Tampa, Sheriff Robert Edward Blackburn, Jr., began his law enforcement career in 1941 as one of the early members of the Florida Highway Patrol, patrolling on a motorcycle to bring safety to Florida's roadways. Leaving FHP, he later served as a deputy sheriff in both Volusia and Hillsborough Counties. Stepping away from law enforcement for a brief period, he became a successful businessman and realtor in Tampa.

Unable to remain away from his chosen profession, he was elected the reform candidate for Hillsborough County Sheriff in 1952 and began the modernization of that agency. During his twelve-year tenure, he focused on combating corruption in Tampa, adding progressive law enforcement operations to the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, reforming and enhancing the Office of the Sheriff from a statewide perspective, and offering services to the youth of the State.

After leaving office in 1965, Sheriff Blackburn continued his service to law enforcement, our criminal justice system, and the citizens of this State. From 1968-1978, he served as a member of the Florida House of Representatives, sponsoring legislation that has an impact of Florida law enforcement to this day. In 1979, he was asked by Governor Bob Graham to serve as Interim Commissioner of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, pending selection of a new agency head to succeed Commissioner William A. Troelstrop. Finally, from 1988 until his death in 1997, he served as an informal advisor to FDLE Commissioner James T. Moore.

Description of why nominee should be selected to the Hall of Fame

Over the course of nearly 60 years of public service, Sheriff Robert Edward Blackburn, Jr., had a tremendous impact on law enforcement in the State of Florida and its citizens and visitors. His contributions can best be captured in four areas:

Service as Sheriff

In the years immediately after World War II, Florida began to grow in terms of population and criminal activity, especially criminal behavior which shared no respect for jurisdictional boundaries. Citizens were calling for a more professional and creative type of law enforcement to deal with the State's emerging crime problems. Consequently, the 1952 election saw the election of a number of new, progressive sheriffs, including Sheriff Blackburn, who were concerned about bringing a sense of professionalism to their agencies and who could band together to combat crime at the local level and that which occurred across county lines.

On the Tampa homefront, Sheriff Blackburn focused on a number of key issues, including a multi-year enforcement campaign against organized crime and especially illegal gambling, including bolita, that had brought Tampa and Hillsborough County significant negative national attention. His efforts frequently included raids coordinated with the sheriffs in his neighboring Pinellas and Polk Counties. He worked on enhancing the professional abilities of those employed by the Sheriff's Office and the addition of units, such as the agency's first marine unit, to meet the changing needs of Hillsborough's growing population.

On the statewide front, Sheriff Blackburn was an active member of the Florida Sheriffs Association, serving as President of the Association in 1964-65. During his tenure as Sheriff, he and the FSA leadership were able to successfully lobby for legislation that led to the:

- Abolition of the fee system requiring sheriffs to finance the operation of their agencies through the collection of fees for activities and services they performed.
- Establishment of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau (forerunner of the present Florida Department of Law Enforcement) and on whose administrative board he sat. The Florida Sheriffs Bureau, in operation until 1967, included investigative staff, laboratory services, and statewide crime and criminal files
- Creation of the Florida Law Enforcement Academy
- Setting of professional standards for all of Florida's law enforcement officers
- Standardization of the Sheriff's badge and car marking for Sheriffs' vehicles throughout the State.

Service as a Member of the House of Representatives

Sheriff Blackburn successfully ran for the Florida House of Representatives in 1968 and served five terms as a representative from the Tampa area, retiring in 1978. During his time as a legislator, he clearly was recognized as the "voice of law enforcement," and his leadership led to the successful passage of bills enhancing what is now the Florida Crime Information System and FDLE's statewide crime laboratory system.

The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch

After learning about a successful ranch in Texas that housed hundreds of underprivileged and neglected boys, Sheriff Blackburn, Sheriff Don Genung from Pinellas County, and Sheriff Don McLeod from Marion County, pushed for the creation of a Florida's boy's ranch for troubled youth in our State. On June 19, 1957, after two years of planning and discussion, a projects committee of the Florida Sheriffs Association recommended \$5,000 be placed in a special trust fund to start the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. FSA's Board of Directors subsequently approved that funding and began a statewide search for a suitable site for the new Boys Ranch. Finally, on October 2,1957, FSA members met in St. Petersburg at Johnny Leverocks' restaurant where they passed a trust agreement placing the Boys Ranch project in the hands of a Board of Trustees composed of Sheriffs and private citizens. They also approved the site on the Suwannee River, eleven miles north of Live Oak. Sheriff Blackburn was appointed as the first (unpaid) Executive Director.

Today, some 60 years after his leadership resulted in the establishment of the Boys Ranch, it continues to exist as the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, serving Florida's children through programs at four residential sites, camping services at two sites, and summer programming in myriad communities upon request of the Sheriff. Sheriff Blackburn's lasting legacy rests in the more than 145,000 young men and women served by the Youth Ranches over the last 60 years.

Service as Commissioner of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement In 1979, Sheriff Blackburn was asked by Governor Bob Graham to serve as Interim Commissioner of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, pending selection of a new agency head to succeed Commissioner William A. Troelstrop. Although only serving for several months, his tenure was marked by his strong leadership, including a willingness to show up at investigations being conducted by his investigators, and a philosophy of focusing FDLE's activities on meeting the needs of their customers--local law enforcement agencies--in a timely, professional, and effective manner.

In summary, then, Sheriff Robert Edward Blackburn, Jr., is one of the pioneers of modern Florida law enforcement. His actions as a law enforcement leader, a legislator, and a true visionary led to many of the successes and the framework we have in Florida's criminal justice system even today.



Sheriff 'Ed' Blackburn dies

ormer Hillsborough County sheriff and state legislator Robert Edward "Ed" Blackburn, Jr. died of natural causes on December 8, 1997, in an assisted living facility in Tallahassee. He was 85.

Blackburn was sheriff in Tampa from 1953-65, and he served in the Florida House from 1968-78.

Co-owner of a grocery store in Tampa before entering political life, he was a former highway patrolman and deputy sheriff as well. He jumped into the sheriff's race in 1952, at a time, according to the Tampa Tribune, "when Tampa's officialdom was in disarray in the wake of U.S. Senate hearings that exposed a wide swath of corruption tied to gambling interests..... crooked elections, mob killings and a tarnished national reputation, a magazine then called Tampa the 'Hellhole of the Gulf Coast.'

At the time, the Tribune supported Blackburn as a reform-minded candidate.

As sheriff, Blackburn coordinated efforts with adjacent counties to stage raids on gambling operations tied in with a Tampa syndicate.

After three terms as sheriff, Blackburn attempted an unsuccessful bid for the seat as Tampa's mayor. In a bid for a fourth term as sheriff, he



Over a decade ago, Sheriff Ed Blackburn stands on the floor of the Florida House of Representatives, and blows a kiss to a delegation of Hillsborough County school children who came to visit Tallahassee.

lost to Malcolm Beard. A few years later, Blackburn ran and won an open seat in the Florida House, a post he held for ten years.

In 1979, Blackburn was appointed interim-director of FDLE, and that agency's Tampa headquarters building was named in his honor in 1991.

Of all the good things Blackburn did during his lifetime, he may most be remembered as one of the two sheriffs in the mid-fifties who founded the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch in Live Oak. The legacy lives on with facilities all across Florida operating as the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches, Inc.

Sheriff Blackburn was preceded in death by his wife, Frances. His ashes have been scattered along the banks of the Suwannee River, on the property of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, at a spot near where the first shovel of dirt was turned in 1957.

Oelrich promotes "Ultimate Gift" campaign

Courtesy of Beth Kassab and the <u>Florida Alligator</u>

GAINESVILLE – The Alachua County Sheriff's Office is handing out a little something extra this month in its' employees pay envelopes this month.

It is not the usual holiday bonus, but officials are confident that it will save lives. Instead, their sheriff is encouraging employees to become organ and tissue donors by inserting registration cards in their paychecks.

Sheriff Steve Oelrich knows only too well why this is such an important program. Oelrich is the recently named national spokesman for the National Sheriff's Association Gift of Life Foundation.

At a press conference held at Shands Hospital in early December to kickoff the national campaign, Oelrich stood alongside a photograph of his 18-year old son, Nick, a young man continued on page 7 The parents confessed that they had made the victim stand up all day in the living room blindfolded and gave him water when he asked. He was beaten for two days. The floor underneath the victim had black spots where the victim shuffled his feet as he hanged from the rafters. Both parents were convicted for his murder. In the May primary election for Sheriff, Elbert Moore was defeated by Ed Blackburn Jr.



In the Sheriff's election of November 1953, Robert Edward Blackburn, Jr., defeated former Sheriff Jerry McLeod in "one of the largest turnovers in top county command." Blackburn moved into office in the wake of a double gangland slaying that remained unsolved. Rene Nunez and Angelo Giglio had met their deaths, and there had been a recent attempt on the life of Santo Trafficante, Jr., who was being sought as a witness by the Kefauver Committee.

Blackburn's ancestors dot the pioneer history of state politics from 1826. His grandfather, Benjamin Blackburn, was supervisor of voter registration in Hillsborough County for 14 years. His father, Ed Blackburn, Sr., was Tampa's last Tax Assessor before the office was combined with the county's in 1945. He said that politics were in his genes. In 1947 he managed a friend's campaign for City Council.

In 1952 a U. S. Senate investigative committee, led by Tennessee Senator Estes Kefauver came to Florida and exposed government officials linked to gamblers. Sheriff Hugh Culbreath was indicted by the Grand Jury and removed from office by Governor Warren. Later, he was reinstated, but chose not to run for re-election.

During the upcoming election, a field of eight candidates scurried for the job. Although he had little political experience for the job, Blackburn persuaded voters that he would wage an honest campaign against the underworld elements who, for too long, had corrupted Tampa's name with gangland violence. <u>The Tampa Tribune</u> endorsed him on a cleanup campaign. He won the job.

In the May primary against Elbert Moore, he told stories of several high school classmates who had promsing futures but wound up in Tampa's illegal bolita racket. He ran large full page advertisements in <u>The Tampa</u> <u>Tribune</u> headlined, "Are you your brother's keeper?" He mentioned what had happened to his friends, Jimmie Velasco, Jimmie Lumia and Rene Nunez as part of his war on organized crime corruption.

Quickly, Blackburn began his quest to reform Hillsborough County. He conducted gambling raids locally and in other counties, with the cooperation of other Sheriffs. Illegal gambling began to dwindle, but it remained a thorn in Blackburn's side for the twelve years he was Sheriff.

In 1955, gambling czar, Charlie Wall, was found bludgeoned to death with his throat slashed in his Ybor City nome. Blackburn spearheaded the investigation and many theories abounded about the identity of the killer. There were no signs of a break-in, so it was believed that the person was someone Wall trusted. However, no arrest was ever made, and the case remains unsolved. Blackburn was easily re-elected in 1956 and 1960. In 1963 he ran against Julian Lane for Mayor. He came in third behind Lane and the winner, Nick C. Nuccio. Looking back, Blackburn said, "It was a stupid thing for me to do." One year later, the decision may have cost him the election for Sheriff to Constable Malcolm E. Beard. During the time he was Sheriff, Blackburn was a founder of the Florida Sheriffs Association, and he was the first director of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

In 1968 a seat in the Florida House of Representatives became vacant, and then Sheriff Malcolm Beard encouraged Blackburn to run. This endorsement was touched by a bit of irony, for it was Beard who had just defeated Blackburn four years earlier in a bitter campaign. Their political differences had healed, and today, the two are now friends. In 1978 the tale was different, as it was Blackburn who was retiring to enter private business and who pushed Beard to run for his then vacant seat.

In 1991, the Regional Headquarters for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in Tampa was named for Ed Blackburn. He served as executive director of the agency on an interim basis in 1979. During the time he served as State Representative, he helped establish the FDLE and its laboratory. Ed Blackburn, now 81, is officially retired and lives in Tallahassee with his wife.



Deadline - August 31

NOMINEE INFORMATION: (please print)						
Full Legal Name: Donald Francis Eslinger						
Home Address:						
City: State Zip Code:						
Home #: Cell # Work #: 850-320-6880						
Email Address:						
Resident of Florida? 🖄 Yes 🗆 No 🛛 If yes, how many years?40						
State of birth: Date of birth: Day Month Year						
Is nominee deceased? 🗆 Yes 🖾 No If yes, year deceased:						
Was nominee's death caused by an incident in the line of duty? \Box Yes \Box No						
If yes, explain						
Years in Law Enforcement: 38 years Retired? XYes DNo Mo./Year retired: January 1,2017						
Position(s) held: Please see attached						
Any honor/awards received? 🗹 Yes 🗆 No 🛛 If yes, please include a list as an attachment.						
If Nominee is deceased, please provide family point of contact:						
Full Name:						
Relationship to deceased:						
Home Address:						
City: State: Zip Code:						
Home #: Cell #: Work #:						
Email Address:						
NOTE: Nominee and nominator will be contacted if nominee is selected to be inducted.						

가 모두 모두 한 만간은 230만 242만 모두 모두 만입니다. 모두 모두 모두 231만 231만 242만 모두 모두 모두 231만 231만 251

Starge Starge



NOMINATOR INFORMATION: (please print)
Full Name: Dennis M. Lemma
Title:Sheriff
Association/Organization: Seminole County Sheriff's office
Work Address: 100 Estinger Way
City: Sanford State: FL Zip Code: 32773
Work #: 407-665-6635

Email Address: demma @ Seminole Sheriff.org

I hereby affirm the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understanding. The information provided is in congruence with the Nomination Eligibility Requirements and Guidelines. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Signature (Required): _

me Date:

NOTE: Only nominator will be contacted if the nominee is not selected.

Please mail this form and corresponding attachments postmarked by August 31 to:

Florida Department of Law Enforcement ATTN: Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator P.O. Box 1489 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489

Should you have any questions or concerns contact the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator at (850) 410-8600 or <u>FLEOHOF@fdle.state.fl.us</u>.



July 10, 2017

Florida Department of Law Enforcement ATTN: Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator P.O. Box 1489 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate a very deserving and accomplished Sheriff to the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame.

On January 1, 1991, the Governor of Florida appointed Donald F. Eslinger as Sheriff of Seminole County for a two-year term. He was elected in 1992, then re-elected in 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2012. Sheriff Eslinger had 38 years of service with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office before his retirement in January of 2017 at the end of his term. Sheriff Eslinger's career began in 1978 as a Radio Dispatcher and he advanced through the ranks as a Patrol Deputy, Criminal Investigator, Special Operations Investigator, Watch Commander, and Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team leader. He served two tours with the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as a Task Force Agent and returned as Commander of the City/County Investigative Bureau. At the time of his appointment to Sheriff, Sheriff Eslinger held the position of Major, and was third in command of the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Eslinger earned his Bachelor's Degree in Applied Behavioral Sciences from National Louis University. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He also attended the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Chief Executive Institute in Tallahassee, Florida and the National Academy of Corrections - U.S. Department of Justice. Sheriff Eslinger and his wife, Tallahassee, Florida Department.

Sheriff Eslinger was Seminole County's 9th Sheriff and is the longest serving Sheriff in Seminole County's 104-year history. At the time of his retirement, he was the second most tenured Sheriff in Florida (in office longer than every other current Sheriff, other than Sheriff Reid of Hamilton County).

Sheriff Eslinger spearheaded tremendous growth and innovation at the Seminole County Sheriff's Office. The agency grew from 539 full-time employees and a \$25.8 million budget in 1991 into a full service criminal justice agency that today includes 1184 full-time employees, 150 part-time employees and a budget of \$107.5 million. Under Sheriff Eslinger's leadership, the crime rate was reduced from 5083 in 1991 to 1744 in 2015, a reduction of 66%. During this time, the population of unincorporated Seminole County increased by 40%.

Sheriff Eslinger's tenure was marked with drastic reductions in crime, along with advocacy for mental health, youth programs, enhanced rehabilitative and re-entry programs, and the implementation of innovative technology and crime prevention programs. He is credited with the development and

100 Eslinger Way • Sanford, Florida 32773 • 407-665-6600 • www.seminolesheriff.org

institutionalization of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office's vision and philosophy centered around community policing and crime prevention.

Sheriff Eslinger's *contributions to youth* are extensive and include:

- Serving as a founder of Kids House, the county's centralized response and advocacy center for child abuse or neglect victims.
- Opening and staffing the County's Juvenile Assessment Center as a one stop screening and processing facility for arrested youth, recovered runaway youth, youth seeking shelter in a "Safeplace," and truant youth.
- Assuming responsibility for Child Protective Services from the Florida Department of Children and Families, ensuring that all allegations of abuse or neglect received through the state's hotline are responded to and investigated by Sheriff's Office personnel.
- Creating and implementing "Shop with the Sheriff," an annual event partnering with the Boys and Girls Clubs to prepare underprivileged community youth for their return to school. (The 2016 event was be the 11th year of this program, which has served over 2200 youth).
- Creating and implementing "Christmas Village," an annual event for youth and families who have been served through Child Protective Services, where families are provided an opportunity to select holiday gifts for their children at no cost to themselves.
- Assuming responsibility for the Juvenile Detention Center from the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, ensuring that juvenile offenders are housed locally and receive the highest standards of care from Sheriff's Office personnel.
- Implementing a host of educational programs designed to provide rehabilitative and intervention services to youth offenders to include SWEAT (Sheriff's Work Ethics and Training), Graffiti Abatement, Consequence Alternative Sanctions Unit, and Operation Right Track.
- Implementing the Seminole County Sheriff's Police Athletic League which serves over 700 youth annually through low cost camps, sports leagues, and a police Explorer and Cadet program.
- Creating one of the state's most successful civil citation diversion programs (an arrest alternative program for youth which allows them to complete educational and community service programs to avoid a criminal record).

Sheriff Eslinger has embraced the development of *innovative technology* in agency operations:

- Independently developing a local records management system (CAFÉ) used by more than a dozen local law enforcement agencies to enter information on all arrests, injunctions, citations, probationers, and law enforcement interactions.
- Developing a computer aided dispatch system (XCAD) and vehicle-based dispatch software (MiCAD) for automated dispatch, real time database queries and messaging services.
- Developing a geolocation enabled intelligence system (Sherlock) showing recent crime, calls for service, unit locations, registered felons and warrant data around a deputy's vehicle as it travels throughout the county.
- Expanding forensic capabilities to include the addition of DNA pre-screening and ballistics examination.
- Leading state and regional data sharing efforts as a board member of The Center for Law Enforcement Technology, Training, & Research (LETTR).
- Guiding state policy and standards as a member of the statutorily created Criminal and Juvenile Justice Information Systems Council.
- Establishing a regionally recognized digital forensics unit that captures electronic evidence in support of major crimes cases.

- Implementing In Car Cameras in all patrol vehicles to ensure critical evidence is captured on camera.
- Creating the Electronic Monitoring Protection and Crime Tracking (EMPACT) program in 2002 with eight other founding Florida agencies to track supervised individuals by GPS monitoring to achieve behavior modification.
- Creating a holistic web based jail management system used to record inmate bookings, sentencing and visitors. System also tracks inmate movements within the facility in real time.

Sheriff Eslinger has been a leader in advocating for *mental health treatment*:

- Instrumental in leading change for mental health reform to include assisting in the re-engineering of Florida's Baker Act.
- Helped to found (and served as the second State Director for) Florida Partners in Crisis, a publicprivate partnership that promotes collaboration across the mental health, substance abuse, and criminal justice systems.

Under Sheriff Eslinger's leadership, the Sheriff's Office has received accreditation from eight independent state and national accrediting bodies to include:

- American Correctional Association (ACA)
- American Society of Crime Lab Directors Lab Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB)
- Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA)
- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA)
- Public Safety Communications Accreditation
- Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC)
- National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC)
- National Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP)

During Sheriff Eslinger's tenure he has overseen a series of *major investigations and operations* including:

- Dismantling of a multi-state, illegal \$300 million internet gambling operation and the arrest of 56 operators associated with Allied Veterans of the World.
- Ensuring the safety of the county, its residents and visitors, and its courthouses during the State vs. George Zimmerman trial in 2013.

Additionally, Sheriff Eslinger was responsible for the following key contributions to Seminole County:

- Implemented multiple correctional programs designed to reduce recidivism and maximize the chance for successful re-entry for inmates.
- Developed a large and highly active volunteer base comprised of approximately 150 Citizens on Patrol, Administrative Volunteers, Reserve Deputies, and volunteer victim advocates.
- Implemented a Community Law Enforcement Academy, a multi-week program designed to provide residents with an inside look at Sheriff's Office operations and engage them in crime prevention efforts.
- Implemented a Youth Academy, a one-week educational "camp" for middle school students that
 provides a behind the scenes look at the agency's operation and builds positive relationships with
 local students.

Sheriff Eslinger served as a leader in Florida's law enforcement and criminal justice community, holding the following positions:

• Past president, Board Chair, Legislative Committee Chair for the Florida Sheriffs Association

- Executive Board Member, Central Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)
- Member, Florida Department of Law Enforcement Criminal Justice Information System Council
- Member, Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Missing Children Information Clearinghouse, now known as The Missing and Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Advisory Board
- Former Chairman, Attorney General's Region 5 Gang Reduction Task Force
- Former member, Florida Attorney General's Law Enforcement Advisory Commission
- Former member, Florida Adult Protective Services Advisory Panel
- Former member, Florida Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council
- Former Board of Directors and Chairman, Florida D.A.R.E. Program

Sheriff Eslinger's dedication throughout his career, and in his personal life, is a true testament to the man and leader that he is. It is for these reasons that I respectfully recommend Sheriff Donald F. Eslinger for the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

M. Lennes

Dennis M. Lemma Sheriff

DML/tad





ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST:

Summary of nominee's professional law enforcement history.

Two page description of why nominee should be selected (include description of their contributions to law enforcement).

Agency/Department photo

■ Proof of nominee's outstanding performance, actions, accomplishments, and character (e.g. any professional acts of excellence above and beyond minimum standards). Examples include letters of recommendation, official reports, statements, newspaper article(s), and/or other media archive historical references.

Summary of civic contributions and/or humanitarian activities. Describe as completely as possible, the nominee's local, state and national level of service in civic organizations. Include information about community involvement in crime prevention, charitable activities, etc. Also describe as completely as possible the nominee's contributions in any humanitarian service.

- List of awards and honors
- Any additional information to consider

NOTE: Required items are in bold.

Documents should be typed using 11 pt font, or larger, and packets must not exceed 10 pages.

Application deadline is August 31 of the year prior to the year of induction (e.g., August 31, 2015 for induction in 2016).



Deadline - August 31

NOMINEE INFORMATION: (<u>[please print]</u>		
Full Legal Name: Ernest	Wayne Geor	ge	
Home Address:			
City	State	Zip Code	
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:	
Email Address:	-		
Resident of Florida? 🔳 Yes 🛙	No If yes, how m	hany years? 42	
State of birth: Ohio	Date of birth: Da	ayMonth	Year
Is nominee deceased? 🗆 Yes	🔳 No If yes, year d	eceased:	
Was nominee's death caused	by an incident in th	ne line of duty? \Box Yes \Box N	٩
If yes, explain.			
Years in Law Enforcement:	30 Retired?	🖥 Yes 🗆 No 🛛 Mo./Year r	etired: Oct 2005
Position(s) held:			
Any honor/awards received?	? 🗏 Yes 🗆 No 🛛 If ye	es, please include a list as	an attachment.
If Nominee is deceased, pleas	se provide family p	oint of contact:	
Full Name:			
Relationship to deceased:			
Home Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Home #:	Cell #:	Work #:	
Email Address:			
NOTE: Nominee and nomina	tor will be contacte	ed if nominee is selected t	o be inducted.



NOMINATOR INFORMATION: (please print)

Full Name: John Rivera

Title:

Association/Organization: Florida Police Benevolent Association

Work Address: 300 East Brevard Street

City: Tallahassee State: FL Zip Code: 32301

Work #: 850-222-3329

Email Address: john@dcpba.org

I hereby affirm the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understanding. The information provided is in congruence with the Nomination Eligibility Requirements_and Guidelines. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

_Date: <u>August 21, 2</u>017 Signature (Required): _

NOTE: Only nominator will be contacted if the nominee is not selected.

Please mail this form and corresponding attachments postmarked by August 31 to:

Florida Department of Law Enforcement ATTN: Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator P.O. Box 1489 Tallahassee, FL. 32302-1489

Should you have any questions or concerns contact the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator at (850) 410-8600 or FLEOHOF@fdle.state.fl.us.

Summary of Ernest Wayne George's Professional Law Enforcement History

- West Palm Beach Police Officer from October 1975 to October 2005 (Retired Sgt)
- President of the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association from 1987 to 2006
- President of the Florida Police Benevolent Association from 1996 2006
- Commissioner & Chairman of the Criminal Justice Standards & Training Commission from 2001 = 2013

As a West Palm Beach police officer for 30 years, Sergeant Ernest "Ernie" George received numerous accolades and commendations. However, his contribution to the law enforcement profession should also be measured as "Hall of Fame" worthy by his accomplishments as the President of the local and state Police Benevolent Association.

As President, Mr. George spearheaded legislative changes for law enforcement officers of Florida through aggressive advocacy at the local, state, and federal levels of government. Mr. George became a powerful voice for law enforcement officers and their families.

Mr. George's passion to raise the standards for the law enforcement profession led him to the Criminal Justice Standards & Training Commission. He began as a commissioner and was eventually elected as the Chairman of the Commission. As a commissioner, he strengthened the professional standards for Florida's law enforcement and correctional officers while remaining firm in his belief that every officer deserves equal and fair treatment.

President George led the PBA in achieving numerous legislative enhancements to law enforcement benefits and protections. A few examples of the legislation include:

The Alu-O'Hara Public Safety Act Ending "double jeopardy" on the Criminal Justice Standards & Training Commission The FRS Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) Municipal Police Officer and Firefighter Local Pensions Law Enforcement Officers Heart and Lung Presumption Special Risk Multiplier Restoration for the FRS FRS Line of Duty Disability increased to 65% Portal to Portal Workers' Compensation Coverage Enhancing LEO Death Benefits Increasing rank and file commissioners on the CJSTC to six members The Deputy James Weaver Act Creating uniform guidelines for the use of dart firing stun guns

Ernest "Ernie" Wayne George is highly deserving of induction into the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame.
Ernest George became a West Palm Beach Police Officer in October of 1975. He spent several years as a road patrol officer in some of the roughest areas of West Palm Beach. From Road Patrol Mr. George moved into the traffic division in 1982.

While in the traffic division Mr. George held two different positions. One was a three motorcycle officer and the other was the radar car. While working in these positions Mr. George did receive several letters of accommodation.

While working in the traffic division Mr. George became the President of the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association. In this position Mr. George fought for police officers rights, benefits and salary increases. Mr. George remained in that position till 2006.

Mr. George transferred to another position at the police department in the late 80's beginning of the 90's, which was a very rewarding position. The position was a DARE Officer. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) In this position he was educating elementary school children. He was teaching them about drugs and educating them on saying "No".

From that position Mr. George decided it was time for him to take the promotional test. He was promoted to Police Sergeant in January of 1996. Mr. George was transferred to the Applicant Processing position. While still completing the duties as President of the Police Union Mr. George took on the responsibilities at the police department as "Hiring Sergeant". Mr. George had to process all the applications that came through the police department.

Mr. George remained in the position of Applicant Processing Sergeant until he retired. Mr. George retired October 15, 2005 from the West Palm Beach Police Department. On that day the police department lost a very knowledgeable police sergeant and a man that had a strong passion for police work.

Mr. George remained in his position as President of the Palm Beach County PBA until 2006. In 2006 Mr. George was named the Executive Director, where he remains today.

Due to the position Mr. George held as the Police Union President, he never took any of the promotional tests to move up through the chain of command after the rank of Sergeant. Mr. George believed that fighting for police officers that could not fight for themselves was the position that meant more to him than Chief of Police.

Mr. George has a special compassion for helping police officers and making sure they have the best representation when needed, benefits to take care of their families, and salaries.

It is my hope that this paper will filter down to the right command and do justice for my dad's character as a Police Officer, Union President, Father and Human Being. My whole life I have seen a man who has dedicated his life to service no matter what the task called for. I can remember as a little boy my dad putting on that uniform and heading out to work. He would say I have to go to work now to protect those who cannot protect themselves. As I got older, I realized there are bad people out there and the City of West Palm Beach needed a man like my dad to help protect and serve. Through the course of his career as a police officer and union president, I have seen how the job doesn't stop just because your shift is over, or your eight hours for the day is up. He brought his work home with him to help make him a better police officer and leader; "Dedication".

They say you can measure a man's character by his loyalty and integrity, if that's the case my pop passes with flying colors. I have never met a man whose loyalty has not flinched in the 37 years I've been on this earth. His has been there to help people who couldn't help themselves countless times. I could remember the phone always ringing late at night. Another shooting, so he had to go to work to help the officer who was involved.

Integrity – I can remember when he took over the Union, which was in bad shape. He dedicated over 20 years of his life to the Union and building it to what it is today. There's no quitting or defeat in my dad, there's only forward progress.

I've met a lot of people over the years who would say, "Oh you're Big Ernie's son, he's a solid guy, one of the good guys." It would always put a smile on my face and make me proud to have such a remarkable father. If you knew my dad or worked with my dad, you probably already know this. What you don't know is the man at home, his character outside of work. My father made it clear to my sisters and myself that family is the most important thing in the world and without it we have nothing. They're the only ones who will always be there for you. Also he taught us we must never turn our backs on family no matter what. My father taught us, coached us and instilled great morals and values in us that have made us the people we are today.

So, if you were to ask me about my dad's character, I would tell you he has unflinching loyalty, determination, drive, honor and integrity. He's the best and I love him dearly.

Thank You For the Opportunity,





The Palm Beach Post

Gov. Bush appoints PBA President Ernie George to again serve on the Criminal Justice Standards & Training Commission

January 6, 2006

Governor Jeb Bush has just appointed President Emie George to the civilian position on the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission. He will serve with fellow PBA Presidents John Rivera and Kevin Durkin, also appointed by Gov. Bush.





Entic George

Many times during my years of involvament with the PBA, members have asked me why they must pay dues. The answer is very simple. Money is power if norder to provide the services our members want and deserve, it takes a great deal of financial resources. We provide legal defense, excallest-bacgaining representation, lobby the logistature, hire lobbyist educated on our issues, create PAC fund to assist friendly legislators during their elections, and we bring our politically active members in great numburs to the legislature for lobbying. No other organization in Florida works in all these areas to service their members.

these areas to service their members. In the past we have been very successful with legislation which benefited many law enforcement and corrections officers without providing the resources meeded to accomplish all of our goals. It is unfortunate some officers choose to be members of organizations that do nothing, or they choose not to be members of any organization. I guess they believe it is alright to gain pay raises and henefits by free-loading off our members who pay dues. The only way to stop this free-loading is by peer pressure! All members must insist that their friends contibute to their own well-being and share in the financial burden, by being members of the PIA. We are the onlylaw e divercement/corrections organization continually fighting to protect our members and provide them with adequate pay and benefits. During the 1997 Legislative Session, the PBA

During the 1997 Legislative Scasion, the PBA will step up its presence and move legislation to ensure the financial security for all our members in the Florida Retirement System (FRS). We will also attempt to negotiate this into every constract controlled by the PBA. This legislation will be known as the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). DROP these attractive beet implemented for PBA members in such municipalities as West Palm beach and Hollywood and is extremely popular with our members. Thiswould extend DROP to our members inder the FRS.

The plan will work as follows: (Dollar amounts are approximate).

Legislative Preview Jame



A Special Risk member completes 25 years of service and has a final average relimment talany of \$40,000. At a full 3% multiplier for each year of service, the member would receive 75% of \$40,000 and be eligible for a retirement of \$30,000 per year. Under this plan, the member may continue to work for five more years and place the \$30,000 per year. Under this plan, the member may continue to work for five more years and place the \$30,000 per year. that a special tax deferred account drawing 6.5% interast. [Note: This \$30,000 would increase by the state mandated 3% COLA each year.] The member year, which could be withdrawa in a one long sum or celled over into an IRA at the end of the DROP period.

END OF YEAR	PENSION INCOME (PDUS 35 COLA)	INTEREST	TOTAL
Oze	\$30,000	6.5%	\$ 32,015
Two	\$30,900 + \$32,015	6.5%	\$ 67,149
Three	\$31,827 + \$67,140	6.5%	\$195,613
Four	\$32,783 + \$103,613	6.5%	\$347,613
Firs.	\$33,765 + \$147,688	6.5%	\$193,638

At the end of five years, the member would have approximately \$192,442 and, additionally, would be unwing a pension of \$33,765 per year. The leaderabip of the PBA can pass hegistion of this type if we have the resources. Hospefully, our members will inform our non-members that the PBA is working for their financial security with this taglisation. ALL of us most pay our fair share to gain these benefits, and it's time for the free-loaders to help carry the financial burden. \blacklozenge

Wester 1997

Printed on Aug 9, 2017

Police officer who built union into force to retire

By BILL DOUTHAT Folm Reach Past Staff Writer

Young Ernie George seemed to have the right stuff to rocket up the ranks of the West Palm Beach Police Department, his superiors noted in evaluations.

It didn't happen.

George, the 6-foot-4 college football star from Ohio with a bullhorn voice, never rose above sergeant. For the past 10 years, his job was sitting in a quiet office checking the paperwork of police applicants.

Yet he's one of the most influential and recognizable cops in the entire state. As president of both the local and state Police Benevolent



Association union. George attained a larger profile — and a bigger salary — than most police chiefs.

Now 59 years old, George is retiring Friday after 30 years as a West Palm Beach cop. He plans to leave his PBA posts next year.

"I limited my police career for the PBA," George

See GEORGE, 13A

Ernest George

Clipped By:



dre1423 Wed, Aug 9, 2017

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7420 Martin Avenue West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

April 5, 1977

Chief William M. Barnes West Palm Beach Police Dept. West Palm Beach, Florida

Dear Chief Barnes:

On March 28, my house was again broken into. Through the efforts of my neighbor, Novella Dewalt, and your Police Officers Donald Jacobs, Hugo Unruh and Ernie George, the burglars were apprehended within two minutes after they entered my house. All of my neighbors were extremely impressed with the manner in which your officers conducted the apprehension of these criminals. Needless to say, so was I!

I am extremely grateful to these officers for their outstanding work in this matter and I would like for you to express my appreciation to them on an individual basis, if possible. I realize that this was not the capture of the robbers of the Chase Manhattan National Bank; however, to have your home invaded time after time by a bunch of no good burns is most distressing.

Again, please give my sincere thanks to Officers Unruh, Jacobs and George for their assistance and concern for the protection of my home.

Very truly yours,

Myrna Barrett

Copy to:

Donald Jacobs -Hugo Unruh Ernie George 5

Denge



Dr. James P. Cima, D.C. 824 U.S. 1, Suite 200 North Palm Beach, Florida 33408 (305) \$44-6391

Dear officer George.

d really appreciate what you did for me the other day. Not only did I groatly respect what you did, but Now you handled yourself. If a can ever be of pervice so you please dury this time.

COPY PLACED IN YOUR PERSONNEL JACKET THIS DATE.

Surcende

04-05-83

Seage

MEMORANDUM

October 27, 1983

To: Chief Jamason

From: Mildred Young

Subject: Telephone Call Received from Ms. Debbie Robinson

Shortly after 4:00 PM today, Ms. Robinson called, relating her experience while driving on Dixie Highway earlier this afternoon. She was proceeding southbound from 58th Street when someone in another vehicle tried to force her off the road.

Shortly thereafter, Ms. Robinson, upon seeing Officer George, approached him and told him what happened. Since Ms. Robinson had obtained the subject's license tag number, Officer George had the registration checked; this indicated that the subject resides at #3 Metcalf Court. When the officer and the victim responded to the address, they were advised by the staff that the people who live there have mental problems, and advised that the subject would be counseled by the psychologist.

Under the circumstances, no charges were pressed. Ms. Robinson wanted to thank Officer George for his assistance and understanding. I advised her that you would be informed of the incident and that a memorandum reflecting her appreciation would be placed in Officer George's personnel jacket.

> COPY PLACED IN YOUR PERSONNEL JACKET THIS BATE.

10-31-83

my

April 18, 1985

To: Major R.L. Bradshaw

From: Captain J.L. Diggs

Subject: Letter of commendation

动物的名 的复数烧花的 计数 人名马拉 的复数动物关系的 计外分级形式 TRES DATE.

April 22, 1985

Sir:

April 17, 1985 at approximately 0935 hrs. there was a strong arm robbery of a 65 year old W/F in the 300 blk. of Golf Rd. Officer Fahey was the primary investigator and due to the co-operation of a citizen (Ralph Holmes) along with a good and thourough job by officer Fahey, a suspect vehicle was developed. Officer Mathews was checking the Mall parking lot and located the suspect vehicle on the South side of Sears. Lot and located the suspect vehicle on the South side of Sear Under the direction of Sgt. Ross, a stake out of the vehicle was established by Officer George, Officer Mathews and Sgt. Ross. After approximately (1) one hour the vehicle was towed when no one showed up. Shortly after the vehicle was moved Carl Jackson called in to report it stolen. The subject was contacted at " Chic-Filet " by Sgt. Ross and Officer Mathews and after a brief interview he implicated Alvin Tyler as being with him during the robbery. being with him during the robbery.

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that the officers involved be commended for their thouroughness, teamwork & perseverance that resulted in a successful conclusion to this case.

Yom L. Diggs

Respectfully Submitted James L. Diggs, Captain Patrol Division Commander

Insp: 6000 job By All involued, Major Read in Staff 19 april 85 head in Staff 19 april 85 head in Staff 19 april 85



CHIROPRACTIC LIFE CENTER

May 2, 1985

George Siegrist, Chief West Palm Beach Police Dept. 901 Datura Street West Palm Beach, FL 33402

Dear Chief Siegrist,

First, welcome to West Palm Beach. We are glad to have you as our new Chief of Police.

Second, on April 29, 1985, I was driving north on Olive Avenue, captivated by the rapture of my new car with a new super deluxe stereo, while Kenny Rogers sang the second verse of the Gambler, my foot got heavy, and my speed crept up. I was stopped by one of your police officers Ernest W. George, who was professional, courteous, and understanding. Nothing would have taken the enthusiasm out of that "new car" faster than a ticket for speeding. The warning I received was timely, respected, and appreciated. Next time my foot will be lighter, my Kenny Rogers tape not so loud, and my mind on safety.

Third, if Officer George is an example of the caliber of police officers you have then your new job will be made much easier.

Thanks again! You can count on me to support you and your department.

In Your Service,

Dr. Michael E. Nathanson

DICTATED BUT NOT READ

409 South Dixie C Lake Worth, Florida 33460 (305) 582-LIFE C TELEX-SPINE

11 MARCH 1987

TO: CAPTAIN R. G. WINEBRENNER

FROM: LIEUTENANT E. G. SAVAGE (4)

RE:

QUICK RESPONSE OF OFFICER GEORGE IN HANDLING A SICK PERSON, REFER TO DAMAGED PROPERTY REPORT X-19934

Officer George was at Jack's Pharmacy, 24th Street and Broadway, when he observed a female halfway in a moving vehicle going west on 24th Street in the 500 block. The female was calling for help and one of her feet was dragging the ground. Officer George moved in her direction to see what was transpiring.

Upon pulling onto Broadway he observed the vehicle still moving, now across Broadway and the black male driver slumped over the wheel. The car was headed out of control and for a certain impact with several parked cars. Seeing this, Officer George positioned the right front bumper of his vehicle on the left rear wheel well of the other car and brought it to a halt.

Officer George exited his vehicle and went to assist the driver, Benjamin Williams and he discovered that Williams, who was an epileptic was having a seizure after starting to eat a donut and was choking on the donut. George administered first aid, managing to dislodge the donut from Williams throat. Williams was revived and the fire-medics responded to assist.

The passenger in the car was Williams wife, Rosa Williams, who was very appreciative of Officer George's performance. She said that she was trying to get over to the driver's side initially to move her husband over and drive for help, but as she went to get out the car started moving, dragging her along.

There was some minor damage to the police vehicle, Car 20, approximately \$50 to the rubber on the right front bumper and about \$150 to the Williams vehicle on the right rear wheel well. I commend Officer George for his swift thinking and decision fast action, which thwarted a more disastrous situation. It is such cool thinking and level headedness that marks a true professional.

It is my recommendation that this letter of commendation be placed in Officer George's personnel jacket.

Lt. E. G. Savage Shift Commander





STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

PALM BEACH HOUSE (305) 832-3713 217 Butler Street

West Palm Beach, Florida 33407

April 3, 1987

Captain Winebrenner West Palm Beach Police Department 901 Datura Street West Palm Beach, F1. 33401

Dear Captain Winebrenner:

I, Richard Rathell, forward this letter on behalf of the Staff and Residents at the Palm Beach House to commend Officer George on the excellent job he did in handling the domestic scuffle on March 24, 1987.

Officer George displays great patience and professionalism in a situation which could have developed into something much larger.

In closing we would like to thank you and your staff for responding so well to our calls, your help is always greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

/Richard Rathell Asst. Superintendent

Gopy forward and in involved or and in personal and date.

DISTRICT NINE

Bob Graham, Governor

BELVEDERE SCHOOL PTA 3001 Lake Avenue West Palm Beach, Florida 33405



November 7, 1989

Chief Billy Riggs West Palm Beach Police Department 901 Datura Street West Palm Beach, Fl. 33402

Dear Chief Riggs:

This is to let you know how pleased we are to have Officer Ernie George as our Project D.A.R.E. Officer this school year.

Officer George did a very good job of presenting the D.A.R.E. Program at our Fall PTA meeting. He seems to be very committed to the program and we know that he will have a very successful year.

We want to send a special commendation to Officer George as well as to Officer Art Apicella both of whom assisted us with our recent Halloween Carnival. We very much appreciate the willingness of these two fine officers to get involved in our activities here at Belvedere School.

Sincerely,

sella

Janet Kinsella PTA President



jk

cc: Officer Ernie George Officer Art Appicella



Wegn Dain (Denci), Down (Det.es and

"Committed to Professionalism"

B.R. RIGGS Chief

November 16, 1989

Ms. Janet Kinsella PTA President Belvedere School PTA 3001 Lake Avenue West Palm Beach, FL 33405

Dear Ms. Kinsella:

Thank you for taking the time to write a letter of commendation for Officer E. George, your D.A.R.E. officer this year, and Officer A. Appicella who assisted with the Halloween Carnival. Officer George is very enthusiastic about the D.A.R.E. program, and I was gratified to learn that he is conveying that enthusiasm to the students, and that Officer Apicella is willing to involve himself in the school activities beyond his normal duties.

I am sure the Officers will be pleased with your high regards and comments, and be assured that a copy of your letter will be given to each Officer and a copy placed into their personnel file.

Sincerely,

Chief of Police

dmi



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201 Ontera Cherry F. S. 933 Type Press, Path Research and the





COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM EVALUATION

Title of topic presented 70 M Name of Presenter corac Date program held Every Ned. 17 EKS Time : From 8:30 to 2:00 Name/Title of business/organization_ Ho Circle a number to the right which corresponds to the five ratings '1 - poor, 2 - fair 3 - good 4 - very good 5 - excellent 1. Presenter's knowledge of the subject(s) outlined-- 1 2 3 4 (5) Presenter's ability to communicate and explain 2. the subject matter --1234(5) Did the presenter establish a productive learning 3. atmosphere during the session? 1234(5) 4. Presenter's ability to gain class participation --1234(5) 5. Presenter's personality and style, i.e., dynamics, motivating, pleasant, etc. --1234(5) Would you recommend this program to others? 6. 1234(5) 7. Was the program informative? Circle: (yes) no Do you have any additional comments or suggestions? 8. 5 0 -1601 What topics or material would you like to have included in 9. this program? IAu en. na n Ogram ma Drimaru a 7 /lever abuse VILA

Your evaluation is very important to the Community Service Bureau Charpers so that we can present the best quality service. Please return this form to: West Palm Beach Folice Department, Community Service Bureau, Post Office Box 1390, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33402



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM EVALUATION

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Title of topic presented D. A.R.E.
Name of Presenter Ofe. Ernis George
Date program held
Name/Title of business/organization Prime the Elementery
Address where program held
Circle a number to the right which corresponds to the five ratings shown below:
1 - poor 2 - fair 3 - good 4 - very good 5 - excellent
1. Presenter's knowledge of the subject(s) outlined 1 2 3 4(5)
2. Presenter's ability to communicate and explain the subject matter 1 2 3 4 5
3. Did the presenter establish a productive learning atmosphere during the session?
4: Presenter's ability to gain class participation 1 2 3 45
5. Presenter's personality and style, i.e., dynamics, motivating, pleasant, etc 1 2 3 45
6. Would you recommend this program to others? 1 2 3 4 5
7. Was the program informative? Circle: yes) no
8. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?
- off-
Officer & George did and
excellent job with his presentity
held the Student's attender
was unthusinshi & inhoused
9. What topics or material would you like to have included in this program?

More video presentations are alcungo good for synderte in this type group.

Your evaluation is very important to the Community Service Bureau so that we can present the best quality service. Please return this form to: West Palm Beach Police Department, Community Service Bureau, Post Office Box 1390, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33402



THE VOICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

DADE COUNTY POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

November 12, 1992

Chief Billy Riggs West Palm Beach Police Department 901 Datura West Palm Beach, FL 33401 Copy forwarded to personnel Involved and cray placed in personnel jackat this date.

1

Dear Chief Riggs:

On behalf of the 5,000 members of the Dade County Police Benevolent Association and the thousands of Dade County residents affected by Hurricane Andrew, I want to thank you and the members of your department who so unselfishly gave of their time, effort and money to help fellow law enforcement officers in need.

As you know, this was a truly devastating event that changed many lives. Knowing we could count on our brothers and sisters in law enforcement to help was a great comfort. We especially appreciate the help of Ernie George and Bob Provost, whose tireless efforts were a great > assistance to the Dade County PBA and many of our members who had lost their homes during the storm.

If we can ever repay you and your officers for your great contribution to Dade County, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mike Clifton President

MC:pp





Deadline - August 31

NOMINEE INFORMATION: (please print)						
Full Legal Name: Pred maas						
Home Address: _						
City State: Zip Code:						
Home # Work #: (305) 947-4440						
Email Address:						
Resident of Florida? 🗷 Yes 🗆 No 🛛 If yes, how many years?6						
State of birth: Date of birth: Day Month Year						
Is nominee deceased? 🗆 Yes 💢 No If yes, year deceased:						
Was nominee's death caused by an incident in the line of duty? \Box Yes 🔯 No						
If yes, explain						
Years in Law Enforcement: <u>43</u> Retired? Ves No Mo./Year retired:						
Position(s) held: Chief Captain, Lieutenant Sergeont OFFicer						
Any honor/awards received? Yes I No If yes, please include a list as an attachment.						
If Nominee is deceased, please provide family point of contact:						
Full Name:						
Relationship to deceased:						
Home Address:						
City: State: Zip Code:						
Home #: Cell #: Work #:						
Email Address:						
NOTE: Nominee and nominator will be contacted if nominee is selected to be inducted.						



NOMINATOR INFORMATION: (please print)

Full Name: John R	wera	n 5. 	<u></u>
Title: President			
Association/Organization:	de Canty	PBA/FL	PBA
Work Address: 1008	nw 25 57	/	
City: Man		Zip Code: <u>331</u>	19
Work #: 303 593- C	DULL	1	
Email Address: Sonce	olapba.org		

I hereby affirm the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understanding. The information provided is in congruence with the Nomination Eligibility Requirements and Guidelines. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Signature (Required): ____

NOTE: Only nominator will be contacted if the nominee is not selected.

Please mail this form and corresponding attachments postmarked by August 31 to:

Florida Department of Law Enforcement ATTN: Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator P.O. Box 1489 Tallahassee, FL. 32302-1489

Should you have any questions or concerns contact the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator at (850) 410-8600 or <u>FLEOHOF@fdle.state.fl.us</u>.

Date: 8 29





Nomination for Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Sunny Isles Beach Chief Fred Maas

Professional Law Enforcement History Summary

Sunny Isles Beach Police Chief Fred Maas is a 43 year veteran of law enforcement in South Florida. Maas joined the Miami Dade Police Department in February of 1975, after serving as a school teacher in Dade County for four years. His first assignment was Uniform Patrol in the Intercoastal NE District until 1980 when he was promoted to Corporal. He was accepted to the General Investigations Unit in 1982 and received several commendations and awards while working in that capacity.

In April of 1984, he was promoted to Sergeant and assigned to the Director's Office of Internal Affairs. He served as an investigator there for three years until being accepted for the elite Criminal Conspiracy Section of the Professional Compliance Bureau in 1987. He served as both an Investigator and Acting Lieutenant of the Unit until his retirement in 1998.

However, Maas did not stay retired for long. He was hired as the second in Command at the newly formed Sunny Isles Beach Police Department. Maas served as a Captain and Assistant Chief until October of 1999 when he was promoted to Chief. Maas is still serving in this role today.

Nominee Selection Summary

There are some people who are born into the world with the purpose of making it a better place for everyone. There are some people who are born to inspire. There are some people who are born to lead. Rarely does a person embody all of these qualities. Sunny Isles Beach Chief Fred Mass is one of these special, rare, people.

Born in Chicago, Ill Fred Maas moved with his family at 6 months of age to Fl. The family established deep roots in the area and became pioneers of the Redlands since 1952. Many of the family members still live and work in **Sector**. Maas attended school in Miami-Dade County, including Sacred Heart Grade school in Homestead, St. John Vianney High School in Miami, and St. Thomas University (STU) for college where he received a B.A. in Political Science. Maas also played College Baseball for STU, formerly Biscayne College. In celebration of the 45th year anniversary of the team, Maas was invited back this year to throw out the opening day pitch for their new season.

Before entering the law enforcement profession, Maas taught school locally in North Miami during his first four years out of college and coached the school's athletic teams. In 1973, he was named Coach of the Year when the Baseball team won the Catholic Grade School Baseball Championship. He was them assigned to the Archdiocese of Miami to serve as Admissions Director for St. John's Preparatory High School.

In 1974, his true calling was realized when he was recruited for the Dade County Sheriff's Dept. during a hiring blitz. Maas entered the Police Academy, BLE 19, in 1975. Upon graduating from the Police Academy, he worked Uniform Patrol Division, General Investigations, Internal Affairs, and the Criminal Conspiracy Unit and Public Corruption Unit until his retirement in 1998.

Maas didn't stay retired for long. He was named Assistant Police Chief of the newly created City of Sunny Isles Beach Police Department which the City had incorporated one year earlier in 1997. Maas was co-founder of the police department in 1998 and was named Police Chief of the Department in Sept. of 1999. He has served in that role for the past 18 years.

Chief Maas' leadership of the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department has earned the respect of everyone who has worked with him. He is a builder. He builds relationships and sets positive examples of to how to lead and how to treat people from the officers who serve under him to the community they protect.

Chief Maas is the first person to ask "How can I help?" He is there for his officers. Chief Maas cares for his officers in ways that are seldom seen in a leader and he takes a calm approach when handling problems. Chief Maas frequently works the road to cover a shift so an officer can be home with their kids on Christmas, attend a significant family event, or be with their sick elderly parents. Under Maas' administration, Sunny Isles Officers have received some of the highest benefits and safest working conditions in Miami-Dade County. Maas continues to work diligently to ensure that his officers know that he is supportive of them and that they realize he remembers where he came from and is still one of them. His rank never spoiled who he is as a person.

He is committed to assisting the families of officers killed in the line of duty. He is there to guide schoolchildren and ensure that they understand that officers are there to keep them safe and that officers are role models.

Chief Maas is there for his city. Maas has worked with Sunny Isles Beach elected officials to make sure that public safety is a top priority in the city. He has stepped up every time he is needed. Whether it involves enhanced safety initiatives, educating officials on the risks officers face or stepping up to fill in as City Manager while still handling his Chief duties, Maas has answered the call.

Chief Maas was appointed to the Governor's Violent Crime and Drug Council. Maas is also a valued member of the Dade Police Chief's and Florida Police Chief's Association as well as International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The Dade County Police Benevolent Association presents the "Outstanding Law Enforcement Leadership Award" to individuals who embody true leadership, inspire those around them and truly make a difference in the lives of those they serve. After years of presenting this award to Chief Maas, the Dade County PBA named the award in his honor "The Fred Maas Law Enforcement Leadership Award."

Chief Maas has been married to his wife for 46 years and they have four children, two of whom work

Awards & Achievements

Chief Maas will tell you that his greatest achievements are the recognition of the fine work Sunny Isles Beach Officers do while serving the community. Some of the awards his officers have received range from Community Service and Policing Awards to Officer of the Year for Miami Dade Chiefs of Police, numerous times, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Awards (LEO), and twice the Dade County PBA award for Officer of the Year. These are the accomplishments he is most proud of because the recognition of his officers is a reflection of the caliber officer serving Sunny Isles Beach and is what earned Sunny Isles Beach Police Department the reputation of a police department of service to the community and residents, above and beyond. It is their mantra to "Make a Difference, One Call At A Time" and Maas leads by example.

Awarded to Chief Maas

- The Dade County PBA Leadership for Law Enforcement Award (later named the "Fred Maas Outstanding Law Enforcement Leadership Award")
- City of Sunny Isles Beach Man of the Year Award
- Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) award for Service.
- Trifecta of Excellence
- The Police Officer Assistance Trust Person of the Year Award
- Named a Knight of St. Sylvester by Pope Benedict in 2008 the highest honor from the Vatican for service in Law Enforcement.
- In 2008, Maas received the highest Law Enforcement Award from the Vatican, when Pope Benedict named him a Knight of St. Sylvester for his lifetime dedication to service in Law Enforcement.

Links:

http://communitynewspapers.com/sunny-isles/hail-to-the-chief/

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NEWSLETTER EVENTS LEGALS CONTACT ADVERTISE



Hail to the chief

By: Bari Auerbach | September 6, 2012



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Sunny Isles Beach Police Chief Fred Maas is earning accolades for multitasking... leading "best in blue" officers while simultaneously serving as interim City Manager until Christopher Russo returns to fill the position on Oct. 15.

Maas was appointed interim City Manager following the recent resignation of former City Manager Alan J. Cohen. Maas also served as interim City Manager once before following the departure of Russo, who originally served as City Manager from 2000 through 2005 – when Russo left to embark on a career in the private sector. In July of 2012, the City Commission voted to hire Russo back – but in the "interim,"



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Maas has been happy to help ensure Sunny Isles Beach is managing just fine.

Maas explained he feels serving as interim City Manager hasn't compromised efficient management of the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department "We have a very competent team of department heads who are highly knowledgeable and their work ethic is incomparable," he said. "I would say this additional task [serving as interim City Manager] is about guiding, directing or fostering the work they already do in their respective areas...It's nothing my personal work ethic won't allow for...I've always had one goal in all the years I've been here – and that's to accept whatever challenge, request or task that has been asked of me for the betterment of residents and the City of Sunny Isles Beach."

'ALL-STAR RECORD'

Maas co-founded the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department in 1998 and was named Captain and Assistant Chief and then in 1999, he was appointed Chief. "Chief Maas has worked diligently to build the Police Department up with safer streets and to establish policies and procedures reducing crime... He was appointed to the Governor's Crime and Violent Crime Council by Governor Jeb Bush; and has received many honors and awards for his leadership and dedication," said Sunny Isles Beach Mayor Norman Edelcup while reading a proclamation honoring Maas.

Formerly a college baseball player, Maas has also served as an umpire for the North Miami Beach little league and youth baseball leagues. For "going to bat for the community," in 2010, Maas was honored to have the baseball field at Pelican Community Park named the "Chief Maas Baseball Field." Mayor







RECENT POSTS

Many Americans use Cannabis for Chronic Pain Because it is Better than Opioids

Historic Vote Paves Way for Adaptive Beach Recreation Center Edelcup noted, "The city wanted to do something to honor [Chief Maas] because he has been the most beloved person since the inception of the Police Department – totally dedicated to making sure people feel safe."

On behalf of the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department, Captain Michael Grandinetti added, "Chief Fred Maas has touched the lives of everyone in this agency...He has served as Chief with honor, pride and loyalty. Our officers and staff [revere] his leadership, compassion and dedication with his 'how can I help you' attitude and philosophy."

'BEST IN BLUE'

In 2010, Maas announced he would be retiring, but decided to resume his role as Police Chief just two months later. When Mayor Norman Edelcup broke the good news that Maas would be returning during a Concerned Citizens Meeting, thunderous applause rang out. Every month, it has been a tradition for Maas to honor the Police Department's Officer of the Month at Concerned Citizens meetings.

Commenting on the city's "excellent police services," Maas said, "Over the years, this agency has received numerous awards and presentations for its Police Department. "All officers wearing the badge for Sunny Isles Beach Police are the driving force behind each of those recognitions. They are the ones 'making the difference' in the manner in which they serve this community.

"I'm very proud of the fine work and dedication that these officers put forth. Some might say these are ordinary people doing an extraordinary job. I say, they are extraordinary people doing an extraordinary job!"

SUMMER MIGHT BE OVER BUT THE FUN CONTINUES IN SEPTEMBER!

Chamber Hosts Annual Real Estate Luncheon "Next Gen: Miami Beach" Sponsored by Hotwire Communications

Letter From The President

Gulliver Preparatory Biology Teacher Completes Exploratory Trip To The Galapagos Islands





Led by Maas, the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department strives to create programs that reduce the need for police response while creating a safer, more secure environment. The department's quick response time (less than two minutes) is one of its most effective tools in combating crime, saving lives in emergency medical situations and capturing perpetrators. Officers have access to emergency lifesaving equipment such as A.E.D.'s (heart defibrillators) and Jet Ski body baskets attached for ocean rescue. Officers are also detached to work with other agencies (Drug Enforcement Agency and Federal Bureau of Investigation) to resolve problems and share in asset forfeitures, which in turn creates additional resources to benefit the city.

Officers patrol the city on motorcycles, jet skis, boats, ATV's, bicycles, and in patrol cars. Special programs offered throughout the year include Red Ribbon Week, food drives, Toys for Tots, Kid Fest (including fingerprinting and ID program), the Police Officers Assistance Trust 5K Run, career day, and government day. Crime prevention programs are also offered including crime prevention and awareness, identity theft, vandalism, antirobbery, hurricane preparedness, gun safety locks, vehicle identification, anti-theft "club" giveaways, and fraud and scam education.

'SAFE AT HOME'

Ever since the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department became operational on August 1, 1998, residents, business owners and visitors have appreciated enhanced public safety. "When [the late] Mayor David Samson first spoke with me, he said he promised the people the very best police department," Maas said. "To fulfill that objective, I felt we had to recruit committed police officers – and today, I'm proud to say we have...There has been a significant reduction in major and violent crimes as compared to [the days before the city's own police department became operational]."

Shortly after Sunny Isles Beach incorporated in 1997, Maas was hired to help get the Police Department up and running. During his impressive law enforcement career, Maas served on the Miami-Dade Detective Bureau, the Crime Suppression team and was a Sergeant assigned to the Internal Affairs section. Subsequently, he was appointed acting Lieutenant of the Criminal Conspiracy section where he served for eight years.

Maas's extensive resume also includes receiving numerous awards and accolades; as well as serving on an executive committee linking municipal police departments with the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office. He is also often invited to be a master of ceremonies or speaker at many official events such as the 2011 memorial service for two Miami-Dade police officers tragically killed in the line of duty, where Maas delivered opening remarks.

Mayor Edelcup presented a proclamation to Maas in 2008, honoring his distinguished service to the city and achievements in the field of law enforcement, proclaiming October 16, 2008 as "Police Chief Fred Maas Day in the City of Sunny Isles Beach."

Maas was also named a Knight of the Pontifical Order of St. Sylvester by his Holiness Pope Benedict XVI – a recognition of the highest level of the Catholic Church and Archbishop of Miami. John Clement Favalora conferred this distinction upon Maas on Oct. 7, 2008 at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Saint Mary. While expressing appreciation for the proclamation, Maas thanked the Commission and stated how proud he is that Sunny Isles Beach shared in the recognition. "This is the first time this award from the Vatican has ever been presented in the United States," he said.

'HOW CAN I HELP YOU' ATTITUDE

"When I came on board as a Captain in April of 1998 it was like returning to my roots because about three decades ago, I started out on uniform patrol in Sunny Isles Beach," Maas said. Following the resignation of the city's first police chief, Maas took over the position and has since helped foster a progressive, community oriented style of policing where officers get out of the car and interact with residents and business owners. "Our officers follow a philosophy and ideology that they're expected to go above and beyond what is normally expected," Maas said. "We're always striving to achieve higher levels of quality personal service with a 'How can I help you?' attitude.



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MIAMIBEACH

Miami Beach Police Department, 1100 Washington Ave, Miami Beach, FL 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE Tel: 305.673.7925, E-mail: danieloates@miamibeachfl.gov

August 16, 2017

Florida Department of Law Enforcement Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator P.O. Box 1489 Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1489

Re: Nomination of Major James W. Smith

In 1964 James Walter Smith became the first black police officer in the City of Miami Beach. Smith, then 34 was also the oldest rookie officer where, on his first day, he was greeted by a police department that still had separate water fountains for blacks and whites.

Despite the adversity of the era, Smith quickly earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues while paving the way to what today has become one of the most racially and ethnically diverse law enforcement organizations in the country.

Smith rose to the rank of major and retired in 1990 after nearly three decades in as a Miami Beach police officer. At his retirement ceremony he reflected, "I was given the opportunity to succeed..."

I am honored to have the privilege of nominating Major James W. Smith for consideration of admission into the Florida Law Enforcement Officer's Hall of Fame.

Sincerely Daniel J. Oates

Chief of Police

DJO/WAJ/tr



ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST:

Summary of nominee's professional law enforcement history.

Two page description of why nominee should be selected (include description of their contributions to law enforcement).

Agency/Department photo

Proof of nominee's outstanding performance, actions, accomplishments, and character (e.g. any professional acts of excellence above and beyond minimum standards). Examples include letters of recommendation, official reports, statements, newspaper article(s), and/or other media archive historical references.

 \Box Summary of civic contributions and/or humanitarian activities. Describe as completely as possible, the nominee's local, state and national level of service in civic organizations. Include information about community involvement in crime prevention, charitable activities, etc. Also describe as completely as possible the nominee's contributions in any humanitarian service.

List of awards and honors

Any additional information to consider

NOTE: Required items are in bold.

Documents should be typed using 11 pt font, or larger, and packets must not exceed 10 pages.

Application deadline is August 31 of the year prior to the year of induction (e.g., August 31, 2015 for induction in 2016).



Deadline - August 31

NOMINEE INFORMATION: (please print)
Full Legal Name: JAMES WALTER SMITH
Home Address:
City: State: Zip Code:
Home #: Cell #: Work #: 305-673-7900
Email Address:
Resident of Florida? Yes I No If yes, how many years?87
State of birth: Florida Date of birth: Day Month Year
Is nominee deceased? 🗏 Yes 🗆 No If yes, year deceased: 2017
Was nominee's death caused by an incident in the line of duty? 🗆 Yes 🔳 No
If yes, explain.
Years in Law Enforcement: 26 Retired? Set I No Mo./Year retired: 9/1990
Position(s) held: Police Officer/Sergeant/Lieutenant/Captain/Major
Any honor/awards received? 🗏 Yes 🗆 No 🛛 If yes, please include a list as an attachment.
If Nominee is deceased, please provide family point of contact:
Full Name
Relationship to deceased: SON
Home Address:
City: State Zip Code:
Home #: Cell #: Work #:
Email Address:
NOTE: Nominee and nominator will be contacted if nominee is selected to be inducted.



NOMINATOR INFORMATION: (please print)

Full Name: DANIEL OATES

Title:

Association/Organization: MIAMI BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

Work Address: 1100 WASHINGTON AVENUE

City: MIAMI BEACH State: FL Zip Code: 33139

Work #: 305-673-7925

Email Address: _____DANIELOATES@MIAMIBEACHFL.GOV

I hereby affirm the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understanding. The information provided is in congruence with the Nomination Eligibility Requirements and Guidelines. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Signature (Required): _____ Date: _____ Date: _____

NOTE: Only nominator will be contacted if the nominee is not selected.

Please mail this form and corresponding attachments postmarked by August 31 to:

Florida Department of Law Enforcement ATTN: Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator P.O. Box 1489 Tallahassee, FL. 32302-1489

Should you have any questions or concerns contact the Florida Law Enforcement Officers' Hall of Fame Coordinator at (850) 410-8600 or FLEOHOF@fdle.state.fl.us.

FLORIDA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' HALL OF FAME

Nomination of Major James W. Smith

In 1964 James Walter Smith became the first black police officer in the City of Miami Beach. Smith, then 34, entered the police academy as one of the oldest rookie officers at the time. What he lacked in law enforcement experience, he made up for in maturity and life experience.

Before signing up to join the Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD), Smith worked as a semi-professional baseball player for the then Brooklyn Dodgers minor team. He also worked as a delivery man for a furniture company and as a correction officer assigned to the Miami-Dade stockade.

Born in the North Florida prison town of Starke on Smith was raised in a racially divided America, so for him, it was no surprise when on his first day as a police trainee at the MBPD, he saw two distinctly marked water fountains – "White Only" and "Colored Only". Smith was an exceptional trainee and successfully completed Basic Law Enforcement Class #31 on July 17th, 1964. He then completed the department's Filed Training Program during which he earned a reputation of being professional, sincere and empathetic toward others.

In the years that followed, Smith excelled in the profession and received numerous commendations and recognitions both from the public and from fellow colleagues and supervisors.

in 1971, Smith was promoted becoming the first black MBPD sergeant. He was assigned to the Detective Bureau. Four years later he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. He was promoted to Captain in 1988 and to the rank of Major in 1989. By the end of his career, he had worked in and or supervised each major unit in the organization.

Smith was said to have portrayed the image necessary to inspire his subordinates to work which created an atmosphere of respect. He was a good teacher and followed up in a manner which resulted in his achievement of objectives. He had the ability to get things done well and on time. He always determined what the desired result of the given task was then went out and accomplished it. He was a great communicator who excelled at transferring a selected bit of information from a source to a destination in either verbal or written medium. In the simplest of ways, he passed meaning and understanding to others in all his communications. He was known as a fair but firm leader who had had a propensity for treating all employees equally while at the same time rewarding good work without discouraging those who were lesser achievers.

Smith was a flexible person and adjusted to changing situations with ease, applied job knowledge and skills in new environments with a positive attitude. His human relations skills were above the norm and were his most outstanding supervisory tools. The key word of his decision making processes was participation. He was always open to suggestions and usually took the team problem-solving approach. He was very effective at conducting performance review interviews and was quite successful at modifying behavior to meet desired expectations.

Smith retired on September 7, 1990. At his retirement Smith noted, "I was given an opportunity to succeed if I wanted to take advantage of it; it was an interesting job, a challenging job."

Major Smith served as a deacon at the First Baptist Church of Brownsville where he was also a faithful member for a very long time. He served on the Citizen Crime Watch in the community he resided in and was known as the "community father to all" for well over thirty years. He helped to create and start the youth group "M.O.M" (Men of Men) for at risk boys.

Major James Walter Smith died on January 31, 2017 at the age of 87 at his Liberty City home. The Miami Beach Police Department celebrated the memories of the legendary "first black police officer" by naming the police department's community room the "Major James W. Smith Community Room".



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LETTER OF: (XX) COMMENDATION () REPRIMAND () RECOMMENDATION FOR OFFICER OF THE MONTH

) CONCURRENCE
) REBUTTAL
) COMMENTARY

Name of Employee:James SmithDate of Incident or
Period in Question:Date 27 and 28 June 1990Title:MajorDivision:PatrolAssignment:CommanderIssued by:Assistant Chief Lou GaustoCommanderCommanderCommander

Nelson Mandela along with his deligation visited the City of Miami Beach on June 27th and 28th, 1990. Mr. Mandela was a very high risk guest to our city and had drawn high crowd both pro and con in every city on his U.S. tour.

The planning, coordination and implementation plan was created by Majors Solowitz and Smith and Captain Barreto. The detail required many hours of tactical planning sessions not only with other government agencies but also with various sections of local government.

Majors Solowitz and Smith and Captain Barreto are to be commended for a successful and safely executed police operations plan.

Juo to Cheef

Issuing Supervisor

Division Commander

Chief of Police

Date Issued

LG:mn



City of Miami Beach

FLORIDA 33139



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

August 22, 1968

TO OUR EMPLOYEES:

The 1968 Republican National Convention has been acclaimed a complete success. Delegates, guests, newsmen and high-ranking Party officials unanimously agreed that the preparations and facilities of the City of Miami Beach were unparalleled in the Republican Party's history.

Full credit for this achievement belongs to every City employee who participated in the arrangements. The Administration is proud of the loyal support and cooperation so generously given, often under difficult circumstances. The long hours required, the personal sacrifices made and the wonderful teamwork exhibited reflect great credit on all of you.

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Personnel Record of each employee involved, and to each one 1 extend my personal thanks for your outstanding performance.

Sincerely,

Duff ty Manager

JCD:mvb

TELEPHONE NO. 534-7511

00053

RECOMMENDATION FORM

Name of Employee JAMES SMITH	Dat	e of Incident <u>12 AUG 1</u> 961				
Rank or Grade PROBATIONARY PATROLMAN I.	Date of Recomme	endation 13 AUG. 1964				
Assignment RELIEF	Bureau or Divis	sion intropm				
Fundamental reason for the recommen	dation FOR AN ASS	IGNED TASK PERFORMED				
IN AN EXCEPTIONAL MANNER. (SEE REVERS	SE SIDE OF FORM).					
Recommended number of MERITS ONE (1)	DEMERITS	9				
Recommended by	LIEUT, S.I. KOHA	<u>N</u>				
Employee served copy by DEPT. MAIL	Da	te 13 AUGIST 1961				
Recommend	NDORSEMENTS Approve origina Recommendation	1				
Recommend	Approve origina Recommendation_	Supervisor 1				
Recommend	Approve origina Recommendation	Supervisor				
change toMERITSDEMERITS Recommend change toMERITSDEMERITS	Approve origina Recommendation	Supervisor 1				
Recommend change toMERITSDEMERITS	Approve origina Recommendation					
REVIEW BOAR	d endorsement	Supervisor				
The Merit Review Board recommends_	MERITS	DEMERITS				
OR OTHER TYPE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS						
Initials of the MERIT REVIEW BOARD ME	A.J. UB.	a fue				
FINAL DI	SPOSITION					
MERITS AWARDED	DEMERITS ISSUE	D				
OTHER TYPE OF ACTION						
	Konk.	Tomeronce				
CW-3/27/62	Chief o	r Police CCO22				

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LOCAL OBITUARIES

First black police officer in Miami Beach, James Smith, dies at 87

BY HOWARD COHEN hcohen@miamiherald.com

FEBRUARY 09, 2017 5:06 PM

When your father is a police major, discipline at home is a given. When your father is the first black police officer in Miami ach, and the gravity of that cultural significance looms large, you really fall in line.

Well, most of the time.

"He was to me, my all," said Rodney Smith, son of police Maj. James W. Smith, who died at 87 on Jan. 31 at his Liberty City home of 57 years.

"There has never been a time that I needed him that he wasn't there," his son said. "Anybody can raise a good child but I hadn't always been that. And he would never condone my wrongdoing. He taught me, 'What you reap you will sow.' And 'God is going take care of you in the end but in the meantime *I'm* going to take care.'"

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Smith learned. "I grew up just wanting to be a good husband and a father because that's all I ever knew."

Maj. Smith was born Nov. 12, 1929, in Starke, a North Florida prison town. He played semi-professional baseball for a Brooklyn Dodgers affiliate, delivered furniture and worked as a guard at the Miami stockade before becoming a Beach officer in 1964.

When Smith first walked into the old Beach police station at 120 Meridian Ave., he saw two water fountains, one for blacks, one for whites.

"I observed — and didn't say anything," Smith told the Miami Herald in 1990 upon his retirement from the force after 26 years. When he returned from police academy training, the fountain signs were gone.

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Smith, then 34 and already one of the Beach's oldest rookies, earned respect immediately.

I LEARNED IF IT'S NOT YOURS, DON'T BOTHER WITH IT. IF IT'S YOURS, SHARE IT. THAT'S HOW I GREW UP AND I HAD THAT KIND OF FATHER AND I KNEW WHEN I WENT ASTRAY I COULD COME BACK HOME.

Rodney Smith on his father, Maj. James Smith.

"Right from the beginning," his first partner, Capt. Don Hasley, told the Herald in 1990. "I was as proud as he was when he made major." Smith was promoted to sergeant in 1971, became a lieutenant in 1975 and went from captain in 1988 to major in 1989.

Fellow officers recalled when a young defense attorney represented a black burglar whom Smith had arrested. One by one, the attorney called detectives to the stand, alleging racial bias. Smith was last to testify.

He quietly rose from the back row and walked down the aisle, wearing a poker face. The court went into pandemonium, the Herald reported. Nearly everyone, except the attorney, broke into laughter — the police, spectators. Even the judge cracked a smile as he banged his gavel. The perp got five years.

"I was given an opportunity to succeed if I wanted to take advantage of it," Smith said at his retirement. "It was an interesting job, a challenging job."

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I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISPLAY THE FACT THAT I COULD BE PATIENT AND SEE THINGS FROM OTHER PEOPLE'S POINT OF VIEW.

Maj. James Smith on his 1990 retirement from the Miami Beach police department.

His son, Rodney, a youth motivational speaker, said his parents — who were wed 60 years until the death of his mother, Earnestine, a day before Thanksgiving 2016 — introduced the children to the arts. The family saw the Alvin Ailey dancers. Comedians Red Skelton and Jackie Gleason.

"I remember he and mom got me tickets to see Barbra Streisand's opening [at Miami Beach's Eden Roc in March 1963] and that was beautiful to me. That helped change some of my life. I'm a choir director now at First Baptist Church of Brownsville. I was 3. *Who is this woman* that could command so much attention? That was crazy. I was here living in the inner city and that was a whole other world. He made sure ... we got a chance to be cultured. To see him get up every morning and never come home complaining —he'd spend the time, he wanted to be with us. This is why all my friends wanted to be over here as I grew up."

Smith also is survived by his son Glenn Smith and grandchildren Stanley, Rodney Jr. and Ciera Smith. Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church of Brownsville, 4600 NW 23rd Ave.

Follow @HowardCohen on Twitter.



Maj. James W. Smith raised his family with his e, the late Earnestine Smith, in the same Liberty City home for more than 50 years. Arts and culture were instilled in the children from a young age. Son Rodney Smith, a youth motivational speaker, is a choir director at First Baptist Church of Brownsville where Maj. Smith's services will be held on Feb. 11, 2017.

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