

**There Is a Need for Fitness Standards and Testing For the Florida
Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Law Enforcement:
Are We Ready?**

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The lack of a viable physical fitness policy and/or standard is a growing issue in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Law Enforcement (DLE). In this work the author has introduced the current physical fitness policy for DEP. An example is given, from the author's personal experience, of why current policy is ineffective. Benefits and reasons why a physical fitness policy and/or standard are needed are discussed. An example of an agency policy that has been effective is given with discussion as to why it was effective. Explained are results of a survey sent to approximately 160 DEP, DLE, members. The survey was an attempt to determine how members feel about a yearly physical fitness test, equitable fitness policy and by what means one should be implemented. Discussed are results of the online survey and possible solutions to the introduction of a viable fitness policy for DEP's future.