Management of Volunteer and Auxiliary Programs in State Law Enforcement Agencies

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This study examines the management practices and processes used by Florida's three largest state law enforcement agencies in the management of their sworn volunteer programs. The agencies looked at during this study are the Florida Highway Patrol, the Division of Law Enforcement of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, and the Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Law Enforcement, more commonly known as the Florida Marine Patrol and the Florida Park Patrol. Strategies utilized during this research were the review of relevant literature and the collection of information concerning the management of volunteer programs from the statewide volunteer program coordinators in the three subject agencies. Specifically, this study compares the volunteer management practices of these programs, whose employees are sworn law enforcement officers, to the traditional and well-recognized volunteer program management practices. Further this comparison identifies the different or special techniques, requirements or processes utilized to manage law enforcement volunteers.