

# Organizational Update



*Jim Wiggins*  
*Director of Organizational Services*

## The Votes Are In!

The vote is in and Florida's State Law Enforcement community has spoken. The Florida PBA is proud to once again be the exclusive collective bargaining representative for the men and women who protect and serve the citizens of Florida. Their vote, by a 2 to 1 margin, is an affirmation that the Florida PBA is the voice of law enforcement at the State Capitol. It further demonstrates their belief in the PBA—that it has changed the way it does business by becoming more reflective of what the membership wants it to be.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the officers who dedicated themselves to this endeavor. They worked tirelessly alongside our staff to make this dream a reality. Without you, this victory would not have been possible. Together, we made a difference.

Gathering the blue cards, the election itself, and the victory are only three small steps beginning the journey that state law enforcement has chosen to embark upon. The path before you is a long one. It is going to take a marathon, not a sprint, to overcome the many obstacles that lay ahead.

Together, with a focused, pragmatic approach, we can accomplish the many goals that the state law enforcement community has set for itself.

In the short run, however, you must deal with the issues of governance and infrastructure. You will need to bring your chapters out of trusteeship. Then you will have to conduct nominations and hold elections to fill the positions of President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer. You will also have to elect your representatives to the Board of Directors so that each agency and troop will have a voice, ensuring that issues peculiar to your areas have a forum in which to be heard and resolved.

We realize that there are several central problems before us—wage compression relief and FHP separation being two serious issues. Once elected, your leaders will have to set the legislative and contractual agendas, the membership's desires and begin the work necessary to make those issues a reality. An exciting new day has dawned for Florida's State Law Enforcement community. Together, we can make tomorrow a reality. ●



*Votes for PBA stack up for a win!*



*Thumbs up from just some of the team of PBA professionals who worked long and hard in the certification campaign.*

**Read the Tallahassee Democrat's article, "PBA wins right to bargain for cops" on page 12**

## Earlier This Year...



*Speaker of the Florida House, Rep. Allan Bense meets with State Troopers and the Florida PBA in February.*



*FWC Officers pose with Attorney General Charlie Crist in February.*



*Senator Bill Posey discusses FHP issues with State Troopers.*



*FWC Officers pose with Senate Rules Chairman, Senator Ken Pruitt.*

*"An exciting new day has dawned for Florida's State Law Enforcement community."*



*Senator Rod Smith meets with State Troopers in February.*



*Justice Council Chairman, Representative Bruce Kyle meets with FWC Officers in the Justice Council's committee room.*