



Jim Wiggins
 Director of Organizational Services

Please encourage non-members to join the 36,000 officers throughout Florida who receive the benefits of belonging to the Florida PBA!

News from Around the State

Organizational Update

Growth...The Engine That Drives PBA

I would like to commend all of our chapter presidents and their respective board of directors for a job well done. Through their combined efforts, we have continued to drive our membership totals to new heights. Growth is the engine that drives the Florida PBA forward into the future. Simply put, with more members, the association has more money available for expanding the essential services we provide to the membership.

Having more money in our political action committees and committees of continuing existence at the local, state, and federal level gives each board the political tools necessary to accomplish the goals their members want. It also adds more money to the legal defense fund, ensuring that every member will continue to enjoy the first class legal protection they've come to expect. Further, it helps insulate us from being raided by our competitors by adding funds to the PBA's war chest. This gives us the resources needed to fend off an often hostile takeover attempt by organizations that promise to do more with less. No other organization in Florida has the wherewithal, vision, or leadership needed to

be successful in the current economic environment in which we find ourselves.

One of the examples of this leadership and growth came after the Supreme Court of Florida granted deputy sheriffs the same rights that have been enjoyed by municipal and state officers for years—the right to collective bargaining (*Coastal Florida PBA v. Sheriff Phil Williams*). Of the Sheriff's Offices that have chosen the right to bargain over wages and conditions of employment, more than ninety percent (90%) have selected the Florida PBA, not because we're the biggest, but because we are the very best in the business.

So once again I would like to commend our presidents and their board of directors for their dedication and hard work in continuing to make it a priority to grow the PBA each day.

As always, if any member or chapter would like to have the organizational services staff come out and meet with you concerning membership drives or certification campaigns for collective bargaining, please don't hesitate to contact us so we can set a date and time to get started building a better tomorrow—today. ●

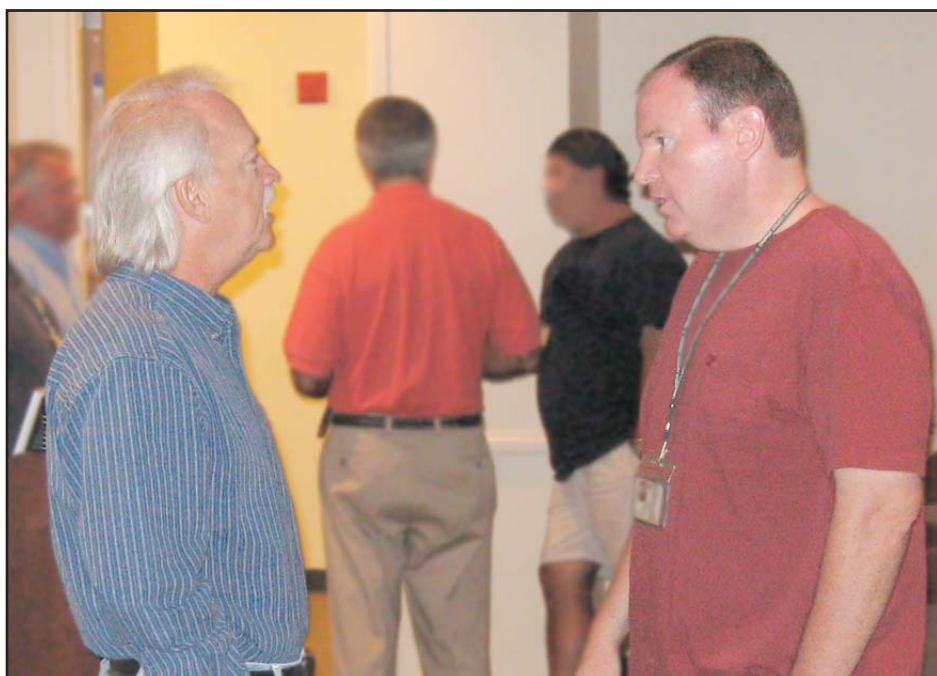
"...more than ninety percent have selected the Florida PBA, not because we're the biggest, but because we are the very best in the business."



Jim Wiggins oversees the counting of the ballots while Central Florida PBA President John Park (in uniform at far right) reviews the ballot tally.



PBA Staff Reps verify that ballot box seals are intact prior to opening them for the OCSO (Deputy/Supervisor) ratification vote count.



Central Florida PBA's Law Enforcement Staff Representative Mike Morris and Senior Vice President Marty Premo discuss the results of the contract ratification vote.



The University of Florida P.D. Contract Negotiations Team (L-R): Sgt. Mick Konopka, Inv. Ernest Hale, Brian Smith, Sgt. Bill Ledger, PBA Staff Rep Rick Nelson, Marcus Brinson, and Tim Peck.