

Jim Spearing

VOTE
for
Charlie Crist!

PBA In Action With Your **Political Consultant**

From Guppies to Whales, Loyalty Matters In Our Business

Many new members I encounter in the field marvel at the deep political influence the Florida PBA enjoys in the state capitol. Most take it as a “given” that PBA has powerful friends and widespread support in the Governor’s Office and both houses of the legislature.

What we tend to forget is the long, often difficult road that got us where we are today. Take **Candidate for Governor Charlie Crist**, for example.

When Charlie Crist was elected to the Florida Senate in 1992, the Florida PBA was one of his first and most ardent supporters. Why? Because Charlie Crist promised to be tough on criminals and good to our officers and their families. He more than kept that promise during his six years in the Senate by sponsoring the S.T.O.P. (Stop Turning Out Prisoners) legislation that forced inmates to serve at least 85% of their sentences. He insisted that inmates work to pay for their crimes, earning the nickname “Chain Gang Charlie” from a cynical press corps. Charlie pressed on.

He fought just as hard for our officers and their families

by supporting statewide implementation of the D.R.O.P., pay raises for our Corrections, Correctional Probation, FHP and State Officers. For our municipal officers, it was Charlie Crist who stood up to the League of Cities when they tried to gut your pensions.

Charlie Crist went on to serve as both Education Commissioner and Attorney General with PBA being first and foremost in his corner. During all this time, Charlie never wavered in his support for you and your issues. Now poised to be our next Governor, Charlie Crist will continue to be “A cop’s best friend and a criminal’s worst nightmare.”

The Florida PBA today is in a position to deliver for our members because we were there for people like Charlie over the long haul. Law enforcement officers take friendship, camaraderie and, above all, loyalty very seriously. We vigorously defend our friends and relentlessly pursue our enemies. Let’s keep this in mind as we do everything possible to elect law enforcement’s best friend, Charlie Crist, as Governor on Tuesday, November 7th. ■



By Glenda Gail Lowery

PBA Staff Updates from Your **Executive Assistant**

Staff Changes...



PBA IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF MATT PUCKETT AS ITS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Matt has been with PBA for 4 1/2 years as our Legislative & Political Affairs Assistant. Matt served in the Army and is a graduate of Florida State University. He will be transitioning into the Deputy Executive Director position and he will continue, in the interim, to be a huge part of our legislative team. You can contact Matt at 1-800-733-3722, extension 425 or via email matt@flpba.org. Congratulations, Matt!

Welcome Aboard...



MATTHEW O. WARD

Matt joined the PBA staff as our new Assistant General Counsel. He was previously a Captain in the US Army, served as a Judge Advocate (JAG), and brings to the Association a vast wealth of knowledge and experience as an attorney. In the Army, Matt focused on labor and

criminal law, representing soldiers at administrative hearings and felony criminal trials. Matt also served as legal advisor to the 4th Infantry Division while deployed in Iraq.

You can contact Matt at 1-800-733-3722, extension 410, or via email mattward@flpba.org. PBA welcomes Matt aboard!



ED HOTALING

Ed, a 33-year veteran of the Florida Highway Patrol, has joined the PBA as a staff representative for Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Monroe, Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties. He served all 33 years in Troop E, Miami. During his tenure with the Patrol, he worked in the Weights

Division (now handled by DOT), and Traffic Homicide. He was a member of the original SRT team and was the coordinator and instructor for the FHP Auxiliary. He also served as President of the FHP Chapter of the PBA and was active in working with the Legislators in Tallahassee. Now happily retired, he has agreed to continue assisting the PBA and our members.

If you need to contact Ed, he can be reached at (305) 370-4559 or ed@flpba.org. Welcome back to PBA, Ed!



STEPHEN ZELONKA

Stephen is a recent Staff Rep addition for SCO’s and CPO’s, primarily in the southeast area of Florida. He is a graduate of Penn State University, with a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration. Stephen has 17 years of experience as a manager in corporate business and 11 years with Dept. of Corrections as a front line officer.

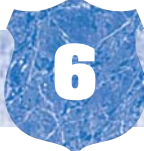
Stephen can be contacted at (863) 610-7588 or via e-mail: zelonka@flpba.org. Welcome aboard, Stephen!

CLYDE JORDAN

Clyde joins the PBA staff as our new Staff Representative (primarily for SLEO and FHP members) in Pinellas, Pasco, Polk, Hillsborough, Manatee counties. Clyde retired from FWC after 31 1/2 years of service as a helicopter pilot, investigator and lieutenant. He brings aboard to the PBA an immeasurable amount of experience.

If you need to contact Clyde he can be reached via (813) 299-3017 or clyde@flpba.org. PBA welcomes Clyde aboard!! ■

**Need to contact the PBA?
Call:
1-800-733-3722**



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