



Florida Police Chiefs Association

Quality Law Enforcement for the Sunshine State

November 3, 2008

The Honorable Charlie Crist
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor Crist:

The Florida Police Chiefs Association understands that current fiscal constraints have caused agencies to reevaluate staffing and deployment of resources. Although we understand that tough economic choices must be made, we must express our strong objection to any consideration of a language change to Florida Statue 948.06 mandating that police provide transport services for Probation and Parole offices. Such a change will place an additional burden on local law enforcement that can have serious consequences.

While some agencies have conducted limited transports for parole and probation offices in the past, this practice has been curtailed for some time because of the staffing issues departments now face. Mandating such transports will adversely impact all agencies statewide especially smaller agencies that can't possibly absorb this responsibility without compromising their ability to meet their community's pubic safety needs.

It is undeniable that the passage of Amendment One has already resulted in decreased public safety staffing and resources. Additional unfunded mandates such as a requirement for police officers to supply transport services for Probation and Parole offices throughout the State will divert critical resources away from already depleted police patrols for significant amounts of time. Such a mandate will result in large gaps in police coverage that will create a threat to the safety and welfare of the residents of our communities.

It is for these reasons and many more that the 787 members of the Florida Police Chiefs Association adamantly oppose a change in the language of F. S. 948.06 requiring local law enforcement to transport parole and probation violators.

We thank you for your efforts during this challenging time and reaffirm our steadfast commitment to assist in all matters of mutual concern and interest.

Sincerely,

President, Florida Police Chiefs Association

GMM/am

cc: Lori Sellers Rowe, Deputy Chief of Staff
Randy Ball, Policy Coordinator
Michael Manguso, Policy Chief
FPCA Board of Directors

Tallahassee Headquarters: 924 North Gadsden Street, Tallahassee, FL 32303 • Mailing Address: P.O. Box 14038, Tallahassee, FL 32317-4038
Telephone Lines: 1-800-332-8117, (850) 219-3631, (850) 219-3640 (Fax) Website: www.fpca.com

OFFICERS

President
CHIEF GERALD MONAHAN
Port Orange

1st Vice President
CHIEF DORENE THOMAS
Pinellas Park

2nd Vice President
CHIEF PETER PAULDING
Gulf Breeze

3rd Vice President
CHIEF PAUL SIRECI
Tampa Airport

Secretary/Treasurer
CHIEF JAY ROMINE
Holmes Beach

Executive Director
AMY MERCER
Florida Police Chiefs Association

Immediate Past President
CHIEF NOLAN MCLEOD
Auburndale

Past President at Large
CHIEF LIONEL A. CÔTE
Satellite Beach

Parliamentarian
CHIEF TONY VELONG
Temple Terrace

DIRECTORS

District No. 1
CHIEF ALBERT HOGLE
Longboat Key

District No. 2
CHIEF RICHARD HEDGES
St. Augustine Beach

District No. 3
CHIEF DENNIS JONES
Tallahassee

District No. 4
CHIEF CHARLES R. PRESS
Key Biscayne

District No. 5
CHIEF BRIAN F. TOOLEY
Sanford

District No. 6
CHIEF JOHN M. SKINNER
Port St. Lucie

District No. 7
CHIEF ANTHONY C. BOLLINGER
Titusville

District No. 8
CHIEF EDWARD J. OVERMAN
DeLand

District No. 9
CHIEF STEVEN MOORE
Florida Gulf Coast University

District No. 10
CHIEF PHILIP THORNE
Springfield

District No. 11
CHIEF KENNETH PACHNEK
Lauderhill

District No. 12
CHIEF LESTER ARADI
Largo

District No. 13
CHIEF CLARENCE WILLIAMS, III
Riviera Beach

District No. 14
CHIEF MARK ISOM
Fruitland Park

District No. 15
CHIEF THOMAS G. LONGO
University of South Florida

District No. 16
CHIEF RICK DAVIS
Madison

District No. 17
CHIEF SAMUEL WILLIAMS
Ocala