



CHARLIE CRIST  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL  
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November 4, 2008

Chief Gerald Monahan  
President, Florida Police Chiefs Association  
Post Office Box 14038  
Tallahassee, Florida 32317-4038

Dear Chief Monahan:

Thank you for taking the time to contact Governor Charlie Crist concerning budget reductions to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). The Governor appreciates hearing your concerns and has asked that I respond on his behalf.

As we discussed during our meeting with you and fellow chiefs on October 22, 2008, our state is experiencing significant budgetary stresses as a result of a continuing economic downturn. Over this past fiscal year, to address the decline in revenues, the Legislature made many difficult funding decisions with the very limited amount of general revenue dollars available. Despite these actions, revenues have continued to decline. Although the notion of assessing a fee for crime lab services has been discussed, no final decisions have been made at this time. Recommendations to charge for these services or to cut information services will be viewed as measures of last resort, and will not likely be approved by the Governor. Please be assured that the Governor's office is working closely with FDLE to find reductions that will have the least impact to local law enforcement, citizens, and public safety.

Again, thank you for taking the time to write the Governor and for your service to Floridians. You may also wish to share your comments with the members of your local legislative delegation as they continue to make tough decisions regarding the budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy J. Ball".

Randy J. Ball, Policy Coordinator  
Executive Office of the Governor  
Public Safety Unit

RB/mmp