



"The voice of local law enforcement"

CODE THREE

Official Publication of the Palm Beach County PBA

SUMMER 2021

Scholastic Achievement

PBCPBA members' children showcase the abilities that make them scholarship worthy



DON'T LET YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS GO SIDEWAYS

***"Database Financial has been Proudly Serving
Florida's Public Employees Since 1995"***

**DFS RETIREMENT & FINANCIAL STRATEGIES ARE FOR ALL FRS MEMBERS, FROM THOSE JUST
STARTING THEIR CAREER TO THOSE ABOUT TO RETIRE OR LEAVING DROP.**

CONSIDER THIS...

WHAT SURVIVOR BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE TO MY FAMILY PRIOR TO MY RETIREMENT?

WHAT FINANCIAL STRATEGIES SHOULD I CONSIDER IN MY EARLY CAREER?

WHAT PART WILL DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAY IN MY RETIREMENT INCOME?

HOW WILL THE RETIREMENT OPTION I CHOOSE IMPACT MY RETIREMENT INCOME!

OUR COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES INCLUDE...

- 1. EXAMINE YOUR POSSIBLE RETIREMENT INCOME STREAMS NOW AND IN THE FUTURE INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PENSION(S), SOCIAL SECURITY, DROP AND MORE...**
- 2. 457 DEFERRED COMPENSATION REVIEWS.**
- 3. EXAMINE YOUR JOINT INCOMES OR DUAL PENSIONS WHEN APPLICABLE.**
- 4. EXAMINE YOUR RISK TOLERANCE NOT ONLY IN TODAY'S ECONOMY, BUT IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.**
- 5. HELP YOU DETERMINE THE INCOME GOALS YOU MAY NEED TO SUPPORT YOUR RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE.**

Call 1-800-210-0263

or email: cs@mydfsfl.com

For a Virtual Seminar Reservation go to

MyDFSFL.com/Events or

Use Your Phone to Sign UP ---->

DATABASE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS INC.

HOME OFFICES: 3301 BONITA BEACH RD, SUITE 202, BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34134



Let's be clear.

AS A TRUE FIDUCIARY,

Atlantic Wealth Partners is committed to providing independent financial advice to first responders with full transparency and no hidden agendas. Our 100% fee-based services eliminate the conflicts of interest that come when a firm is motivated by sales quotas or commissions. You can have peace of mind knowing that we are serving you with the purest intention: helping you achieve your best financial outcomes.

PROVIDING FLORIDA FIRST RESPONDERS WITH

Planning for Retirement, DROP
Exit, & Pension Optimization

Investment Management of
FRS Investment/DROP/457(b)

Asset Protection Recommendations &
Cash Flow Optimization Strategies

ATLANTIC WEALTH P A R T N E R S



STEVE OLSON, CFP®, AEP®
CEO, Family Wealth Advisor
steve@atlanticwp.com



GREGG BRANT, CFP®, APMA®, MBA
Family Wealth Advisor
gregg@atlanticwp.com

Visit helpingheroesretire.com
to find unbiased financial advice
for first responders.

CELEBRATING OVER
20 YEARS
of PARTNERSHIP



561.632.0566 | 759 Parkway Street, Suite 201, Jupiter, FL 33477 | atlanticwp.com | **It's not you. It's we.**

Atlantic Wealth Partners, LLC is a Registered Investment Adviser. This is solely for informational purposes. No advice may be rendered by Atlantic Wealth Partners, LLC unless a client service agreement is in place.

IN THIS ISSUE OF CODE THREE

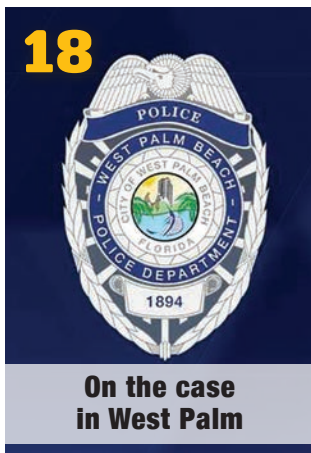
COVER STORY



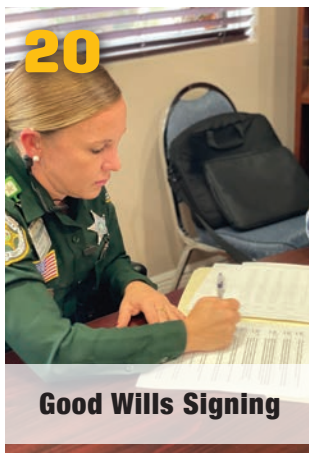
High Class

The Palm Beach County PBA continued one of its greatest passions — awarding more than \$100,000 in college scholarships to members' children who go above and beyond inside and outside the classroom. Spotlighting this year's honorees confirms how they have learned so much from the people who matter most in their lives: their law enforcement officer parents.

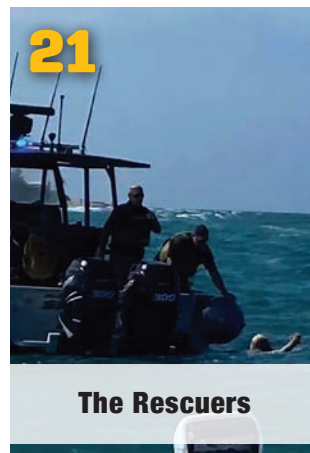
INSIDE STORIES



**On the case
in West Palm**



Good Wills Signing



The Rescuers

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	Page 5
Ten Thirty-Three	Page 10
Welcome New Members.....	Page 13
In Memoriam.....	Page 24
Meet the Staff	Page 26

Officers of the Month	Page 28
Members Only	Page 33
Legal Report.....	Page 38
Finance	Page 40
Thank-you Notes to the PBA	Page 42

"The voice of local law enforcement"



CODE THREE

Official Publication of the Palm Beach County PBA

Main Number: 561-757-0464

Advertising: 201-880-7288

Editorial: 201-370-4082

Distribution: 201-880-7288

Email: cops@floridacopsmagazine.com

Website: www.floridacopsmagazine.com

MITCHELL KRUGEL

Publisher/Editor

mitch@floridacopsmagazine.com

GINA CROTCHFELT

Art Director

gina@floridacopsmagazine.com

ROSEMARY AN

Staff Writer

rosemary@floridacopsmagazine.com

KYLE FURMAN

Staff Writer

kyle@floridacopsmagazine.com

KIMBERLY FLYNN

LAUREN PURCELL

Copy Editors

AMY SAVAGE

Administrative Assistant

amy@floridacopsmagazine.com

ANGELA TWOMEY

PBA Editor

angela@pbcpcb.org

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 3

Code Three is a publication dedicated to law enforcement and criminal justice professionals operating in Palm Beach County. ©2021 Krurapp Communications, Inc. Reproduction of any part of this magazine without express written permission is prohibited. Subscription rate: \$48 per year. Send subscription inquiries to floridacopsmagazine@gmail.com. Reader comments and editorial submissions are welcome, but neither the Publisher Krurapp Communications, Inc., nor the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association (PBCPBA) assumes any responsibility for the return of unsolicited material. The acceptance of advertisements by Code Three does not constitute an endorsement of the product or services advertised. Neither the Publisher, the PBCPBA nor any of their officers and/or employees make any warranty, express or implied, including the warranties of merchantability and fitness, for a particular purpose or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, service provider or process included in any advertisement or editorial content. The views and opinions of any advertiser or third-party content contributor do not necessarily state or reflect those of either the Publisher or the PBCPBA and may not be used for advertising or endorsement purposes. Code Three, its Publishers and/or the PBCPBA assume no financial responsibility for errors in advertisements.

Disclaimer: \$12 of your dues per year is used for Political Committee/Committee of Continuous Existence Funds. The PBA opened a Justice PAC and active, individually billed members will contribute \$15 out of their dues to this PAC. IF YOU CHOOSE NOT TO GIVE THIS AMOUNT, PLEASE NOTIFY THE PBA IN WRITING.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Doing it all for our remarkable kids



JOHN
KAZANJIAN

Nobody does fundraising like Palm Beach County PBA members, and the reward for all that works is awarding scholarships to your kids each year. We really missed it last year, so we were determined, even with COVID, to give our members' kids the educational opportunities they earned more than ever this year.

We gave out more than \$100,000 in scholarships this year, money we raised through our golf outing and Police Officers' Ball in April. I feel like that made all the hard work and time we put into that weekend worth it. And then some.

With the restrictions, we didn't get to interview these kids in person like we have done in the past. I think that's the part we really miss, the chance to get to know them and see how much go above and beyond, just like their parents. I mean, just hearing their stories, they're really remarkable kids on every level. It's pretty cool seeing them continuing to get better every year.

Some of them went back to school and are still there. That's a challenge in itself. Just with this pandemic, trying to go to school and trying to do this and that. I give these kids credit. Next year, we're definitely going to get back in the interview process because, I mean, that interaction with us and the kids, you can't duplicate that.

I'm trying to think of the word to describe the feeling.

Uplifting, yeah, that's it.

It's unbelievable, the progress that each one of our kids makes. It's unbelievable just to see where they're at, and how they're doing, and I'm really impressed. I really am.

And we gave them a moment they needed to have their hard work celebrated. I wish we could have given out more than we did. In the past, we've gone as much as \$130,000, and I'm sure we will be back to that next year.

What really makes it worth celebrating is that everyone who applies gets some level of scholarship. Like if it's your first time applying, you've just graduated high school and you're going to be a freshman in college, you automatically get \$1,000. And then every year after that when you apply, you're entitled to another \$500. And you're going to be placed in competition with all the other applicants to earn first, second or third place PBCPBA scholarships and Kaitlin A. Kazanjian scholarships.

So it makes those long hours of that weekend and all that fundraising really culminate with something spectacular, doesn't it?

A big save in West Palm

We saw the PBA legal team doing its thing once again by saving the job of West Palm Beach Officer Frank Nelli. Kudos to Brennan Keeler and the entire team for being on the case in one of our last acts as that unit's collective bargaining agent.

You know who's running things over there? I don't want to get

into it now. They have a new chief who didn't want the PBA ever since he got there. Maybe he didn't get along with the PBA in his previous life.

I've seen these things happen before, like a few years ago in Riviera Beach. They went with IUPA because of the freakin' chief. The IUPA president was in the chief's back pocket, and nothing ever got done. They never challenged any discipline, and the salaries were crap.

So you watch West Palm for years to come. Who are they going to send when a member is being targeted like Frank? They're going to send an attorney from Fort Lauderdale who has no clue what the politics are involved in that agency.

They won't be able to walk in and meet with an in-house attorney like you can at the PBCPBA. That's what we do daily—continually work on labor issues.

And that's especially important in today's times with what's going on with police reform throughout the country. You get these arbitrators, and your legal team has to have its A game, just like Brennan did in this case. These arbitrators will get rid of a police officer just like that.

So you can't say enough about the work our legal team does with Larry Fagan, Katie Mendoza and Brennan. They are out there protecting you, just like you protect everybody else.

Legislative news

We are gearing up for committee meetings at the state legislature starting in September in advance of the 2022 session, which starts in January. So it's a short recess with the 2021 session ending in March.

Once again, we will be on top of pension reform, police reform and all that stuff. We had to play a lot of defense during the 2021 session to keep the pension reform and police reform legislation from getting through. But during the next session we're going on offense.

We're working on coming up with a few bills to get passed that show we have chips in this game. We will be pushing a halo bill like the one that protects citizens when police officers are doing an investigation. We want to get legislation passed so you can't get right up in the police officer's face when you're going to get arrested.

We're also looking at a body-camera bill. Right now, officers can't view body-camera footage before making a statement. We're trying to get all video, not just body cameras. We'd like to see that get enhanced. I don't know why some of these agencies won't do that. Maybe because they want to catch us in a lie, and I don't really get that.

They'd rather catch us in a lie than say, "Hey, view the video. Maybe it'll jog your memory on that this and this happened." That's all we want because everybody is doing video nowadays.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



KAZANJIAN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Listen, we have a lot of lawmakers and legislators who are in our corner, especially when it comes to protecting our qualified immunity. We will see that be a strength for the PBA during the next legislative session.



Helping you navigate the choppy waters of Retirement Income Planning



Carole Donohoo, CRPC

Chartered Retirement Planning CounselorSM

www.YourPlanDesign.com

Office: 561-844-4543 Cell: 561-309-5004
cdonohoo@regalria.com

Singer Island Corporate Center
2655 North Ocean Drive, Suite 318
Singer Island, FL 33404

FINRA Licenses: Series 7, Series 26, Series 63 and Series 6

Securities offered through Regulus Financial Group, LLC. Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment Advisory services offered through Regal Investment Advisors, LLC, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Registration with the SEC does not imply any level of skill or training. Regulus Financial Group, LLC and Regal Investment Advisors are affiliated entities. Retirement Plan Design is independent of Regulus Advisors and Regal Investment Advisors.



A visit from the governor

Talk about elected officials in our corner. Two of the heaviest hitters came to the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) annual convention in Fort Lauderdale July 20-23.

I was proud to lead our delegation greeting Governor DeSantis, as you can see in the photo at the top left of this page. In addition to the governor addressing the convention, Florida Senator Marco Rubio attended. He stopped for a photo op, as you see above with, from left, South Florida PBA Executive Vice President David Greenwell, myself, Broward County PBA President Rod Skirvin, South Florida PBA President Steadman Stahl, Florida Highway Patrol PBA President Bill Smith and NAPO President Mick McHale, president of the Southwest Florida PBA.

I'll tell you what, these guys really have our backs. There is more support out there for us like this than most people want to admit. But these guys get it. We have to support them because they support us.

Get vaccinated

What are you waiting for?

Listen, I'm a firm believer and I think as law enforcement officers, we all need to get vaccinated. We see the virus spiking again, and the people who are coming down with it are the non-vaccinated. So I am reaching out for our membership to please get vaccinated. For your own well being as well as the community.

Hopefully you're healthy and your medical condition doesn't prevent you to get vaccinated; if it's not, I get that. But if you're a healthy person in law enforcement, I urge everybody to get vaccinated.

We've lost enough officers to this virus, and the quicker we get vaccinated, the quicker we can snuff this thing out. And I think that's the only way we're going to get rid of this. And I don't know if we're ever going to get rid of it, but at least we can control it.

That's all I'm going to say about the vaccine. I just think we all need to get vaccinated.

Which is a timely segue to my closing thought:

As always, be safe.

Kaz

JOHN KAZANJIAN

PBCPBA PRESIDENT

"Gary Sullivan and Trustmark have my full endorsement."
– John Kazanjian

Protection for your family, your finances and your future.

That's the Trustmark® benefits promise to Florida PBA members.



NEW for 2020: Trustmark Hospital StayPay® Insurance

Pairs with your health insurance for maximum protection against hospital bills! **Plus:**



- **Universal LifeEvents® Insurance**
with Accelerated Death Benefit
for Long-Term Care Services



- **Critical Illness Insurance**



- **Disability Income Insurance**



- **Accident Insurance**

**You care.
We listen.**

Don't miss your exclusive benefits opportunity!

To learn more about these benefits and/or enroll, please contact
Bob Cogan: 617.347.9793 • RCogan@trustmarkbenefits.com

Plan forms GUL.205/IUL.205, CACI-82001, DI 902, A-607 and HII 119 and applicable riders are underwritten by Trustmark Insurance Company, Lake Forest, Illinois. Trustmark®, LifeEvents® and Trustmark Hospital StayPay® are registered trademarks of Trustmark Insurance Company.

Products underwritten by Trustmark Insurance Company.
Rated A- (Excellent) for financial strength by A.M. Best.

400 Field Drive • Lake Forest, IL 60045
TrustmarkVB.com    

Trustmark
benefits beyond benefits

PALM BEACH COUNTY PBA

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Effective Jan. 1, 2019 to Dec. 31, 2022

John Kazanjian, President

**Ernest W. George,
Executive Director**

Rick McAfee, Vice President

Lou Penque, Treasurer

Kevin Igo, Secretary

Greg Allen, Sergeant-At-Arms

Vinnie Gray, Labor Coordinator

**Pete Tartaglione,
Corrections Coordinator**

Larry Fagan, Legal Counsel

Brennan Keeler, Legal Counsel

Katie Mendoza, Legal Counsel

PBA OFFICE STAFF

Angela Twomey, Office Manager

Courtney Lawrenson, Legal Assistant

Joanne Kazanjian, Office Assistant

Kathy Hanbury, Office Assistant

Shannon Kletzky, Membership Services

Gaby Labate, Social Media Coordinator

Several of our members have incorrect information on file with the PBA office. Please check with your fellow officers to see if they receive the magazine and if not, please email angela@pbcpcb.org to update your information.



Visit our
website at
www.pbcpcb.org

BOYNTON BEACH

Cory Herny
Rayner De Los Rios
Jermaine Jones
Gladys Cannon
Brian McDeavitt, Appt., Alt.
Mark Sohn, Appt., Alt.
Nasim Davis, Appt.
Aramis Grigorian, Appt.
Patrick Malley, Appt.

DELRAY BEACH

Meer Deen
Edward McCabe
Vincent Gray
Aaron Siegel
Brian Cambell, Alt.
Michael Cianciaruli, Alt.

FAU

William Hernandez
Miguel Cardona, Alt.

HIGHLAND BEACH

Jeffrey Miller, Appt.

JUNO BEACH

Kevin Coppin, Appt.

JUPITER

Scott Kimbark
Jonathan Gentile
Salvatore Mattino
Paul Gundlach, Alt.
Jason Alexandre, Alt.

JUPITER ISLAND

Matthew Potsko, Appt.

LAKE CLARKE SHORES

Antonio Gerena

LANTANA

Shawn Johnson
Troy Schaaf, Alt.
Linda Mikkelsen, Appt.

MANALAPAN

Nicolbe Hernandez, Appt.
Christopher Alvarado, Appt. Alt

MCSO

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Karl Nelson
Jon Hanton
Bradley Spencer
Michael McMahan
Kenneth Youngblood
William Weiss, Alt.
James Holloran, Alt.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew Porcelli, Appt.

MCSO - CORRECTIONS

Michael Trimble
Samuel Haidy
Edward Burke
William Evans

NORTH PALM BEACH

Edward Ciezak, Jr.
Louis Pearson, Alt.

OCEAN RIDGE

Jimmy Pilon
Mario Galluscio, Alt.

SCHOOL POLICE (PALM BEACH COUNTY)

Kevin O'Sullivan
Alexander Lopez
Michael Lynch, Appt.

PBSO

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Carlos Ugalde
Michael Kennedy
Layford "Brandon" West
Marlow "Butch" Altonen
Kevin Lindardos
William Gale, Alt.
John Kazanjian II, Appt.
Alex Nunes, Appt.
Jason Johnson, Appt.
Cory Gray, Appt.
Ruben Cruz, Appt.
Michael Sasson, Appt.
John McGuire, Appt.
Anthony Johnson, Appt.
Matt DeJoy, Appt.
Chris Caris, Appt.
Ryan Mugridge, Appt.
Jason Laforce, Appt.
Adolf Alexandre, Appt.
Gary Chan, Appt.
James Loughnan, Appt.
Jackie Garrett, Appt.
Nathaniel Krause, Appt'd

PBSO - CORRECTIONS

Barry Hilton
Michael Santoro
Melvin Cribbs
Thomas Jordan
Cheryl Melvin
Gwendolyn Wattley, Alt.
Robert Tozzi, Appt. Alt.
Antonio Osborne, Appt.

PBSO - CIVILIANS

Sallyann Josef
John Costello
Kristen Kazanjian
Amy Cisco
Heriberto Aviles
Abby Bernstein, Alt.
Janet Zink, Alt.
Tequesta McKinney-James, Appt.
Kayai Graham, Appt.
Ray Griffith, Appt.
Diane Baker, Appt.
Lori Brillinger, Appt.
Angella Lipinski, Appt.
Mariam Glisson, Appt.
Sharon King, Appt.
Nichol Buckland, Appt.

PALM BEACH GARDENS

Randy Buntin
Peter Reynolds
Brian Tiyaloglu
Christopher Baez
Brian Nauss, Alt.
Dorian Hawkins, Alt.

PALM SPRINGS

Ralph Fequiere
Sean Grant, Appt. Alt.
John Gee, Appt.
Kristopher Kubiak, Appt.

RIVIERA BEACH

Jeremy Summers
Nir Mordechay
Michael Brown
Kenneth Jones, Alt.

STUART

David Duran, Appt.
Christopher Ruediger, Appt. Alt.

TEQUESTA

Raymond Korkowski
Matthew Muniz, Alt.

WEST PALM BEACH

Dennis Hardiman
Michael Ferrera
Charles Branch
James Louis
Christopher Nebbeling
John Rebholz, Alt.



Auto insurance that fits your unique needs.



Take advantage of special MetLife Auto & Home[®] savings. Call now: 1-800-438-6388

Program Description:

As a Palm Beach County PBA Member you have access to auto insurance from MetLife Auto & Home. This program provides you with special savings, outstanding customer service and a full suite of products to meet your diverse insurance needs. In addition to auto insurance, we offer a variety of other policies including:

- Personal excess liability
- Boat
- Motorcycle
- RV
- Personal property

Program Discounts & Features:

Take advantage of special MetLife Auto & Home discounts and benefits that could save you hundreds.

- A group discount of up to 15%
- Automatic payment discount
- Good driving rewards
- A loyalty discount for your years of service
- Multi-vehicle savings
- 24/7 superior service

Switch & Save!

You may apply for group auto insurance at any time



Pet Insurance Offered by MetLife
If your sidekick likes swimming with sharks, he deserves to be insured.

Call 1-855-847-5543



Underwritten and Issued by Independence American Insurance Company

MetLife Auto & Home is a brand of Metropolitan Property and Casualty Insurance Company and its affiliates: Economy Fire & Casualty Company, Economy Premier Assurance Company, Economy Preferred Insurance Company, Metropolitan Casualty Insurance Company, Metropolitan Direct Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Metropolitan General Insurance Company, Metropolitan Group Property and Casualty Insurance Company, and Metropolitan Lloyds Insurance Company of Texas, all with administrative home offices in Warwick, RI. Coverage, rates, discounts, and policy features vary by state and product, and are available in most states to those who qualify. Policies have exclusions, limitations, and terms under which the policy may be continued in force or discontinued. For costs and complete details of coverage, contact your local MetLife Auto & Home representative or the company.

The Farmers Insurance Group[®] has purchased all the entities described above, except Metropolitan General Insurance Company. MetLife is no longer affiliated with MetLife Auto & Home and is not responsible for any of MetLife Auto & Homes' activities.



MetLife Auto & Home | 700 Quaker Lane | Warwick, RI 02886

L1120009105[exp1123][All States][DC] © 2021 MetLife Auto & Home

Arbitration in political times



LAWRENCE
K. FAGAN

There is a new, unspoken evidentiary component in the arbitration hearing room these days: the highly polarized views of public perception.

Although they are never admitted into evidence, people's personal beliefs seem to have become a part of the case at hand, now more than ever before — and certainly more than I've seen in my legal career.

The simple fact that your life and career may hang in the balance of the result in the hearing or arbitration does not mean that decision-makers somehow check their own personal biases at the door. Actually, quite the opposite is true: Judges, magistrates, arbitrators and other "neutrals" inevitably come into their respective hearing rooms with a potentially polarized view of police officers, regardless of the actual charges they are scheduled to review.

With society's current microscope constantly inspecting law enforcement, a trial strategy needs to be retooled and retailored to fit the climate, until (hopefully) the pendulum again swings back.

It is no longer a matter of just knowing the case evidence. It is now a matter of assessing the societal climate in both live and

written legal arguments, oftentimes regardless of the actual letter of the law.

Too many cases now hinge on societal punishment for the accused officers, many times unrelated to the disciplinary matter. We need to recognize potential societal scapegoating and factor it into our case preparations.

The facts of the case don't change. The battle becomes getting neutrals to take the facts in isolation, away from the national politics unrelated to the instant case.

Again, the societal component to these cases is a living, breathing factor that needs to be included in the case preparation from the outset. That is, perhaps the current case needs to be distinguished from other cases around the nation that are not similar. The political climate, therefore, gets ignored at the member's (your client's) peril.

When arbitrators are chosen by the parties, they provide their lifelong career credentials in their individual biographies: areas of focus, schooling, prior decisions. From there, the parties can attempt to forecast a potential political outlook for an arbitrator, considering the current climate along with evaluating fundamental standards like whether the arbitrator has handled law enforcement matters previously or whether they have a law license. And these are just forecasts — there are no guarantees as to an arbitrator's personal view.

The point here is that the current political climate becomes an important factor in how both sides attempt to get their top choice of an arbitrator. Now, more than ever, that piece has become an all-too-important factor in case preparation. It may in fact set the tone for the arbitration hearing itself, which occurs as a live, in-person event in the middle of the world around us.

To focus only on the facts of the case and not to acknowledge current politics or weave in any argument to mitigate the officers' discipline would be shortsighted. These cases do not take place in a vacuum. Depending on the alleged policy violations and the background of the arbitrator, comparisons to or distinctions from current events can be drawn. Turmoil in society will undoubtedly be factored into the arbitrator's decision; therefore, it cannot be disregarded. Recognizing current events may not be necessarily fatal to your case. It simply lets the arbitrator know that we acknowledge that we are not all living in a fantasyland. We often see current politics through a different legal lens than any one arbitrator, however.

Luckily, throughout the arbitration hearing, one can typically get a sense (although this is not a true science) of which direction an arbitrator may be leaning. Outside of the hearing events, such as during the drafting of our post-arbitration briefs, lawyers can gauge how much weight to give that perceived sentiment of the arbitrator in an effort to prevail. The political climate then compels the lawyer to strategize the case accordingly.

The current political climate can set an overall tone for an arbitration hearing and perhaps even ultimately bleed into the result of your disciplinary case that is hanging in the balance.

As always, stay safe.

LEGAL EXPERTISE YOU CAN RELY ON

Law Office of R.E. "Rick" King III



- Personal Injury
- Criminal Defense
- Labor Law
- Family Law

Rick King has been working in the criminal justice system for nearly 30 years, first as a law enforcement officer and as in-house counsel for the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association. He has represented law enforcement officers in contract negotiations and criminal and labor matters.

A Focus on Results

Law Office of R.E. "Rick" King III
707 N. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach, • Florida 33401
561-557-1079 • rekinglaw.com
rick@rekinglaw.com

THE
Florida House
EXPERIENCE

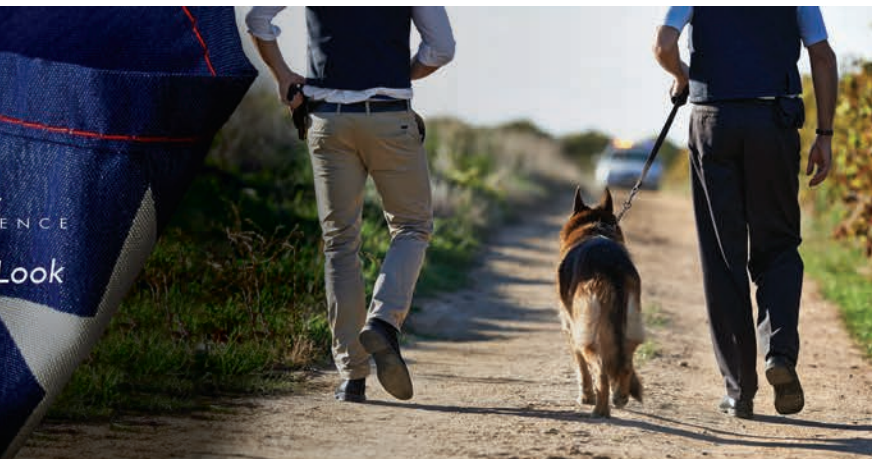
Same Great Program, New Look



FHEHealth



*Substance Abuse, Addiction,
Gambling, Mental Health
and PTSD Care*



Sometimes the Helpers Need Help

Have Drugs, Alcohol or Gambling Become Your Solution?

Since 2001, FHE Health has provided the highest quality of care to our First Responders. From medical detox through clinical outpatient support, we provide the opportunity for a better life.

888.353.6152

CALL 24/7

100% CONFIDENTIAL

FHEHealth.com



Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, June 23, 2021

EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Kazanjian.....X
 Ernest W. George.....X
 Rick McAfee.....X
 Lou Penque.....X
 Kevin Igo.....X
 Greg Allen.....X
 Larry Fagan.....X
 Brennan Keeler.....EXCUSED
 Katie Mendoza.....X

Boynton Beach

Cory Herny.....X
 Rayner DeLosRios.....X
 Jermaine Jones.....EXCUSED
 Gladys Cannon.....X
 Brian McDeavitt, Appt'd Alt.....EXCUSED
 Mark Sohn, Appt'd Alt.....X
 Nasim Davis, Appt'd.....X
 Aramis Grigorian, Appt'd.....EXCUSED
 Patrick Malley, Appt'd.....EXCUSED

Delray Beach

Meer Deen.....EXCUSED
 Edward McCabe.....EXCUSED
 Vincent Gray.....X
 Aaron Siegel.....X
 Brian Cambell, Alt.....X
 Michael Cianciaruli, Alt.....X

FAU

William Hernandez.....X
 Miguel Cardona, Alt.....X

Highland Beach

Jeffrey Miller, Appt'd.....X

Juno Beach

Kevin Coppin, Appt'd.....X

Jupiter

Scott Kimbark.....X
 Jonathan Gentile.....X
 Salvatore Mattino.....X
 Paul Gundlach, Alt.....X
 Jason Alexandre, Alt.....X

Jupiter Island

Matthew Potsko, Appt'd.....X

Lake Clarke Shores

Antonio Gerena.....X

Lantana

Shawn Johnson.....X
 Troy Schaaf, Alt.....X
 Linda Mikkelsen, Appt'd.....X

Manalapan

Colbe Hernandez, Appt'd.....EXCUSED

Christopher Alvarado,
 Appt'd Alt.....EXCUSED

MCSO - Law Enforcement

Karl Nelson.....X
 Jon Hanton.....X
 Bradley Spencer.....X
 Michael McMahan.....X
 Kenneth Youngblood.....EXCUSED
 William Weiss, Alt.....X
 James Holloran, Alt.....EXCUSED
 Andrew Porcelli, Appt'd.....X

MCSO - Corrections

Michael Trimble (RES/RET).....X
 Samuel Haidy.....EXCUSED
 Edward Burke.....X
 William Evans.....EXCUSED

North Palm Beach

Edward Ciezak Jr.....X
 Louis Pearson, Alt.....X

Ocean Ridge

Jimmy Pilon.....X
 Mario Galluscio, Alt.....X

School Police (Palm Beach County)

Kevin O'Sullivan.....EXCUSED
 Alexander Lopez.....X
 Michael Lynch, Appt'd.....X

PBSO - Law Enforcement

Carlos Ugalde.....X
 Michael Kennedy.....X
 Layford "Brandon" West.....X
 Marlow "Butch" Altonen.....X
 Kevin Lindardos.....X
 William Gale, Alt.....X
 John Kazanjian, II, Alt.....X
 Alex Nunes, Appt'd.....X
 Jason Johnson, Appt'd.....X
 Cory Gray, Appt'd.....X
 Ruben Cruz, Appt'd.....X
 Michael Sasson, Appt'd.....X
 John McGuire, Appt'd.....EXCUSED
 Anthony Johnson, Appt'd.....X
 Matt DeJoy, Appt'd.....EXCUSED
 Chris Caris, Appt'd.....X
 Ryan Mugridge, Appt'd.....X
 Jason LaForte, Appt'd.....X
 Adolf Alexandre, Appt'd.....X
 Gary Chan, Appt'd.....EXCUSED
 James Loughnan, Appt'd.....X
 Jackie Garrett, Appt'd.....X

PBSO - Corrections

Barry Hilton.....X
 Michael Santoro.....X
 Melvin Cribbs.....X

Thomas Jordan.....X
 Cheryl Melvin.....X
 Gwendolyn Wattlely, Alt.....X
 Robert Tozzi, Appt'd, Alt.....X
 Antonio Osborne, Appt'd.....X

PBSO - Civilians

Sallyann Josef.....X
 John Costello.....X
 Kristen Kazanjian.....X
 Amy Cisco.....X
 Heriberto Aviles.....X
 Abby Bernstein, Alt.....X
 Janet Zink, Alt.....X
 Tequesta McKinney James, Appt'd.....X
 Kayai Graham, Appt'd.....X
 Ray Griffith, Appt'd.....X
 Y Diane Baker, Appt'd.....X
 Lori Brillinger, Appt'd.....X
 Angella Lipinski, Appt'd.....X
 Mariam Glisson, Appt'd.....X
 Sharon King, Appt'd.....EXCUSED
 Nichol Buckland, Appt'd.....X

Palm Beach Gardens

Randy Buntin.....EXCUSED
 Peter Reynolds.....X
 Brian Tiyaloglu.....X
 Christopher Baez.....X
 Brian Nauss, Alt.....X
 Dorian Hawkins, Alt.....EXCUSED

Palm Springs

Ralph Fequiere.....X
 Sean Grant, Appt'd Alt.....X
 John Gee, Appt'd.....X
 Kristopher Kubiak, Appt'd.....X

Riviera Beach

Jeremy Summers.....X
 Nir Mordechay.....X
 Michael Brown.....X
 Kenneth Jones, Alt.....X

Stuart

David Duran, Appt'd.....X
 Christopher Ruediger, Appt'd Alt.....X

Tequesta

Raymond Korkowski.....EXCUSED
 Matthew Muniz, Alt.....X

West Palm Beach

Dennis Hardiman.....X
 Michael Ferrera.....EXCUSED
 Charles Branch.....EXCUSED
 James Louis.....X
 Christopher Nebbeling.....EXCUSED
 John Rebholz, Alt.....EXCUSED

Welcome, New PBCPBA Members

APRIL 2021

NAME	AGENCY
CLINT BLANKENSHIP JR.	MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MAY 2021

NAME	AGENCY
BRIAN LOPEZ	DELRAY BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
DWAYNE FERNANDES	HIGHLAND BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
RYAN HOFFMANN	JUNO BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHRISTOPHER ST. JOHN	JUNO BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
LISA ORSHOWITZ	MANALAPAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRYSTAL WILLIAMS	MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DELANEY TRIMBLE	NORTH PALM BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
RACHEL ALPERT	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
REGINALD BERNADOTTE	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
LOGAN BETANCOURT	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
CAROLINA BOVE	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
CARLOS BRANDAO	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
JESSE BUTLER	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RINALDO CARRATALA JR.	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
VALERIE CARTER	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
GERALDO CASTILLO	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DANIEL CONCEPCION	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ALEXANDER COTTO	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ANTHONY DIAZ	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RICHARD GAINOUS JR.	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MICHAEL GOODEN	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
D'ONTE HARVEY	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MALIK JONES	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ALTERMEASE KENDRICK	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ALEXSIS KIRKHART	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
BRENNAN LEWIS	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DANIEL MARULLO	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
LASHINA MCKAY	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
HUNG NGUYEN	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DARA O'CONNOR	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DAVID OVERTURF	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
TYLER REIS	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHANIKA RUFF	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ALEXANDER SANCHEZ	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
CHANVEHA SNGOUN	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
EVELYN SORTO	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
AVANEIK STEWART	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
LA'SHAY THOMAS	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
KASEY THOMAS	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
TYRA WILLIAMS	PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

STEPHEN SINGER
RUSSELL BYRD

JUNE 2021

NAME
ERIC ZEPLIN
NICHOLAS CATALDO
DARIUSZ EWKO
MICHELE POPE
ROGER DICARLO
KATELYNN ASPLUND
JENNIFER BARRETT
DOM DERIGGS
CARLOS ESCAMILLA
KAYLA JENKINS
ANGELA KOVALSKI
LUCILA NAVARRO
ANTHONY PORTA
SPENCER ROZIER
LUIS LOPEZ
KERVENS NORVIL
JHERI-LYNN PALMERI

PALM BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
RIVIERA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

AGENCY

BOYNTON BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
HIGHLAND BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
P.B. COUNTY SCHOOL POLICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
RIVIERA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
TEQUESTA POLICE DEPARTMENT
TEQUESTA POLICE DEPARTMENT
TEQUESTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

JULY 2021

NAME
PATRICK ADOLPHE
LUIS HENAO
BARRY PARTELOW
CHRISTIAN WYATT
JULIAN SANCHEZ
NORMAN OLIMAY
SAMUEL OLIVER
WILLIAM BARBER
PETRU BARCAN
KATHRYN CAVANAUGH
SHAQUILA DAVIS
COLTON ETTORRE
CLOVERREAN JORDAN
PARADISE LAYNE
WESLEY MANNING
SEAN PISCITELLI
JAIMEE POTTER
LARRY PREUETT III
YAMIL RODRIGUEZ
THOMAS STEWART
ANBERNIQUE WOODSON
COURTNEY WRIGHT

AGENCY

DELRAY BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
JUPITER POLICE DEPARTMENT
JUPITER POLICE DEPARTMENT
JUPITER POLICE DEPARTMENT
LANTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT
MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Honoring Retired Members

NAME	DATE
JOSEPH YUNGK	MARCH 19, 2021
STEPHAN KULTETY	MARCH 27, 2021
ROCKY RODRIGUEZ	APRIL 2, 2021
AMY SINNOTT	APRIL 23, 2021
LAWRENCE LUTRIN	APRIL 30, 2021

NAME	DATE
CHARLES TURCO	MAY 5, 2021
KENNETH MATLACK	MAY 14, 2021
RICH KLAYSMAT	JUNE 15, 2021
JEFFERY JACKSON	JUNE 30, 2021
SUSAN DEAN	JUNE 30, 2021
TERRY DRAKE	JULY 6, 2021

Remembering members who have passed

NAME	DATE OF PASSING
ROBERT EHRENBURG	JULY 6, 2021
ELIZABETH ANDERSON	JULY 30, 2021

Top Notch

PBCPBA scholarship winners credit their success to growing up in law enforcement families



■ BY ROSEMARY AN

John C. Prieschl applied for the PBCPBA Kaitlin A. Kazanjian Memorial Scholarship during his senior year of high school, but it wasn't until he was attending the University of Florida in his freshman year that he truly understood the depth behind the award.

While living just off the busiest street surrounding the campus, Prieschl learned of an accident in which a victim was struck and killed by a driver who ran a red light in December 2020. Just one month later, five women were hit on the sidewalk and one was killed in another accident on the same street.

"The last time I applied for the scholarship, I didn't have the grasp that I have on it now," Prieschl revealed. "It's given me a greater sense of responsibility whenever I get behind the wheel because I'm never going to drive drunk, but I understand that one mistake on my end could impact the lives of others."

Prieschl, who is currently a biomedical engineering major, used to participate in the Angel Run, the annual 5K race that honors Kaitlin, who was lost in a vehicle crash in 2003. His father, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Colonel John L. Prieschl, was a vehicle homicide investigator at the time of Kaitlin's accident and shaped his outlook on the crash.

"Because of what I did for a living for a decade, I try to instill the best values I can when it comes to driving," John L. ex-



John C. Prieschl, son of Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Colonel John L. Prieschl, earned first place in the Kaitlin A. Kazanjian Memorial Scholarship contest.



Griffin Rasor, son of Delray Beach PD Lieutenant Jeffrey Rasor, earned first place in the PBCPBA scholarship competition.

plained. "Safe driving and making good decisions. We've had a lot of discussions about Kaitlin. It means a lot to him, so he gravitated towards this scholarship."

Maybe it was the newfound understanding of the scholarship. Maybe it was his increased efforts since the last application. Or maybe it was simply his time to shine. In any case, John C. was awarded first place for the Kazanjian scholarship.

Nearly 50 recipients were honored with more than \$100,000 in awards, including the Palm Beach County PBA Scholarship, the Kaitlin A. Kazanjian Memorial Scholarship and the Brian Chappell Memorial Scholarship.

The winners are children of PBA members but are not required to pursue a career in law enforcement. They are students who, with the values they have learned from their parents, want to take the next steps into their own futures.

Even though the pandemic forced a halt to in-person application interviews and awards ceremonies, the PBCPBA didn't hesitate amid the restrictions. PBCPBA President John Kazanjian said the highlight of the scholarship process is seeing the extraordinary efforts of officers' children.

"It's unbelievable [to see] the progress that each one of our kids make," Kazanjian relayed. "To see where they're at, how they're doing, I'm really impressed. Next year, we're definitely going to get back in the interview process because I mean, with that interaction with us and the kids, you can't duplicate that."



Abbie Nauss, daughter of Palm Beach Gardens Emergency Communications Supervisor Brian Nauss, earned the second place PBCPBA scholarship.

Worked for this

Griffin Rasor is the poster child for being a hard worker. His father, Captain Jeffrey Rasor, has served in Delray Beach since May 2002. He is currently the night watch commander in the Patrol Division.

Being on the job since Griffin was born, Jeffrey taught his son the importance of being respectful, showing kindness and giving back to the community. But Griffin says there are three lessons that stuck with him the most.

"Never give up, always work hard in life and if you want something, work harder at it," Griffin noted. "[My dad] influenced a lot in my life."

Griffin, who studies dentistry at the University of Central Florida, applied for the PBCPBA Scholarship at the end of his freshman year, his second time after applying as a high school senior the year before. This time, he earned the first place award.

"I was actually pretty shocked," Griffin admitted. "I wasn't expecting to win. But I'm grateful and super happy. I was like, 'Let's go!' I was just feeling proud."

Griffin did not win the award by chance. In a typical week, he juggles being a full-time student, working as a dental technician and volunteering and participating as a member of the UCF Pre-Dental Student Association. When he described his daily schedule, it was nearly impossible to keep up.

Even during the pandemic, Griffin didn't allow himself to stop going after what he wanted. He did anything he could to get involved — even if it was through Zoom. He says he is thankful to his parents for pushing him to be the best that he can be.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

After completing his undergraduate education at UCF, Griffin plans to go headfirst into dental school. When asked how he has the energy to keep going, he says it's his passion for teeth.

"I find the field extremely amazing," Griffin observed. "I think it's very fun. It's so satisfying to watch a cavity. I can't describe it."

Griffin's goal is to find a way to give back to the community through dentistry, and he is appreciative of receiving the scholarship to help his endeavors. Until then, he wakes up every day feeling excited to learn.

"I love it," Griffin declared. "I get up and I'm ready. It's like, 'I'm pumped, let's go.'"

A passion for success

If anyone is on a fast track to success, it's Abbie Nauss. Her father, Palm Beach Gardens Emergency Communications Supervisor Brian Nauss, has been on the job for as long as she can remember.

Brian was an officer in New Jersey before moving to Florida. His son, Connor, earned a PBCPBA scholarship in the past. This time, it was Abbie who earned the second place award for the scholarship.

"I am paying for school on my own," Abbie explained. "So it really does ease the burden of tuition, but also the scholarship does mean a lot because I know that it's something that is super important to my dad. To be able to represent my dad this way is a great opportunity."

Abbie's list of achievements is extensive. She graduated second in her class from the Clark Advanced Learning Center, a



Pictured with PBCPBA President John Kazanjian, center, are members whose children earned scholarships and Kaitlin Kazanjian scholarship third place winner Courtney Baer, right.

charter school, with a GPA of 4.0.

She was part of Martin County Youth Climate Strike, comprised of 10 to 15 high school students who built their own chapter to speak with the mayor of Stuart about different envi-

FIND OUT HOW YOUR HYPERTENSION AND/OR HEART DISEASE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY ON HEALTH INSURANCE.

**CALL TODAY FOR
YOUR FREE
CONSULTATION!**



BICHLER LONGO

THE FIRST RESPONDER LAW FIRM
WWW.BICHLERLAW.COM | TOLL FREE: 866-245-8977

OFFICES IN ORLANDO, MIAMI & PALM BEACH

ronmental plans that can be implemented to make a greener city.

Nauss was also involved with Best Buddies, where she helped people with developmental disabilities incorporate into the community and feel comfortable within their high school. She was also the president of the club in her last two years of high school.

She was dual-enrolled and left high school with an associate degree. Plus, she is a first-generation college student.

"[My parents] never really told me I had to go to college," Abbie clarified. "But I knew I had to. They always told me to just do whatever I want in life and chase my dreams."

Abbie's dream is to work in the medical field. She is currently studying clinical neuroscience at Virginia Tech with a minor in women and gender studies. Her passion for her major is a great motivator, but her biggest drive for success stems from her parents.

"Having their support through everything just made me want to make them proud," Abbie relayed. "I was constantly being busy and pushing myself to be the best student and the best daughter I could be. They gave everything they could to me growing up. Hopefully I can give back to them."

Don't stop until you make it

John C. Prieschl remembered participating in cross-country and track in high school and experiencing burnout after running for seven years. Aside from biomedical engineering, running was his passion. And that passion was slowly diminishing.

But he drew inspiration from his parents. Just like he did when he started taking advanced placement courses and

struggled with his overwhelming schedule.

"There were probably some kids out there that were just pushed to the moon in every aspect of their lives and wanted to find that balance," John C. suggested. "I am very fortunate to have parents that were supportive in whatever I do."

When it comes to finding that sweet spot to balance working hard with playing hard, John C. credits his abilities to his father.

"My dad [is] one of my biggest role models," John C. noted. "He's seen pretty much every situation that you could see, and he's still able to have an easygoing nature about him when he's home. I've tried to model my own life on that same belief that you can be serious about your work, but you can also find time to have fun."

That healthy work-life balance is what pushed John C. to go even further. He was persistent in reaching out for opportunities, even during a pandemic.

"I've been able to succeed at the highest level that I can by having those resources," John C. explained. "I reached for those opportunities even when the chances were slim. And it opened up a lot of paths for me."

These are the characteristics the PBCPBA looks for when awarding scholarships. And as a PBA member and father of a scholarship recipient, John L. seems to speak for all parents of recipients when he says that students like his son worked hard for what they have achieved. That's what makes them cops' kids.

"He is very motivated and understands that there's nothing free in life," John L. confirmed. "You've got to get out there and work for it and get after it. And he's willing to make many sacrifices to get somewhere in life. He's wired that way."

Finance the home of your dreams
IN THE COMMUNITY YOU SERVE

As a local law enforcement officer, it's important to have an advocate who will help you find a home loan you feel great about. Whether it's purchasing a home or refinancing, I'm here to take every step of the homebuying journey with you.

// ABOUT KEVIN'S EXPERIENCE



Has a passion to help local law enforcement professionals build a secure and lasting future through home ownership



Specializes in loan origination and developing lasting relationships with referral partners and borrowers



Graduate from the University of Central Florida

CALL TODAY TO LEARN MORE!



Kevin Coleman
SWBC Mortgage Corporation
Sr. Loan Officer | NMLS #209691
4540 PGA Blvd Suite 200
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418
Cell: 561.307.6405
Direct: 561.295.8107
Email: kcoleman@swbc.com
swbcmortgage.com/Kevin-Coleman



© 2019 SWBC. All rights reserved. Loans are subject to credit and property approval. Other restrictions and conditions may apply. Programs and guidelines are subject to change without notice. Rates are subject to change daily. SWBC Mortgage Corporation, NMLS #9741 (www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org). Corporate office located at 9311 San Pedro Avenue, Suite 100, San Antonio, TX 78216. 8540-6575 3/19

Best defense in West Palm Beach

The PBCPBA legal team's unfettered expertise effort saves the career of WPB member Frank Nelli

■ BY KAREN JENKINS

Never fear, the Palm Beach County PBA is here.

The PBCPBA offers three in-house attorneys to provide unparalleled legal prowess to members desperately seeking support, and in December 2019, support is exactly what West Palm Beach member Frank Nelli needed.

The officer needed someone — anyone — to listen to him and help save his job. As soon as Nelli walked into the PBCPBA office, PBCPBA attorney Brennan Keeler stood ready for the defense.

"There was a lot going on," Keeler confirmed. "They were targeting this guy, plain and simple."

Nelli, a patrol officer, was under fire for a potential violation of rules and regulations regarding compensation in November 2019. During a routine check of overtime details in downtown West Palm Beach, a sergeant saw Nelli working a detail at a popular restaurant and bar, ER Bradley's.

The restaurant typically requires a detail after closing, but the sergeant noticed that Nelli was not supposed to be off patrol yet. He had a half hour before his tour was supposed to end and he could take on the overtime detail at ER Bradley's.

"His shift would end at 3:30, and he showed up for the detail at 3," Keeler explained. "So there'd be like half an hour overlap where he should be working on the road, but he was at the detail."

While such double-dipping would be allowed with supervisor permission and using comp time, the city believed Nelli didn't receive that permission. An internal affairs (IA) investigation began in December 2019, and West Palm Beach PBA Unit President Dennis Hardiman advised Nelli to reach out to the PBCPBA legal defense team for assistance.

"It's extremely important to be able to meet and talk one on one with your attorney. They can go right over to the PBA hall and speak to any attorney," Hardiman relayed. "I think the biggest plus is the communication you have with that person. They're readily accessible throughout the state for anybody."

The moment Nelli was served with the IA investigation and put on administrative leave with pay, Keeler was ready. He filed multiple public records requests, gathered evidence and established that under the seven tests for just cause, the city couldn't prove any of the seven elements. Having the PBCPBA's support made all the difference for Nelli.

"When you go through something like this, it's having the peace of mind where you're not in this alone," shared Nelli, who has been on the job since 2010. "You have a union where, in one facet or another, they've been in this process. They've seen how this has developed before. Each case is unique and different in their own way, but however, knowing that you can

fall back on and rely on them and say, 'Hey, this is what I'm thinking,' is peace of mind."

Even with the immense work of the PBCPBA legal team, Keeler still had a nagging feeling that Nelli was being targeted and would be fired, despite the fact that other officers were being investigated for the same issue. But Keeler wouldn't let that setback mean the end of Nelli's law enforcement career.

"He'd never been in trouble for this type of thing before," Keeler revealed. "At the end of the day, other people got disciplined, but he's the only one that got fired."

Keeler waited out the state's attorney investigation until June 3, 2020. They were met with Nelli's termination.

They then moved on to a chief's hearing, but the chief refused to change his mind. Keeler began the process of filing a grievance but was denied at every step of the process. After a year of backbreaking work and refusing to concede for Nelli's career, Keeler's request for arbitration was approved in May 2021.

"No one expected them to go down this route through arbitration," Nelli expressed. "With any legality stuff, there's always going to be roadblocks or something else that makes them stall. I think after everything, the one thing I really learned is, it's a process."

When they finally made it to the arbitration table May 11-13, Keeler was armed with evidence and memos from the department. The puzzle felt nearly complete, and the final piece would be the triumph of Nelli returning to his job.

"I was confident in the sense that I just know that I do the best job I can for my client," Keeler said. "I don't say, 'I should have done this.' I put in the best effort, so if I don't get the result we were hoping for, at least we did all we could do."

The days of arbitration were long — 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. — and brutal. PBCPBA President John Kazanjian noted that sometimes even the most skilled legal counsel doesn't receive a positive outcome.

"Especially in today's times, with what's going on with policing reform throughout the country, you get these arbitrators and you've got to be on your A game," he affirmed. "Especially nowadays, it's not automatic. These arbitrators will get rid of a police officer just like that."

But Keeler found enough smoking guns and built an extraordinary case to defend Nelli, which is the type of support the PBCPBA legal team — and the union itself — is known for.

"It can come down to the union's main purpose, obviously fair and equal treatment across the board, as well as to rewrite wrongs into rights," Nelli provided. "It was something that at any given time, I had the ability through the PBA legal team and Brennan that if I was concerned about something or if I needed more insight to feel better about something, they were



always there and available.”

Closing arguments were made via Zoom on June 2, with transcripts of those closings being received on June 11. Not long after, Keeler was able to make the call that Nelli had been waiting for for more than a year.

“You ready to go back to work?” Keeler said to Nelli.

It almost wasn’t a surprise given the type of defense that had been mounted.

“I think he was very confident he was getting his job back,” Keeler added.

The successful outcome proved the value of the PBCPBA’s legal representation.

“It was a big sense of relief, knowing that this was a win in our book after so many losses leading up to that,” Nelli expressed. “By having the PBA, we circumvent the system of going through the court system and then going right to the arbitration. So the downtime is minimal [compared to what] it would be going through the actual legal system and the court systems.”

Though West Palm voted for other collective bargaining representation within the past year, there are still PBA members in the unit. And this case, one of the last ones the PBA worked with prior to the switch, should serve as a testament to the incomparable and ongoing work of the PBCPBA to stand up for its members.

“I’m grateful for the fact that I had a union that backed me and supported me and that believed, obviously on face value, initially what I was saying,” Nelli affirmed. “Just having them on my side and having somebody in my corner—kind of like, I guess you could say a boxer having a corner man in your corner — and not fighting the fight alone. That makes a huge difference of who’s in your corner.”

Providing financial guidance to those that serve others.

MEDICAL
PROFESSIONALS

LAW ENFORCEMENT &
FIRST RESPONDERS

PRIVATE
FOUNDATIONS

PHILANTHROPIC
INDIVIDUALS

IronBridge is a premier fee-based wealth management firm focused on solutions covering:



- Financial Planning
- Investment Management Programs
- Personal Risk Management

Our team’s industry credentials include:

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification (CFP®)

Certified Investment Management Analyst® designation (CIMA®)

Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst® designation (CAIA®)

Level II Chartered Financial Analyst Candidate

IRONBRIDGE WEALTH COUNSEL, LLC

Offices: Boca Raton | Austin | Scottsdale

Phone: 512.309.0230 | 954.816.2719

Contact Email: Shane.Morrow@IronBridgeWC.com

www.IronBridgeWC.com

Shane Morrow is a registered representative of Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp., a broker-dealer (member SIPC) and registered investment advisor offering insurance through Lincoln affiliates and other fine companies. IronBridge Wealth Counsel is not an affiliate of Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp. CRN-1815626-060717

OLIVER

&

FOX

All Workers' Compensation Injuries

Physical Injuries / Repetitive Trauma

Heart Disease & Hypertension

PTSD / Anxiety / Depression

Pension / In Line of Duty Disability

FREE CONSULTATION (833) 375-9400

Jason L. Fox, Esq.

Jason@OliverFoxLaw.com

Tonya A. Oliver, Esq.

Tonya@OliverFoxLaw.com

13031 W. Linebaugh Ave. Suite 102, Tampa, FL 33626



PBSO Deputy Helga Santana Young notes how much advice she received from attorney Kevin Drummond in creating her life plan.



PBSO Deputy Hector Sanchez says thinking about protecting his family led him to seek out help from attorney Kevin Drummond to put together a will.

Where there's a will, there's the PBA

Members continue to take advantage of PBCPBA life plan benefit

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

PBSO Deputy Hector Sanchez started reading the pamphlet the Palm Beach County PBA had sent. And the more he read, the more he found the PBA Life Planner was filled with information that really hit home.

It hit even harder when he remembered his best friend, D/S Carlos Hernandez. They had worked together in Royal Palm Beach before coming to the sheriff's office approximately 15 years ago. In April, Hernandez was lost to complications from COVID.

Knowing that it could happen to anybody at any time – and even more so amid the pandemic – Sanchez realized he needed to get his affairs in order. He had run out of reasons to wait, so he took advantage of the PBA's newly created service with attorney Kevin Drummond to pursue estate planning at no cost to members.

"What happened to Carlos really opened up my eyes to push myself and say, 'I got to get this thing done,'" explained Sanchez, who recently used the service to create a will. "No more procrastinating: 'One day I'll do it.' I really had to get this done. And not just for me. Especially for my family."

The urgency for life planning and how easy the PBA has made it are spurring a wave of members taking advantage of the benefit. PBSO Deputy Helga Santana Young also experienced some eye-opening revelations from the pandemic.

She was talking about it with PBSO Unit Rep Mike Kennedy, who told her about the PBA's life-planning benefit. Young followed his advice, which turned out to be life-changing.

"I never had the time or money to go and do it," she confided. "I contacted the PBA, and they gave the step-by-step on what to do. And, sure enough, it was pretty easy to do."

Young came to Palm Beach County from Brazil. She is here with her 7-year-old son, Liam. The rest of the family is back in Brazil.

She wanted to protect Liam.

Any trepidation about navigating the process dissipated the first time she spoke to Drummond. Young was pleasantly surprised that he answered every time she called, and she was amazed how he was able to track down information from Brazil and put it into her will.

"[Drummond] gave me a lot of advice about what to do because I was clueless," Young commented. "I had to go to the PBA once, and that was to sign my copies. It was so easy. I told everybody at work, 'Guys, if you don't have one, go and do it.'"

Sanchez also praised the accessibility. He pointed out that because Drummond served as a longtime law enforcement officer, he knew the challenges of the schedule and other ins and outs of the job.

Sanchez had wondered how many questions he would have to answer and how much documentation he would have to provide. But the understanding resulting from Drummond's experience eased any initial fears he had about the process.

"I was skeptical at the beginning," Sanchez noted. "But when I called, they answered the phone immediately, and, as cops, that's what we want. We don't want it to be a bother. They even set up the appointment, and they were there waiting for me when I arrived."

Sanchez felt the urgency of getting his life plan covered when Drummond asked him about who would oversee his estate if he was hospitalized after suffering a serious injury or illness. That everyday possibility of law enforcement brought a tear to his eye when thinking about not being there for his loved ones and realizing that he was now protecting them with a last will and testament.

"You got to think of your family. It's real," Sanchez added. "Everything was put in my lap, and it moved smoothly with no hiccups. At the end, I'm looking at it and thinking, 'This is just awesome.'"

**SCAN HERE FOR
IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**



MEMBER INFO UPDATE



PBA WEBSITE



PBA APP

To the rescue

PBCPBA members save three people from drowning in separate incidents

■ BY ROSEMARY AN

When Martin County Sheriff's Office Deputies Michael Joseph and Pete Peterson heard a distress call over the Marine Unit VHF radio about an unmanned vessel near Bathtub Reef Beach on June 6, they didn't hesitate to come to the rescue.

Upon arrival, they found that TowBoatUS, a towing company, as well as two lifeguards, were already at the scene. The deputies' initial reaction was to think maybe someone had anchored the boat while diving and then the boat broke loose. However, the lifeguards found two IDs and other belongings and realized there might be missing people.

As part of a series of heroic actions, nearly a week later, Palm Beach Gardens officers came to the rescue of a victim in the water just as Joseph and Peterson did on this day. On the MCSO response, Joseph and Peterson immediately jumped on the unmanned vessel and set out in search of the missing persons. Deputy Buddy Sprott, who was off duty at the time, arrived with his own boat, along with aviation units to search from the air. The ocean conditions made it difficult for deputies to see any activity in the water.

"We're all looking for the people at this point," Joseph explained. "And then this is where Peterson and I, we hear the screaming. The waves are pretty big and it's right on the reef, so it was rough out there, but we heard screaming or whistling, something like that, to the south of our area."

Following the sound of the screams, Joseph started to scan the area and saw what looked like the top of someone's head between the breaking waves. Peterson agreed with Joseph's observation, and they drove toward the waves. But first, they had to go farther down and bring the boat back around.

"It looks like we're trying to leave the people, but in order to get over that reef you have to [go] around," Joseph clarified, "or you'll pretty much ruin your boat. You'll just run over the top of the reef and break your motors off."

With Joseph and Peterson on one boat and Sprott on another, they were able to get close enough to the two people in the water, who were treading water and taking water over their heads due to the breaking waves. The deputies positioned the victims' boat and got to work, lifting the male and female back onto their boat.

Once the victims were safely on the boat, the deputies checked for injuries. Fortunately, the male and female had no visible injuries, but they were exhausted from being in the water for more than 30 minutes.

The deputies followed the victims, now reunited with their boat, back onto the beach and took down their information for the police report. As it turned out, the female had fallen off the boat as the male was driving.

"He turned the boat off and jumped in the water in an attempt to help her back onto the boat," Joseph relayed. "After that, they realized the boat travels a little faster than you when you're in the water, with the wind and the current. And now they have no boat. Over half an hour is a long time to tread water with no life jackets or anything."

While treading water, the female had seen the deputies' boat and screamed to get their attention. Joseph says that while he is glad the victims did not sustain injuries, he recommends



MCSO Deputies Michael Joseph and Pete Peterson rescue two victims near Bathtub Reef Beach on June 6.



Palm Beach Gardens Officer Tatsuaki Hayashi walks into Lake Catherine to pull a 12-year-old out of the water on June 11.

that boaters call 911 before jumping into the ocean and leaving an unmanned vessel, or else it could lead to a difficult search through the vast ocean.

"Don't leave your boat," Joseph noted. "Because once you do that, now you become a victim too. Or just call 911 and be like, 'Look, this is what happened. Here's where I'm at and send people.' Let us know you've got a person overboard so we can [be] on the way before you jump in after them."

On June 11, Palm Beach Gardens Officers Tatsuaki Hayashi and Jodi Kalish received a call about a 12-year-old child with special needs running toward Lake Catherine near Lighthouse and Riverside Drive.

The call came in from a neighbor at 7:30 a.m. and the officers arrived on scene by 7:33 a.m., according to body camera footage. They found the child, who was in a canal near the lake, treading water but beginning to struggle and in distress.

By 7:36 a.m., Hayashi started walking into the lake, with the child in sight. Five minutes later, the child was pulled onto the grass. The officers assessed for injuries, relieved that they were able to rescue the child from drowning.

MCSO deputies and Palm Beach Gardens PD officers exemplified what it means to act quickly in the nick of time. These law enforcement officers knew exactly how to rescue people from a potentially fatal situation, proving that their dedication to serve knows no bounds, whether on land or in water.

Tour of Duty



The 24th annual Florida Tour de Force streaks through Martin County, where members of the Martin County Sheriff's Office participated to honor the state's fallen officers.

PBCPBA members go along for the ride to honor fallen officers

■ BY KYLE FURMAN

Amid the sea of law enforcement officers participating in the 24th annual Florida Tour de Force bicycle ride on May 1, Martin County Sheriff's Office Detective John Hilcken found himself alone with his thoughts. The event honors Florida's fallen officers each year, and one of those was State Trooper Joseph Bullock, who was shot and killed in Martin County in February 2020.

"The ride was personal for me this year because I personally knew Joe Bullock," Hilcken revealed. "It's close to my heart because we remember the people we lose, and this year was really special, dedicated to Joe, and I kept him in my thoughts."

PBCPBA members from departments throughout Palm Beach County participated in this year's ride, which was limited to one day because of the pandemic. Those included Delray Beach, Boynton Beach, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Lantana, Lake Worth, Riviera Beach, West Palm Beach Police Department, North Palm Beach, Juno Beach, Jupiter, Tequesta and Stuart, in addition to MCSO.

The participation is what puts the force in Tour de Force, according to Hilcken.

"The event is so important, because it gives the public a venue, a vehicle, to come out and show their support for the police," he added. "And it allows officers from different agencies and states to come together and show solidarity and support."

The event was spearheaded by law enforcement volunteers and usually runs for five days and covers 275 miles. This year's one-day ride covered 62 miles, starting and ending at Calder Casino in Miami Gardens.

The trek included five rest stops separated by 10 to 15 miles each. The tour was fully supported with police escorts provided by the Florida Highway Patrol, sheriff's departments and local law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

"This year was especially challenging to host the Tour de Force, because a lot of the cities that the event passes through are



North Miami Beach Officer Roberto Quinones, right, president of the Tour de Force, celebrates this year's event with fellow riders.

still shut down," explained North Miami Beach Officer Roberto Quinones, president of the Tour de Force. "But that's what made this year's event so rewarding, that we still pulled it off and we didn't let this pandemic stop us."

With civilians joining law enforcement officers and novices joining experienced riders, the objective is to have as many participants as possible raise awareness for fallen officers and donations for their family members. It is truly one of those events that brings police and the public together.

"If you have a road bike and have some wind in your sails, then you can ride the tour," Hilcken proclaimed. "It's really good for everyone."

Since the Tour's inception in 1997, when it was dedicated to Trooper Robert Smith, who was killed in the line of duty by a drunk driver, the tour has also conducted rides to benefit organizations such as Concerns of Police Survivors and The Jimmy Ryce Foundation. These charitable foundations have fueled the tour's continued growth in popularity every year, with the exception of the pandemic era. The 2019 Tour de Force registered a record-high 800 civilians and law enforcement personnel participating, with some bikers even completing the entire 275-mile journey.

"We continue to grow and grow and



More than 800 riders participate in the Tour de Force each year.

make it as big as possible," Quinones noted. "Everybody that's in law enforcement either knows somebody or knows somebody who knows somebody who has been killed in the line of duty. So it's personal for all the officers. That's why the event is becoming so large."

When you're riding on the road, trying to endure, there is a feeling, Quinones noted, that keeps you going.

"Just to put a little smile on their families' faces," he confirmed. "Even a little smile is more than worth the cause."

Delray Beach member Vinnie Gray, who worked security for the ride this year, observed how the event can enable young officers to learn about the significance of remembering fallen sisters and brothers.

"The event just seems to draw them in with the atmosphere," he detailed. "Especially for the younger police generation, come to the event and familiarize yourself with the different departments, make those connections, form bonds with your fellow officers. I definitely would recommend participating in the Tour de Force if you're just starting out in law enforcement."

Hilcken submits that no matter what the reasoning for riding, just come out and enjoy.

"People join the race because they love the police," he described. "People ride because they just love to ride. People ride because they love the atmosphere of the event. Everyone rides for a variety of reasons, but everyone has a great time, and that's what matters."

SNORE NO MORE

LAW ENFORCEMENT'S SLEEP APNEA DOCTOR
SLEEP APNEA IS DANGEROUS AND CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE

**THE #1 REASON PEOPLE GET SICK
(AND CONTRACT **CORONA VIRUS**)
IS DUE TO LACK OF OXYGEN & SLEEP**



**OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA
POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS AND SYMPTOMS**
**HYPERTENSION | DEPRESSION | CHRONIC
FATIGUE | DIABETES | IMPOTENCY
WEIGHT GAIN | HEART BURN | HEADACHES |
LINKED TO CANCER | DEMENTIA | STROKE**

SAY GOOD BYE TO CPAP



MACHINES AND MASKS



**MOST MEDICAL PLANS COVER
SLEEP APNEA SOLUTIONS**



CALL DR. DOBLIN TODAY FOR A FREE CONSULTATION

Elayne Velazquez
Law Enforcement Liaison



VIP Line: (201) 966-4812



1-855-859-3300

NEW LOCATIONS COMING SOON TO:

**Miami-Dade County
Broward County
Palm Beach County
Martin County**



Dr. Michael Doblin

EMAIL: INFO@ATHOMESLEEPSOLUTIONS.COM | WEBSITE: WWW.ATHOMESLEEPSOLUTIONS.COM

A Bright Light

PBSO's Elizabeth Anderson gave everybody a reason to smile

Elizabeth Anderson had a special place in her heart for music. She loved karaoke, especially belting out "Fat Bottomed Girls," "Sunshine, Lollipops and Rainbows" and "Happy."

The chorus from "Happy" always seemed to draw her biggest smile:

Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof. Clap along if you feel like happiness is the truth.

Anderson lived to be happy and make everybody around her happy. She sent happiness through the roof, and that's the truth.

"The little things she did really brightened everyone's day," remembers PBSO's Donna Camp. "Her joyous attitude, she was always so happy. She gave everyone a nickname. Everything she did, there was always just a sense of endearment. Words can't describe this feeling. We're going to miss her immensely."

Anderson, who resided in West Palm Beach, was known as one of the most devoted employees in her department. Her 25-year career included an assignment as a warrants specialist in the fugitive war-



Elizabeth Anderson

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

Date of Passing: July 30, 2021

rants unit for the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.

Anderson was killed in a tragic car accident on July 30 when she was hit by a driver under the influence. She was 62.

Anderson's family, which includes her two children, Tom and Heather, her granddaughter, Skyler, and her grandson, Maverick, concluded that the best way to honor her was to have a reunion themed after her favorite holiday.

"Her relatives are going to have a celebration of her life at the end of the month, and it's going to be a huge Christmas party," Camp states. "Every year around December, the department decorates their cubicles in a Christmas theme, and Anderson's was always the most extravagant. She was obsessed with Christmas."

Anderson's friends and family ask that, in honor of Anderson's life, you make a contribution to the National Breast Cancer Awareness Foundation, an initiative Anderson was an ad-

vocate for.



Conni Gibson, CPA

Proud Supporter of the Palm Beach County PBA
and wife of PBC PBA Member

Office 561.739.7977 • Cell 561.253.4577

- Tax Preparation
- Accounting Services
- Payroll
- Bookkeeping
- Consulting
- IRS Representation
- Retirement Planning

Discounts for Law Enforcement &
First Responders

1500 Gateway Blvd, Ste 220, Boynton Beach, FL 33426

cgcga@cagibsoncpa.com

FIRST OPTION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

Experienced in the Florida Retirement Systems Retirement Plan,
Financial Analysis and Life Insurance needs



Monique Heinz

Financial Representative

3300 PGA Blvd, Suite 100

Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

561.236-1291

mheinz@evershore.com

WHO'S HELPING SECURE YOUR
FINANCIAL FUTURE?

EVERSHORE
financial group

This advisor is a Registered Representative of Securian Financial Services, Inc. Securities offered through Securian Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. Evershore Financial Group is independently owned and operated. 2601491 6.2019



Public Servant

PBSO civilian Robert Ehrenberg devoted his life to public safety

Family and friends will always remember Robert Ehrenberg as someone who devoted his life to public safety. Ehrenberg's career spanned across numerous aspects, including doing graduate work in motorcycle safety, serving as a federal police officer, volunteer firefighter and school crossing guard, and working as a digital media technician for the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, a department he worked at for 22 years.

Ehrenberg, who resided in West Palm Beach, was killed at the age of 62 after he was involved in a tragic car accident on July 6.

Aside from his commitment to his career, Ehrenberg, a member of the PBSO's PBA Civilians Unit, had many passions in his life. His family recalls his love of trivia, scuba diving, voyaging on cruises and karaoke. He proudly commended himself on his renditions of "Born To Be Wild," "Brandy," and "Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay."



Robert Ehrenberg

Digital Medical Technician
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Date of Passing: July 6, 2021

Ehrenberg was also devoted to education and expanding his knowledge. Comments on one of the memorial sites remembering Ehrenberg praised this passion.

"Bob was always the smartest guy in the room, was always educating himself," wrote close friend Richard Ziskind, who had known Ehrenberg since fifth grade.

His demand for more knowledge led him to belong to two national honor society groups and was the catalyst for him completing his master's degree in public administration at Barry University in 2017 with a 3.8 GPA.

Ehrenberg loved interacting with strangers and becoming acquainted with those around him — so much so that he became known as "Burger" among the local motorcyclists.

To honor Ehrenberg, his family suggests making donations to two programs he supported: the Toys for Tots Foundation and the Wounded Warriors Project.



**BLUE LINE
LAW FIRM**

TBLLF.COM

"Your Lifeline to Justice."



Kevin Drummond, Esq.
Managing Partner,
Blue Line Law Firm

Legal Questions? Legal Issues?

- Estate Planning
- Wills & Trust
- Criminal Defense
- Personal Injury
- Social Security Disability
- Civil Rights
- Police Brutality
- Landlord/Tenant
- Expungements
- Employment Law

GET YOUR FREE CONSULTATION TODAY

Text LAWHELP to 31996

Clicking for Good

Meet Gaby Labate, who's bringing digital expertise to the PBCPBA as its newest social media coordinator

■ BY KAREN JENKINS

Gaby Labate is showing that law enforcement officers are more than just a gun or a badge. One click at a time.

The Palm Beach County PBA's newest staff member just signed on as a social media coordinator in May, and she has big plans for the PBA's Facebook and Twitter pages.

"[It] would be nice to reach everybody and get to know a little bit more of the human side of these people that put their lives on the line every day," Labate affirmed. "[I find content from] every department that we have as our members, and look at the news, everything that you can find. Twitter, anything that can provide me with information — positive, mostly, because that's what we need in this world right now."

Labate knows the humanity of law enforcement officers firsthand. Her husband, Luciano Labate, has been a PBSO deputy since 2017.

As a cop's wife, she has seen the behind-the-scenes good deeds that law enforcement officers perform on a daily basis. And now, in her social media role, she wants to expand that access to the greater public.

"They want to be known and they want to be heard, because they're not just the badge and the gun. It is important for people to know that they do good stuff most of the time," she expressed. "They're there for protecting us. It will be nice for everybody to have their backs while they do a job so important like they do. So I was like, 'OK, I have an opportunity to do that, to expose the good part of this job.'"

The 36-year-old mother of two — ages 10 and 7 — hails from Venezuela and previously worked for Chase Bank. Her professional social media experience includes helping a friend manage public pages for a company, but she is excited to jump in and work with the PBA solo.

Her typical day includes logging on and immediately clicking over to the PBSO and MSCO social media accounts to get the rundown of what they're posting. She monitors those pages, as well as



those of other departments, throughout the day.

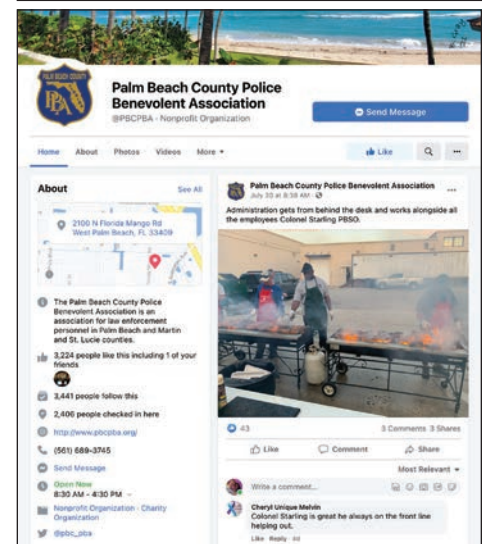
She also has direct access to PBCPBA President John Kazanjian, which has helped fuel content creation as she hits her PBA stride on social media.

"Sometimes [Kaz] will come in and is like, 'I want you to post these pictures.' I'm like, 'Oh, OK.' And when I opened them, it was the picture with Ron DeSantis, and I'm like, 'Oh, that's awesome,'" she laughed. "[Ideas happen] when you're taking a shower. Whenever you have that little window in your mind, you just go, 'Oh yes, I have to do this, I have to do that.' It's good. I'm always chasing a good story."


Labate's main goal is to be a channel for members to get their voices out to the public. She also wants to show the work of the PBCPBA, so members can know exactly how their union is supporting them every day.

Ultimately, Labate wants members to know that they can talk to her any time they need assistance or have a great story to share — she'll never stop being a pillar of support within the PBA.

"It is very good for [members] to know that the PBA has their back," she confirmed. "Tell your family, 'Listen, they post about me on the page. Go ahead and check it out and like it.' It's very nice that their people get to see what they do



day to day. Not only, 'Oh, he just put on a uniform' and that's it. It's more than that."



**In times like these,
you can't afford to be
without our protection.**

The coverage you need, that only we can provide.

The Admin Duty Policy is unique to Spectrum Advisory Group and is underwritten through Wellfleet. It is a very affordable policy used for officers who are placed on admin duty, admin leave, suspended, or terminated.

Coverage can include: officer involved shooting (OIS), in-custody death, excessive force complaint, or any disciplined action coming from an officer doing their job.

- **Sole provider of Admin Duty coverage**
- **Covers admin duty, admin leave, suspension, or termination**
- **12 months of coverage/30-day elimination period**
- **\$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000 monthly benefit**



SpectrumAdvisoryGroup.net

For a FREE Consultation Contact:
Executive Vice President

Michelle Jotz

TEL (702) 429 - 7202

EMAIL mjotz@spectrumadvisorygroup.net

Palm Beach County PBA Officer of the Month Honorees

January

K-9 Officer Brian Tiyaloglu Palm Beach Gardens

Nominated by Christopher Baez

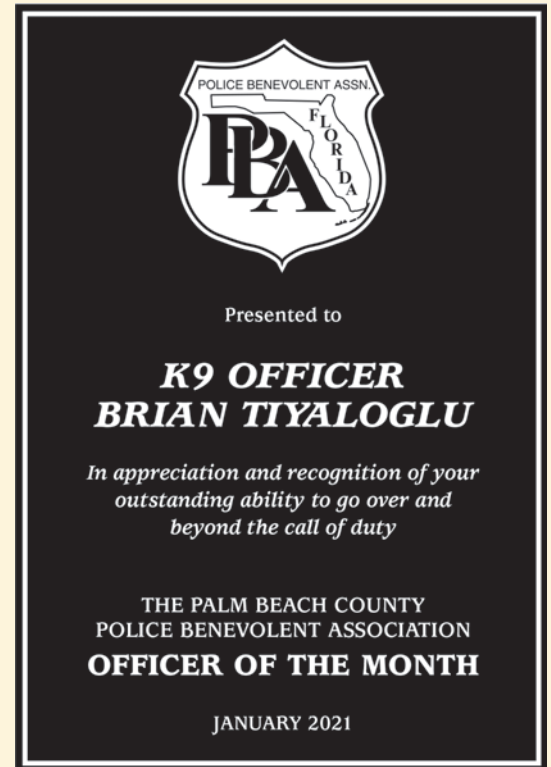
On Sept. 11, 2020, Palm Beach Gardens officers were dispatched to an armed robbery with reports of shots fired at the Chevron gas station on Florida Boulevard and Alternate A1A. A customer was shot multiple times during the robbery. Officers rendered aid to her and secured the scene. Fire rescue transported the victim to the hospital, but she unfortunately did not survive.



With the help of PBSO and Jupiter PD, it was discovered that the suspects had run to a nearby residence, and the officers secured a perimeter. One of the suspects fled the residence and hid at a neighboring property under a boat.

K-9 Officer Brian Tiyaloglu quickly deployed his K-9, Valco, and, with members of the Palm Beach Gardens SWAT team, he entered the neighboring property. K-9 Valco alerted the officers to the suspect's location under the boat, and Officer Tiyaloglu instructed the suspect to surrender. He did not comply, but K-9 Valco apprehended the suspect, who was taken into custody.

Officer Tiyaloglu's brave, swift actions resulted in the arrest of this violent felon and ensured the community's safety.



February

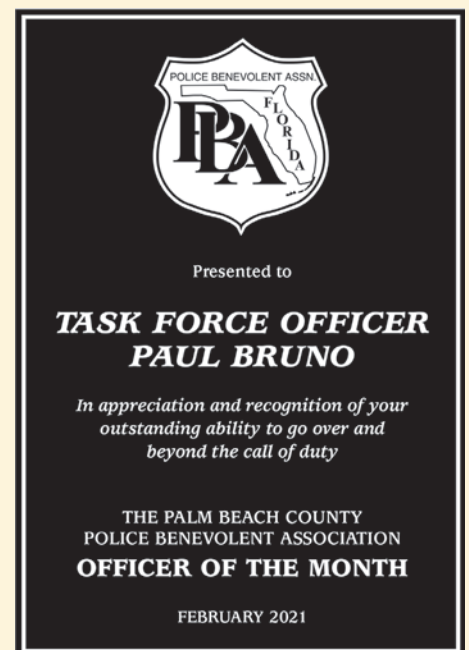
Task Force Officer Paul Bruno Jupiter Police Department Nominated by Major Michael Barbera

TFO Paul Bruno has engaged in multiple undercover operations, resulting in the apprehension of multiple drug traffickers, attempted murderers and the ringleaders of dangerous criminal organizations.

Over the course of about 18 months, in an undercover capacity, Officer Bruno infiltrated a criminal organization in which 10 airline employees used their positions to transport large amounts of crystal methamphetamine and plastic explosives on commercial flights to major U.S. cities. These defendants were convicted, and the investigation also led to the discovery of a murder-for-hire plot.

In a separate investigation, Officer Bruno helped apprehend a man who was planning the murder of his sister over a family inheritance dispute. In an undercover capacity, he collected payment from the man for the intended murder.

Kudos to Officer Bruno for his fierce commitment to the service of his community. His continued involvement in many complex, volatile cases has ensured the safety of countless citizens.

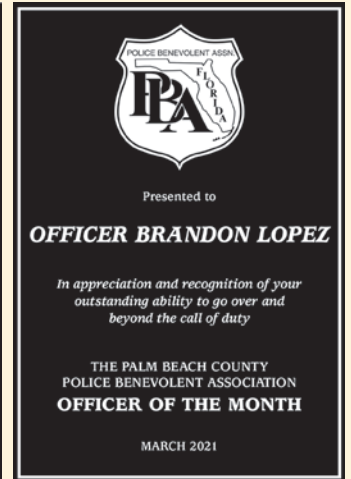
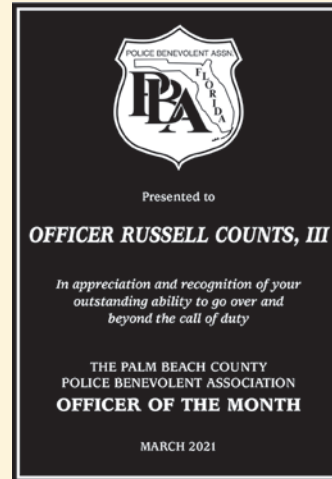


Palm Beach County PBA Officer of the Month Honorees

March

Officer Brandon Lopez Officer Russell Counts III Jupiter Police Department

Nominated by Officer Jason Alexandre and Sergeant Scott Kimbark



On Nov. 6, 2020, in the early evening, Riviera Beach police officers were pursuing a white Toyota Camry, as the driver had just shot a victim. Riviera Beach requested the assistance of Jupiter units, who set up tire deflation devices in various areas of the town. The suspect continued to flee through various streets and shopping plazas.

Officer Lopez got behind two marked Riviera Beach police vehicles and took control of radio traffic. Officer Counts successfully deployed his tire deflation device, disabling three of the suspect's tires. The suspect's vehi-

cle slowed, and Officer Lopez then successfully utilized a PIT maneuver to force the car to stop. The driver had thrown a loaded pistol from the vehicle before it stopped, and he and the passenger eventually complied with orders to exit the car. The suspect was arrested and charged with attempted murder.

Officer Lopez and Officer Counts took action and showed unwavering determination to secure an attempted murderer. The Town of Jupiter and all of Palm Beach County are much safer because of them.

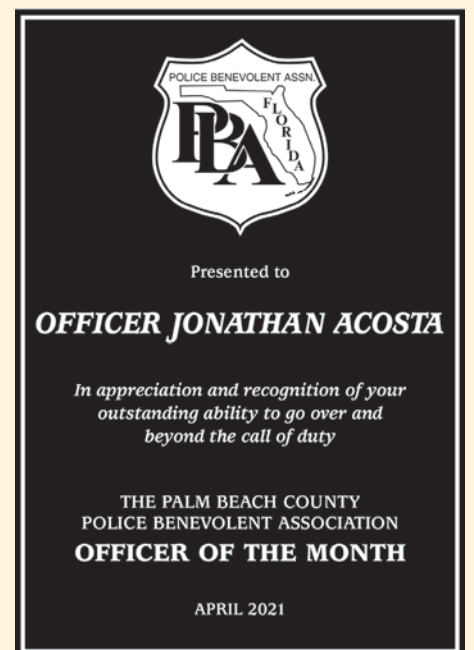
April

Officer Jonathan Acosta Boynton Beach Police Department

Nominated by Deputy Sheriff James Holloran, Martin County Sheriff's Office

Officer Acosta was the third officer to arrive at the scene of a car accident. A man was critically injured and was triaged as deceased. Officer Acosta took the initiative to recheck the man's vitals, and he started CPR. Officer Acosta's lifesaving actions essentially brought this man back to life at the scene, and in the words of the survivor's sister, Officer Acosta is a true hero.

The PBCPBA commends Officer Acosta for his quick action, selflessness and dedication to others. You have impacted this man and his family in an indescribable way.



Palm Beach County PBA Officer of the Month Honorees

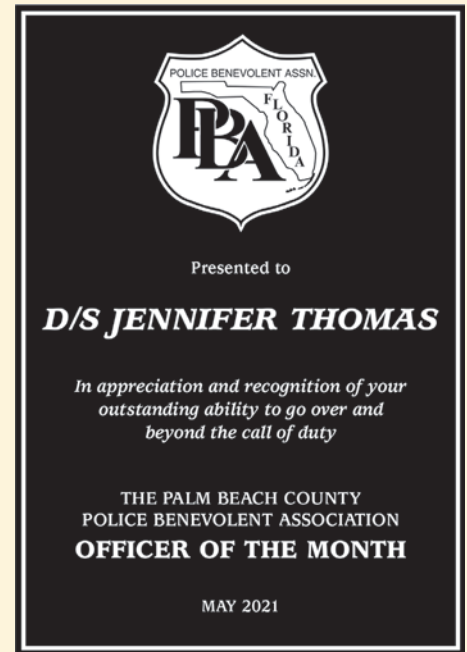
May

Deputy Sheriff Jennifer Thomas
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

Nominated by committee

In March 2021, a man with a history of mental illness released random gunfire at the Advanced Diagnostic Group medical center in West Palm Beach. Deputy Thomas, who was off duty and waiting for the elevator at the medical center, notified all staff to lock the doors and hide. She and the staff pressed their bodies to the door to keep the man out of the office as they heard him slamming doors and moving throughout the building. The suspect left the building, shooting and killing a 42-year-old man who was near the medical center.

Deputy Sheriff Thomas saved many lives that day due to her training and sheer courage. She never thought twice before helping others.



CALL TODAY

AND ASK HOW WE CAN SAVE YOU THOUSANDS!

561-788-7721 • southeastflaliving@gmail.com • SouthEastFlaLiving.com



We are honored by your service to our community. That's why we strive to help Real Heroes gain the most Value! You work hard everyday, so buying or selling should be easy! Let us take the stress out of the process, and keep more money in your pocket!



Providing *Real Rewards* to *Real Heroes*
When Buying or Selling *Real Estate*

Palm Beach County PBA Officer of the Month Honorees

June

Deputy Sheriff Nakishaw Zambrana Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

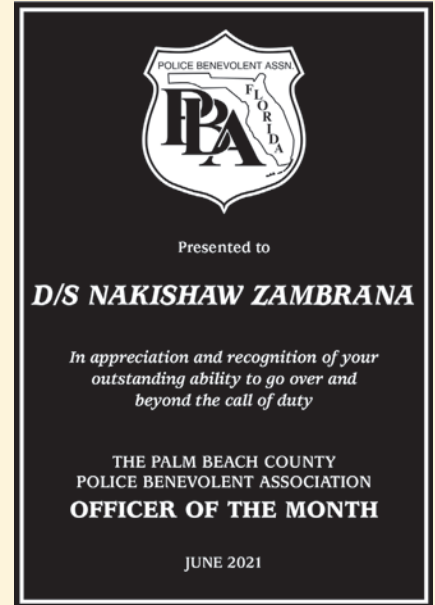
Nominated by Deputy Sheriff Thomas Jordan

In February 2020, an active domestic battery was reported in the parking lot of a Winn-Dixie in Belle Glade. A man was beating a woman and trying to drag her out of a car. Deputy Howze responded to the scene and attempted to stop the aggressor with verbal commands, and eventually, with the deployment of her Electronic Control Device (ECD). The man shoved the deputy, resisted the ECD and its drive stun and attempted to take the ECD away from Deputy Howze.



At the same time, Deputy Zambrana, off duty, was having her nails done at a salon in the same plaza. Observing the struggle, she exited the salon and ran toward the fight. After announcing her presence, she helped Deputy Howze secure the suspect.

Deputy Zambrana's self-sacrificing, compassionate actions safeguarded both the victim of domestic violence and her fellow deputy. She never hesitated. Rather, she ran toward danger to help others.



Ready to Serve Florida's First Responders



- Roxie Guerrero, Realtor Associate
- Licensed Realtor for 22 years
- PBA member since 1988
- 26 years On the Job
- Retired from Palm Beach Sheriff's Office February 2014 as a Sergeant-Law Enforcement. ID#3575.

I specialize in Buying, Listing, Selling,
Relocation across South Florida,
Nationally and Internationally.

Please contact me with your
Real Estate needs!

Roxie Guerrero • Realtor Associate
Wellington Office - The Keyes Company
Phone: 561-762-2369
Email: foxy213@bellsouth.net



Transformations
TREATMENT CENTER
SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH



Help For Our Heroes Program

Our program, which is led by first responders, has an integrated treatment model to help first responders with co-occurring mental health disorders and substance use disorders. As a retired New Jersey police officer, I know firsthand that the exposure to tragedy and stress first responders endure everyday is overwhelming, which can lead to PTSD and addiction.

Our Program Includes:

- PTSD Management
- EMDR Therapy
- Relapse Prevention
- Stress/Anger Management
- Grief and Loss Healing
- Behavioral Addiction

Please don't wait. Call me for help.



Sgt. Adam Mogul (Ret.)
Client Services Representative
adammm@transformations-treatment.com
(732) 330-8801
ALL CALLS CONFIDENTIAL



Host Your Next Party or Event at the Palm Beach County PBA Banquet Hall



The PBA Hall has available (20) 72" rounds, (4) 60" rounds, and (18) 96" rectangle's and 6 high top cocktail tables. Padded chairs that can be set up according to your specifications and needs. Maximum capacity dependent upon setup style.



FEES:

\$1,300.00 for Non-Members \$800.00 for Members which covers the maximum capacity of 150 people. If you do not have 150 people attending, you will receive \$2 credit per person.

\$250.00 Deposit

Member limit 1 rental per year / No Sub-Leasing

ALCOHOL: No alcoholic beverages will be permitted to be sold at an event. If you are planning to have alcohol served and utilize the bar, you must hire approved bartenders. The fee is set at \$125.00 per bartender.

SMOKING: Smoking is not permitted inside the Hall.

Palm Beach County PBA Management
Kathy Hanbury - Rental Hall Coordinator
561.689.3745

2100 North Florida Mango Road • West Palm Beach, FL 33409



Members Only Section

Celebrating PBC PBA members and the way they serve every day

The Spartans of Boynton Beach

Boynton Beach Patrol Sergeant Brian McDeavitt, who is on the SWAT team, jumps at any opportunity to build closer relationships with his colleagues while getting his adrenaline pumping.

After participating in an obstacle course race several years ago, one of the team members asked if the officers would be willing to try the Spartan Race on April 24 at South County Regional Park.

"It's like a 5K, essentially," McDeavitt explained. "And you maneuver through different obstacles throughout the race. There were probably 10 or 12 of us that decided to go."

The Spartan Race included 20 to 30 obstacles spread out over the course of the event. Some of the obstacles included carrying a five-gallon bucket full of rocks, trudging through deep water for 15 yards, climbing a vertical rope and throwing a javelin. For McDeavitt, the most challenging of them all was having to low-crawl under a barbed wire.

"It felt like a mile," McDeavitt admitted. "It's like the barbed wire just kept going. I don't know how long it was, but it felt like forever. It was so terrible."

It may have felt like forever, but McDeavitt was able to finish the obstacle race in under an hour. All the team members finished the race within an hour to an hour and a half.

"It's one of those things where you dread it the whole time," McDeavitt said. "And then when you're actually in it and doing it, it ends up being shorter than you thought it was going to be."

The team members received a participation medal for completing the race. In the medal, there are three pieces. The idea is to complete three races within a year to earn the other two pieces, what the organization calls a "Trifecta." The team did not set out to secure the Trifecta, as they simply wanted to have a good time.

"Some of the Spartan Races have an obstacle course for 24 hours to see how



many times you can complete it," McDeavitt said. "It gets nuts. We were just going to have a good time and commis-



erate with each other, as a team-building exercise for some of us on SWAT."

After the event, the officers gathered at the park just off the obstacle course. Their families came by to cook food and chat about the strenuous obstacle course. It was the perfect way to end an extensive gym day for the officers.

"It's great to be able to hang out with each other outside of a work environment," McDeavitt said. "Especially with everyone's families, and wives and kids come. It was a good way to strengthen our relationships with each other."

Honoring and celebrating officers for Memorial Day and National Police Week

National Police Week and Memorial Day are time-honored traditions that allow law enforcement officers to honor fallen colleagues and those across the country who lost their lives on the job. From the Martin County Sheriff's Office participating in a Memorial Day parade, to Jupiter PD officers paying tribute at a veteran's memorial site, to Boynton Beach PD officers being appreciated by students, May 2021 was filled with agencies honoring the fallen.

The Martin County Sheriff's Office participated in a traditional Memorial Day parade, with residents looking on as motorcycles and a military vehicle with an American flag cruised by. The MCSO Honor Guard also paid tribute during the parade on May 31.

Jupiter PD Honor Guard officers paid tribute to those who lost their lives while serving the United States by presenting colors and laying a folded American flag at the town of Jupiter's Veterans Memorial on May 31. Officers and other guests arrived to show support for the military forces who made sacrifices and continue to preserve the public's freedoms, as chil-



dren waved miniature American flags.

Boynton Beach PD received handmade cards and treats from elementary school students in honor of National Police Week, from May 9 to May 15. The Crosspointe Elementary School Barking



Turtles Club, wanting to show their appreciation for the officers who keep their community safe, also created a tri-fold board including photos of officers and adding stickers of hearts with the thin blue line.

Boynton Beach PD women build a new home



The women of Boynton Beach PD worked with Habitat for Humanity South Palm Beach County Women Build 2021 on May 6 to help build a new home for the Michel family on Northwest 11th Avenue. The officers were able to add roofing and laying drywall to the list of things women of BBPD can do.



Cultural celebration

Boynton Beach PD officers participated in Congress Middle School's multicultural festival. The festival, which was hosted by principal Denise O'Connor, her students and staff, celebrated diversity and the inclusion of all ethnicities.

See you later, alligator



Stuart PD Officer David Jacobson responded to a call for assistance after an alligator was spotted in a commercial parking lot. Jacobson was able to catch the alligator without incident and turned it over to a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission contractor to be relocated on June 22.

PBSO helps residents choose free shoes

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office set up tents to give away men's and women's shoes on July 2. Deputies helped residents find the perfect pair of shoes, courtesy of donations from In Jacob's Shoes.



Members attend Hometown Heroes Appreciation Day

Members from the PBSO bomb squad and Riviera Beach PD attended the Hometown Heroes Appreciation Day event on June 19 at the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium in West Palm Beach. The event included meet-and-greets with local armed forces members as well as a mini-golf tournament, live science shows and exhibit exploration. It commemorated military service members, veterans, first responders and their families.

PBCPBA members engage and educate community children

Palm Beach and Martin County officers continue to recognize that they are in a unique position to inspire and assist their local adolescents and promote a positive culture. As highlighted over the last several months, PDs have not only brought peace to their respective counties but also smiles and happiness.

Through numerous charitable events, such as Project Smile and the Teen Driver Safety Program, the youth have continued to form a bond with their local law enforcement officers. They come to understand that the association members aren't something to be feared, but rather respected and looked up to as role models.



BOYNTON BEACH PD

Boynnton Beach PD are all smiles as they hand out delicious desserts to the local children at the Boardwalk Italian Ice and Creamery on July 9.



DELRAY BEACH PD

Delray Beach law enforcement officers and firefighters participated in an organized father-and-son fishing day at Lake Ida on June 5. The event was organized in partnership with the KOP Mentoring Network as a reward for good grades and conduct.



DELRAY BEACH PD

Delray Beach PD hosted a free Teen Driver Safety Program over the weekend of June 25. The event was designed for teenagers ages 16 to 19, who were taught by traffic experts how to understand traffic safety issues and develop safer driving habits.



JUPITER PD

Jupiter PD surprised the students of Jupiter Elementary School with Annie's Italian Ices on May 27. The kind gesture was a way to congratulate the students for finishing their school year and their FSA testing.



PBSO

PBSO demonstrated their safety equipment to more than 60 local summer campers from For The Children's Inc. on July 8. The event was also a great way for the children to meet their communities' law enforcement officers and ask them questions.



PBSO

Multiple officers from the PBSO had the honor of reading to 20 kindergartners from Barton Elementary School in celebration of the opening of the Ben Carson Reading Room.



STUART PD

The Stuart PD is hosting its eighth annual "Cops and Bobbers" program this summer. The initiative, which is an incentive-based program for children who display exceptional behavior, was formed in conjunction with the 10th Street Recreation Center Summer Program.



PBSO

The PBSO showed support to their community while helping safeguard the country's future generational leaders when they attended aftercare programs and community events on May 6. PBSO officers are always looking to ensure that their local children are staying active and safe.

GET YOUR PBA LICENSE TAG

Now available at your
local tax collector's office

All purchases support the PBA Heart Fund





In a Heartbeat,
We could save your life™

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DECREASE YOUR CHANCES OF A HEART ATTACK OR STROKE?

We provide state-of-the art on-site cardiovascular testing, detection, prevention and solutions.



REDUCING HEALTHCARE COSTS

Establishing a wellness program in your workplace not only keeps your employees healthier, it also means substantial savings for your company.

SIMPLE TESTS THAT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE

- ♥ Echocardiogram
- ♥ Stress Echocardiogram
- ♥ Carotid Doppler
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Ultrasound
- ♥ Femoral Doppler
- ♥ Transcranial Doppler
- ♥ Pulmonary Function Tests

OUR MISSION

We focus on the prevention of significant debilitating events, ultimately saving lives.

We have designed a strategically targeted methodology to identify individuals that are most at risk for a cardiac event.

ON-SITE CARDIAC TESTING

On-site cardiac testing means not having to wait in an office. We conveniently bring our cutting edge technology and team to your workplace or health event.

We diagnose, screen and prevent serious cardiac events. Our mission is to keep individuals healthy and live a longer life.



Advanced Cardiovascular Diagnostics In a heartbeat, we could save your life.

☎ (516) 488-5050

✉ info@cardiovasculartesting.com

🌐 Cardiovasculartesting.com

Understanding what probate is



KEVIN
DRUMMOND

I have spoken with many clients during the estate planning phase, and many ask what probate is and how do you avoid it. I have provided some insight into the probate process in order to answer some commonly asked questions.

What is a personal representative, and what does a personal representative do?

The personal representative is the person, bank or trust company appointed by a judge to be in charge of the administration of the decedent's probate estate. The term personal representative is used in Florida to include such terms as executor, executrix, administrator and administratrix. The personal representative has a legal duty to administer the probate estate according to Florida law. The personal representative must:

- Identify, gather, value and safeguard the decedent's probate assets.
- Publish a Notice to Creditors in a local newspaper to advise potential claimants to file claims in the manner required by law.
- Serve a Notice of Administration to those having any possible objection to the administration of the decedent's probate estate, providing information about the probate estate administration and procedures required to be followed in order to lodge such an objection.
- Conduct a diligent search to locate "known or reasonably ascertainable" creditors and notify these creditors of the time by which their claims must be filed.
- Object to improper claims and defend suits brought on such claims.
- Pay valid claims.
- File tax returns and pay any taxes properly due.
- Employ professionals to assist in administering the probate estate, including, for example, attorneys, certified public accountants, appraisers and investment advisers.
- Pay expenses of administering the probate estate.
- Pay statutory amounts to the decedent's surviving spouse or family.
- Distribute probate assets to beneficiaries.
- Close the probate estate.

What is probate?

Probate is a court-supervised process for identifying and gathering the assets of a deceased person (decedent), paying the decedent's debts and distributing the decedent's assets to his or her beneficiaries. In general, the decedent's assets pay the probate proceeding's costs, the decedent's funeral expenses, then the decedent's outstanding debts. The remainder of the assets are distributed to the decedent's beneficiaries. You can find the Florida Probate Code in Chapters 731 through 735 of the Florida Statutes. You can find the rules governing Florida probate proceedings in the Florida Probate Rules, Part I and Part II (Rules 5.010-5.530).

There are two types of probate administration under Florida law:

1. Formal administration. This is the general registration that many will be subject to due to the estate being greater than \$75,000.
2. Summary administration. This is for estates in which the decedent has been deceased for over two years or for full estates that do not exceed over \$75,000.

There is also a non-court-supervised administration proceeding called Disposition of Personal Property Without Administration. This type of administration applies only in limited circumstances.

What are probate assets?

Probate administration applies only to probate assets. Probate assets are those assets owned in the decedent's sole name at death, or owned by the decedent and one or more co-owners, which lacked a provision for automatic succession of ownership at death. Examples of assets or property that may be probate assets may include but are not limited to:

- A bank account or investment account in the sole name of a decedent. A bank account or investment account owned by the decedent and payable on death or transferable on death to another, or held jointly with rights of survivorship with another, may not be a probate asset.
- A life insurance policy, annuity contract or individual retirement account payable to the decedent's estate. A life insurance policy, annuity contract or individual retirement account payable to a beneficiary may not be a probate asset.
- Real estate titled in the sole name of the decedent, or the decedent's name and another person as tenants in common (unless it is homestead property). Real estate titled in the name of the decedent and one or more other persons as joint tenants with rights of survivorship is not a probate asset. Also, property owned by spouses as tenants by the entirety is not a probate asset on the death of the first spouse to die but goes automatically to the surviving spouse.

Why is probate necessary?

Probate may be necessary to transfer ownership of the decedent's probate assets to the decedent's beneficiaries. If the decedent left a valid will, the court will admit the will to probate (according to procedures) in order to transfer ownership of probate assets to the named beneficiaries. If the decedent had no will, probate might be necessary to pass ownership of the decedent's probate assets to those entitled to receive them under Florida law. Some assets do not require a probate proceeding to transfer ownership. You should contact a probate attorney to provide specific guidance.

Probate may also be necessary to wind up the decedent's financial affairs. Administration of the decedent's estate ensures that the decedent's creditors are paid if certain procedures are correctly followed.

What happens if there is no will?

Someone who dies without a valid will dies "intestate." Even if the decedent dies intestate, the probate assets are rarely turned

over to the state of Florida. The state would take the decedent's assets only if the decedent had no heirs.

If the decedent died intestate, a couple of examples of how the decedent's probate assets will be distributed to the decedent's heirs are as follows (found in Part I, Chapter 732 of the Florida Statutes):

- Suppose the decedent was survived by a spouse but left no living descendants. In that case, the surviving spouse receives all of the decedent's probate estate. A descendant is a person in any generational level down the descending line from the decedent and includes children, grandchildren, parents and more remote descendants.
- Suppose the decedent was survived by a spouse and left one or more living descendants (all of whom are the descendants of both the decedent and the spouse). The surviving spouse has no additional living descendants (who are not a descendant of the decedent). In that case, the surviving spouse receives all of the decedent's probate estate.
- Suppose the decedent was not married at the time of death but was survived by one or more descendants. In that case, those descendants will receive all of the decedent's probate estate. If there is more than one descendant, the decedent's probate estate will be divided among them in the manner prescribed by Florida law. The division will occur at the generational level of the decedent's children. So, for example, if one of the decedent's children did not survive the decedent, and if that child has surviving descendants, the share of the decedent's estate that would have been distributed to the deceased child will instead be distributed among the descendants of the deceased child.
- Suppose the decedent was not married at the time of death and had no living descendants. In that case, the decedent's probate estate will pass to the decedent's surviving parents, if they are living; otherwise, to the decedent's brothers and sisters.

Florida's intestate laws will pass the decedent's probate estate to other, more remote heirs if the decedent is not survived by any of the close relatives described above.

Who supervises the probate administration?

A circuit court judge in circuit court presides over probate proceedings. The judge will consider evidence to confirm the beneficiaries' identities or decedent's heirs as those who will receive the decedent's probate estate.

- Suppose the decedent had a will that nominated a personal representative. In that case, the judge will also decide whether the person or institution appointed is qualified to serve in that position.
- Suppose the nominated personal representative meets the statutory qualifications. In that case, the judge will issue Letters of Administration, also referred to simply as Letters. These Letters are evidence of the personal representative's authority to administer the decedent's probate estate.
- Suppose any questions or disputes arise while administering the decedent's probate estate. In that case, the judge will hold a hearing as necessary to resolve the matter in question. The judge's decision will be set forth in a written directive called an order.

What rights do other potential beneficiaries have in the decedent's probate estate?

Except as provided in the preceding section, a Florida resident has the right to entirely disinherit anyone. It is not necessary to give the disinherited beneficiary a nominal gift of, for example, \$1.

How long does probate take?

It depends on the facts of each situation. For example, the personal representative may need to sell real estate before settling the probate estate or resolve a disputed claim filed by a creditor or a lawsuit filed to challenge the validity of the will. Any of these circumstances would tend to lengthen the process of administration. Even the simplest of probate estates must be open for at least the three-month creditor claim period; it is reasonable to expect that a simple probate estate will take about five or six months to properly handle.

If the estate does not have to file a federal estate tax return, the final accounting and other documents necessary to close the probate estate are first due within 12 months after the court issues Letters of Administration to the personal representative. This period can be extended if necessary. With COVID-19, expect longer!

If the estate is required to file a federal estate tax return, the return is initially due nine months after the date of the decedent's death; however, the time for filing the return can be extended for another six months. If a federal estate tax return is required, the final accounting and other documents to close the probate administration are due within 12 months from the date the estate tax return, as extended, is due. This date can also be extended if necessary.

What if there is a revocable trust?

If the decedent had established what is commonly referred to as a revocable trust, a living trust or a revocable living trust, in certain circumstances the trustee might be required to pay expenses of administration of the decedent's probate estate, enforceable claims of the decedent's creditors and any federal estate taxes payable from the trust assets. The trustee of such a trust is always required to file a Notice of Trust with the clerk of the court in the county in which the decedent resided at the time of the decedent's death. The Notice of Trust gives information concerning the identity of the decedent as the grantor or settlor of the trust and the current trustee of the trust. The purpose of the Notice of Trust is to make the decedent's creditors aware of the existence of the trust and of their rights to enforce their claims against the trust assets.

All of the tasks that must be performed by a personal representative in connection with the administration of a probate estate must also be performed by the trustee of a revocable trust, though the trustee generally will not need to file the same documents with the clerk of the court. Furthermore, if a probate proceeding is not commenced, the assets making up the decedent's revocable trust are subject to a two-year creditor claim period, rather than the three-month non-claim period available to a personal representative.

The assets in the decedent's revocable trust are a part of the gross estate for purposes of determining federal estate tax liability.

Attorney Kevin Drummond founded Blue Line Law Firm in West Palm Beach in April 2019. He currently serves as the PBCPBA adviser on wills and estate planning. He worked for the Division of Capitol Police in Tallahassee from 2005 to 2007. In 2018 through 2019, he worked at the Palm Beach Shores Police Department in various roles, including police officer, accreditation manager and legal adviser. He provided legal counsel and advised the police department on legal and criminal matters. He can be reached at 888-601-0702 or log on to www.TBLLE.com. You can set an appointment by texting LAWHELP to 31996.

How possible tax law changes could impact you



STEVE
OLSON

Over the past few months, we have fielded a number of questions from our clients about the proposed tax law changes and how they might impact you. We have outlined the details below, although we believe that the vast majority of those changes will be a nonissue for most of our law enforcement clients.

Proposed change: Increased income tax rates

President Joe Biden's proposed income tax increases for the wealthy would hit individuals earning more than \$452,700 in 2022 and married couples earning at least \$509,300, according to a White House official.

The new top 39.6 percent tax bracket, proposed in Biden's American Families Plan, would encompass less than 1 percent of taxpayers. The new top rate, increased from the current top rate of 37 percent, would be applied beginning in 2022.

The details of the proposal mean that the tipping point for an individual to be affected is even higher than the \$400,000 previously proposed.

Proposed change: Increased capital gains tax rate

When you sell an appreciated asset (such as a stock or house), typically you will pay capital gains tax on the appreciation. Long-term capital gains are currently paid at a lower, reduced rate, while short-term capital gains (on investments held 365 days or less) are paid at your normal marginal rate, no different than earned income. President Biden has proposed eliminating the long-term capital gains rate and taxing all capital gains at short-term rates.

Currently, the top long-term capital gains tax rate is 20 percent, with an additional 3.8 percent net investment income tax (NIIT, also known as the Obamacare surcharge), for a total rate of 23.8 percent. The proposal not only eliminates long-term rates, but it also increases the top capital gains (and marginal) tax rate to 39.6 percent, with the additional 3.8 percent NIIT, for a total rate of 43.4 percent. The Biden administration has said that this capital gain, rate will only apply to single or married filers who make more than \$1 million per year.

Proposed change: No more step-up in cost basis upon death

Currently, when you pass away with a highly appreciated asset (such as a stock or house), your heirs will receive a "step-up" in basis. In other words, the cost basis resets to the current market value of the asset as of your date of death (or six months after your date of death, if your executor chooses the alternate valuation date).

For example, let's say your parents bought their house in 1985 for \$75,000, and they pass away next year, in 2022. The current market value at the time of their death is \$475,000. Under current tax law, if you sell mom and dad's house for \$475,000, you would pay no taxes because under the current tax code the property cost basis will "step up" at your parents' death to current market value. You only pay tax on the value of the appreciation that occurs after their date of death. Congress has proposed

to do away with that, and you would maintain the original cost basis of \$75,000. When you sell the property, you would pay long-term capital gains on \$475,000 (current value) - \$75,000 (cost basis) = \$400,000 and pay an estimated tax of \$80,000 assuming a 20 percent capital gains tax rate (potentially \$173,600 in taxes at the highest 43.4 percent tax rate under the proposal).

Proposed change: Elimination of 1031 exchanges for real estate

A 1031 exchange is when an investor sells a piece of investment real estate and subsequently buys another piece of "like kind" property, using a qualified intermediary, within 180 days (the new property must also be identified within 45 days of closing on the old one — and you can't take receipt of the proceeds from the sale in between). When this is done, the capital gains are deferred and rolled into the new property so that no tax is paid. The Biden administration has proposed eliminating this benefit for investments with profits over \$500,000.

For example, let's say you purchased a rental property for \$100,000 during the financial crisis in 2008 to 2009, and the value of that property is now \$400,000. You could sell this property, subsequently purchase another property and defer the \$300,000 capital gain under the new proposal. Now, if the value of the property was \$600,000, you would no longer be able to do the 1031 exchange, because the profit would be over \$500,000. Certainly, there will need to be more clarification from the U.S. Treasury Department around variations of these scenarios, should this provision of the bill be passed.

The bottom line

Chances are, if these proposed changes are enacted, they won't be the last changes you see in your lifetime. What is important to note is that no matter what Congress does from a tax perspective, it is imperative to focus on your path to retirement, your financial and retirement plan. Continue to stay diversified in your investments, have the correct and appropriate insurance coverages in place, stick to and monitor your planned contributions or distributions (if in retirement) and block out the political noise. Historically, the market performs almost the same no matter which political party is in office. Don't let short-term emotions lead you to make irrational decisions that can cause long-term financial damage. Remember the old adage "This too shall pass." Stay the course — provided that it was already a good one.

Steve Olson, founder and managing member of Atlantic Wealth Partners, has more than a decade of experience in focused tax planning, legal strategy interpretation, investment management and advisory services to wealthy individuals and families throughout Florida.

PALM BEACH COUNTY POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION PREFERRED HOME LOAN PROGRAM

The Original No Lender Fee Loan



- › No application fee
- › No processing fee
- › No commitment fee
- › No document prep fee
- › No underwriting fee
- › Additional lender credit available

- › National direct lender licensed in all 50 states
- › Purchase/Refinance/Cash Out/Home Improvement
- › Second Home/Vacation Home/Investment Property
- › FHA/VA/USDA/Conventional/Jumbo Financing

Serving active, retired, and family members.

CONTACT US FOR EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS

call **833.724.8700**

email **UNION@MYCCMORTGAGE.COM**

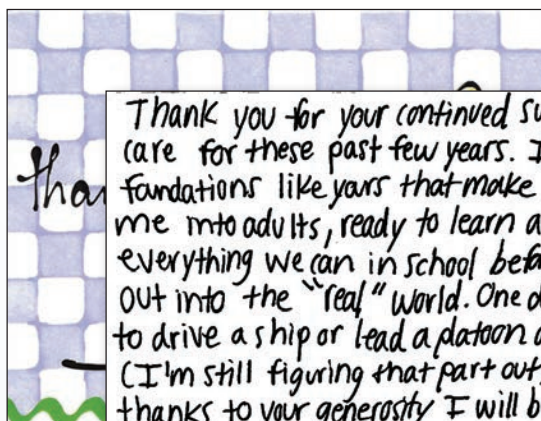
 **CROSSCOUNTRY**
MORTGAGE, LLC™

41 Pinelawn Road, Suite GL-2 | Melville, NY 11747 NMLS3029 NMLS1681501

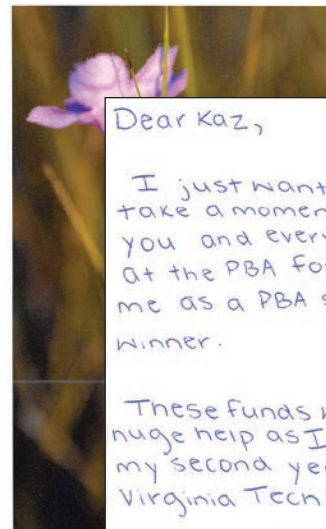
NMLS3029 NMLS1681501 | All loans subject to underwriting approval. Certain restrictions apply. Call for details. CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC, NMLS3029 (www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org) CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC is an FHA Approved Lending Institution and is not acting on behalf of or at the direction of HUD/FHA or the Federal government. Subject property and borrower income and credit must qualify to USDA guidelines. Certificate of Eligibility required for VA loans. Licensed Mortgage Banker – New York State Banking Department. **Terms and conditions:** This is not a commitment to lend. All loans subject to program guidelines and underwriting approval. Loan program terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Available for first lien mortgage purchase money loans or refinance loans only, subject to certain minimum loan amounts. Discounts will be applied at closing as a lender credit up to a maximum of \$2,198, limitations may apply. Borrower cannot receive cash at closing. Only one offer per loan transaction will be accepted. No cash value. Available only on loans originated by CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC. Borrower must mention the program at the time of application. CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC has the right to accept, decline, or limit the use of any discount or offer. Copyright© 2020 CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC.



Thank-You Notes TO THE PBA



Thank you for your continued support and care for these past few years. It is foundations like yours that make kids like me into adults, ready to learn and absorb everything we can in school before heading out into the "real" world. One day I hope to drive a ship or lead a platoon of marines (I'm still figuring that part out). And thanks to your generosity I will be able to do this. - Kacey Moore
1/C MIDN USN



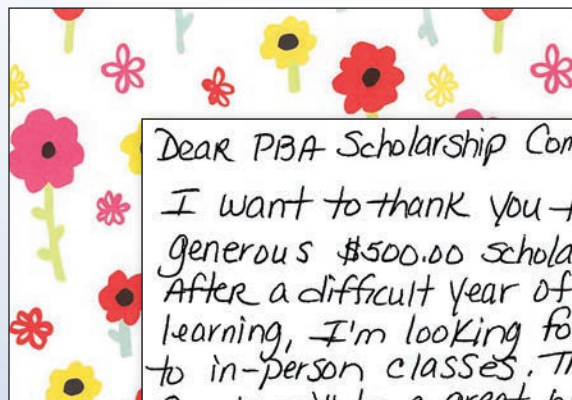
Dear Kaz,

I just wanted to take a moment to thank you and everyone at the PBA for selecting me as a PBA scholarship winner.

These funds will be a huge help as I go into my second year at Virginia Tech!

Thank you again!

Sincerely,
Abbie Nauss

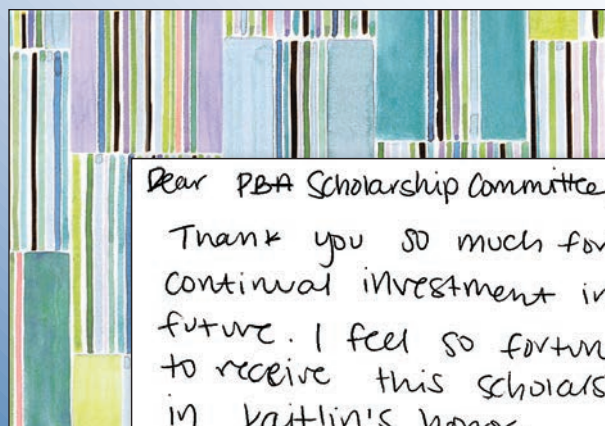


Dear PBA Scholarship Committee
I want to thank you for the generous \$500.00 scholarship. After a difficult year of online learning, I'm looking forward to in-person classes. These funds will be a great help with expenses. Thank you again.
Elizabeth Combs.

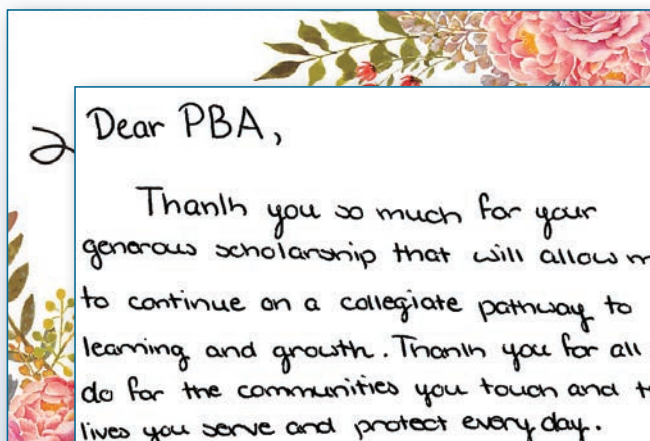
Dear PBA,

I am writing to express my utmost gratitude for receiving a scholarship through your organization this year. Your generosity better allows me to continue my education and take part in more opportunities. This year I am a rising junior at the University of Notre Dame earning a BA with two minors, taking part in 3 clubs, working for the student activities office, my dorm council, and an internship (along w/ other projects)! I will make good use of the doors opened to me. Thank you again for the gift.

Warm regards,
Destiny Lemer



Dear PBA Scholarship Committee,
Thank you so much for your continual investment in my future. I feel so fortunate to receive this scholarship in Kaitlin's honor.
Sincerely,
Courtney Baer



Dear PBA,

Thank you so much for your generous scholarship that will allow me to continue on a collegiate pathway to learning and growth. Thank you for all you do for the communities you touch and the lives you serve and protect every day.
With respect and admiration,
Savannah Simmons



Dear Law Enforcement Officer,

Even though your job is extremely dangerous I bet you rarely get a "Thank You." And that's why I'm sending you this card.

I know you're part of the thin blue line standing between civilized society and the madness and mayhem out there right now. Thank you for your bravery. And whatever you do, please don't quit - America needs you!

Sincerely,

Signed

TYB-SS

Thank you for your continuous
Support in our community!

Thank you!
Jessica + Michael
Tobin

just a
note

199-Two room suites with private bedroom and separate living area
Complimentary full cooked to order breakfast & cocktail reception daily
Outdoor pool, whirlpool, fitness center, jogging trail
Complimentary local transportation & easy access to both Florida Turnpike and I-95
Corporate rates for business travel, meetings and social groups/events

We've Got Your Back,
and Appreciate Your Service!

First Responders with their families
SAVE 5% - 20% ON BEST AVAILABLE RATES!

Call now for details and
reservations!



www.bocaratonsuites.hilton.com
7920 Glades Rd. Boca Raton, FL 33434
561-483-3600

SALUTING YOUR SERVICE BY SECURING YOUR SUCCESS.



*Buy or refi through our
Veterans Affairs Financing Program.*

Our mission is to build lifelong associations with our clients. No one deserves that commitment more than those who have served our country in the military.

Whether you're purchasing your first home or refinancing your current loan, your best interests and long-term financial success will always be our top priority.

EASY REQUIREMENTS, OUTSTANDING BENEFITS:

- › Purchase or refinance
- › Credit score as low as 580
- › 100% financing, 30-year fixed rates
- › Condo, townhouse, single family, 2-4 unit income properties
- › No down payment or mortgage insurance
- › Closing cost credits available
- › Funding fee waived with a 10% VA disability or greater
- › You can reuse your VA eligibility

Get the benefits you deserve from our VA loan program.

CONTACT US FOR EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS

call **833.724.8700**

email **UNION@MYCCMORTGAGE.COM**



41 Pinelawn Road, Suite GL-2 | Melville, NY 11747 NMLS3029 NMLS1681501

NMLS3029 NMLS1681501 | All loans subject to underwriting approval. Certain restrictions apply. Call for details. CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC, NMLS3029 (www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org) CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC is an FHA Approved Lending Institution and is not acting on behalf of or at the direction of HUD/FHA or the Federal government. Subject property and borrower income and credit must qualify to USDA guidelines. Certificate of Eligibility required for VA loans. Licensed Mortgage Banker - New York State Banking Department. **Terms and conditions:** This is not a commitment to lend. All loans subject to program guidelines and underwriting approval. Loan program terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Available for first lien mortgage purchase money loans or refinance loans only, subject to certain minimum loan amounts. Discounts will be applied at closing as a lender credit up to a maximum of \$2,198, limitations may apply. Borrower cannot receive cash at closing. Only one offer per loan transaction will be accepted. No cash value. Available only on loans originated by CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC. Borrower must mention the program at the time of application. CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC has the right to accept, decline, or limit the use of any discount or offer. Copyright© 2020 CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC.

