



# PROTECTING, LEADING & UNITING

— SINCE 1893 —



2015

ANNUAL REPORT

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## MISSION AND VALUES

Day-to-day business of the Florida Sheriffs Association is directed by a strategic plan created and approved by the 67 sheriffs of Florida. The major goals outlined in the plan are:

1. Protecting our youth
2. Providing timely and effective service to sheriffs
3. Promoting public safety through the legislative process
4. Promoting the activities of sheriffs
5. Effectively managing our resources

### OUR VISION

Florida's sheriffs, united in purpose and voice, for the protection of Florida's citizens and visitors.

### OUR MISSION

The mission of the Florida Sheriffs Association as a self-sustaining, charitable organization, is to foster the effectiveness of the Office of Sheriff through leadership, innovative practices, legislative initiatives, education and training.

### OUR VALUES

The Florida Sheriffs Association values integrity, fairness, commitment and accountability. Integrity is practiced by each of our members and the organizations they represent and we are committed to the protection of the Office of the Sheriff and to our obligation to the citizens we serve. We practice fairness and accountability in our interactions with the members of our organizations, our citizens, and the visitors to this state.

# WELCOME LETTER FROM FSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, STEVE CASEY



Welcome to the Florida Sheriffs Association (FSA) Annual Report for 2015. We are proud to present this information so you might learn more about the FSA and the programs and services we provide.

The FSA was established in 1893 to promote, protect, and preserve the Office of Sheriff, and in doing so enhance public safety in our state. As the recognized “Voice of the Sheriffs,” we have become the leading advocates to protect the rights of crime victims and strengthen the criminal justice system in our state.

Through our many programs and services, we provide assistance to the sheriffs to ensure that they have the information and resources needed to carry out their public safety mission.

Today, the FSA is one of the largest, most successful state sheriffs’ associations in the nation, and this would not be possible without the continued support of our honorary, business, and law enforcement members, as well as our corporate sponsors. In this regard, I want to thank you all for your valuable support.

If you are not a member and are interested in joining, please complete the membership application on our website ([www.flsheriffs.org](http://www.flsheriffs.org)).

Thank you again for your support of the FSA and the Office of Sheriff!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Steve Casey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

STEVE CASEY  
*Executive Director*  
*Protecting, Leading & Uniting Since 1893*

# SERVING THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Our number one priority is providing assistance to Florida's 67 sheriffs' offices. The following are notable services provided by FSA during fiscal year 2015.

## LEGAL SERVICES

FSA retains legal counsel to provide legal services to sheriffs and their staffs, in an effort to reduce liability and avoid costly litigation. During fiscal year 2015, legal counsel:

- Responded to 159 requests for legal advice for sheriffs and their staff on a variety of law enforcement and administrative issues
- Issued statewide legal alerts on issues impacting sheriffs' operations
- Coordinated annual legal advisors meeting, which provides training and a forum to address current issues for sheriffs' legal counsel
- Provided statewide training to sheriffs and their staffs on a variety of law enforcement and administrative issues

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

FSA and its legal counsel respond to requests for information pertaining to all aspects of sheriffs' administrative operations, including preparation of budgets, audits, and human resource issues. FSA also serves as a resource for agencies to seek information from other sheriff's offices on best practices. Highlights for fiscal year 2015 include:

- Updated the FSA Sheriffs' Manual to reflect changes resulting from legislative acts, judicial rulings, and Attorney General Opinions. The manual serves as a resource guide for sheriffs and their employees.
- Upon requests from sheriffs and their employees, conducted numerous surveys on a variety of fiscal and human resource related topics
- Responded to inquiries regarding fiscal and human resource related issues

## JAIL SERVICES

FSA provides support and technical expertise to sheriffs' personnel regarding their jail operations. During fiscal year 2015, FSA provided certification courses for jail inspectors and upon request, performed jail assessments to assist with locating and correcting issues that might result in liability for the sheriff, and therefore, the taxpayers.





Additionally, FSA provides support to the Florida Model Jail Standards Committee, which oversees the establishment and revisions of Florida's jail minimum standards and rules. The Florida Model Jail Standards Task Force Subcommittee continues to review, revise, and develop new standards for submission to the full committee. During fiscal year 2015, the Florida Model Jail Standards Task Force Subcommittee developed the following:

- Code of Ethics for Jail/Medical Inspectors
- Florida Model Jail Standards (FMJS) Awards/Nomination Program
- FMJS Inspectors Evaluation Process
- FMJS Inspectors Critique
- FMJS Agency Inspection Compliance Form

### LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

FSA provides a variety of law enforcement services to sheriffs and their employees. This includes researching and providing model policies and guidelines for sheriffs and their employees. A very important aspect of our law enforcement services is coordinating the FSA Task Force operations.

### TASK FORCE OPERATIONS

The Florida Sheriffs Task Force launches special operations to address specific areas of need. During fiscal year 2014-2015, two operations were conducted which focused primarily on the protection and safety of youth.



**Operation Dry Spring** was held March 16 through April 12, 2015, in conjunction with Spring Break schedules throughout the state, allowing Sheriffs' Offices to focus on the potential heightened use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs by youth. During this time period, deputies made over 3,000 business checks and more than 2,000 arrests.



**Operation Safe Schools** ran from August 10 through September 18, 2015, and focused on traffic safety in the area of school zones. Over this four-week period, there were nearly 6,000 citations issued for school zone violations, 116 citations issued for passing a stopped school bus, and 146 arrests generated from directed enforcement in school zones.

# LEGISLATIVE

Florida sheriffs had a successful 2015 legislative session. All three of our top priorities passed (Crisis Intervention Team funding, electronic oaths and homeowners' rights), with two of the priorities getting accomplished before the end of an abbreviated regular session. The 2015 legislative session ended early when the House of Representatives concluded on the 57th day (Tuesday). The Senate met until the following day (Wednesday) and then stayed adjourned until the 60th and final day of session. At the time there was a vast disagreement regarding health care spending, and this difference of opinions led to a breakdown in budget negotiations. After a month long cooling off period, both the House and Senate agreed to reconvene on June 1 for a special session to pass a state budget. The special session concluded on June 19 and the budget was then sent to Governor Scott for his approval.

Bills that passed that were important to sheriffs included, a public record exemption for body-worn cameras by law enforcement, and a bill to expand civil citation program for juveniles, which passed after sheriffs and the FSA lobbying team worked to remove language that would have mandated civil citations. Bills that failed to pass included large-scale casino gambling, as well as a bill that would have overhauled Florida's asset forfeiture laws by removing a sheriff's ability to expend forfeited proceeds for law enforcement operations.

Through teamwork – with sheriffs, their staff, and our lobby team at Southern Strategy Group and Guy Spearman Management – FSA was successful in passing the sheriffs' priorities and fighting bills that diminished public safety. The success would not have been possible without the dedication of the many individuals committed to the FSA's legislative program.

## THE 2015 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Funding

FSA's top legislative priority was to obtain state funding to expand Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training to all 67 sheriff's offices. CIT is an evidenced-based practice designed to improve the outcomes of law enforcement interactions with people living with mental illnesses. CIT is both a training program, and a collaborative effort that builds community partnerships with mental health service providers. The slogan of the 40-hour training course is "CIT – It's more than just training." Due to the leadership of FSA President Sheriff David Shoar and Legislative Chair Sheriff Bob Gualtieri's testimony in several legislative committees, FSA was able to gain support for the initiative. The Florida Legislature has appropriated \$800,000 to the Department of Legal Affairs and will be directed to FSA to pay for training costs associated with conducting multiple weeklong trainings. This funding will train law enforcement officers to safely assess and identify people in mental health crisis and help connect them with community treatment, as well as help keep them out of the criminal justice system by providing training on mental health related topics, de-escalation skills, and how to access community-based services.



### **Electronic Oaths**

Much of the paperwork that law enforcement officers handle on a daily basis require an attestation or oath. Probable cause affidavits and witness affidavits – both of which require sworn statements – are the documents most frequently notarized by law enforcement officers. These are also documents that are most likely to be prepared in the field and sent in an electronic format. With the passage of SB 526, law enforcement officers can now electronically notarize work-related documents. Allowing for electronic oaths will lead to a more efficient use of time and resources.



### **Homeowners' Rights**

Law enforcement is often summoned by a property owner to remove the unwanted guest, but without clear statutory authority law enforcement cannot take action. This adversely affects the property owner's rights and forces costly litigation to protect their property rights.

HB 305 creates a way for law enforcement to provide protections to homeowners, property owners, or lessees when an unwanted guest refuses to leave. Instead of using the Landlord Tenant Act, a property owner can provide a law enforcement officer with a sworn affidavit that the person is a transient resident. After which, the property owner can issue a trespass warning to the unwanted guest with an officer present. If the guest does not comply with the warning, he or she can be arrested for trespassing.

### **Body-Worn Cameras for Law Enforcement Officers**

Body cameras, like dashboard cameras in patrol vehicles, are tools that when used appropriately can improve the quality of relationships between law enforcement and the community. FSA supports the right of each sheriff and their community to engage in discussions regarding the benefits and challenges of using these cameras. Part of that dialogue must consider the financial feasibility for each agency to deploy body cameras, such as purchasing the equipment, training, storage, and complying with public records requests.

SB 248 creates a public record exemption for videos captured through the use of body cameras, requires law enforcement to disclose videos in certain situations, and provides minimum retention requirements. Public records exemptions are necessary to ensure the privacy of citizens filmed with body cameras is maintained, and so that law enforcement agencies can continue active criminal investigations without revealing sensitive criminal intelligence. In addition, the bill provides that minimum retention rates guarantee records are kept for at least 90 days while still allowing agencies the discretion to retain videos for longer periods of time to ensure its availability as evidence for possible civil litigation, child dependency cases, or officer complaints.

# TRAINING

## CONFERENCES

The Florida Sheriffs Association conducted training conferences for sheriffs and their staffs, as well as other law enforcement personnel. In addition to quality training, these conferences provide a very valuable opportunity for networking with other agencies to compare best practices, and access to exhibitors with the latest technology to assist them in selecting the best products and services for their agencies. Conferences conducted during fiscal year 2015 include:

- Sheriffs' Winter and Summer Conferences
- Executive Leadership Conference for law enforcement, jail, and administrative personnel
- Fleet Administration & Vehicle Exposition Conference
- Executive Assistants Conference

## TRAINING

In addition to our conferences, FSA sponsors and provides a variety of management and technical training programs across the state. FSA offers free and affordable fee-based training for both certified and non-certified personnel. Highlights of 2015 included:

- Graduated 30 from the FSA Commander's Academy, a rigorous training curriculum for middle and upper level managers, with specific focus on leadership, ethics, discipline, and news media relations;
- Over 30 training courses and webinars in areas such as human resources, civil process, risk management, human trafficking, and other law enforcement related topics.

## FSA TRAINING CENTER

While FSA conducts some of our courses in the training center at the FSA headquarters in Tallahassee, it is also open to other state and local law enforcement agencies. These agencies are invited to use the training facility free of charge for law enforcement related training programs, saving valuable taxpayer dollars from being spent on renting other training facilities. During fiscal year 2015, state and local law enforcement agencies conducted 27 training programs on a wide variety of law enforcement related topics in the FSA Training Center.





# YOUTH PROGRAMS

Since founding the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches in 1957, the Florida Sheriffs have been involved in developing programs to benefit youth. That effort has expanded over the years to address the specific needs of young people.

## FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES

More than 100,000 boys and girls, and their families, have been given an education, a home or other services provided by the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. FSA continues to play a major role in developing the financial resources to keep the Youth Ranches going – and growing. During fiscal year 2015, FSA made cash donations totaling \$245,076 to the Youth Ranches and, through direct mail appeals, raised additional monies earmarked specifically for the FSyr.

## SHERIFF'S EXPLORERS YOUTH PROGRAM

The Law Enforcement Explorer program, started as a division of the Boy Scouts of America, was established in the 1960's as a way to attract young, motivated individuals interested in a career in law enforcement. In 1979, the Florida Sheriffs Association helped launch the Florida Sheriff's Explorers Association, which supports a number of Explorer Posts throughout the state. This program has proven to be very successful in promoting careers in law enforcement as well as helping those who choose alternative careers to have a healthy respect and strong relationship with the men and women who work in law enforcement. In addition to in-kind services, FSA made a \$10,000 donation in fiscal year 2015 to support the efforts of this worthwhile program.



## FSA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In 1993, FSA began offering college scholarships to eligible dependent sons and daughters of full-time sheriff's office employees. During fiscal year 2015, two scholarships were also awarded to deserving Youth Ranch residents and two scholarships were awarded to participants in the Sheriff's Explorers Youth Program. In addition, FSA awarded 10 scholarships to the sons and daughters of sheriff's office employees pursuing a degree in law enforcement.

## FSA TEEN DRIVER CHALLENGE

The Florida Sheriffs Association developed the Teen Driver Challenge in 2006 to combat the high crash and fatality rate of teen drivers on Florida highways. FSA organized a team of law enforcement driving experts who are certified as emergency vehicle operation instructors to develop the curriculum. The program was rolled out in early 2007 and, as of 2015, more than half of the sheriffs' offices offer the TDC training. The 12-hour course takes place over two days with four hours of classroom and eight hours of hands-on instruction on a driving course. FSA makes available (at no cost) student workbooks, training DVDs, CDs, banners and bright red shirts for instructors on the range, in addition to other services. During 2015, more than 2,000 students participated in a TDC course and 264 law enforcement instructors were certified as driving instructors through the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for the TDC program. For more information, visit the website [teendriverschallenge.com](http://teendriverschallenge.com).

# DISCOUNT PURCHASING PROGRAMS

## 1122 PROGRAM

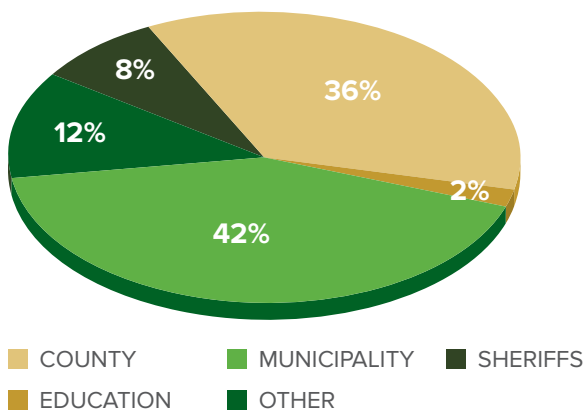
The Florida Sheriffs Association 1122 Program allows state and local government agencies to receive discounts on purchases related to counter drug activities, homeland security, and emergency response operations. Currently FSA has 82 participating agencies and during the FY 2015, 22 of these agencies realized a savings of \$636,951 over current retail prices. The 22 agencies that participated during this fiscal year consist of 17 sheriffs' offices, two state agencies, and three county agencies (other than sheriffs' offices).

## FSA BID PROGRAMS

Since 1993, the Florida Sheriffs Association, with the assistance of the Purchasing and Fleet Managers Committee, has managed bid programs to help law enforcement and local government agencies secure the most economically priced vehicles tailored to their specific needs. The bid programs also eliminate the need for local government agencies to conduct their own bids, which saves valuable time and resources. Participating agencies have saved millions of dollars on purchases, including:

- Police and administrative vehicles, utility vehicles, trucks, and vans
- Heavy trucks and equipment
- Fire and rescue vehicles and other fleet equipment
- Tires and related services

## PERCENTAGE OF FLEET PURCHASE PARTICIPATION FOR TWELVE MONTH PERIOD OF 2015



## POLICE RATED, ADMINISTRATIVE, UTILITY VEHICLES, TRUCKS & VANS CONTRACTS

CONTRACT ITEMS	CONTRACT YEAR	MFR.	MAKE/ MODELS	UNITS SOLD
	2012	21	149	217
	2013	15	162	3247
	2014	15	201	2415
	2015	19	205	256

## CAB & CHASSIS & OTHER FLEET EQUIPMENT

CONTRACT ITEMS	CONTRACT YEAR	MFR.	MAKE/ MODELS	UNITS SOLD
	2012	62	201	108
	2013	96	256	1225
	2014	112	312	1133
	2015	126	352	31

## FIRE RESCUE VEHICLES

CONTRACT ITEMS	CONTRACT YEAR	MFR.	MAKE/ MODELS	UNITS SOLD
	2012 - 2014	18	462	16
	2014 - 2015	28	89	19

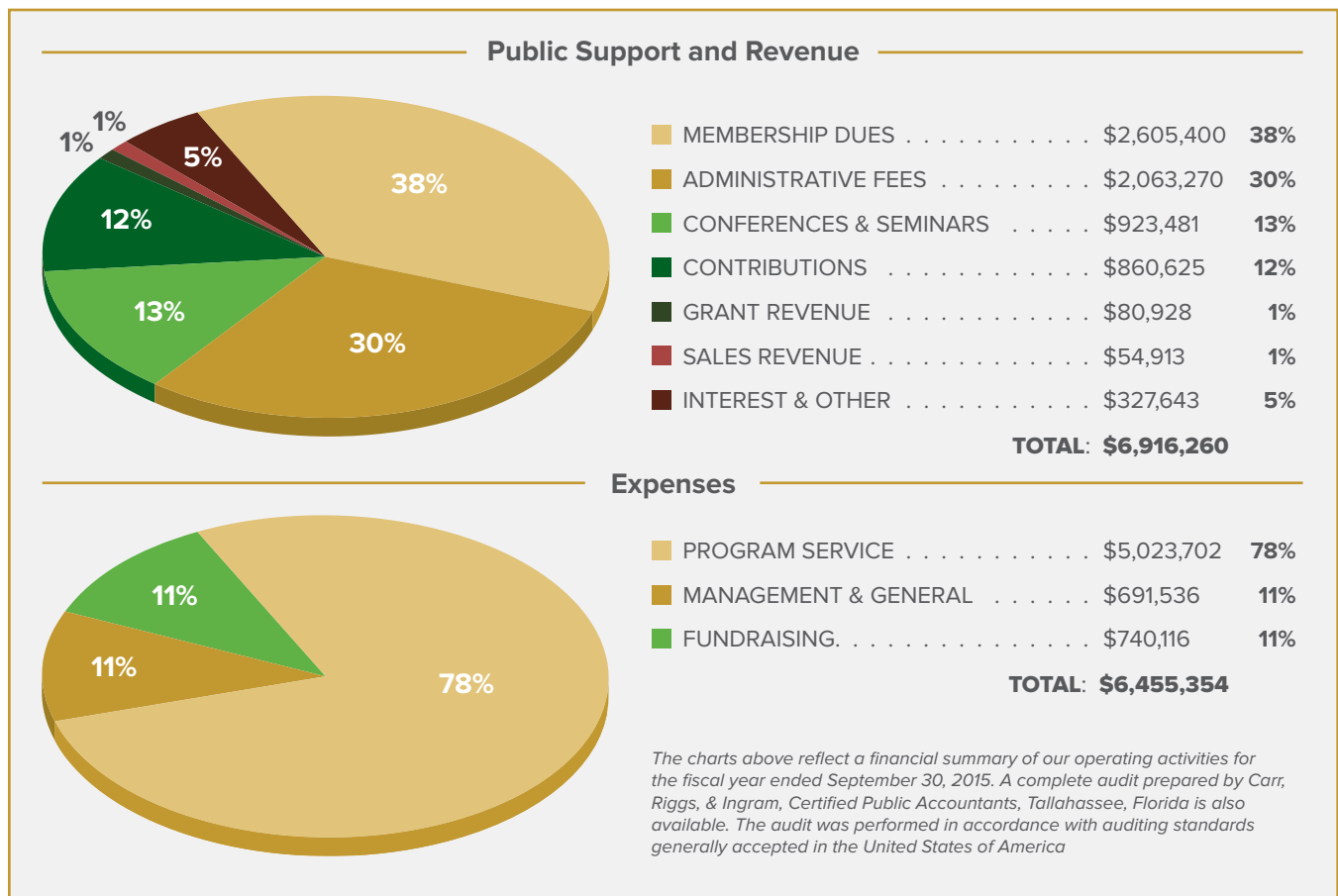
## TIRES

CONTRACT 15/17-07-0220	MFR.	UNITS SOLD
	BRIDGESTONE	9,829
	CONTINENTAL	1,489
	GOODYEAR	2,174
	MICHELIN	1,036
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>14,528</b>

# FINANCIAL

- FSA finished the fiscal year 2015 in a strong financial position, which allows the Association to continue providing much-needed services even during tough economic times, and the ability to continue to offer the training our law enforcement requires to succeed.
- Management has continued to show fiscal responsibility in limiting expenses and maximizing the amounts used for programmatic purposes, as we closed the year with only 11% of expenses being for administrative support.
- Leadership also continues to maintain a balanced budget each year, and continually researches and strives to find new revenue streams that can be used to help fund the growing needs of Florida's sheriffs.
- FSA has once again, earned the highest audit rating, known as an "unmodified opinion," from the external audit firm of Carr, Riggs & Ingram.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015



### FOR A COPY OF THE COMPLETE AUDIT, CONTACT:

Florida Sheriffs Association • P.O. Box 12519 – Tallahassee, FL 32317-2519



# RECOGNITION AND RESOURCES

## LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL

On May 4, 2015, the Association held a law enforcement memorial ceremony to honor the lives of three officers killed in the line of duty during 2014:

- Officer Mark H. Lawson, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
- Deputy Jonathon Scott Pine, Orange County Sheriff's Office
- Deputy Christopher Smith, Leon County Sheriff's Office

The ceremony was held in front of the beautiful law enforcement memorial wall and garden located at the FSA headquarters building in Tallahassee, Florida. Dedicated in 2002, the memorial wall and garden honor the men and women who gave their lives to serve and protect the citizens of Florida. Each year, FSA hosts a ceremony to honor the fallen officers from the previous year, after their names have been inscribed on the granite wall. Their survivors are also recognized during the solemn ceremony.





## AWARDS

FSA is proud to show its support for the men and women of law enforcement through several awards programs which recognize outstanding achievements and promote professionalism among law enforcement professionals. Awards recognized during fiscal year 2015 include:

- **Law Enforcement Officer of the Year** – Taylor County Deputy Robert Lundy received the 2015 award, and was recognized at the FSA Summer Conference. For his service, Deputy Lundy received a commemorative plaque and a \$2,000 honorarium.
- **Corrections Officer of the Year** – Brevard County Deputy Patrick Arquette received the 2015 award, and was recognized at the FSA Winter Conference. For his service, Deputy Arquette received a commemorative plaque and a \$2,000 honorarium.
- **Dispatcher of the Year** – Jackson County Communications Officer Deborah Mathewuse received the inaugural award, and was recognized at the FSA Winter Conference. For her service, Officer Mathewuse received a commemorative plaque and a \$2,000 honorarium.
- **Honorary Sheriff** – Over the past 24 years, FSA had bestowed the title of honorary sheriff upon only nine individuals. In 2015, two individuals – Roger Bouchard of Live Oak and Bill Powers of Tallahassee – were so honored in recognition of their many years of unwavering service and support for the law enforcement profession, the FSA and the Office of Sheriff. Bouchard and Powers officially accepted their titles during the 2015 conference in Fort Lauderdale.

## PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

Through the association communications team, sheriffs, honorary, business and law enforcement members, plus other stakeholders, are kept informed of the latest developments in the law enforcement/public safety profession. The mediums used in fiscal year 2015 include:

- **The Sheriff's Star** quarterly; three issues, plus the comprehensive Annual Guide to Government
- **All Points Bulletin** newsletter for law enforcement members
- **Sheriffs Manual** (3 parts), which provides guidance to sheriffs and their staffs on a wide variety of laws, policy and procedures impacting their operations
- **Weekly Insight**, weekly e-newsletter
- **FSA Website**
- **Social Media**: Facebook and Twitter
- **FloridaSheriffsBuyersGuide.com**, the ultimate guide to products and services for law enforcement and corrections

# FSA 2015-2016 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

## OFFICERS

- President, Sheriff Sadie Darnell, Alachua County
- Vice President, Sheriff Jerry Demings, Orange County
- Secretary, Sheriff Brad Steube, Manatee County
- Treasurer, Sheriff Mike Adkinson, Walton County
- Immediate Past President, Sheriff David Shoar, St. Johns County

## EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS (NON VOTING)

- Chaplain, Sheriff Bobby Haddock, Washington County
- Sgt. at Arms, Sheriff Wayne Ivey, Brevard County
- Executive Director, Steve Casey (appointed position)

## DIRECTORS

### **DISTRICT 1: Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Wakulla, Walton, Washington**

- Sheriff Lou Roberts, Jackson County
- Sheriff Mike Harrison, Gulf County
- Sheriff Glenn Kimbrel, Calhoun County

### **DISTRICT 2: Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee, Taylor, Union**

- Sheriff Mark Hunter, Columbia County (Chair)
- Sheriff Bobby Schultz, Gilchrist County
- Sheriff Gordon Smith, Bradford County (Vice-Chair)

### **DISTRICT 3: Brevard, Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Levy, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia**

- Sheriff Deryl Loar, Indian River County
- Sheriff Gary Borders, Lake County
- Sheriff Robert Hansell, Osceola County

### **DISTRICT 4: Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Miami-Dade, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Sarasota**

- Sheriff Arnold Lanier, Hardee County
- Sheriff Ken Mascara, St. Lucie County
- Sheriff Steve Whidden, Hendry County









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***flsheriffs.org***

