



FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION Resolution 2010-1

February 9, 2010

WHEREAS, the Florida Sheriffs Association has historically opposed any efforts to weaken, reduce, erode or mitigate the power, duties or obligations invested in the Office of Sheriff in the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Constitution in Article VIII, Section 1 (d) created the Office of Sheriff and invested the Sheriff with certain powers necessary to carry out his/her duties to serve and protect the public, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature in F.S. 30.53, established the independence of Sheriffs shall be preserved concerning the purchase of supplies and equipment, selection of personnel, the hiring and firing, and setting of salaries of such personnel, and

WHEREAS, several years ago, the Florida Supreme Court reversed a long standing precedent by finding that Sheriff's deputies are entitled to engage in collective bargaining, and form labor unions, and

WHEREAS, unionization has resulted in the identification of a conflicting statute that fails to clearly provide for resolution of a collective bargaining impasse, and

WHEREAS, Sheriffs in certain counties have been negatively impacted by the Public Employees Relations Commission decision regarding negotiations impasse with the labor union, and

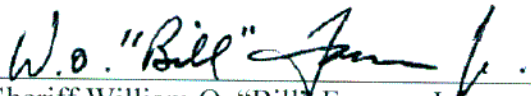
WHEREAS, no office, agency, body, or commission at the county level can meet all the conditions set forth in statute for a "Legislative Body", a change in F.S. 447.203 (10), is necessary to clarify the Sheriff, and other county constitutional officers, have the power to resolve impasse issues with labor unions for their respective offices.

WHEREAS, bills have been filed in the 2010 Session of the Florida Legislature (i.e.: Senate Bill 610 and House Bill 417) which will amend the language in F.S. 447.203 (10) and clarify that Sheriffs, and other county constitutional officers, can and should resolve impasse issues for their offices.

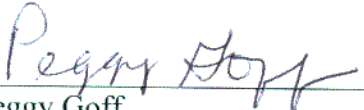
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florida Sheriffs Association encourages the Florida Legislature and the Governor to amend the law to clarify that Sheriffs, and other county constitutional officers, are considered the "Legislative Body", for the purpose of resolving impasse issues.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 9th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2010, by the General Membership of the Florida Sheriffs Association in Florida.

THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION


Sheriff William O. "Bill" Farmer, Jr.
President

ATTEST:


Peggy Goff
Interim Executive Director

