

# ALL POINTS BULLETIN



VOLUME 13, NUMBER 2, 2003

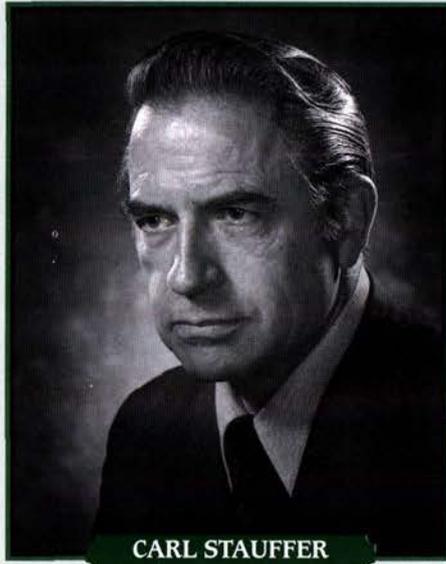
## Carl Stauffer Dies – FSA Staffer for 43 years

By Tom Berlinger

An FSA legend has passed away. Carl Stauffer, 86, of Dowling Park, died in the early morning hours of June 17 with his family at his side. Carl served our sheriffs as an employee of the Florida Sheriffs Association for over 43 years. That record will probably remain unmatched forever. In recent years, Carl had been battling a number of serious health issues including cancer.

Prior to joining the association staff, Carl was, among other things, a newspaper reporter in New Jersey, Indiana and here at the *Tallahassee Democrat*.

He first started to work at FSA as the Field Secretary some 50 years ago, in 1953. Almost a third of our current sheriffs weren't even born yet when Carl first took over the reigns of our association. He left a year later, then returned as executive director of FSA for a twenty-year period from 1957-77. During Carl's stint as executive director, he also served as the editor of *The Sheriff's Star* magazine,



CARL STAUFFER

and he is credited for transforming our flagship publication from a booklet full of advertising into a reader-friendly magazine that contained editorial content that was both helpful and informative to our members.

It was no small coincidence that when he returned as executive director of FSA in 1957, that he played a major role along with the founding sheriffs, of establishing the original Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

Carl also founded *The Rancher* magazine, the publication started to assist the sheriff's association in generating revenue for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, our charity of choice that later grew to become the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. Over the next 40 years, Carl wrote the stories

that captured the imagination and history of the youth ranches across the state.

Probably the single most significant mark that Carl will leave behind is what will hopefully keep our organization alive in perpetuity. He's the person that dreamed up and founded FSA's Honorary Membership program, a project that allows citizens to join in support of the Office of Sheriff. As a result, citizens are, for a modest annual dues payment, afforded the opportunity to "buy a small interest" in the ongoing success of their local sheriff's office and of the Office of Sheriff.

"For as long as the Florida Sheriffs Association exists into the future, there will never be another person that will have a greater individual impact than Carl Stauffer," noted Sheriff Steve Oelrich, this year's president of the association.

Carl is survived by his wife, Louise, and three sons, Robert, Steven and Jeffery. Carl also has a surviving daughter named Shirley, by a previous marriage.

There is a Carl & Louise Stauffer Honorary Endowment Fund set up at the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches, Post Office Box 2000, Boys Ranch, Florida 32060.

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## Carl Stauffer . . .

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Memorial and sympathy cards may be sent to:

Mrs. Louise Stauffer  
Post Office Box 4375  
Dowling Park, FL 32064

Even though the lion's share of the 32,000 people that work for sheriff's offices in our state today never knew Mr. Stauffer, it would sure be terrific if you took the time to drop Louise a card or note, or make a donation to the endowment fund, and let her know how much you appreciate Carl's lifetime of contribution to our organization and the Office of Sheriff in Florida.



## Judge Says Duval Inmate Can Sue Over Forced Prayer in Jail

*Courtesy of the Associated Press, May 14, 2003*

A former Duval County jail inmate's lawsuit claiming she was unconstitutionally disciplined for refusing to participate in a prayer during a drug treatment program will go to trial this summer.

Laurel D. Clanton sued in December 2001 after losing 20 days credit earned for good behavior after she refused to take part in prayer circles used to close drug treatment programs conducted by River Region Human Services at the county jail.

U.S. District Judge Timothy Corrigan said the trial will decide whether the prayer circles involved constitutionally protected private

speech or whether the state encouraged or required prayer.

While the jail and River Region did not force Clanton to verbalize a prayer, Corrigan said "they did create a situation in which, day after day, the group sessions were closed in prayer under a counselor's watch, and all inmates were required to stand together as a group as the prayer was recited or else they would face loss of (good) time."

Lawyers for the county and the agency, River Region, counter that Clanton wasn't ordered to pray but merely had to remain in the circle while another inmate gave a closing message.

"She wasn't forced to pray," Jacksonville city attorney Scott Makar said. "The government wasn't injecting any religion into the program. Merely being subjected to someone's else's religious speech isn't a violation."

Clanton was placed under house arrest in 1998 for fraudulently obtaining prescription drugs; she was sentenced to a year in prison in 2000 when she violated the terms of her house arrest. ◆



### Reminder: FSA Jail Administrators Workshop

Your Florida Sheriff's Association will host our annual FSA Jail Administrator's Training Workshop and Trade Show on December 9-11, 2003, at the Ocala Hilton, at I-75 and SR-200. Please mark your calendar and plan to be with us!

## Florida To Become 15th State To Launch A Statewide VINE Service

Crime victims in one of the nation's most populous states will soon be able to track offenders statewide with a single phone call.

The Florida Department of Corrections (DOC), in conjunction with the state's sheriffs, is spearheading the implementation of a statewide VINE system. The Florida legislature appropriated \$1 million for the DOC to begin deployment. The county interfaces are scheduled for completion by February 2004.

VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) will allow crime victims and concerned citizens to obtain offender custody information by calling a toll-free number. The service also gives callers the option of registering to be notified automatically when their offender is released, transferred, or escapes. The VINE service is anonymous and easy to use.

Currently, eight Florida counties have independent VINE systems, including Dade, Orange, Hillsborough, and Duval counties. The Florida DOC also has its own VINE service. The county and DOC systems will become part of the new statewide VINE network.

"Choosing to deploy a statewide VINE program shows that the Florida criminal justice community has a high level of concern for the state's crime victims," said Appriss President Mike David. "It's a tool crime victims need because it gives them vital offender information in a timely and secure manner. And it's completely anonymous - offenders have no way of knowing if someone has called VINE about them."

Florida is one of 15 states to commit to a statewide VINE program. VINE provides victims with up-to-date offender information in more than 1,200 counties in 36 states and two Canadian provinces.

"Crime victims represent one of the

*Continued on page 4*

**EDITOR'S CORNER**

*By Tom Berlinger*



**“Bo” is Called Much Too Soon**

On January 4, 1977, I was granted the privilege to be hired as the executive assistant to the sheriff of Pasco County. On 12:01 AM that very morning, John Short assumed the reigns of the agency as sheriff, and that is that precise minute that I first met Charles “Bo” Harrison.

Then in his early 30’s, Harrison was a muscular, clean cut former Vietnam veteran that worked as a supervisor in the Pasco County Jail in Dade City. Short and I walked in to introduce ourselves to the mid-night shift correctional officers and “Bo” was there awaiting our arrival.

With that smile.

Bo Harrison was a black man that grew up in Dade City, a town that like many in the old South of that era, was only about a decade removed from the visible remnants

of the separate bathrooms and water fountains that divided the races. As a black youth, Bo knew first-hand what it was like to live under trying circumstances, where some people were looked down upon or shunned solely on the basis of their skin color. Bo was the star quarterback at Mickens High School, the black high school that served Dade City, but there can be no doubt that this type of segregated environment could take its’ toll on anybody. If it took any toll on Bo, it never showed. While Bo had every excuse in the book to be a mad-as-hell, miserable wretch with a chip on his shoulder, I never saw him either mad or miserable.

Always with that smile.

I’m going to go on record right now and proclaim that Bo did more, unintentionally, for race relations in Pasco County, than anybody else ever accomplished on purpose there.

Those that had the privilege to know Bo will never forget him. His bright, warm and friendly demeanor, coupled with an incessant smile and a predisposition to burst out in infec-

tious laughter at any given moment was his personal stock-in-trade. It disguised his serious side, though, the side that included being a dedicated husband and father to three, a little league coach to many, and a member of the choir at the quaint St. Johns Ministry Baptist Church in downtown Dade City.

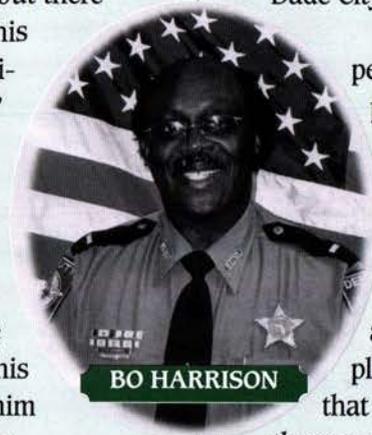
Within a short period of time, Bo was promoted to oversee the entire jail.

Sometime later, because he knew I had the ear of the sheriff, Bo approached me and planted a seed. He said that he wanted to serve

the community, particularly working with local children in a more public way. He thought that he could accomplish his goal by moving over into the patrol division as a uniformed deputy sheriff.

A few days later over a cup of coffee, I casually mentioned Bo’s desire to go to the road patrol to Sheriff Short. That’s when I learned that Bo had cornered him a few days before as well. The decision to move him to patrol was truly a no-brainer. And, for over two decades, Bo excelled and worked his way through the ranks in the uniformed patrol division.

Always with that smile. But, in the early morning hours of June 1, 2003, several loud cracks from a high-powered rifle brought Lt. Harrison’s career to a halt. He was sitting in his marked cruiser outside a troublesome “juke joint” in Lacoochee. Follow-up investigation suggests that a 19-year old



**BO HARRISON**

**FLORIDA SHERIFFS ALL POINTS BULLETIN**  
**VOLUME 13, NUMBER 2, 2003**

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The ALL POINTS BULLETIN is published quarterly, in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter, by the Florida Sheriffs Association, a non-profit corporation.

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## Florida To Become 15th . . .

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most vulnerable segments of the population," Davis said. "What makes VINE such an important tool is that it can protect citizens who fear an offender. Florida's statewide VINE service will empower people with free, 24-hour access to vital offender information." ♦

## FSU's On-Line Masters' Degree in Criminal Justice

*By Elliott Currie, Visiting Professor School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at FSU*

What does an army captain stationed in South Korea, a patrol officer in Wisconsin, and a deputy police chief in south Florida have in common? They're all enrolled in one of my classes in Florida State University's (FSU) on-line masters' degree program in criminal justice. As the academic director of the program, I'd like to tell you a little about it.

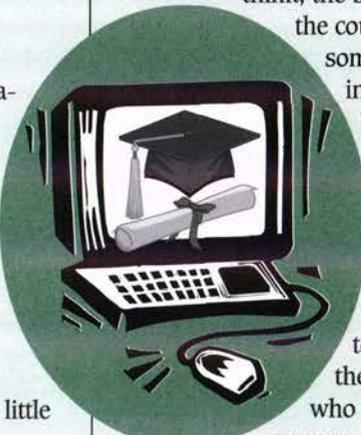
At FSU, we have long enjoyed the privilege of having one of the most highly regarded graduate programs in criminology and criminal justice in the world. FSU's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice has produced an impressive roster of leaders in the field – in Florida, the nation, and in many foreign countries. In designing an on-line graduate degree program, we wanted to build on that track record and reach out to a new kind of student. We wanted to attract working criminal justice professionals that were looking for a high-quality graduate program, but who realistically could not leave jobs and families to attend an on-campus program full time.

Our aim was to create a program of study that fit the needs of people who work on the front lines, dealing with some of our most complex social problems. So we had to do two things: make the program relevant to the real world, and make it accessible to people

who work at crucial jobs, who live all over the state and indeed all over the world, and who may have families and other commitments that mean they can't just pick up and move to a university for a few years.

We didn't want to just sit in our own campus offices and dream up a program on our own. We wanted to learn what people working in the field thought about the kind of curriculum that would be most useful to them, and so we have gone out to get input and advice from a wide range of agencies and leaders in criminal justice from around the state.

The program we've developed is, we think, the best of its kind in the country. Unlike



some distance learning programs, the FSU masters' program in criminal justice draws on the talents and experience of an established, highly qualified teaching faculty – the same faculty who teach our on-campus graduate courses.

This is not a second-class degree. This is the real thing.

We've built the program around a mix of courses that provide a balance of fundamental theory and methods and real-world substantive issues – from criminal law and criminological theory, to research methods and statistics and computer applications in criminal justice, to international crime and its control. A two-semester research and writing project, which we call the Capstone Practicum, allows students to take on a big subject of their own choosing, investigate it, and write up the results. Among the Capstone projects already finished or in progress are studies of computer crime, the work of victim service agencies, and nuclear weapons smuggling.

As these topics suggest, this program has drawn students with a wide range of interests. It has also drawn students from a wide geographical range as well. Because an on-line program can be accessed from anywhere in the world where there is an Internet connection, it

knows no boundaries. In my classes, more students have been from some locale in Florida than anywhere else. But, I have students logging in from Korea, Holland, and England, as well as from the states ranging from North Carolina to California. Among other things, that diversity allows for a breadth of perspectives that can be counted on to enrich our class discussions.

A word about how these classes actually work. Every instructor does things somewhat differently, of course, but in my classes it works this way: there are assigned readings, just as in an on-campus university course. And we have weekly class discussions based on those readings, in which I start things off with some questions. The difference is that we aren't all in the same room when we have those discussions – and we don't make our comments at the same time. The discussions are "asynchronous," meaning that each student posts their thoughts on the week's subject whenever is most convenient for them – when they get up in the morning, after a shift at work, or at night after the kids have been put to bed. I've found that this improves the level of class discussion considerably: students have time to think about what they want to say, and others, in their turn, have time to reflect on what was said and to prepare their own response.

We continue to build the program in an effort to keep it ahead of important issues that confront criminal justice systems in America and around the world. We are moving to develop new courses in domestic violence and terrorism, for example, as well as a course, which explores social issues such as mental illness and homelessness – issues that law enforcement must confront every day.

Students who take courses full time can expect to earn their masters' degree in about two years, with part-time taking somewhat longer. I very much welcome your inquiries about our program. For more information and application materials, please contact our program coordinator, Rahila Arshad, at 850-644-7656 or rra4994@mailers.fsu.edu

♦

**"Bo" is Called . . .***Continued from page 3*

youth that was mad at the Pasco County S.O. for some perceived injustice had decided to take a couple of 2 AM potshots at any marked Pasco S.O. patrol cruiser he came across. In a cruel twist of fate, the shooter had no way to know that when he fired, that he was killing a man that he himself knew as "coach" or "deputy" or "Bo" since he was two years old. In fact, their families were and are friends.

To give you an idea of the kind of job that Bo did raising his own children, one only has to look at his daughter's reaction within a few days after the arrest.

She was quoted in the local newspaper as stating that she was not only praying for the suspect's family, but that she was planning to go visit them to help them work through THEIR grief.

On the day he died, Bo was less than a month from drawing full retirement. His retirement party was already scheduled for June 7. Ironically, that's the exact day that Bo Harrison, 57, was instead laid to rest in the Dade City Cemetery. With over 3,000 people in attendance, it was the single largest funeral in the history of Dade City.

Earlier this year, Bo was given what was to be his last annual evaluation. It was written by Capt. "Pete" Petrosky. In his closing comments, Petrosky wrote, "I am proud to have worked with Lt. Harrison for the past 20 years. When he retires, I will miss his laughter, his upbeat attitude, his friendly smile and most of all his friendship. I wish him the best of luck in his retirement."

In the spot on the form that allows the employee to agree, disagree or make other personal com-

ments, Lt. Harrison wrote the following words as his response to the evaluation:

"This agency has been my extended family for over 30 years and, (as I move into retirement) I am truly going to miss the many wonderful people that I have learned to love. My prayers will be with you all forever...that the Lord will keep you safe from harm and danger." ♦

## CDC Hosts Meeting of Jail and Public Health Managers

*By: Tim Ryan, Chief of Corrections, Orange County Corrections Department*

In the fall of 2000 near Chicago's O'Hare Airport, several pharmaceutical companies in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), sponsored a meeting of public health officials and jail managers, which I was able to attend as a representative of the American Jail Association. It was a welcomed event, and the beginning of a long needed discussion in which two critical components of local government were able to collaborate on serious health problems that are being seen in our communities, but are seldom reviewed in tandem.

Now, two years later, CDC just presented to the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Large Jail Network, a workshop on contagious diseases and our necessity to work together. This collaboration is happening at the state levels, as seen by Florida public health officials that recently held an information forum for correctional professionals on TB. Since our jails are sometimes the first places these particular conta-

gious diseases surface, these critical partnerships ought to be a mandate in all states and counties.

The Orange County Jail, like so many others in Florida, is attempting to make a difference in addressing contagious diseases. For example, a recent study of all the citizens in Orange County with TB revealed twenty-five percent (25%) of them had been incarcerated in our jail over the last year. Our protocol, at medical triage, calls for a PPD shot, but since many leave custody before the 3-day test period is up, we are missing many positives. This is why we will be moving to an "x-ray" process soon after the first of the year. Our hope is to identify the person quickly and begin treatment immediately where appropriate. We will be starting the process presently used by the Los Angeles jails that were created by Dr. John Clark, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office medical director.

Our jails cannot just be TB clinics though. Rather, they need to be the eyes, ears, noses and throats of all the contagious disease identity agents. I have come to believe that correctional medicine is at the forefront of community health concerns. It is also where we need to start the identification and treatment process whenever we can.

Given this, though, we also have to begin a culture changing process that will help the community and our staff see jails as community health services centers. Just like our police departments are moving to "community policing," our jails must become community health clinics. As noted above, contagious diseases, like TB, are at our back doors, but so clearly are

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## CDC Hosts Meeting . . .

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the mentally ill. From Hepatitis B or ADIS, to mumps to pneumonia to MRSA, our jails must begin a process of taking a leadership role in community health.

Like our fire departments whose inspection responsibilities have forced smoke detectors and sprinkler systems to prevent fires, our jails must identify the ill and treat them before we return them to our community. We must re-think our constitutional responsibility. Jails are not just to keep the bad from the good, but help insure the health of our society by treating the unhealthy whenever possible.

As I look at our future, our jails can and should become part of the vaccine that helps insure a healthy society. I have every confidence that we are preparing for this cultural change and that jails, public health, correctional medicine and all the associated professional staff will lead us down a positive path to a healthy future. ♦

## Reading, Writing, and BSO

*By Hugh Graf, PIO, Broward S.O.*

The Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) in south Florida is helping families, the community, and cutting the crime rate by building partnerships and embracing new approaches in the fight against truancy. And although it's not a crime in Florida when a child skips school, too often kids that cut class end up in trouble with the law.

In September 1999, Broward Sheriff Ken Jenne helped lead the formation of the Truancy Reduction

& Intervention Program (TRIP), a partnership between BSO, the School Board of Broward County, the Broward State Attorney's Office, Broward County Commissioners and local law enforcement.

BSO deputies and local police aggressively look for kids out of school when they shouldn't be, and the BSO Truancy Task Force goes out on regular sweeps. Children picked up are not simply held and released, but through TRIP, parents or guardians of truants are encouraged to take part in follow-up services to help mend the underlying problems that may lead a child to avoid school. Chronic truants (those who miss 15 or more days in a marking period) are referred to trained counselors for intervention to help break the cycle.

"The Broward Sheriff's Office is serious about making sure children go to school every day," says Sheriff Jenne. "When they're in the classroom and off the street, they are less likely to get into trouble, less likely to break the law, and less likely to end up behind bars. We won't rest until Broward County has the most effective truancy program in the country."

Sheriff Jenne's efforts appear to be on track. In the first year of TRIP, more than 12,000 truants were picked up compared to about 1,500 the previous year. The 2000-2001 school year saw that number jump to more than 16,700. In 2001-2002, it was just over 17,000. As of this writing, 357 truants have been found in Broward County as the new school year entered it's second month. TRIP is curtailing some crimes too. Since 1999, daytime offenses like burglary, auto theft, vandalism, and larceny, commonly committed by juveniles, are down more than 51% throughout

BSO's jurisdictions.

Getting truants off the streets and into counseling is one way to attack the troubles associated with truancy. Another proactive program in which the BSO is involved is the Leadership Academy. In partnership with the School Board of Broward County, at-risk middle school students now have a better chance to turn their lives around before it's too late.

The academy debuted last August with the enrollment of five-dozen 6th and 7th graders. Parents or guardians sign a contract promising to work with the program and with their child towards success. In return, the students get a structured learning environment designed to boost their academic skills, their coping skills, and give them the tools they need to become productive and responsible adults.

Classes focus on the basics, including reading, mathematics, language arts, science, and physical education with certified teachers and BSO deputies guiding the students toward success in each curriculum. Pupils wear uniforms, must maintain a clean-cut appearance and are prohibited from wearing visible jewelry. And, they cannot bring cell phones, pagers, music headsets, or electronic games to school either.

The Leadership Academy program doesn't stop in the classroom. Parents or guardians must attend regular training sessions on topics including effective communication, peer pressure, goal setting, and decision-making. They must also meet often with teachers and counselors to monitor the progress of their child and agree to allow program staff to visit the

*Continued on page 8*



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## Reading, Writing . . .

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home as needed.

School Board member Carole Andrews has nothing but praise for the new program. "The Broward School District and the Broward Sheriff's Office have developed an innovative and dynamic program with the Leadership Academy. It reaches students at all levels of academics and behavioral modes. Teaming Broward Sheriff's drill instructors with motivated Broward School District teachers has produced a model that combines behavior modification with academic achievement."

While it is too early to report measurable success with the Leadership Academy, all signs are positive and the program is on track. The achievements of BSO through TRIP and Sheriff Jenne's commitment to making Broward County's truancy program the best in the nation hold promise that the county's crime rate will continue to decline so that at-risk children will transition to a better future. ♦

## Ford Crown Victoria Update

*By Colonel Christopher A. Knight  
Director, Florida Highway Patrol*

On Saturday, July 26, 1997, Trooper Robert Smith was struck from behind at high speed while sitting in his 1996 Ford Crown Victoria in the inside emergency lane on I-95, on the overpass to Northwest 95 St., in the greater Miami area. Trooper Smith died at the scene due to a fuel fed fire that occurred following the collision. On Tuesday,

April 7, 1998 on I-95, just south of Northwest 119 Street, Trooper Marisa Sanders was struck while outside her vehicle on a traffic stop after her 1994 Chevrolet Caprice was struck from the rear at a high speed. The resulting fuel fed fire burned her severely over her lower torso and legs.

These two collisions occurred so closely together in time, location and circumstance that it prompted Col. Charles C. Hall (then director of FHP) to direct Lt. Jim Wells to conduct an investigation into issues related to high speed rear end collisions. Lt. Wells holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology, and he has testified as an expert witness in accident reconstruction in various Florida courts. Wells has worked as a traffic homicide investigator and has supervised traffic homicide Investigators in the field. At the time of this assignment, Lt. Wells had just created the FHP's Office of Equipment, Compliance and Testing. He completed his report on July 26, 1999.

A holistic approach was taken examining all identified factors. Factors were split into two categories; those that were controllable (vehicle lighting, vehicle design, etc.) and those that were not controllable (traffic stop time, location, weather, ambient lighting, etc.). Due to the small sample size, it could not be determined if the amount, color, or type of emergency vehicle lighting had any impact on crash probability or frequency. However, the existence of the moth (or mosquito) effect was examined using a database of crashes from the state of Illinois and found that the number and location (rooftop vs. rear deck) lights had no impact on the crash rates of the different segments of the fleets. This is

contrary to expectations fostered by this theory. Again, this is a relatively small sample but is one of the most compelling because it is historical in nature and did not alter any operator behavior due to new equipment or procedures being undertaken for study purposes.

Among other factors examined such as the vehicle head restraints (now improved) and seats, was gas tank/fuel system design. Both the Crown Victoria and Chevrolet Caprice were found to have similar rates of fuel fed fire fatalities after high-energy rear end collisions. By the time Lt. Wells had completed the study, production of the Chevrolet Caprice had been discontinued and it was already being removed from our fleet due to excessive mileage, so we began to concentrate on how to improve the performance of the Crown Victoria.

It is important to note that neither Lt. Wells nor the FHP has ever alleged that the Caprice or the Crown Victoria failed to meet the federal standard. He did find, however, that when exposed to the type and speed of traffic now on our limited access roadways, these crashes were sufficient to overcome the current standards and designs' ability to protect the fuel held in the tank. The tanks could leak, and under the right circumstances, a fuel fed fire could be ignited. Several factors out of our control account for an increase in the risk of this type incident. They include raised speed limits (from 55 to 70 mph), heavier vehicles on the roadway (light trucks now account for over 50% of new vehicles sales), and higher traffic densities, including an increase in commercial heavy truck traffic. We know that

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## Ford Crown Victoria . . .

*Continued from page 8*

no vehicle can protect against every hazard, however, we felt that additional protection could be and should be offered because of the exposure our (and other) officers have in their unique workplace environment. We set as our goal a standard equal to the front-end collision standard and one that seemed appropriate to our workplace. Basically, we requested the ability to withstand a 70-mph vehicle-to-vehicle crash with a similar size and weight vehicle with little or no injury to vehicle occupants **and no fuel fed fire after the collision.**

Copies of the FHP report were sent to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Ford Motor Company. We first met with Ford Motor Company along with representatives from the North Carolina Highway Patrol and the Michigan State Police in May of 2000. At this point in time, Ford Motor Company felt that the vehicle was safe, met all federal and Ford internal standards, that the risk was small, and further incidents were unlikely. Ford did advise that the shock towers that had been implicated in the death of Madison County Deputy Sheriff Steven Agner would be moved for the 2003 model year, and that the head restraints would be improved. Meanwhile, the number of officer deaths continued to climb, particularly in Arizona.

On June 25, 2002, Arizona Attorney General Janet Napolitano announced, along with Ford Vice President Susan Cischke, the formation of the Ford Technical Task Force, and the joint Arizona/Ford Blue Ribbon Panel. The two groups again pursued a holistic approach to reducing the number of high-energy rear end collisions resulting in serious

injury and death. The Ford Technical Task Force was charged with finding solutions to the fuel fed fires. They started with their number one priority being to better contain the fuel in the tank. They then looked to other ways to mitigate any fuel spills or fires that occurred during impacts above the performance ability of shields and other tank safety enhancements.

The Blue Ribbon Panel looked at other issues surrounding the same rear end collisions. These include the following three areas:

- They are looking at procedures for conducting traffic stops, traffic crashes, and other work on expressways, including the use of auxiliary warning devices (cones, flares, etc.) and locations for officers to stand while outside the vehicle, among other things.
- Another area includes first aftermarket-installed equipment. Ford found that approximately 1/3 of the fuel spills were caused by suspension and other Ford designed components, 1/3 from objects in the trunk placed by the user, and 1/3 were both contributed. This means that in 2/3's of the cases, objects installed or placed in the trunk contributed to the fuel leaks. Ford is also concerned about two more issues: head injuries that may be caused by rigid prisoner partitions, overhead shotgun rack and other objects placed so that contact could occur with the occupant's head during a collision, and equipment that could interfere with the ability of the front seatbacks to move rearward and absorb energy during a collision.
- The final area being researched is the possibility of reducing the chance of crashes by enhancing

markings, lighting and overall conspicuity.

On September 27, 2002, the Blue Ribbon Panel met with Janet Napolitano and Susan Cischke to deliver the first report on the work of the panel and technical task force. Progress of the task force was remarkable, and a system of shields to reduce the likelihood of fuel tank punctures was announced and explained. These shields are now available through local Ford dealers but the fleet must first register and obtain a code for the parts to be ordered. A trunk box designed in conjunction with the Blue Ribbon Panel was also announced. This box will assist in keeping items placed in the trunk from puncturing the tank. As I write, these boxes are beginning to be installed in all FHP Crown Victoria vehicles, and will be available to other law enforcement agencies.

Also, a template showing areas and methods of installing radios and other permanent items in the trunk was displayed, as well as sample fire suppression equipment under development, and will be mailed to fleets that register for the shields.

The Blue Ribbon Panel also has several reports pending completion of several surveys on tactics, installed equipment, and research on the most effective lighting and markings.

For updates on the effort, please go to [www.CVPI.com](http://www.CVPI.com). This will also allow you to register your fleet for the upgrade kits. Certainly, any questions concerning this important issue can be directed to Lt. Jim Wells at 850-487-4363 or [wells.jim@hsmv.state.fl.us](mailto:wells.jim@hsmv.state.fl.us) ♦

## Hybrid Cars Are Attracting a Broad Range of Americans

By Danny Hakim

Courtesy of the New York Times

When drivers want to make a statement with their cars, the message typically is about status (BMW), hormones (Mustang), power (Hummer) or speed (Porsche). But the latest car-as-statement is an unornamented Japanese subcompact driven by people who want to poke a finger in the eye of Saddam Hussein, the oil sheiks and the neighbors who jump into gas-guzzling sport utility vehicles for a drive to the grocery store.

The car, the Toyota Prius, is the best seller in a small but soon-to-grow category of vehicles known as hybrids that, by running on a combination of gas and electric power, get as much as twice the mileage of conventional cars. It has attracted a bipartisan coterie of customers who say they consider it the anti-S.U.V., a car that makes both a political and environmental statement without demanding too many trade-offs.

Prius owners, predictable enough, include Hollywood celebrities who wear their environmentalist sentiments on their sleeves – actors like Cameron Diaz, Leonardo DiCaprio and Ted Danson. More surprisingly, the car is being bought by county sheriffs and bank executive's intent to doing their part, as tensions escalate in the Mideast, to reduce American oil imports.

"We're, hopefully, setting an example for the community," said Robert Crowder, the sheriff of Martin County, who has bought 15 hybrids for this department.

At Marion County S.O., Wyatt Earp, their fleet manager, has brought four Prius cars. "This is a technology that will minimize our dependence on foreign oil," he said.

Ms. Diaz has her latest Prius customized, Hollywood style, with a black paint job and leather seats.

"I wanted to do my part, " said the actress,

who bought her first Prius a couple of months after the September 11, 2001 attacks.

Driving with a heavy foot in Los Angeles traffic, she got about 18 miles per gallon in her old Mercedes, she said. But, she added, "I can milk 40 to 45 out of the Prius, if I'm driving like a good girl."

Toyota began selling the Prius in the United States, in limited numbers, two years ago. There are now about 30,000 on American roads. Worldwide, the company hopes to sell 300,000 hybrids annually within five years.

It is expected to announce at least one new hybrid model at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit – possibly a version of the Highlander sport utility.

Toyota's production plan means, "this is going to go from being an environmental curiosity to a commercially important product," said John Casesa, an analyst at Merrill Lynch.

*Continued on page 13*



Toyota Prius

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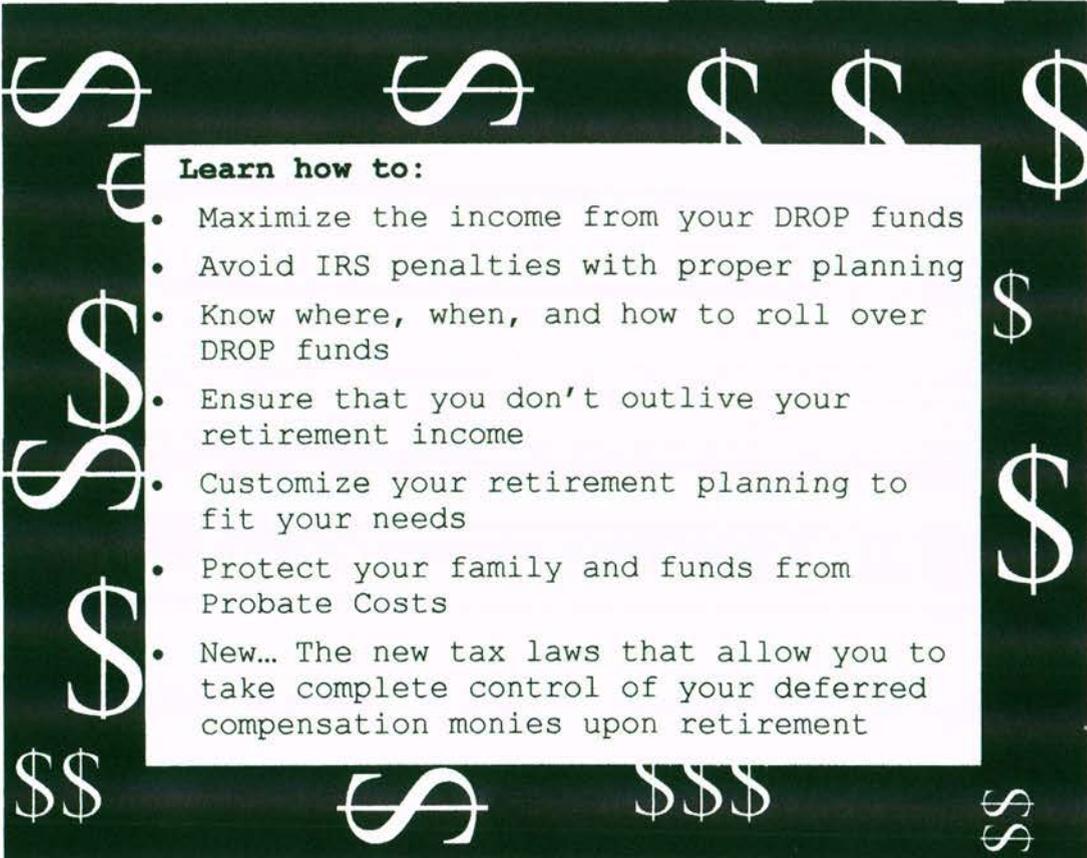
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## Hybrid Cars . . .

*Continued from page 11*

Not everyone is convinced. Executives at General Motors say they think that adding an electric motor to every car is unduly expensive and will divert resources from what they consider more viable new technologies, including vehicles powered by hydrogen fuel cells.

"I don't think anybody's got confidence that the economics make any sense," Rick Wagoner, G.M.'s chief executive, said in a recent interview.

Others in Detroit, though, are tiptoeing into the business. DaimlerChrysler said last month that it would start selling a hybrid version of its Dodge Ram pickup truck next year, and the Ford Motor Company plans to sell a hybrid version of its Escape sport utility, beginning late next year.

The Prius has an electric motor that takes over for the internal combustion engine at low speeds and when the car stops. Because the battery is charged by the gas engine, the car never needs to be plugged in. The gas engine kicks in at 15 to 20 MPH, so the Prius, unlike conventional cars, usually gets its best mileage in city driving.

Drivers say the silence of the electric motor can be disconcerting at first.

"When you're sitting at a light, you're thinking, 'Did my car just die?'" Ms. Diaz said. "You have to be careful going down alleyways, because people don't see or hear you coming."

James E. Press, the executive vice president of Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A., said the Prius is slightly profitable already – not counting an

undisclosed amount in research and development costs. And if Toyota can reach its sales goals, profit margins will improve significantly.

"When you have that kind of volume to spread the investment over, and anticipated improvement in economies of scale, and improvement of efficiencies of production and design, these vehicles should be as profitable as anything else that we sell," Mr. Press said.

The Prius is not cheap. Prices start at \$20,500, which is \$4,500 more than a similar size Toyota Corolla, though buyers qualify for a \$2,000 tax deduction intended to encourage sales of fuel-efficient vehicles. Until recently, the Prius was the only four-door hybrid sold in the United States. Honda – which has sold its two-door Insight since 1999 – recently began offering a hybrid Civic starting at \$19,550.

Politicians who drive hybrids include Rep. Constance A. Morella, a Republican from Maryland who recently lost her re-election campaign, and Senator Robert F. Bennett, a Republican from Utah. New York City has bought more than 200 Priuses for agencies like its buildings and parks departments.

The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a community of nuns based in Monroe, Michigan, about 35 miles south of Detroit, bought several of the hybrids recently. The nuns used them to ferry religious leaders who came to lobby the Big Three for improvements in fuel efficiency.

"The gospel today requires that we respond to the needs of earth," Sister Nancy Cathcart explained.

Robert Goldberg, the president of the Ohio Savings Bank, based in

Cleveland, has bought five Priuses so far, and he plans to convert the company's whole fleet of a few dozen cars to hybrids.

"It's a fight against terrorism," Mr. Goldberg said. "If the United States was not so dependent on oil in the Middle East, we wouldn't have the problem we do."

Mr. Goldberg used to drive an Audi A6 and says that his gas bill has fallen from nearly \$30 a week to \$15 every two weeks since he bought a Prius for himself.

Ariel Emanuel, a Hollywood talent agent whose brother Rahm was elected to Congress last month as a Democrat from Chicago, traded in his Ferrari for a Prius. His gas bills of \$250 a month have fallen to about \$30.

"Every time I get into it, I feel like I'm demonstrating my point of view on national security," Mr. Emanuel said. "Fifteen of the 19 terrorists came from Saudi Arabia. I refuse to give them more money."

Stephen Collins, a star of the WB network's drama *Seventh Heaven*, said he bought his Prius at the recommendation of the actor Ed Begley, Jr., an environmental activist who also appears on the program.

"It was a personal political reaction to September 11," Mr. Collins said. "It's my personal fantasy that we could turn around to a country like Saudi Arabia and say: 'We love you guys, but we don't need your oil. Knock yourselves out, but we don't need it.' And it wouldn't be that hard to do." ♦

## Florida's Concealed Weapon/Firearm Licensing Program

*Ken Wilkinson, Department of State,  
Division of Licensing*

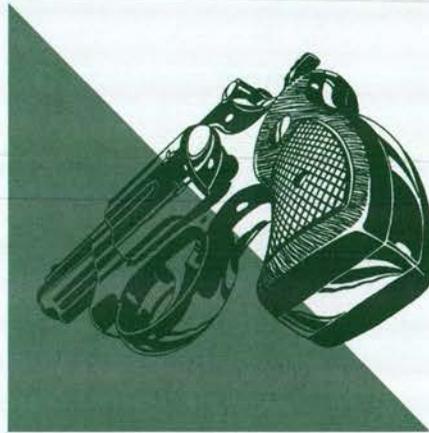
### A Brief History

In 1987 the Florida Legislature authorized the implementation of the Concealed Weapon/Firearm Licensing Program and assigned responsibility for the program to the Division of Licensing in the Department of State. Designed to license qualified, law-abiding citizens to carry concealed weapons or firearms for lawful self-defense, the program was the first of its kind. No other state had implemented a statewide, concealed carry licensing program. The legislation was hailed by gun rights advocates and harshly criticized by gun control proponents. Nonetheless, the program proved to be very successful. Today there are approximately 300,000 active licensees. In addition, over 30 states have similar programs and some of these programs were modeled after ours.

### How to Apply for a License

All licensing standards and disqualifying criteria pertaining to the program are contained in Section 790.06, Florida Statutes.

To apply for a concealed weapon/firearm license, an applicant must submit an application form, a set of fingerprints taken at a law enforcement agency, a passport-style photograph, and specific documentation of proficiency with a weapon. Applicants must be legal U.S. citizens and at least 21 years of age to



qualify. Upon receipt of the completed application and supporting documentation, the Division subjects each applicant to a criminal history background check via the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the FBI. The application and the results of the background check are carefully examined to insure that the applicant meets all eligibility requirements and that there is nothing that would disqualify him from being licensed. Some of the causes of disqualification include the following:

- a felony conviction in which the felon's civil and firearm rights have not been restored;
- a conviction for a violent crime, either a misdemeanor or felony;
- a conviction for violation of controlled substance laws or multiple arrests for such offenses;
- a record of drug or alcohol abuse;
- two or more DUI connections within the previous three years;
- having been committed to a mental institution or adjudged incompetent or mentally defective;
- having been issued a domestic violence injunction or an injunction against repeat violence that is currently in force;
- a dishonorable discharge from the armed forces.

In addition to the application and supporting documentation, the applicant must also submit a fee of \$117.00 to cover costs related to license processing and background checks. (The Division's operating budget is derived solely from the fees it collects. It receives no money from the general revenue of the state.) The license is valid for five years. The renewal fee is \$65.00.

### Reciprocity with Other States

Since the program's inception 15 years ago, the legislature has made few changes to the law and those changes have been minor for the most part. The most important revision occurred in 1999 when the legislature added a reciprocity provision to the law. Under the terms of this provision, Florida will extend the privilege of concealed carry to licensees of another state so long as that other state agrees to extend that same privilege to Florida licensees. Florida currently has reciprocity agreements with 20 states which include:

Alabama	Montana
Alaska	New Hampshire
Arkansas	North Dakota
Georgia	Pennsylvania
Idaho	South Dakota
Indiana	Tennessee
Kentucky	Texas
Louisiana	Utah
Michigan	Vermont
Mississippi	Wyoming

Licensed residents of any of the states can travel to Florida and carry a concealed firearm for the duration of their visit. These visitors must comply with the restriction in the law that prohibits the carrying of a concealed firearm in

*Continued on page 15*

certain places (bars, schools, courthouses, etc.). These restrictions are specified in Section 790.06(12), Florida Statutes. Similarly, Florida licensees must abide by the gun laws of whatever state they happen to be in while traveling.

### How the Law Effects Law Enforcement Officers

Section 790.06(5)(b), Florida Statutes, exempts any individual holding active certification from the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission as a "law enforcement officer," "correctional officer," or "correctional probation officer," as defined in Section 943.10(1), (2), (3), (6), (7), (8), or (9), from the concealed carry licensing requirements of Section 790, Florida Statutes.

Unfortunately, the reciprocity provision applies only to licensed citizens and not to law enforcement personnel. A Florida law enforcement officer planning to travel out of state should call the authorities in the state to which or through which he/she will be traveling to find out precisely what restrictions apply. Some states, like Florida, do not allow non-resident police officers to carry a concealed firearm unless they are on official police business. Other states allow non-resident officers to carry their pistols concealed regardless of their state of residence and regardless of whether their visit is for business or pleasure.

Florida law enforcement officers can apply for a concealed weapon/firearm license if they wish. Their status as law enforcement officers do not prohibit them from being licensed as citizens. Active personnel are exempt from

the background check and all background investigation fees (Section 790.06(5)(b), Florida Statutes). A Florida law enforcement officer would pay only a license fee of \$75.00 to obtain a concealed carry license. The renewal fee is \$65.00.

If a Florida law enforcement officer applies for a concealed carry license within one calendar year of retirement, all fees are waived. If the retiree does not apply within that first year of retirement, he or she can still obtain a concealed carry license at a reduced fee of \$72.00 (a \$42.00 fingerprint fee and a \$30.00 license fee). The renewal fee for all law enforcement retirees is \$30.00.

### Where to Get More Information

The Division of Licensing's web page includes helpful information relating to standards and eligibility requirements, reciprocity, and licensing statistics. The reciprocity page includes the latest news from other states, travel advisory information, and links to the laws of the states with which Florida has a reciprocity agreement. This web page can be found at <http://licgweb.dos.state.fl.us/weapons/index.html>.

For additional information about the Concealed Weapon/Firearm Licensing Program, call Ken Wilkinson at the Division of Licensing in Tallahassee at 850-488-6982. ♦



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## FDLE and Newspaper Partner to Capture Felons

*By Sharon L. Gogerty, FDLE Jacksonville PIO*

First Coast Fugitives (FCF), a partnership between the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), law enforcement agencies, the *Florida Times-Union* newspaper and the public, is producing successful results.

The concept was created by an initial partnership between the FDLE/Jacksonville Regional Operations Center (JROC) and the *Florida Times-Union* to target fugitives in the Jacksonville region. A "Most Wanted List" of outstanding felons is compiled and regularly updated. A link to this list is posted as "First Coast Fugitives" on the *Times-Union* web site, [www.jacksonville.com](http://www.jacksonville.com) or by going directly to <http://firstcoastfugitives.com>. A fugitive is also featured in the Monday edition of the newspaper. The web site and the Monday feature story solicit the help of the general public in locating these wanted criminals.

Fugitives are submitted to JROC by participating law enforcement agencies in the five-county area that also has a large amount of *Times-Union* subscribers. The agencies provide a completed form and digital photograph to JROC via e-mail for each submitted fugitive. A JROC crime intelligence technician confirms the warrant in the Florida Criminal Information Center (FCIC) and uploads the provided information to the web site.

*Continued on page 16*

## FDLE and Newspaper . . .

*Continued from page 15*

Information includes a physical description of the fugitive, a synopsis of the crime, and a direct contact number and e-mail address for the detective and agency submitting the information. Composites and a link to video surveillance footage can also be posted on the site. Tips from the public are then routed directly to the agency via that e-mail or contact phone number. Participating agencies are asked to notify JROC when the fugitive is arrested. JROC then removes the fugitive from the web site and the *Florida Times-Union* reports on fugitives arrested through the program.

A minimum of 20 fugitives is featured weekly. Web site updates are done on a weekly basis with at least two fugitives being replaced each week.

The First Coast Fugitives web site was designed and engineered by Jacksonville.com, but it is FDLE/JROC that maintains it. The site received more than a quarter-million page views within the first three months of being launched.

An added attraction for participating agencies is the linking of

their agency web site to [www.jacksonville.com](http://www.jacksonville.com) at no cost to the agency. Links are also provided to FDLE web sites and information sites.

Criteria for the FCF partnership allows a wide variety of fugitives to be viewed by the public as the subject can be wanted for a number of felony offenses, including habitual offenders and sexual predators and offenders.

The program has generated numerous tips from the public through anonymous e-mails and phone calls. Law enforcement has made several arrests. In one case, a fugitive was posted on-line and that same day, agencies received five tips. The suspect was subsequently arrested.

Two other success stories come from the fugitives themselves. Both learned about their status when they were profiled in the *Times-Union* Monday FCF feature article. They looked on the FCF web site and saw their profiles there as well. As a result, the fugitives called authorities and agreed to turn themselves in.

One of the law enforcement officers involved with FCF said, "It's nice to know the program works.

It's doing what it's designed to do."

JROC Regional Director Ken Tucker sees the partnership as an example of what community members, the media and law enforcement can accomplish when they combine their individual strengths. "Law enforcement identifies felons, the media shares specific information about those felons and a means of contact to the public, and concerned citizens get involved to make their community a safer place to live," he said. "That's a strong combination for a powerful crime fighting team."

All of the FDLE regional operations centers are working to have similar programs in place

*Sharon L. Gogerty has been the public information officer for FDLE's Jacksonville Regional Operations Center (JROC) for three years. JROC is located at 921 N. David Street, Building E, Jacksonville, FL 32209. Sharon can be reached at 904-360-7101. She was instrumental in getting First Coast Fugitives in place and continues to be an integral part of its success. ♦*

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