Lt. Jimmie C. Watson
Named Deputy Sheriff
of the Year

FORT MYERS — At their 79th Annual Summer Conference held here July 19-22, the sheriffs honored Orange County Sheriffs Lt. Jimmie C. Watson as the 1992 FSA Deputy Sheriff of the Year. As the statewide winner, Watson was awarded a handsome plaque, and a check for $1,000.

Watson, an 18-year veteran of the Orange County Sheriffs Office, has been assigned to a number of uniformed and plainclothes assignments. He worked his way through the ranks to his current position as the director of the Orange County S.O. “Community Oriented Policing Services” Program, commonly called “COPS.”

His boss, Sheriff Walt Gallagher, decided to field test the concept in the South Apopka area, a section of town which had been “nearly taken over by drug dealers and other members of the criminal element,” according to the Sheriff. Results have been nothing short of amazing!

COP’s first mission was to identify by name, nickname and photo, all habitual offenders and career criminals living in South Apopka. Team members became so proficient that they could immediately identify any of them on sight. The team then set out to gain support of the local residents, most of whom had been spending day and night in constant fear.

“We were such a welcome sight that gaining their support was easy once they had confidence in our mission,” noted Watson.

The team then explored alternatives (to crime) for the kids in the neighborhood. They sponsored large dances, a boy scout troop, drew plans to build a playground, and they established a Police Athletic League, just to name a few.

While assembling these community based programs, Watson’s COPS team also focused on “taking the bad guys off the street,” and they did so in royal fashion — effecting a total of 835 arrests during calendar year 1991 alone!

Sheriff Gallagher couldn’t heap enough praise on Watson’s ability to get involved in his work and lead his troops by example.

“Jimmy Watson gives 100% to every challenge presented to him,” Gallagher says proudly.

“He’s the kind of deputy who can oversee a scout troop one minute — and lead the charge to make high risk, felony arrests the next — and do a great job at both.”

Watson is a member of Orange County’s elite SWAT Team as well. And, he’s a certified police instructor in CPR, defensive tactics, and firearms. He also enjoys the distinction of being specially trained in forensic hypnosis, a rarity among his peers.

In his off-duty time, Lt. Watson is in his 26th year in the US Naval Reserve, most recently including a stint in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm.

Without question, he’s the type of deputy that any agency would be proud to have on board, and he’s a worthy recipient for the honor of being named FSA’s 1992 Deputy Sheriff of the Year!
Deputy Sheriff of the Year finalists

In addition to naming the Deputy Sheriff of the Year, FSA awards plaques to two co-finalists each year. This year’s finalists were Deputy Sheriff Timothy Glover of Polk County and Cpl. Richard M. Goff of Charlotte County.

In Polk County, Deputy Tim Glover was chosen for an act of heroism which could have easily cost him his life. It occurred on the night of February 15, 1991, when he and Sgt. Gary Shiver were searching the frigid waters of Lake Kissimmee during a terrible storm, for an overdue boat. Without warning, their own search boat capsized.

An hour later, a second rescue crew found Shiver and Glover clinging to their overturned boat, with Sgt. Shiver nearly unconscious from hypothermia. It became obvious that Shiver’s condition was reaching critical stages, but the size of the second rescue vessel (airboat) made it questionable as to whether or not both men could be rescued on the first go around.

Without hesitation, Deputy Tim Glover insisted that his rescuers take Shiver ashore for medical treatment and come back “when they could” to pick him up.

Initially, they refused to honor his request. But, after some stern coaxing by Glover, they agreed to leave him behind. On a return trip, the rescue team again located Glover — still hanging on for dear life. Both men were later treated for exposure at a local medical center.

Ironically, the occupants of the original overdue boat were already safely moored at another landing, a place of refuge they found when the inclement weather began to set in.

In Charlotte County, Cpl. Richard Goff was awarded a co-finalist award for his ingenuity in catching major drug traffickers operating near the southwest Florida community of Englewood.

Goff was tipped by St. Petersburg Police that one of their arrestees confessed that she received her cocaine “from some people in Charlotte County.”

From very scant information, Goff came up with possible suspects, but could not figure a way to make a case. Then, he had an idea.

For weeks, on garbage collection days, Goff would set his alarm to go off in the middle of the night. He’d get up, drive to the suspects home and dump their curbside garbage into the bed of his personal pickup truck. Meticulously, he'd search through the garbage for any shred of evidence — always coming up empty-handed.

He noticed one strange thing, though. There was always an unusually large number of discarded tissues in the trash — every time. Then it hit him.

Cocaine abusers frequently injure the mucous membranes within their nasal passages, causing them constant runny noses. Goff field tested the discarded tissues and hit the jackpot — they came up positive for the presence of cocaine!

Goff got positive readings on enough tissues until a judge issued a search warrant for the suspect’s home. Deputies discovered a half-kilo of uncut cocaine along with a variety of handguns, machine pistols and fake passports linking them to Columbia. Two suspects were arrested and a major source of cocaine to central Florida was out of business and behind bars.

Chevrolet Caprice:

Police Cars Recalled

Nearly 1,000 Chicago police cruisers may be part of a recall of a half million General Motors (G M) vehicles. The GM recall, announced July 24 in Detroit, involves large numbers of emergency vehicles used by state, county and suburban law enforcement agencies.

General Motors is recalling 37,000 1991 and 1992 Chevrolet Caprices specially equipped with a heavy-duty police equipment package that includes steel wheels that could develop cracks under some stressful conditions, a GM spokesman said.

Recall notices were sent out to police agencies July 10.

The Chevy Caprice also is widely used by Yellow Cab Co. and Checker Taxi Co.

Hard braking, fast cornering and other heavy use conditions could create hairline cracks in the special wheels. The wheels also could be damaged by mechanics who overtighten lug nuts using speed wrenches or air wrenches, automaker spokesman John Dinan said.

The recall also includes more than 200,000 Buick Roadmaster sedans and wagons and Oldsmobile Custom Cruiser station wagons. A plastic covering that breaks down in sunlight could lead to a metal seat belt guide becoming dangerously defective in the Roadmasters and Custom Cruisers, the Chicago Sun-Times reported.

General Motors also is recalling 215,000 1990-92 Geo Storms in which steering wheel hubs have broken in crashes too slow for the airbag to deploy. A number of injuries, mainly scratches and bruises, have been reported because of the defect.

The repairs will be made at no cost to the owners, Dinan said.
APB continues to seek articles from all sheriff's offices. Here's a few tips that will increase the chances of yours being published.

Keep in mind that APB is distributed to all 67 counties. Local stories are great in local papers, but many have little or no reader interest outside your locale. Statewide relevance is the key.

FSA has a high speed optical scanner which can read typed text and eliminate our need to retype it. Please type your articles double-spaced, just as if you were typing them for publication. Or, if possible, submit your article on a 5 1/4" MS-DOS diskette in lieu of printed text. That would aid greatly in the editing process.

Photographs are encouraged. We prefer clear contrast black and white, although color can often be transformed into a decent black and white. Be sure to provide a caption with each photo, including identification of the persons who appear therein. If you have questions or ideas you wish to discuss, call me at (904) 877-2165 at your convenience.

Ten Commandments
(For People With High Blood Pressure)

1. Know your blood pressure. Have it checked regularly.
2. Know what your weight should be. Keep it at that level or below.
3. Don't use excessive salt in cooking or at meals; avoid salty foods.
4. Eat a low-fat diet according to American Heart Association recommendations.
5. Don't smoke cigarettes.
6. Take your medicine exactly as prescribed; don't run out of pills even for a single day.
7. Keep your appointments with the Doctor.
8. Follow your doctor's advice about exercise.
9. Live a normal life in every other way.
10. Make certain your parents, sisters, brothers and children have their pressures checked regularly. American Heart Association

FSA Starts
‘Cop’ Family Relief Fund
for Hurricane Victims

At this juncture, you'd have to be living on another planet to be unaware of the devastation that Hurricane Andrew has inflicted on Dade County's inhabitants. On September 15, Dade authorities said that the latest count indicated that 20,000 homes were totally destroyed — and another 80,000 suffered substantial damage.

Very little information has been reported about the losses suffered by Dade's law enforcement and correctional officers — the people who have had to set aside their own predicament in favor of taking care of others.

FSA took a quick, unscientific telephone poll to determine just the number of sworn employees displaced from their homes. In each instance, either the home was totally destroyed or was damaged to such an extent that it is uninhabitable for anywhere between three and nine months:

Florida DOC ........................................ 400
Metro-Dade Police ................................. 300-400
Dade Co. Corrections .............................. 110
Miami PD ............................................ 105
Homestead PD ...................................... 75 of 86
FHP Troopers ........................................ 63
Coral Gables PD .................................... 35
Miami Beach PD ................................... 23
FDLE ................................................. 20
Florida City PD ..................................... 16 of 19

More than 1,000 others suffered substantial damage like loss of their roof or major portions of their home. There are numerous other state and local officers affected, but it would be impossible list them all.

"Some families must huddle in one bedroom of a three or four bedroom home," said Lonnie Lawrence, Director of Dade County Corrections.

"For those homes not totaled but substantially damaged, the persistent downpours have soaked their carpet, furniture and other possessions over and over again," noted Allison Bishop, spokesperson for Metro-Dade Police.

Fred Taylor, Director of Metro-Dade said, "we are getting a lot of assistance for residents in need, however we cannot forget our own personnel."

In conjunction with the Police Officers Assistance Trust of Metro-Dade Police (the equivalent of the sheriff's office in Dade County), the Florida Sheriffs Association has established a fund to aid displaced law enforcement and corrections officers in Dade County. "Each and every cent we receive will be forwarded to the Assistance Trust," noted J. M. "Buddy" Phillips, the Association's Executive Director.

Those interested in making a donation in any amount, should make the check out to the "Florida Sheriffs Association" and write "Officer Relief Fund" in the lower left corner. FSA's Mailing address is P. O. Box 12519, Tallahassee, FL 32317-2519.

Let's open up our hearts and wallets to our fellow officers in this time of need.
“Smart” Speed Enforcement

Kustom Signals, Inc. has announced the latest addition to its product line: the S.M.A.R.T. system. Developed by Mobile Traffic Zone, Inc. of Woodland, California, the S.M.A.R.T. system will be manufactured and distributed by Kustom Signals within the terms of the purchase agreement.

S.M.A.R.T. stands for Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer, and the name says it all. A self-contained trailer, the S.M.A.R.T. system includes a giant digital display reading “Your Speed,” which registers passing motorists’ speeds as clocked by the Kustom radar unit within the trailer. A traditional speed limit sign attached to the trailer reminds motorists to slow down if the display indicates they are travelling too fast. The unit is powered by solar panels, resulting in silent and environmentally-conscious operation.

Law enforcement agencies benefit from use of the trailers in several ways. When used unattended (i.e., not for the purpose of writing tickets), it serves as a highly visible and non-threatening reminder to the public that citizen safety is the foremost interest of the department. It can be deployed in residential areas and other locations where there is a high level of citizen concern over speeding and/or accident rate. Some agencies advertise the location of the system, allowing interested motorists to check speedometer accuracy. A number of agencies also use the system for actual enforcement, ticketing those individuals inclined to speed past the trailer. However it is used, studies have shown that there is a residual effect, similar to other forms of speed enforcement, in that average speeds tend to remain lower even for a period after the trailer is removed from a given site.

Organizations other than law enforcement agencies also have a strong interest in the S.M.A.R.T. system. It is very valuable in school zones, on construction sites, and other areas where there is a higher-than-normal risk of pedestrian accidents.

Historically, a good number of the over 150 S.M.A.R.T. systems in use today have been funded in part or in whole by grants from local and national insurance concerns.

The S.M.A.R.T. system represents yet another step in broadening Kustom Signals’ full product line which includes speed enforcement radar and laser, in-car surveillance systems, voice dispatch consoles, and marine patrol radar. For more information, contact Kustom Signals, Inc., 9325 Pflumm, Lenexa, Kansas 66215; 1-800-4KUSTOM.

Radar Manufacturer Challenges Constitutionality of Connecticut Radar Ban

Kustom Signals, Inc of Lenexa, KS, announced that it has filed suit against officials of the State of Connecticut seeking to overturn legislation banning the use of the firm’s products within the state. Kustom is the nation’s leading manufacturer of traffic radar systems used by law enforcement agencies to enforce speed limit compliance. On June 2, 1992, Connecticut enacted legislation that prohibited the use of hand-held radar devices by any state or municipal officer in the course of his employment.

The suit brought by Kustom alleges that the State acted arbitrarily and irrationally in passing the bill without any supporting scientific evidence. The suit specifically charges that Connecticut violated the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment and the Commerce Clause of the Constitution in enacting the law.

William Ruppert, Chairman and CEO of Kustom Signals, stated, “We believe that letting this law go unchallenged would set a dangerous precedent by allowing special interest groups with vested interests to dictate legislation that has absolutely no basis in fact. It is unfortunate that such groundless legislation has made it necessary to take this action in order to protect the livelihoods of our employees and the foundation of our business.”


Second Traffic Radar Lawsuit Dismissed

Kustom Signals, Inc. of Lenexa, KS, has announced that the case of Hutchison v. Kustom Signals et al. has been dismissed by the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of California as of May 20, 1992. The dismissal did not arise as the result of any settlement between the parties in-
volved. The *Hutchison* case was one of several lawsuits alleging personal injury to police officers caused by microwave emissions from police radar devices, and is the second case of this kind to be dismissed. Such product liability lawsuits have recently been brought against manufacturers of police radar devices, even though such devices have been shown to be well below all applicable safety standards for human exposure to microwave emissions.

Kustom Signals is a twenty-five year old firm specializing in the manufacturing and marketing of police traffic radar, laser speed detection instruments, patrol car surveillance systems, public awareness speed display trailers, and voice dispatch consoles. For further information, please contact Kustom Signals, Inc., 9325 Pflumm, Lenexa, KS, 66215-3347.

**Connecticut Bans Hand-Held Radar Guns**

Connecticut on June 3 banned the use of hand-held radar guns police use to detect speeders because of concern the devices cause cancer. It was the first time a state has banned the devices.

The new law, signed by Gov. Lowell Weicker June 3 and effective on July 1, prohibits police from using the hand-held radar guns, but still allows police to use vehicle-mounted radar guns, which are deemed safer.

"You've got a difficult enough life to lead without having what you hold in your hands be a threat," Weicker said.

At least four Connecticut municipal police officers have filed workers' compensation claims, alleging daily exposure to the hand-held radar devices caused them to develop cancer. And one has filed suit against Kustom Signals Inc. of Kansas, the manufacturer of the hand-held radar gun.

The manufacturer has repeatedly denied that its hand-held radar detectors pose a health problem.

**CONTRABAND FORFEITURE TRAINING**

**ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

**OCTOBER 28-30, 1992**

The Florida Sheriffs Association will present a twenty-hour training program covering contraband forfeiture. This training will address the 1992 legislative amendments to the forfeiture law. Additionally, other topics will be covered to ensure the overall training of law enforcement personnel necessary to conduct forfeitures in an effective manner to assure public and legislative support of forfeiture activities.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** This training is designed for all Sheriffs Offices' personnel who are involved with asset forfeiture procedures in any capacity including making the seizure decision, asset management, settlement, and forfeiture proceedings. Sheriffs, supervisory personnel, Sheriff's Office investigators, legal advisors, and analysts are encouraged to attend.

The Florida Sheriffs Association has arranged special room rates at $49.00 (single or double) for those attendees requiring hotel accommodations.

**TUITION:** The registration fee is $150 per registrant. This course may be approved for up to 20 hours toward mandatory retraining credit. The Florida Sheriffs Association is seeking approval for the Sheriff's Salary Supplement Program as well as continuing legal education credits for the legal professions. This seminar also qualifies for the expenditure of local dollar funds at the discretion of the attendee's agency head or designee.

**Contact:** Glenda Ostreich or Maury Kolchak at 904 877-2165 by October 16, 1992.

**LOCATION:** Orlando, Florida - Altamonte Springs Hilton

**Wednesday, October 28, 1992**
1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**Thursday, October 29, 1992**
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**Friday, October 30, 1992**
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**ASLET Sponsors Conference**

The American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers (ASLET) will convene its Annual International Training Conference in Reno, Nevada, January 5th - 9th, 1993 at the Nugget Resort Hotel. This year's host agency will be the Washoe County Sheriff's Office. Each year the ASLET seminar sets new records for the largest international gathering of law enforcement trainers.

This year's participants will have the option of attending over seventy different classes from any of one of eight different training tracks which include: Management/Supervision of Training, Firearms Training, Deadly Force Issues/Management, Motor Skills Training, General Training, Specialized Training, Corrections Training, and, new this year, Security Training. The ASLET Law Enforcement Products and Services Show will feature nearly 100 vendors who will be displaying the latest training technology and services.

The registration fee for this conference is $245.00 for members and $295.00 for non-members. Enrollment is limited! For further information contact: ASLET, P.O. Box 361, Lewes, DE 19958, Phone 302/645-4080 FAX 302/645-4084.

**Celebrate RED RIBBON WEEK**

**October 24 - November 1**
Brevard Revamps Comm Center

TITUSVILLE, FL — On April 16, 1992, the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office officially recognized the conclusion of over two years of planning and renovation at a grand opening ceremony for the newly refurbished and equipped Communications Center. Attended by approximately 200 state and local officials, fellow communications officers from agencies throughout the State of Florida, and other invited guests, the ribbon cutting was performed by Brevard County Sheriff C. W. “Jake” Miller, who verbalized his pride in the new facility by calling the new equipment “the finest communications system available to law enforcement.”

An Enhanced Digital Access Communications System (EDACS) from Ericsson GE, the 800 MHz system now serves the Sheriff’s Department, Fire Rescue Department, and Rockledge Police Department. Plans are currently underway for most of the neighboring municipalities and other county agencies to share the primary “backbone” system, beginning with the Titusville Police Department within the next few months. “The acquisition of this system is a giant step in the right direction for the citizens of Brevard,” says Sheriff Miller. “The EDACS we have brought into this area gives each of the 14 municipalities an opportunity to tie into a unified, co-related communications network, without the expense of establishing the initial tower sites and purchasing the basic backbone equipment.”

“Because the radios and communications components will not be obsolete by the addition of new equipment developed for EDACS, we are assured that we can continue to bring in system enhancements and new radios well into the next decade without necessitating the large expenditure required of a new start-up system,” he continues. “This is quite an asset for the neighboring municipalities with smaller budgets. I am pleased that we shouldn’t have to go back to the people of this county and ask for funds for a new communications system for many years.”

The initial system, which cost approximately 3 million dollars, is designed to fill the needs of the 420,000 citizens who live and work in the county which is 76 miles long and 24 miles wide. Marbled with various bodies of water — the Indian and Banana rivers, lagoons, and the Atlantic ocean — the topography of the county has always posed a communications challenge. Emergency communications for both land and water were, according to Sheriff Miller, frequently insufficient. Now, however, geographic boundaries impose no boundaries upon communications. “We’ve come a long way,” agrees Chief Deputy Ron Clark.

“Within a few weeks of installation, we had a good test of the coverage and interoperability of the system,” reports Sheriff Miller. “We had a bank robbery in Rockledge. The Rockledge Police, Highway Patrol, and our office were all able to maintain constant contact. We tracked the robber by helicopter and radioed back his exact location, keeping in touch the whole time. We were able to zero in and arrest him in short order. For us, the system has worked beautifully from day one.”

According to Omar Shearer, head of the Communications Division for Brevard, much of that “immediate” success was due to the tireless efforts and expertise of Tim Dare, of Communications International, in Titusville. Not only was Dare charged with getting the system up and running, but he will now be responsible for all service and maintenance as the system grows and adds new users.

“We have been extremely pleased with the installation and with the training, which was conducted on-site,” says Shearer. “Tim has done a great job, and we have received superior support from Russ Prindle, Doug Reed, Alex Small, Pete Allan, Don Beach and the whole Ericsson GE organization.” Curt Jones, project manager for the Sheriff’s Department concurs, adding, “What we see here today is the result of a mutually beneficial relationship. Ericsson GE has been a great company to work with.”

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Lee County Hosts 4th Annual Summit

FORT MYERS — Over 200 participants from around the state and nation met here July 22-24 for the 4th Annual Southwest Florida Law Enforcement Summit. Co-sponsors of the event were Lee County Sheriff John McDougall and Robert Genzman, United States Attorney for the central district of Florida.

“Today’s theme focused on the need to bridge the gap in understanding between law enforcement agencies and drug abuse service providers,” said Sheriff McDougall.

Highlight of the Summit was the keynote speech by former Florida Governor Bob Martinez, now widely known as the United States Drug “Czar” in his position as head of the federal Office of National Drug Control Policy in Washington.

Martinez was thrilled to report that statistics show casual and adolescent drug use has taken a downturn, but he was quick to acknowledge that the war on drugs was far from over.

“The ultimate victory is when people don’t use drugs at all,” he noted.

Sheriff McDougall agreed with Martinez’ assessment. “We have to broaden our field of vision,” said the Sheriff. “Law enforcement can no longer limit themselves to putting drug offenders in jail . . . we must explore the basic reasons why people involve themselves in drugs to start with, and work to resolve those causative factors.”

Glock Answers Complaints of Problems

By Bill Clede, Technical Editor
Law and Order Magazine

The Suffolk County, NY, police experienced malfunctions of their Glock Model 19 pistols which led to the redesign of certain parts by the manufacturer and a production change in the fall of 1991.

There were a number of complaints from police departments around the country by late 1991 of “slam fire,” a round being fired as the magazine was rammed into place, and multiple shot bursts, mostly involving the Model 19. Glock at first suspected the malfunctions were due to “unauthorized modifications,” but Suffolk County armorer flatly denied any tampering with any of their Glock pistols. Production changes were made and a team of Glock’s and the police armorer upgraded Suffolk County’s 1,200 Model 19s.

Glock Technical Bulletin #920403, dated April 1, 1992, advises Glock armorer of a new firing pin safety system available as a voluntary upgrade. The bulletin states, “This upgrade is being offered in keeping with Glock’s commitment to safety and to ensure future interchangeability.” It emphasizes that components of the new firing pin safety system are not interchangeable with components of the old system.

Six parts are involved: the firing pin/striker, firing pin safety spring, firing pin safety, trigger bar, extractor, and spring loaded bearing. Pistols involved are Glock 17 (9mm) alpha prefixes AA-WF, Glock 19 (9mm) prefixes through WJ, Glock 20 (10mm) prefixes through WW, Glock 21 (45ACP) prefixes through XL, Glock 22 (40S&W) prefixes through YA, and Glock 23 (40S&W) prefixes through SK.

The bulletin adds, “The upgraded firing pin safety system has a new sur-

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Visitors attending the grand opening were impressed by the organization and overall professionalism of the center. “The center has obviously been very well-planned,” said Don Thode, who has been in charge of the Orange County, Florida, Sheriff’s Office communications for the past 11 years. “Communication centers I’ve seen, even new ones, usually get relegated to a broom closet. Someone here has obviously done their homework. This facility has everything for running, controlling and maintaining the operation in one convenient setup.” As for the radio equipment itself, Thode speaks from experience when he acknowledged, “It must be pretty good. Everyone seems very well satisfied. The operators seem happy; I don’t see them running, screaming, from the room!”

“To us,” concludes Sheriff Miller, “the importance of this system is in direct relationship to the lives being saved and to our keeping up with criminals. Our communications needs are complex; we now have a communications system that can meet those needs. I don’t know that there really is another company out there that is capable of doing what this system does for our county.”

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face finish making it nearly 100% saltwater corrosion resistant.”

Not all recent complaints have had merit. A police department in the northwest reported that a Model 19 in a Safariland SS III holster discharged when struck by a side blow from a PR-24. They said they repeated the malfunction on three occasions by striking a Model 19 from the side as it was held firmly in a vise.

Concerned by this report, another agency tried to duplicate the problem using their own Model 22s, including one with some 40,000 rounds fired through it. Their report stated, “We did not attempt to replicate the accidental firing when the weapon was held firmly in a vise, as we felt the conditions did not represent a realistic set of circumstances which an officer might be faced with in the field.” They used a standard Sam Browne belt and holster on a baton practice dummy.

The Model 22s were loaded with primed cases and repeatedly struck with increasing force, including two-handed power strokes to the rear, middle and front. At no time did the firing pin strike the primer with enough force to cause a discharge, there were no external signs of damage to the weapons, and all functioned properly after the test.

In a February 7th fax, Glock President Karl Walter reported, “There have been numerous upgrades on Glock 19s as well as on Glock 17s, and we expect we will be introducing further upgrades as the need arises. All manufacturers at one time or another have upgraded their respective pistols, and the Glock pistol is no exception.”

“Everyone jumps on Glock,” Walter told Gun Week in a telephone interview. “It comes with being a leader... We have almost 4,000 police agencies carrying Glocks out there, and genuine problems are extremely isolated.” For information on an “upgrade transition schedule” planned to begin no later than August 1, 1992, call Glock at (800) 828-2781.

Courtesy of LAW and ORDER
June 1992

‘Nars’ Form Statewide Association

On July 18, forty-five law enforcement officers met in Tampa and drew up initial plans for the formation of the “Florida Narcotic Officers’ Association,” (FNOA).

“We are aware of two other narcotic officer associations, but they both dissolved in 1976,” noted Lt. Jim Tagliarini of the Hillsborough County S.O., and newly elected President of this latest effort. Training and the exchange of information will play a major role in the new Associations goals.

“In the past few years, the Florida Sheriffs Association Crack Cocaine Task Force has brought Florida’s drug enforcement agents together like no other effort has ever done before,” Tagliarini said. “But, with no guarantee of continued funding, many of us felt that the time was right for another attempt at forming a statewide association of narcotic investigators.”

The initial meeting drew representation from the sheriff’s offices in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Seminole, Orange, and Marion counties. In addition, representatives from the Lakeland, Ocala, Dunedin, and Tampa police departments came, and the MBI Orange County and Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco sent representatives as well. To date, FNOA has received a total of 204 applications for membership, a number which has Tagliarini very encouraged.

“Like the FSA Task Force, FNOA will divide the state geographically, with chairmen and alternates elected to represent each of six regions,” said Tagliarini. “Some of these positions will be filled by appointment until adequate representation can be recruited from each respective region.”

If you are interested in joining FNOA, individual dues are $20 per year. A statewide organizational conference is tentatively planned for the week of January 25, 1993 in the Orlando area. If you desire additional information or have suggestions, contact Lt. Tagliarini at (813) 247-8732, or Treasurer Greg Barnett at (407) 330-6615. Mailing address for the FNOA is 2910 N. Fritzke Rd., Dover, FL 33527.