

Florida Sheriffs Association <u>Honorary Sheriff</u> Chris Sprowls Speaker of the Florida House

September 2022

Chris Sprowls was elected to the Florida House of Representative in 2014 and served as Speaker of the House from 2021-2022.

During his time as Speaker, he created the Florida Law Enforcement Officer of the Day and then placed it in the House Rules so that the future Houses will now begin each day that they are in session by acknowledging and recognizing the great work of a law enforcement officer.

Speaker Sprowls led efforts in passage of HB 3 during the 2022 session, which included several provisions aimed at bolstering law enforcement officer recruitment and retention, including providing one-time bonuses of up to \$5,000 to new officers in



Florida. HB 3 also had a \$5,000 increase to the base pay for sheriffs, first time this happened in over 30 years. The bill also included the language that sheriffs fought for to ensure they retained the ability to move money between budget categories at their discretion without first requiring approval from their county commission.

In 2018, Speaker Sprowls also served on the Constitution Revision Commission and collaborated with Clerk Carolyn Timmann to ensure Amendment 10 was on the ballot. Amendment 10 passed with 63% support and now all counties must have an elected and independent sheriff.