

FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION



Florida Sheriffs Association 2021 Legislative Priorities

Drones

New exemptions for law enforcement's use of drones should include: (1) crowd and traffic management, (2) collection of evidence at a crime scene or traffic crash, and (3) for the assessment of damage due to a flood, wildfire, or natural disaster.

Support 1049 Rep. Giallombardo & SB 44 by Sen. Wright

Sexual Predator Loophole

The current wording of the Florida sexual offender statute under §943.0435 has created an unintended loophole that allows sexual offenders to avoid registration as a sexual offender so long as they fail to pay any court-ordered fines. The Florida sheriffs support legislation to close this loophole to ensure all sexual offenders in Florida are required to register regardless of whether they have paid their fines.

Support HB 193 by Rep. Clemons & SB 234 by Sen. Book

Controlled Substances/Drug Control

Florida continues to work to solve its opioid epidemic. Treatment and recovery support services are needed for those who are addicted to drugs, but enhanced tools are needed to hold drug dealers accountable for their criminal actions that are flooding our communities with deadly drugs. This legislation will make important changes to hold those that supply controlled substances and illegal drugs to users accountable, while also protecting recovering addicts who are seeking treatment at a drug treatment facility.

Support HB 325 by Rep. Plakon & SB 1260 by Sen. Brodeur



Florida Sheriffs Association Legislative Platform

Law Enforcement

Drones: Support law enforcement's ability to use drones for critical incidents to ensure public safety.

Marsy's Law: Support legislation to clarify Marsy's Law protects victim information when they ask for their information to be protected.

Jails, Corrections & Re-Entry

Early Release: Support Truth in Sentencing laws requiring convicted criminals to serve at least 85% of their sentence.

Mandatory Minimum Sentencing: Oppose the elimination of mandatory minimum sentences.

Expunction of Criminal Records: Oppose unlimited expunction of criminal records.

Administration

Florida Retirement System: Support returning length of service to 25 years and the retirement age to 55 years for Special Risk Class employees.

Florida Retirement System: Support reducing the amount of time a law enforcement officer must remain retired before being rehired from 12 months to 30 days.

Florida Retirement System: Support legislation to assess the financial impact and necessary funding required for an ad hoc cost of living adjustment for future Special Risk Class retirees.

Budget

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Funding: Support continued funding to train law enforcement officers to safely assess and identify people in mental health crisis and help connect them with community treatment and keep them out of the criminal justice system.

Community Mental Health Funding: Support funding for mental health services that will assist persons after they are released from county jails and have to transition back into the community.