



The Broward Centurion

Volume 10, Issue 8 | August 2007

Insurance Riders For Take-Home Vehicles: What You Need To Know

There have been several questions regarding the appeal court ruling on liability for take-home vehicles. Keep in mind that the point of the insurance rider is to cover you when you are in transit between work and home and are technically off-duty.

The case that brought this to light is *Garcia vs. City of Hollywood*. The Garcias sued the City for an accident that involved one of their officers in a take-home car on his way to work. The court said that the City has no liability because the officer was not on-duty at the time of the incident. Now the officer can be sued. You need to be aware of this so you can protect yourself.

The rider you need to get is for liability and medical coverage while operating a vehicle that you do not own.



Some insurance companies may call it a Use of Non-Owned Cars rider (State Farm, for example, uses this name).

If you do not have personal auto insurance, you will not be able to obtain this type of endorsement or rider. It is an addition to your regular car insurance.

The cost of the rider will vary according to the type of vehicle and other factors, but we've seen rates as low as \$10 a year for liability and \$4.00 per year for medical.

If your insurance company doesn't offer this kind of rider, or you do not have car insurance, we are attempting to find out what your options are. We'll keep you updated.

State Representative Won't Run Again

State Representative Mike Davis, a great friend and champion of the PBA, will not be seeking reelection when his current term expires at the end of 2008. He cited long-term health issues as the main factor in his decision. His district includes eastern Collier County and parts of Broward County. He was first elected in 2002 and is serving his third term.



Davis has always been a friend of law enforcement ; he has sponsored and adamantly supported PBA legislation. He was respected on both sides of the aisle in Tallahassee.

Representative Davis will truly be missed in Tallahassee but he will always have the respect and admiration of the PBA. He is more than an outstanding legislator; he is a friend, a gentleman and definitely one of the good guys.

In this issue...

No 10-94 For You?	5
Fitting In Fitness	7
Top Scholarship Winners	8

BSO Update	10
Births	11
Letters & Thanks	12

The Broward Centurion

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Megan Gordon, Editor

E-mail: megan@bcpba.org

The Broward Centurion is published by the Broward County Police Benevolent Association for the sole benefit of its members. *The Broward Centurion* is dedicated to the advancement of the law enforcement profession through better and stronger community relations. The opinions expressed in the publication of *The Broward Centurion* are not necessarily those of the Broward County PBA, its Executive Board or the Board of Directors.

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- Submissions should be sent to:

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- Letters or articles must be accompanied by the writer's true name and address.
- All articles submitted for publication must be accompanied by a statement giving permission to publish.
- All submissions must be legible.
- The Broward County PBA reserves the right of the Executive Board or Editor to amend or to add an editor's comment to any article or letter submitted.
- Advertisement in this publication does not imply endorsement by the Broward County PBA unless otherwise specified.



President's Letter

At the July 19 Board of Directors meeting, we gave awards to our top five scholarship winners. It was a pleasure to meet those young men and women and see firsthand how much they appreciated receiving the scholarships.

The first-place winner, Michelle DeJesus, was asked to read her essay (which was printed in last month's Centurion) for the board. She received a standing ovation from the Board for her efforts. Her parents had tears of pride in their eyes for their daughter. Times like these are when it is a pure pleasure to be a part of an organization like the Broward County PBA.

I want to thank Matt Opendisano of the Legend Group, who donates the first-place scholarship each year. He suggested this years ago and continues to support our scholarship awards with pleasure.

Secondly, members should pay close attention to the upcoming tax reduction vote due for January. The PBA will be outlining the pros and cons of the tax reduction and its impact on our membership.

Dick Brickman

Order Your PBA License Tag

Available at the main county tag office. Ask for the "Support Law Enforcement" tag.



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 Chuck Howard

Welcome New Members

Thomas John Cupo	BSO
Todd C. Everhart	BSO
Michael E. Francis	BSO
Michele Marotta	BSO
Neil Mondesir	BSO
German Puig	Miramar
Pietro G. Roccisano	Hallandale Beach
Alexander Rodriguez	Hallandale Beach
Obed Saldana	Coconut Creek

Retired

James R. Hodges	BSO
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Changed Agency

John A. Clarke	Hollywood
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Reinstated

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Mark Krumenacker	Sunrise
Francine A. Lindeman	Margate Support
Sam L. Pagano	BSO
Mark T. Trudel	BSO

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Law Enforcement News

Items of Interest From Around The U.S.

Tucson, Ariz. — An Arizona State Police Officer spotted Oscar Meyer's famed Weinermobile traveling on Interstate 10. The officer ran the vehicle's plate, which came back as stolen.

Lights, sirens, backup, and the wayward dog was nabbed. Except that it hadn't been stolen at all.

The Columbia, Wis. Police Department has registered a warning on the "YUMMY" plate belonging to the Weinermobile, intending to inform law enforcement that the plate should only be on the traveling hot dog and should be considered stolen if on any other vehicle. The computer entry is being changed, and the Weinermobile is back on the road.

Source: The Associated Press



Tampa — The Tampa Police Department wants to focus on the small details to get an overall picture of their officers' well-being.

Tampa's Internal Affairs Bureau also runs the department's Early Intervention Program, used to identify officers with personal problems or aggression issues.

Each week, the IA computer culls information about officers' behavior using seven criteria and flags those officers who should meet with a supervisor. The most serious criterion is the use of force—but not all officers flagged for this are problematic.

Last year two officers who had the most interventions due to use of force were found not to have problems. Their uses of force were found to be appropriate, and the reason they had so many was that each of the officers made three times the arrests of the typical officer.

This is an issue with officers within the department, and tends to be a flaw with similar programs nationwide.

Source: The Tampa Tribune



Anne Arundle County, Md. —

A new policy within the Anne Arundel County Police Department has officers being required to cover tattoos while on duty.

The policy means that an officer who has tattoos on his arms or neck would be required to wear long sleeves and turtleneck regardless of how high the temperatures outside go.

The edict extends to all sworn officers, civilian volunteers, animal control officers and bike patrols, among other staff.

The department's union plans to file a grievance as the County Charter requires that changes in codes pertaining to wages, hours and working conditions be run through the union prior to implementation. This was not done in this case. The union was told of the policy change only hours before it went into effect.

The union sites safety concerns with the new policy. Having to wear long sleeves while directing traffic or on foot patrol in 98-degree weather could be dangerous, especially when combined with a bulletproof vest.

Source: The Annapolis Capital



Atlanta — Atlanta residents frustrated with a chronically understaffed city police department are putting together their own private police forces neighborhood by neighborhood.

Dozens of neighborhoods augment the services from the Atlanta Police Department with their own private patrols. Even businesses are getting into the act, paying extra taxes to create a private agency that they control.

Homeowners associations are selling memberships to their private police departments and use off-duty Atlanta cops to take a bite out of crimes like burglary, car break-ins and thefts from tool sheds.

The neighborhoods form a corporation to manage the security patrol, set its boundaries and its services and then sell memberships. Members get to display signs so patrol officers can monitor their homes. But the officers don't skip over criminal activity if it involves a nonmember.

Source: The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

No 10-94 For You?

Deputy gets no assistance on traffic stop

We received the following e-mail from one of our members, a BSO deputy:

Today on the way into work I had to make a traffic stop on a car that was driving recklessly east on I-595. He almost caused three accidents, and I was one of the cars that was affected by his driving. I stopped the car and had the guy placed in cuffs. I was



asking dispatch for a 10-94 and put the driver in a safe but visible area so that any marked unit that could see me would stop and assist me.

Two marked BSO units passed right next to my car. I was on the inner emergency lane and they drove in the lane next to me. Neither bothered to even stop and ask if I was 10-4. A detective from Ft. Lauderdale stopped and stayed with me until a Davie unit came as a 10-94. I was embarrassed to tell the Ft. Lauderdale Detective that two marked units from my agency passed by without even asking if I was all right. It is too bad I did not get his name; all I know is that he was driving a dark Jeep Cherokee. If I could I would let Ft. Lauderdale know what a good officer they have working for them.

For all anyone knew I could have had

the most wanted person in the United States or even someone that was just determined to kill a cop. If that would have been the case, those two deputies would have been the same ones that would have asked themselves, Why is another deputy dead?. Those are the same two deputies I would not want at my funeral.

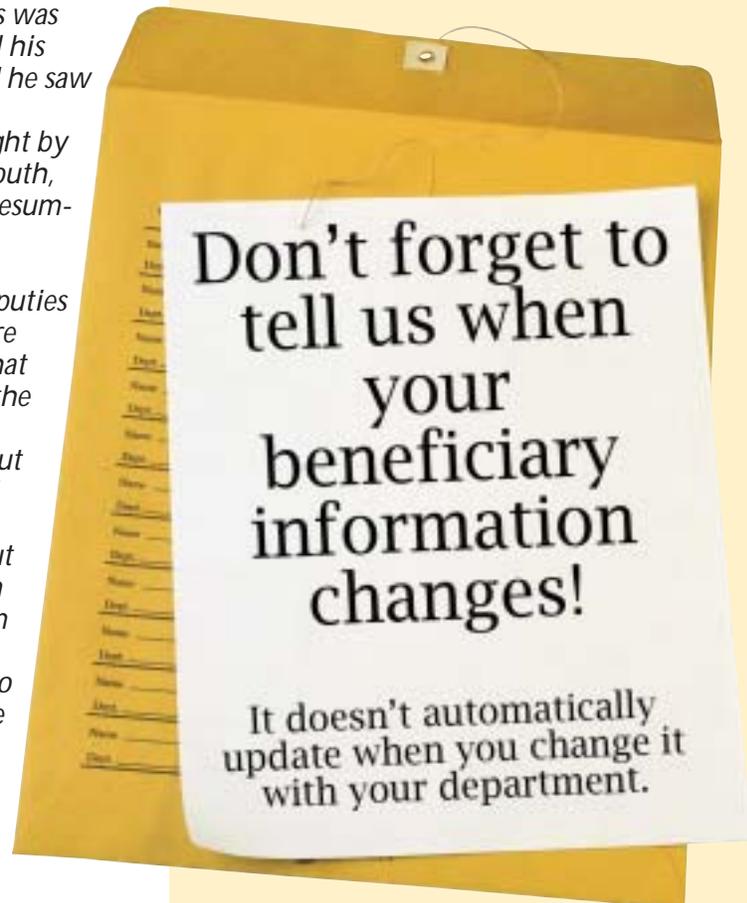
While talking with another deputy about this incident, he told me that about three weeks ago on the way home, after bravo, he saw two cars that had driven off the road on Krome Avenue in Dade County, not too far from the county line. If you are familiar with this area you know there is nothing within 10 miles of there. It happened that one of the drivers was dead. He had his lights on and he saw a deputy in a

marked unit pass right by him and continue south, toward his house presumably.

These actions by deputies and other officers are part of the reason that we get hurt out on the road. It has to be addressed and put out in the Signal 14 and PBA newsletter. I know you care about this type of problem and that is why I am addressing it to you. If you are not able to do something let me know. I will make sure it gets addressed one way or another.

Have you had a similar experience? Do you stop to help a fellow officer, even if you're not on duty? If not, why not? How should this situation be handled?

We want to hear from you. Please e-mail us at megan@bcpa.org.



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10-206-05PGA

Fitting In Fitness

By Jody L. Alu, Go To Health Fitness

Many of us honestly intend to exercise but have endless excuses to avoid it. You don't have to dedicate your life to fitness to see identifiable changes. If you haven't read it somewhere by now, we'll fill you in. As few as 30 minutes a day, most days of the week, is recommended by the Surgeon General to lower your risk of premature death and the development of chronic illnesses such as heart disease, hypertension and diabetes. Sounds easy enough, right? Then why aren't you doing it?



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•**Tai Chi** combines balance and coordination and has been shown to help illnesses such as MS, Parkinson's, fibromyalgia, and arthritis.

•**Basic strength training** increases muscle mass, improves bone density, and kicks metabolism into gear hours after a workout.

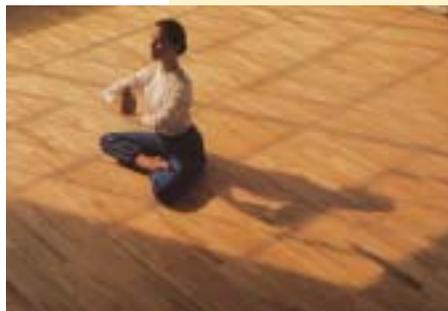
Spread It Out

Lack of time is one of the biggest obstacles to regular exercise. The solution? Break up the time. Do a 15-minute power walk at lunch, then do it again after work. *Briskly* take the stairs and leave the elevator on the ground floor. Play yard games with the kids, go for a swim, take the dog for a walk and circle the block again! Keep in mind however, to prevent obesity, most people would have to exercise 45 to 60 minutes per day. And *intensity is the key to unlocking the exercise vs time myth* since most people concentrate on how much time they spend exercising instead of the effort they expend doing it.

Schedule your fitness. Put it in your day planner as an appointment then stick to it. Make it fun and feel the sense of accomplishment you'll get as you continue to make it a part of your life.

Remember the days of climbing trees, balancing while walking on the curb, running barefoot in the sand, playing ball? You had a great time doing all of those things. They kept you active, you were with your friends, and while you didn't realize it at the time, those activities kept you flexible, strong, and steady.

Jody & Plantation Police Department Investigator Joe Alu own Go To Health Fitness, 3304 N.E. 33rd Street on The Galt Mile, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308. 954-566-8711. Visit them on the Web at www.gothealthfitness.com. They extend a courtesy rate of \$25.00 monthly membership to all members of the Broward County PBA with current membership card.



Choose Your Exercise

If you have a sedentary routine where you sit at your desk or ride in a car all day, think about these tips when you outline your fitness plan.

•**Yoga** facilitates circulation. Holding tension in your body can actually cut off circulation, *causing problems with both sexual health and performance.*

•**Pilates** can *improve your golf swing*, increase core strength, get rid of chronic low back pain, and help posture.

•Break a sweat and shed unwanted pounds with cardio workouts like





New PBA Web Site Goes Online September First

Site gets a facelift along with helpful new features

It's been a long time coming, but the Broward County PBA's official Web site, bcpba.org, will have a brand new look next month.

The revamped site will offer more ways for our members to stay informed. In addition to features that already exist like access to contracts and back issues of *The Broward Centurion*, we will be offering many new features:

- President's Blog
- Legal Information Page
- Pictures and information about the new PBA hall
- Links and helpful phone numbers
- Online polls
- News feeds

- PBA news alerts
- Location map
- Bylaw information page

The new site will be available on an RSS feed, so you can be updated when there's something new for you to see.

We'd love to hear your suggestions about what kind of information you'd like to see on the Web site. We want it to be an evolving thing that will change as the needs of our members change.

Warning: Don't Speak To The Feds Without Representation

Making a false statement to any federal law enforcement officer is a third-degree felony, as a former Hollywood PD lieutenant discovered recently.

The lieutenant was questioned by the FBI in conjunction with their corruption case against four Hollywood officers. He spoke to the agents without legal representation.

No matter what the situation, you must protect your rights. Do not speak to federal law enforcement from any agency without an attorney present. Call the PBA office and make sure you are protected.

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Top Scholarship Award Winners

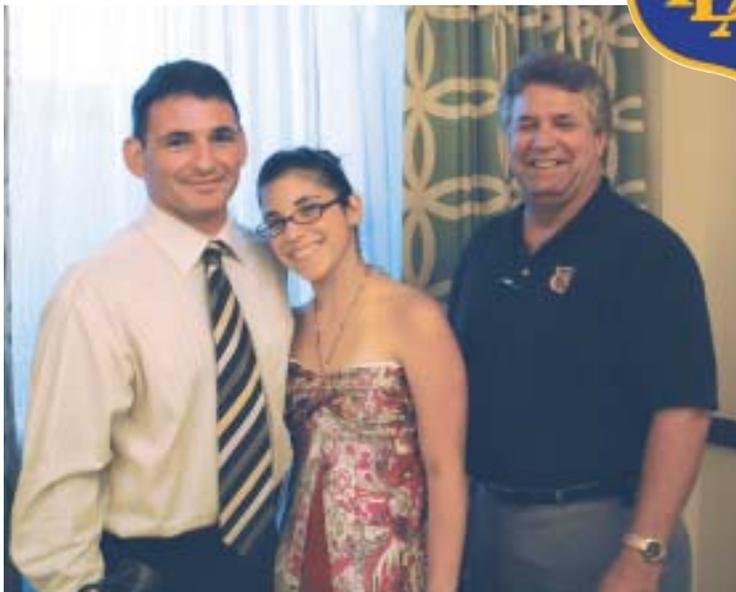
Four of our top five scholarship winners attended the July 19 board meeting to receive their awards. The second-place winner, Alexis Augusto, was unable to attend. Congratulations again to all of our winners; we're very proud of all of you!



First place winner Michelle DeJesus and her parents with Matthew Oppendisano, who provides the first place award



Fourth-place winner Jennifer Hanlon and her parents with Pat Hanrahan



Third-place winner Meagan Nagy and her father with Pat Hanrahan



Fifth-place winner Sean Hanrahan with his dad and Dick Brickman



Attention BSO Members

Update—July 2007

The last rep meeting, held on July 12, was attended by Colonel Auer. The Colonel assured The PBA that the impact of the property tax cuts on the BSO rank and file will be as minimal as possible.

Additionally, the colonel told us that the vest committee is still meeting to determine whether or not the wearing of vests should be mandatory.

We've also been told that all of the AR15 loaners, which had previously had sight problems, have been checked and the sights have been reset and are now consistent, so any of the guns may be used by any deputy.

BSO is still in negotiations to provide law enforcement services with several cities around the county.

Finally, Col. Auer expressed his pride at BSO's response during the shooting incident in Ft. Lauderdale in June. One hundred and seven deputies showed up within minutes of the call.

In response to members' concerns about having a say in who their PBA representatives are, we are changing the election system for BSO.

In the new system, members will elect eight At-Large PBA representatives agencywide, and there will be separate elections in each district for a District Representative. The District Representatives will sit on the Board of

Directors along with the At-Large representatives.

The District Reps will be able to handle any and all issues that come up in the individual districts. They will be your first contacts and will work closely with PBA legal and the At-Large Reps to handle your questions and concerns.

We hope that this change to our bylaws will help to address any concerns you all have.

As of press time, contract negotiations were scheduled to begin on Tuesday, July 31.

PBA 8, BSO 3

PBA prevails in disciplinary appeals

In July, the PBA represented 11 deputies appealing their disciplines with BSO.

Of the 11 cases, the PBA had eight overturned completely or reduced to lesser sanctions.

Only three cases where upheld.

LEO Spouses Support Group

**Next meeting: Monday, August 13
6:30 pm**

Children are always welcome

Please contact Sylvia Herring at 954/476-2647 or sylviam730@hotmail.com for more information and meeting location.

Births

Hollywood Baby Boom

Hollywood officer **Joe Tango** and his wife, **Nancy**, welcomed **Gianna Leigh** on June 20. Gianna weighed in at 7 lbs., 8 oz. and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Officer **Mike Brennan** and his wife, **Lourdes**, are the proud grandparents of **Jordan John Shea**. Jordan was born on July 12 and weighed 7 lbs., 6 oz. and was 22 inches long.

Officer **Meredith Elrich** and her husband, **Chris**, are now the parents of **Madison Grace Benemio**. Madison was born on July 18 and weighed in at 6 lbs., 8 oz.



Elsewhere

BSO Detective **Brain Walker** and his wife, **Nicole**, welcomed **Andrew James** on June 26. Andrew weighed in at 7 lbs., 8 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Congratulations to everyone!

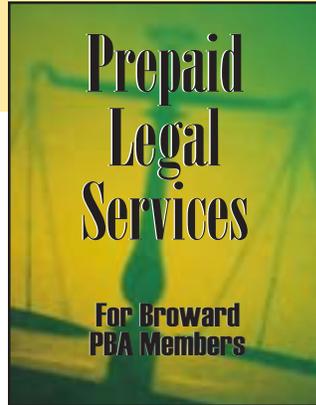


Members Named Officers Of The Month

Congratulations to Hollywood Detectives **Rhett Cady** and **Dennis Wynne** for being award Officers of the Month for May 2007, Officer **Josh Czerenda** for April 2007 and Officer **Ronald Cannella** for June 2007.

Detectives Cady and Wynne and Officer Czerenda were recognized at an Awards Presentation Meeting on July 18, and Officer Cannella will receive his award on September 19.

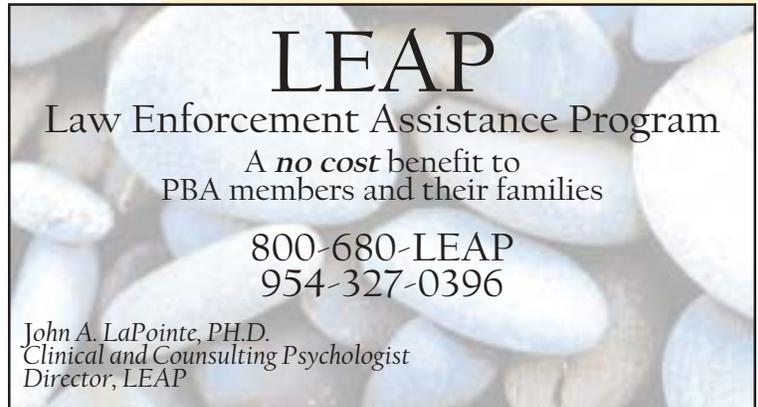
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Letters & Thanks

June 13, 2007

Mr. Richard Brickman - President
Broward County Police Benevolent Association
2650 W. State Road 84
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

Dear Mr. Brickman,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. Harrohan, and the Scholarship Awards Committee, for the generous scholarship award.

I plan to attend the University of Central Florida in the fall to study in the Health Science field, to prepare myself for a career in medicine. My hopes are to become a Doctor in chiropractic care.

Thank you again for the scholarship award. The money will be very helpful in assisting with my educational costs.

Sincerely,



Daniel Barbato

July 22, 2007

Dear PBA Scholarship Selection Committee:

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship you have provided for me. Not only are tuition and housing for college expensive, but books are too. This scholarship will help me pay for my book expenses. I appreciate your support as I continue my education at Florida State University.

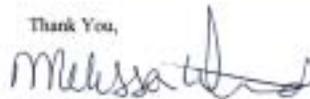
Thank you,
Kaitlin O'Connell

6/28/2007

To all the members of the Broward County PBA,

I would like to send my sincere thanks to the entire PBA for choosing me as one of 2007's Broward County Police Benevolent Association Scholarship recipients. I am honored to be recognized and hope that I can make the organization proud. I have recently been accepted to law school and will begin in August; my scholarship money has already helped in easing the huge financial burden that comes along with this new endeavor. Again, I thank you all so very much for all your help.

Thank You,



Melissa Ward

2980 W Buell Dr.
Cooper City, FL 33028
June 18, 2007

Patrick M. Harrohan
2650 W. State Road 84
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

I'd like to thank you for considering my essay for a scholarship winning. I hold this award with the highest respect and I truly believe it is worthwhile to go out and do something such as write an essay, especially if it pertains to your father's career. I am very grateful for this scholarship because I know that money doesn't grow on trees, seeing as I have had a job since the age of fourteen. It was a real pleasure writing this essay and I am very honored that it has been recognized in such a high degree. I hope other students get the same opportunity that I have received. It is such a blessing.

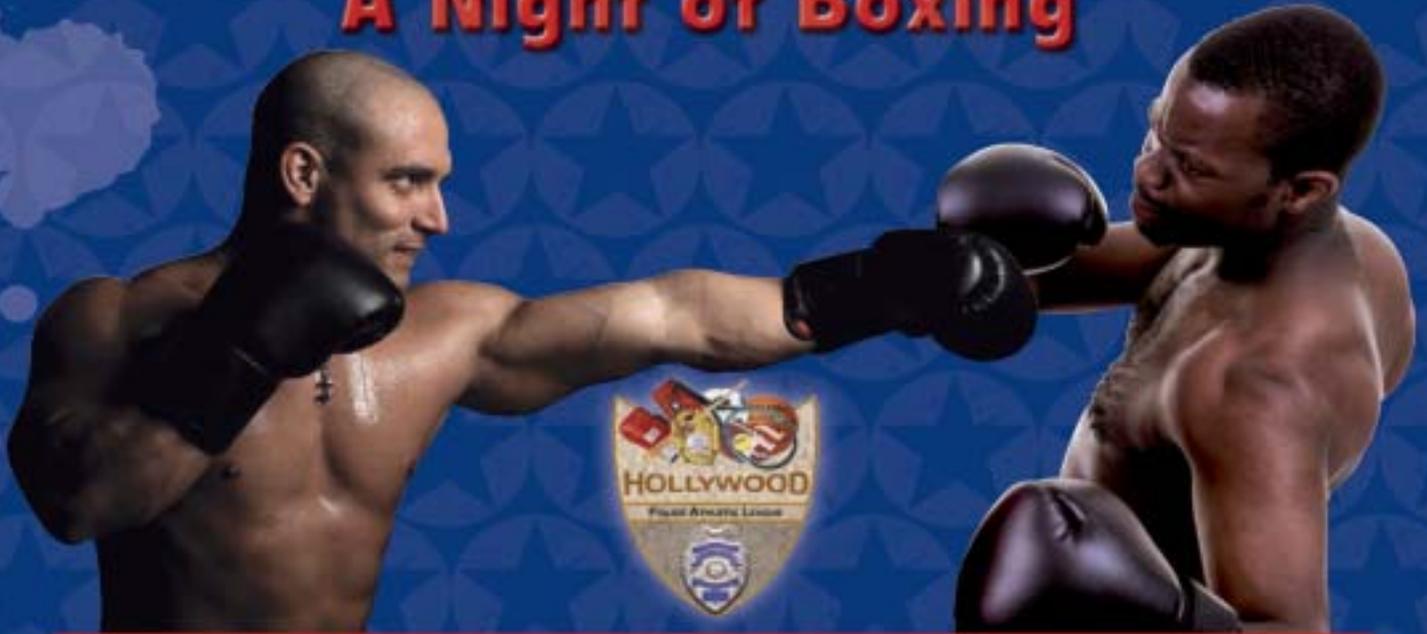
Sincerely,



Thomas Patrick Kallener

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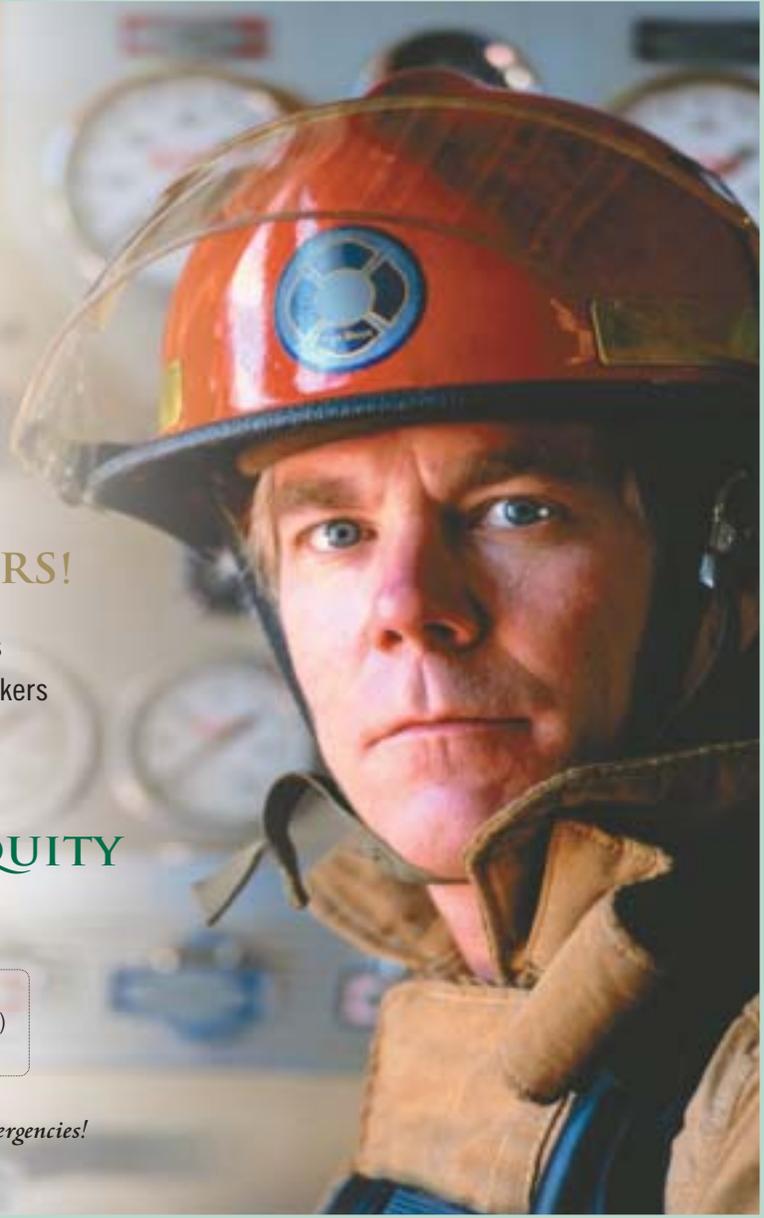
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