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Flagler County Administration, Sheriff agree on budget

August 15, 2018 – The Flagler County Sheriff’s Office (FCSO) and Flagler County Administration reached an agreement on Wednesday for the Sheriff’s Office FY18-19 budget.

A County’s budget is unlike any normal budget process in that it requires six independently elected constitutional offices, all with diverse responsibilities, functions and budget authority, to come together each fiscal year and produce one budget funding document. We have been fortunate to have community minded constitutional offices that have always worked together to get to the end of the process and do what’s right for the taxpayers of Flagler County.

The Sheriff cut a portion of his initial budget request to assist the County. Despite these cuts by the Sheriff, there was still a gap of around \$100,000 in the County’s general budget the parties were working together to close ahead of the upcoming budget public hearings in September.

On Wednesday, the parties were able to close the final gap due to an additional requested increase cut by the Property Appraiser of \$30,000 and an additional \$70,000 in fees collected by the Sheriff’s Office. These estimated fee are returned to the county to offset operating expenses and had previously been underestimated.

“This was a great solution from the Sheriff Office and essentially eliminates the need for any additional cuts from the Sheriff’s Office,” Greg Hansen, Commission Chair, said. “This is the County’s third budget working with Sheriff Staly and we have always been able to sit down and work through any issues.”

“Public safety is the most important job of government and I’m glad we were able to work out our budget with the County,” Sheriff Rick Staly. “The proposed budget allows for continuing all existing Sheriff’s Office services at full funding, provides funding for our share to staff School Resource Deputies in every school, and provides for a pay adjustment for employees to ensure we can attract and retain employees. I am proud we have a falling crime rate while providing law

Charles Ericksen, Jr.
District 1

Greg Hansen
District 2

David Sullivan
District 3

Nate McLaughlin
District 4

Donald O’Brien, Jr.
District 5

enforcement services at the lowest cost per capita for law enforcement in communities served by Florida Sheriff's Offices of similar populations.”

The Flagler County Board of County Commissioners must still vote on the FY18-19 County budget.

Agency	Service Population	FY 2017/18 LE Budget	FY 2017/18 Cost Per Capita
Indian River Sheriff's Office	99,063	\$29,819,290	\$301.01
Leon County Sheriff's Office	98,274	\$38,397,084	\$390.71
Flagler County Sheriff's Office	97,605	\$20,324,703	\$208.23
Bay County Sheriff's Office	93,016	\$24,203,802	\$260.21
City of Bunnell Police Department	2,927	\$974,036	\$332.78
Flagler Beach Police Department	4,685	\$1,559,555	\$332.88

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