



NEWS UPDATE

International Union of Police Associations (I.U.P.A.) Local 6020 Broward Sheriff's Office Deputies Association

June 15th, 2022

To All Members,

In our continued efforts to keep the membership informed, the International Union of Police Associations (I.U.P.A.) Local 6020, Broward Sheriff's Office Deputies Association, would like to discuss a few topics with you.

Letter to Sheriff Tony Regarding Cost-of-Living Adjustment: In April 2022, the I.U.P.A. Local 6020 agreed to a new collective bargaining agreement with the Broward County Sheriff's Office. Year two and year three of the collective bargaining agreement in regards to the cost-of-living adjustment are able to be re-opened in an attempt to negotiate a higher percentage. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Executive Committee has sent a letter to Sheriff Tony offering the full support and resources from the I.U.P.A. Local 6020 at any budgetary workshops held between the Broward County Sheriff's Office and Broward County Commission. Attached to this email is the letter from the I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Executive Committee to Sheriff Tony. The letter to Sheriff Tony can also be viewed by clicking the following link [Sheriff-Tony-letter.pdf \(iupa.org\)](#)

I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Facebook Page and Communication: The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 seeks to maximize communication with its members. Members will now receive text message notifications from 954-355-6313 when the I.U.P.A. Local 6020 sends a news update to their personal email. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 will be posting information regarding news updates and benefits on its Facebook page and Instagram Page. Please like and follow the I.U.P.A. Local 6020 on Facebook by searching our name, "**The Broward Sheriff's Office Deputies Association, IUPA Local 6020**" or at the following link <https://www.facebook.com/iupa6020/> Please like and follow the I.U.P.A. Local 6020 on Instagram by searching our name, **iupa6020** .

Detective Chris Krickovich and Sergeant Greg LaCerra: The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 stands with and supports Chris Krickovich and Greg LaCerra who were both unjustly charged by the Broward County State Attorney's Office for a use of force incident occurring in April 2019. Chris Krickovich and Greg LaCerra have a Motion to Dismiss Hearing on Thursday, June 16, 2022, at 1:30 PM, at the Broward County Courthouse in the West Wing in Room 6170 with Judge Levy. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 encourages members to come to this hearing and support Chris Krickovich and Greg LaCerra

during all court proceedings. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 and I.U.P.A. Legal Defense Fund Attorneys Eric Schwartzreich and Jeremy Kroll are dedicated toward fighting these unjust charges. The Legal Defense Fund has covered all legal expenses during this incident and has even flown Attorneys Eric Schwartzreich and Jeremy Kroll to California to depose the State Attorney's Office's use of force expert in the case.

Administrative Case Success: Two I.U.P.A. Local 6020 members were recommended for termination by the Professional Standards Committee. I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Attorney Mike Finesilver represented the members at their Pre-Disciplinary Hearings. Due to I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Mike Finesilver's efforts, the final discipline for both I.U.P.A. Local 6020 members was reduced from termination to a lesser discipline.

Deputy Relief Fund: The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Deputy Relief Fund provides financial assistance to those suffering financial distress. The Deputy Relief Fund has provided financial relief to members who this union believes were wrongfully terminated. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Executive Committee authorized payments for June of 2022 from the Deputy Relief Fund and multiple members who are either challenging their case in criminal court or arbitrating the case for their job were issued checks.

I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Representatives: Attached to this email are the current I.U.P.A. Local 6020 representatives.

Endorsements: The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 will be conducting endorsement interviews soon with individuals seeking to hold public office. Once the candidates have been interviewed, their responses will be forwarded to the membership via an email along with instructions on how to vote. As a reminder, the membership of the I.U.P.A. Local 6020 decides who this union endorses. A candidate who receives the majority of the votes will receive the I.U.P.A. Local 6020's endorsement.

Membership Benefits: The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 members are eligible for a wide variety of member benefits in the areas of Education, Financial and Insurance, Health, Home Services, Police Products, and Travel and Leisure. Membership benefits could include but are not limited to a free Associate and Bachelor Degree, savings when buying or selling a home, and discounts on Norwegian Cruise Lines. Members can view all possible benefits at <https://iupa.org/member-benefits/>

BSO and Miccosukee (Ave Maria/ Collier County Parking): The Broward Sheriff's Office has just signed an agreement with Miccosukee to allow deputies and sergeants living in Collier County to park their vehicles at the Miccosukee Service Plaza. Miccosukee is going to require deputies and sergeants who park their vehicles on their property to sign a hold harmless agreement. It should be noted that Miccosukee is a sovereign territory which would make any civil action brought against them for damages very challenging. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 will update the membership as the issue progresses and once the hold harmless agreements are available for review.

Florida Retirement System: For members beginning their employment with the Broward Sheriff's Office and enrolling into the Florida Retirement System (FRS) it is important to make an election into either the FRS Pension Plan or FRS Investment Plan. **DO NOT RELY ON THE DEFAULT ENROLLMENT OPTION.** Making the election prevents any issues in the event there is an error in the default option or a misunderstanding of what classification the person is in. Below are the Default Options on the FRS website for Enrollment (1st Election)
https://www.myfrs.com/Enrollment_1st_Election.htm

Default Option

For FRS-covered employees in all membership classes, except Special Risk, hired on or after January 1, 2018, the default option is the Investment Plan.

For FRS-covered employees in the Special Risk class hired on or after January 1, 2018, the default option is the Pension Plan.

For all new FRS-covered employees hired prior to January 1, 2018, the default option was the Pension Plan.

Critical Incidents and Representation: The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 provides its members with access to a Legal Defense Fund with approximately \$51,000,000 in the reserves with no caps on benefits. The Legal Defense Fund provides members full legal coverage for criminal and civil defense for acts committed within the scope of duty. If a member is involved in a critical incident such as deputy involved shooting, the I.U.P.A. will provide an on-scene attorney to represent the member. Members will be receiving I.U.P.A. Legal Defense Fund cards in the mail which have a number to call: **1-888-556-5631, and an Association ID of 5321.**

Simply call the number and provide the Association ID. In the event a member is involved in a critical incident and cannot recall the phone number above the member is always welcome to contact one of the Executive Committee members listed in this email 24 hours 7 days a week. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 will update members when the cards are mailed out.

As a reminder the I.U.P.A. Local 6020 provides its members full attorney representation for all disciplinary matters. If a member is the subject of an Internal Affairs investigation the member **WILL** be provided an attorney. For cases which are only administrative as a violation of policy, the Local I.U.P.A. 6020 provides its members Attorney Mike Finesilver. Attorney Mike Finesilver has approximately 35 years of experience as an attorney. Attorney Mike Finesilver has recently helped multiple members reverse termination recommendations to lesser discipline.

Promotion: Congratulations to Sergeant Emmanuel Koutsofios who was recently notified he will be promoted to Lieutenant.

A message from International President Sam Cabral: ““I write to you today to share that one of our brothers in blue, Police Detective Kurtis Vogel, Virginia Beach, Local 34, I.U.P.A., has been battling stage four colon and liver cancer since his diagnosis in May of 2021. He is assigned to narcotics in Special Investigations. He was a great patrol officer, moving quickly up the ranks to Master Police Officer on a Crime Suppression Unit, ultimately to detective.

Kurtis is an Army Infantry Veteran and an actively serving Virginia Beach Police Officer. Kurtis is married and a father of two young children. There is a Gofundme page for him that I suggest you visit here to offer assistance to Kurtis and his family.”

[Fundraiser by Joshua Gooch : Detective Kurtis Vogel's Cancer Battle \(gofundme.com\)](#)

Alliance for Retired Law Enforcement Officers: ARLEO is a premier organization that understands even though you are not wearing your badge anymore, you shall forever be appreciated for your service. Now that you have retired, this does not mean you should be forgotten or any less appreciated. ARLEO is here to afford you respect, benefits and legal protection. ARLEO values that service by “Enhancing Your Future Beyond the Badge”. **ARLEO Plan:** \$75.00 Per Year: Eligibility Requirement: Any individual who has retired as a sworn law enforcement officer in good standing. **Legal Defense Protection:** Additional Legal Defense Protection arising from use of a firearm is available for an additional cost. Visit the ARELO website for more information <https://arleo.org/>

Sincerely,

I.U.P.A. Local 6020 Executive Committee