



I.U.P.A. LOCAL 6020

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS
BROWARD DEPUTY SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION
THE VOICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

December 19, 2022

Ron DeSantis, Governor of Florida

State of Florida

The Capitol

400 South Monroe Street.

Tallahassee, FL 32399

The International Union of Police Associations (I.U.P.A.) Local 6020, the union representing the Department of Law Enforcement Deputies and Sergeants for the Broward County Sheriff's Office (BSO), currently represents approximately 1200 members. The I.U.P.A. Local 6020, endorses Senate Bill 20 for the 2023 legislative session filed by Senator Tom Wright for former BSO Deputy Maury Hernandez.

On August 6, 2007, former Deputy Hernandez was severely wounded when he sustained a gunshot wound to the head from a violent suspect he was attempting to apprehend. An investigation conducted into the incident revealed the suspect was on probation. Had the Florida Department of Corrections appropriately addressed the suspect's clearly evident violations of probation, the suspect would have been incarcerated on the day in question and former Deputy Hernandez may have never had to endure this horrible, life-altering experience.

The I.U.P.A. Local 6020 has discussed Senate Bill 20 with three living former Broward County Sheriffs who have held office during a period of time over the past few decades: Ken Jenne, Al Lamberti, and Scott Israel. These three former Broward County Sheriffs are not all affiliated with the same political party and they all served in office during different times. These three former Broward County Sheriffs however, share a major commonality as each of them endorse Senate Bill 20.



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Some citizens may not always find it easy to do the right thing, but law enforcement officers swear an oath to do their duty. On August 6, 2007, former Deputy Hernandez did what was right by fulfilling his moral obligation as a law enforcement officer by trying to apprehend a violent suspect and ensure the safety of the community. Approximately 15 years later, the legislature can and should fulfill its moral obligation and pass Senate Bill 20 for former Deputy Hernandez and make him whole for the sacrifice he made trying to ensure the safety of the community.

Governor DeSantis, on behalf of the I.U.P.A. Local 6020, former Broward County Sheriffs Ken Jenne, Al Lamberti, and Scott Israel, we respectfully ask for your support on this matter and urge the Florida legislature to pass Senate Bill 20 during the 2023 legislative session. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Cowart
President, I.U.P.A. Local 6020

Ken Jenne
Broward County Sheriff 1997-2007

Minority Leader of the Florida Senate 1994-1998

Al Lamberti
Broward County Sheriff 2007-2013

Scott Israel
Broward County Sheriff 2013-2019