



Sheriff Mark Hunter

COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

4917 US Hwy. 90 East • Lake City, Florida 32055-6288
www.columbiasheriff.org



October 24, 2023

The Honorable Rocky Ford
Chairman of the Board
Columbia Co. Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Drawer 1529
Lake City, Florida 32056-1529

RE: FY 23/24 Budget Amendment #1

Dear Commissioner Ford:

I am requesting a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$331,374 for the Sheriff's Office's FY 23/24 Budget. This amount represents the State Appropriated Law Enforcement Salary monies that the Board previously used to supplant the 5% increase in our Personal Services Budget that should have been met by County Appropriated Funds.

As previously discussed with the Board, the intent of the State Appropriated monies is to increase the base salaries of Law Enforcement personnel up to a level that enables our County to compete with other surrounding Law Enforcement entities. The Board's approach to utilize these funds toward a flat percentage increase as given to all other County employees limits the State's purpose in the funding.

I appreciate the Board's attention to my request for these funds to be added to CCSO's 23/24 Budget as they were intended by the State who actually funded those portions.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Mark Hunter".

Mark Hunter
Sheriff

XC: Rep. C. Brannon
Sen. J. Bradley
File



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RE: FY 23/24 Budget Amendment #2

Dear Commissioner Ford:

I am requesting a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$175,342 for the Sheriff's Office's FY 23/24 Budget. This amount represents the increase in our School Resource Deputy Contracts that the Board previous used to reduce their responsibility for the 5% increase in our Personal Services Budget that should have been met by County Appropriated Funds.

The increase in the School Board contracts were not provided for just personal services alone. Therefore, it was improper for the Board to reduce the amount calculated for Personal Services by those contractual increases which were intended for other uses as well.

I appreciate the Board's attention to my request for these funds to be added to CCSO's 23/24 Budget.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Mark Hunter".

Mark Hunter
Sheriff

XC: File