BROWARD COUNTY
CHIEFS OF POLICE
ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE

September 28, 2026

A BETTER APPROACH TO PROPERTY TAX RELIEF IS NEEDED, AND IT MUST INCLUDE PUBLIC SAFETY

BROWARD COUNTY, FL - Floridians are feeling the pressure of a rising cost of living. Homeowners are confronting higher insurance premiums, grocery bills, utility costs and everyday expenses. As police chiefs and members of the communities we serve, we understand why residents are seeking meaningful property tax relief. But relief should not come with an unintended consequence: diminishing the public safety services our residents rely upon every day. The Broward County Chiefs of Police Association believes we have a responsibility to ensure residents understand what significant reductions in local government revenue under Amendment 3 could mean for their police departments. Our concern is not political. It is about our ability to continue providing the level of service Broward County residents expect and deserve.

The commitment of Broward County's law enforcement professionals to serve and protect their communities will not change because revenues decline. What could change are the resources available to fulfill that commitment. Effective policing requires officers, training, equipment, technology, investigative resources and specialized capabilities. Most importantly, it requires enough personnel to respond when someone calls for help and enough time for officers to properly address the reason they were called. Every request for police service matters to the person making that call. Police departments must prioritize calls based upon urgency, and an immediate threat to life must take precedence over a non-emergency incident. But "lower priority" should never be confused with "unimportant."

When residents call their police department, they expect us to respond. When we arrive, they expect us to have the time, resources, ability and competence necessary to help. Significant reductions in property tax revenue will make meeting those expectations more difficult. Every Broward community has a different tax base, budget and demand for services. But when local governments have substantially fewer dollars available, difficult decisions inevitably follow. For police departments, those decisions could affect staffing, hiring, training, equipment, technology, specialized units and investigative capabilities. Reduced resources could also result in longer response times for lower-priority calls as departments necessarily devote available personnel to emergencies.

Crime and the challenges facing law enforcement are constantly evolving. When crime declines, we must remain vigilant and sustain the strategies, personnel and resources that helped make our communities safer. When crime increases, those resources become even more critical. Crime prevention, investigations, school safety, emergency response, community policing and technology require sustained investment. Whether crime is trending up or down, our responsibility remains the same: protecting our communities and providing the service our residents expect.

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The Florida Police Chiefs Association has also recognized the significance of these concerns and has announced its opposition to Amendment 3 as currently written, citing the absence of a clear, workable path to protect public safety funding. We share FPCA's concern that meaningful property tax relief should not come at the expense of the public safety services Broward County communities depend upon.

Regardless of what happens with property tax reform, Broward County's law enforcement professionals will continue answering the call. Our passion for serving our communities will not diminish. But passion cannot replace personnel. Commitment cannot replace resources. Florida should pursue a solution that protects both.

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