

March 18, 2008

Lanny Russell, Chairman  
Increasing Police Presence Workgroup  
of the Jacksonville Journey  
c/o Office of the Mayor  
117 West Duval Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Dear Mr. Russell:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the findings of the Matrix Report with the Increasing Police Presence Workgroup on March 17, 2008. As you may be aware the Undersheriff and his staff, along with the Mayor's staff, had a series of meetings beginning at the end of last year to review the report's recommendations. A comprehensive three (3) year implementation plan (copy attached) was developed to hire 225 new Police Officers, 124 Corrections Officers and 84 civilian positions. After the workshop discussion, I still maintain the public safety need for our community remains; 225 police officers, 124 correctional officers and 84 civilian personnel. As additional personnel are hired and other recommendations implemented, we will closely monitor the results and make adjustments as necessary.

As requested at the workgroup meeting last night, I have attached responses to the "JSO Funding Ideas" schedule which your workgroup provided. I did not respond to those suggestions which fell under the category "Requires Union Negotiations." I would, however, oppose any changes that effect this agency's ability to recruit qualified officers or inhibits our ability to recruit qualified minority candidates.

In addition to the ideas discussed at the Workgroup meeting, I would also like to suggest that the City continue to explore outsourcing maintenance of the Sheriff's Office fleet. This has the potential to save in excess of \$1,000,000 annually. A bid package should be prepared and the results evaluated.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at 630-2120.

Sincerely



John H. Rutherford, Sheriff  
Duval County, Florida

Cc: Paul Perez, Chairman, Law Enforcement and Deterrence Committee  
Melissa Nelson, Member, Increasing Police Presence Workgroup  
Adam Hollingsworth, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office