



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JIMMY PATRONIS'
RUNDOWN
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Volume 18 | Number 58 | May 14, 2021

Floridians,

On Monday, I was **honored** to join Senator Perry at the State Fire College in Ocala to recognize the inaugural First Responders Mental Health Awareness Day. When we hear the term 'first responder' – we think of bravery, protection, service and sacrifice. And we should – our first responders don't flee in the face of dangerous situations; they perform their jobs to protect Florida's families and communities. But often, we don't think about the firefighter, police officer or paramedic being unable to cope with what they see while on duty. Too many of these brave Floridians have suffered and struggled in silence, and my hope is that this event helps remove the stigma around first responder's mental health, leads to more resources to help our heroes and hopefully saves lives. Working together, we can provide support and resources for our first responders to ensure no one fights alone.

On Tuesday, I **awarded** Central Florida fire chiefs with a check for more than \$30,000 in grant funding to ensure they have the vital equipment, training and supplies needed to mitigate exposure to cancer-causing contaminants and other infectious diseases, such as COVID-19. Florida firefighters have been on the frontlines of the pandemic for over a year now, working every day to protect our communities while putting themselves in harm's way. As a result of their dangerous profession, these heroes are also more likely to contract cancer than you or me. Because of the success of this program, I supported legislation this session to double the total grant funding to ensure our firefighters are fully protected. Thank you to all the Legislators and Fire Chiefs who were in attendance and made this a great event!



In addition, during [Hurricane Preparedness Week](#), I am encouraging Florida families to finalize their hurricane plans and not wait until a storm is on the horizon. Before every hurricane season, consumers should review their home insurance policies to ensure they have sufficient coverage. For hurricane-related resources and information, visit [PrepareFL.com](#), which serves as a one-stop-shop website for disaster preparedness information and tips to help Floridians ensure they are prepared. Hurricane Preparedness week kicked off Sunday, May 9th and goes into Saturday, May 15th. The 2021 Atlantic Hurricane Season begins June 1st and ends November 30th.

I hope you have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida

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Jimmy Patronis @JimmyPatronis · May 10

Proud to back the blue and honor #NationalPoliceWeek! May we never forget the sacrifices these men and women make daily to ensure our safety. Thankful Florida stands with law enforcement and passed a law to ensure local governments can't defund the police—keeping our heroes safe.



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