

**ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER**



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DUCATION**

**NEXT CHAPTER  
MEETING  
11:30 AM  
3rd Sunday  
Jan. 19**

**CHECK TWICE  
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE  
WHO RIDE  
DECIDE!**



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Our Email is [palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com](mailto:palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com)

Put in the subject: ABATE and the officer to whom should see it and what about to so that message is directed right

Mailing Address

**ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter  
P.O. Box 530944  
Lake Park, FL 33403**

Our website is [palmbeach.abateflorida.com](http://palmbeach.abateflorida.com)

### **DISCLAIMER**

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### **IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT**

This newsletter is the monthly publication of ABATE of Florida, Inc. Palm Beach Chapter published monthly 12 times a year  
**ABATE of Florida Inc  
Palm Beach Chapter  
P.O. Box 530944  
Lake Park, FL 33403**

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## President's Message

Curtis Alva

We had our annual party this month at the Lakeside Anchor Inn in Lantana. It was a great group of bikers. We had tremendous support from the Clubs and veterans and independents and our brothers from the Southeast Chapter. We are blessed to be in a active biker community. The Anchor Inn is a perfect spot for bikers, up front parking for bikes, on the water, big tiki hut, friendly staff and the owner treated us right! The weather was glorious, sunny, warm, and breezy. Best of all, we had almost 100 bike sets there and we were able to give away a \$200 door prize, plus lots of others prizes and a big 50/50 pot.

### EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

You are encouraged to submit letters about ABATE related to events, articles, photographs, commentaries, etc. Please do not submit slanderous nor accusing letters, profanity nor nudity. Abate of Florida, Inc., will not accept any advertising that discriminates against any type of motorcyclist

January has lots of events, including the annual party for the Southeast Chapter of ABATE on the 19th, which is also the date of our monthly chapter meeting, so come to our meeting and then ride to Ft Lauderdale for the party at American Legion Post 180. We are going to have a super door prize for our chapter meeting and the party will have many prizes too.

Our Annual Freedom Rights Ride in Tallahassee is February 10. This is months earlier than usual so adjust your calendars and ride with ABATE to stand up for biker rights!



Find us on  
**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/AbatePalmBeachChapter>

## **UPCOMING Event Schedule**

Wed Jan. 1 - Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's, and Pirates Well Lake Park Bike Nights

Thurs. Jan. 2 - Abacoa Bike Night PB Harley 7-10, , Howley's Bike Night

Friday Jan 3 Black Piston's Open House

Sunday Jan. 5 States MC Pompano Blessing of the Bikes

Wed Jan. 8 - Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's, and Pirates Well Lake Park Bike Nights

Thurs. Jan. 9 Vintage Iron Bike Night

Friday Jan. 10 AOA WPB Open House

Sunday Jan 12 Wings of Gold Broward Annual

Wed Jan. 15 - Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's, and Pirates Well Lake Park Bike Nights

Thurs. Jan. 16 Palm Beach Harley Bike Night 45th St

Friday Jan 17 States MC Lake Worth Open House @ LLB

**3rd Sunday Jan. 19 — Palm Beach Chapter Meeting ABATE of FL. Inc.** 11:30 am V.F.W.  
Post 4143 located at 2404 Broadway, Riviera Beach 561-844-5718. From I 95 exit Blue Heron Blvd. go east to Broadway (Federal Hwy., US- 1) turn right, go south 1 block the V.F.W. is on the east side. Look for the flag. Breakfast will be served 9:00 AM 'til Noon  
Southeast ABATE Event

Wed Jan. 22 - Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's, and Pirates Well Lake Park Bike Nights

Friday Jan. 24 - Lone Legion Brotherhood Open House

Sunday Jan. 26 Der Kreiger Annual

Wed Jan. 29 - Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's, and Pirates Well Lake Park Bike Nights

Thurs. Jan. 30 - Turboz Custom Cycles Bike Night 7-10 PM Ralph's Stand Up Bar Jupiter

### **REMINDER: EVERY**

Wed Nights Gorilla Motors/PBH Bike Night at Island Jack's,

Sat. night Fly n Wheels Open House

**PLEASE ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSES FOR A GOOD TIME AND SHOW OF SUPPORT WHEN POSSIBLE**



JAN  
25

**Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show**  
Public · Hosted by Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show 2020  
Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 10 AM – 1 PM  
Frost Park  
300 Ne 2nd Street, Dania Beach, Florida 33004

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RAGGER  
BEST PAINT

**CHOP**

**TATTOO'D SWEETHEARTS CONTEST**  
FIRST PRIZE \$500.00  
SECOND PLACE \$250.00  
THIRD PLACE \$100.00

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY GIBTOWN BIKEFEST**

**BOONDOCKS BAR**

**NEW TOP PRIZE**  
CLEVELAND, FLORIDA

**VXV**  
VICIOUS VANITY INK

**S&C LINKS**

Sat. Jan 18th  
**GIBTOWN BIKEFEST**

**FULL THROTTLE**

**5 Days!**  
February 5th-9th

Event Hours:  
Wed. Feb 5th - 5pm - 10pm  
Thurs. Feb 6th - 5pm - 10pm  
Fri. Feb 7th - 4am - 10pm  
Sat. Feb 8th - 4am - 10pm  
Sun. Feb 9th - 4am - 6pm

**EXPO 2020**

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**FOX CROSSING BEER WINE POOL TAVERN**

**Fox Crossing's 7th Annual Chili Cook Off**  
In support of  
**ABATE of Florida, Inc. Forest Chapter**

**Sunday February 23rd, 2020**

Set up your best Chili at Noon.  
Tasting, Music and fun begins at 1 PM  
Event ends at 6 P.M.

**Live Music**

**\$5 to enter contest**  
For more info and to reserve our entry, call: 352/812-8766 (Dog)

**\$3 to taste and judge**

**Prizes**

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**FRIDER HORN HASKERRE**

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## **ABATE of Florida, Inc. Mission Statement**

### **WHO WE ARE**

We are a non-profit organization of motorcycle enthusiasts from all walks of life. We lobby and educate the government and the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image. We endeavor to enlist the cooperation and participation of all organizations and individuals that share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of FREEDOM. We promote motorcycle safety, training, & political awareness. We ARE NOT A CLUB NOR A GANG. We fund our work through events, toy runs, poker runs, campouts, and other motorcycle activities. We are your neighbors & friends who work, pay taxes, and get involved with our community. We serve and support our country and believe in freedom. We use all legal means to protect our rights without infringing on the rights of others. We are Pro-choice NOT anti-helmet, it is up to you to decide.

### **OUR GOALS**

To become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning the motorcyclist.  
To promote the safe riding habits without infringing on individual freedoms.  
To motivate the bikers to write letters to legislators before, during, and after the legislative session.  
To furnish a newsletter to keep all bikers informed in regards to upcoming legislation.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

When you become a member of ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. you are helping make a difference in the ongoing mission to protect your right to ride and enjoy the motorcycle of your choice, your choice of riding apparel, and when and where you can ride a motorcycle. These are issues that are real and present in today's "protect yourself from yourself" political environment. This holds true for all levels of government. There will always be those who see our love for motorcycling as a negative and will try any means to control and if possible prohibit motorcycle use.

On the local level our members get out the vote and support candidates who are sympathetic to our issues. We also will endeavor to lobby local governments whenever there are issues that need to be addressed, affecting local motorcycle use, ownership, and any discrimination that may result from said use of ownership.

At the state level we have a paid registered lobbyist who regularly visits our state capital in Tallahassee to lobby our legislators on the issues concerning the motorcycling public in Florida. He also finds reliable House and Senate sponsors for the bills we support. On the national level we are aligned with Motorcycle Riders Foundations (MRF), and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), along with several other international motorcycle rights organizations (MRO's).

As one can see we have our ear to the ground and our resolve tempered like steel. As Americans we have had it demonstrated to us time and again the vigilance is armor of free men and women. We shall not let the armor rust or weaken. With your support we can re-enforce and strengthen the armor for now and generations to come.

What else do you get with your membership? All members receive with their paid membership, the Membership Card, Event Discounts and Updates, Voting Privileges, Free Newsletter Classified Advertisements, a Chapter Newsletter, and a free \$4,000 Accidental Death or Dismemberment Insurance Policy from the American Income Life Insurance Company.

Memberships are open to anyone 18 years of age or older, no matter what type of motorcycle you ride, if any at all! We welcome all riders—in clubs, associations, independents, and sport riders to join us.

# Motorcycle Tips for Riding in the Rain

BY MICHAEL ESTRADA ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2019

It's always important to drive safely, but especially for motorcyclists in the rain. Riding a motorcycle is a very exhilarating experience, and just like driving a car, it becomes a little more dangerous in the rain.

If two-wheel transportation is your main way of getting around, here are some things to think about before you ride.

**Proper Gear:** Pants and a sweater aren't going to cut it. Water resistant gear is highly recommended so you don't freeze, it can impair both your decision making and ability to maneuver the bike. If you can afford it, heated vests and gloves are a great investment. You are better off with boots than sneakers, and luckily a dual-purposed pair of water resistant hiking boots will do the trick.

**Check Your Bike:** Wet roads mean less traction. After it rains, oil comes up to the surface of the roads, so make sure your tires aren't worn out. Leaning and shifting your weight is a critical part of riding. You don't want the bike to go sliding because of bad tread. Check your brake pads, lights and do any other regular maintenance you may not have kept up on before riding out in bad weather.

**Puddles are NOT Fun:** In a car or truck it can be fun to make huge splashes. However, puddles can be deceiving and even a small pothole can send you flying off your bike. If possible, always safely maneuver around puddles.

**Rainbow Roads Are For Mario Kart Only:** The pretty little swirls of color you see are just oil puddles waiting to send your bike swerving. Be extra careful at stop signs and lights; cars and trucks sometimes sit at intersections for a while and any leaking oil adds up.

**Stay On Pavement:** Try to avoid riding on painted lines, manhole covers or any other shiny/metallic surfaces in general. If it was slippery when dry, it is even more dangerous when it rains, especially given that the reduced tire grip can lead to hydroplaning. If you have to go over something, avoid any sudden inputs such as quick acceleration or slamming the breaks.

**Slow and Smooth:** Ease off the throttle sooner and give yourself more room to stop. Take turns at lower speeds so you can keep a safe and constant speed, and don't shift your weight too abruptly. Sudden actions like slamming on the breaks and quickly switching your weight can put you down quickly even in good weather.

**Find A Dry Path:** Trucks and cars clear paths when they drive, pushing away water and other debris. Ride in their tire tracks, but that doesn't mean tailgate them. You need to give yourself extra room to brake in the rain.

As always, remember to have fun! Riding a motorcycle is a drastically different experience than driving a car, and they're meant to be enjoyed. Humboldt is a beautiful place to explore, from the ocean to the forests there are no shortages of great views, and the rain doesn't need to deter you from that experience.

<https://thelumberjack.org/2019/12/07/motorcycle-tips-for-riding-in-the-rain/>

# Books And Movies For Motorcyclists

Essential gearhead reads, flicks, and calendars for the off-season. December 7, 2019

Dig into these fascinating books and movies while marking the days on the most awesome calendar around.

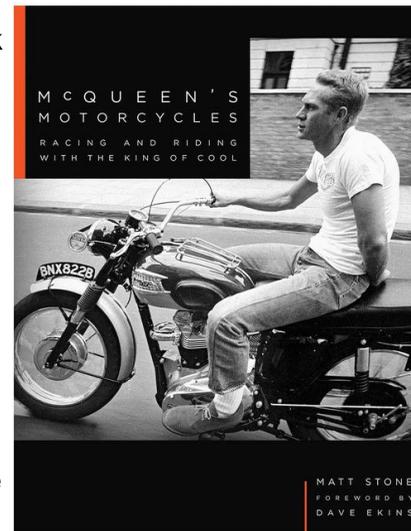
There's nothing like having a good book to dive into during your downtime. It doesn't have to be some 1,000-page, super-brainy volume on classic poetry or anything either. There are plenty of selections to choose from that revolve around your favorite pastime—motorcycling. From learning about the history of your favorite brands, to gaining inspiration for how to turn maintenance into an enjoyable habit, it's all right here in this batch of cherry-picked book and DVD selections.

Get yourself something new to read or to watch over the off-season and get a better insight on your favorite motorcycle, learn how to take better care of it, and take a look into the collection of one of the coolest guys to ever ride a motorcycle!

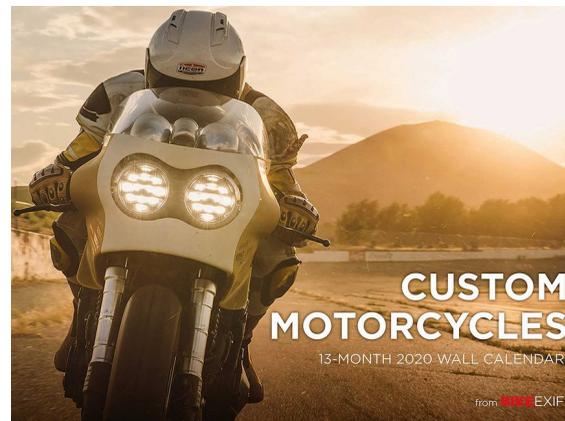
**McQueen's Motorcycles: Racing and Riding with the King of Cool** by Matt Stone

A rare inside look at Steve McQueen's personal bikes. Take a look inside the late, great Steve McQueen's garage and check out some of the bikes that he personally owned and rode.

From Harley-Davidson, Indian, Triumph, Cyclone, BSA, and Ace motorcycles, he dug them all, and it's so cool to see the particular models he loved enough to call his own. This 160-page hardcover book is perfect for any motorcycle fanatic's library collection. It's informative, and oh so much fun to look at. Keep it on the coffee table, because you're going to want to flip through it during every commercial break of whatever it is you happen to be watching.



**2020 Bike EXIF Custom Motorcycle Calendar** by Chris Hunter



and Lee Klancher

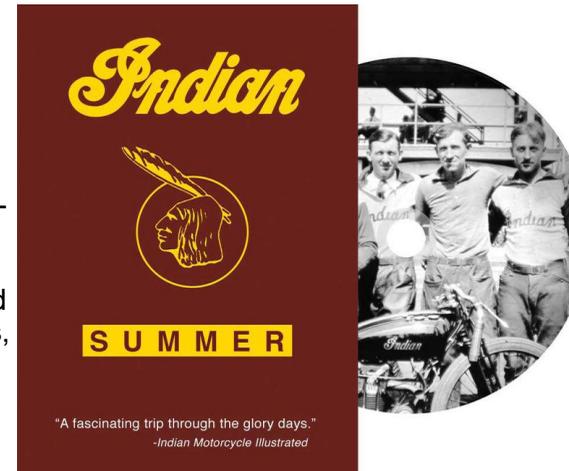
If this doesn't make your garage wall look cool, nothing will. The

2020 edition of the famous Bike EXIF wall calendar is a collection of 13 eye-opening new customs, including Walt Siegl's Ducati superbike, K-Speed's Honda Monkey café racer, and the custom Energica from deBolex Engineering. On the cover is "Colonel Butterscotch," Icon 1000's Suzuki Bandit, one of the most popular bikes seen on the Bike EXIF site. You'll also see a slew of cool BMW air-

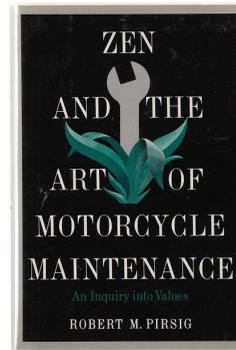
heads from Renard and Vintage Addiction, and the radical Jackson Burrows 1960 Harley-Davidson Super 10. Stick this 17 x 11.3-inch masterpiece on any wall for an instant shot of inspiration.

### Indian Summer: The Original American Motorcycle Movie DVD

A deep dive into the origins of the Indian Motorcycle company. Documentaries are always a good way to spend an hour or two on the couch. They're a great source of entertainment, and who knows, you might even have an opportunity to learn a thing or two. Indian Summer is the only full-length documentary ever produced that covers the Indian Motorcycle company, and for those who live by these legendary machines, this DVD is an absolute must-have. Follow the story of the company's early days, and learn about the riders who helped catapult the brand into what it is today. There are some very interesting stories here just waiting to be heard.



### Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance: An Inquiry into Values by Robert Pirsig



A classic read for motorcyclists, rebooted and deconstructed. This book was an instant best-seller when it was first released in 1974, and it is still hailed as one of the most revered books among motorcycle enthusiasts. This newer edition features an introduction by the author, important typographical changes, and a reader's guide that includes discussion topics, an interview with the author, and documents detailing just how this book was originally put together. Some live by the feeling of freedom of riding, while others equate that same feeling when it comes to the practice of maintaining their machine. This is a great read for motorcyclists looking to find a better sense of inner peace when spending time on or off their bike.

### Harley and the Davidsons DVD Box Set

A juicy history of one of America's most iconic brands. Those who prefer to watch livelier, scripted biographical movies to a more straightforward documentary-style film will get a kick out of the storytelling that Harley and the Davidsons delivers. This movie—or rather, miniseries—tells the story behind one of the biggest names in the motorcycle industry. The box set includes four Blu-ray discs that add up to a total running time of 246 minutes—that's more than four hours to enjoy. This is the perfect stocking stuffer for anyone who even remotely enjoys the motorcycle culture, let alone those who live the life every single day. <https://www.motorcyclecruiser.com/story/news/books-and-movies-for-motorcyclists/>



Except for the calendar I have all of these—Slo Motiom

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Fill out form, print, sign attach your check or money order and mail to:

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OUR NEWSLETTERS are best viewed at palmbeach.abateflorida.com as most timely (by the first of month), in full color, and with active Internet links to stories, etc., of interest. And for us with older eyes, can be zoomed in without magnifying glasses. We do need our advertisers, donations and more members to be able print and distribute more copies to the county for motorcyclists to be aware of the issues facing us. So please join in and let us know of good places to put them in. Issues can be mailed to members if no Internet access. Non-members can buy a subscription for \$20 a year but the other two methods are faster as it takes more time and cost to get mailings done.



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# DELEGATE REPORT

Happy New Year everyone!! Last months state meeting was held in Ocala on Dec.14 and hosted by Abate of Florida. We had Ocala's mayor as a guest speaker as he wanted to let us all know that he will be running for the Florida state senate. Let's all wish him luck.

Doc opened up the meeting by saying we all know Washington is a mess and that they need to get back to work for the people and start passing legislation for the people again. We all need to raise as much money as we can, any way

ABATE of FL Inc.  
Palm Beach Chapter

## GBNF

- Ed "Gunner" Bassett
- Frank "Pipes" Cook
- Robert "Torch" Lyle
- Niurka Crespo
- Phil Moore
- Michael Steffy
- Tom "Ramblin' Man" Botticelli
- Karen Watkins
- "Bones" Maurice Clark
- Danny Palm

## STATE MEETINGS

### Host Chapter & Location

#### 2020 State Meetings-

- Feb. 9 Monticello
- Feb.10 Ride to Capital Tallahassee Host State
- April 11 Southwest
- June 13 Vintage
- August 8 Lake
- Oct. 10 Gulf Coast
- Dec. 12 Forest



### 23rd ANNUAL FREEDOM RIGHT MEETING

For More Information ABATE of Florida Inc 1-386-943-9810

State Meeting Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 2:00pm  
State Board Meeting Sunday, February 9 at Noon  
American Legion Hall - 1065 S. Water St., Monticello, FL 32344

Directions to Hall: Go 2 blocks west of the Opera House on US 90, then turn west on Water Street. Go 1/2 mile to the Legion Hall

*"We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate." ~ Thomas Jefferson*

### Will you go to Tallahassee to fight for your rights?

Ride to the Capitol Monday, February 10, 2020  
Kickstands up at 9:00am - Behind the Super 8 in Monticello

**Super 8 Monticello:** 140 Pafford Rd., Monticello, FL 32336. Phone: 850-997-8888  
Take I-10 to Exit 225 South on US 19. The hotel is located on the West side.

**Days Inn Monticello:** 44 Woodworth Dr., Monticello, FL 32336. Phone: 850-997-5988. Take I-10 to Exit 225 South on US 19. The hotel is located on the East side.

There are other hotels and campgrounds in the area. The two listed above offer discounts to ABATE members. Please make reservations early.

**Membership & Safety Information Available**  
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### ABATE of Florida, Inc. 23rd ANNUAL FREEDOM RIGHT RIDE

Do you believe in your rights?  
Do you want to keep your rights?  
Will you go to Tallahassee to fight for your rights?

### RIDE TO THE STATE CAPITOL MONDAY, February 10, 2020

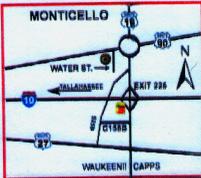
For more information : ABATE of Florida Inc 1-386-943-9810

*"We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate." ~ Thomas Jefferson*

Kickstands up at 9:00am - Behind the Super 8 in Monticello

**Super 8 Monticello**  
140 Pafford Road  
Monticello, FL 32336  
850-997-8888

**Membership & Safety Information Available**  
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we can.

Vice president: said Welcome to Ocala.

Sgt. At arms report : Ride Safe snowbirds are here!!

Membership report : most new members for Sept. went to gulf coast chapter. Oct. went to West Coast chapter. Highest percentage of growth for Sept. went to West Coast chapter and for Oct. it went to Forest chapter.

Legislative report : HB 2007 (safety money bill) passed 10-0 out of the transportation and tourism subcommittee. Next committee is the appropriations committee it has 30 members so there is a good chance you will have some local legislators in this committee.so call or visit your local state reps. Let them know how important this bill is to all motorcyclists in our state !! HB 455 traffic offenses (Vulnerable Road Users bill) waiting to be placed on its first committee.

Abate of Florida recently applied for AAA grant but was not selected for it.

Tallahassee Update : our next state meeting will be in Monticello fl.at the American Legion hall 1065 S. Water St. Hosted by Abate of Florida state board of directors on Sunday February 9th. The Ride to the capital will be on Monday February 10th. This is the best and most important ride you will do all year. Please join us for the ride to the Capital and stand up for your rights !! For more info come to our next meeting or contact any of your board members.

The rifle drawing winners were Sharon Wright of Jacksonville and Rick Smith of Vintage.

Ride Safe Ride Smart !! SNOOZE Kenneth Gerecke

The chapters voted to do the rifle drawing again next year. State board elections are coming up. Everyone should try to get to Tallahassee for February meeting and Ride to the Capital. The Helmet Law Anniversary coins can be ordered the silver coin is about \$45, chapters need to collect and pay by check for any orders. There are eleven bills on firearms in the upcoming sessions. Darrin has sent several emails about contacting legislators (Slo Mo posted on our Facebook. Florie "Half Pint" Wilcox

Slo Mo: Thanks to Florie for taking my place at State Meeting so I could remain to set up our event. I will be going to Tallahassee but unable to ride. Going to make it a long trip by going to the Full Throttle Expo at St. Pete's Bert's Barracuda HD before it. I did this once before and it was great!. Now I just need to find someone to check the cats during that week.

This email came AFTER the State meeting:

Here is the cruise information that Doc has received. Please look this over and we will discuss setting a date at the February State Delegates meeting.

CARNIVAL CRUISE – APRIL / MAY 2020 3-NIGHTS – CARNIVAL LIBERTY

ITINERARY – Port Canaveral to Nassau Roundtrip

Day 1 (Friday) Port Canaveral Depart 3:30 p.m.

Day 2 (Saturday) Nassau Arrive 10:00 a.m. – Overnight Stay

Day 3 (Sunday) Fun Day at Sea Depart 7:00 a.m.

Day 4 (Monday) Port Canaveral Arrive 8:00 a.m.

SAILING DATES: Rechecked this cruise for April 24, May 15, and May 22. Still left out May 8 because of NCOM. Also the best pricing, amenities, and availability are these dates. May 22nd remains the highest. April 24 is included since it was the end of April and had good pricing.

Category	Double	Triple	Quad	Single	Comments
4B - Inside	\$408.64	\$190.64	\$190.64	\$ 725.64	Same rate for triple and quad
6B - Oceanview	\$443.64	\$190.64	\$190.64	\$ 795.64	
8B - Balcony	\$533.64	\$190.64	\$190.64	\$ 975.64	

Date: April 24, 2020 Rates are Per Person and Include Tax and Port Charges: \$91.64 Amenity Fun Points: 2

Date: May 15, 2020 Rates are Per Person and Include Tax and Port Charges: \$98.64 Amenity Fun Points: 4

Category	Double	Triple	Quad	Single	Comments
4B - Inside	\$405.64	\$197.64	\$197.64	\$ 712.64	Same rate for triple and quad
6B - Oceanview	\$450.64	\$197.64	\$197.64	\$ 802.64	
8B - Balcony	\$540.64	\$197.64	\$197.64	\$ 982.64	

Date: May 22, 2020 Fares are Per Person and Include Tax and Port Charges: \$98.64 Amenity Fun Points: 0

Category	Double	Triple	Quad	Single	Comments
4B - Inside	\$475.64	\$357.64	\$227.64	\$ 852.64	High triple
6B - Oceanview	\$555.64	\$217.64	\$297.64	\$1,012.64	Low trip/High quad
8B - Balcony	\$640.64	\$197.64	\$377.64	\$1,182.64	Low trip/High quad

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mon Dinner 6:30 States MC Pompano Clubhouse

Once a Month Tues  
2nd Tues Jupiter Moose Bike Night

Wed Island Jack's Bike Night with Gorilla Motors

Wed Chit Chat's bike night 7pm Free BBQ, music

Wed Pirates Well Bike Night 9477 Alt. A1A Lake Park

Last Wed Gatti's Garage Bike Night 130 South H St Lake Worth

1st Thurs PBH Abacoa Bike Night

1st Thurs. Howley's Bike Night 4700 S Dixie WPB

2nd Thurs TBS Bike Night Tequesta

3rd Thursday Palm Beach and Treasure Coast Harley Bike Nights

Last Thurs Turboz/Ralph's Bike Night Jupiter

1st Fri Enforcers MC Party

1st Fri Black Pistons MC WPB Open House

2nd Fri AOA WPB Open Houses

3rd Fri States MC Lake Worth Open House 8pm @LLB

4th Fri Lone Legion MC Brotherhood Open House

SAT HOG Morning Palm Beach Harley and often other events and bikini bike washes Grill Days

SAT night Fly n Wheels Open



Black Pistons MC WEST PALM BEACH  
Come join us for our new open house night  
Fri. Jan. 3rd, 2019  
8:00 pm - 11:00pm  
Being held @ Clubhouse  
5720 Greenwood Ave. West Palm Beach  
\$5 door donation includes food and your 1st drink  
Celebrating Snap's Birthday!!  
No Guns  
No Drugs  
No Attitudes  
EXCEPT OURS

Pirates Well Restaurant and Bar  
WEDNESDAY, 7-11  
ALL YOU CAN EAT WINGS!  
\$3 CAPTAIN - \$4 TIGER - \$7 DOMESTIC PITCHERS & \$12 DOMESTIC BUCKETS (6)  
RAFFLES PRIZES:  
- 2 \$25.00 PIRATES WELL GIFT CARDS  
ALL MOTORCYCLES WELCOME - KID FRIENDLY - RUDE BWOY RUM TASTING! 7-9PM  
SPONSORED BY: PS POWERSPORTS



Sat/Sun Jan, 11-12 11a 4p  
SKULLS DE FIERRO M/C  
Open House



Food, Drinks, Brotherhood  
7:30p.m til -? @  
2950 Commerce Park Dr.  
Boynton Beach, FL 33426  
No Attitudes, No Problems.

LOVE LEGION MA BROTHERHOOD  
COME JOIN US FOR A GREAT EVENING!  
HOURS: 7:30PM TILL MIDNIGHT  
MUSIC, FOOD, BEVERAGES, POOL, DARTS  
2950 COMMERCE PARK DR. UNIT F5 BOYNTON BEACH, FL  
CONTACT  
BUTTER BEAN 561-704-5416  
NO WEAPONS, DRUGS OR ATTITUDES  
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRY

TURBOZ BIKE NIGHT AT RALPH'S STAND-UP BAR  
CENTER STREET, JUPITER FULL-BAR  
LAST THURSDAY 7-10PM LIVE MUSIC  
BE THERE

**ABATE of FL  
Inc.  
PALM  
BEACH  
CHAPTER  
MEETINGS**

11:30 AM V.F.W.  
Post 4143 at 2404  
Broadway, Riviera  
Beach 561-844-5718.  
From I 95 exit Blue  
Heron Blvd. go east to  
Broadway (Federal  
Hwy., US- 1) turn  
right, go south 1 block  
the V.F.W. is on the  
east side. Look for the  
flag. Come for break-  
fast and the meeting

**2020**

- 3rd Sunday Jan. 19
- 3rd Sunday Feb. 16
- 3rd Sunday Mar. 22
- 3rd Sunday Apr. 19
- 3rd Sunday May 17
- 3rd Sunday June 21
- 3rd Sunday July 19
- 3rd Sunday Aug. 16



Palm Beach Harley  
Thur. Jan. 16 6-9 PM

**SOUTH FLORIDA  
PRESIDENTS COUNCIL  
BROWARD EVENTS**

**JANUARY**

- 5th-Sun STATES MC Bike Blessing
- 12th-Sun Wings of Gold FT. LAUD. - ANNUAL
- 19th-Sun S.E. ABATE Semi-Annual
- 26th-Sun Der Krieger MC Annual

**FEBRUARY**

- 1st-Sat USMV MC Homestead Annual
- 9th-Sun Scurvy Few MC - PARTY
- 16th-Sun AOA Ft. Laud. Annual
- 22rd-Sat Wheels of Man MC Annual

**MARCH**

- 1st-Sun Hermandad MC - Annual
- 6th-15th DAYTONA BIKE WEEK
- 17th-Tue St. Patrick's Day
- 21st-Sat USMV MC CH.1 - Party

**APRIL**

- 5th-Sun Mystic Seven MC - Party
- 12th-Sun CMA - EASTER SERVICE
- 19th-Sun STATES MC - Annual
- 24th-26th LEESBURG BIKEFEST

**MAY**

- 3rd-Sun Southern MC - Annual
- 9th-Sat OUTCAST MC - Annual
- 16th-Sat Leathernecks MC - PARTY
- 24th-Sun S.E. ABATE - Memorial Day EVENT

- 30th-Sat New Attitudes MC Annual

**JUNE**

- 6th-Sat AOA South FL MEMORIAL GBNF 1%ers
- 7th-Sun Wings of Gold MC Ft. Laud. - PARTY

- 13th-Sat Midnight Club Reapers MC - Annual

- 27th-Sat USMV MC S. BROWARD - Annual

**JULY**

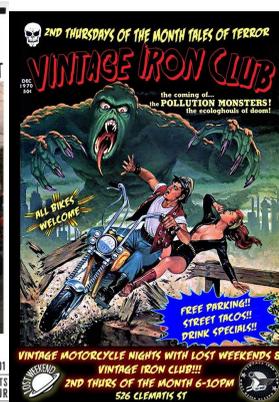
- 4th-Sat Independence Day
- 12th-Sun ALTERNATIVE MC - Annual

- 19th-Sun Soldiers for Jesus MC BROWARD - Annual
- 25th-Sat Wheels of Man MC - CHILI COOK-OFF

**BIKE NIGHT  
AT THE WAREHOUSE DISTRICT**



PRESENTED BY  
THURSDAY  
1500 ELIZABETH AVE. WPR. 33401  
STEAM HORSE BREWING PRESENTS  
6PM-10PM RIDER HAPPY HOUR



# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>2</b> Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Abacoa Howley's Bike Night Bike Night	<b>3</b> Black Pistons Open House	<b>4</b> Fly n Wheels Open House
<b>5</b> States Bike Blessing Pompano	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>9</b> Vintage Iron Bike Night	<b>10</b> AOA WPB Open House	<b>11</b> Fly n Wheels Open House
<b>12</b> Wings of Gold Annual	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>16</b> Palm Beach Harley Bike Night	<b>17</b> States LW Open House @ LLB	<b>18</b> Fly n Wheels Open House
<b>19</b> ABATE PB Chapter Meeting SE ABATE Event	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Lone Legion Open House	<b>25</b> Fly n Wheels Open House
<b>26</b> Der Kreiger Annual	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>30</b> Turboz/ Ralph's Bike Night	<b>31</b>	

# February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> Fly n Wheels Open House USMV MC Annual Homestead
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>6</b> Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Abacoa Bike Night Howley's Bike Night	<b>7</b> Black Pistons Open House	<b>8</b> Fly n Wheels Open House
<b>9</b> ABATE FL State Meeting Survey Few MC Party	<b>10</b> ABATE FL Ride to the Capital	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>13</b> Vintage Iron Bike Night	<b>14</b> AOA WPB Open House	<b>15</b> Fly n Wheels Open House
<b>16</b> ABATE PB Chapter Meeting Broward AOA Annual	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>20</b> Palm Beach Harley Bike Night	<b>21</b> States LW Open House @ LLB	<b>22</b> Fly n Wheels Open House
<b>23</b> Wheels of Man Annual	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	<b>27</b> Turboz/ Ralph's Bike Night	<b>28</b> Lone Legion Open House	<b>29</b> Fly n Wheels Open House

.....  
 : Precinct Finder (<https://www.pbcelections.org/PrecinctFinder.aspx>) Palm  
 : Beach Elections Site - put in your address and get ALL your Election  
 : Information and look under My Districts for your representatives.  
 : In these sidebars Underlined District # , names link in the online version.  
 : .....

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

### DAN "SLOW-MOTION" HENDERSON



#### PALM BEACH Co. FL House of Representatives

**D81** Tina Scott Polsky (D)  
850-717-5081 Tallahassee  
561-470-2086 Boca/Belle Glade

**D82** Mary Lynn Magar (R)  
850-717-5082 Tallahassee  
772-545-3481 Hove Sound

**D85** Rich Roth (R)  
850-717-5085 Tallahassee  
561-625-5176 Palm Bch Garden

**D86** Matt Willhite (D)  
850-717-5086 Tallahassee  
561-791-4071(2) WPB

**D87** David Silvers (D)  
850-717-5085 Tallahassee  
561-352-4824 West Palm Beach

**D88** Al Jacquet (D)  
850-717-5088 Tallahassee  
561-650-6846 West Palm Bch

**D89** Mike Caruso (R)  
850-717-5089 Tallahassee  
561-750-2396 Boca Raton

**D90** Joseph A. Casello (D)  
850-717-5090 Tallahassee  
561-374-7850 Boynton Bch

**D91** Emily Slosberg (D)  
850-717-5087 Tallahassee  
561-496-5940 Delray Beach

#### Call Rep. Drake's office

Now that the Holidays are over and things are starting to get back to normal, we need to do another round of calling Rep. Brad Drakes office to request HB 455 be placed on the agenda for the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee.

Rep Brad Drake

District Office phone 1 (850) 951-0547  
 Capital Office phone 1 (850) 717-5005  
 Just a quick call to say " My name is

\_\_\_\_\_, I am calling to request that Rep. Drake please add HB 455 to the agenda of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee."

That is all you have to say. If you call during office hours you will get the secretary or aide so be pleasant, quick and courteous. If you call after hours, you can just leave the same message on the voice mail. Call his office several times each week, we need to really flood his office with calls.

Thank you for your help. Florida ABATE State VP

Just a brief note about emailing the legislators, don't expect any acknowledgements from them.

Sometimes you will get a "thank you" for emailing them, but most of the time you will not get any response. So do not feel bad if you do not get a response.

I have received a few emails from you telling me that you sent the emails and I appreciate it when I get those emails.

Thank you for all your help.

#### Palm Beach County FL Senators

**D25** Gayle Harrell (R)  
850-487-5025 Tallahassee  
772-221-4019 Stuart

**D29** Kevin Rader (D)  
850-487-5029 Tallahassee  
561-443-8170 Boca Raton

**D30** Bobby Powell (D)  
850-487-500 Tallahassee  
561-650-6880 WP Bch

**D31** Lori Berman (D)  
850-487-5031 Tallahassee  
561-292-6014 Boynton

#### FEDERAL U.S. Senators

Marco Rubio  
Rick Scott

#### U.S. HOUSE

**District 18**  
Brian Mast (R)

**District 20**  
Alcee Hastings

**District 21**  
Lois Frankel

**District 22**  
Ted Deutch

**WEEKLY ROUNDUP: FLORIDA POLITICS, THE 2020 EDITION** January 3, Ana Ceballos.

Recap and analysis of the week in state government and politics

TALLAHASSEE --- As a new year begins, and as we bid a final farewell to the past decade, Floridians should look out for a number of events in the next 12 months.

For starters, two massive events are coming to the Sunshine State: the 2020 Super Bowl and WrestleMania. Those events are expected to draw huge crowds to Miami in February and Tampa in April --- not to mention Shakira and Jennifer Lopez.

But the biggest events this year will revolve around politics. President Donald Trump's chances of winning re-election in November will run through Florida, a state that has historically been decided by thin margins.

Before the Nov. 3 general election, the president's Democratic rivals are gradually starting to build operations in the state as they try to sway voters ahead of the March 17 presidential primary. It remains to be seen how many Democratic candidates will still be in the race after the early caucuses and primaries and Super Tuesday. But the nomination likely will still be in play when Florida Democrats go to the polls.

While most of this year's attention will focus on the presidential race, Florida won't have high-profile statewide elections for governor or U.S. senator. But the state will have plenty of other contests in the coming months.

The upcoming retirements of Republicans Ted Yoho and Francis Rooney have opened congressional seats in two deep-red districts: District 3 in North Florida and District 19 in Southwest Florida. Republican primaries in both districts are expected to get crowded.

Democrats are also trying to cut down on the 23-17 advantage Republicans hold in the Florida Senate. Democratic leaders hope to flip Senate District 39, a swing seat in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties, and Senate District 9, which is in Seminole and Volusia counties.

But Democrats also will have to play some defense.

Senate Republicans are using a large war chest to protect their seats and to possibly target District 37, which is held by Sen. Jose Javier Rodriguez, D-Miami.

In November, voters will also get a say on proposed constitutional amendments, including one that would gradually raise the state's minimum wage to \$15 an hour, a proposal largely bankrolled by Orlando trial attorney John Morgan.

Floridians also might get a chance to decide if they want to overhaul the state's primary-election system. A proposed ballot measure would allow registered voters to cast ballots in primary elections regardless of party affiliation --- a major change from the longstanding "closed" party primaries. Under the ballot measure, the two candidates getting the most votes in each primary would advance to the general election.

Another event that will greatly impact the state this year will be the 2020 U.S. Census. The results of that are expected to boost Florida's numbers in the U.S. Capitol and set the stage for redrawing the state's legislative and congressional districts ahead of the 2022 elections.

#### **A NUMBERS GAME**

Florida's population growth remains on track to pick up additional congressional seats in the coming years, though the state might not be adding new residents as fast as officials had believed.

U.S. Census Bureau estimates released on Monday show the Sunshine State has added roughly 640 people a day over the past year. State officials have often cited an estimate of 900 new residents a day.

Regardless, the new estimates should bolster the case for Florida expanding its U.S. House delegation after the 2020 Census. Early projections have indicated Florida's swelling population likely will push the Sunshine State's delegation from 27 to 29 members.

Every 10 years, the distribution of congressional seats across the country is adjusted based on population changes, with some states gaining seats and others losing or remaining the same.

Florida's estimated population stood at just under 21.48 million as of July 1, a nearly 1.1 percent increase from a year earlier, according to the Census Bureau's national and state population figures released Monday.

#### **POT BACKERS FIGHT TO GET ON THE BALLOT**

Supporters of a proposed constitutional amendment that would legalize recreational marijuana want more time to get on the November ballot.

Arguing that a new law violated constitutional rights, the political committee Make It Legal Florida filed a lawsuit Tuesday seeking additional time to submit petition signatures to get on the ballot.

The committee is targeting the constitutionality of a 2019 law (HB 5) that placed more restrictions on signature gathering, contending it has hampered the recreational marijuana measure. Under the law, petition gatherers need to register with the Department of State and receive petition forms from the agency. Make It Legal Florida argues the department's registration database has had continual problems, and as a result, has affected the committee's ability to submit signatures in time to meet a Feb. 1 deadline.

Petitions are submitted to county election supervisors, who verify the signature and report the information to the secretary of state.

Sponsors of the proposed measure need to submit 766,200 valid signatures. As of mid-day Friday, the state had tallied 232,236 valid petition signatures from Make it Legal Florida, according to the Division of Elections website.

**STORY OF THE WEEK:** Florida could pick up two additional congressional seats after the 2020 U.S. Census, according to early projections.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** "Well, we definitely think it ought to be Florida." --- Dale Ketcham, Space Florida's vice president of government and external relations, on the state's hunt to land the command center for the nation's newest military branch, Space Force.

#### **STATE, NATIONAL GROUPS TAKE AIM AT GUN LAW** January 3, Jim Saunders

**TALLAHASSEE** --- The legal battle over a 2011 Florida gun law continues to ratchet up.

State and national groups --- including two prominent gun-control organizations ---- filed briefs Thursday urging the 1st District Court of Appeal to reject the law, which threatens tough penalties if city and county officials approve gun regulations.

One of the briefs described the National Rifle Association-backed law as having "unprecedented penalty provisions" that led to similar measures in other states. The brief, filed by the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, the Brady gun-control group, the League of Women Voters of Florida and Equality Florida Institute, Inc., said the law has "chilling effects" on city and county officials.

"Most importantly, (the law's) harsh penalty provisions will deter local legislators from experimenting with any solutions directed to the problem of gun violence, depriving Floridians of ordinances promoting their safety and security," the brief said.

The friend-of-the-court brief, along with similar arguments filed Thursday by the Florida League of Cities and the Florida Association of Counties, were the latest salvos in a closely watched case. The briefs backed the positions of dozens of cities, counties and local officials who challenged the constitutionality of the law. State Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried also argues the law should be rejected.

On the other side of the case are Attorney General Ashley Moody, Gov. Ron DeSantis and the NRA.

Lawyers for Moody and DeSantis went to the Tallahassee-based appeals court after a Leon County circuit judge ruled last year that parts of the law were unconstitutional.

Florida since 1987 has barred cities and counties from passing regulations that are stricter than state firearms laws, a concept known as "preemption" of local gun laws. The 2011 law was designed to

strengthen the preemption by adding penalties, such as the possibility of local officials facing \$5,000 fines and potential removal from office for passing gun regulations.

Cities, counties and local elected officials challenged the penalties after the 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland. They argued that the penalties made local officials afraid to move forward with gun-related measures that might not be preempted by the 1987 law.

As examples, they have pointed to the possibility of measures such as requiring the reporting of failed background checks, barring the sale of large-capacity detachable magazines and restricting possession of firearms at certain government-owned or government-operated facilities. Among 30 cities in the case are Miami Beach, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Gainesville and Tallahassee.

In finding parts of the 2011 law unconstitutional, Leon County Circuit Judge Charles Dodson cited issues related to “legislative immunity,” which protects local government officials in their decision-making processes. He also pointed to the constitutional separation of powers, as judges could be asked to rule on penalizing local officials.

In a brief filed last month at the appeals court, the NRA argued that the penalties were needed because local officials had “contemptuously” violated the 1987 law.

“The penalty provisions are necessary to preserve and protect the Florida Legislature’s prerogative to occupy the field of firearm regulation to preempt unlawful local action,” the NRA brief said. “Local authority and home rule cannot constrain the Legislature’s enforcement of its preemption prerogative because local governments do not have any independent rights or powers beyond those granted by the Florida Legislature.”

But a joint brief filed Thursday by the Florida League of Cities and the Florida Association of Counties said the penalties would “eradicate centuries of history and tradition guaranteeing the immunities afforded to legislators at every level of government.”

“In a representative government, which the Florida Constitution requires of local governmental entities, unrestrained and unhindered lawmaking is vital to effectuating the voice of the people through their elected officials,” the brief said. “The penalty provisions ... take an unprecedented swipe at the ability of local government officials to effectuate the will of their constituents.”

**FIVE BIG LEGAL ISSUES TO WATCH IN 2020** December 30, Jim Saunders

TALLAHASSEE --- State and federal courts are expected in 2020 to grapple with high-profile Florida issues, ranging from felons’ voting rights to medical marijuana.

Here are snapshots of five key legal issues to watch in the new year:

--- **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS:** The Florida Supreme Court will decide whether to sign off on proposed constitutional amendments that could go on the November ballot. Justices heard arguments in August on a controversial measure that would overhaul and deregulate the state’s electric-utility industry --- a measure that has drawn opposition from state leaders, business groups and incumbent utilities. It also heard arguments in early December on a proposal that would allow registered voters to cast ballots in primary elections regardless of party affiliation, an initiative opposed by the state Republican and Democratic parties. Other initiatives pending before the court focus on issues such as legalizing recreational marijuana and banning assault-style weapons. The Supreme Court considers whether the wording of ballot initiatives meets legal standards.

--- **FELONS VOTING:** Gov. Ron DeSantis’ administration and voting-rights and civil-rights groups are battling in state and federal courts about how to carry out a 2018 constitutional amendment aimed at restoring voting rights to felons who have completed their sentences. The disputes at the Florida Supreme Court and in federal courts focus on a law passed by the Republican-controlled Legislature during the 2019 session that requires felons to pay “legal financial obligations,” such as restitution, fines

and fees, to be eligible to have voting rights restored. Republican lawmakers contend the law properly carries out the amendment's requirement of felons completing terms of their sentences, but critics liken it to a poll tax that will keep many felons from having their rights restored.

--- **GUNS:** A federal judge has scheduled a trial in October in the National Rifle Association's constitutional challenge to a 2018 state law that raised from 18 to 21 the minimum age to purchase rifles and other long guns in Florida. Lawmakers and then-Gov. Rick Scott approved the change after the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland. A state appeals court also is expected in 2020 to weigh a challenge by cities and counties to a 2011 state law that threatens stiff penalties --- including fines and potential removal from office --- if local elected officials approve gun regulations. A Leon County circuit judge found the law unconstitutional, spurring lawyers for Gov. Ron DeSantis and Attorney General Ashley Moody to go to the Tallahassee-based 1st District Court of Appeal.

--- **MEDICAL MARIJUANA:** The state's medical-marijuana industry has spawned a massive amount of litigation in recent years, but a Florida Supreme Court case could lead to what some attorneys for pot companies describe as a "seismic shift." The case centers on how the Legislature carried out a 2016 constitutional amendment that broadly legalized medical marijuana. Lower courts sided with arguments by the Tampa firm Florigrown that a key part of a law passed in 2017 conflicted with the constitutional amendment. That part of the law involves what is known as "vertical integration" --- a system in which a limited number of companies that receive medical marijuana licenses handle all aspects of the cannabis trade, including growing, processing and distributing the products. The Florida Department of Health took the case to the Supreme Court.

--- **WATER WAR:** The U.S. Supreme Court in 2020 could resolve Florida's long-running fight with Georgia about water in the Apalachicola River and Apalachicola Bay, after a special master issued a report that dealt a major blow to Florida. The special master, Senior U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Paul J. Kelly, was appointed by the Supreme Court to make a recommendation about whether Georgia should be forced to share more water in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint river system, which links the two states. Florida, which filed the lawsuit in 2013, contends that Georgia's water use has damaged the Apalachicola River and the vital oyster industry in the Franklin County bay. But Kelly filed a report Dec. 11 recommending that the Supreme Court reject Florida's request for an order "equitably apportioning" water in the river system.

**2019 ROUNDUP: NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN** December 27, Jim Saunders

Recap and analysis of the year in state government

TALLAHASSEE --- It wasn't the most important issue or event of 2019.

But a little more than a week after Gov. Ron DeSantis took office, he held a news conference in Central Florida that removed any doubt the Rick Scott era was over.

Flanked by Congressman Matt Gaetz, a favorite of President Donald Trump, and trial lawyer John Morgan, a backer of Hillary Clinton, DeSantis gave lawmakers an ultimatum to eliminate a ban on smokable medical marijuana.

In doing so, he suggested the Legislature passed a law that failed to properly carry out a 2016 constitutional amendment legalizing medical marijuana for patients with a variety of conditions.

"Whether they have to smoke it or not, who am I to judge that? I want people to be able to have their suffering relieved. I don't think this law is up to snuff," DeSantis said.

The news conference, which ultimately led to lawmakers repealing the ban on smokable marijuana, sent a clear message of change.

First, it is hard to imagine the buttoned-down Scott ever holding a news conference with Gaetz and Morgan, two provocateurs who love to make splashes in social media, on cable news and on billboards. But it also was a departure on policy from Scott, whose administration had fought in court to maintain

the ban on smokable marijuana.

Change, of course, is inevitable when a new governor is elected. Republican Jeb Bush completely changed state government after he was elected in 1998 to succeed Democrat Lawton Chiles. Republicans have won every subsequent gubernatorial election, but each new governor has installed new people, brought new ideas and had a new style.

In 2019, however, the change brought by DeSantis was the most important story in state government and politics. During his Jan. 8 inauguration address, DeSantis praised Scott, who was elected to the U.S. Senate last year, for leaving a “strong foundation” but also pointed toward what was to come.

“It now falls to me to build upon the foundation that has been laid, navigate the challenges --- economic, environmental, constitutional --- that lie ahead, and steer Florida to a stronger, cleaner and safer future,” DeSantis said.

### **THE MORE THINGS CHANGE ...**

Perhaps the most far-reaching change of DeSantis’ first year was purely a matter of timing.

DeSantis during his first weeks in office was able to appoint three justices --- Barbara Lagoa, Robert Luck and Carlos Muniz --- to the Florida Supreme Court. The appointments cemented a conservative majority on a court that had long been a source of frustration for Republicans.

Lagoa, Luck and Muniz replaced justices Barbara Pariente, R. Fred Lewis and Peggy Quince, who were forced to step down in January because of a mandatory retirement age. Pariente, Lewis and Quince had been part of a generally liberal majority that over the years foiled priorities of the Republican-dominated Legislature, business groups and social conservatives.

After being appointed by DeSantis to the state’s high court, Lagoa and Luck were tapped by Trump in September for seats on the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. While that might temporarily slow the changes at the Supreme Court, DeSantis has left no doubt that he will replace Lagoa and Luck with like-minded conservatives.

Addressing The Federalist Society’s National Lawyers Convention in November, DeSantis said the possibility of reshaping the court was one of the reasons he ran for governor, labeling the “activist majority” on the court as “one of kind of the thorns in the side” of Republican leaders’ policymaking efforts. He also said he intended to reinforce the Supreme Court’s conservative majority with replacements for Luck and Lagoa.

“I think that we are on a good path,” the governor told members of the conservative legal group. “I think we’ve got a lot of great people, so as good as Barbara and Bobby Luck have been, I don’t know if I’ll quite get to that level, but we’ll get pretty close.”

DeSantis’ move into the governor’s office overlapped with Senate President Bill Galvano, R-Bradenton, and House Speaker Jose Oliva, R-Miami Lakes, fully taking control of their legislative chambers. With the support of solid Republican majorities --- and backing from DeSantis --- Galvano and Oliva were able to push through their priorities during the spring legislative session.

Galvano, for example, got approval of a plan designed to lead to three new or extended toll roads in the state. The projects would expand the Suncoast Parkway from the Tampa Bay area to Jefferson County at the northern end of Florida; extend the Florida Turnpike west to connect with the Suncoast Parkway; and add a new multi-use corridor, including a toll road, from Polk County to Collier County.

Galvano has described the roads as a “new approach” in planning the state’s future, reducing congestion, providing alternate hurricane evacuation routes and offering a way to revitalize rural communities through the expansion of broadband, water and sewer infrastructure.

“We have to live in a state and have to plan in the state for the future. We cannot continue just to remediate. We have to anticipate the future needs of this state,” Galvano said.

But the projects have drawn opposition from many environmentalists, who contend the toll roads would

lead to sprawling development and damage to ecosystems and wildlife.

“We’re not saying no to progress, we’re just trying to define progress in a different way that more reflects what the communities on the ground want,” Ryan Smart, executive director of the Florida Springs Council, said in early December.

Oliva, meanwhile, has been a major proponent of revamping the health-care system to reduce regulations and to create more of a free market. Such changes have been politically difficult over the years, at least in part because of competing interests in the health-care industry.

During this spring’s session, however, Oliva was able to push through a series of changes, including elimination of the long-controversial “certificate of need” regulatory process for hospitals. Under that process, hospitals needed state approval before undertaking such things as construction projects.

Oliva also was a key supporter of a plan by DeSantis that is aimed at importing lower-cost prescription drugs from Canada and other countries.

During a speech at the beginning of the session, Oliva described the issue of health care in the state as a “five-alarm fire” and took aim at hospitals and pharmaceutical companies.

“Floridians are depending on us to remedy this crisis,” Oliva said.

#### **THE MORE THEY REMAIN THE SAME ...**

When Floridians went to the polls in November 2018, they passed a constitutional amendment that called for restoring the voting rights of felons who have completed terms of their sentences.

The amendment, known as Amendment 4, came after years of political and legal battles about whether the state was unfairly disenfranchising felons who had done their time. More broadly, it came amid seemingly never-ending disputes between Republicans and Democrats about voting and elections issues.

But while everybody seems to agree on the basic premise of Amendment 4 --- restoring the rights of felon who have completed terms of their sentences --- the issue has turned into the latest battleground about voting.

The dispute focuses on a law that the Legislature passed to carry out the amendment. The law requires felons to pay “legal financial obligations,” such as restitution, fines and fees, to be eligible to have voting rights restored.

Republican lawmakers contend the law properly carries out the amendment’s requirement of felons completing terms of their sentences, but critics liken it to a poll tax that will keep many felons from having their rights restored.

The result is that the state and voting-rights and civil-rights groups are battling in court again, with the March presidential primary elections fast approaching.

Amendment 4 spurred one of the noisiest debates during this year’s legislative session, along with issues such as allowing public-school teachers to serve as armed “guardians,” banning so-called sanctuary cities and expanding school vouchers.

On each of those issues, the Republican majority passed legislation over the objections of Democrats, who have not controlled either chamber of the Legislature since the 1990s.

The armed teacher debate, for example, involved expanding a school-safety law that passed after the February 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland. A 2018 law created the guardian program to allow arming school employees whose primary duties were outside classrooms; the measure this year expanded that to teachers.

Democrats spent hours railing against the plan.

“Here we are, one year later, and for some reason the carefully crafted compromise that agonized all of us has just been completely abandoned and tossed out the window,” Rep. Carlos Guillermo Smith, D-Orlando, said.

But supporters of the proposal argued that allowing teachers to have guns could make a life-saving difference in the time it takes for law enforcement to arrive during active-shooter situations.

“This is not about gun rights or anything like that. This is about keeping our children safe and, when all other things fail, that there is a last line of defense to save our children. And it’s nothing more than that,” Senate Appropriations Chairman Rob Bradley, R-Fleming Island, said.

Despite their policy defeats, Democrats had one bright spot this year, with Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried getting sworn into office after winning the Cabinet post in November 2018. Otherwise, Democrats continued to remain largely powerless in Tallahassee.

With the 2020 elections coming up --- and Trump on the ballot --- they hope to change that dynamic.

Florida Democratic Party Executive Director Juan Penalosa said in an interview with The News Service of Florida this month that the party has had “heartbreaking losses” in recent years, but it has a strategy to win races in 2020.

“We’ve also learned our lessons from ’18, ’16 and ’14, and we’re going back to our winning playbook, which is investing early, building the infrastructure you need to win and create the electorate that you want, not the one that the polling says you have,” Penalosa said. “That is what we did with the Obama coalition and that’s what we’re doing now even without a candidate at the top of the ticket.”

**STORY OF THE YEAR:** Gov. Ron DeSantis took office in January, spurring widespread changes in state government and politics.

**QUOTES OF THE YEAR:**

“I believe the rule of law is society’s sacred bond. When it is trampled, we all suffer. For the Groveland Four, the truth was buried. The perpetrators celebrated. But justice has cried out from that day until this.” --- Gov. Ron DeSantis, in January after pardoning Ernest Thomas, Samuel Shepherd, Walter Irvin and Charles Greenlee, who were known as the Groveland Four.

“We really don’t know what we’re doing.” --- Rep. Ralph Massullo, a dermatologist, referring in February to a lack of scientific research about the effects of smoking medical marijuana on patients.

“The whole program was really a stimulus in some ways for Tallahassee because I think PhRMA hired every lobbyist in town to try to lobby against this stuff.” --- Gov. Ron DeSantis, referring to the pharmaceutical industry’s unsuccessful attempt to kill a bill that would allow importing prescription drugs from Canada.

“It is going to happen again. Anybody who thinks it’s not going to happen again is just being unrealistic, is being naïve and probably has their head in the sand. It is going to happen again.” --- Pinellas Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, chairman of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission, about the inevitability of another school shooting.

“Looking at that hole in the ceiling, I was thinking, where can I be safe? I really thought I was going to die.” --- Rodrick Fagiolo, a former inmate at Gulf Correctional Institution, who said he watched the eye of Hurricane Michael pass over the prison after the storm ripped off a part of the roof.

“Maybe the president thinks he is helping with tariffs and trade wars, but, as they say, the road to hell is paved with good intentions and his agenda has been a path to perdition for Florida farmers.” --- Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried.

“What are the alternatives? A shot of whiskey and a leather belt to bite down on?” --- Florida Board of Medicine lawyer Ed Tellechea, during a discussion about a new law requiring doctors to inform patients of alternatives to opioids before administering anesthesia or prescribing or administering opioids.

“Looks like the governor’s mansion will have to stay baby-proofed for a little while longer.” --- Gov. Ron DeSantis on announcing in September that First Lady Casey DeSantis is pregnant with their third child.

“As I’ve said before, he was not the right man for the job. The systemic failures were exposed in Park-

land but could have easily affected any other city in Broward that use the services of the sheriff's office while he was in command." --- Tony Montalto, whose daughter, Gina, was among the 17 students and staff members slain during the 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Montalto spoke after the Senate voted 25-15 in October to strip former Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel of his post.

"The organizing principle of the Trump Republican party is fear. And specifically, for a great many of them, not all of them, white fright. That's why his race-baiting and that's why the immigration wedge issue worked so well for him. It plays into that anger, anxiety, envy, that are characteristic of his base." -- Republican operative J.M. "Mac" Stipanovich, who was part of the "Never Trump" movement and in December announced his retirement from the Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney lobbying firm.

**FHP REACHES 'ENFORCEMENT TIME' ON TEXTING MOTORISTS** Dec. 26, Jim Turner TALLAHASSEE --- "Enforcement time" has come for motorists caught texting and driving by Florida Highway Patrol troopers.

The arrival of the 2020 brings a handful of changes stemming from the 2019 legislative session, including final pieces of enforcing a new law that cracks down on texting and driving. Starting Wednesday, the highway patrol will join other law-enforcement agencies in issuing tickets, instead of warnings, to motorists stopped for texting while driving.

"There's going to always be education going on, however now it's going to be enforcement time," Lt. Derrick Rahming of the highway patrol said. "We never want anyone to learn the hard way, so we gave everyone six months to learn about this law. But, now come Jan. 1, it's a primary offense and we are going to start issuing citations."

The new year also will usher in other changes passed during the spring legislative session, including part of a tax package that required a reduction in a tax that businesses pay on commercial leases.

As with the tax package, the bulk of the texting-while-driving law went into place July 1.

Florida in recent years has banned texting while driving, but it had been enforced as a "secondary" offense --- meaning motorists could only be cited for texting if they were stopped for other reasons such as speeding. But the new law (HB 107) made it a "primary" offense, allowing police to pull over motorists for texting behind the wheel.

The law also bars motorists from talking on cell phones in school and work zones, unless the motorists use "hands-free" electronic devices.

Law-enforcement agencies such as the highway patrol phased in enforcement of the law, with troopers issuing warnings to motorists before planning to start writing citations in 2020.

Tickets issued for a first offense carry a \$30 fine plus court costs, which could reach \$108.16. The fine jumps to \$60 --- \$158.18 with court costs --- for a second violation within five years.

Because of concerns the law could lead to racial profiling, officers are required to record the race and ethnicity of every violator.

Highway patrol troopers have issued about 800 warnings, which Rahming said shouldn't be considered low.

"I think it's right around where it needs to be," Rahming said. "Throughout the state, we've had 1,151 citations issued (by all law enforcement) since the law started in July."

Rahming said people putting down their phones while driving will make the roads safer.

"When you are sitting inside of a patrol car, you are going to see a lot of things. One of the things you will see is someone distracted in their vehicle," Rahming said. "The number one thing we want to do is make sure everyone has their mind on driving and they are doing everything they need to, to make sure they are focused on driving."

Among other changes taking effect Wednesday:

--- As part of an \$87 million tax relief package (HB 7123), a sales-tax rate on commercial leases will be trimmed from 5.7 percent to 5.5 percent. The reduction is expected produce a \$30.8 million cut in state and local taxes in the remaining six months of the fiscal year. Over a full year, the savings are estimated at \$64.5 million.

--- A new law (HB 831) requires health care practitioners to transmit prescriptions electronically, with certain exceptions.

--- A new law (HB 409), allows remote, online notarization of documents.

--- A new law (HB 427), establishes the Honor and Remember Flag, which will honor members of the military who have died in the line of duty. The law authorizes the flag to be flown at state buildings and by local governments on Veterans Day, Gold Star Mother's Day or any day when a member of the military from Florida dies in the line of duty.

**CITIES, COUNTIES TAKE AIM AT GUN LAW** December 24, Jim Saunders

TALLAHASSEE --- Describing the law as an "unnecessary and unconstitutional overreach," cities and counties argue that an appeals court should reject a 2011 state law that threatens tough penalties if local elected officials approve gun regulations.

Attorneys for dozens of cities, counties and local officials filed a brief Monday urging the 1st District Court of Appeal to uphold a lower-court decision that found the law unconstitutional. Challenges to the law were filed after the 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, as local governments looked for ways to curb gun violence.

The brief Monday said the threatened penalties violate legal immunities provided to local officials as they make policy decisions.

"These immunities underscore our republican form of government in which citizens choose their elected officials, who are then duty-bound to represent their constituents' interests through legislative and regulatory initiatives," the 54-page brief said. "Without immunity from liability, officials and localities are understandably likely to refrain from acting on matters they reasonably believe are both permissible and in the interest of their constituents, for fear of professional and financial ruin if it is later determined their belief was mistaken."

Florida since 1987 has barred cities and counties from passing regulations that are stricter than state firearms laws, a concept known as "preemption" of local gun laws. The 2011 law was designed to strengthen the preemption by adding penalties, such as the possibility of local officials facing \$5,000 fines and potential removal from office for passing gun regulations.

The legal battle is not about the underlying 1987 preemption law.

But the penalties law was challenged by 30 cities, three counties and more than 70 elected officials, according to Monday's brief. That includes cities such as Miami Beach, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Gainesville and Tallahassee.

Leon County Circuit Judge Charles Dodson in July found parts of the law unconstitutional, citing issues related to "legislative immunity," which protects local government officials in their decision-making processes. He also pointed to the constitutional separation of powers, as judges could be asked to rule on penalizing local officials.

Lawyers for Attorney General Ashley Moody and Gov. Ron DeSantis took the case to the Tallahassee-based 1st District Court of Appeal and argued that Dodson's ruling should be overturned. In a brief last month, they cited a "hierarchical relationship" between the state and local governments and said the Florida Constitution "subjugates local governments' authority to that of the Florida Legislature."

"The trial court's decision is premised on unsupported theories of immunity inconsistent with the constitutional supremacy of the state's authority over its counties and municipalities," the brief said. "If allowed to stand, the decision will not only invite the development of a patchwork regulatory regime

in the area of firearms but also render the Legislature impotent to deter power grabs by local officials in other areas.”

The National Rifle Association, which lobbied for the 2011 law, also filed a friend-of-the-court brief arguing that the law should be upheld. NRA attorneys wrote in the filing that the Legislature decided to preempt firearm regulation in 1987 “to ensure the exercise of the fundamental Second Amendment right is not infringed by local government.”

“Nevertheless, many local governments knowingly and contemptuously violated state preemption law to infringe the exercise of this fundamental constitutional right by many Florida citizens,” the NRA argued. “Local governments and their officials are not above the law and should be held accountable when they violate the law. The Florida Legislature acted well within its powers to institute the challenged penalty provisions.”

But in the brief Monday, attorneys for the cities, counties and local officials said the Legislature’s authority over local governments is “not limitless.” In part, it cited legal immunity that “insulates local legislators from liability and other civil penalties for performing legislative acts like voting on proposed legislation, even if the legislation is later deemed preempted, so that they may carry out their duties with fidelity to those who elected them.”

The brief said local governments have considered approving several gun-related measures that they believe are not preempted by the 1987 law. Those measures include such things as requiring the reporting of failed background checks, barring the sale of large-capacity detachable magazines and restricting possession of firearms at certain government-owned or government-operated facilities.

“However, appellees (local governments and officials) have not voted on or enacted such restrictions --- even when they believe that such actions would not be preempted --- because they fear that such actions could possibly be interpreted after the fact as violating the preemption law, thereby subjecting them to the severe punishments of the penalty provisions,” the brief said.

#### **WEEKLY ROUNDUP: ALL A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE** Dara Kam

Recap and analysis of the week in state government

TALLAHASSEE --- U.S. Sen. Rick Scott at one time resided in a mansion replete with some of the state’s most coveted artwork.

Paintings by a group of artists known as the Highwaymen adorned not only the governor’s mansion, but Scott’s office in the Capitol during the Republican’s eight-year tenure as Florida’s chief of state.

But as Washington, D.C., and much of the country was focused this week on the impeachment of President Donald Trump, Scott castigated the federal government for “waste and misuse” of taxpayer funding for the arts.

“We all can support research and appreciate the arts, but the federal government spends \$300 million a year on arts and humanities, including funding expensive projects that don’t provide any return on investment for taxpayers,” the Republican senator said in a news release.

Scott pointed to culprits such as \$25 million for the operation, maintenance and security of the Kennedy Center in Washington and a \$7.25 million increase in funding for the National Endowment of the Arts, which he said was the largest increase in a decade.

“These spending increases might be nice to have, but with \$23 trillion in national debt, Congress needs to make some tough choices,” Scott said.

Lisette Garcia Arrogante, a member of Americans for the Arts and Art Table who also served as a panelist for the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs community arts grants, has a different view.

“Investment in arts is transformative and the return on investment is very real. Government funded programs are essential for an inclusive and diverse citizenry and increased access to the arts expands oppor-

tunity and improves quality of life,” Arrogante said in an email when asked about Scott’s statements. “But don’t take my word for it, study after study shows the return on government investment in the arts in schools, in cities and even in the military results in higher civic engagement, stronger community and it lowers crime and poverty rates,” she added.

**ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS** Voters will decide in November whether to gradually raise the state’s minimum wage to \$15 an hour, after the Florida Supreme Court this week unanimously approved a ballot proposal.

The proposed constitutional amendment, spearheaded by Orlando attorney John Morgan, had received enough petition signatures to go on the 2020 general-election ballot but still needed a sign-off from the Supreme Court.

Justices said in a 16-page opinion Thursday that the measure meets legal tests, including that it is limited to a single subject. It will appear on the ballot as Amendment 2.

“The proposed amendment clearly addresses only one subject, raising the minimum wage, and it does not substantially alter or perform the functions of multiple branches of government,” the opinion said.

“Although it may affect contracts entered into and wages paid by each branch of government, these effects are incidental to the chief purpose of the amendment, which is not to alter or perform any governmental function.”

The proposal, which would need approval from 60 percent of voters to take effect, would increase the state’s minimum wage to \$10 an hour on Sept. 30, 2021 and increase it by \$1 each year until it hits \$15 an hour on Sept. 30, 2026. The minimum wage is \$8.46 this year.

Morgan, who also led a ballot drive in 2016 that broadly legalized medical marijuana, issued a statement Thursday saying he is ready to fight “to give every Floridian the dignity of a fair wage.”

“Now, the sprint to reverse decades of inequality really starts --- and let me tell you --- this is going to be a tough challenge,” Morgan said. “But just like voters overwhelmingly voted in favor of medical marijuana in 2016, I’m confident that we will do the same in 2020. I’m confident because Floridians are compassionate and know that giving every worker a fair wage means not just lifting up those who would directly benefit but lifting up our broader economy when hardworking folks have more money to spend.”

But business groups say the initiative could wind up costing jobs.

“We fully expected it to be confirmed (by the Supreme Court), but that doesn’t make it a good idea,”

Edie Ousley, vice president of public affairs for the Florida Chamber of Commerce, said in an email Thursday. “This ballot measure will actually hurt the very people its proponent claims it will help. In fact, Florida could very likely lose nearly half a million jobs by 2026, and we’ve seen estimates that are higher than that. This is the poster child for a proposed constitutional amendment masquerading as a turnout weapon to impact the presidential election.”

**STAND YOUR GROUND STANDS UP** Wading into a controversial 2017 change to the state’s “stand your ground” self-defense law, the Florida Supreme Court ruled Thursday that the change applies to defendants in some older cases.

The ruling was at least a partial victory for Tashara Love, who was charged in a 2015 shooting outside a Miami-Dade County nightclub and argued that she should be shielded from prosecution because of the “stand your ground” law.

Love contended that her case should be governed by the 2017 change, which shifted a key burden of proof in “stand your ground” cases from defendants to prosecutors --- a shift that could make it easier for at least some defendants to avoid prosecution.

The 3rd District Court of Appeal ruled that the 2017 change should not apply retroactively to older cases, such as Love’s case. But the Supreme Court on Thursday unanimously overturned that decision. Jus-

tices said the change applies to cases in which pretrial hearings on “stand your ground” claims had not been held at the time the 2017 change took effect.

“(The change) is a procedural change in the law and applies to all Stand Your Ground immunity hearings conducted on or after the statute’s effective date,” said the opinion, written by Chief Justice Charles Canady. “In Love, the pretrial hearing took place after the effective date ... and should have been conducted under the new standard.”

STORY OF THE WEEK: Overturning a lower court decision, the Florida Supreme Court ruled that the state’s controversial “stand your ground” law can apply retroactively in some cases.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: “The organizing principle of the Trump Republican party is fear. And specifically, for a great many of them, not all of them, white fright. That’s why his race-baiting and that’s why the immigration wedge issue worked so well for him. It plays into that anger, anxiety, envy, that are characteristic of his base.” --- Republican operative J.M. “Mac” Stipanovich, who was part of the “Never Trump” movement and this week announced his retirement from the Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney lobbying firm.

#### JUSTICES SAY ‘COLLECTOR’ COVERAGE APPLIES IN MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT

December 19, 2019 NSF Staff

The Florida Supreme Court on Thursday upheld a ruling in a dispute about whether uninsured-motorist insurance coverage should apply in a 2015 fatal motorcycle accident. The Hernando County case stemmed from the death of Michael Lentini while riding his motorcycle. Lentini had purchased a collector-vehicle insurance policy for his 1992 Chevrolet Corvette, which was not involved in the accident, according to court records. The policy included \$300,000 in uninsured-motorist coverage. After Lentini’s death, his estate sought to collect the uninsured-motorist benefits and ultimately sued American Southern Home Insurance. A circuit judge ruled in favor of the insurance company, but a panel of the 5th District Court of Appeal overturned that decision last year. The appeals court said uninsured-motorist coverage follows the policyholder and not the insured vehicle, unless an agreement is signed to limit the coverage. American Southern Home Insurance appealed to the Supreme Court. “The issue before this (Supreme) Court is whether an insurer that issues a reduced premium collector vehicle policy may limit uninsured motorist coverage under that specialty policy to accidents involving the occupancy or use of the collector vehicle,” Justice Ricky Polston wrote in Thursday’s main opinion, joined by Chief Justice Charles Canady and Justice Jorge Labarga. Polston concluded that state law does not allow the “limitations placed on uninsured motorist coverage in the collector vehicle policy at issue.” Justice Carlos Muniz wrote a concurring opinion that was joined by Justice Alan Lawson. the board.”

**SUPREME COURT WEIGHS PRIMARY ELECTION OVERHAUL** December 3, Jim Saunders TALLAHASSEE --- It’s dubbed a “jungle” primary system. And the Florida Republican and Democratic parties want no part of it.

Now, the Florida Supreme Court will decide whether a proposed constitutional amendment that would overhaul the state’s primary-election system will go before voters in November 2020.

Justices heard arguments Tuesday about the proposed amendment, which would allow registered voters to cast ballots in primary elections regardless of party affiliation. The two candidates getting the most votes in each primary would advance to the general election.

Moving to such “jungle” primaries would be a major change from Florida’s longstanding “closed” primary system, which generally limits primaries to voters registered with parties. Attorney General Ashley Moody’s office and the state Republican and Democratic parties are trying to keep the measure from reaching the November 2020 ballot, arguing at the Supreme Court that the proposed amendment would be misleading to voters.

## **ABATE of FL Inc Palm Beach Chapter Dec, 8, 2019**

General Meeting - VFW Post 4243, 2404 Broadway, Riviera Beach Called to order: 11:34 am Start with Pledge Allegiance and moment of silence. Members 15, guest 1

**PRESIDENT:** Curtis Alva. Spoke of the Nov. Turkey Toy Run having a good turnout to make kids happy. With our event next week, we have invited the Southeast and Light-house ABATE chapters. Finalized duties needed for event and collection of door prizes, including from Palm Beach Harley.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** John Valiquette. Talked on the SFPC and the Toys in Sun Runs being different this year.

**SECRETARY:** Florrie Wilcox. No corrections, additions to last month's minutes as in the newsletter

**TREASURER:** Suzanne Sequin excused. Sold some of the remaining rifle drawing tickets (rest sold at Island Jacks') and all tickets (sold and unsold) and money to be collected and taken to Ocala State Meeting.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:** Pete Carroll, Spoke of importance to better group riding procedures and communication

**MEMBERSHIP:** Harold "Whistler" Walters. Continue to collect AAD cards. Harold will run a membership drive at event with membership lists. Need to get memberships cards or order more.

**LEGISLATIVE:** Dan Henderson. Read the report in newsletters ofr the updates

**SAFETY:** Dan Henderson. Inventory Report done and to be taken to State Meeting. Weather hasn't been good for table. Did a Harley and will do another to prompt event.

**DELEGATE:** Ken Gerecke/ Dan Henderson. State meeting in Ocala Saturday before our event. Florie will take Slo Mo's place so he can stay for event setup.

**PR/WEB/NEWSLETTER:** Dan Henderson. Working on event promotion with Newsletter cover, Facebook and other ways. Web site updated and newsletter included photos from Barber Motorsport Park.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Chapter voted to continue the State Rifle Drawing for next year but thinks would be good to find other prizes as legislative moves to ban gun sales. Again more plans for our event covered.

**NEW BUSINESS:** no new business

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Petee won 50/50 and gave back to chapter. Products sold: small patch, flag patch, hat

**TIME OF ADJOURNMENT:** 12.16 pm

**ABATE of FL Inc. Palm Beach Chapter Minutes**

## WHY JOIN ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.?

**ABATE** is a non-profit Motorcycle Rights Organization whose cause is to EDUCATE the government, motorcyclists and the general public on freedom, rights, road safety, and awareness of motorcycles on the road.

**REQUIREMENTS**—must be at least 18 years of age. In does not matter what you or even if you ride. You can be an independent or member of a club or association. All are welcome at meetings.

**JOIN FOR THE CAUSE.** Everything is voluntary, we understand work and family comes first. We hope you can help in any small way, vote and spread the word.

**BENEFITS** Your money is used to provide a lobbyist to the state and federal government to watch for our rights and freedom. The State *MasterLink* newsletter every 2 months we bring back from State meeting or read it online. The chapter newsletter is available online at [palmbeach.abateflorida.com](http://palmbeach.abateflorida.com) so is in color, with active Internet links and zoomable. Members get free classified ads in our newsletters.

**INSURANCE** As an active member you have a \$4,000 **Accidental Death and Dismemberment** policy from American Income Life. You will get a card in the mail from state office to register your beneficiary for ADD insurance. Do NOT mail it, just be sure your family knows about the policy. If you send it in and they try to meet to sell you more so only if you are interested in more insurance. If they bother you contact our State Office to have it stopped. You can mail to the office as Registered letter to have it done when you family notifies. Be sure to renew in time so are always covered! It does not have to be a motorcycle accident.

**MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE** Palm Beach Chapter members can get an insurance discount with Leslie Kay Progressive insurance company. Contact them for a quote 1-866-367-1788 [www.LeslieKays.com](http://www.LeslieKays.com) The \$3000 accessory package is normal. The State has arranged with Coastal Insurance Company to offer members up to 10% discount and \$3000 parts and accessories coverage. They are at 190 Hwy A1A Suite, Satellite Beach FL . Agent Doug Guido's phone is 888-596-2453. So these are two more options to compare with your company

**PRIVACY** Your email, address and phone are never given out to anyone except State/Chapter executive board.

**EMAILINGS** you can be added to a mass mailing which you can opt to be removed at end of email. Usually only do twice a month to let you know our Newsletter is online and remind you of chapter meetings. Local events are included and sometimes urgent matters may be included. No one will see your email **PHONE TEXT** another way to communicate with members. Your phone number may be added to our text alert system To change or add the chapter email is [palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com](mailto:palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com) Our website is [palmbeach.abateflorida.com](http://palmbeach.abateflorida.com)

We have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AbatePalmBeachChapter>

Mail: **ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter, P.O. Box 530944, Lake Park, FL 33403**

Another benefit of chapter membership in ABATE of FL Palm Beach is having a free business card in newsletter and free newsletter classified for items to sell or acquire. Support your brothers and sisters when possible, Besides a \$4.000 ADD insurance policy, discount Leslie Kay insurance, we are looking into other benefits for members. We are always in need of more paid advertisers so find any business to benefit from our low rates and support our newsletter and chapter.

## A.D.D. INSURANCE POLICY UPDATE

We all realize the \$4,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance policy if one of the best benefits of being an ABATE member. That is one reason to keep your membership up to date. You MUST name someone to get the money in case of death to prevent taxes and being in probate court. So when you receive the yellow card mailed from our state office, you can complete it and mail to insurance company. Most likely an agent will contact you even if you said not to. If they do be, SURE to get their name and number upfront. They do NOT need to visit you even to deliver the certificate. If they insist or get push, contact ABATE of FL. main office and report it but you MUST have the agents' name and number for action to be taken. Otherwise you may just return the completed yellow card to ABATE to have on file. Then be sure your survivors know to contact ABATE for the benefits.

STATE OFFICE: ABATE OF Florida, Inc. PO Box 2520, Deland, FL 32721-2520

Phone: (386) 943-9610 Fax: same Email: [flabate@bellsouth.net](mailto:flabate@bellsouth.net)



# ABATE OF FLORIDA INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



**Membership Dues: \$20 for 1 year or \$600 for Life Membership per person**

Fill out form, print, sign, and attach your check or money order and mail to:

**ABATE — Palm Beach Chapter**

**PO Box 530944 Lake Park FL 33403**

**ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Will Palm Beach Chapter be your HOME voting Chapter   
NEW Member: Year  or Life  Renew:  Transfer:  Address Change:

First :  Last :  Road :

Address:

City:  State:  Zip (full): -

Phone:  Cell:  Text notification Yes  No

Email for News Alerts

Registered Voter? Yes  No  State House:  State Senate:  US Dist:

How can you best help ABATE? Time, Labor, Money, Other

State newsletter the *MasterLink* every other month online and our Chapter newsletter  
*The Chrome Chronicles* is online at start of month in color with active Links.

MEMBERSHIPS FEE \$

**ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

SIGNATURE  Date:

MEMBERSHIP CARD / PATCHES CAN BE GOTTEN AT CHAPTER MEETING (on the  
third Sunday of Month usually) OR MAILED WITHIN 30 DAYS. LIFE CARD MAY TAKE  
LONGER AS PICKED UP AT STATE MEETINGS EVERY OTHER MONTH

**palmbeach.abateflorida.com**



***Biker chicks, 1920s***

Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting VFW POST 4143

**3rd Sunday Jan. 19 , 2020 11:30**

**Directions:** 2404 Broadway (US1), Riviera Beach - Exit I-95 at Blue Heron Blvd, go east to Broadway (US1) turn south and is 1 block on east side. **Bike Parking is on south side of building.**

Support the VFW by having breakfast 9 am to Noon

#### **GOALS & PURPOSES OF ABATE**

**To** print a newsletter to keep all bikers informed with regard to legislative actions and events around the state and throughout the country.

**To** become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning all motorcyclists rights.

**To** provide a lobbyist to represent ABATE of Florida, Inc. on the state and national level.

**To** promote voter registration and motivate members to write their legislators.

**To** promote safe riding habits without infringing on individual rights.

**To** educate the public about motorcycle awareness.