



Hi Guys,

First I want to apologize for not sending regular updates during the year. It was a tough year for me starting in January when I lost one of my dogs to cancer. I went to DC in February and had to return when my sisters cancer came out of remission. I returned to DC in March but again was called home when my sisters illness worsened, she passed away in April. Upon returning from my sisters burial in NYC I received a phone call from my Godchild that her mother, the widow of my best friend, whom I had known for over forty years was also dying of cancer. I drove to her home in SW North Carolina and arrived two hours after she too passed away. On drive home I stopped in Tallahassee to meet with the Governor and thought after my conversation with him that he was going to keep his campaign commitment to us and lift the proficiency requirement on the 218 certification. (see state report following the Federal update). In May my wife was injured and was bedridden for almost four months which restricted my ability to travel. Although I did not do as much as I wished this year, I did as you will see increase our visibility and hopefully I will be able to do more in 2008.

### **Washington DC Activity**

On my trips to DC I worked with Vito Fossella of NY on the successful effort to create a health care czar at the White House and restore at least some of the money dedicated to the treatment of our victims of 9/11. We also worked on the effort to move the "James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act" introduced by Rep Maloney (D) NY and Rep Fossella (R) NY. Unfortunately the bill has not had much movement since September 17. Rep Fossella has been a constant supporter in these efforts and I hope you guys in NYC keep that in mind during the 2008 election cycle.



In return for his support of our issues we assisted Vito in his effort to get a Senate sponsor for the a bill known as the Teach Act. We were successful in getting Senator Mel Martinez to introduce this bill in the Senate. It is a bill that would allow for up to a 4500 dollar tax credit for any parent sending a child to private or parochial school. This is the first time the bill has a Senate sponsor.

We also worked with Kevin O'Connor Assistant to the General President of the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) on one of their bills. We were able to get Senator Martinez and Senator Ted Stevens to be Republican sponsors. The bill allows our brothers and sisters in eighteen states to organize. My wife Virginia who is an elected FL GOP State Committeewoman wrote support letters to the Senator on this issue.

We also supported Congressman Duncan Hunter in his effort to free the two improperly prosecuted border patrol agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean. Rep Hunter introduced HR 563 demanding that their conviction be vacated and that the rules of the Department of Homeland Security relative to border security be reviewed. Florida Congressmen Mica, Feeney, Weldon and Keller are all co sponsors. Mr. Fossella has not yet decided to sponsor. We will approach him again in the new session, Mr. Hunter is also a candidate for President and I traveled with him here in Florida and discussed several matters of concern to us. Mr. Feeney who has always been a strong supporter of ours repeated his demand for the release of Ramos and Compean in November. *Oviedo, FL) - U.S. Rep. Tom Feeney (R-Oviedo) today demanded an immediate release of Border Patrol Agents Ramos and Compean who are currently serving decade-long prison sentences for shooting an illegal alien drug dealer they thought was armed. Rep. Feeney also demands an investigation of prosecutorial abuse.*

*Back in January, Rep. Feeney called on the President to issue a pardon and his request fell on deaf ears. In February, after Agent Ramos was beaten in prison by an illegal immigrant, Rep. Feeney yet again urged the President to pardon the agents. Now, Osvaldo Aldrete-Davila, the drug smuggler who Ramos and Compean are in prison for shooting, was arrested again yesterday on drug smuggling charges after he was given immunity by U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton.*

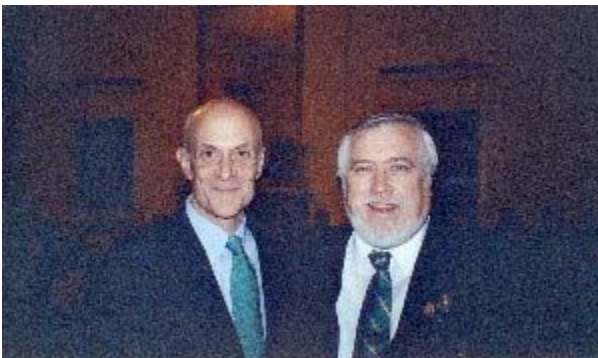
*Even more disturbing is that the U.S. government may have known about his drug-smuggling history.*

*"The President needs to immediately intervene and release Border Agents Ramos and Compean. At this point, the President's competence and willingness to defend our borders is in serious question.*

*"Every red-blooded American should be outraged at the mistreatment of the Border Security Agents who are out-numbered and out-gunned for 2,000 miles along America's borders. When the Bush Administration supports illegal alien drug dealers over our own officers, America loses," said Feeney.*



While in DC in March I attended an Irish American meeting in the West Wing of the White House with the President and several members of his cabinet. There were about 100 Irish leaders from around the Nation in attendance. Although I did not get to address the Ramos/Compean issue directly with the President I did get the opportunity to discuss it with the Director of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff. I expressed our concern over their safety and the injustice of their incarceration. I did not make much headway but Secy. Chertoff did say he would pass on our message to President Bush. I then gave the President several of our PBA cards and a memorial token of 9/11.



Secy. Chertoff



Outside the Presidents office. National IAR Director Grant Lally at the right of the photo. Presidents seal above the door. The Presidents thank you below. It came in an envelope marked Presidential Signature do not bend. Nice to have an original.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 7, 2007

Mr. James Bomford  
New York 10-13 Association  
Brooklyn and Staten Island, Inc.  
Fort Tilden, New York

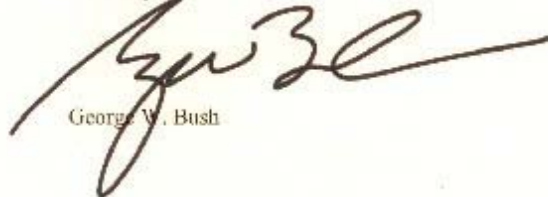
Dear Jim:

I was glad you could join us at the White House for St. Patrick's Day. The day's events were a wonderful celebration of the long friendship between the United States and Ireland, and they helped highlight the many contributions of Irish-Americans to our Nation.

Thank you for the commemorative coin. The events of September 11, 2001, will always be a defining moment in the history of our country. I appreciate your efforts to honor the police officers whose courage and heroism on that fateful day continue to inspire us all.

Best wishes, and may God bless you.

Sincerely,



George W. Bush

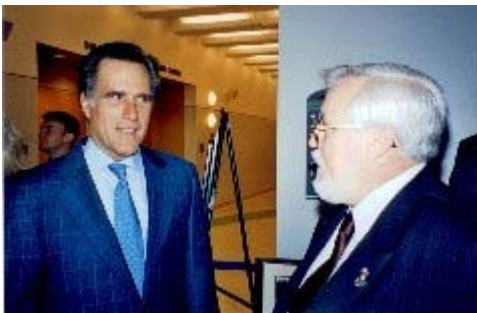
While at a social event that same week I met and spoke with the Nations top Judge, Chief Justice John Roberts. Although it is unlikely that the interests of 10-13 and the Supreme Court will ever cross paths, he was a really interesting guy to speak with and he now knows who we are.



### **Florida Activity**

My efforts in Florida focused primarily on the proficiency required by the state for 218. We have held consistently to the position that the state has the right not to require the demonstration since there are no law enforcement powers concurrent with the national right to carry. Candidate Crist and later Governor Crist gave us his promise to lift the requirement by executive order. So far that commitment has not been met. In addition to my post with 10-13 I am the state chair of the Florida Federation of Republican Assemblies, our states conservatives and Regional Chairman of the Irish American Republicans.

Off the subject for a moment, while traveling the State as the Conservative GOP chair I had a time to speak with one another of the GOP presidential candidates, Mitt Romney. He was in the Florida Panhandle seeking conservative support. At the moment neither the Conservative or Irish Republicans are committed. He now has one of our NYPD 10-13 cards as well. Sometimes I feel like Johnny Appleseed giving them out but you would be surprised at how many remember us because of the card.



During the Governors campaign I asked Charlie Crist if elected would he correct two items. Neither involved money or jobs nor in fact any cost to the state. It was simply two issues which would be within the power of a governor to address. He broke the first promise which had to be addressed immediately following the election. That is lost.

The second promise was 218. I have met with the Governor three times on this issue. Each time he repeated his commitment to it. As some of you remember he repeated the promise a number of times to many of us while on the campaign trail.



I have also met or spoken with Eric Eikenberg, first as Governor Crist's Deputy Chief of Staff then as his Chief of Staff. I have been asked back several times but each time there is no progress.



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

October 4, 2007

James Bornford  
Washington DC Legislative Representative  
New York 10-13 Association  
P.O. Box 915911  
Longwood, FL 32791-5911

Dear Jim:

My sincere apologies for missing our opportunity to visit the other day. As you can well imagine there are not enough hours in the day. However, I invite you to please contact my office the next time you're in Tallahassee, so that I have the pleasure of meeting with you. Thank you again and my sincere best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlie Crist".

Charlie Crist

The Capitol  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
(850) 488-7777  
Fax (850) 922-4292

I spoke with both men at the Governors Christmas party at the Mansion on December 19th. Mr. Eikenberg stated that we had signed off on the proficiency. That has never been the case. Our lawyer, then Attorney General Crist and Congressman Tom Feeney a co sponsor of 218 all agreed that a training standard was not necessary, 218 is merely an extension of the civilian right to carry by virtue of our service to the twenty additional states that do not recognize the Florida CCW. Civilians by the way do not have the demonstration requirement.

I had lunch with Tom Feeney to discuss this and he repeated his willingness to write another letter if necessary to repeat his prior statement, seen here, that no training standard was necessary.

**TOM FEENEY**  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
24th DISTRICT, FLORIDA

**ASSISTANT HIMP**  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

March 14, 2005

Mr. James "Jim Bomford"  
NYPD/BS1 10-13  
Washington DC Legislative Representative  
PO Box 915911  
Longwood, FL 32791- 5911

Dear Jim:

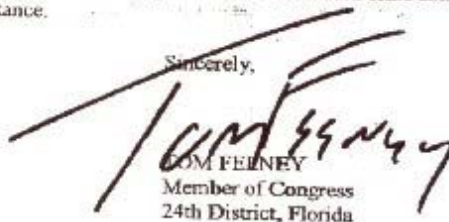
As you know, I am a member of the US House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary. This Committee had primary jurisdiction of The Law Enforcement Safety Act of 2004 (PL 108-277) and was debated in this committee for a number of years before its passage during the last Congress.

As you related in your letter to FDLE, the participants working on this legislation were aware of the different standards among the states, and also that more than a few states, (like Florida), had no active duty standard. Furthermore, in the identification requirement section of the bill, for both active duty and retired officers to receive state certification, it states that the requirement for the ID is to be tested or "otherwise found by the state" as meeting the qualification.

It was the intention of Congress and the President to certify active and retired law enforcement officers by existing state standards. It was not the intention of Congress to mandate any specific training requirements or in states without a state standard to require that they establish one. States were intentionally given flexibility to establish or not establish their own training requirements.

I sincerely hope that my response helps your effort to facilitate the certification of active and retired law enforcement officers in our great State of Florida. Please contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



**TOM FEENEY**  
Member of Congress  
24th District, Florida

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We cooperated with FDLE when Jeb appointed me to the CJST select committee because FDLE was holding 218 hostage until a minimum state

standard was established for active officers. We never budged from our position that it was necessary under 218. Even when we comply with their wishes FDLE blocks our progress. A CJST certified instructor began to follow the new guidelines and immediately the FDLE began to try and stop him. They claimed he was not affiliated with a department. There is nothing in the record nor the law that requires affiliation. The simplest way out of this mess is for the Governor to issue an executive order, transfer the power from FDLE to the Florida Department of Agriculture which already issues the CCW and simply issue it in the same manner as any other carry permit. This is not a granting of law enforcement power, no officer active or retired has any authority under 218 to do anything other than carry a weapon. The intent of this law was to create a resource list of active and former police in the event of an emergency and to grant the protection to the officers due to the danger they may encounter as a result of their activity as a LEO. That danger always exists no matter where we are. Both of these objectives can be achieved by the Governor keeping his promise.

I have known Charlie Crist since 1994. Until this year he has never broken his word to me. That was the reason that I encouraged the Irish American Republicans and NYPD 10-13 Broward to endorse him. I truly believed I could count on his word. One promise is gone, the other is hanging by a thread. While I am being run around here FDLE is continuing to press to establish a power for itself that it should never have been given. Hopefully my faith in the Governor was not misplaced.

### **Other Issues**

We have also met with a number of elected officials to lay the groundwork for some real estate tax reductions for retired police and firefighters similar to those given to military veterans. This is on hold pending the January 29 referendum on the real estate tax. These are two of the State legislators that I hope will assist us in this effort. Former Orange County Deputy, State Rep. Sandy Adams who will soon be running for the State Senate and Senator Carey Baker at an event for Congresswoman Katherine Harris in my home.



We were also honored for our participation in creating a minimum firearms training standard for new LEO's in the state of Florida. My special thanks to Paul Simon Sgt. NYPD Ret. and Pete Venturella Lt. MTA B&TPD Ret. for all their assistance.



### **Florida Tax Referendum January 29, 2008**

For those of you who have asked I am not yet certain if I am going to support or oppose the initiative. Many of us remember the effect of politicians balancing their books on the backs of police and firefighters during the Abe Beame, Ed Koch era. As I previously mentioned I am the State Chairman of Conservative

Republicans of Florida and the Regional Chairman of the Irish American Republicans. Our membership has not arrived at a conclusion whether to oppose or support the initiative. As for 10-13, all of our brothers and sisters in the Police and Fire line organizations are opposing it. I have not yet looked at the entire proposal but to see layoffs like we had in NYC for the sake of a less than a three hundred dollar reduction in my tax seems less than what was promised.

I will not only be discussing this with our members in the political organizations I will also try and contact Bob Carver of the FPF and John Rivera of the FL PBA to which I belong.

I hope to let you know what conclusion they come to in a week or two. I also hope to have a definitive answer to the 218 issue by that time

Hope I did not send too much at once. Since I had not sent any updates during the year I did not want you guys to get the idea that I was asleep on the job. Take care and Happy Holidays,

Stay safe,

*Jim Bomford*

Jim Bomford BA MPA\*

Washington DC Legislative Representative

NYPD B/SI 10-13

Tallahassee Legislative Representative

NYPD 10-13 Broward County FL Unit

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