

Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association

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Many of you have inquired about the details (mostly "when will we get it"?) concerning the \$1,000 payments the state authorized (that Florida PBA lobbied heavily for) in the recent state budget, which took effect three weeks ago today. Here they are, as we are getting them, from our team.

To be eligible for the payment, the officer (or sergeant in our case) must be currently employed with a state or local agency as of July 1, 2021 and must have remained employed as a first responder beginning March 1, 2020 through July 1, 2021. First responders who changed employers between these dates are also eligible for the incentive. First Responders who retired prior to July 1, 2021, are not eligible, as well as any first responder who received formal discipline (suspension, demotion or dismissal) between the dates of March 1, 2020 through July 1, 2021.

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is administering the program and will mail each eligible first responder a check directly to the home address that is currently on file with your agency. First responders should receive their checks between August 4th – 15th, 2021.

We realize that is going to leave some people in our bargaining unit off the Christmas list on this one, so to speak, and for that I apologize. CFPBA doesn't make the rules, we just push them as far as we can. So anyone reading this with a suspension in the last 16 months apparently won't be eligible. And anyone hired AFTER March 1 of 2020, also won't be eligible. For everyone else, spend it wisely and enjoy!