

# ALACHUA



# COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

January 14, 2015

Mayor Gib Coerper  
City of Alachua  
P.O. Box 9  
Alachua, FL 32615

Sheriff Sadie Darnell  
Post Office Box 5489 • Gainesville, FL 32627


Dear Mayor Coerper:

In December 2014, I was advised by Dr. Owen Roberts, Alachua School Superintendent, that funding for the School Resource Deputy (SRD) Program will likely be reduced from previous funding levels. The Alachua County Sheriff's Offices' (ACSO) SRD Program has existed in the Alachua County School system since the early 1980's and has been an important and mutually beneficial service. Deputies are selected through a competitive process, work closely with school officials and receive specialized training in order to constructively provide age appropriate intervention.

Historically, the percentage of cost reimbursement by the Alachua County School Board (SBAC) to the Alachua County-Board of County Commission (BOCC) has remained at approximately forty-two percent (42%) for over seven years while costs to provide these services have steadily increased.

During the FY 14/15 budget process the Board of County Commission (BOCC) reduced my certified law enforcement budget by almost \$500,000. During the budget process, some commissioners raised concerns regarding the costs associated with the SRD Program.


For these fiscal reasons and to work toward continuing this very valuable program, I would like to meet with you early in 2015 to discuss this important topic. Specifically, I would like to request the City of Alachua reimburse Alachua County/BOCC for the cost of the SRD program within your municipality. Please note it is my preference to keep ACSO deputies in these schools for continuity of oversight, communication, response, training and rapport with school officials/students.

 I would like an opportunity to make a formal presentation to the City of Alachua Commission in support of continuing the School Resource Deputy Program within your municipality in advance of our upcoming budget preparations. Superintendent Roberts and BOCC Chair Chestnut have each indicated an interest in supporting my efforts.

Currently deputies are assigned in the following municipalities which have their own police departments: City of Alachua (4 deputies); City of Gainesville (4 deputies); and City of High Springs (1 deputy).

A three (3) year cost breakout is included with this letter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

  
Sadie Darnell, Sheriff 1/14/15

Enc:

(352) 367-4000



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Alachua County Sheriff's Office  
Cost of School Resource Deputy Program - Alachua  
Prepared 1-6-15 By: PJ

Jurisdiction	# of SRDs	2014-2015 Year 1	2015-2016 Year 2	2016-2017 Year 3
Alachua	4	\$122,772	\$149,723	\$163,888

Schools - Santa Fe High, Mebane Middle, Alachua Elem & Irby Elem

Year 1 - 50% Cost of SRDs wages and operating expenses

Year 2 - 50% Cost of SRDs and Sergeants wages and operating expenses

Year 3 - 50% Cost of SRDs, Sergeants, Lt. & 1/2 of Secretary wages and operating expenses

Note - Costs are for a prorated period of 9 months