

FLORIDA LEGAL BRIEF



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

The Best in the Business

The Best in the Business	1-2
<u>OBIT</u> for Mark Shrader's partner <i>Arron Hoffer</i>	2-3
NEWS Briefs	3
Florida LEGALS Lending Library has new contact/address	4



President Michael Barron

Michael Barron has served several years as President of Florida LEGAL. He has always worked hard to promote our organization and advocate for our membership. Michael never seeks the spotlight! He has always been understated, but will stop at nothing to protect and defend us while “*getting the job done*” As such, most of us know very little about his distinguished history in Law Enforcement. Now it’s time we all got a better understanding of who our President is and why Florida LEGAL is so lucky to have him.

Forty-three year old Michael Barron was born in El Paso, Texas and raised in New England. His first career was as a florist, but he made the wise move to Law Enforcement after coming to Florida.

While in Key West, he worked as a Sheriffs Deputy at the county jail and advanced his corrections training. He is bi-lingual and spent two years as the medical officer. He taught Red Cross CPR, First Aid, First Response and Defibulation. He also trained other instructors at the facility. Today Michael is a certified instructor/trainer through Florida Division of Law Enforcement. His certificates include;

- * Field Training Officer
- * Advanced training in Law Enforcement
- * Instructor Certification
- * Correction Officer Certificate

He has also had training in A.I.D.S. prevention, Ethics,

The Best in the Business

Leadership. Cultural Diversity, Designer Drugs, Dealing with Difficult People and Aviation Security. Michael's many volunteer activities include being an A.I.D.S. volunteer and joining the A.I.D.S. bike ride from Orlando to Fort Lauderdale. He has also volunteered as an instructor for correction issues at the Monroe County Academy located at Florida Keys Community College. In addition, he is a Red Cross volunteer.

Today Michael is a correction officer at Sumper Correction Facility and lives with his partner of 17 years Jefferson W. Smith. Michael seems to have no problem wearing two hats, one as a maximum security correction officer and the other as President of Florida LEGAL. He takes both jobs

seriously while maintaining a very successful relationship with his partner Jeff. He loves and respects the GLBT community and is proud to be a gay criminal justice professional.

In the immediate future, Michael will be working with the other chapters in an effort to bring us all closer together in brotherhood to address the issues and concerns that we all share in common. He is already making plans for our 2011 International Conference in Orlando! Michael says it will be the "best" ever- and he means it! Look at our past record! Michael is really the best person to have at the helm of Florida LEGAL. He is truly-***THE BEST IN THE BUSINESS!***

Mark Shrader's Partner Dies

Mark Shrader and his partner Arron Hoffer had been together for eleven wonderful years! Originally from Ohio, they moved to Ft. Lauderdale two years ago to be in the warmer weather. Arron had been suffering from several long term illnesses and coming to Florida proved to be a good idea for them. Together, they made a beautiful home, many new friends and enjoyed the great Ft. Lauderdale Gay Community.

It was on Thanksgiving Day that Arron died suddenly at their home with many close to him by his side.

Mark had asked the FLORIDA LEGAL BRIEF to remind all our partnered membership to make sure they have set-up the following for each other (Stephen and I have and can't stress the importance of these things-they can always be adjusted!).

- ◆ Have a Will
- ◆ Set up Power of Attorney for each other.

- ◆ If you own a house -own it as "Tenants in Common".
- ◆ If you rent make sure you are both on the lease.
- ◆ Have health proxies for each of you-keep a copy in a red envelope on your refrigerator, for EMS use.

Mark reports that he did have some problems with the hospital as well as the police without these items! So PLEASE cover yourselves and your partners by planning ahead!

REST IN PEACE ARRON--WE WILL ALL REMEMBER AND MISS YOU!



Mark Shrader

Arron Hoffer

NEWS

On September the 7th & 8th, the recruitment unit of the Ft. Lauderdale Police Department came down to Key west. Headed by Detective Brice Brittenum, they set up a booth during the Women's Week Celebrations. Ft. Lauderdale has an ongoing program to attract GLBT people into their department and Brice is the right man for the job of reaching out to our community.

Our next Florida LEGAL retreat is scheduled for March 10th during Ft. Lauderdale Pride. We will be setting up our booth, at the Pride Event, so stop by and join us! We are planning to meet for dinner and drinks that evening. The Pride Committee has not yet selected a Hotel so check the website for updated details within the next few weeks!

AH YES! The DUES are DUE!! The Dues renewal letters are already out so please! Continue your support of Florida LEGAL as *together* we work toward creating a better future for all GLBT Criminal Justice Professionals. We have great plans for the future and need your support to turn our dreams into reality!

Florida LEGAL's lending library change of address/contact!

Recently we purchased a variety of reading and video materials designed to aid our membership as they study for promotional exams and for other kinds of career furtherance and development. These materials are available through a loan from the Venice Office by emailing attn: Carroll Hunter at **Prydeguy@comcast.net**. To borrow them, a \$50.00 deposit will be required to be sent with your request for each book or video. You may keep the item for one week (longer if it is not on a wait list). Your initial deposit will be refunded promptly upon return of the borrowed item/items.

Books Available Are; Managing Police Organizations

Police Operation Administration-2nd Edition

Police Field Operations-5th Edition

Police Administration-4th Edition

Criminal Investigation-6th Edition

Community policing

The Law Officers Pocket Manual

Coming Out of the Blue- A Study of Gay British Cops

Gay Cops-Account of Gay Cops in America

A Special Agent-Gay and inside the F.B.I.

Male Sexual Armor-Realities of Cops on the Beat

A Mater of Justice-Gays & Lesbians in Law Enforcement

Games Criminals Play-Understanding Inmates

In The Car-Outlines Problems within California Corrections

VCR/CD'S Available Are; Gay Cops-Pride behind the Badge

Staying Off Cocaine-A Guide for Helping Inmates

The Road Back-Discharge planning for Inmates

An Overview of the New York City Department of Correction

License to Kill-Interviews with Inmates Who Kill Gays

Facing Prison Rape-A Guide for Federal Compliance in Jails & Prisons

FLORIDA LEGAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Michael G. Barron

Vice President: Carroll M. Hunter

Secretary/Treasure: Charles H. Slebodnick

Delegate at Large: Thomas Woodard

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NEWS

The Washington D.C. Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit has been awarded the prestigious "Innovations in American Government Award" from Harvard University's Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation for reaching out to an underserved community and creating a model for Community Policing. This carries with it a \$100,000 Award. Congrats go out to Sgt. Brett Parson, former President of GOAL D.C., who heads the Liaison Unit!

NEWS

The Gay Officers Action League of New York will celebrate its 25th Anniversary on April 20, 2007! They are planning a black tie Gala to be held at the beautiful Tavern on the Green in New York City's Central Park. As the oldest & largest Gay and Lesbian Criminal Justice Organization in the world they plan to pull out all the stops! GOAL President George Farrugia reports that this will be a star studded evening with nationally know speakers and other surprises. Florida LEGAL already has a table, up front, reserved. More info to follow

NEWS

Special thanks go out to Jimmy Gilleran, of the 801 Bar in Key West and to Timothy Swain for working so hard to make our BINGO nights such a success. People are still talking about Timothy's alter ego R.V.Beaumont, who proved to be the hostess with the mostess. Jimmy really went out of his way to help Florida LEGAL and we appreciate all of his and Timothy's efforts. Their generosity will benefit our organization and in turn our community. THANKS a lot guys! We love you!!

NEWS

This year we are planning to participate in the Orlando Pride Events. The dates will be Friday October 13th through October 15th. We will march from Summerlin Ave. to Central Ave. For more information contact our delegate at large Tom Woodard at; Gaytorcop@aol.com

NEWS

Great NEW website! For all GLBT Criminal Justice Professionals-It's BLUEPRIDE and it's a good forum for us to meet, chat and get things off our chest while having a good time! This is a private password secure site that is free to join. Carroll Hunter, Michael Barron and several other Florida LEGAL members participate on it's board. Members are from all over the country sharing thoughts and ideas. Get to know your GLBT brothers and sisters in blue by joining us on BLUEPRIDE at [HTTP://unfreeze.proboards54.com](http://unfreeze.proboards54.com)

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President Barron and DJ Rob

Charles supervising the WIVES Club!



FLORIDA LAW ENFORCEMENT GAYS & LESBIANS

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