

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RELEASE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION



Larry Campbell, Sheriff

Leon County Sheriff's Office
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Leon County Sheriff's Office Receives Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve "Pro Patria Award"

The Leon County Sheriff Office has been awarded the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) "Pro Patria Award". The "Pro Patria Award" is presented annually by each ESGR Committee to the one employer in their state who has provided the most exceptional support of our national defense through leadership practices and personnel policies that support their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve. "Pro Patria" is derived from the Latin word "for one's country".

To receive this prestigious award an employer must:

- Be nominated by a serving member of the Guard and Reserve
- Demonstrate support for service in the National Guard and Reserve
- Supports Guard and Reserve employees beyond the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act
- Supports Guard and Reserve employee families during mobilizations

A few examples in which the Leon County Sheriff's Office assists members of our National Guard and Reserve above and beyond the minimum requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act is:

- Maintaining contact with Guard and Reserve employees while they are mobilized
- Maintain contact with Guard and Reserve employees family while they are mobilized
- Provide pay differential during mobilizations
- Provide paid military leave
- Provide continuation of health insurance benefits during mobilizations
- Provide 204 additional hours of annual leave during deployments

Deputy David Osborne, who is a Sergeant First Class in the United States Army Reserve and currently deployed in Iraq, nominated the Leon County Sheriff's Office for the "Pro Patria Award". Deputy Osborne said "The policies of the Leon County Sheriff's Office go above and beyond what is legally required by Federal Statute...I am grateful and thankful for the Leon County Sheriff's Office family, the support you have all shown for my family while deployed in combat will never be forgotten."

"As Sheriff of Leon County it has been my honor and privilege to provide continued support to our men and woman in our Military Reserves and National Guard. By providing enhanced benefits and support to employees and their families during deployments, I hope to provide some added comfort and peace of mind to each soldier and their families. And that this added peace of mind allows each soldier to focus on their mission; to fight for our freedoms and keep our Nation safe from the terrorists whose goal is to destroy our way life" said Sheriff Campbell.

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