



# Broward County Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics

## International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4321

Walter J. Dix  
President

September 3, 2013

Honorable Mayor Kristin Jacobs and  
Broward County Board of County Commissioners  
115 S. Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Re: BSO Fire Rescue Budget FY 2014

Dear Mayor Jacobs and Commissioners,

The Union was formally notified of BSO's intent to remove Rescue 106 from service. This is a critical Advanced Life Support unit which is currently housed in Florida Everglades on Alligator Alley. The Everglades Unit provides an emergency response capability for residents and visitors traversing the western most area of Broward County, an extremely remote location. Located at the rest area on Alligator Alley, the Everglades station provides advanced life-support capabilities which are able to respond quickly to the often devastating motor vehicle accidents which occur on the far western fringes of Broward County.

Every life-threatening emergency that our members respond to, presents a uniquely different set of circumstances that are totally unpredictable. In the case of Rescue 106, we have experienced several situations which have required our Firefighter/Paramedics to transport critical patients. These critical calls are extremely time sensitive to the patients' survival.

**The IAFF is requesting the County Commission provide an additional \$1 million dollars in funding to the BSO budget specifically for maintaining the Everglades ALS Rescue 106.** This additional funding would serve to support our mission in protecting the lives and property of residents and visitors to Broward County, as well as maintaining a safe working environment for our personnel. This request for funding is in line with the County Commissions' previous direction for regional Fire Rescue services.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Walter J. Dix  
President