

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JIMMY PATRONIS'

WEEKLY RUNDOWN

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

[DFS Homepage](#) | [Past Issues](#) | [PDF](#)

Volume 15 | Number 36 | October 5, 2018

Floridians,

After hearing from first responders throughout Florida and learning firefighters have a suicide attempt rate that is five times higher than the general population, I made it my mission to secure mental health benefits for Florida's first responders. Together, a bipartisan coalition passed meaningful legislation that helps take care of the first responders who take care of us, our families, and our communities.

This week Senate Bill 376, giving first responders the mental health benefits they deserve, went into effect. This is a major step forward and removes costly burdens associated with accessing care.

Our work doesn't stop there. We must and can do more for this community. We know that cancer is prevalent among firefighters; that is not up for debate. So, my office partnered with the University of Miami to deliver more than 4,000 cancer-fighting decontamination kits to over 405 fire departments statewide. These kits include needed items to clean gear after a fire. The goal is to help the men and women who are the heroes in our communities stay healthy and safe.

I thank every police officer, firefighter, and paramedic for what you do: you are my heroes, every single day.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer

Stay Connected



Increase Text Size

News Releases

[CFO and State Fire Marshal Jimmy Patronis Delivers Cancer-Fighting Kits to Miami-Dade Fire Rescue in Miami](#)

[CFO Jimmy Patronis Will Lead Charge for Severe Penalties, Criminal Investigations to End Cell Phone Spoofing in Florida](#)

[CFO Jimmy Patronis on the Passing of Sen. Dorothy Hukill](#)

[First Responders' Access to Mental Health Benefits Starts October 1](#)