

SLEO RATIFICATION VOTE CANCELLED, TO BE RESCHEDULED

Over the past several weeks the Florida PBA has been contacted by a number of officers and members of the SLEO Board of Directors with concerns about the mailing addresses provided by DMS. It was reported that officers and investigators were not receiving either the ratification notices or election ballots. Despite the PBA's best efforts to update mailing addresses and get the election ballots out to bargaining unit employees, it appeared that a fair number of employees would not have an opportunity vote.

This morning SLEO President Matt Tyre, after consultation with various Board members and the PBA general counsel, decided to cancel the current ratification election and conduct a new election in the near future. The cancellation was approved by the SLEO election trustee, Ken Wilson. **As a result, there will be no election count tomorrow, July 22nd. The current ballots will be impounded, not counted and a new election conducted.**

What was the problem? Inaccurate work addresses provided through DMS. Additionally, when new work addresses were provided to the PBA by agencies there was a question as to whether there was sufficient time for unit employees to vote and get their ballots back to the PBA.

SLEO President Tyre was concerned about the fairness of the process. "While we want to get the contract passed, we want the unit employees to have a fair opportunity to vote. Because of the concerns we are receiving, it doesn't seem like the bargaining unit members are getting that opportunity. That is not the PBA way of doing business."

Trustee Ken Wilson indicated that over the next few weeks the PBA will be contacting the DMS and various agencies to ensure that the working addresses to be used in the second election are accurate. Once that process is complete a new ratification election will be conducted.

Thanks for your understanding. And we will keep you posted on the new ratification dates.