



# We are SAFER!

**Please Vote May 21<sup>st</sup>!**

**RENEW PUBLIC SAFETY LEVY #27-129**

*To protect the investment we have all made in our Safety and to ensure continuity of crucial law enforcement services to all of Polk County, we must renew the original public safety levy, before it expires.*

**\* For \$5.50 per month since 2015, Polk County Residents received these benefits for their investment in SAFETY!**

### SHERIFF'S OFFICE

#### **STAFF HIRED SINCE 2015 LEVY:**

- Patrol - 12 Deputies
- Jail - 5 Full Time Employees (3 Deputies & 2 Civilian Support Staff)

#### **RESULTS:**

- 24 / 7 Patrols
- 71% increase in calls taken versus before the levy.
- Responds to 24,000 calls per year.
- Over 10,000 calls would not have been answered but for the levy.
- More Deputies on the road - Roads are SAFER!
- School Resource Deputy - Our Children are SAFER!
- Mobile Crisis Response Team - Delivers critical mental health service in the moment.
- More efficient programming and supervision of inmates while in jail.

### DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

#### **STAFF HIRED SINCE 2015 LEVY:**

- 5 Full Time Employees (3 Prosecutors & 2 Legal Support Staff)

#### **RESULTS:**

- Allows over 800 more prosecutions per year, a 66% increase.
- Increase of over 200 (105% increase) DUII arrests and prosecutions.
- 170% increase in drug cases (286 in 2015 vs. 773 in 2017)
- More Prosecutors allows participation in:
  - Mental Health Court
  - Sexual Abuse Response Team
  - Elder Abuse Team
  - Increasing Victim's Rights

### POLK COUNTY INTER-AGENCY NARCOTIC TEAM

#### (POINT)

#### **RESULTS:**

- Over 11 pounds of Meth and Heroin taken off of the streets.
- Over 200 arrests & convictions.
- 180 major drug dealing cases opened, thus taking hard core drug dealers off the street.
- 12 illegal weapons seized.

#### OTHER BENEFITS:

- Rental of 2 Juvenile Detention Beds
- Crime Prevention Programs

*\* At no time have the commissioners levied the full amount that has been authorized. On average the amount collected was .33 cents per thousand which equals \$66 per year for a home assessed value of \$200K. The original levy passed in 2015 was approved to tax up to .45 cents per thousand of assessed value. Which means if you own a \$200K assessed value home, you could pay up to \$90 per year. However, the cap was reduced to be 42.5 cent per thousand of assessed property value.*

# NO INCREASE! Vote YES to Renew the Public Safety Levy

## Working on Crime Prevention

Even with more prosecutions and lengthy prison sentences from the District Attorney's Office, the Polk County Sheriff's Office and the District Attorney's Office continue to focus on crime prevention and ways to reduce recidivism through various programs that would not have been possible without the levy. Those programs include:

- Multi-Disciplinary Teams
- Threat Assessment Teams
- School Deputy program, including crime prevention and education programs for youth
- Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT)
- Mental Health Court
- Drug Court
- Jail Treatment Program (starting October 2018)

## Has the Levy worked?

Polk County is a safer community with the levy in place. Because of the levy, the Polk County Public Safety System is more effectively able to deter and prevent crime, arrest and prosecute criminals while providing a professional level of service; all the while being accountable to the people, we serve.

## Why renew 1 year early?

To ensure continuity and not wait until the last moment, which will ensure staff won't be left to wonder and potentially leave for other agencies. We want to protect the large investment that we have all worked at since the passage of the levy in 2015.

## How much does it cost to train a new deputy?

The answer is just over \$144,000 in the first year. This figure represents salary of the new deputy for 1 year, outfitting the new deputy with uniforms and equipment, salary of the field training officers (FTO) during the 12-16 weeks of field training and to backfill the vacant position while the new deputy is at the police academy for 16 weeks.

**What price would you put on  
being secure in your  
home and community?**



This is the **MAXIMUM** increase! This amount is reduced from the 2015 levied amount of .45 cents/thousand to 42.5 cents/thousand proposed for the 2019 levy.

\*Please check your Polk County Tax Statement for your taxable assessed value. This is generally less than your home is currently worth if you were to sell your home.

\*\*In your taxes to be paid to Polk County.