



Police Foundation: Financial Support Options **by Thomas F. Murphy**

No police foundation can accomplish its mission and work without the support of the local community, both residents and businesses, giving of their time and financial support.

There are many opportunities to support your local police through donations and gifts. Whether it's through the traditional annual appeal donation, wills and bequests, by using the convenience of electronic fund transfer, or through supporting their scholarship programs or local events, your tax-deductible financial support will be recognized and gratefully appreciated.

Annual Appeal – Each year most police foundations make an appeal, typically by mail, asking donors to help the organization reach its goal and provide the financial resources needed to keep its Police Department at the highest level of training and technology. Your Palm Beach Gardens Police Foundation starts their appeal in early November of each year.

Wills and Bequests – In your estate planning, please consider your local police department via their tax-exempt Foundation. You can specify a dollar amount or leave a residual portion of your estate after all other distributions are made. You should of course consult your attorney if you are considering this type of gift.

Gifts of Appreciated Stocks – Many folks own long-term securities that have appreciated in value. They may prefer to donate those securities rather than make a cash contribution. In this way, you may be able to recognize both capital gains tax and income tax benefits. If you are considering a gift of appreciated stock, please contact the Police Foundation, your attorney or tax advisor before taking action.

Electronic Fund Transfer – Numerous options now exist for making donations via electronic fund transfers to the police foundation. Your Palm Beach Gardens Police Foundation is registered with PayPal, American Express' Giving Express, and with Google Wallet. Contact the Palm Beach Gardens Police Foundation at 561 799-4440 if you wish to use this option or go to www.pbgpf.org

Scholarship Programs – Many Police Foundations, including the Palm Beach Gardens Police Foundation, offer financial assistance through a designated scholarship program. A contribution, specifically designated for the scholarship fund, helps qualified individuals within the local community in their pursuit of continuing education and to become responsible citizens of their communities and the nation.

Fundraising Events – Each year local police foundations runs a number of events, or participate in events, for which the foundation is the financial beneficiary. Your Palm Beach Gardens Police Foundation will be the beneficiary in 2013 of the **1st Spring Carnival** to be held March 1st to 3rd at the Amara Shrine Circus Grounds on RCA Boulevard. The event promises fun and excitement for all and will include three exciting days of food, games, entertainment, rides and prizes. The Foundation will also be this year's beneficiary of the **"Annual Legacy Place Food and Wine Experience"**. A wide assortment of Palm Beach County's most popular and well-respected restaurants will be showcasing their best cuisine created by their most innovative chefs at Legacy Place on PGA Boulevard in April 2013

Funds raised by the Palm Beach Gardens Police Foundation through various tax-deductible contributions provide support for a variety of initiatives important to public safety, crime reduction and an improved quality of life for all residents. Preventing crime, saving lives and making your community a better and safer place to live, work and visit is good for your family and it's good for business.

Thomas F. Murphy has been president of the Palm Beach Gardens Police Foundation, Inc. since 2007. Before helping to form the foundation he was a marketing executive with the IBM Corporation and earlier a member of the Nassau County (NY) Police Department.