

Sarasota County Sheriff Thomas M. Knight

Education

- 2006-current **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**
18 credit hours toward master's degree in Public Administration
- 1986 **FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY**
Bachelor of Science in Criminology
- 1983 **MANATEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
Associate of Arts

Law Enforcement Experience

2009 10th SHERIFF OF SARASOTA COUNTY

1988-2008 FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL

2002-2008 Field Operations Major
FHP Troop C – Tampa

- Served as regional commander for seven-county area including Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Polk, Citrus, Sumter and Hernando counties
- Supervised 237 sworn officers, 74 civilians and 52-member FHP auxiliary unit
- Responsible for all field operations, strategic planning, inter-agency communications, budget management, staffing, resource allocation and personnel management
- Oversaw central communications and dispatch functions for all state law enforcement in seven-county region
- Oversaw two criminal interdiction patrol teams
- Served as law enforcement regional coordinator for domestic security rapid response perimeter team

2000-2002 Field Operations Captain
FHP Troop H (Tallahassee), FHP Troop C (Pinellas Park)

- Served as district commander
- Supervised sworn officers and civilians
- Managed and directed internal affairs, field operations and law enforcement activities

1996-2000 Field Operations Lieutenant
FHP Troop E (Miami), FHP Troop F (Venice)

- Served as sub-district commander
- Supervised all field operations
- Managed internal affairs including trooper discipline
- Coordinated and directed special enforcement details

1993 – 1996

Squad Sergeant

FHP Troop A (Marianna), FHP Troop F (Venice)

- Served as direct-line supervisor to squads ranging from 8-13 troopers
- In Venice, served as squad leader for FHP's pilot community-oriented policing (COP) program; developed statewide agency protocols and guidelines

1988-1993

Trooper

FHP Troop L (Fort Lauderdale)

- Actively patrolled zoned areas of assignment

1987-1988

CITY OF SARASOTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol Officer

1986

CITY OF TALLAHASSEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Criminology Intern (Florida State University)

Continuing Education

2005

Florida Police Chiefs Association 2005 Training Conference

- Risk Management Leadership
- ICHS
- Public Safety Tech I
- Hurricane Lessons Learned
- Fatal Shootings

Federal Emergency Management Institute (FEMA)

National Incident Management System Training

2004

Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute

Chief Executive Seminar - Graduate

1999

National Highway Institute

Traffic Incident Management – Certificate of Training

1995

Institute of Police Technology and Management

Selective Enforcement Training

1996

Florida Department of Transportation

Freeway Incident Management Training Course

1991

Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Management Fellows Program - Graduate

- Year-long intensive training program in leadership and management
- Earned 9 masters level credit hours
- First FHP trooper to be selected for participation

Certifications

- Certified Law Enforcement Training Instructor
- Certified Field Training Officer
- Certified Field Training Officer Supervisor

Honors

- Winner of 2007 International Association of Chiefs of Police "Chief's Challenge" award for best Florida Highway Patrol troop
- Recipient, Manatee County Kiwanis Club "Whitey Knutsen Award" - presented annually to local law enforcement official whose efforts have most benefited the community (1996)
- Florida Highway Patrol "Trooper of the Month," March 1991
- Class president – Florida Highway Patrol 81st Recruit Class
- Numerous supervisor and public letters of commendation on file

Committees, Special Details and Community Involvement

2006-Present	<p>Florida Law Enforcement Special Olympics Torch Run Regional Coordinator Coordinate annual Torch Run event through six counties in the Tampa Bay region. To annually raise money and awareness for Florida Special Olympics.</p>
1997-1999	<p>Florida Highway Patrol Review and Performance Planning Member Worked with other committee members to develop new performance standards for Division members in the ranks of trooper, corporal and sergeant. Served on a second committee to develop performance standards for lieutenants, captains and majors.</p>
1997	<p>National Republican Governor's Conference FHP Law Enforcement Liaison to Dignitary Protection Detail Dade County, Florida</p>

Professional Affiliations

- Florida Police Chiefs Association
- Florida Sheriff's Association
- Tampa Bay Area Police Chiefs Association
- International Association of Chiefs of Police