

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2020-59

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President at the request of the Mayor

Date of Introduction: January 28, 2020

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, F

Date of Analysis: January 30, 2020

Type of Action: Authorization to execute agreement; designation of oversight agency

Bill Summary: The bill authorizes execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #5-30 concerning survivor health care coverage for officers dying in the line of duty but in circumstances not covered by Florida Statutes. This benefit expands the coverage currently provided by Section 112.19, Florida Statutes, which covers only those deaths in the line of duty stemming from a criminal act, so as to cover those situations in which an officer dies in the line of duty but not as the result of a criminal act. The bill designates the Employee Services Department as the oversight agency for these benefits.

Background Information: Florida Statute 112.19 currently covers only those violent deaths stemming from a criminal act. Under this new MOU, the family of an officer who, for example, dies in a motor vehicle accident while responding to a call would now be eligible. Since records have been maintained commencing in 1890, there have been 62 deaths in the line of duty at JSO. Of those, 38 were a result of a violent criminal act and 24 were not. An actuarial analysis of the cost of expanding this benefit has been conducted. Past experience predicts approximately 1 relevant incident every three years. The value of this benefit varies a great deal depending on the age of the officer's spouse and children when the event occurs. The analysis conservatively assumed that the spouse would remain on the City plan until age 65 and that there are also 2 covered children. In fact, only about 25% of FOP enrollees cover a spouse and 30% cover one or more children. With all of these assumptions, the expected annual cost is \$127,000. The MOU was signed on November 6, 2019 and was overwhelmingly ratified by the FOP Police membership on November 13 & 14th.

Policy Impact Area: Collective bargaining; surviving spouse and family health benefits

Fiscal Impact: An actuarial study estimates the annual cost of adding this benefit at \$127,000 based on the assumptions listed above.

Analyst: Clements