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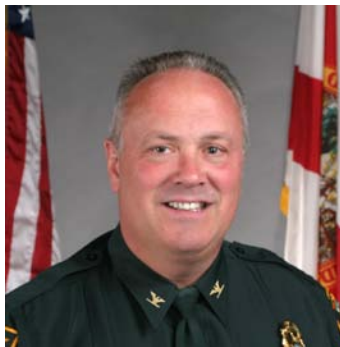


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Col. Steve Burns Graduates from Chief Executive Program



The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office announces the graduation today of Col. Steve Burns from the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute's Chief Executive Seminar. Nineteen senior managers from criminal justice agencies around the state make up this graduating class.

Col. Burns is Chief Deputy of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office. He joined the agency in 1981 as a Deputy Recruit and has risen through the ranks of Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain and Major while working in Patrol, Criminal Investigations and Community Policing.

The seminar met for one week each month for three months at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Headquarters in Tallahassee. Graduates took classes on topics such as succession planning, ethics, and implementing strategic change and were required to complete an independent study to examine a contemporary criminal justice issue.

The goal of the Chief Executive Seminar is to prepare Florida's Criminal Justice leadership for the changing demands of the future. The Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute, established within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and affiliated with the State University System, was established in 1990 by the Florida Legislature who recognized the need for an innovative and multifaceted approach to the education of criminal justice professionals.