



SENATOR GARY SIPLIN
19th District

THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

Committees:

Agriculture

Communication and Public Utilities

Military and Veterans' Affairs, Base
Protection and Spaceports

Natural Resources

Appropriations – Subcommittee on
Transportation and Economic
Development

Select Committee on Auto
Insurance/PIP Reform

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 2, 2004

Contact Person: Naomi Cooper
407 297-2071

SENATOR GARY SIPLIN RETURNS TO DISTRICT APRIL 5–9 He will host three town hall meetings

ORLANDO. – Senator Gary Siplin joins with concerned residents to speak out against local police misconduct. Sen. Siplin has sent a letter to United States Attorney General John Ashcroft, requesting a thorough investigation into the 'use of deadly force' by the Orange County Sheriffs Department, in response to the latest fatal shooting by Orange County Deputies and the subsequent "justifiable" ruling by the investigative grand jury.

Recently, due to public pressure and an incident in which an innocent citizen was fatally shot in the back by an Orange County Sheriffs Deputy, the department reviewed its policy for an independent review board. The review however, did not result in any significant policy changes.

Sen. Siplin has requested that AG Ashcroft investigate the training procedures of Orange County Sheriffs department to determine if the pattern or practices of that department rises to the level of police misconduct that "deprives our citizens of rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States."

On Tuesday, April 6, 2004 at 7:00 pm, Sen. Siplin will have a Town Hall meeting on the Use of Deadly Force. The meeting will be held at the Dr. James R. Smith Center at 1723 Bruton Blvd. Dr. William J. Bopp, a recognized expert witness on police management and crime prevention will be a guest speaker. Ms. Joyce Dawley, Regional Director of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement will also make a presentation.

On Wednesday, April 7, 2004 at 6:30 pm, Sen. Siplin will have a Town Hall meeting concerning the Parramore revitalization efforts. This meeting will be held at the Grand Avenue Elementary School Cafeteria, 800 Grand Avenue.

REPLY TO:

- 5020 Silver Star Road, Orlando, Florida 32808 (407) 297-2071
- 205 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5190

Senate's Homepage: <http://www.flsenate.gov>

JAMES E. "JIM" KING, JR.
President

ALEX DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA
President Pro Tempore

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On Thursday, April 8, 2004 at 7:00 pm, Sen. Siplin will have a Town Hall meeting concerning the findings of the Eatonville Audit. This meeting will be held at the Hungerford Prep School in Eatonville.

Senator Siplin and staff will return to Tallahassee on April 12 to finish the last half of the 2004 session. The House and Senate have both passed their version of the budget which will go into the conference process on Monday.

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