

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Termination of the Lease Agreement between The School Board of Broward County, Florida and Louis Anthony Marchese

The ROCS program was established in the Broward County School District in the early 1980's to address theft, vandalism, and trespassing on school campuses during after school hours. Information obtained from the January 2015 "Internal Audit Report – Review of the Resident on Campus Security (ROCS) Program" (Audit Report) that was issued by the District's Office of the Chief Auditor indicated that initially, the School Resource Officer (SRO) Coordinator previously in the Special Investigative Unit (SIU) Department (which no longer exists) was primarily responsible for managing the ROCS program. These responsibilities included meeting with school principals, meeting with and recruiting the potential ROCS officers, processing the ROCS applications, screening, and interviewing the ROCS officers, generating the lease agreements for the program, and preparing and presenting the Board item regarding each ROCS officer for School Board consideration.

In response to the Audit Report, the SIU Department gave a presentation to the School Board at the June 16, 2015 School Board Workshop. In its conclusion, as well as recently, the SIU Department has made suggestions that would enhance the program. Some of the key suggestions included grandfathering all current legal participants of the ROCS program, defining ROCS officers' responsibilities as well as the reporting and monitoring of the program. Since modification of the ROCS program in February 22, 2017, there are currently twenty-nine (29) participants in the program.

Based on the above suggestions, the SIU Department currently manages the ROCS program with existing staff and an on-line monitoring/reporting system collaboratively developed and managed by the District's Information and Technology (IT) Department. Additionally, the SIU Department works collaboratively with the ROCS officers to ensure that the ROCS program is effectively managed. Also, SIU monitors the ROCS Officers with the goal of providing semi-annual reports to the School Board ensuring that all program provisions in the agreement are effectively enforced. In the same vein, the FP&RE Department will timely schedule (as applicable) the ROCS lease agreements that are due for renewals; for School Board consideration.