



# FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

## PINELLAS COUNTY FLORIDA

June 20, 2017

Mr. Craig Hare, Director of EMS and Fire Administration  
Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration  
12490 Ulmerton Road – Suite 134  
Largo, Florida 33774

Reference: Pinellas County Water Rescue

Dear Mr. Hare,

The Pinellas County Fire Chief's Association (PCFCA) continues to work with and support "Water Rescue" projects within Pinellas County and the immediate surrounding waters. We understand that this is a multi-year plan and we appreciate the county staff and their assistance in working on these projects and the funding required to complete the objectives. As our citizens and visitors from around the world enjoy our natural resources and the many miles of coastline that surround Pinellas County, we remain committed to make sure our first responders have the assets necessary to respond to emergencies when they occur.

The PCFCA members, county staff, and several first responder agencies have achieved the following items in FY 2016/2017;

- County provided Operating & Maintenance funding to all agencies (\$130K)
- Purchased and Deployed Side SONAR Units for FB60 and M57. (\$10K)
- Provided BP Funding to East Lake for Marine 57 (Air Boat) (\$150K) – completed end of 2017.
- Participating Member in the Tampa Bay Search & Rescue Council hosted by US Coast Guard.

I look forward to our continued mutual cooperation between the PCFCA, county staff members, and the support of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners. Our citizens are safer today by improving the "Water Rescue" response capabilities within Pinellas County and I look forward to making our capabilities even better in the near future. If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Graham  
President  
Pinellas County Fire Chief's Association

cc: John Bennett, Assistant County Administrator  
Jim Fogarty, Director of Safety and Emergency Services

President  
Richard Graham

Vice President  
Joe Accetta

Secretary/Treasurer  
Tom Jamison

Director at Large  
Heather Burford