



PRESS RELEASE

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***Tax Collector Mike Fasano & Staff Raise
\$8,727.38 for the
Pasco Fallen Law Enforcement Officers
Memorial***

During the month of November 2020 Pasco County **Tax Collector Mike Fasano's** five offices highlighted the *Pasco Fallen Law Enforcement Officers Memorial* as the Charity of the Month. During the campaign, which began pre-COVID and was rescheduled to November due to the pandemic, a total of **\$8,727.38** was raised by the **Pasco Tax Collector's Office** for this important memorial. Each year Pasco County holds a memorial service to honor law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty. However, Pasco County is the only county in Florida without a permanent memorial that can be visited year-round. Local attorney **Craig LaPorte** heads the drive to raise funds to build such a memorial and asked **Tax Collector Mike Fasano** to assist in bringing the project to the finish line.

At the check presentation held in December 2020 **Tax Collector Mike Fasano** and members of the **Pasco Sheriff's Office** were joined by **Bob George** and members of **Pasco's Back the Blue**, an organization created to help support law

enforcement officers. Together they presented the check from the **Tax Collector's office** as well as a check raised by the members of **Pasco's Back the Blue to Mr. LaPorte** and representatives from the *Pasco Fallen Law Enforcement Officers Memorial*.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors of the *Pasco County Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial and Benefit Foundation* we want to extend our sincerest thanks to **Mike Fasano** and his entire staff for making our **Foundation** the beneficiary of the Pasco County Tax Collector Charities," comments **Craig LaPorte**. "He was kind enough to select us for the April 2020 Charity of the Month, but unfortunately as COVID-19 jumped into our lives he was forced to close in-person office visits for a time. So, in order to help us realize our goal of constructing a permanent memorial to Pasco's Fallen Law Enforcement Heroes, he put us back on his queue for November. Thanks to the generosity of Pasco's citizens and **Mr. Fasano** and his charity, we raised enough funds to put us "over the top." As a result, we are now in the process of the final stages leading to the construction of the memorial in front of the Pasco County Historic Courthouse in Dade City."

"It has been such an honor to work with the fine men and women of our law enforcement community to help raise the funds that will help construct this long-needed memorial," comments **Tax Collector Mike Fasano**. "For any one law enforcement officer to die in the line of duty is one too many. Unfortunately, many good officers have been killed in Pasco over the years. This memorial will honor their sacrifice and the good work they did protecting our county from lawbreakers of every sort. A very generous community stepped up to show their support for the members of our law enforcement agencies. Thank you."

For more details regarding charitable promotions or services provided by the *Pasco County Tax Collector's Office* please contact **Greg Giordano, Assistant Tax Collector for Communications & Special Projects** at 727-847-8179 or visit www.pascotaxes.com For more information about the **Pasco Fallen Law Enforcement Officers Memorial** and how you can support its efforts please contact **Craig LaPorte, Attorney-at-Law** at 727-863-1553. For more information on **Pasco's Back the Blue** please reach out to **Mr. Bob George** at <https://www.facebook.com/Pasco-Backs-the-Blue-Rally-101381268352791/>

[Photo of check presentation attached – staff and leaders from the Pasco County Tax Collector’s Office, the Pasco Sheriff’s Office, the Fallen Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Pasco’s Back the Blue]

