

CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA, FORMALLY OBJECTING TO THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY'S DECISION TO NON-RENEW SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) SERVICES FOR BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF MARGATE FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR; URGING IMMEDIATE AND GOOD-FAITH COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD AND MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES; REQUESTING TRANSPARENCY REGARDING SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Margate, Florida ("City") has historically partnered with the School Board of Broward County ("SBBC") to provide School Resource Officer ("SRO") services to Broward County public schools located within the City, ensuring a safe and secure learning environment for students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, SROs serve a critical role, not only in school safety and emergency response, but also as mentors, role models, and trusted members of the school community; and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2026, the SBBC notified the City's Chief of Police that the SBBC does not anticipate renewing any SRO services with the City for the 2026-2027 school year, effective August 10, 2026; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the correspondence from the SBBC is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the SBBC communicated the decision regarding the non-renewal of SRO services without prior notice, consultation, or coordination with the City, which represents a significant departure from established intergovernmental collaboration; and

WHEREAS, the non-renewal of SRO services in the City is expected to have a substantial financial impact on the City, estimated to exceed \$400,000, and will directly affect personnel currently assigned to these roles; and

WHEREAS, the SBBC's decision to non-renew the SRO services is particularly concerning to the City Commission in light of the absence of any clearly defined and publicly communicated plan detailing how school safety and security services will be maintained or replaced within Broward County public schools within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission further seeks clarification as to why the SBBC decided to uniquely impact the City, while other SRO programs in other Broward County municipalities remain largely unaffected; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission remains steadfastly committed to the safety and well-being of students and recognizes that effective school safety requires strong coordination and partnership between local governments and the School Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1: The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. The City Commission of the City of Margate hereby formally objects to the School Board of Broward County's decision to non-renew School Resource Officer (SRO) services for schools located within the City of Margate for the 2026-2027 school year.

SECTION 3. The City Commission urges the School Board of Broward County and the Superintendent of Schools to immediately engage in good-faith discussions with the City of Margate and other affected municipalities to provide the following:

- Provide a clear and detailed plan for maintaining school safety and security at all Broward County public schools;
- Explain the rationale and criteria used in determining SRO contract non-renewals; and

- Explore opportunities to reconsider or modify this decision in a manner that prioritizes student safety and preserves effective partnerships.

SECTION 4. The City Commission calls upon the School Board of Broward County to ensure transparency and coordination with municipal partners in any decisions impacting school safety, public resources, and intergovernmental agreements.

SECTION 5. The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Superintendent of Broward County Public Schools, each member of the School Board of Broward County, Broward County Schools Police, the Executive Director of the Broward League of Cities, Representative Christine Hunschofsky, and other appropriate stakeholders.

SECTION 6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED this 15th day of APRIL, 2026.

ATTEST:

JENNIFER JOHNSON
CITY CLERK

ANTONIO V. ARSERIO
MAYOR

RECORD OF VOTE

Schwartz _____
Simone _____
Ruzzano _____
Caggiano _____
Arserio _____



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The School Board of Broward County, Florida

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Nora Rupert
Rebecca Thompson
Dr. Allen Zeman

Dr. Howard Hepburn
Superintendent of Schools

April 10, 2026

Dear Chief Palma,

I am writing to notify you of changes to the School Board of Broward County's (SBBC) School Resource Officer (SRO) contracted services for the upcoming school year 2026/2027. These changes reflect school closures, program transitions, and contract reductions that will take effect beginning with the first day of school, **August 10, 2026**, and in certain instances, through **January 31, 2027**.

Anticipated Contract Non-Renewal – Effective August 10, 2026

Effective on the first day of school (August 10, 2026), School Board of Broward County (SBBC) does not anticipate contracting for any SRO services from the City of Margate for the 2026/2027 school year. This non-renewal is effective August 10, 2026.

We recognize and sincerely appreciate the dedicated service that your law enforcement personnel have provided to our students, staff, and school communities. Their professionalism and commitment to school safety have been a meaningful contribution to our mission, and we are grateful for the partnerships we have maintained.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to the safety and security of Broward County's students and school communities.

Respectfully,

Kevin Nosowicz, Chief of Police