June 15, 2009

Council of Presidents
1261 S Missouri Ave
Clearwater, Florida 33756

Dear Presidents:

Thank you for taking the time to write to Governor Charlie Crist about the Division of Licensing Trust Fund as it relates to the state budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Governor Crist appreciates learning of your views and concerns and asked that I respond on his behalf.

Balancing the $66.5 billion state budget that takes effect July 1, the Legislature transferred nearly $600 million from dozens of state trust funds that are supported by revenues collected for specific programs. From the Division of Licensing Trust Fund, $6 million was included in the series of trust funds from which monies were to be transferred to the General Revenue Fund. Among other functions, those funds support the processing of various license applications including those for concealed weapons permits. Noting the increase in applications for concealed weapons permits, the current backlog, and the potential to further increase the backlog that might result from the removal of $6 million, Governor Crist vetoed the transfer from the fund. As a result of the Governor's action, sufficient funds will continue to be available to fully fund the operations of the Division of Licensing.

Again, thank you for writing to Governor Charlie Crist. Your thoughts are important to him.

Sincerely,

Aundra Bryant
Executive Office of the Governor