

2023 NYC TRANSIT POLICE FLORIDA REUNION

On behalf of the members of the Florida Reunion Committee, I want to remind you that in 2019 we announced that the 2020 reunion would be my committees last one. Due to Covid that reunion never happened. As most of you know, me and others have been involved with our reunion for many years. Some, like Louie Hollander, the founder of the reunion concept, has been involved for over twenty years. Over the years this event has grown and grown and been attended by literally thousands of members of all ranks, coming from all over the country.

The time has finally come to move forward on our promise to hold our final reunion. I promise you that if we can go forward, this will not only be our last but also our best! With that in mind, we have been busy researching venues. One thing we found, that was not a total surprise, is in this economy nothing is cheap or even reasonable anymore.

In doing our research, to be able to pull this off at a reasonable cost, we had to think outside the box. We have found that weekend hotel rates, particularly at resort hotels, are simply outrageous. Even given our numbers, we can't begin to put a dent into them to make it financially feasible to hold the type of event we are used to running. We have realized our strongest bargaining power is with weekday rates. I speak for both my committee members, as well as Louie, when I say it will be the swan song we intended for 2020 and we would like to go out on a high note. Therefore, we have been looking at nothing but five- and four-star venues. We have found that if we were to hold the reunion during the week as opposed to a weekend we could reduce the cost to you by upwards of 50%

As this is **your reunion**, **your** input is essential to determine if we can go forward and have a successful reunion. In order to proceed, we need to know how many wants or can take this journey of a weekday reunion with us. I know that for us that are no longer working, half the time we don't even know what day of the week it is, unless we look at a calendar. So, we are taking a **non-binding** survey to find out how many people would be interested or available for a weekday reunion, as opposed to the historic weekend reunion. Without this information, we will be in the untenable position of guessing. Trust me when I say that in negotiating these and other contracts for many years, I would not put myself in that position. If we are to proceed, the primary reunion days will be on a Tuesday and Wednesday with a negotiated mandate that whichever hotel is selected, they also honor our negotiated rates for Monday and Thursday. We have been looking at dates in early May or late June.

Until we have this information, albeit unofficial, we will not be able to know what our approximate numbers are and needless to say that would severely restrict our ability to negotiate the best deal possible for you. We want to provide you with a reunion better than any we have held before and at a cost that is feasible. So, if you would be so kind as to respond to this inquiry ASAP and let us know your opinion or opinions, we would greatly appreciate it.

To give us your feedback please just hit reply and provide you name and email address and any comments or suggestions you may have. Please reply by January 22, 2023. Remember as always, **THIS YOUR REUNION!**

On behalf of myself and the 2023 Reunion committee, I thank you in advance for your cooperation and input in helping to **KEEP THE SPIRIT ALIVE.**

Sincerely,
Bill McKechnie