THE FLORIDA SENATE 2012 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED

Committee on Criminal Justice

CS/CS/HB 667 — Murder

by Judiciary Committee; Criminal Justice Subcommittee; and Rep. Corcoran and others (CS/SB 872 by Criminal Justice Committee and Senator Fasano)

The bill expands what constitutes first, second, and third degree murder to include the unlawful killing of a human being when the defendant commits aggravated fleeing or eluding and that act causes serious bodily injury or death to another. It also makes certain conforming changes to the Offense Severity Ranking Chart.

Additionally, the bill amends s. 782.065, F.S. Current law provides for a life sentence when a defendant murders or attempts to murder a law enforcement officer who is engaged in the performance of his or her official duties at the time of the offense, regardless of the degree of the murder or attempted murder. The bill includes correctional officers and probation officers for the purposes of the life sentence penalty.

This bill substantially amends ss. 782.04 and 921.0022, F.S. It also reenacts the following statutes to incorporate changes made to s. 782.04, F.S.:

- s. 775.0823, F.S., violent offenses committed against law enforcement and correctional officers, state attorneys, assistant state attorneys, justices, or judges;
- s. 782.051, F.S., attempted felony murder;
- s. 782.065, F.S., murder; law enforcement officer; and
- s. 947.146, F.S., Control Release Authority.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 1, 2012.

Vote: Senate 39-1: House 116-0