

By Senator Holzendorf

32-55A-01

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the City of Belle Glade;  
3           providing for the relief of Willie Police, III,  
4           Cora Donaldson, Willie Police, Sr., and the  
5           Estate of Willie Police, Jr.; authorizing and  
6           directing the City of Belle Glade to compensate  
7           them for injuries suffered as a result of the  
8           death of Willie Police, Jr., due to the  
9           negligence of employees of the city; providing  
10          an effective date.  
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12          WHEREAS, on February 13, 1993, Willie Police, Jr., who  
13          was 17 years of age, and a friend attended a dance which was  
14          being held at the Civic Center in Belle Glade, and  
15          WHEREAS, while the two friends were standing in the  
16          parking lot after the dance, a disturbance began; as a result  
17          of the disturbance, both Willie Police and his friend were  
18          shot, and Willie died at the scene, and  
19          WHEREAS, the group that sponsored the dance allegedly  
20          did not have permission to use the civic center and had broken  
21          into the center that night and held the party without the  
22          permission of the city, and  
23          WHEREAS, 1 week before the dance, the group had passed  
24          out flyers inviting the public to the event, and  
25          WHEREAS, police were called to the scene because of the  
26          noise created by the party, and, although police officers did  
27          respond to the call and go to the party, they did not check to  
28          see whether the group was legitimately using the civic center,  
29          they did not speak to any person in charge, nor did they check  
30          to see if there was any security provided for the party, and  
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1           WHEREAS, the testimony of city officials and the police  
2 revealed that, any time a party is held at the civic center,  
3 security is to be provided by either the city or the person  
4 who gives the party, and

5           WHEREAS, the testimony further showed that such a party  
6 is always recorded on the books of the city, and the city then  
7 informs the police department of the party, and

8           WHEREAS, the Belle Glade Police Department never  
9 checked with the city nor with anyone else about this party,  
10 even after noise complaints were registered, and, if they had  
11 checked, they would have shut down the party because it was  
12 not a scheduled event, and there was no security, and

13           WHEREAS, at the time of his death, Willie Police, Jr.,  
14 was the father of a 3-year-old son, Willie Police, III, who  
15 has been deprived of the support and companionship of his  
16 father, and

17           WHEREAS, Willie Police, Jr.'s parents, Cora Donaldson  
18 and Willie Police, Sr., have been deprived of the services and  
19 companionship of their son, NOW, THEREFORE,

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21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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23           Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this  
24 act are found and declared to be true.

25           Section 2. The City of Belle Glade is authorized and  
26 directed to compensate Willie Police, III, Cora Donaldson,  
27 Willie Police, Sr., and the Estate of Willie Police, Jr., out  
28 of funds of the city not otherwise appropriated, in the amount  
29 of \$381,649.10 for injuries and damages sustained as a result  
30 of the death of Willie Police, Jr.

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1           Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
2 law.  
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