

# STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Consent Items

April 18, 2006

**SUBJECT: Palm Beach Community College - Request Site Designation Approval for Public Safety Training Special Purpose Center**

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## **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

To approve the request from the Board of Trustees of Palm Beach Community College for Public Safety Training Special Purpose Center.

## **AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1001.02 (7) (e), Florida Statutes.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Florida Department of Education's strategic imperative to coordinate efforts to improve higher student learning is achieved with the approval of this request for the special purpose center. Rule 6A-14.0061, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), entitled "Campus, Center, Special Purpose Center and Instructional Site Designations" provides that the State Board of Education review and recommend for or against the establishment of campuses, centers and special purpose centers. To obtain State capital outlay and operating support, the facilities must be designated a campus, center or special purpose center. Based on the documentation presented by the college, all the criteria stipulated in Rule 6A-14.0061 are satisfied. The college is requesting designation of a Special Purpose Center to meet the need and demand for highly trained and skilled emergency services professionals. Currently the College leases facilities, apparatus and props from various agencies throughout the County. Not only is it desirable, but also cost effective to consolidate both education and training within a single facility at a single site. Due to the nature of hazards associated with the police (gun ranges) and firefighter (flammables) training, this type of training facility is not compatible with normal "public access" type of facilities, such as on other existing campuses. The College works collaboratively with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, the county's municipal law enforcement and fire rescue agencies as well as the County Healthcare District to identify program, and training facilities, apparatus and props that will ensure the highest level of instruction and training for students going through the public safety program. Additionally, the College works cooperatively with Broward and Indian River Community Colleges, Florida Atlantic University, and the School District of Palm Beach County to ensure that the post-secondary, vocational, and continuing workforce educational need of the community are met through the most efficient use of their collective resources without competitive duplication of services. In concert with the goal of the State and the college to provide access to specific needed professional training to their citizens, this request for a new special purpose center is justified to better serve Palm Beach County.

Request for a waiver for this item.

Yes

No

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**Supporting Documentation Included: Letter of request, Proposal and SBOE Rule 6A-14.0061, F.A.C.**

**Facilitators/Presenters: J. David Armstrong, Jr., Chancellor, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Education, Dennis P. Gallon, President, Palm Beach Community College**