

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Nick Mimms](#)
Subject: Fw: Fw:
Date: Monday, May 18, 2020 9:52:55 AM

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From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Sent: Mon, May 18, 2020 at 9:15 AM

Subject:

Good morning. My name is Martin Ortiz. I have been an employee of the City of Fort Pierce since 1999. For so many years I have seen changes take place at the department. Officers have come and gone. Some have gone to greener pastures, some have past away. I can recall years back when coming to work was a joy, now not so much. This is due to the moral. When I first started I could remember the pranks that took place with new recruits and the old timers. All done in fun but much needed and welcomed by all. In this profession, a little laughter goes a long way. Things have changed and it worries me. Money and insurance have always been an issue that has yet to change. It is understandable that money is an issue here, but Fort Pierce is a gold mine that is not being utilized properly in order to make more money. Take for example our beaches. Why is it that other cities charge for parking and we don't? Between Stuart and Fort Pierce, there are no beaches. People flock here from all over for our Farmers Market, to walk the Jetty and to eat in our restaurants, why, because of the atmosphere. I believe strongly that a solution to one of the problems here is to bring in more revenue and hire more police. West Palm Beach has assigned officers that patrol the beaches and parks only. This reduces the crime and also protects the meter maids that patrol and write citations. I really think that one way to keep officers here and change the Fort Pierce Police Department for the better, is to be competitive with salaries. If this doesn't happen, we will continue to lose great officers like we have in the last year.