

I want to begin by expressing my personal gratitude to those who took the time to vote in the January 29<sup>th</sup> election. Orange County, like most of Florida, had record voter turn-out with more than 40% of registered voters going to the polls. As you already know, the citizens of Florida overwhelmingly supported Amendment One, and the citizens of Orlando also re-elected Buddy Dyer to continue leading our Great City for four more years.

So what now? I am eager to continue implementing the Mayor's Public Safety Initiative that was approved by City Council in July 2006, which increases fire and police personnel by 11 percent, and adds additional personnel to patrol our parks and recreational facilities. This three-year proposal has already begun putting many of the 75 additional police officers on the streets to patrol our neighborhoods. Please note that while the passage of Amendment One may have an effect on some parts of City government, public safety will not be one of them.

This initiative is further strengthened by the appointment of new Orlando Police Chief Val Demings. She is working hard on keeping up current programs that have been consistently successful. One of these are the tactical squads that have been hard at work in each of the three patrol divisions aggressively confronting street level narcotics, violent crimes, and pattern crimes. Chief Demings has also begun implementing fresh new ideas to aid in further combating crime.

One of those ideas was to initiate a service on the City's website that allows residents to file certain police reports online. These include minor criminal activities such as lost property, harassing phone calls, pickpocketing, vandalism, and petty theft. OPD Online Reporting is listed under "Online Services" on both [www.cityoforlando.net](http://www.cityoforlando.net) and OPD's homepage.

And when you are not inside catching up on past City Council meetings on Orange TV (now airing in digital on Brighthouse Channel 199), please enjoy the February weather at one of our newly dedicated outdoor amenities in Baldwin Park. On January 26<sup>th</sup>, the City dedicated Harbor Park, Lake Baldwin Trail and Central Florida Veterans Memorial Park. Each area brings new ways to enjoy the outdoors with your family and friends and adds more green space to our City Beautiful.

As always, thank you for your continued support of your neighborhood, my staff and me, as well as our Great City!

Robert

Robert F. Stuart, Commissioner, District 3  
City of Orlando  
400 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801  
407-246-2003  
[Robert.Stuart@CityofOrlando.net](mailto:Robert.Stuart@CityofOrlando.net)