

The full statement from Chief Moffett reads:

*Miami-Dade County Public Schools has invested in a school policing program that provides for prevention, intervention, and enforcement as a last resort. The job of a police officer is tasked for a professional who has trained, prepared and studied to protect, secure and maintain the order. All law enforcement personnel must take part in continual training to respond to active shooter situations and in the use of firearms in close quarters, which is a perishable skill that is easily lost without annual training of tactics and “shoot or don’t shoot” scenario-based training. Law enforcement agencies have mandated deadly force policies for officers to understand, train for on a continual basis and be held accountable to.*

*This new legislation will be a recipe for disaster by allowing designated civilians to essentially be matching force with force and in some situations, even the “Stand Your Ground” law may apply. We oppose any legislation that would transfer this authority to any civilian personnel. The only persons that are authorized to carry a firearm on school grounds should be current and retired police officers that are governed by their agency’s policies, accountable through the Florida Criminal Justice and Training Standards Commission, and Federal guidelines such as the “Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act”. Our students and parents do not need their safety left in the hands of untrained and ill-prepared individuals who are not accountable to any regulations if a shooting on campus should take place.*