



## PALM COAST ELKS LODGE #2709, INC

### News Release

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September 20, 2016

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Elks Donate \$2,000 to Project To Purchase Flagler K9 Vests**

PALM COAST, FL – On September 19<sup>th</sup> the Palm Coast Elks Lodge #2709 President Vincent Gough presented the Blue Knights President Bill Gallagher and Vice President George Zampella a second check for \$2,000.00 to outfit Flagler County K9 Officers with Ballistic protective vests. Brother Elk George Zampella related that currently none of the six working K9s are equipped with protective vests. "This year has been particularly rough for police dogs across the country," he said. "Twelve K9 partners were killed in the first three months of 2016. Our goal is to raise enough money to provide vests for all six K9 partners. Each \$1,600.00 raised covers the cost of a protective vest that lasts for five years." President Vincent Gough related "This Elks National Foundation Beacon Grant furthers our partnership with the Blue Knights to fund this important community project to properly equip our K9 officers." If you would like to support this project, please plan to attend the Deputy Dog Walk at the Beach Front Grill Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.



Pictured left to right, Lodge Trustee Mark Fontana, Brother Elk Larry Jones, Brother Elk Rick Staly, Lodge First Vice President Ralph Dodge, Blue Knight President Bill Gallagher, Blue Knight Vice President George Zampella Elk Lodge President Vincent Gough, Lodge Tiler Andy Jekabsons, Lodge third Vice President Louis Barletta, and Lodge second Vice President Bob Thoubboron.

### End ###

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With more than 800,000 members, over 1,900 Lodges nationwide, and 60,000 members and 100 Lodges in Florida the Elks are providing charitable services that help build stronger communities across the United States. To learn more visit [www.Elks2709.com](http://www.Elks2709.com).

