

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 23, 2016

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***Joint union statement on layoff of 289 Judicial Branch employees  
Effective today, June 23, 2016***

“At close of business today, June 23, the layoff of 289 Judicial Branch employees will take effect, including Judicial Marshals and Security Officers; Adult and Juvenile Probation Officers; Clinical Coordinators; Family Relation Counselors; Juvenile Classification Program Officers; Public Defender Social Workers; Juvenile Detention officers and staff, and Intake, Assessment and Referral Specialists.

“We understand the state’s need for austerity in these difficult economic times. But we continue to raise concerns about the impact on public safety and the efficient and safe workflow at our courthouses by reducing already short-handed security staff and staff in 43 courthouses.

“We ask, again, that the Judicial Branch consider alternative options to maintain as many front line public safety staff as possible. Further, we ask that they reconsider the spending of at least \$12,000 a week to pay state police overtime in four courthouses, while the remaining 39 facilities are losing judicial marshals to layoffs.”

***Joe Gaetano, President  
International Brotherhood of Police Officers Local 731***

***Charles Della Rocco  
Supreme Court Police Officer  
President, AFSCME Local 749***

***Carmen A. Roda, President  
Judicial Professional Employees Union***