



Fraternal Order of Police

CHICAGO LODGE 7

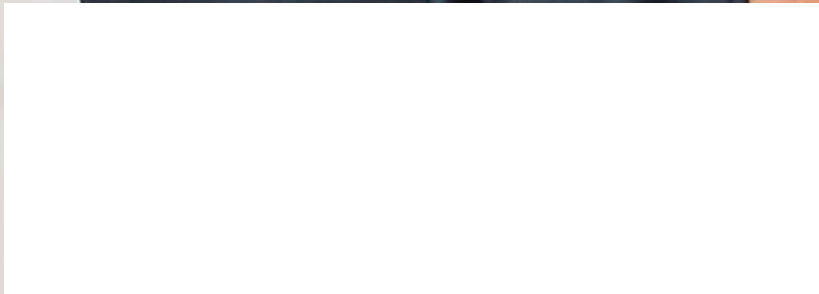
Magazine • June 2023

A Star beyond her Star

Officer Aréanah Makayla Preston

Chicago Police Department, Star #15870

End of Watch: May 6, 2023



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COVER STORY



OFFICER ARÉANAH MIKAYLA PRESTON, STAR #15870
End of Watch: May 6, 2023

COVER DESIGN BY GINA CROTCHFELT

Page 30

A chance to talk with those who worked alongside Officer Aréannah Preston reveals just how bright a light she was to her watch, her district, the residents she served and the entire City. From her best friends who worked in the 5th District to her partners working with her in the beat car to even the suspects she arrested, the love that Aréannah generated will no doubt last a lifetime. The stories they shared about how she made everybody in the district feel special, about how she could hug it out better than anybody, about what she did for the community and about how tough she could be continue to resonate and show just how great a police officer and person Aréannah was.

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In His Name



The Members Speak



All Roads Lead to Police Week



Lodge 7 Magazine Main Number: 312-515-7523
Advertising: 201-370-4082
Editorial: 201-370-4082
Distribution: 201-880-7288
Subscriptions: subs@chicagofopmagazine.com
Email: cops@chicagofopmagazine.com
Website: www.chicagofopmagazine.com
Chicago FOP Lodge Main Number: 312-733-7776

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DAN RAPPOPORT
 Founder

JUNE 2023 ■ VOLUME 9, NO. 6

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CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine
President's Report



In honor of Aréannah, keep on going, keep on smiling



**JOHN
CATANZARA
JR.**

We look at Aréannah and wish we could unwind the clock. So young. So talented. The most beautiful and inspiring smile this department has seen since Ella. But there's just no way around these tragedies. All we can do is try to make the best lemonade out of the most sour lemons we've ever been served.

I think that's absolutely what Aréannah's parents are doing with their ability to articulate their pain, their frustration and what's wrong with this City like no other family member really can except for maybe Elizabeth French or Milena Estepa, Andres Vasquez Lasso's wife. These Gold Star family mem-



bers can put it into words, and as I told Aréannah's mom, Dionne Mhoon, the opportunity is fresh and to continue doing what she's doing.

You don't really have everybody's attention like you do right now, and you need to keep it. She understands that, and I think she agrees with it. I think she wants to be a voice as frequently and as loud as she can be now.

During the past few weeks, we have been inspired by the stories about Aréannah's academic drive to be a leader and her many, many achievements in that area. But you should hear some of the stories about what she accomplished on the job. As you will read in our tribute to Aréannah beginning on page 30 of this issue, the officers on her watch, all the officers who worked with her in 005, the desk attendants who were her best friends, and even the people she arrested loved her.

I think we can use Aréannah's inspiration to recognize and applaud the fearlessness that all Chicago Police Officers take out on the street every day, even as conditions continue to get worse. From the time they are recruits, 99 percent of officers don't get into this job to walk away. You know what you want to do and why you want to do it. Walking away is never really an option.

So in honor of Aréannah, keep on going. We raise a glass of lemonade and toast to her. She always saw the glass as half full, and that's why she was always smiling.

Thoughts about the superintendent

At our monthly general members meeting on May 31, we had Anthony Driver and Remel Terry from the Community Commission for Public Safety & Accountability attend. They were there to hear members' thoughts about what qualifications and qualities you think the new superintendent must have.

Now, we can think what we want about the commission's mission, about their need even to be in existence, all of that nonsense. The reality is, they were here. They're conducting this search, they're asking for our input and that's more than a police board has ever done. The police board never asked to come directly to our membership and get that information.

For nearly an hour, members stepped up to the mic and expressed their feelings. Some even blasted the performance of those who have done the job in the past, Department leadership as a whole and the City. You can read all about what they said in the story on page 40 of this issue.

My understanding is that it went from only eight applicants for superintendent to 50-something in like 10 days. At the meeting, Driver confirmed there are 55 candidates. I feel optimistic that they're actually listening to what we're suggesting to produce three quality candidates, whether they're internal or external.

Whoever it is, morale has to be the number-one consideration. Nothing gets done unless we have a superintendent who boosts the morale of the men and women of this Department. If you have a superintendent who gets it, who backs up the members – and I'm not talking look the other way when someone does something egregious – that will be the first and most important step in getting any support from this Lodge.

President's Report continues on Page 6

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Starting with the new mayor

We had a Zoom call in May with the new mayor, our first real meeting with him. It was specifically about the COLA bill. He was very adamant about wanting to have us hold off pushing the COLA bill until the fall.

But it was a cordial conversation, to say the least. It just was differences of opinions that were not going to get resolved or agreed upon in that call. So, we did what we had to do. He did what he had to do. And here we are.

It didn't strain the relationship, I think, in either direction. Un-

less I'm reading it wrong, I don't think he was insulted by our position, and I certainly wasn't insulted by his. I understood that what he was trying to say, I just didn't agree with it. We're going to have a lot of those situations going forward.

But as long as the right thing gets done and it's not a stall tactic to screw us at a later date, I'm OK with it. If this ends up something else, he's going to see a version of bad John that even Lightfoot never saw.

Contract update

In our last conversation with the arbitrator, he indicated that he is apt to make some interim awards on two issues: a retention bonus for officers who are 20-years plus and arbitration for termination, in which he has already made the exact same ruling three times in different arbitrations for different municipalities.

When an officer is facing termination, we want the ability to pick arbitration or bring it to the police board. Let the officer decide. If it's not police board, then arbitration. Whoever agreed to it always being the police board, it was a bad idea to give up arbi-

tration. I guess maybe it was because the police board wasn't as much of a hit piece as it is now.

If we were getting decisions that were more geared toward, "OK, you made an honest screw up, here's a 60-day whack and go back to work," as opposed to, "You're fired," for every little thing, we would not be worried about not having the arbitration option. And now you've got the inspector general talking about Rule 14 being automatic termination, we must have the arbitration option.

National news

I'm running for National FOP first vice president against Joey Grimaldi, who has held the office for the past two terms. The vote will be at the National FOP Biennial Conference in Las Vegas Aug. 13-17.

I think I'm a much better option than Joey, who's had two terms and accomplished nothing. For him to write an Instagram post, "Stop killing my police officers," shows why he has been ineffective. As if gang bangers look at Instagram and say, "Oh, the National FOP said we should stop killing officers." That's not affecting any difference. But that's just the mindset. Smoke and mirrors.

We need somebody in that position who has the independence to make that will be good for the entire FOP membership, which the president uses to leverage against these people to get them to

do what he wants them to do. Diversifying those piece would balance the power. The organization is entirely different. And there are more people at the table, as opposed to the select few they like there right now.

Joe has accomplished little with this organization. He has let Pat do whatever he wanted so Joe can stay at home and do his interviews with Fox Business because he's stumping for a seat there. He doesn't travel. He doesn't go out to the membership. He doesn't fight in D.C. Joe has very little experience in labor. So his concept of labor and what this organization was founded on are two entirely different visions, and it is for that reason that I'm seeking the office of National FOP first vice president.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

I have no idea who put in a packet to apply for the job. But from what the members told the commission at the meeting, they must know we cannot have a superintendent who will kowtow to the mayor and City Hall or kowtow to the mob and the woke agenda.

Does it have to be somebody who comes from inside? Listen, I made no bones about who my pick would be. It would be David Clarke, the former sheriff of Milwaukee County. I don't even know if he put in a packet, but if he got serious consideration and you told our membership that David Clarke was one of the three finalists, people would give a standing ovation. Because they know he'll back them up. He'll call balls and strikes. He'll tell the public the truth. That's not something a superintendent has ever done in this City.

There's another possible candidate who checks those boxes: James Craig, the former chief of the Detroit Police Department. He had a stellar reputation within the Department. I haven't heard one copper from Detroit ever say a bad thing about James Craig. He has experience in a big city, a violent big city that experienced where we're at now and came out the other side.

There has to be buy-in from our membership on the credence we give the superintendent because we deal with them on a much more frequent basis than any individual member. So when we say, "That's not good, that's good. That's a good boss. That's a



shitty boss," our members understand what we're talking about, and they buy in. If the Department and the mayor can't understand that having a dialogue and the importance of giving our thumbs-up seal of approval to somebody matters, then they're pretty dumb.

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- Michael W, suburban police officer
(Sold his retired CPD Dad's home)



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THE 4-1-1



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June 22

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June 22

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St. Mary of Czestochowa Church

3010 S. 48th Court, Cicero

10:30 a.m.

For more information, email wlatkowski@archchicago.org

June 23

15th District Austin's Got Talent Show

Kehrein Center for the Arts

5628 W. Washington Blvd.

6-9 p.m.

For more information, call 312-919-7725 or email caps.015district@chicagopolice.org

June 24

South Bend FOP Lodge 36 Fundraiser for Joe Hamer

South Bend FOP Lodge 36

25327 State Road 23, South Bend

2-7 p.m.

\$25 per adult, \$10 per child under 12 (suggested amounts)

All proceeds go to assist Joe with current and future medical needs in fighting cancer

For more information, call 574-292-4233 or email jnoonan@p hm.k12.in.us

June 24

Williamson County FOP Lodge 197 Golf Outing

Crab Orchard Golf Course

901 W. Grand Ave., Carterville

7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., \$90 per person

For more information, email

williamsoncountyfop197@gmail.com

June 25

Stand with Patrick Benefit

115 Bourbon Street

3359 W. 115th St., Merrionette Park

5-9 p.m., \$50 per person

For more information, call 708-658-3312 or visit

<https://www.ilfop.org/event-fop/stand-with-patrick/>

June 26

Emerald Society of Illinois Annual

Rib Fest and Awards Night

Chicago FOP Hall

1412 W. Washington Blvd.

7 p.m.

For more information, visit

<https://www.emeraldsocietyofillinois.org/events/>

June 26

Michigan State Lodge Golf Outing

Links of Novi

50395 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan

8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

For more information, visit <https://mifop-foundation-golf-outing.perfectgolfevent.com/>

June 27

Wally Rolniak Lodge 6 Golf Outing

Lincoln Oaks Golf Course

395 E. Richton Road, Crete

8 a.m.-5 p.m., \$100 per person

For more information, email il.wrse.fop6il@gmail.com or call 708-516-3079

July 6

Italian American Police Association night at the White Sox Game

Guaranteed Rate Field, Section 102

333 W. 25th St.

7:10 p.m., \$28 per ticket

For more information, email

carla.rodriguez@chicagopolice.org

July 19

Chicago Lodge 7 Picnic at Brookfield Zoo

11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

\$20 per ticket for adult, \$10 per ticket ages 3-11

For more information, call 312-870-7949



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Adults \$20 / Children \$10

Includes: Parking in North Lot, Zoo Admission, Designated Picnic Area 11:30am to 2pm

Purchase tickets at Fraternal Order of Police, 3rd Floor

1412 W. Washington Blvd, Chicago, IL 60607

Must be a FOP member to purchase tickets. Tickets are on a first come first serve basis. Limit of 10 tickets to be purchased.

For additional information contact Kathy Spiewak 312.870.7949

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Continuing to look at BSO arbitration hearing decisions



DAN GORMAN

My report at the monthly general members' meetings includes examples of arbitrators' decisions issued at binding summary opinion (BSO) arbitration hearings. Every investigation has its own individual circumstances and, in most cases, there are multiple allegations and redundant alleged rule violations (usually piled on by the investigators).

However, below are examples of relatively simple CR investigations and recent dispositions that have been awarded by the binding summary arbitrators. The following discipline briefs only provide a generalization of the allegations that were sustained in the CR investigation.

General Summary of Allegation	Original Recommended Penalty	Arbitrator's Award
No TRR (2 officers)	1-Day suspension (each)	Expunged
Transport children in department vehicle	5-Day suspension	Reprimand
No BWC	2-Days suspension	Reprimand
"Threat" to issue citations, and No TSSS card	3-day suspension	Upheld, no reduction
Unintentional discharge in police facility	15-day suspension	Upheld, no reduction
Seize citizen's phone. No ISR, No BWC (2 officers)	10-day suspension 10-day suspension	Reduced to 1-day suspension Reduced to 5-day suspension
"Improper interviewing technique." No BWC. Improper search of a person.	15-day suspension	Reduced to 3-day suspension

Quote board

To add some context to the dispositions listed above, here are some notable quotes taken directly from the arbitrators' written awards/decisions.

Quote from a 10-page decision:

"The Lodge argues the penalty imposed is untimely and excessive. The arbitrator agrees that a 15-day suspension under the circumstance of this case is excessive and not consistent with the principles of progressive and corrective discipline embodied in the just cause clause of the parties' contract."

Quote from a 6-page decision:

"In conclusion, the evidence does not support COPA's finding that [the accused officers] used physical force to bring the individual to the ground. Because the City does not state any other basis for determining that they were required to complete a TRR, and because it is otherwise unclear from the terms of GO3-02-02 that their actions that night triggered any TRR obligation, the City was unable to meet its burden of proving that it has just cause to discipline [the accused officers] for failing to complete a TRR."

Quote from 10-page decision:

"The problematic conduct occurred only after the passenger again asked for the rule the officers were relying on in making the stop, and the grievant and his partner both responded by offering to write a citation."

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Getting involved with the COPS kids' camp



MONICA ORTIZ

In May 2023, Team Chicago had seven cyclists participate in the annual Law Enforcement United Road to Hope ride during National Police Week. Two riders are Gold Star family members: Maria Marmolejo, wife of fallen Chicago Police Officer Eduardo Marmolejo, and Crystal Jimenez, wife of fallen Chicago Police Officer Samuel Jimenez. Maria is the current chair of Chicago's Gold Star Families.

I told Maria and Crystal that we had to fund-raise to participate in the ride and that most of the funds would go to Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS). Both were pleased to hear that and told me how their children participated in the COPS kids' camp every year and how it had helped them deal with the loss of a parent.

COPS is an organization that helps families of officers lost in the line of duty. I heard about this national organization in 2008 when participating in Pedal Across Illinois. This organization is well known nationwide.

Many Lodge 7 members may not know about this group. I want to bring some information and attention to COPS, which has existed since 1984, and all the excellent programs they have for families and coworkers of fallen officers.

The kids' camp is the program I've heard about most over the years from parents, siblings and other departments in Illinois. It is organized for surviving children (6-14 years of age) and their surviving parent (or legal guardian). Kids come from around the country in July and participate in camp activities, including swimming, fishing, arts and crafts, canoeing, rope climbing courses, archery,



Wives of fallen Chicago Police Officers Crystal Jimenez and Maria Marmolejo (top left) and their families have benefitted from participating in camps and programs for survivors run by Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS).



shooting sports and camp-fire skits. Maria Marmolejo, left, and Crystal Jimenez after completing the Road to Hope ride during National Police Week.

Officers can contact COPS and volunteer to teach activities at the kids' camp. COPS offers programs for active law enforcement officers and activities to help raising funds for this organization. Here are some of them:

- Traumas of Law Enforcement Training
- National Conference on Law Enforcement Wellness and Trauma
- Coworkers' Retreat

I've provided the link if you would like to read more about this organization and all the programs it offers, or to make a donation: <https://www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org/aboutcops>

Disputed IOD claims

We have received calls from members who had an injury on duty and had Gallagher Bassett deny the IOD claim. Members had filed a grievance and have unpaid medical bills that have been sent to a collection agency.

On page 111 of the contract, you will find a Letter of Understanding regarding IOD claims. You can find a copy of the agreement on the Lodge 7 webpage. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the Lodge.

Thank you, and stay safe.

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Our sister Aréanah



**ROB
NOCEDA**

Our sister Aréanah Preston was an accomplished young woman, to say the least. What an inspiration and legacy to leave behind. She was and will always be a beacon of hope and love. She represented all that is good and wholesome in life and our noble profession. God be with her family. She is in God's kingdom.

Update on migrant issue

Our class action grievance was denied at the third level. The Grievance Review Committee will evaluate the grievance and will decide on the option to pursue arbitration.

After we filed the complaint and two appeals, the OSHA division chief decided that they will not inspect our district lobbies. OSHA decided that the City's response to the migrant occupation of our district lobbies was fine as long as there are: Clean facilities, washing areas, vermin control.

That's the brief summary of their letter to me. The City has already started moving migrants to Wright College. Again, we shall see where this issue goes. Nonetheless, we will continue to fight for our members' wellbeing always.

Exposures and IOD


Those affected by getting sick should ensure that the proper exposure and IOD reports are completed. We have already received a denial from one officer, who will now have to file a grievance.

Lastly, always look out for one another. This job, to say at a minimum, is quite stressful. Be of encouragement to one another. If someone needs a good friend, be that friend or send them our way. We are here for you at the Lodge. We are not only labor, but fraternal (it's in the name).

May God be with you and your families.

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What members want in a superintendent



JIM
JAKSTAVICH

Hello again, officers, both active and retired. The last general meeting was rescheduled to May 31, 2023 at noon. The initial date conflicted with the funeral of murdered Officer Areanah Preston; the following week on Wednesday and Thursday, Firearms Safety Days were scheduled in the hall, which forced the meeting to May 31.

This general meeting was advertised as the Taste of FOP. All the ethnic organizations within CPD brought food representative of their culture to share with everyone. Delicious! Thank you to all those who participated.

The general meeting also had guests present. The Community Commission for Public Safety & Accountability was on hand and allowed our members to comment and provide input into what we are looking for in the next superintendent of the CPD. Apparently, they have 50-plus candidates who are vying for this esteemed position. I would personally like to thank Commission President Anthony Driver Jr. for taking the time to engage our members on this hotly contested topic. President Driver asked who we would like to see as the next superintendent. With no candidate names provided to the audience, I only heard one current CPD Command Staff name mentioned about three times by the membership, which was followed by applause. His initials were Chief Larry Snelling.

I would like to provide a brief account of what our members

offered during this healthy exchange. Many issues facing Department members were brought to the forefront, educating these civilian administrators who, until this meeting, this meeting, were only involved in public forums. Although this panel was looking for a candidate, our members exposed issues not only affecting them personally, but the Department as a whole. Many of these issues are partly due to the leadership, or the lack thereof, in the former Superintendent's Office. I think many of you will share the same sentiments provided by those officers who spoke out at the meeting.

Here are the highlights of the comments made to the commission:

Create a plan to fight crime. Establish a moratorium on scarecrow policing plans or blue light missions. These plans strap district law enforcement who are now going job to job, sometimes finally making it to a job hours after the call to 911 was made, further creating a divide between citizens and police.

The new superintendent should manage resources better. Stop the cancellations and time restrictions on holidays. These are unfairly impacting the families of police officers.

Recognize that numbers-driven policing is a failure. PCIs and CompStat did nothing to help police/community relationships.

The new superintendent should establish a working relationship with the current FOP board. Realize that the FOP is elected to represent the members.

The members want a superintendent who is engaged. They should attend roll calls and ride on jobs. Show up to scenes so they are aware of what officers are dealing with on the street.

The superintendent should be hired from within the ranks of the CPD. Outsiders hired showed a disconnect with the officers.

Officers overwhelmingly wanted the new superintendent to be an advocate for the working police. They wanted them to speak out on OIS and explain that the use of force was justified. They wanted them to challenge COPA's findings and not concur with excessive discipline.

More than one officer pointed out the flawed promotional system and testing within the CPD. They did not want friends, secretaries, drivers or girlfriends being promoted or overpromoted anymore. The talk of promotions also led to pointing out that the superintendent is only in place for maybe four years. Those who are promoted should be the next in line to take their place in a leadership role, thereby creating a deep bench of excellence.

The next suggestion was in regard to politics: Keep the fifth floor of City Hall out of the Police Department! Let the new superintendent operate without outside influence.

One officer stressed to the panel that "we are members of the communities that make up this city, we live in every neighborhood, we are stakeholders, too."

A retiree imparted his 30-plus years of on-the-job wisdom by stating to the panel that the new superintendent needs to "make this department a place where officers want to stay, not run away from."

These comments came from fellow officers. The commission panel listened. They were impressed by our officers' commitment and love for this city. I hope they realize that these comments were made by people who love this job and want it to flourish. We want a superintendent whom we too can be proud of, one who can lead and one who has the respect of working coppers. For more details on this, read the story on page 41 of this issue

Thank you all, and stay safe.

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Pride in your legacy



KENYATTA GAINES

June is a month of celebration. For starters, I'm sure most of you are unfamiliar with General Order Number 3. No, not the one from the Chicago Police Department. General Gordon Granger of the Texas military was tasked with reading General Order Number 3 to the people of Texas. The order began significantly with ...

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer."

This was the birth of Juneteenth. The celebrations that followed the reading of the proclamation by General Granger began a tradition that has lasted for more than 155 years. Juneteenth marks the date in 1865 when the last enslaved Black people in the country learned from Union soldiers in Texas that they were free, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. The day is also known as Emancipation Day and Freedom Day. Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement. In some areas, it is a month-long celebration of guest speakers, picnics and family gatherings.

The City of Chicago first recognized Juneteenth as an official City holiday in 2022. During Juneteenth, we acknowledge the African American spirit and pay tribute to the roles and contributions which have enriched our society.

The LGBTQ+ community currently celebrates each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. The Stonewall uprising was a tipping point for the gay liberation movement in the U.S. In this country, the last Sunday in June was initially celebrated as "Gay Pride Day."

In major cities across the nation, the "day" soon grew to encompass a month-long series of events. Today, celebrations include pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, symposia and concerts, and other LGBTQ Pride Month events. Memorials are held during this month for those members of the community who have been lost to hate crimes or HIV/AIDS.

Shout out to every person or group that finds a way to celebrate in the face of adversity. Celebrate you! This includes every law enforcement officer, especially our brothers and sisters in blue with the Chicago Police Department. Yes, we are misunderstood and micromanaged, while our profession is being targeted. Through this strife, we must remember our objective and maintain our integrity.

Webster defines pride as "proper respect for one's own dignity and worth; pleasure or satisfaction over something achieved or done." As we enter into this commemorative month, I would like to share this.

Last December I had the pleasure of attending the investiture ceremony of the Honorable Elizabeth M. Rochford as justice of the Illinois Supreme Court. There, I was introduced to an audience of compassionate delegates, dignitaries, statesmen including Secretary of State Jessie White, and a host of judges — now friends. As we enter the month of June, affectionately known as "Pride Month," I was impacted by and would like to

present to you the words of a wise and admired man, Liz's father, who was one of our past superintendents.

On Feb. 17, 1976, James M. Rochford, then superintendent of the Chicago Police Department, administered the oath of office to a class of new patrol officers. He said:

"We of the Chicago Police Department are most particular about who wears our uniform. When one of our members falters and betrays our public trust, each of us — every man and woman of the Department suffers. We feel the pain, the shame, the disgrace, and the loss of trust when *** a member compromises [their] integrity or violates [their] oath of office, we know how it feels when we must face the citizens, receive their scorn, and listen to their cutting remarks because [an officer denigrated their office].

"You may possess all the skills and talents to be a good officer, but if you lack integrity, all of those talents do not qualify you to wear the badge of a Chicago Police Officer. If you lack integrity, get out — get out now — because you will be found out. To be sorry is too late. If you remember the esteem in which you are held by your family and friends, you will save [them] the [eventual] shame and heartbreak [should you break your oath]."

These words poured into me. Hopefully they have done the same for you. Share them with every potential hire and every officer. Have pride in yourself, pride in your profession, pride in the legacy we will leave the City of Chicago with when we lay our badges down at the end of our last tour of duty. Stay safe.



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Honoring Retired Members

January 2023

Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years	Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years
Mary Karen Fick	Officer	193	20	Michael P. Fleming	Officer	193	27
Jesus M. Castillo	Officer	020	29	Rudy B. Frias	Officer	012	31

February 2023

Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years	Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years
Terry Kazupski	K-9 Officer	341	29	Debra Brown	Officer	009	31
				James G. Klees	Detective	630	28

March 2023

Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years	Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years
Karen Clark	Officer	003	24	Samuel E. Kubelka	Detective	051	30
				Elias D. Lacko	Officer	189	22

June 2023

Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years	Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years
Quintin J. Benson	Officer	261	23	Lloyd Maxwell	Officer	022	27
Dale R. Borchardt	Officer	701	26	Dwayne C. Moorehead	Officer	116	24
James M. Buckley	Officer	020	24	Adalberto Ramos	Officer	014	26
Juanita Cardenas	Officer	009	24	Jose R. Rios	Officer	050	25
Victor H. Castillo	Detective	630	24	Luis A. Rodriguez	Officer	014	31
Efrain Cintron	Officer	050	31	Sayam Sampim	Detective	610	27
Ann M. Cunningham	Officer	017	26	James M. Shields	Officer	018	29
John A. Dellorto	Officer	171	30	Dina M. Soto	Detective	640	29
James L. Dowling	Detective	610	27	Alvin Spikener	Officer	022	29
				Joshua D. Surgal	Officer	024	22
				Michelle S. Tatar	Officer	012	30
				Christopher Tenton	Detective	620	30
				Yasmin B. Varallo	Detective	630	21
				Alex J. Zodo	Officer	018	22
				James F. Zubeck	Officer	022	27

Retiree Meetings

Check the contact info listed with each location to confirm meetings are being held

North

First Monday of month
@ 9 a.m.
Kappy's American Grill
7200 Dempster St., Morton Grove
Ken Hauser, 312-485-8388

The Northsiders' Luncheon

Third Wednesday of January, April, July,
October @ noon
Suparossa, Chicago
Paul Vitaioli, 312-402-1040

South

Second Wednesday of month
@ 10 a.m.
Jedi's Garden, Oak Lawn

8-Ball Luncheon

Last Wednesday of month
@ noon
Les Brothers, Oak Lawn
Dorothy Piscitelli, 773-972-0139

Bomb and Arson

Second Monday of month
@ 9 a.m.

Fiesta Tapatia Restaurant
Chicago
Ross Horne, 312-613-9182

12th District Retirees and Alumni

First Thursday of month
@ 10 a.m.
Southern Belles Restaurant
Bridgeview
12retirees@comcast.net

Crime Lab, ETs, Forensic Services and Mobile Unit

First Tuesday of month @ noon
Flap-Jacks Restaurant, Oak Lawn
Bob Baikie, 773-284-1935

Orland Park Law Enforcement Organization

Third Thursday of month
@ 7:30 p.m.
Orland Park Civic Center
Orland Park
Don Ade, 708-408-9308

Survivors Lunch

Second Saturday of month
@ 11 a.m.
Beverly Woods Restaurant
Chicago

Public Housing Unit (North, South and Administration)

First Wednesday of month
@ 10 a.m.
George's Restaurant, Chicago
Maurice Brown, 773-577-0154

Arizona Retirees

Third Wednesday of month
@ 11 a.m.
Eagle Buffet at Casino Arizona
524 N. 92nd St.
Scottsdale, Arizona
Brian DuFour, 623-521-6146 or
bdu4@aol.com

Arkansas Retirees

Third Friday of month
@ noon
Elks Lodge

Mountain Home, Arkansas
Bob Zdora, 870-405-5407

Florida Retirees

First Wednesday of month
@ 1 p.m.
Cop Shop, Cape Coral, Florida
Tom Faragoi, 239-770-7896

Michigan Retirees

First Thursday of month
@ 8 a.m.
Macks on Main
101 W. Cedar Ave.
Gladwin, Michigan
John Nielson
989-324-0877
jnnielson@gmail.com

Northern Illinois/Southern Wisconsin Retirees

Second Thursday of month
Herner's Hideaway
N202 Williams Road
Genoa City, Wisconsin

Honoring Sisters and Brothers who have passed

Name	Status	Age	Date of Passing
Ka Nam Kuan	Retired	79	Feb. 6, 2023
Giachino Donatello	Retired	81	March 17, 2023
James Ryan	Retired	86	March 28, 2023
James J. Towey	Retired	81	April 4, 2023
Robert McCracken	Retired	80	April 8, 2023
Donald Bergamin	Retired	90	April 11, 2023
Raymond Golnich	Retired	85	April 14, 2023
David Shen	Unit 353	53	April 14, 2023
Michael J. Murphy	Retired	82	April 22, 2023
Julie Johnson	Retired	50	April 23, 2023
James Frick	Retired	79	May 1, 2023
Aréanah Preston	Unit 005	24	May 6, 2023
William Williams	Retired	90	May 8, 2023
Aleisha Carter	Unit 002	33	May 14, 2023
John R. Carey	Retired	75	May 15, 2023
Che Miles	Unit 171	53	May 25, 2023
Arthur Jablonski	Retired	54	Unavailable

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You and your personnel file



PAT
FIORETTO

Recently, an officer received notification from the Department that portions of the officer's personnel file would be released to BIA. The Department is required to turn over documents in a timely manner when properly requested to do so, but it also must inform the officer. As a result, we had a discussion about what rights officers have to review their own personnel files.

It is important that the documents and other records contained in a personnel file are accurate — especially if any member of the public makes a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, seeking copies of those documents.

Several contractual and statutory provisions exist which provide police officers with the unfettered right to inspect their own personnel files on a regular basis. First, let's start with the current collective bargaining agreement (CBA). Section 8.2 of the CBA, appropriately captioned, "File Inspection," explicitly states:

The Employer's personnel files, disciplinary history files and completed inactive investigative files, except for information which the Employer deems to be confidential, shall be open and available for inspection by the affected officer during regular business hours.

Clearly, this does not mean an officer can demand to see

his or her file at any hour of the day, but rather "during regular business hours." However, this also means the officer is entitled to inspect the entire file (less any "confidential" information).

Next, the Illinois Personnel Record Review Act also applies to the Chicago Police Department and provides further rights to officers who wish to inspect their personnel files. Specifically, Section 2, captioned "Open Records," states in part:

Every employer shall, upon an employee's request which the employer may require be in writing on a form supplied by the employer, permit the employee to inspect any personnel documents which are, have been or are intended to be used in determining that employee's qualifications for employment, promotion, transfer, additional compensation, discharge or other disciplinary action...The inspection right encompasses personnel documents in the possession of [the Employer]. An employee may request all or any part of his or her records...The employer shall grant at least 2 inspection requests by an employee in a calendar year when requests are made at reasonable intervals, unless otherwise provided in a collective bargaining agreement. The employer shall provide the employee with the inspection opportunity within 7 working days after the employee makes the request or if the employer can reasonably show that such deadline cannot be met, the employer shall have an additional 7 days to comply. The inspection shall take place at a location reasonably near the employee's

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place of employment and during normal working hours...

When read together, officers have the right to inspect their personnel files twice a year.

Typically, officers are allowed to review their files at Human Resources. Officers should make the necessary appointment and fill out whatever form may be required. As indicated, it might take the employer one or two weeks to schedule the appointment, but it must allow officers access to their files.

The personnel file is not allowed to leave the facility upon inspection. However, officers who want copies of anything contained therein can make a request to have copies made. Again, the Department will be obligated to comply and turn over the copies within a reasonable time period (and may even charge customary and reasonable copying fees).

The Lodge encourages all officers, at some point throughout their careers, to engage in the practice of inspecting their personnel files. This is especially true for officers who plan to retire in the near future. When doing so, make sure the information contained in the personnel file is accurate, especially if any disciplinary actions exist. Moreover, if any discipline had been challenged, make sure that the outcome is contained in the personnel file and accurately reflected. Check important dates, the proper spelling of names and other important identifying data.

Finally, if the Department does refuse to allow your request, let the Lodge know. Although the Department surely knows its obligations, often not everyone working in Human Resources may be aware.

As the summer season is upon us, please continue to be safe.



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The IG and Rule 14



TIM GRACE

All Chicago Police Officers are aware of Rule 14. All know about the consequences of a sustained Rule 14 violation. If COPA concludes that you provided a false statement, the recommendation will be termination. Do not pass go, do not collect.

Unfortunately, the movement is also aware that the best way to discredit an officer is to waive a sustained Rule 14 allegations in front of judge or jury. It can be devastating. Furthermore, as I've mentioned in this column before, it could limit a police officer from being allowed to testify.

All officers are aware of the pitfalls and should ensure that their reports and testimony are correct. However, the Chicago Inspector General has suddenly become interested in Rule 14 and has published a report that clearly concludes that any officer found guilty should be separated. While Rule 14 is a well-reasoned and necessary rule, it must be used cautiously and not deleteriously.

On May 25, 2023, the Chicago Office of the Inspector General ("OIG") issued a report titled "Enforcement of the Chicago Police Department's Rule Against False Reports." For those who don't know, the Officer of the Inspector General touts itself as an independent office dedicated to ensuring honesty and integrity in City government by rooting out corruption, fraud, other misconduct and waste.

Sounds like a nice mandate, but let's be clear: While the

agency may have good intentions, the result sometimes have shown that they can be a poor man's version of our favorite civilian oversight agency — COPA. Be that as it may, the recently issued report is more than 60 pages, and it looks to the discipline handed out on Rule 14 violations. The report essentially concludes that when an officer is found to have violated Rule 14, there can be only one sanction: discharge. It screams that all Rule 14 violations are the same and that there should be no quarter when an oversight agencies finds that you have lied. But what exactly is a Rule 14 violation?

Rule 14 is one of many rules that all police officers are required to follow. The rule states that no member shall make a false report, written or oral. The OIG correctly copies and pastes the rule into the report, so they should be given props for that.

However, what the OIG fails to understand is that Rule 14 has an intent element to it. I know this may sound mad, but dishonesty in your official capacity as a police officer is not a new phenomenon. It is a long-standing legal principle that courts have wrestled with for years. Rule 14 is essentially perjury without having the extra element of being placed under oath.

Under Illinois law, and most perjury statutes throughout the nation, a person commits perjury when "under oath or affirmation, in a proceeding or in any other matter where by law the oath or affirmation is required, he or she makes a false statement, material to the issue or point in question, knowing the statement is false."



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I may not have a law degree from Harvard, but I believe I am seeing two things that the OIG is missing. The first is intent. You must make a false statement, and there must be an intent element. The concept of intent is the bedrock of the criminal justice system. Most crimes are what are called specific intent crimes, meaning that in order to convict a defendant of a crime, the person has to have had the requisite intent to complete the act.

If I shoot a gun in the air and the round comes down one mile away and hits someone in the arm, the State would have a hard time proving attempt first-degree murder, as I had no intent. Reckless conduct would stick because the intent element in reckless conduct is — now, wait for this — recklessness, not intent.

The problem we see is when a police officer is involved in a shootout with some bad people. It is, as we know, a high-stress, scared-for-our-lives moment, and while taking cover behind his squad, not knowing where the incoming fire is coming from, he goes over the radio and says, “I’m being fired at.”

However, in this life-or-death situation, he fails to say that he has also discharged. The Bat Signal is sent to COPA to alert them that we may be on the cusp of investigating a Rule 14 violation. Order the champagne — they have a live one. Did the officer provide an intentional falsehood? Of course not, as there was no intent to lie.

Now, will COPA move on something like this? Generally, they will not, for even COPA tries to maintain some appearance of impartiality. However, in a situation where COPA can’t find that the shooting is outside of policy, they will go and have gone after frivolous violations because, for every round fired by a Chicago Police Officer, there must be at least someone getting suspended or fired. Intent is a major element that the OIG fails to

address. The oversight agencies, when investigating rule violations, must always differentiate between intentional rule violations and mistakes. The OIG fails to take that into consideration.

The second element that is missing is that the falsity must be “material to the issue or point in question.” A false statement that is made that has no bearing on the ultimate issue would not be the basis for a perjury charge. However, any false statement or perceived false statement, regardless of the importance of that false statement, is a Rule 14 violation.

That is the precise reason why if an officer has a prior ruling by a judge that he or she is found not to have been credible, the officer is not automatically excluded as a witness in future criminal proceedings. As written about in the past, your violation will be disclosed to the defense. The judge will look at your alleged lie and determine whether the defense should be allowed to cross-examine you on the lie to show that you are not a credible witness.

I have seen times where the court will look at the alleged finding and disagree with the first judge’s determination and not allow the defense to go into it in front of the jury to destroy your credibility. The OIG report does not take that into account. It fails to look at the materiality of the alleged falsity.

Honesty and integrity in the performance of our jobs are important. You must always strive for that. Mistakes will happen, and we need to understand that COPA is always watching us. They will always assume that every mistake was made to further a conspiracy or violate someone’s rights. You can’t control that. You can control how you compose your reports, what you say when that camera is running and how you testify. Ninety-nine percent of officers are just trying to do the best job they can, but mistakes will be made. The OIG report, COPA and the movement do not recognize nor even care about that — so you must.



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Baird & Warner

Diane: 312.545.5280

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Portraits by Peter Bucks

Tributes to officers from the CPD Officer, Lodge 7 member and renowned artist

'I still live by that motto'

■ BY ESTHER GONZALES

Flames blazed around Chicago Police Officer Brett Palm, who was one of the first to arrive on scene to a car crash in 2010. As the fire engulfed the vehicle before him, Palm searched frantically for a way to rescue the victim inside. His partner at the time, Jimmy Haleas, had already attempted to reach her, but the flames were too hot. And the fire was quickly spreading to her legs.

Looking for a water hose at a nearby gas station, Palm suddenly noticed a fire extinguisher in a glass case on the wall. He smashed the glass and reached for it. Rushing back to the scene, Palm quickly put the fire out.

Then he and Haleas safely pulled the victim out of the vehicle together. They had saved her life, and the moment was one of the highlights of Palm's career.

"I just wanted her to be OK," Palm expressed. "That's why I chose to do this job. I love helping people. To me, that means more than getting paid a million dollars a year, if we're able to help at least one person per night."

Reflecting back upon that moment, Palm related that his partner elevated his ability to help save this woman's life. Having been on the job for 20 years, serving in the 14th, 24th and 25th Districts, Palm has had the opportunity to work with incredible partners like Haleas. It's those relationships that keep him motivated, he said.

"I've been blessed," Palm explained. "I've had numerous partners that I've been really close with. You don't get yourself involved with situations like that if you don't trust your part-

ner. Trust is everything with our job and our partners."

When Palm first came on the job in 2002, he said it was mainly for his father, who always wanted to be a law enforcement officer. But then, Palm fell in love with the job.

His father's words of wisdom, which he gave so long ago, have continued to be Palm's driving force.

"He always told me to do the right thing," Palm shared. "He said, 'Always treat everybody as you'd want to be treated.' My dad is everything to me, and almost 21 years later, I still live by that motto."

As a rookie, Palm made a promise to himself to never be complacent. He wanted to have a positive mentality, even in changing times for law enforcement.

"When I first got on, there were a lot of miserable old-timers, and I always told myself I didn't want to be one of those guys," Palm shared. "Once I don't like what I'm doing, it's time to do something else. I still love going to work every day, and I still enjoy what I'm doing."

And now, it's as if Palm has come full circle. As

a senior Chicago Police Officer, Palm is often approached by younger officers, and he shares with them the kind of advice and encouragement his father once gave him.

"I try and mentor them the best I can," Palm added. "I keep a positive outlook on it because when I remember coming to work as a younger officer and hearing these guys complain, my dad would always

put it in perspective of how good we have it. So, I always look at the positives."



BRETT J. PALM

Star #16255

25th District

Our efforts in the Capitol to build alliances



DAVE SULLIVAN

The Illinois legislature has adjourned for the summer.

We were able to stop bills that we did not like and advance some good policies. In next month's newsletter, we will have a more complete breakdown of the session. Our efforts to work with legislators on both sides of the aisle have been productive.

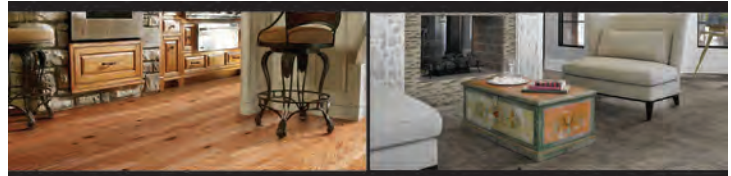
The COLA bill that has been dormant for the past few years has advanced further than ever. We have a long list of Democrat and Republican sponsors.

In addition to that, we have a commitment to discuss this and other pension-related issues over the summer and pass this in the fall. Our language is in House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 1956.

Our lead sponsor is Aurora Democrat Stephanie Kifowit, who has been steadfast in her leadership. Her efforts have been strongly backed by Chicago Democrats Lakeshia Collins and Justin Slaughter and Rosemont Republican Bradley Stephens, among others.

In the Senate, Chicago Democrats Rob Martwick and Bill Cunningham have been key in their support. It is great to have this bipartisan support, which is a result of our efforts in the Capitol to build alliances. John Catanzara and Mayor Johnson have discussed this and have committed to work together.

As the legislature worked on passing a budget to the governor, they also passed more than 500 bills to him for his consideration. The Illinois budget tops \$50 billion in spending and passed with only Democrat votes. The legislature is scheduled to return in October. Petitions for those legislators running for election in 2024 will be filed in December.



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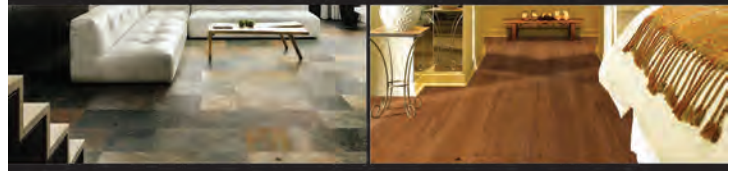
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A flip of the challenge coin



FATHER DAN BRANDT

Want to win a Police Chaplains Ministry challenge coin? Send an email to the address below, with the name of at least one of these two police officers with whom I celebrated the marriage of Chicago Police Officer Matt Gill in April. If you get it right, I'll send you a challenge coin.



If you happen to see this before June 18: As always, we will celebrate a special Father's Day Mass at Gold Star Memorial and Park at 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 18. Being an outdoor venue, if the weather looks questionable, please call 773-550-2369 that morning to make sure the Mass is on. You are welcome to bring folding chairs or a blanket...and even a picnic lunch for after Mass.

On Monday, June 19, our Upper Room Club will convene at 6 p.m. in the Northwest Side back yard of one of our "regulars." We'll enjoy sharing faith over a barbeque meal and drinks. For the exact address, email or call me.

In June, the Police Chaplains Ministry hosts our beloved Gold Star Families on their 26th annual luncheon cruise aboard the Spirit of Chicago. If you would like to help underwrite the cost of this outing, feel free to donate via our website or by mailing a check to Police Chaplains Ministry, 1140 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607.

A Blue Mass will be offered on Sunday, July 16 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Giles Church in Oak Park. As always, we invite all to pray with and for our officers at the Blue Masses.

Please support the St. Jude League by purchasing a St. Jude sticker from your district/unit St. Jude League representative. A donation of \$7 per sticker is requested. Buy some for your friends' and family members' cars! Funds raised benefit a host of worthy charities and make possible the ministry of St. Jude chaplains, who lead prayer services at CPD family wakes/funerals. For more information about obtaining a sticker, or if you don't know who your rep is, please contact me.

I leave you with a prayer that a CPD shared with me, and they recite it together every day:

God, I know that You are good, even if I cannot see the good right now.

I know that you love me, even though I don't feel you right now.

God, please come closer to me. Fill me with your Spirit.

Rid my heart of the fear and hurt I have.

Surround me with comfort, strength and wisdom.

Pour your love into me, into my spouse and into my marriage.

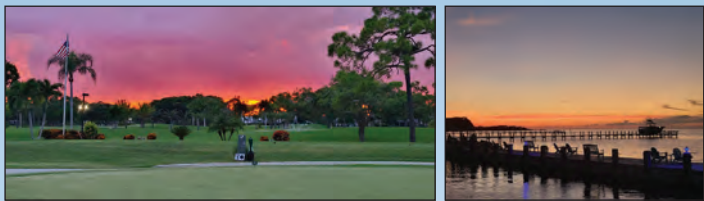
Help me to wait. And please be with me in the waiting.

- Amen

May God bless you and keep you safe and healthy! Thank you for doing God's work.

Call or text Father Dan Brandt, directing CPD chaplain, at 773-550-2369 or email him at dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org.

On May 23, I had the pleasure of meeting with the board of directors of the Scandinavian-American Police/Fire Association. As they say, "TALTAV: Take A Liking To A Viking!" How could you not?!!



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The precious gift



RABBI
MOSHE WOLF

I was out for a ride along the other night with some of our members in one of the city's roughest areas on the West Side. The officer driving the squad car said, "Rabbi, please bear with me, as I have to make a quick stop," and pulled a sharp turn in to a gas station. He got out of the squad car and started chatting with one of the lonely souls sitting in a corner on the side of the building. After several minutes, he took the man inside the gas station, bought him a cup of hot coffee and a sandwich, they chitchatted a bit more, and then wished him a pleasant evening.

The officer got back into the car and told me, "Rabbi, I try to do that from time to time — help out a lonely soul, because I never want to forget where I came from."

I couldn't hide the smile and pride I felt at that moment, and they will remain with me for a long time. The hidden saints among us, who do this all the time but never look for or want recognition, are our hidden heroes, never missing an opportunity to help G-d's children. Stories like this don't make it to the newspapers, but they do make it to G-d's books. You know who you are, we appreciate you and thank you for being in our midst. It brings to mind the following parable, "The Precious Gift":

There was a blind girl, who hated herself because she was blind.

She hated everyone, hated living, hated life. All was doom and gloom, except for one thing: her loving boyfriend. He was always there for her, loving her with all his heart, and he tried everything to bring happiness to her being.

She told her boyfriend, "If I could only see the world, I would marry you so that we could enjoy the world together."

One day, someone donated a pair of eyes to her, the gift of sight. When the bandages came off, she was able to see everything around her, including her loving boyfriend.

He asked her, "Now that you can see and see the world, will you marry me?"

The girl looked at her boyfriend and saw that he was blind. The sight of his closed eyelids shocked her. She hadn't expected that. The thought of looking at them for the rest of her life led her to refuse to marry him.

Her boyfriend left her in tears and days later wrote a note to her saying, "Take good care of your eyes, my dear sweetheart, for before they were yours, they were mine."

This is how the human brain often works. When our status changes, only a very few remember what life was like before, and who was always by our side in the most painful situations. The trick is never to forget where we came from, in this ever-changing world. Take a moment to ponder this most precious lesson, and take a moment to say thanks to those special people who helped you become who you are!

Some points to ponder about life...

Life is a gift, enjoy your present!

Today before you say an unkind word — think of someone who can't speak.

Before you complain about the taste of your food, think of someone who has nothing to eat.

Before you complain about your husband or wife or loved one, or significant other, think of someone who's crying out to G-d in loneliness, for friendship or companionship.

Today before you complain about life, think of someone who went too early to heaven.

Before you complain about your children, think of someone who wants children but is barren.

Before whining about the distance you have to drive to work, think of someone who is not as blessed as you are and is unemployed.

Before you think of pointing the finger or condemning another — remember that not one of us is without sin, and none of us are perfect.

And when depressing thoughts seem to get you down, put a smile on your face and thank G-d you're alive and still around. In spite of it all, be thankful for every day!

And last but not least, some closing humor from the "Moshe Humor Files":

"The Miracle Doctor"

Doctor Brown was known for miraculous cures for arthritis and other critical ailments. One day, he had a waiting room full of people waiting to see him when a little old lady came in, completely bent over in half. She shuffled in slowly, leaning on her cane. When her turn came, she went into the doctor's office and, amazingly, emerged within half an hour walking completely erect with her head held high.

A woman in the waiting room who had seen all this walked up to the little old lady and said, "Wow, it's a miracle! You walked in bent in half, and now you're walking erect. What did that doctor do?"

She answered, "Miracles, shmiracles. . . the doctor gave me a longer cane."

On behalf of all your chaplains, may G-d bless you, keep you safe, and always keep you in His loving care.

Should you need a shoulder to lean on or an ear to listen, or perhaps have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to give us a call. All of our phone numbers are listed in your FOP book. Have a blessed and safe summer!

Compliments of your Police Chaplain Rabbi Moshe Wolf. Contact Rabbi Wolf at 773-463-4780 or moshewolf@hotmail.com.

Chicago Lodge 7 Officer Awards



On Jan. 28, 2019, 8th District officers responded to a ShotSpotter call in the area of 5501 S. Kedvale Ave. Officers LoBurgio and Gubricky located a male victim lying on the ground.

The victim gave his dying declaration to the officers and related that he had been shot by an unknown M/4 offender in a

drug deal gone bad. The victim pointed east as he faded into lifelessness.

The scene was processed, and follow-up investigators canvassed the area, locating a Ring doorbell video that became the lynchpin in identifying and convicting the offender. Due to the combined efforts by all involved, a violent offender was convicted of first-degree murder.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge 7 presents these officers with the Distinguished Service Award.

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Chicago Lodge 7 Officer Awards



Police Officer
Mitchell J. Marozas,
Star #3942



Police Officer
Mitchell J. Marozas,
Star #3942
Police Officer
Kevin Rodriguez,
Star #14287
Nominated By: Police Officer
Erik Buehler, Star #12434, 4th
District 3rd Watch Rep



On Oct. 18, 2022, Officers Marozas and Rodriguez observed a stolen vehicle in traffic in the vicinity of 88th and Burley Avenue. The offender abruptly parked the car and fled from the scene, carrying a backpack.

The officers gave chase, and Officer Rodriguez became impaled on the top of a wrought-iron fence. Undeterred by his injury, Rodriguez continued to chase the offender into the Burley Homes complex, with his partner right behind.

The officers observed the offender throw his backpack as he continued to flee. They were able to apprehend the offender and place him into custody. Once the offender was secured, Officer Marozas applied a tourniquet to his partner's leg.

Responding units arrived on scene. The backpack was recovered and found to contain a loaded Glock 22 pistol and 280 grams of cannabis. The offender, a convicted felon out on parole, was charged with possession of a stolen motor vehicle, unlawful use of a weapon by a felon and possession of a controlled substance.

Due to these officers' quick actions and keen observational skills, a violent offender was removed from the streets of Chicago and a CB# was generated by the 4th District tact team.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge 7 presents the Distinguished Service Award to Officers Rodriguez and Marozas and the Life Saving Award.

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Beware of the quitclaim deed



TOM TUOHY

A quitclaim deed is also called a non-warranty deed, and for good reason. When you sign or receive a quitclaim deed, there is no guarantee provided that the property title is clean and free from any liens or other ownership interests.

A quitclaim deed doesn't even ensure that the person has the legal right to sell or transfer the property. Consequently, a quitclaim deed is the least safe form of title transfer, while a warranty deed is the safest.

What are the other risks of a quitclaim deed?

Most common risks with quitclaim deeds:

Taxes. If you transfer or add someone to your deed, you have gifted that portion of the ownership. You now must file a gift tax disclosure on your tax return. If you transfer or add someone to your deed and die first, they are subject to capital gains tax on the difference between your original purchase price and the value at the time of your death.

Family. "My mother already transferred the house to me." I can't count the number of times I've heard those words. If you quitclaim your deed to your children, you no longer own your home. They might have other ideas of where you might live one day. Your home (actually their home now) is subject to any future divorce proceeding as an asset they own.

Liability. If you add someone to your title, you add their potential claims and liabilities. This is not a good strategy for a

police officer, as any lawsuits against the officer can attach to the title. Remember, your residence title should be in tenants by entirety if you are married. Other lawsuits or bankruptcies of any joint owner subject the title to these proceedings and claims.

Insurance. Your homeowner's policy must now list each owner as an "additional insured," or any future claims may be excluded from coverage.

Joint tenancy and quitclaim deeds

If two or more people purchase property and hold the title together, they are considered joint tenants. Consequently, by law, the title passes to the surviving tenant. However, when the survivor dies, there must be a probate proceeding to pass the title to another person, regardless of whether the survivor had a will.

For this reason, a surviving parent who does not have a living trust might add one or more children to the deed by quitclaim. People often think it is a called "quick" claim deed. It is quick, no question. However, the issues that can result are anything but quickly resolved.

My advice is to use this type of deed with extreme caution. Unless you transfer your ownership to your corporation or LLC or add your spouse to the title, many better alternatives avoid the liability, tax, insurance and future ownership risks outlined above.

If you are selling or purchasing property, use a warranty

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Tom Tuohy is the grandson of a CPD Chief and son of a CPD Detective

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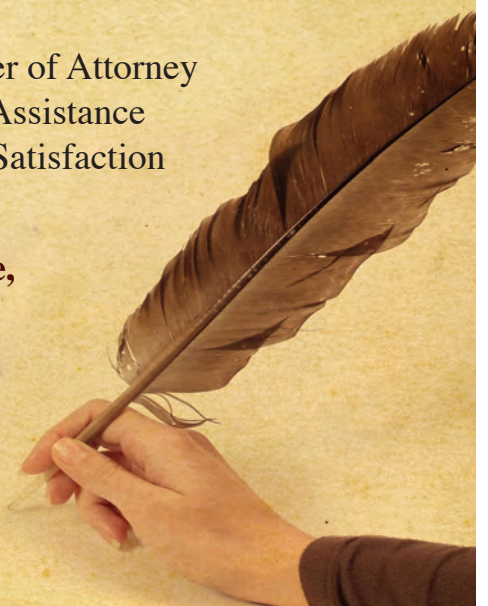


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deed. Use an estate plan to pass your property to your children or others as your death. If you want to avoid the above probate and taxes, ensure that your estate plan is a living trust.

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- A will is necessary for guardianship of minor children. It also transfers assets in your name out of probate.
- A living trust contains a no-contest provision and beneficiary asset protection clauses.

Tom Tuohy founded Tuohy Law Offices and the FOP Benefits Plan. He has been a police lawyer for more than three decades. His father was a CPD detective, and his grandfather was the CPD chief of major investigations. You can reach Tom at 312-559-8400 or tom@tuohylawoffices.com, or visit his office in Oakbrook Terrace.

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OFFICER ARÉANAH MIKAYLA PRESTON, STAR #15870

End of Watch: May 6, 2023



A loving tribute to the officer who will forever light up our lives

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

Working the beat with Aréanah Preston led to taking calls like this domestic one night in 005. The female at the scene had been drinking, and shortly after Preston and 5th District Officer Cody Leahy arrived, she hurled a beer bottle at them. Hit Aréanah square in the noggin.

“She got hit in the head with a bottle and she was laughing all night about it,” Leahy remembered. “I called her ‘bottle service’ for the rest of the night.”

Or encounters like this domestic that happened her first month in 005 after coming off cycles in 2020. Desk Sergeant Walter Shepler shared that an hour after the call, a person who was at the scene but wasn’t involved in the incident showed up at the district with flowers for Aréanah to thank her for what she did.

Such impacts and impact only begin to describe why Leahy called this 24-year-old supernova “the heart of the district.”

Aréanah Mikayla Preston had a heart so big



Jashaya Turnage leads Aréanah’s best friends in giving a tribute at her funeral.



Always and forever inspiring people to hug one another.

that she couldn't pass anybody in the halls of 005, the streets of Calumet, Loyola University or any of the thousands of places where she made a mark without smiling at them and talking to them. Even just a "what's up" to brighten the day. She was notorious for bouncing into the district, walking up to the administrative aides who worked the desk on her watch, grabbing their faces, planting a kiss on their cheek, giving one of her patented hugs, mimicking what was trending on TikTok and saying, "Love you, Boo." Or "Babe." Or "Stink."

She could light up the watch with the knockout smile that Dave Martinez, one of her partners in a three-person beat car in 005 they sometimes rolled in, described as "one in a million that just warmed you whenever you would see her." As big as those smiles were, cast from a persona as beautiful as a porcelain doll, Aréannah had a way of embracing the entire district that radiated 10 times the size of her petite but powerful frame.

Joining Martinez, Shepler, Leahy, her besties on the desk, those who worked lockup and many others on the third watch in 005 to reminisce about Aréannah a few weeks after she was lost in that infuriating incident included recollections like what Officer Gregory Smith experienced nearly every day he worked with her.

"Two days before she passed, I pulled up on her sitting on a crime scene, and she gave me a hug," Smith described. "We started talking. I gave her another hug. People get jaded on this job because we go through a hell of a lot. And it takes a special person to just get through that. She was able to do that. And I'm going to take that with me."

Star power

Aréannah's closest friends in 005, including administrative aides Jashaya Turnage and Chantel Palmor, Officer Angel Powell, Martinez and Officer DJ Smalarz, who rode with Aréannah more than anybody, break out in hugs when talking about the heart of their district. They still read through the text message strings she had with her girls and her partners, and when they talk about her, they get choked up. A hug, however, keeps them from prolonged tears.

Remembering one of those embraces, Turnage explained, "From her smile, her personality, seeing her walk into the room, just her aura was so uplifting. If you were having a bad day or not feeling well, as soon as you see her, she'll come up to you, give you a hug, and it's all good."

Aréannah's presence made an impression that you don't typically hear about officers and Department employees with 20 years on, let alone three-and-a-half. As she watched Aréannah spread the love – and then learned to do likewise – Powell expressed, "She had a little spice to her. But that's what's needed on this job. She'd be like, 'See you, love you' and give me a hug. So it just grew on me and became my norm."

Sometimes, life can be so infuriatingly unjust, as it was in the post-third watch hours of the morning of May 6 when Aréannah



The lobby at the 5th District shows this shrine to Aréannah.



Chicago Police Officers gather with Loyola University's famous Sister Jean after Aréannah was given her master's degree.

was taken in that shooting. Sometimes, life can be so inexplicably prophetic, as this video posted on Facebook reveals: <https://www.facebook.com/100000028523808/videos/pcb.9893919443952241/789137906071563>

If you haven't seen it, Aréannah is at brunch with Turnage, Palmor and her other girls, as they loved to do on Sundays. The music in the restaurant plays Beyoncé singing one of her song-and-dance anthems, "Before I Let Go." They are singing along.

*You know, I thank God sun rises and shines on you
You know there's nothing, nothing, nothing I would not do, oh
Before I let you go, oh
I would never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never
Let you go before I go*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32



SHINING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

How wonderful and hypnotic of a mic drop would this be? A lasting image of Aréannah to last until the end of time.

Thing is, though, she has never let go. Never, never, never, never, never, never, never. And just a short visit to 005, reveals how her vibe, her smile, her hugs and her shining light on everybody from her partners on patrol to the people she arrested will never, never, never, never, never, never, never, never go away.

Star gazing

Beyond the bright light that nobody will ever let go of is the almost indescribable presence Aréannah made as a police officer. This is the part of Aréannah that has not really been written about. Or written about enough.

She had off-the-charts book smarts that led to earning a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and law enforcement administration from Illinois State University and a master's degree in jurisprudence from Loyola University School of Law. But Aréannah's street smarts — or her ability when she was on the street on the beat — really took the Department into some uncharted territory.

The tour before she was shot, she made an arrest. For what is unclear, but the subject had to spend the night in lockup and was still in holding the next morning. A detention aide came in that Sunday morning to tell the subject that Aréannah had been killed.

"And she started bawling," reported Colleen Ashe, who also is a detention aide in the 5th District. "The arrestee had that connection and was so caring about this officer that arrested her that she felt something, too."

Smalarz witnessed evidence of Aréannah's police vitality on a daily basis. Much of this came through a relentless desire to serve the community. Not only did she always, always want to

de-escalate the situation, according to Smalarz, but it would have been hard to document all her PCIs because they seemed to happen all the time.

"She was the type of officer who would bond with the community every time we would go on scenes," he added. "But she definitely knew how to take care of business and do what she had to do, because that's who she was and how she worked."

He cites a call they handled of a theft at a gas station. Somebody had stolen two packs of tuna at 69 cents per pack.

"The fucking gas station owner wants him locked up," Smalarz explained. "She looked at the cashier, she's like, 'Here's \$3. We don't need to lock him up.' He was homeless. He had mental health issues. He shouldn't be getting locked up. We had to do our job because they wanted to sign complaints. So we did. But she was willing to help out the community in so many ways and forms."

Rising star

Martinez was struck by Aréannah's positive community interactions almost from the moment she came on the job. She was still on her cycles and working with her FTO when a call came in of a suspect with a gun in her purse.

Turned out that a small boy was on the scene, and the suspect was his sister. When the police showed up, he started crying uncontrollably. Until Aréannah got to him, Martinez said.

"She stayed there and explained everything to him about why his sister was being taken to jail," Martinez noted.

Leahy had more evidence of Aréannah's passion for the people. They had a call that turned out to be a woman chained up in the attic of a building. It was his and his partner's call, but Aréannah heard it, too, and followed them all to the hospital to see what she could do.

"The way she was genuinely caring for her and talking to her, it was really cool to see," Leahy continued. "She loved every aspect of the job. She loved the thrill of a hot call. She loved helping somebody to get a peaceful resolution. And with the kids, she was always a helping hand, always a soft touch."

They truly admired Aréannah in the district for the way she was always willing to help the children and families she encountered on the job through their challenges. They counted on her to do that on her watch. And she always did it with a smile, of course.

But don't get the impression that this girl couldn't bring it.

"I worked with her many a times, and she was a little firecracker," Smith described. "She never backed down to anybody. As small as she was, she'll look you right up in your face and be like, 'What?' She didn't care how big your bluff was. When she was working with me, I had her back, but she never acted scared."

Shepler remembers her first coming on and being very quiet, save for the "Yes, sir. Yes, sir." In a couple of months, though, Aréannah was all bright and bubbly, asking lots of questions.

Early on, the sarge noticed that Aréannah was a gifted speaker. She was great at talking to people, great at getting the residents to calm down when she responded, and she had a remarkable talent to get her point across and de-escalate situations that easily could have blown up in some of the neighborhoods of 005.

"And she's a person who, if you tell her something once, she was, 'OK, I got it,'" Shepler praised. "Someone with a dedication to education like that, she had the personality to get to the top ranks."

Rock star

Nearly everybody who works in 005 has enough memorable words about Aréannah to write individual tribute stories, and each one would fill this space. But it wouldn't be complete with-



out at least a few tidbits to celebrate Aréannah off the beat.

Paul Lane moved to 005 recently and onto third watch. He walked into the district for the first time, and Aréannah spotted him. She greeted Lane with one of those “ain’t see your face here before” looks.

By lunchtime, Lane had seen what made Aréannah so loved by everybody in 005.

“She was with all the girls at lunch, chatting it up, and she was the one who invited me in, broke the ice with everybody and went around introducing me,” Lane recalled. “When you walk into places like this, sometimes you just walk by people. She wasn’t one of those. She wasn’t going to let you walk by her or walk by and not say something.”

Every time Powell would see or text Aréannah, she could count on her to recite from the hottest TikTok video. Powell knew her as the social butterfly, the life of the party who joined her in dancing all night at the Christmas party last year.

Powell could count on Aréannah to end every call or text with

something like “I love you, sweet baby.” And she knows what that did for everybody who received those calls and texts from Aréannah.

“I felt that love,” Powell confirmed.

On April 28, Aréannah joined Martinez and other officers on a furlough trip to Los Angeles. One day, Martinez wanted to visit Santa Monica and enjoy the pier. But it was too cold to be on the beach, so they took the party inside to a bar.

Eventually the dancing started. Martinez has a video showing the crew cranking it to Soulja Boy. Before long, they had the entire bar dancing. There’s no “Before I Let Go” with this video. And it overwhelmingly shows that when it comes to Aréannah, the entire 5th District will never let go.

Star struck

And now comes the hard part. Before letting you go, there are some last words and testament to Aréannah that were not

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34



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heard at that amazing funeral service or the many vigils and fundraisers in her honor.

These come right from the district. In the lobby of 005, a shrine has been set up with pictures of Aréannah showing that million-dollar smile. It will forever be a ray of sunshine.

When she feels herself starting to cry, Turnage looks over at this testament. The speech she made with Palmor and the other BFFs at the funeral was a one-of-a-kind tribute. So the words she is moved to say here speak right to her girl.

“Girl, this is what's happening. This is what you did. This is what you created,” Turnage recites. “She didn't get a chance to see it as much while she was here, but I'm sure she's looking down and noticing this big impact that she has had on the police department and the entire world.”

Palmor hears the talk about Aréannah's unlimited future and compliments that she could have been superintendent someday. With that personality, presence, and the way she commanded respect at just 24 years old and three-plus years on, her friends knew anything was possible for Aréannah.

Turns out, she had already made perhaps her most profound impact on the world.

“I just told myself I would always make sure I tell people I love them,” Palmor reasoned. “She was so adamant about saying that because you never know when it's going to be the last time. And I just appreciate just having the opportunity to have somebody like that around.”

The last words belong to her partners.

Martinez submitted his feelings about Aréannah's legacy.

“You just have to keep her name alive and keep talking about her. Keep sharing stories and speak her into existence,” he implored. “The way she was raised, she had great values, ethics and morals. She is what the department wants and what you



The Chicago Police Department Honor Guard brings Aréannah's casket into the church for the funeral service.

look for in a friend. Whenever I think about her and I look at the videos that we have and seeing her laugh and smile and us being young, that's what keeps me going. I'm sad that she's gone, but I'm just glad for Aréannah that she was here.”

The time finally has come for Smalarz to say his farewell.

“I'll read you some things I said about her,” he began. “She dedicated all she had to helping others, trying to make a difference in the community. The love and desire she had to help others showed with every call we went on. What drove Aréannah was her passion and determination. She moved people not only wanting her to succeed, but everyone around her. What I admire most about AP was how much she cared for others, how much she had achieved and how much more she was determined to do. The world needs to know that AP was one of a kind.”

All that is left to say is, rest easy Aréannah Mikayla Preston, Star #15870. You will forever be a star. And we will never, never, never, never, never, never, never forget you.



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Worthy of the Name

Chicago Lodge 7 bestows unprecedented recognition on the great John Dineen

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

A rowdy and cathartic Chicago Lodge 7 general meeting came to a standstill on May 31 when President John Catanzara stepped down from the FOP Hall podium to make a motion from the floor. Members seemed to know what was coming as they moved in for a closer look, and a hush came over the crowd for the first time all afternoon.

Catanzara's brief preamble led to what will be renowned as a historic statement for the rest of the time that there is a Lodge 7.

"Everybody knows what John Dineen means to this Lodge and its history, how we got where we are today and where we continue going," Catanzara said. "He laid the foundation for this labor union to be recognized by the city of Chicago."

Catanzara then revealed the outcome of an idea that percolated when he attended National Police Week in Washington, D.C. And about how to properly honor the man who is primarily responsible for founding Lodge 7 and bargaining for so many benefits that members still enjoy today.

"I got to thinking, we far too often remember people when they pass, when they aren't here to enjoy the moment and memorialize it forever. So I wanted to do this while John's still here with us, and God willing, he's going to be here another two decades. With that being said, I would like to make a motion to, in perpetuity, rename this Lodge the 'Chicago John Dineen Lodge 7.'"

A second for that motion was heard from nearly a hundred members. The second officially came from Tim Dineen, who came on the job because of his father and just celebrated his 25th year as a Chicago Police Officer. Then, Catanzara asked, "All in favor?"

The "ayes" reverberated through the more than 12,000 members, 22 districts and 60 years since the dawning of Chicago Lodge 7. And with that, the name "Chicago John Dineen Lodge 7" now defines the virtue of union representation and all that

has gone into battling for the rights of Chicago Police Officers.

"He is the grandfather of it all, as far as I'm concerned," extolled Illinois FOP State Lodge President Chris Southwood, who has witnessed what Dineen has done since he first became a state trooper 35 years ago and drove up to Chicago just to see this. "John was the kind of guy that cared deeply about other officers. He cared about their plight. I think this immortalizes John forever in the history of the FOP. He is such a huge figure, not just here in Chicago, but nationally. He's a legend. John is a legend of the FOP."

National FOP Trustee Rocky Nowaczyk, also a retired trooper, has known Dineen all his professional life. Catanzara first whispered the idea of naming Lodge 7 in Dineen's honor to Rocky, who responded with his own resounding "aye."

"I told John, 'It's the best idea you've ever had,'" Rocky added. "I don't think anybody else deserves it more than John. He's the one that started giving Chicago Police Officers the right to bargain, the right to pick shifts, the right to good pay for good work, for longevity. I think all the generations of officers who made a living because of the FOP owe a lot to John for that. Just his mere presence exudes confidence and respect."

Anybody who will see "Chicago John Dineen Lodge 7" on the sign out front of the FOP Hall, on letterhead, on a business card, on social media or in the news media should know what's in a name. To say that Dineen had a career before serving Chicago Lodge 7 full time is to know that there was no Chicago Lodge 7 before Dineen.

He was meant to serve. What else do you do when you are born on the Fourth of July?

In 1960, there were approximately 8,000 cops at the rank of sergeant or below and seemingly as many organizations looking to represent them. Dineen was part of a small but growing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

group called the Chicago Police Association, and one of its members, recently hired from a suburban department, had been with a town that belonged to the FOP.

By 1963, Chicago Lodge 7 was initiated. Dineen became its first treasurer. He served in that role until 1972, when the president resigned and the Lodge 7 Board elected Dineen to fill his term. In 1975, the National Lodge elected him treasurer, and in 1979, Dineen was elected National FOP president.

Then in 1980, Jane Byrne was elected mayor of Chicago and promised labor unions the opportunity to collectively bargain their contracts. Dineen acquiesced the national presidency to focus on Lodge 7, which had won an election to become the bargaining representative for Chicago patrol officers and detectives.

He brought together a team that included then 14th District Rep and current Lodge 7 Trustee Ron Shogren and a detective from 19 named Jim Reardon, who had served for 42 years. They consulted with the best labor attorneys in the City and first went to work on smaller gains like increasing vacation time and holidays off and the right to choose shifts by seniority.

They worked on the first contract in 1980 by going out to see as many members as possible. Before Dineen took over, health-care benefits were building but salary was low. Then, within a couple of contract cycles, salaries began to skyrocket.

Dineen never really wanted the credit for that. He wanted to be in the spotlight even less. So when his beloved wife, Marilyn, and his entire family came to the Lodge for this historic announcement unbeknownst to him, Dineen was almost at a loss for words.

Tim noted how he continues to carry on in the job to honor his father. That his father did everything he did for the officers



John Dineen, second from left, with his wife, Marilyn, and members of his family after the Chicago FOP was officially names the "Chicago John Dineen Lodge 7."

on the street. And that the voice he tried to give them starting in 1963 is still strong.

With that, Dineen found some words to express how much this meant to him.

"Some of the voices get a little loud," he quipped while giving a nod to Catanzara standing next to him. "That my name meant anything to the 10,000 to 12,000 members doing their job is because when we started to push to organize the Chicago Police Department, it was to make it a better and stronger voice for the men and women on the street doing their job. I think we accomplished that, and I would like to thank everybody here and just say, you make me proud."

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Lodge 7 members take the opportunity to present thoughts to the Community Commission for Public Safety & Accountability about qualifications for a new superintendent.



Super Conversation

Lodge 7 members take opportunity at general meeting to voice what they would like to see in a new superintendent

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

One by one, Lodge 7 members took a place in line. The enthusiasm and quickness they displayed might have indicated the Lodge was cooking up one of its delectable lunches or dinners from the now famous trailer that is often seen at districts on the weekends.

But the line stretched like people getting ready to take Communion.

So what was the attraction?

A never-before opportunity had unfolded at the Lodge 7 general meeting on May 1. Members of the Community Commission for Public Safety & Accountability had come to the Lodge to ask for members' thoughts about what they want in a new superintendent.

After a few seconds of hesitation from the membership, Brandon Rambert, the unit rep from 007, stepped up to the microphone. And he didn't hold back.

"One of the main things that I would like to see in the new superintendent, and something that I really did not like in the former superintendent, David Brown, was that he was very, very quick to strip officers of their police power," Rambert reported to the commissioners. "One of the main things I want to see is a superintendent who's going to give officers more due process. I want a superintendent who's going to investigate an incident first before they decide to do anything."

And for the next hour, members lined up to submit their thoughts, their suggestions for what the commission should look for, and their demands for the attributes and assets a candidate for superintendent must have. The flow of conversation and information was akin to the Little Dutch Boy finally removing his thumb. Or perhaps somebody from that union hall next door to the FOP cleaning out the you-know-what clogging the pipes.

"We've never had anybody come and ask us what we want. It's nice to be at the table and part of the conversation," comment-



Commission President Anthony Driver Jr., left, and Commissioner Remel Terry listen to members talk about what they would like to see in a new superintendent.

ed 20th District Unit Rep Brian Richards, who had taken a turn at the mic earlier in the meeting. "This changes my opinion of the process. It's a good step in the right direction."

Based on the way members responded to the opportunity, a big step. The commission, as many members at the meeting knew, has compiled applications for a new superintendent, with the charge of sending three finalists to the mayor for consideration.

Anthony Driver Jr., president of the commission, joined Commissioner Remel Terry at the podium, and they did not waver under the relentless, but respectful and very well-thought-out, comments from Lodge 7 members. Apparently to assure members of full disclosure in the process, Driver began with a report about the applications submitted and other details about the status of the search.

Noting that the commission received 54 applications for the position before the deadline drew some oohs and aahs from the members. Driver added that 11 of those applications are from females, 54 from males, and many are affiliated with the Department in some way.

That was just the beginning.

"If you have any questions about the applicant pool, I will not jeopardize candidate privacy, but I'll do my best to answer those questions," he stated. "I think it's really important that we hear your feedback. We've already had seven community fo-

runs across the City of Chicago. We've met with over 20 different community groups and subject-matter experts in policing. We have met with former superintendents. We also talked to a smaller amount of officers. So many of the things you all ask here today, we will take directly to each of our clients."

Members expressed appreciation for being included in a public forum on this matter for the first time. They seemed grateful to have this opportunity to advocate for any candidates they wanted to.

All of which prompted members to grab a place in a line that extended from the microphone almost to the back of the FOP Hall for much of the hour. At the front of the line was Detective Mike Cosentino, a Lodge 7 field rep, who definitely plugged in to the tone and tenor of this opportunity.

"We have a whole building on Lexington filled with officers who did what they were taught to do. That's not our fault," Cos submitted. "So if we can find an advocate who understands the use-of-force policy and can even take it on himself, maybe they can change that or do whatever they can do. But we need an advocate in the worst way. In the worst way."

Matt Beasley, a Lodge 7 trustee and unit rep in 011, took two turns at the mic and drew cheers and applause by stating something that is top of mind for every member.

"We should have a superintendent who should be able to clearly articulate the facts that happened so that we can combat this negative media," he started. "And with that negative media, the superintendent should not be friends with the state's attorney. And with that negative attention toward police officers, there should be that much positive attention reinforced by the superintendent."

Applause erupted for longtime rep Dr. Carolynn Crump from unit 125 before she made any statements. And then came words that echoed.

"We need a leader who will stand up for the police and their actions," she accentuated. "We need new leadership from the top on down. Through promotions. We don't need no more girlfriends or wives getting promoted by getting the answers to the tests. It's not fair for these veteran officers, who shouldn't be struggling like this. And that comes from everybody in this room and generations behind me."

Area 5 rep Andy Kramer reflected a common opinion that the new superintendent must develop a deep bench of talent within the exempt ranks. Eric Mueller, a rep in 004, charged that the new leader must have a plan to fight crime that makes it so manpower is not diverted away from places where a woman who has just been beaten by her boyfriend doesn't have to wait four hours for an officer to show up.

"It's things like that that get people killed," Mueller added.

What the commission called a listening session was not lost on deaf ears. In fact, several staffers from the commission sat among the members, writing down everything that was said at the mic. Terry spent much of the rest of the day at the Lodge, talking with members and listening to more input.

"In talking directly to the officers on the front lines and hearing from them, I really wish this was more of a public thing, because people would be so surprised to hear what they had to say," Terry added. "We're very excited to go back to the rest of our commission and share what we learned and what we heard today. We're going to measure every single candidate against these things that we've heard from every single listening session. This isn't the end. This is actually just the beginning, and we hope that they all continue to engage with the commission."



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Good Taste

Local police organizations cook up something special for Lodge 7 event

The second annual Taste of Chicago Lodge 7 presented a delectable buffet of ethnic fare for FOP members to sample during the May 31 general meeting.

Seconds, third and fourths were the order of the day to enjoy native dishes from many of the Chicago organizations such as the:

- Polish American Police Association
- German American Police Association
- Italian American Police Association
- Assyrian American Police Association
- Latin American Police Association
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement
- Puerto Rican Police Association
- Emerald Society, Chicago Police Department
- Asian American Law Enforcement Association
- Alliance of Hispanic Law Enforcement

The feeding frenzy proved to be an unprecedented feast for members, who might still be full of what was served up. No doubt, this will continue to be one of the signature events for Chicago Lodge 7.



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Over the Hills and Through the Valleys

Chicago Police Officers endure Road to Hope Bicycle Ride to get National Police Week rolling with honor

BY ESTHER GONZALES

Red and blue lights glowed in the distance on May 12 as a crowd gathered on either side of the road leading into East Potomac Park in Washington, D.C. The hum of law enforcement motors grew louder, and their lights flashed in the sunlight.

With the first glimpse of the hundreds of bike riders escorted by motor units, children, family members and loved ones erupted in applause and cheers. Children waved posters with messages like “Thank you for all you do, we back the blue” and showed their drawings of blue hearts and blue line American flags.

Hundreds of law enforcement officers from across the country pedaled past the crowd to the edge of the park, to the finish line. Among the countless riders was a group of five Chicago police officers – including Lodge 7 First Vice President Mike Mette and Third Vice President Monica Ortiz – and two survivors, Maria Marmolejo and Crystal Jimenez, who rode in honor of their husbands lost in the line of duty.

After catching their breath and taking a drink of cold water, the Chicago riders embraced one another and received hugs from officers from across the country who had made the ride. They had triumphantly conquered the three-day, 250-mile Road to Hope Bicycle Ride, hosted by Law Enforcement United. And there was no shortage of inspiration and encouragement along the way.

“Riding with two survivors definitely made a difference in how much we were willing to push through the most difficult parts,” expressed 19th District Officer Carrie Costanzo, who participated for the first time. “If they can do it for someone that they lost, then we can definitely push through it as well and be there to help them get to D.C. I don’t think we could have made it without the support of one another and the support of the people around us.”

The feeling of support was present throughout the ride,



From left, Chicago Lodge 7 Third Vice President Monica Ortiz and survivors Maria Marmolejo and Crystal Jimenez smile together after they successfully completed the three-day ride.

which began in Virginia. Riding past a bridge on the second day, a rider next to Maria pointed to the bridge, where a group of law enforcement officers were standing.

“Do you see those guys saluting?” Maria said he asked.

“I said, ‘Yeah,’” Maria related. “And he said, ‘Well, they’re not saluting me. They’re saluting you and they’re saluting your husband.’ And I’m like, ‘That means I can’t back down now.’”

Although Maria was riding the Road to Hope for the first time and didn’t know too much about the terrain in advance, she said she was glad to have the Chicago Police Officers join her. And moments like the ones she witnessed at that bridge seemed to give her extra motivation as she rode in honor of her husband, Eduardo, who was lost in the line of duty in 2018.

“It’s healthy healing,” Maria stated. “One foot in front of the other.”

For much of the ride, Crystal rode alongside Maria, and the two survivors, who have become best friends since losing their husbands less than a month apart, experienced the brotherhood they know their lost loved ones loved about the job. And that encouragement seemed welcome considering the vast number of hills riders negotiated throughout the journey.

Those were the moments when Crystal would glance down at the bracelet on her arm that all riders wore for the event. She saw her husband’s name, Samuel Jimenez, who was lost in the



From left, Chicago Police Officer Rick Rivera, Crystal Jimenez, Chicago Lodge 7 First Vice President Mike Mette, Maria Marmolejo, Chicago Lodge 7 Third Vice President Monica Ortiz and Chicago Police Officers Carrie Costanzo and Michelle Tannehill after completing the Road to Hope Ride.



Chicago Lodge 7 First Vice President Mike Mette embraces Crystal Jimenez after the 250-mile bike ride into Washington, D.C., for National Police Week.



Children hold handwritten signs and cheer for the participants in the 2023 Road to Hope Bicycle Ride.

line of duty in 2018, and put even more mettle to the pedals.

“One of the riders told me that every time I look at my arm, to look at my bracelet and that’s Samuel,” Crystal explained. “And I felt like it was [Samuel] who kept pushing me to keep going.”

The Chicago team received keepsake medals after they finished, then gathered in the park for a ceremony to honor all the fallen officers they had just ridden for. Mette rushed to embrace Crystal with a hug that seemed to swallow her whole. Tears welled in their eyes as they clung tightly to one another.

“It was awesome to see them being able to ride and really honor their husbands,” Mette described. “Both Maria and Crystal are amazing. They rocked it. The hills were no joke, and they kept doing it. They battled all the way through, and they made it through the entire three days.”

Along the three-day journey, residents from towns on the route lined up along the side of the road. Many of them held handwritten signs and banners as they cheered on the riders. And, Mette related, that was exactly what he needed.

“It’s great to feel the support,” he added. “My favorite stop is on day one, when we’re at an elementary school. All the kids come out, and they’re out there lined up and cheering.”

The rough terrain from Virginia to Washington, D.C., for National Police Week merely defined how far these Chicago Police Officers would go to honor their fallen sisters and brothers. No

hill is too difficult to climb with the opportunity to be part of the National Police Week commemoration at the finish line.

“The highlight for me was just every time we conquered each hill together,” Costanzo reflected. “In Illinois, it’s all flat, so not being able to train for that was difficult. But just having each other to roll on the hills together, whether they were good, bad or ugly, made a big difference in everything. And it was very cool to finish each one together.”

Mile after mile, each Chicago Police Officer had their own source of inspiration guiding them. Costanzo related she was riding for Jimenez, who she once worked with in the 2nd District. And to ride alongside his wife, as well as another survivor, reinforced their bonds.

“It was really rewarding,” Costanzo explained. “We were able to talk with the family and the survivors of our officers that gave the ultimate sacrifice. I could see that this event was beneficial for them as well.”

After the ride, 1st District Officer Rick Rivera quipped that he would be sore for at least two months. But it was worth it, and he promised he would be back again next year.

“We were all family,” Rivera added. “We were helping each other out. Some of us were struggling, but everybody helped get to the end point. And three days later, we’re all here.”



Chicago Lodge 7 First Vice President Mike Mette waves as he rides into East Potomac Park at the end of the Road to Hope Bicycle Ride.



Riders who made the Road to Hope Bicycle Ride had patches on their shirts in honor of fallen officers.



From left, Chicago Police Officers Carrie Costanzo and Michelle Tannehill proudly hold the medals they received for completing the 250-mile ride.



Memories Etched in Stone

Family members of fallen Chicago Police Officers experience the honor of National Police Week

BY ESTHER GONZALES

Chicago Police Officer Paul Huerta arrived at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, May 13. In only a few hours, he would be attending the Candlelight Vigil on the National Mall with his mother, sister-in-law and her children. And there, his brother's name would finally be read aloud in the Roll Call of Heroes, among those of so many other law enforcement officers who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

But now, as Paul saw the handwritten notes, drawings, pictures and other mementos of remembrance left by loved ones at the Memorial wall, he appeared to feel the power of being at National Police Week. And as he saw his brother's name, Jose Huerta, engraved in stone, he understood why survivors come to this and why they need to.

"Seeing the picture of my brother at the wall, his name, honestly, it's almost like he's speaking to me," Paul expressed.

Visiting the Memorial and seeing the name of a lost loved one inscribed on the wall is a big part of being at National Police Week. When family members come to this moment, many will take an etching of their officer's name as a forever keepsake.

Pausing by his father's name, 16-year-old Nick Tripoli had a mission. He wasn't only going to make one etching. He was going to make 10, one for every family member who didn't have the opportunity to be at National Police Week. Placing a piece of paper over his father's name, Nick rubbed a pencil over it until he saw the words *Joseph Tripoli*.

The families of fallen Chicago Police Officers Jose "Joey" Huerta, James "Jim" Svec and Joseph Tripoli, who were all lost in the line of duty to COVID, each experienced what being at National Police Week

means to survivors. Much of that might have resulted from being part of the ultimate tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

"It's something that you don't ever want to be a part of, but we're here, and I really can feel the beauty of what they did for all the fallen brothers and sisters," Paul described. "It takes something that is so horrible and tragic and reminds us, this was not in vain. This was something that was a sacrifice. And people recognize that."

Standing at the National Mall, where thousands of law enforcement officers from across the country had gathered, Paul's mother, Mary, smiled through her tears. She had already visited the Memorial with Joey's wife, Elizabeth, to see her son's name. They took their own etchings as a keepsake, to add to a memory book.

Just being there at National Police Week, among so many other survivors, seemed to leave a profound impact on Mary.

"This is awesome and overwhelming, to tell you the truth," Mary described. "I try not to cry, but it's hard. It's like we're saying, 'Joey, thank you for this, but I wish you were here.'"

Throughout their time at National Police Week, Elizabeth held closely to a charm she always wears, with her husband's ashes. And she said it was like he was right there with her.

Then she finally saw his name at the Memorial. And there, at the top of the wall, where a metal badge with Joey's photo was placed, lay a bouquet of yellow roses.

"It was very emotional. I didn't expect to get that emotional, but it was," Elizabeth admitted. "It's like closing the final chapter to our story of me and him, you know? It was an overwhelming experience."

But this Memorial also provided another



From left, Elizabeth Huerta, wife of fallen Chicago Police Officer Jose Huerta, and his brother, Chicago Police Officer Paul Huerta, at the Candlelight Vigil at the National Mall.



A bouquet of yellow roses is posted on top at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial wall near where the name of fallen Chicago Police Officer Jose Huerta is inscribed. Her way for Joey, who was lost on Dec. 23, 2021, to be remembered.

"Part of me is grateful to see it, but part of me wanted to hope that I never had



to see this," Elizabeth remarked. "But it's nice to know that he's getting remembered and honored. The kids and I could always come back and see his name and just know that a piece of him is always going to be here."

Soon, the Huerta family would hear the name of their fallen officer read aloud during the Roll Call of Heroes at the Candlelight Vigil, which takes place at the National Mall. And perhaps when his name was called out, they would be thinking of just how much he loved his job and how his passion was to serve others, no matter the cost.

"It's going to be tough to hear his name," Paul submitted.

"And I'd give it all back just to have him here," Elizabeth added.

Chelsea, Sam and Sydney Svec also experienced the power of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. They observed someone pouring a shot of Jose Cuervo in honor of their own fallen officer. And they quipped that their father, Jim, would have liked that, too. Except he was more of a Jack Daniels guy.

He was also the kind of guy who would have embraced this National Police Week experience.

"He would've been front and center and probably walking around pretending he had press privileges and taking photos," Sam described. "He'd be telling everybody where he's at and describing the respect and outpour of love that the whole nation gives."

And even though a large crowd had formed around the Memorial, Chelsea, Sam and Sydney could feel that spirit around them and with them.

"We were all happy together," Chelsea related. "And you could just feel that love, that warmth. He was all about the love."

When the sisters left the Memorial, they seemed to have felt that love like only survivors can at National Police Week.

"The whole feeling of everything, the amount of love and support that everybody was giving everyone there, it was just love," Sam continued. "All those officers were just very loved, and now they know



Family members of fallen Chicago Police Officer James Svec had a shirt made to wear during National Police Week.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 48

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MEMORIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 47

they're not alone."

At the National Mall, waiting for the vigil to begin and the thousands of candles to illuminate the night, Chelsea, Sam and Sydney related they felt honored to be at National Police Week. And they expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to experience it together for their father.

"You have to be here to really grasp the whole concept of everything," Sam highlighted. "It's awesome to see that they do this for all these fallen officers. It gives my dad the legacy that he should have always had, and this is a great way to honor him."

After visiting the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, Nick Tripoli arrived at the National Mall with his family. National Police Week had already been a blur of emotion for him. But he knew exactly how his father would feel if he was there.

"He would feel respect for fallen officers, I would assume," Nick shared. "And even though it's hard to tell which emotion to feel sometimes, you get through it. I am just very happy that my dad is getting the attention his death deserves."

As survivors continued to be escorted into the National Mall, Nick held a red rose that had been placed on his chair. And he thought back to his experience earlier that day, when he saw his father's name at the Memorial.

And it perhaps reiterates what many family members may have felt.

"I thought it was very pretty in its own way because of what it means," Nick added. "And I felt my father over my shoulder. I think it's a normal feeling, but I think I felt it a little more."



Nick Tripoli (left), son of fallen Chicago Police Officer Joseph Tripoli, sits with his family members and Chicago Police Officer Cynthia Rivera at the Candlelight Vigil.



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Plogs: Blogs and posts from police officers, family and friends



Making a stand under the sun

At high noon on May 15, the National Peace Officers' Memorial service began at the foot of the U.S. Capitol. Under the noon Washington, D.C., sun, a few dozen Chicago Police Officers dressed in their Class A uniforms tried to stay cool.

Not the easiest thing to do, even for police officers. But they find a way every year to keep on coming. Like Chicago Police Officer John Pham did for his 14th consecutive year. Like SWAT team member Evan Kilponen did for the seventh time.

They sweat it out because, as Attorney General Merrick Garland declared during the memorial service, "There is no greater responsibility of government than ensuring the safety of the American people and those who sacrifice to serve and protect us all."

Garland was not supposed to be the keynote speaker. The program for this 42nd annual memorial indicated that President Biden would be addressing the thousands of police officers, family members of law enforcement officers lost in the line of duty during 2022 and general backers of the blue filling the lawn in front of the Capitol.

The president had to pass on the engagement. So Garland stepped in with important messages that made sure this event rose above any political mission, as it does every year.

And here's a message of recognition from the top cop in the U.S. that every officer should hear:

"Every single day, law enforcement officers are asked to respond to some of the most difficult, the most traumatic moments that our communities face. You are asked to be on the front lines of combating violent crime. At the same time, you are asked to serve as first responders to some of our most entrenched social problems.

"You confront devastating and dangerous situations. You witness horrible tragedies. You endure extraordinary violence and threats

of violence directed against you. You do all of this as your departments, offices and agencies continue to struggle with a crisis in recruitment and retention, increasing the already heavy load on those who serve."

Attorney General Garland also shared the story of Officer Howard Liebengood, who served with the U.S. Capitol Police for more than 15 years. When the Capitol and the law enforcement officers protecting it were attacked on Jan. 6, 2021, Officer Liebengood answered the call. He helped to defend and secure the Capitol. Tragically, within days of the attack, Officer Liebengood died by suicide.

With the help of the Fraternal Order of Police, Officer Liebengood's family and many, many others advocated for passage of the Public Safety Officer Support Act of 2022. That act expanded coverage of the public safety officers' benefits (PSOB) programs that are administered by the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Assistance. Because of their advocacy, PSOB coverage now extends to officers who are permanently and totally disabled due to certain mental health disorders, as well as to those who die by suicide as a result of exposure to traumatic events they encounter while on duty.

Then, the Roll Call of Heroes, during which every name of every officer lost in the line of duty during 2022 was read, requiring Chicago Police Officers to be there to honor and salute their fallen sisters and brothers for another couple of hours. Each of these fallen officers made the same promise that when a call for help came, they would answer. They promised that when a crisis arose in their community, they would respond. They promised that nothing, no danger, no threat, would stop them from showing up when they were needed the most.

Logging from the **National Peace Officers' Memorial Service**
Reporting and photos by **Mitchell Krugel and Esther Gonzales**
Section Design by **Gina Crotchfelt**

Some of the Chicago Police Officers who stood for their sisters and brothers at the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service responded to the request to express why they came and what it meant to be there. They present their Police Officer BLOGS or PLOGS – our version of BLOGS that can be read from here through page 52.





Evan Kilponen

Special Functions Unit 353, SWAT
Seventh year at National Police Week

It's about honoring the families and their sacrifice. They're no longer here, so it's kind of our job to take care of the families now that they're gone.

I think it's good for everybody to be here because this shows the reality of the job and possible consequences of the job. Then at the same time, in the light of the anti-police narratives and feeling throughout the country, this at least is a supportive environment for officers to get together and know they're appreciated.

I guess it's always on everybody's minds that any time we lose an officer, especially like we did recently, they're fresh on everyone's minds, and it just goes into what this is all about. You're never really promised tomorrow, so make the best of today and do something worthwhile.

Melyssa LaPorte

Detective
First year at National Police Week

Oh, it's beautiful. It's beautiful. It's a weekend to remember. It means a lot because you don't realize how many lives have been sacrificed, and it puts it into perspective.

With our daily lives, anything can happen. We wake up, we say, "We love you" to our families. And then pray that we come home.

It's a good feeling being here. You get to meet so many different people. I mean, we're all human, we do the same job every day.

We don't get to see as many people together at home. I mean, we all have to work, we all work different shifts, so sometimes we don't even get to see our friends. So this right here is awesome, being able to get involved.

I would definitely tell people to go if they haven't been here, to come to experience it. I mean, it's kind of like our St. Jude's, but just in a larger crowd. But it's definitely a good feeling that there are people out there that appreciate us.



Chicago Lodge 7 President John Catanzara stands with Chicago Police Department leaders as family members of fallen officers are escorted into the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

Nicole Ortega

FTO, 4th District
First year at National Police Week

It's mixed emotions. On the one side, it's been heavy, definitely. Hearing the names that were on the list of fallen officers was definitely heavy. At the same time, it's also very humbling to be around your family of officers and to build on the camaraderie that we have throughout the country. So it's been an interesting experience.

I think being in Chicago, a lot of times we only think about Chicago. So it gave me a greater perspective in the reality that there are a lot of officers losing their life throughout the country, not just in Chicago.

It's heartbreaking. It's unnecessary deaths. So I think there still is that feeling of frustration, but also happy that there's a good turnout and the people are here in support and showing those survivors that we really are a family.

I've been able to meet officers from different states throughout this week, and it's been a really fun experience sharing stories together and understanding, too, that we all go through the same thing.

I think the most impactful thing for me was the Candlelight Vigil. I think that was a very heavy day, but I felt a lot of unity and love within that crowd of even other people. It wasn't only police officers; it was citizens that were there to support us, too. So that was really intense, but it was a good experience.

Joel Leon

14th District
First year at National Police Week

Everybody said you got to come once in your career, so I figured I'd come down, check it out.

It means a lot to be here. It's very interesting to see the amount of people that show up to this. It gives you a kind of satisfaction. Good satisfaction.

There is added significance considering we've lost two of our officers in the past three months. It means a lot. It's tough, and it's just a reminder how big this really is. It's hard to take in.

I'm sure I will come back. I'll make this maybe not an annual occurrence, maybe every other year.



Chicago Police Officer Paul Huerta accompanies his nephew Joseph, son of fallen Chicago Police Officer Jose "Joey" Huerta, into the National Police Officers' Memorial Service.



Sydney, Sam and Chelsea Svec, daughters of fallen Chicago Police Officer Jim Svec, walk into the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

Chinyere Barnes

Office of Constitutional Policing and Reform
First year at National Police Week

I think it's amazing that we're all here for the same purpose. Just too many officers that we're losing, and I never have come before to honor that.

And the fact that we've lost two officers in the past three months, I am truly saddened, especially because I knew both officers. I trained both of them.

This is not like any other event. To see all the other officers from all over, it's just truly an amazing feeling. It reminds me that it really is a great profession.

Jamie Torres

Detective, Area 3
First year at National Police Week

They say you should do it once in your career, so I figured it was a good time to do it, seeing that we lost quite a few officers in the last couple years.

It's a little bit sobering, especially when you think how young some of these officers were. And when you're a little bit longer in your career, you're like, how'd you get so blessed to make it this far?

Overall, it's a good show of brotherhood. It doesn't matter what department you are from. Everybody's just nodding their heads and happy to see each other.



Agneiszkie Searek

14th District
First year at National Police Week

It's all different emotions. It's sadness with the brotherhood, with a lot of love and support.

It gets real when you see all of this and when you see all the police being here and all the families of the fallen. In my mind, I was thinking, hopefully my family does not ever have to go through this.

This is my first time to be here, and I understand why people come here every year. I think it's because you really feel that support that we sometimes don't feel being at home. But when you see all these police and that unity that goes between us, I think it's very uplifting and it gives you hope.

John Pham

14th year at National Police Week

It's about honoring the fallen. Being here for the family. Representing the Department as a whole. It's personal for me. Especially with these guys we have lost.

Being able to be there for one of our own, and their families, holds a great part in my heart. I know they appreciate it, and everybody here who lost a loved one, that's the least we could do for their sacrifice and their family's sacrifice.



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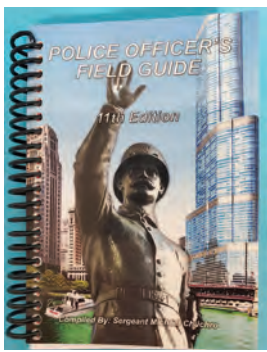
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Marching Along

The annual St. Jude Police League Memorial March continues to honor Chicago Police Officers lost in the line of duty



Hundreds of Chicago Police Officers march past the signs honoring fallen officers near Soldier Field.

Hundreds of Chicago Police Officer recruits, dressed in their blue uniforms, stood shoulder to shoulder along the street near Soldier Field Police Memorial Park on May 7. The somber sound of bagpipes and drums echoed around them.

CPD recruits stood tall and held signs with the photos and names of the 600 Chicago Police Officers who have been lost in the line of duty. The St. Jude Police League Memorial March was ready to begin, and the City's most recent loss, Officer Areanah Preston, who was killed only a day before, made it an even more solemn occasion.

Countless Chicago Police Officers from every district and every rank marched along the route, leading them to the Gold Star Families Memorial, where each name of the fallen would be read. And there, Maria Marmolejo, the chair of Chicago's Gold Star Families, whose husband Eduardo was lost in the line of duty in 2018, approached the podium to

address the crowd.

"I remember being here in May of 2018 and watching in pride as my husband and the father of our three daughters handsomely marched with pride in honor," Maria began. "I am inspired how he left this world strong, with pride, with grace and, most importantly, with hope."

Looking at the vast number of Chicago Police Officers, 10th District Sergeant Leila Ruiz had one overwhelming feeling: family. Ruiz described this march as one of the best ways to show the family members and loved ones of the fallen that the CPD is still there for them.

"You see those pictures, and you definitely think about them," Ruiz explained. "You feel proud that you're there. And proud that we are able to give back to the families and show that we're here always to support."

Family members and loved ones placed flower bouquets and other sentimental tributes at the memorial. And



Chicago Police Officers participate in the St. Jude Police League Memorial March.

before Maria left the podium, she offered one last piece of hope:

"This march symbolizes never-ending strength by those who will continue to push forward even when the tunnel becomes darker and the light becomes more scarce," she added. "I leave you all with this little bit of hope, as a city, community and those who have lost, let's remember to love each other now, lift each other up and hold each other down, united."

Raise the Rooftops

Chicago Police Officers go back up on the roofs to support Special Olympics

On May 19, across almost every district, Chicago Police Officers geared up for a climb...to the rooftop of Dunkin'. And it was all for a great cause.

Across the state, 315 locations hosted the annual Cop on a Rooftop event and raised more than \$925,000 for Special Olympics Illinois.

Here is a glimpse of several of the districts that climbed for a cause.



Thomas Wortham forever remembered

Family, friends and fellow police officers gathered at the Gold Star Memorial Park on May 19 to remember Officer Thomas Wortham IV, who was fatally wounded 13 years ago to the day of the memorial roll call held in his honor.

Wortham had just finished visiting his parents' home in the Chatham neighborhood when four men accosted him in an attempt to take his motorcycle. Wortham, who identified himself as a police officer, drew his service weapon and exchanged gunfire with the suspects but was struck in the abdomen.

Wortham's father, a retired CPD sergeant, witnessed the incident and fired upon the suspects.

Prior to his death, Wortham spent three years with CPD. He also served two tours in Iraq as part of the Wisconsin National Guard.

4th District



Several 4th District officers proudly stand on the Dunkin' rooftop after they successfully climbed to the top.

8th District



An 8th District officer gives her point of view of what it's really like from the rooftop.

6th District

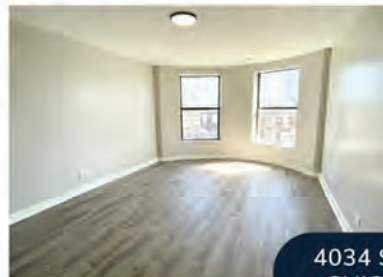


A 6th District officer waves to residents below after his climb to the rooftop.

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Pouring Support into the Soil

10th District helps revive community garden

On May 24, district coordination officers from the 10th District and the Better Boys Foundation (BBF) revitalized a community garden with the help of Home Depot and Sam's Club.

Throughout the years, BBF's mission has been to improve quality of life for North Lawndale youth, as well as their families, by providing safe and educational experiences to support their career development. When a representative from BBF came to the 10th District wanting to partner with the department to give back to the community, they came up with the idea for revitalizing the garden.

Officer Natalie Palachios was on hand for the project, which she says will not only act as a nice piece of greenery — it will

also serve a purpose.

"The garden is going to grow veggies, which will be given to local kids, and they should be ready in a few weeks," she added.

Once you plant a garden, it needs to be tended. And that's exactly what the 10th District plans to do, with another meeting coming up in the near future between the officers and BBF.

But these children are not just getting a healthy addition to their diet. Palachios says the roots of the garden run deeper.

"This isn't just where we work, it's like our second home, so we always want to build better communication and better trust within the community," she said.



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Officers honored for traffic stop that led to serious weapons charges

BY DAN CAMPANA

Initiating a traffic stop on a double-parked van on Clark Street in the 19th District in August 2022 turned out to be a much bigger deal than anyone might have initially expected.

The results of the stop and subsequent searches of the van and a nearby hotel room earned Chicago Police Memorial Foundation Officer of the Month Awards for Officers Nickolas Capello, Christian Diaz, Christina Fiorentino, Taylor Newcomer, Kris Pejoski and Brandon Thomas.

The officers were working a robbery mission when they spotted the illegally parked Dodge van, with no rear license plate, in the 2600 block of North Clark Street. Pejoski and Capello approached, and they noticed the smell of burning marijuana coming from inside the van, which contained eight people.

The driver could not provide officers with a driver's license. That prompted the call to the scene for Officers Diaz, Fiorentino, Newcomer and Thomas and a subsequent search of the van, which its owner gave consent to be conducted. What turned up next led to a series of serious weapons charges.

First, officers located a shoulder page on the passenger side floorboard that contained a loaded 9 mm "ghost gun," as well as a loaded magazine, a second empty magazine and two baggies with green-tipped armor-piercing ammunition that was similar to three rounds found in one of the suspect's pockets.

Further searching of the van located four illegal handguns, including one with an automatic-fire switch and an extended magazine. It didn't end there — more ammunition, more than a half-pound of marijuana, \$130,000 in cash and six luxury watches with



a combined value of more than \$3 million were also found inside the van.

After the van's occupants were transported to the 19th District for additional questioning, investigators learned that one of the suspects had been staying at a downtown hotel. A search of the room revealed more marijuana and an AM-15 short-barreled rifle.

"Thanks to our awardees' thorough follow-up investigation, a total of five offenders were charged with various felony charges, including...unlawful use of a machine gun, unlawful use of armor-piercing bullets and unlawful use of a weapon," said CPMF Executive Director Phil Cline at the May awards ceremony.

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Cops and the Community

There are plenty of ways to meet the people in your neighborhood, and Chicago Police Officers stepped up to the plate to do just that across the City throughout the month of May. As the weather warmed up, so did the number of opportunities for officers to connect with kids, residents and seniors to help build relationships.



24th District

There's nothing like a little friendly competition to bring people together. That's what happened when the Chicago Police Football Club and 24th District officers joined forces to take on the Chicago Math and Science Academy soccer team for an indoor match.



12th District

CAPS officers in the 12th District stayed busy in May by hosting a Coffee with a Cop event at a McDonald's in the Near West district, as well as senior bingo night at Casa Maravilla, to stay connected with residents.



22nd District



Students at Mt. Vernon Elementary School got to learn about the police thanks to Officer Kelley Leyden's appearance during the school's Career Day activities.



19th District

Inter-American Elementary Magnet School wrapped up the school year with a Fun Day that included 19th District officers and a visit to the dunk tank.



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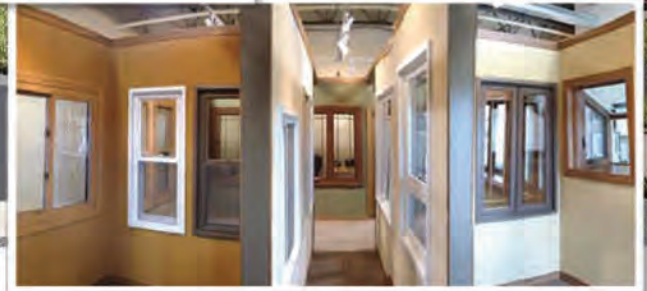
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Piercing pain: The benefits of trigger point dry needling



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Experiencing a pain spot that just won't go away? Can't narrow down where the pain is resonating from?

Trigger point dry needling is a technique used by physical therapists to treat myofascial pain — a disorder in which pressure on sensitive points can cause pain throughout the body, oftentimes in seemingly unrelated areas. Myofascial pain is frequently the result of overused muscles, enduring prolonged positions or postures, and can even be the product of high levels of mental stress.

Considering that a police officer's job includes being physically active as well as being stagnant when spending significant amounts of time in their vehicles or behind a desk, they are at a risk of experiencing painful conditions like low back pain, hip pain or neck and shoulder tension. Trigger point dry needling has been proven to be effective in treating these types of conditions.

The technique involves inserting a very thin needle into a trigger point or muscle knot that can release tension and promote healing in the affected area. This simple technique can provide relief for pain — sometimes even after just one session.



Other benefits of trigger point dry needling include:

- eliminating tension
- healing overuse injuries
- speeding healing time
- improving blood flow
- stimulating a muscle to perform better
- preventing injuries before they happen
- helping patients resume exercising

Trigger point dry needling has been found to provide mental health benefits as well. This is important for police officers who often experience high levels of stress and may benefit from additional support for their mental well-being.

Another potential benefit of trigger point dry needling is reduced reliance on pain medication. Pain medications can have negative side effects and can be habit-forming, making it imperative to explore alternative approaches for pain management. Trigger point dry needling offers a non-pharmacological alternative that can help reduce the need for short-term relief through pain medication.

It's worth noting that trigger point dry needling is a relatively quick procedure with often immediate results. This technique can be completed during one of our therapeutic massage tune-up sessions through our sports recovery services or as part of a comprehensive physical therapy program. This means that police officers can receive treatment during their shifts or on a break without interfering with their schedule. Visit www.impactphysicaltherapy.com to learn more.



If you have questions about trigger point dry needling or would like to schedule a session with one of our certified clinicians, call IMPACT Physical Therapy & Sports Recovery at 833-299-4672.

If you have symptoms that are related to pelvic floor dysfunction or would like additional information, contact IMPACT Physical Therapy at 833-299-4672 or www.impactphysicaltherapy.com to schedule an evaluation or consultation with a physical therapist. Questions? Email Paul at pthomas@impactphysicaltherapy.com.

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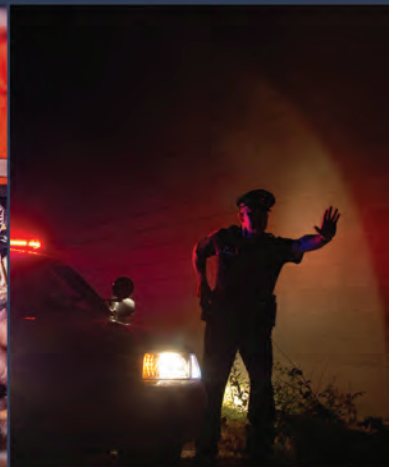
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