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SEPTEMBER 2018

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FOP JOURNAL

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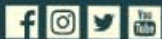


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A Vision of the Future, Grounded in Present Reality



// WRITE TO US! If you have further questions, contact Patrick Yoes at (504) 234-4300, or pyoes@fop.net

We are the nation's oldest and largest rank-and-file police association. With our membership approaching 350,000 nationwide, it is hard to argue that we haven't set the benchmark by which all other police organizations are measured. While there are many successes to be proud of and 104 years of traditions, we must ask ourselves, "What's next?"

The forward motion of the FOP depends on a clear and powerful vision of the future as a basis for our strategic decisions and as a means of fostering commitment among leadership and members alike. The positive momentum created by our National Conference in New Orleans is just the beginning of building a united and more vibrant Fraternal Order of Police.

Elections are difficult! This one was especially difficult, knowing the outcome would mark the departure of proven leadership. The accomplishments of my predecessor, Chuck Canterbury, are substantial and the path on which he led this Order is significant. Furthermore, I offer my gratitude to Past Vice President Jay McDonald and thank him for his years of service and dedication.

As your president, I am dedicated to leading the Order in these changing times and finding solutions to the real issues facing our profession and our members. Our newly elected Executive Board and I will work toward our goals with an open mind, and act in the best interest of our members. By ensuring inclusive participation among lodges large and small, we will identify common objectives to maintain alignment across the organization and define the long-range vision of the Order.

Together, we will amplify the voice of law enforcement officers everywhere and chart a course of long-term prosperity

for the organization. We will do this by creating a mission statement that best represents the core values by which we function as an organization. Increased focus on innovation, member services and operational excellence will create sustainable improvement that will advance our organization to the forefront of law enforcement representation. The biggest hurdle to achieving future growth and success will be doing things the way they have always been done.

AS YOUR PRESIDENT, I AM DEDICATED TO LEADING THE ORDER IN THESE CHANGING TIMES AND FINDING SOLUTIONS TO THE REAL ISSUES FACING OUR PROFESSION AND OUR MEMBERS.

The strongest organizations are those with different points of view that are given free expression. Where there is clarity of the issues, a real collaborative spirit and the leadership to think and act courageously, we will achieve a competitive advantage and be prepared for change during the best and worst of times.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve you as the National Fraternal Order of Police president, and am humbled by your confidence and support to lead the future of the organization.

It will be my unwavering mission to build relationships, earn the confidence of leadership and members alike, and achieve our united goals.

We are FOP strong! **FOP**



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Elections Are Over — Time to Get to Work!

// WRITE TO US! If you have further questions, contact Joe Gamaldi at jgamaldi@fop.net



With all the elections coming to a close at our 64th National Conference, I would like to thank everyone who supported me throughout the election process. I am beyond grateful for the faith and trust you bestowed upon me. For those who didn't support me, it will be my mission to earn your trust over the coming months and prove my worth through hard work, transparency and conducting my duties with the highest level of integrity. The truth is we have enough enemies surrounding us with the current climate we find ourselves in, so there does not need to be dissension among us. We all need to come together as one as we move forward into the future — there is strength in our unity!

As a candidate, I ran on a platform of being a vocal advocate for law enforcement in this country, just as I have done for our brothers and sisters in Houston for years. In a world where the battle for our reputation is taking place on social media, I would like to take this opportunity to call for some backup. If we intend to win the arguments about our noble profession, then

we need every one of our 349,000 brothers and sisters nationwide engaged in the fight against the anti-police rhetoric and false narratives spewed by certain politicians and the mainstream media.

THE FOP IS GOING TO BE MUCH MORE VOCAL IN DEFENDING THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO PUT ON A UNIFORM EVERY DAY, BUT WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE.

We need all of you to go to the National Fraternal Order of Police Facebook page and "Like" us, then visit our Twitter page @GLFOP and "Follow" us. Then we need you to recruit: Talk to your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors, and ask them to like and follow us on social media as well. We have this incredibly large network across the country, and we need everyone's help in growing our following. Don't stop there

— stay engaged with the content we are pushing out. Like and share or retweet our posts, not only so that more people can learn about the positive things law enforcement are doing every day, but also so that they will assist us in spreading our narrative when the next public battle is upon us. The FOP is going to be much more vocal in defending the brave men and women who put on a uniform every day, but we can't do it alone. We need your help!

This is truly an exciting time to be a member of the FOP! There is a strong foundation built by our amazing predecessors, and our current team stands ready to take us to even greater heights. We can truly accomplish anything with all of us working toward the common goal of making this the best Order it can possibly be. It is the honor of a lifetime to serve as your National vice president. Just know I will never let you down and I will always be your voice.

Be safe out there and as I stated during the campaign, if you need anything I am only a phone call, text, email, Facebook message or DM on Twitter (@JoeGamaldi) away. **FOP**

HELPING HEROES

The FOP Foundation supports our members in distress.

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The Disaster Relief Fund is part of the National FOP Foundation, a 501(c)(3), not for profit corporation.

Continuing the Mission of Advancing the FOP



// WRITE TO US! If you have further questions, contact Jimmy Holderfield at jholderfield@fop.net

Brothers and Sisters, I am honored to have been elected to serve as your National FOP secretary. This is the fourth highest honor that I have received from the Order. The highest honor I have ever received was when I was a patrol motorcycle officer and my fellow members selected me to be their president of Jacksonville Consolidated Lodge #5-30. I was only 27 years young at the time, and I took on the role as a full-time president, negotiating contracts, responding to officer-involved incidents and administering the functions of a progressive labor lodge on a daily basis. Along with my wife and my two sons, we spent days at our State Capitol advocating for our brothers and sisters for increased protections, wages and benefits.

I PLEDGE TO KEEP THE OFFICE'S INTEGRITY INTACT AND I WILL STRIVE TO "CONTINUE THE MISSION" OF BEING ENERGIZED AND PROGRESSIVE.

My second highest honor was when the members of the Florida State Lodge elected me as their president. Again, I was the youngest in Florida's FOP history to take on this challenge, and we were successful in obtaining heart and lung protections and the Deputy Sheriff's Bill of Rights.

My third highest honor serving the Order was when then-National President Dewey Stokes tapped me for the position of National sergeant at arms as a part of the "Unity Team." That is when I became great friends with Past National Secretaries Ralph Orms, Jerry Attnip and Ray Franklin. All served as mentors,



and I pray that I live up to their strict expectations.

My fourth highest honor is now. President Yoes has been a friend for years, and has taken our National office to the next level as our immediate past National secretary. I pledge to keep the office's integrity intact and I will strive to "continue the mission" of being energized and progressive, as President Yoes has exemplified for us all.

On a personal note, I commend all of the brothers who stood for election to our National Board. Each one is stellar in their character and devotion to the FOP. Each one is our dear friend, and we need their continued involvement to assure the growth of the Order.

I am excited to be a part of this dynamic team of leaders on the National Executive Board. Along with stability, each brings a fresh perspective to our

advancements, as well as a certain flair and enthusiasm that will catapult the Order to a new dimension. I stand ready to meet any challenges and be a major contributor to our achievements.

As your secretary, I will ask for your input on a variety of needed advancements in the coming months. I don't have all the answers, but you have told me that you want enhancements. That is exactly what you will get. Please email me any suggestions that you may have on improving your National secretary's office. I pledge to work hard and smart for you, and implement the needed changes to make your job easier so that you can do what you do best: serve our brothers and sisters at the local and state levels.

Be safe out there and I will see or talk to you soon! **FOP**

Where Your Dues Go



// WRITE TO US! If you have further questions, contact Tom Penozza at tomfop@aol.com.

I have just arrived home from the National Conference in New Orleans and had to get started writing an article for the *Journal*. By the time you read this, the new Board will have been in place for about six weeks. With new leaders on the Board, there will likely be changes that we will be working through. But we will get the job done and we will all be working to continue to improve this organization and push it forward.

I want to thank the Louisiana State Lodge, Crescent City Lodge and our FOP employees and volunteers for all their hard work putting together this conference.

I want to thank everyone who supported me and gave me another two years to serve the FOP! I will continue to work just as hard as I always have to serve our members. I will work with the newly elected officers as I have with all the officers I have served with.

I also want to thank Chuck Canterbury and Jay McDonald for their years of service to the Grand Lodge. I look forward to them staying involved, so we don't lose the knowledge they have earned while serving us. I also want to congratulate Pat Yoes as our new National president, and to welcome Joe Gamaldi, National vice president, and Jimmy

Holderfield, National secretary, to the Board. I look forward to working with them.

I thought this might be a good time to prepare another list showing how your dues are spent. With Labor Services paying for itself now and a new Board in place, we should all be aware of how your money is being distributed. The list has changed a little because the last one I prepared was for a Conference year, when meeting expenses are much higher. During a Conference year, the "Nat'l Board Meetings" line would be about \$1.85, instead of \$0.82.

If I can be of assistance to you or your lodge, please let me know. **FOP**

WHAT THE GRAND LODGE SPENT PER MEMBER IN THE 2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR

(Dues = \$11.50 per year)

FUNCTION	COST (per Member)	DESCRIPTION
Nat'l Board Meetings	\$0.82	Cost of two National Board meetings in 2018 and 2019
Legislative Office	\$1.93	Wages and expenses of the Washington, D.C., office
Labor Services	\$0.00	Wages and expenses of the Labor Services Office, minus income
Journal (Four Issues)	\$1.43	Cost to print and ship four Journals per year to each member
Legal Expenses	\$0.85	All Grand Lodge legal expenses
Administrative	\$4.27	Wages and expenses for office administrative functions
Membership	\$0.53	Wages and expenses for our Membership Section in Nashville
Member Services	\$1.55	Wages and expenses for all Grand Lodge committees and Member Services
Community Services	\$1.07	Wages and expenses for Police Week, Easter Seals and Torch Run
Other Expenses	\$0.41	Various other expenses and costs not listed above
National Foundation	\$1.00	Donation to the National FOP Foundation

Total Spent per Member \$13.86

Goals for the New Term



// WRITE TO US! If you have further questions, contact Les Neri at lneri@pafop.com.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, I would like to thank the Louisiana State Lodge and the National Fraternal Order of Police staff for all their hard work at our 64th Biennial Conference. Their efforts, hospitality and kindness made this Conference a great success that will be spoken of for years to come.

I would also like to thank Brothers Chuck Canterbury and Jay McDonald for their outstanding service to the Order in their past positions as president and vice president. I am sure both Chuck and Jay will continue to work on our members' behalf as your new leadership term begins their administration.

In addition, Brothers Roger Mayberry, James Smallwood and Dave Mutchler should

be commended for offering their services as candidates for National Executive Board positions. All three are outstanding leaders, and I am certain we will be seeing them serve in future leadership positions.

Congratulations are in order for newly elected National President Pat Yoes, Vice President Joe Gamakli and Recording Secretary Jimmy Holderfield. All three ran great campaigns and will serve the Order well. I look forward to working with each of them on your behalf during the next two years.

As your second vice president, I am hopeful we can achieve greater success over this term in several areas, including:

1. The repeal or reform of the Social Security Windfall Elimination Provi-

- sion and Government Pension Offset
2. A more robust social media presence, including deployment of a mobile app
3. Greater public relations engagement to positively drive our national image
4. Revolutionizing the delivery of our national *Journal* into a digital platform to reduce costs by hundreds of thousands of dollars yearly, as well as providing more relevant information in a timely manner

I will do all I can in working with your new Executive Board to achieve these goals and serve you to the best of my ability.

In closing, I wish you all well and ask that you never forget that we, the FOP are truly our brothers and sisters' keepers. **FOP**

Together We Are FOP Strong



// WRITE TO US! If you have further questions, contact Keith Turney at ktamey@fop.org.

Well, the fanfare is over and the music has ceased playing. Our 64th Biennial Conference has become part of history, and with it we bid a fond farewell to some and offer a welcoming embrace to others. The National FOP has always been a strong and vibrant organization, truly run by the members, who have always taken their responsibilities seriously. To that end, leadership has changed and with it come some expected course alterations. I don't see any dramatic changes, however, as our membership's direction is what really sets the agenda for your FOP. It has been an honor to serve all of you over the last two years, and I look forward to the next two. What a humbling opportunity you have all given me!

As I reflect on the week's activities during our Conference in New Orleans, I cannot get over the number of volunteers who participated in nearly every aspect of our pilgrimage. Whether you were on a committee, assisted in registration, volunteered as a door guard, helped out during voting, coordinated activities with our host lodge or worked a campaign for a candidate running for office, your numbers were awesome, and your enthusiasm was over the top!

We have a remarkable staff who set the bar high. Their days were long and their headaches were many as they laid the groundwork of the Conference for the rest of us to enjoy. I cannot imagine the hours of preparation that go into serving the needs of over 4,500 Conference attendees. I know my preparation for security and safety alone consumed many an hour and added some gray hairs as well! I want to personally thank our staff for their dedication, which is excellent all year long but goes into overdrive as we near Conference time.

As your National sergeant at arms, I was kept pretty busy. I cannot say enough about Carlton Stallings from Georgia and

Don Teagarden from California. Carlton was on-site early in the morning, every morning, meeting with the NOPD and their K-9 unit to sweep the facility for any questionable packages or suspicious changes to the environment. Don was there just as early, working with Carlton in securing our Conference floor and keeping it

**I WANT TO PERSONALLY
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secure throughout the day. It was a welcome relief to have two volunteers who really understood incident command and took it seriously. My morning briefings went off without a hitch! For those of you who worked as door guards, I hope I was able to personally thank you, but if not, let me go on the record here and now and say, "Thank you" for ensuring our members were safe and secure during their deliberations.

As there were some contested races this year, each candidate brought an army of supporters from across the country to work for them. Our elections always bring out the passion in our members. This year was no different, as thousands of pieces of literature were distributed daily. Handouts, trinkets and treats were ever-present and the friendly rivalries among brothers and sisters, sometimes from the same lodges, made for several exuberant debates in caucuses and in and out of the Conference hall. But in the end, after the initial rejoicing or sorrow that always follows an election, we all came together for the good of the Order.

Over the last two years, I have often

referred to myself as the rookie on the Executive Board. As any good rookie does, I kept my mouth shut unless I had something good to offer, and my ears open as I learned from those with years of experience who sat on your National Board. I made an effort to visit as many caucuses as possible during the Conference. Although I didn't have an opponent, I felt it was important to visit with as many members as possible and offer my thanks for the support I have enjoyed. My extreme gratitude goes to Mike Powell and Shawn Roselieb from Illinois, who kept me on point, and made sure I ate a meal and took a break from all the excitement. My Illinois delegation also went above and beyond. I hope you all got some applause or a fortune cookie. Of course, my wife, Carol, is the only reason I am able to serve you all, as she is my greatest supporter.

A wise sage approached me during my caucus visits and reminded me that I am no longer the rookie on the Board, and it is now my duty to step up and assist my fellow Board members as we move the Order forward. Brothers and sisters, my pledge to you is to do just that. I will miss those whom I have served with over the last two years, as I learned a great deal from their counsel. However, I look forward to working with our newly elected Executive Board. I see the same passion for our Order today as I witnessed from the past Board. Together we will remain **FOP strong**.

God bless you all and God bless the FOP! **FOP**



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Let's Do This!

// **WRITE TO US!** If you have further questions, contact Rob Pride at ldge52pride@gmail.com.

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters! I hope this message finds all of you well following the completion of our 64th Biennial Conference. To our delegates who made the trip to represent their local and State lodges, **thank you!** The decisions we make together, along with the work that gets done at our National Conference, are so important to the successful future of our Order. To our brothers and sisters of the Louisiana FOP and Crescent City Lodge #2, we can't thank you enough for your hard work and preparation in hosting 5,000 of your friends from all over the world (including the United States, Ireland and Australia). It was truly a great time!

I would be remiss if I did not thank my fellow National trustees and their members for their faith and trust in me, in re-electing me as the National FOP chairman of trustees for my second term. There are no words to express how honored I am to serve and represent each one of you in our efforts to move the FOP forward. Recognizing the goals and motivations of my fellow newly elected Board members, I'm excited to see what the next two years hold for us. I know

EACH EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER YOU ELECTED HAS THE BEST INTEREST OF THE MEMBERSHIP AT HEART, AND WILL WORK TIRELESSLY WITH THAT INTEREST AT THE FOREFRONT OF ALL WE DO.

we will stay committed in our labor, legislative and representative efforts for you, and we'll look at many other ways to improve our organization.

In speaking with many of you in New Orleans, there was one recurring, constant theme of what you desire from your local, State and National leaders: unified leadership. I could not agree more. Like me, many of you are not big fans of the FOP election season. It brings out the best in us in many ways, but the worst always has a way of creeping in as well. Now that our elections are finished and you, the members, have spoken, I humbly ask each of you to join me

in unifying our support behind our elected leadership and helping us continue to be the largest and best representative organization of law enforcement in the world! We want and need your guidance in the work we have to do. Your supported candidate may not have won, but I assure you, each Executive Board member you elected has the best interest of the membership at heart, and will work tirelessly with that interest at the forefront of all we do.

This election offered our members a choice of very talented and dedicated individuals who want to serve you. To my brothers who ran for office, thank you! Thank you for your service, leadership and dedication to the FOP, and for giving our members the choice of worthy candidates, all of whom have much to offer. The Order is in a strong place when we have such worthy leaders seeking office.

If you doubt where we are as an organization and the influence we have earned in the legislative realm, remember this: One of our very own is about to become the director of the ATF! I could not be prouder or happier for Immediate Past National President Chuck Canterbury, who has been nominated by President Trump to lead our brothers and sisters at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Brother, thank you for 16 years of dedicated leadership to our Order! I have learned more than you will ever know watching and serving with you. We know you will do us proud and we are with you. Congrats!

Now, more than ever, it is vital we unite as one voice, and one force, against those who seek to butcher our honorable profession. We must be unified in our work to advocate for and take care of each other. Brothers and sisters, I'm ready, your Executive Board is ready and we know **you** are ready to get all of this and more accomplished. Thank you for your faith and trust in us to lead that effort! Let's do this! **FOP**



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64th Biennial National FOP Conference



The FOP celebrated its 64th Biennial National Conference in New Orleans from August 12 to 15, with 4,187 registered delegates and 534 registered alternates, plus guests, family members and supporters, making it one of the best-attended Conferences to date. Members enjoyed the many colorful floats of Mardi Gras, sampled a taste of Louisiana cuisine and Cajun music, and tested their football skills at the Manning Experience in the Superdome. A special thank-you to the Louisiana State Lodge for showing everyone such a good time!

Several guest speakers, including Louisiana Lieutenant Governor William Nungesser, New Orleans City Manager LaTonya Cantrell, U.S. Congressman from Louisiana Steve Scalise and U.S. Attorney General William Barr, addressed the delegation. The Expo was once again a huge success, with more than 130 vendors showcasing their products and services to the members. The President's Award was presented to Larry James and Jim Pasco. The outgoing National Trustees received plaques for their service and dedication to the organization: Jim Crowley (29 years), Duane Phillips (23 years), Joe Perkins (19 years), Gary Wallace (14 years), Dave Mutchler (5 years), Tori Beauchemin (4 years), Joseph Greenya (3 years), Danny Overly

(3 years), Steve Wolosin (3 years), Terry Fortenberry (2 years) and Jake Crowley (1 year). Cheryl Penozo received the Employee Award for her 20 years of service. Donations totaling \$2,832 were taken up for Easternsals, and \$11,154 was raised for Special Olympics. The Foundation held a silent auction and raffle, raising \$9,622.

Two amendments were brought to the business floor, with both of them passing. Five resolutions were submitted; four passed and one was tabled. The delegates of the 64th Biennial National Conference elected the following members to the Executive Board for the next two years:

PRESIDENT: Patrick Yoes — Louisiana
VICE PRESIDENT: Joe Gamaldi — Texas
SECRETARY: Jimmy Holderfield — Florida
TREASURER: Tom Penozo — Delaware
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Les Neri — Pennsylvania
SERGEANT AT ARMS: Keith Turney — Illinois
NATIONAL TRUSTEES CHAIRMAN: Rob Pride — Colorado

Congratulations on your election, and thank you for being willing to serve the membership!



2019 FOP MEMBER OF THE YEAR: PHIL WIGGINS

Phil Wiggins began his law enforcement career with the Durham Police Department in 1969 and joined Durham County FOP Lodge #2 in 1971. In 1974, he left the police department to pursue his degree in religious education. The Southern Baptist Association certified him as an ordained minister, and he went on to earn his Master of Religious Education degree. In 1983, Phil returned to the Durham Police Department as a public safety officer. He worked Uniform Patrol in District 1 and on a couple of street crimes units, being promoted to corporal. His next assignment was a Take Back the Streets initiative. A promotion to sergeant found him assigned to Uniform Patrol in District 1 once again, and then to the Organized Crimes Division. In 1999, Phil was promoted to the rank of captain and was the executive officer first for the administrative major, then for the chief of police. His last assignment was as commander of Uniform Patrol Support Services. Phil retired from the Durham Police Department in 2003 at the rank of captain.

Phil was appointed Grand Lodge chaplain in 2009 and has been reappointed each term since. Since his appointment as National chaplain, he has attended each Grand Lodge Peace Officers Memorial Service. Phil is also currently the elected chaplain for the North Carolina FOP State Lodge, having been re-elected continuously since 1994. In addition, he has been the elected chaplain for his local lodge since 1986, except for the years 1996-2000, when he was lodge president. He has participated in Durham County Lodge #2's annual Peace Officers Memorial Services for the past 33 years. During his law enforcement career and service to the Durham Police Department, he also served as the department chaplain.

Phil Wiggins is continuously performing services for law enforcement officers, members of the FOP and citizens within the community. He is committed to enhancing the spiritual and emotional well-being of our members, officers and anyone he knows or meets. The FOP is proud to present him with the award of 2019 Member of the Year. Congratulations!



ADDITIONAL EXPO VENDORS

In addition to those listed in our previous issue, the following vendors participated in the Expo:

- | | |
|---|---|
| AI Care LLC | In-Telecom |
| Alpha Stim | Law Enforcement Torch Run |
| American Income Life Insurance | Liberty Art Works |
| Ashland University | LifeLock with Norton Benefit Plans |
| Big Cat Rescue | MGM Grand Hotel & Casino |
| Blue Line Productions | MGM Grand Las Vegas/Las Vegas #1 FOP |
| BodyWorn by Utility, Inc. | Motorola |
| Can-Am Police-Fire Games | National Law Enforcement Museum |
| CCW Safe | National Rifle Association |
| Center for Domestic Preparedness | NFOP Foundation |
| Cisco/Presidio Network Solutions | NLEOMF — Destination Zero |
| DataSource Mobility | Paycheck Secured |
| Elevated Silence | Percepto, Inc. |
| Etched | PlanIt Schedule |
| Expo Enterprise | Raven Crest Tactical |
| F.C.A. | ScrapTheftAlert.com |
| Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service | Sprint |
| FHE Health | Steve Young Law Enforcement Legislative Advocacy Center |
| FirstNet Built with AT&T | StrongArm® by Hurst Jaws of Life® |
| FOP Benefits | Tiffin University |
| FOP DC #1/Jack Daniels Fundraising Committee | University of Cincinnati Online |
| FOP Division of Labor Services | Upper Iowa University |
| FOP Legal Defense Plan | USCCA |
| George Washington University — Professional Studies | USDOJ — COP'S |
| Gun Tot'n Mamas | USDOJ — Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section |
| HALO — Official NFOP Merchandiser | Verizon |
| Head Down Firearms | Visit Houston |
| Heritage Health Solutions | Waldorf University |
| Homes for Heroes Foundation | Washington National |
| Indy Lodge #86 | Wiley X |
| | The Wounded Blue |

AMENDMENT *1

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the Grand Lodge National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 8th and 9th, 2019 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The National Fraternal Order of Police acknowledges the importance of individual membership in bargaining units in order to further enhance the pay benefits and working conditions of law enforcement officers. Further, the National Fraternal Order of Police maintains its commitment to local and state lodges to be the judge of its membership and establish requirements thereof.

Understanding the above, the Board of Directors of the National Fraternal Order of Police suggest and support the addition of section 7 below (italic) to the National Constitution. All other language contained here is current.

The proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 4, Membership.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 4

Membership

Section 1. Any regularly appointed or elected and full-time law enforcement officer of the United States, any state or political subdivision thereof, or any agency may be eligible for membership in the Fraternal Order of Police, subject to the provisions of this Constitution. No person shall be denied membership on account of race, religion, color, creed, sex, age or national origin. (Amended 8/17)

Section 2. Subject only to the provisions of this Constitution, each state and subordinate lodge shall be the judge of its membership. Each state and subordinate lodge shall establish requirements for membership in good standing of its respective membership, which requirements shall not be inconsistent herewith.

Section 3. There shall be two (2) classes of membership: Active and Honorary.

A. Active Membership

1. Shall include regularly appointed or elected full-time law enforcement officers.
2. Shall include retired regularly appointed or elected law enforcement officers who have remained in good standing with their state and subordinate lodges after retirement from their law enforcement agency. In good standing shall mean a member who fulfilled all requirements of membership in good standing in his respective subordinate and state lodges and for whom appropriate per capita tax has been paid to the Grand Lodge.
3. May include, subject to the approval of the state and subordinate lodges, regularly appointed or elected law enforcement officers who have resigned from their law enforcement duties and who have remained in good standing with their state and subordinate lodges.
4. Only active members, as herein defined, shall have voice and vote.

B. Honorary Membership shall be comprised of individuals recognized by the Grand Lodge, state lodge or subordinate lodges for exceptional service or contribution to the nation, the state, political subdivision, the law enforcement community or the Fraternal Order of Police. (Amended 8/15)

Section 4. No person shall be a member of more than one state or subordinate lodge at the same time nor shall any member who is delinquent, or who has been suspended by a state or subordinate lodge for any reason, be eligible for membership in any other state or subordinate lodge until such suspension has been lifted.

Section 5. The Fraternal Order of Police may deny membership to anyone who is, or has been, a member of the Communist party, or of any party regardless of what name known which advocates the abolition, destruction or violent overthrow of the government of the United States or any state or political subdivision thereof.

Section 6. The Fraternal Order of Police may deny any membership, or continuation of membership, to anyone convicted of a felony crime in any court of the United States, or any state court, once all appeals have been exhausted.

To Add:

Section 7. *The Fraternal Order of Police may deny membership to anyone who willfully chooses not to be a dues paying member in good standing of their bargaining unit. For this section to apply, the applicable state's constitution must contain similar permissive language.*

Date: March 8, 2019

By: Chuck Carberry Patrick Yoss

National President National Secretary

COMMITTEE: ADOPT REJECT

CONFERENCE: ADOPT REJECT

AMENDMENT *2

The following proposed amendment is submitted by the Grand Lodge National Board of Trustees. It was voted on and approved at the Spring National Board of Trustees Meeting March 8th and 9th, 2019 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

There are presently three locations in the Constitution and By-Laws that require correspondence to be sent using "Registered Mail." These proposed amendments would change the requirements to "Certified Mail." Registered mail is more expensive and is geared more toward security of a valuable item or document. The intent of our mailing requirements is almost always to provide proof of delivery. Certified Mail provides tracking and with Return Receipt provides a signature of the person who received the mail. Most courts, lawyers, and government entities trust and use Certified Mail. These amendments would bring our requirements in line with what common practice is and would enable the requirements to be met in a more economical way, still ensuring the integrity of the process. The amendments would simply replace the word **registered** with the word **certified** in three places.

The proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 23, Discipline, Section 3. B. 1.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 23

Discipline

Section 3. Individual Members, B.

1. ...The parties to the appeal shall receive notice of the date of the hearing by **registered** mail not less than ten (10) days before such hearing.

TO READ:

1. ...The parties to the appeal shall receive notice of the date of the hearing by **certified** mail not less than ten (10) days before such hearing.

The proposed change to the National Constitution is under Article 23, Discipline, Section 3. D.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 23

Discipline

Section 3. Individual Members

- D. A party seeking to appeal from the decision of the state lodge shall give notice of appeal to the National Board of Trustees by submitting by **registered** mail within thirty (30) days of the party's receipt of notice thereof, a written submission consisting of the decision from which the appeal is taken and such other written materials as the appellant deems relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees.

TO READ:

- D. A party seeking to appeal from the decision of the state lodge shall give notice of appeal to the National Board of Trustees by submitting by **certified** mail within thirty (30) days of the party's receipt of notice thereof, a written submission consisting of the decision from which the appeal is taken and such other written materials as the appellant deems relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees.

The proposed change to the National By-Laws is under Article 31, Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees, Section 3. C.

CURRENTLY READS:

ARTICLE 31

Dues, Assessments and Administrative Fees

Section 3. Assessments.

- C. If approved, the National Board of Trustees shall notify each subordinate lodge by

Continued on page 18 >



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AMENDMENTS

Continued from page 16

registered mail of the total votes cast and how each subordinate lodge in the Order cast its votes;

TO READ:

- C. If approved, the National Board of Trustees shall notify each subordinate lodge by certified mail of the total votes cast and how each subordinate lodge in the Order cast its votes.

Date: March 9, 2019

/s/ Chuck Canterbury Patrick Yates

National President National Secretary

COMMITTEE: ADOPT REJECT

CONFERENCE: ADOPT REJECT

RESOLUTION #1

Resolution submitted by the leadership and members of the South Carolina State Lodge. We, the brothers and sisters of the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police propose the following resolution to the delegates at the 64th Biennial National Fraternal Order of Police Conference regarding the establishment of the Chuck Canterbury Excellence in Leadership Award, which will honor the service of National President Chuck Canterbury.

WHEREAS: Kenneth "Chuck" Canterbury has served on the National Executive Board of the Fraternal Order of Police, in elected positions, for a period of 24 consecutive years,

WHEREAS: Kenneth "Chuck" Canterbury has served honorably as the National President of the Fraternal Order of Police Grand Lodge for 16 years,

WHEREAS: President Canterbury, during his tenure, has led the growth of the Fraternal Order of Police to a current membership of over 340,000 members,

WHEREAS: During President Canterbury's tenure, the Grand Lodge has successfully developed and implemented countless initiatives aimed at improving the lives of law enforcement officers, and has grown to provide unparalleled support to the membership of our great Order,

WHEREAS: Under the leadership of President Canterbury, the Fraternal Order of Police has come to be known worldwide as the Voice of Law Enforcement, and is the recognized leader among representative organizations of law enforcement,

WHEREAS: President Canterbury has been an exemplary leader, who has mentored and supported the development of other leaders, which is the true measure of success in leadership, and who, by his example, has ensured that the Fraternal Order of Police will continue to be strong into the future,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The members of the Fraternal Order of Police here assembled at the 64th Biennial Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, establish an award, to be titled the Kenneth Canterbury Excellence in Leadership Award, which will honor the service of President Canterbury and other outstanding leaders in the Order.

That an awardee be chosen every two years to receive this honor,

That nominations for this award be accepted by the Member of the Year Committee as is current practice for other awards handed by the Member of the Year Committee,

That the Canterbury Excellence in Leadership Award be awarded to the nominee who most displays the characteristics of an FOP Leader based on their nomination,

And that this award be presented at the biennial conference every odd year.

Submitted by:

Terry Gansley Jerry Wright
South Carolina State Lodge President South Carolina National Trustee

RESOLUTION #2

The Las Cruces New Mexico Fraternal Order of Police Las Cruces Lodge 6 present a Resolution to research Heavy Metal Poisoning in Law Enforcement officers nationwide.

WHEREAS: The Fraternal Order of Police is the largest police organization in the United

States representing over 340,000 officers,

WHEREAS: The Fraternal Order of Police was created for the betterment of policing and better working conditions,

WHEREAS: 9/11 responders were exposed to the inhalation of various hazardous materials,

WHEREAS: It has been proven by Doctors and Scientists that the police and fire members who responded to the Twin Towers, the Pentagon and Shanksville, PA on 9/11 were exposed to heavy metal poisoning,

WHEREAS: The Heavy Metal poisoning commonly manifests in as many as 70 different cancers causing serious illness and death,

WHEREAS: The manifestation of these cancers has a wide variety of time ranges,

WHEREAS: The profession of policing requires the carrying of firearms and ammunition which is carried in close proximity to the body. Officers are also required to receive regular proficiency training and qualifications on all weapons carried,

WHEREAS: The ammunition used in the weapons contain lead which is poisonous to the human body,

WHEREAS: The profession of policing also requires officers to come into contact with a variety of hazardous substances such as illegal drugs and the manufacturing of these drugs, burning vehicles, chemical spills, asbestos and other inhaled and/or absorbed dangers,

WHEREAS: Many police officers are fighting or have fought cancer, and many have lost their lives to this disease,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The members of the Fraternal Order of Police here assembled at the 64th Biennial Conference in New Orleans, LA, August 12-15, 2019 do hereby direct the establishment of a committee to study and review available information related to the dangerous effects of heavy metal and other hazardous substance exposure by law enforcement officers,

Further, the committee shall make recommendations for action based upon its findings. Submitted and approved at the April 16, 2019 regular monthly meeting of Las Cruces Lodge 8, A/In Butch, President.

Submitted and approved June 8, 2019 at the 66th New Mexico State Conference held in Santa Fe, NM. Eric Padilla, President.

Submitted by:

Janine Ingalls, NM Lodge 8 Secretary & New Mexico State Secretary

RESOLUTION #3

The Subcommittee on the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) proposes the following resolution.

WHEREAS: The delegates assembled at the 53rd National Biennial Conference held in Orlando, Florida adopted Resolution #19, proposed by Philadelphia Lodge #5, which directed the Grand Lodge to:

Establish a committee to investigate and study the "offset" provision of Social Security laws. The committee shall ensure that retired law enforcement officers are not being unfairly treated. The committee shall report within one year of its inception, and the report shall guide the Legislative Committee in the direction they should take in this matter.

And;

WHEREAS: The delegates assembled at the 54th National Biennial Conference held in Mobile, Alabama, adopted Resolution #4, proposed by the National Legislative Committee, which directed the Grand Lodge to:

Direct the National Legislative Program to oppose any legislative effort to require the participation of any public employee in Social Security and in addition to work to effect positive reform or repeal of the government pension offset and windfall elimination provision in current law.

And;

WHEREAS: The unfairness identified in Resolution #19 and #14 mentioned above respectively is the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) in existing Federal law, which penalizes individuals who worked as public employees

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RESOLUTIONS

Continued from page 18 »

outside the Social Security system yet earned a Social Security benefit through other employment in the Social Security system; and

WHEREAS: In furtherance of these Resolutions, the National Legislative Program has identified the "Social Security Fairness Act," legislation which would fully repeal the WEP and the GPO as a top legislative priority; and

WHEREAS: There is proposed legislation in Congress which would mitigate the negative impact of the WEP and GPO on our members without fully repealing existing law;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The delegates here assembled at the 64th National Biennial Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, hereby reaffirm the FOP's commitment to "effect positive reform or repeal" with respect to the WEP and GPO, and to direct the National Legislative Program to actively support any legislative proposal which is determined to be beneficial to our members impacted by these penalties to their Social Security benefits through mitigation or repeal.

Submitted by:

Flandy Hogler, Chairman, National Legislative Committee

RESOLUTION #5

Resolution submitted by the leadership and members of the Kansas State Lodge.

We, the brothers and sisters of the Kansas Fraternal Order of Police, propose the following resolution to the delegates at the 64th Biennial National Fraternal Order of Police Conference regarding the non-renewal of the contract/endorsement of the United States Concealed Carry Association.

WHEREAS: The endorsement of the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police carries significant weight to its three hundred forty-nine thousand (349,000) members regarding their choice of supplemental legal protection. We believe that an organization whose membership is comprised solely of law enforcement officers should NOT partner with an organization that blatantly excludes coverage for law enforcement officers while

performing their duties. Any program endorsed by the National Fraternal Order of Police should support Officers with no limitations as to whether they are on duty, off duty, or retired.

WHEREAS: The FOP Grand Lodge has endorsed the United States Concealed Carry Association (USCCA) as a supplier of supplemental self-defense insurance; and

WHEREAS: According to USCCA terms and conditions, of the Self Defense SHIELD Protection Plan section (1), subsection (B), EXCLUSION, (F), Employers Liability states Employer's Liability a "bodily injury" and/or "Property Damage" of any "employee" or any property of an "employee" of the member arising out of and in the course of (1) Employment by the member; or (2) Performing duties related to the conduct of the member's business; and

WHEREAS: According to USCCA terms and conditions, of the Self Defense SHIELD Protection Plan section (1), subsection (B), EXCLUSION, (F), Occupational Use "bodily injury" or "Property Damage" arising out of any member's conduct in providing law enforcement security, safety, recovery or repossession services for compensation or a fee; and

WHEREAS: USCCA is currently marketing their program to active duty Law Enforcement Officers as a replacement to the FOP Legal Defense Plan and misinforming Officers via printed materials and spoken word, even at our own Expo. We believe this partnership is not ideal and is misleading officers into purchasing this product, providing them a false sense of security regarding their legal defense options and coverage. USCCA has made it clear in their exclusions they will not provide coverage to on duty, off-duty (working for ANY employer), or any officer operating under the color of law. We do not believe anything that excludes Officers is good for the Order.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The members here assembled at the 64th Biennial Conference of the Fraternal Order of Police in New Orleans, Louisiana propose we not renew the contract with the United States Concealed Carry Association.

Signed by:

Mike Mosher

Mik Sharik

K.C. Blodgett

President, Lodge #21 President, State of Kansas National Trustee, State of Kansas FOP

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Robert W. Fox



Editor's Note: It is my pleasure and honor, as your National secretary, to highlight one of our brothers or sisters in your journal. This inaugural Member Spotlight features New Jersey State Lodge President Robert "Bob" Fox, a dynamic driving force behind our advancements as the national voice of law enforcement. I know that you will be as impressed as I am with Brother Bob's accomplishments and his vision for the Order. — Jimmy Holderfield

New Jersey's Fraternal Order of Police is guided by a visionary leader who has dedicated his life to law enforcement and improving the lives of citizens, both in his state and on the national level.

President Robert W. Fox has been an FOP member for 46 years. He started his law enforcement career in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, where he served 25 years. At the time, he was the youngest person hired on the Cherry Hill Township force. During his tenure, he served 20 years as an Executive Board member of Cherry Hill Lodge #28, including 14 years as its president.

In 1998, Fox got involved in the New Jersey State Lodge, which has more than 13,000 members. Since that time, he has maintained his service to the State FOP by serving on the Executive Board, and has been its president for the last five years.

He has accomplished many successes in his law enforcement career, but we will highlight some of those dearest to his heart.

Starting a Survivor's Fund

Fox was part of the group that started the NJ FOP Survivor's Fund to give survivors a \$2,500 benefit. In 1995, one of the FOP's beloved brothers, George T. Bowman, died in the line of duty at the age of 46. Bowman was president of Garden State Lodge #3 for 15 years and a 22-year veteran of the Pennsauken Police Department. He suffered a massive heart attack while pursuing and apprehending two juveniles, and remained in a coma for 53 days before passing away. After his tragic and untimely death, the Survivor's

Fund was renamed the George Bowman Survivor's Fund. In the wake of 9/11, the Fund was depleted to under \$1,000, and Fox pushed for statewide fundraising campaigns to rebuild the Fund. To date, it has accumulated over half a million dollars, and survivors receive a \$25,000 benefit.

Joining a Mission to Aid Children in Chernobyl

In 1999, Fox joined a life-changing mission sponsored by the Airport Police in Dublin, Ireland, traveling to Chernobyl in a truck caravan for 19 days. That international FOP lodge annually delivered supplies, medicine, water, food and furniture to abandoned children of the former Communist nations. At the time, Fox was chaplain of the New Jersey State Lodge and trustee of the National FOP.

Pointing to a collage of photos of orphans he met during that mission, Fox acknowledges that most of the children have probably died from their radiation exposure. The mission changed his life forever.

Initiating the Creation of a Police/Fire Pension Board

New Jersey's public employee pension funds are totally underfunded and in disarray. Fox and other police and fire union leaders worked together for four years to carve out police and firefighters from the other pension funds. Now, they control and manage their own pension fund, which is called the Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS). "By creating this new board, our police and firemen's pension fund will be secure into the future," Fox says.

While it may be debated in some circles, most will acknowledge the fact that Fox



actually kicked off this idea with the New Jersey Senate leadership, making his state one of only a handful where police and firefighters control their own pensions.

Enhancing 9/11 First Responders' Medical Disability and Death Benefits

It took over 18 years to get legislation passed and enacted into law that would enhance medical and disability benefits for 9/11 first responders. Under Fox's tenure, this bill moved through both houses and was signed into law by New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy in July 2019. Simultaneously, under Fox's tenure, a bill that simplified the process for first responders to recoup workers' compensation claims was passed and enacted into law.

Looking Forward

Among future goals for the State Lodge, Fox is ready to push for the New Jersey law enforcement community to have the right to carry firearms as authorized and aligned with federal law. Despite the fact that federal law H.R. 218 allows active and retired on- and off-duty law enforcement to carry throughout the country, New Jersey has placed several stipulations on police officers. These stipulations affect not only New Jersey police, but also out-of-state police who come to or through New Jersey.

President Fox says, "The NJ FOP will initiate a federal lawsuit against the state if the Legislature doesn't amend existing statutes so that our police officers can enjoy the same rights in New Jersey as provided by H.R. 218 throughout the U.S."

He continues, "I am honored to have served as a leader in the local, State and National FOP. I look forward to continuing my service with the support of my brothers and sisters in New Jersey and across the country." FOP

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Body CONSCIOUS

MAKE PERSONAL PROTECTION YOUR TOP PRIORITY

Since the 1970s, law enforcement officers have increasingly donned protective gear, from vests to helmets and shields, and for good reason.

Evidence indicates that body armor makes a notable difference in lessening the impact of job-related injuries. According to a study conducted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police Center for Officer Safety and Wellness along with the Bureau of Justice Assistance, officers wearing body armor reported missing fewer days of work as well as spending less time in rehabilitation treatments after sustaining injuries on duty compared with those who hadn't added the protective layers.

What's even more encouraging is that new designs incorporate advanced materials and user-friendly technology for greater efficacy and comfort. Here are a few examples of how the latest generation of body armor can keep officers safer on the job.



Angel Armor RISE 2.0 Armor System

Proper Weight Distribution

Body armor shouldn't have to feel as if you're lugging around a heavy load. In updating RISE, Angel Armor designers used a ballistic suspension system to distribute the armor's weight so that it provides comfort, too. The adjustable QuadCote Attachment System allows for a more custom fit. RISE can be worn externally, with optional low-profile PALS/MOLLE or Velcro chest and back sections, and is intended to be paired with the company's Truth SNAP rifle plates. It also accommodates multiple plate sizes for concealed use. The outer shell materials resist abrasion, tearing and stretching. MSRP \$679-\$899.

Point Blank Enterprises K-9 Tactical K-9 Operations Vest

In Defense of Dogs

The K-9 Operations Vest by Point Blank Enterprises provides police dogs with extensive coverage via a body, chest and tail outer shell constructed from a durable, abrasion-resistant material. The split collar allows for a full range of motion. Handlers will appreciate the built-in harness guides and oversized mil-spec D-ring readied for quick lead attachment. The vest also can be put on and taken off quickly. MSRP unavailable.



BlueRidge Armor Vengeance IIIA Ballistic Shield

Shields Up

Crafted with input from experienced federal law enforcement professionals, the BlueRidge Armor Vengeance IIIA Ballistic Shield puts up a strategic barrier between officer and offender. This product line is distinguished by a patent-pending Vengeance Viewport, which permits a wide field of view, including greater peripheral vision to help users identify tripping hazards. The shield is made in the United States out of materials sourced from the U.S. MSRP \$3,499.99.



Spartan Armor Systems Elaphros Plate

Lightweight Contender

In Greek, *elaphros* means light, quick and agile, all qualities considered essential to body armor worn in physically challenging situations. Tipping the scales at only 3.5 pounds — half the weight of traditional body armor — the Elaphros Plate by Spartan Armor Systems is produced from ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene hybrid fibers. It meets Level III standards, such as qualifying as stab-resistant and multi-shot rated. It measures 10 inches by 12 inches and has a half-inch profile and a multi-curve ergonomic design. MSRP \$649.99.



DFNDR Level IIIA Backpack Body Armor

Packed and Ready

Although it only weighs a pound, the Level IIIA Backpack Body Armor by DFNDR, made with the highest grade of ballistic materials, earns top grades. Tested to meet NIJ 0101.06 Standard, the armor has proven to defeat multiple rounds of .357 SIG and .44 Mag SJHP. Plus, the hard-plate system is engineered with trauma-reduction technology to mitigate spill and deflect projectiles. The Backpack Body Armor fits most backpacks. MSRP \$150-\$215.



Armor Express Traverse Overt Patrol Carrier

Polished, Put-Together Protection

For a more uniformed appearance, try on the Traverse Overt Patrol Carrier by Armor Express. Available in black, LAPD navy, tactical gray and tan, the vest blends in with several uniform options.

In fact, two dress pockets with faux button-down flaps and a pen slot, as well as the zipper concealed by faux buttons, class it up for a professional appearance.

Protective plates placed into internal pockets or front and rear pockets enhance the heavy-duty outer shell. Utilitarian features include hidden identification and badge tab attachment points, adjustable shoulders with mic tabs and a camera mount. MSRP unavailable. **FOF**

FOP-Backed Bills Signed; Promising Progress on Top Priorities



At this writing, the 116th Congress is just days away from its annual month-long recess. The National Legislative Office is proud to report that we have succeeded in passing another pair of bills, H.R. 1327, the Never Forget the Heroes: Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act, and S. 998, the Supporting and Treating Officers in Crisis (STOIC) Act. Both bills were signed into law by the president.

In addition to these important legislative victories, we have made significant progress on our efforts to increase the co-sponsorship totals for our top legislative priorities — particularly with respect to the Social Security Fairness Act. Legislation repealing the so-called “Cadillac tax,” H.R. 748, the Middle Class Health Benefits Tax Repeal Act, was also passed by the House just before the August recess.

Permanent Authorization of the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund Is Now Law

The House took up consideration of H.R. 1327, the Never Forget the Heroes: Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act, and passed it on a 402-12 vote. It was then transmitted to the Senate, which attempted to pass the bill by unanimous consent.

However, Senator Rand H. Paul (R-Ky.) went to the Senate floor and objected to the bill’s consideration, citing his concern about the long-term costs of the legislation. Senator Michael S. Lee (R-Utah) had also placed a “hold” on the bill while he worked to develop an amendment limiting the reauthorization. As a result, the Senate vote on the legislation was delayed a week. The two amendments offered by Paul and Lee were defeated and H.R. 1327 was then adopted on a 97-2 vote, with both senators voting against the bill. President Trump signed the bill into law.

Just the Facts:

Permanent authorization of the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund and the STOIC Act have been signed into law. The U.S. House passed the repeal of the health care “Cadillac tax.” Co-sponsorship is growing for FOP top priorities, including the Social Security Fairness Act, Law Enforcement Officers’ Equity Act and Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act.

The legislation reauthorizes the Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) through fiscal year 2090, the same reauthorization Congress provided for the World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP). Responders who were exposed to the toxins and chemicals released when the Twin Towers fell depend on those benefits — more than 75,000 responders are receiving medical monitoring or treatment for 9/11-related health conditions. Of those, nearly 8,500 have been diagnosed with one or more 9/11-related cancers, and 560 have died as a result of their response in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks. In fact, within law enforcement alone, the number of officers who have died of a 9/11-related health condition is now triple the 71 who fell on September 11, 2001. This number will only continue to rise, which is why the reauthorization of the VCF was such a high priority.

The FOP was very proud to have played a leading role in the passage of H.R. 1327. In addition, we also want our members to know the names of the 12 members of the House who voted against this legislation:

- Justin Amash (I-Mich., 3rd)
- Jody C. Arrington (R-Texas, 19th)
- Andrew S. Biggs (R-Ariz., 5th)
- Morris J. “Mo” Brooks Jr. (R-Ala., 5th)
- Kenneth R. Buck (R-Colo., 4th)
- Michael J. Cloud (R-Texas, 27th)
- Paul A. Gosar (R-Ariz., 4th)
- Andrew P. Harris (R-Md., 1st)
- Jody B. Hice (R-Ga., 10th)

- Thomas H. Massie (R-Ky., 4th)
- Ralph W. Norman Jr. (R-S.C., 5th)
- John W. Rose (R-Tenn., 6th)

These 12 members of the House and Senators Paul and Lee voted against the VCF reauthorization bill and our members should remember them.

The Supporting and Treating Officers in Crisis (STOIC) Act Is Now Law

President Trump signed S. 998, the STOIC Act, into law. The legislation will revive and expand programs designed to help officers and their families with stress reduction, suicide prevention and the promotion of overall mental health and wellness. We lose more officers to suicide every year than we do in the line of duty. This legislation will do more to help the officers suffering from job-related stress and address the need for better mental resiliency and wellness for our officers and their families.

House Passes Repeal of the Health-Care “Cadillac Tax”

The U.S. House of Representatives considered and passed H.R. 748, the Middle Class Health Benefits Tax Repeal Act, under a suspension of the rules on a 419-6 vote.

The bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to repeal the excise tax on high-cost employer-sponsored health coverage. There is a harmful provision in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as “Obamacare,” which inflicts a 40% tax on plans exceeding \$10,200

for individuals and \$27,500 for families starting in 2022. This provision, known as the “Cadillac tax,” is aimed at high-end or “excessive” health-care plans and would force employers to raise deductibles while reducing benefits. Law enforcement officers are compelled to carry more comprehensive and expensive plans due to the dangerous nature of their work, meaning that the tax would have a disproportionately negative impact on officers and their families.

The House bill will now go to the Senate for further consideration.

Co-sponsorship for FOP Top Priorities Is Increasing

Social Security Fairness Act: This legislation, which has been a longtime priority for the Fraternal Order of Police, would repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) in current Social Security law. We are pleased to report that the Senate bill, S. 521, now has 32 co-sponsors. At the close of the 115th Congress, we had only 27 co-sponsors, which is a significant increase — especially only five months into this Congress!

We can report similar success in the House

of Representatives. At the conclusion of the 115th Congress, we had 195 co-sponsors on the bill. At this writing, we have 192 on H.R. 141. With the change in control in the House, the FOP is focused on getting 218 co-sponsors, which is a majority of the U.S. House of Representatives. We need 26 more! As always, we urge all of our members to contact both of their senators and their representative and ask them to support this legislation or thank them for being co-sponsors.

Law Enforcement Officers’ Equity Act

There are approximately 30,000 federal law enforcement officers classified as GS-0083 police officers who do not receive the enhanced “6(c)” retirement benefits that their colleagues in other agencies receive. Federal law enforcement officers employed by the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Mint, National Institutes of Health and many more receive lower pensions compared to other law enforcement officers with similar responsibilities. This is not fair.

The FOP has worked with our friends and allies to introduce H.R. 1195/S. 473, the Law Enforcement Officers’ Equity Act, to expand

the definition of a “law enforcement officer” for retirement benefits to include all GS-0083 officers. This would provide these officers with 6(c) retirement benefits and the ability to retire after 20 years of service at the age of 50, or after 25 years of service at any age.

In the House, the bill has 37 co-sponsors — significantly more than we had at this point in the 115th Congress, which ended with 51 co-sponsors on the bill. We are working to increase the number of co-sponsors in the Senate, which now stands at four.

Public Safety Employer-Employee

Cooperation Act: This top priority has been re-introduced in the Senate by Timmy S. Baldwin (I-Wisc.) as S. 1394. Like the House bill, the legislation would require that states “substantially provide” for certain rights and responsibilities, including the right to form and join a labor organization and bargain collectively with a public safety employer.

The Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) would be authorized to ensure that states comply with the provisions of the bill, and if they deem a state is not compliant, the FLRA may issue regulations governing the labor-management relationship between

Continued on page 26 >



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public safety employers and employees.

The House bill currently has 141 co-sponsors — which is already twice the number of our final total (58) at the end of the 115th Congress — and the Senate bill has 18 co-sponsors.

Action on Other Legislation

Extradition of cop-killers hiding in Cuba: Since the last issue of the *Journal*, the FOP has worked with our friends on Capitol Hill on a resolution, S. Res. 252, which calls for the immediate extradition or expulsion to the United States of convicted murderers Joanne Chesimard, Charles Hill, William Morales and more than 70 other fugitives from justice who are receiving safe haven in the Republic of Cuba.

The resolution, introduced by Senator Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), the ranking member on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Senator Marco A. Rubio (R-Fla.), also has a House companion, H. Res. 92, introduced by Representatives Peter T. King (R-N.Y.) and William J. Pascrell Jr. (D-N.J.). Both resolutions are pending in the House and Senate Committees on Foreign Affairs and we will be pushing for their consideration.

Corporation transparency and combating money laundering and illicit finance: The House Committee on Financial Services considered and passed the FOP-supported H.R. 2513, the Corporation Transparency Act, on a bipartisan 43-16 vote. The legislation is intended to combat this misuse of U.S. shell corporations by requiring the U.S. Department of the Treasury, specifically the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), to collect beneficial ownership information from corporations and limited liability companies formed under state laws. The bill is expected to be considered on the House floor at some point after the August recess.

Collection of date of law enforcement suicides: The FOP worked with staff in the offices of Representatives Michael B. Quigley (D-Ill.), Madeleine C. Dean (D-Ia.) and Gregory W. Steube (R-Fla.) to develop H.R. 3735, the Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection Act. This legislation would establish a program to collect data on law enforcement and former law enforcement suicides at the local, state and federal level.

Every day in every community, officers put themselves in harm's way to protect the public. However, these officers are not just at risk physically — the mental health challenges of police work are real and can result in depression, substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, marital problems and, all too often, suicide. Law enforcement loses more officers to suicide than to line-of-duty deaths, but we have very little information about officer suicides and need this information to better help our officers in crisis.

Federal efforts, like the Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) program administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), collect data on law enforcement officers who are killed, injured or assaulted in the line of duty and analyze this information to improve existing officer safety training protocols. A better understanding of the physical threats officers face when on duty leads to advancements in equipment and training to mitigate these risks.

The Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection Act follows this model and would collect information on law enforcement and former law enforcement suicides and attempted suicides, using it to improve existing suicide prevention programs. We know that officers in crisis need help, but we need more information if we are to be successful in our efforts to provide it. Unlike many line-of-duty deaths, **suicides are preventable**, and we must do a better job for our officers who are struggling with their mental health and wellness.

Using Social Media

As the voice of our nation's law enforcement officers, we must continuously adapt in order to make our voices heard. Social media is a very powerful way to do that, allowing the FOP to have intimate, personal conversations with hundreds, if not thousands, of members and potential members, supporters and opponents, the general public and elected officials. We urge all FOP lodges to capitalize on the opportunity to communicate with others via social media, at any time of the day or night, anywhere in the world.

Using social media to engage your local and state elected officials, as well as your elected representatives and senators in Congress, is a terrific way to ensure that

the issues important to law enforcement get their attention. Tools such as Facebook and Twitter should not be an afterthought — lodges cannot just set up a Twitter account, publish one or two tweets and expect hundreds of members to start following them. When posting content, keep it at and be consistent with both activity and messaging. Make it part of a daily task or habit to post, share or like something. Each lodge must determine what that something is: What is your goal? Once you have a goal — it may relate to legislation, community activity or another area — it is important that you remain to stay on message.

The National Legislative Office's goal is to use social media platforms — primarily Twitter and Facebook — to reach our members and advocate for our legislative agenda by frequently posting press releases and updates on legislative activity as well as sharing events and news. Many members of the media and elected officials have interacted with us on Twitter, helping spread our announcements and positions.

Support the PAC!

The National Fraternal Order of Police Political Action Committee (NFOP PAC) plays an important role in the FOP's legislative advocacy strategy. The NFOP PAC allows the FOP to more effectively represent our members and advance our agenda on Capitol Hill. The FOP is the voice for law enforcement, so it is crucial we keep our PAC strong.

To do this, we are urging every FOP member in your lodge to make a donation and to consider becoming a monthly contributor. These contributions will help grow our PAC and amplify our voice in the legislative process. We also encourage lodges to consider participating in a payroll deduction program. Participating in this way can significantly grow our PAC.

To donate or learn more about participating in the NFOP PAC, contact Scott Marks at scott.marks@fop.net or call the National Legislative Office in Washington, D.C.

Follow the FOP on Facebook @NationalFraternalOrderOfPolice and Twitter @GLFOP for the latest news from Capitol Hill! #FOP



Collective Bargaining Seminar 2019

As we reflect on the 64th Biennial National Conference held this past August in New Orleans, we in the Labor Services Division hope those of you who attended were able to gain a wealth of knowledge from our informative seminars focusing on member representation, the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and other rich topics pertaining to collective bargaining. If you were unable to attend the National Conference or want more education and practice in regard to collective bargaining and negotiations at the table, we invite you to attend our Collective Bargaining

Seminar November 12-15 in Las Vegas at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino.

Not only will the seminar provide a collective bargaining education that is beneficial for experienced negotiators, non-experienced negotiators and any members of law enforcement who wish to sit on a bargaining team, but it will also provide real-life training in the form of mock negotiations, role playing, tactics and strategies that can all be used during real-life negotiations at your own bargaining table. If you are hoping to develop or enhance your public employment negotiation skills while also gaining insight into

what it is really like to sit down at the bargaining table, then the 2019 Collective Bargaining Seminar is a must!

Don't miss out on this opportunity as we take on true negotiation issues in practice, not to mention the fun and excitement of Las Vegas! For registration and more information, contact (615) 399-0900 or labor@fop.net.

// **WRITE TO US!** You can reach the Division of Labor Services at 201 Marrett Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37214; (800) 453-7371; or labor@fop.net.

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Fatal Police Shootings Since 2015

Over the years, we have been challenged to compile the number of police shootings that have taken place throughout the United States.

The Washington Post has compiled the number of fatal police shootings since 2015. The Department of Justice has recently budgeted to undertake the tracking of the same information. What we are able to gather from this information provides a different perspective. Many of the assumptions that have been reported in the media have not accurately reflected the data that is contained in *The Washington Post*.

This provides us with some factual information that is worth discussing and

building upon. A summary of the data is provided below.

Summary of Data

- The total number of annual fatal police shootings has generally been stable from year to year: the number of deaths each year has consistently been more than 950. As of July 15, 2019, there have been 4,421 fatal police shootings in the United States since 2015. Presently, 2019 has a below-average number of incidents. At the current rate, 2019 would be the least deadly year since 2015 if nothing changes.
- Less than 10% of victims each year are unarmed. Most victims are armed with a deadly weapon or what appears to be a weapon (i.e., gun, toy gun, knife or vehicle). In 2015, 74% of victims were engaged in an attack on the officer when the shooting occurred.
- Each year, around 99% of the victims are males. Around 44% of the victims are white, 23% are black and 17% are Hispanic. Among unarmed victims, 91% are male, 41% are white, 35% are black and 17% are Hispanic.
- The age group that has been affected the most by police shootings is that of persons ages 30–44, followed closely by ages 18–29. Combined, ages 18–44 account for around 65–70% of victims each year.
- Approximately 23% of total victims suffered from, or appeared to suffer from, a mental illness. Mental illness is less prevalent among unarmed victims.
- More than 60% of victims were not fleeing and were shot while on the scene. Around 17% were shot while fleeing in a car, and about 13% were shot while fleeing on foot. Unarmed victims and unarmed black victims were more likely to attempt to flee.
- In about 88% of the fatal police shootings, the officer either was not wearing a body camera or the body camera was not turned on.
- California has consistently had the highest number of fatal police shootings. New Mexico has the highest number of fatal police shootings per capita based on population count. Accounting for the uneven distribution of black Americans across states, the state of Idaho had the highest number of shootings of black victims per black residents. **FOP**

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Communication and Service: What an Auxiliary Can Do for You



The Grand Lodge Auxiliary's 39th Biennial Conference provided something for everyone. This year's informative presentations were designed with emphasis on auxiliary offices, from subordinate to State to National, in an effort to provide auxiliary leaders and future leaders with instruction and insight. We also had presentations from several of the benefit contributors of the Program Development Committee, who provided valuable information about some of the benefits afforded to FOP members and their families.

The Auxiliary Expo booth illustrated many of the projects and programs of the Auxiliary, and I hope you were able to visit it to learn more about the Auxiliary. We received several inquiries on initiating an auxiliary and will be following up on these requests for information.

Initiated by the Auxiliary's National Peace Officers' Memorial Service Committee, the Grand Lodge Auxiliary continues to offer the beautiful challenge coin depicting a replica of the Medal of Valor presented to the families of our fallen heroes at the Memorial Service in May and the United States Capitol on the back. Sales of these striking coins have allowed the Auxiliary to make donations to the Fraternal Order of Police Foundation. At this year's Conference, the Grand Lodge Auxiliary again presented the Foundation with a very nice contribution.

The *Auxiliary Informer* is the monthly electronic newsletter of the Grand Lodge Auxiliary that keeps members advised of the progress of National programs as well as events happening in State and subordinate auxiliaries nationwide. Articles welcoming newly formed auxiliaries and articles from local auxiliaries sharing their latest successful membership projects are published to provide other auxiliaries with new ideas. The National Auxiliary promotes our ways and means

projects and committee-sponsored raffles, while State and local auxiliaries advertise their fundraisers, inviting member participation nationwide. The *Informer* is designed to equip our members with up-to-date reports from the Grand Lodge Auxiliary and news of events and projects of other auxiliaries and their members. If you would like to receive this monthly electronic publication, please contact the editor at auxinformer@gmail.com and provide your name and lodge or auxiliary affiliation.

The brief visual presentation during the Auxiliary report on the FOP Conference floor depicted events of various subordinate and State auxiliaries throughout the country. The events were planned to support the members of the Fraternal Order of Police, some to raise funds used to support auxiliary projects and those of the FOP and some to gather together members of both organizations to appreciate our brothers and sisters in blue.

The Auxiliary is ready to work for you. We are the wives, husbands, sons, daughters, parents, siblings and extended family members of your lodge. We are the front-line supporters of your law enforcement community. What impacts and involves us. We have a direct, vested interest in you, your job, your welfare and your lives. As we continue our efforts to support law enforcement and their families, we work closely with our parent lodges on fundraisers and events to ensure that the FOP and their families know that we will "Never Let Them Walk Alone." We would be pleased to provide you with more information regarding how you can join the Auxiliary or how to organize an auxiliary for your lodge. The Auxiliary can be reached at the Grand Lodge Fraternal Order of Police website, www.fop.net (under About, select FOP Auxiliary from the drop-down menu). **FOP**

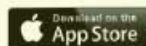


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