

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE WHITE CHAIRS // P. 10

FOP



JOURNAL

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LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS®

MAY 2025

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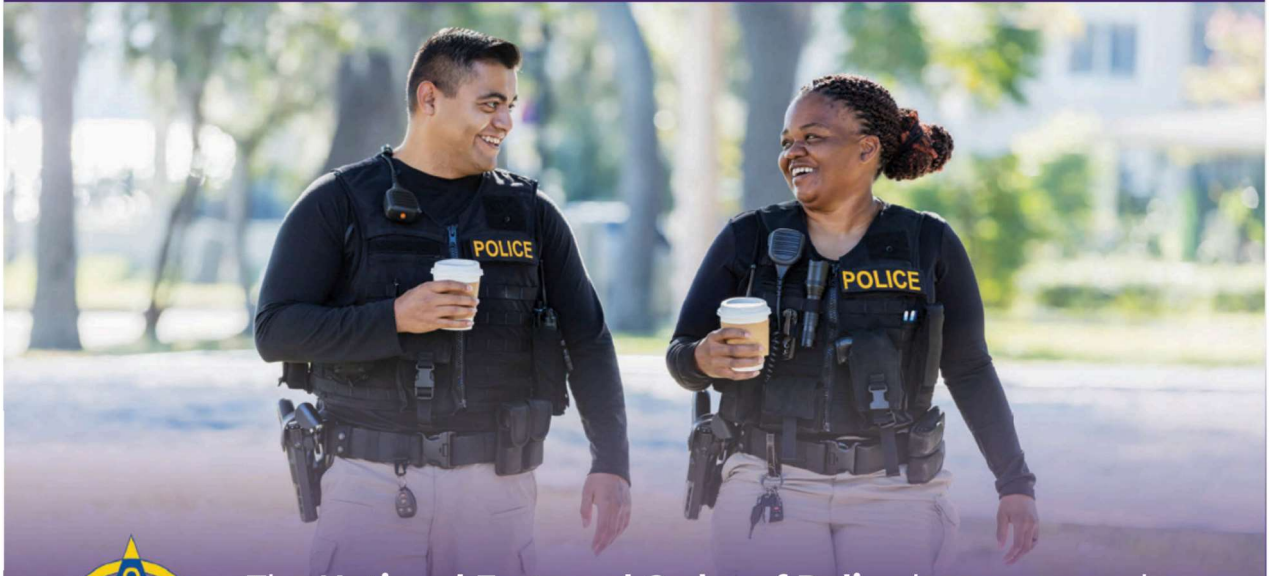
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First Responder Wellness is an employee retention tool exclusively for public safety professionals, to treat post-traumatic stress, alcohol, addiction, anxiety, depression, burnout, and more. Review our offerings below and reach out for more information.



WHAT WE TREAT

Post-traumatic Stress

Addiction

Alcohol

Anxiety

Depression

Burnout

OUR PROGRAMS

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Intensive Outpatient

Online Intensive Outpatient

After Care

Family Program

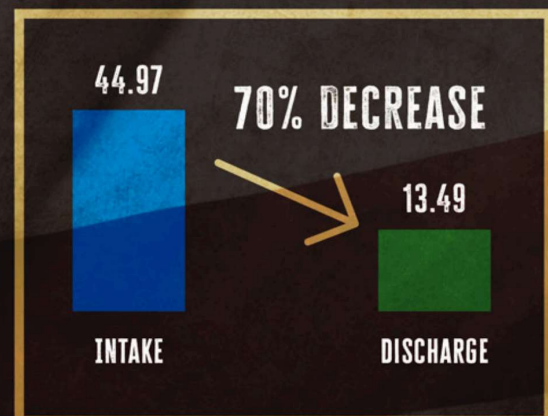
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- We hold the title of a vetted and approved treatment program by the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP).
- We work with more than 400 agencies across the country.
- We have provided treatment to over 1,600 public safety professionals since 2018.
- Our culturally competent staff exclusively works with First Responders.
- Program curriculum is developed specially for public safety.
- An alcohol or substance abuse diagnosis is NOT needed to enter our program.
- Most insurance plans and workers' comp are accepted. We average a 94% return to work rate.

VALIDATED OUTCOMES

First Responder Wellness outcomes data for Post-traumatic Stress uses the PCL-5 and we report a 70% decrease in the cumulative average from the time of admission to discharge.

- A score of 38 or higher is a provisional diagnosis of PTSD.
- A total score of 31 or higher suggests the client may benefit from PTSD treatment.
- Measuring Change: Evidence for the PCL-5 from the DSM-5 suggests that a 5-10-point change represents reliable change (i.e. change not due to chance).



Updated 4-1-2025.

LONG-TERM TREATMENT PROGRAM

Break Down Barriers for Those Seeking Help

Employees are the greatest asset within your agency. When they reach out for help, you need to be there. After shame and stigma, one of the most common barriers employees face when they need treatment, is paid time off. These are high-acuity cases that can ruin a life due to delayed treatment. Leaving it up to the employee or the workers' compensation system to return employees back to work after a psychological injury is not always successful. Additionally, if the employee is medically retired, your agency will have to invest additional resources to recruit, hire, and train their replacement.

Minimize Delays = Healthy Return to Work

First Responder Wellness has proven strategies and policies for using both paid admin leave and workers' compensation while employees are in treatment. If you have ever lost an employee to PTSI/PTSD, alcohol/substance misuse, or to the workers' comp abyss, we are here to help. Employees will enter our program immediately after completing the required paperwork. Our team will then concurrently handle all documentation and report writing required for workers' comp while they are getting treatment for their psychological injury. The result is no delay for starting treatments and employees can get healthy and back to work sooner.

Full-Service Workers' Compensation Provider

First Responder Wellness averages a 94% return to work rate with our long-term PTSD/PTSI treatment program. We work with departments, peer support teams, risk managers, and injured employees as they navigate the challenges of workers' compensation. Our mission is to get First Responders healthy and back to work. Our streamlined process includes the following:

- **AOE/COE Report Writing.**
- **Compilation of workers' comp reporting, including PR-4**



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National Police Week: May 11–17



National Fraternal Order of Police

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—Bill Bratton
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(LAPD 2002-2009)

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HARD CASES

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LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT (RET.)

FOREWORD BY BILL BRATTON



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What's With the White Chairs?

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

If you've ever attended Police Week in Washington, D.C., chances are you've heard the phrase "It's all about the white chairs." You may have even seen a challenge coin or a T-shirt featuring the simple image of a white folding chair. But what does it mean? Why the white chairs?

The answer is as powerful as it is simple: those white chairs are the reason we gather.

Each year, thousands converge on the nation's capital to honor the fallen heroes of law enforcement during the Fraternal Order of Police's National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol. Front and center, under the shadow of the Capitol dome, sit two thousand stark white folding chairs — reserved for the surviving family members of officers who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Several years ago, during an especially sweltering Police Week, those chairs took on an even deeper meaning. As an army of volunteers, vendors and law enforcement professionals worked tirelessly in the heat to prepare the grounds, emotions ran high. The pressure was immense — logistical hurdles, demands from the White House, security protocols and weather conditions. But in the end, what emerged was something extraordinary: a flawless tribute to our fallen and an unwavering commitment to the families left behind.

On the flight home, moved by the dedication I had witnessed, I jotted down my thoughts. Those reflections became a story I now share each year as a reminder that everything we do during Police Week centers around the white chairs. The words are as true today as they were then. Those white chairs represent sacrifice. They represent loss. And most of all, they represent our promise: that the fallen will never be forgotten, and their families will never stand alone.



It's All About the White Chairs

In Lafayette, Louisiana, a young mother of five packs her suitcase for an early morning flight. It's been just 10 months since her husband — a young officer with the Lafayette Police Department who had been on the job for 11 years — was shot and killed in the line of duty. She's heading to the nation's capital to attend a series of memorial services and workshops, each carefully designed to not only memorialize her loved one but also to help her cope with her loss and, hopefully, find closure in a seemingly endless nightmare that replays in her mind every time she closes her eyes at night.

She is not alone — the wives and husbands, mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, friends and partners of police officers who died in the line of duty in 2024 prepare for this same journey.

Hundreds of miles away, a tractor trailer arrives on the west front of the U.S. Capitol. Two men hop out, walk to the back of the truck to open the trailer and begin unloading chairs — thousands of them: some white, some blue, some red. Each is placed in rows according to color, as sketched out on a diagram — a layout painstakingly developed by dedicated volunteers.

The next day, before she and her two kids leave for the airport, she breaks down. But as she cries in her bathroom, she hears her children coming down the stairs with their bags. She wipes the tears, turns off the

light and heads out the door. A few hours later, as she and her children begin boarding their plane, work crews begin erecting stages, installing sound systems, railings and security parameters for the 44th annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, which is only days away.

This family of six arrives in Washington, as do the hundreds of families whom she will share her grief, for their loved ones have fallen, too. It is their nightmare as well, and together, they will find ways to cope with their emptiness. As they begin this experience, they sit in a room with other surviving families and cry, laugh, talk and listen. They attend workshops put on by those who understand their pain firsthand.

She rounds up the five children and joins others as they head over to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. This solemn, 3-acre park is a place where their loved ones' names are forever engraved on granite walls. It is here where her husband will take his rightful place of honor among the names of nearly 25,000 fallen officers who also gave their last full measure in the service of others.

As dusk approaches, she and her new friends, forever bonded by their loss, board buses for a short ride to the National Mall, where a somber candlelight vigil begins. Little does she know that when she arrives, there are already tens of thousands of people in

Continued on page 12 >

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 10 >

attendance. They have traveled from across the country to join her family and the other surviving families in honoring their loved ones. As the sunlight fades, tens of thousands of candles are lit and raised to honor the fallen loved ones. The names of each of their officers are read out loud. She is overwhelmed by the support of thousands of strangers who share in their remembrance, their healing and their sorrow.

Across town, the site begins to take shape. Several thousand white chairs are set up directly in front of a stage bearing the presidential seal. An even larger number of blue and red chairs flank them on each side. To the rear, some volunteers begin roping off a large standing area, while others set up tents at the entrances for security checkpoints.

A few blocks west, a handful of runners complete their journey from Philadelphia to the Memorial in honor of their fallen. Just north, bicyclists and motorcyclists turn onto Florida Avenue for the final stretch of their honor ride.

A small army of volunteers go down their checklists and become tired and frustrated with the last-minute changes and budget constraints. Yet, in the background, the sounds of "Taps" can faintly be heard from buglers practicing in the shade. The somber sound is occasionally drowned out by the bellowing of bagpipes practicing "Amazing Grace" by a group determined to ensure every note be perfect.

The sights and sounds of so many remind them why their work is so important. Police honor guard teams from hundreds of agencies, from the largest to the smallest, practice under the sometimes-brutal

mid-spring sun to ensure that their every step and turn occurs with pinpoint precision.

On the morning of May 15, the surviving families begin to board buses headed for the Capitol. Escorted by what seems like miles of motorcycle officers, they cross the bridge over the Potomac River and enter the District. Driving alongside the National Mall, they pass one memorial after another — each one dedicated to American heroes. The buses enter the Capitol complex, and the families of the fallen begin to disembark. As they make their way to their seats, thousands of uniformed officers stand side by side, creating a cordon of honor leading to the white chairs.

Ask any volunteer why they give their all to this service. Ask any FOP member why they spend a large portion of their dues for this service. Ask any corporate sponsor why they contribute to this solemn service. Ask those who travel from near and far to attend this service. They may all articulate their reasons differently, but each of their messages will share one underlining theme — it's all about the white chairs.

Each one of those white chairs represents a hero who has fallen, and equally as important, heroes who must carry on. Their lives have been forever changed, and through the efforts of so many, they know they are not alone, for we never forget our fallen and the contribution they and their families have made and will continue to make.

When the days grow long, the temperature rises and the site preparation work seems endless, remember ... it's all about the white chairs. When you are running or cycling to the Memorial in honor of our fallen, remember ... it's all about the white chairs. When you arrive at the service and can't get the view of the stage you like, remember ... it's all about the white



chairs. When there isn't enough seating for last-minute VIP seating changes, remember ... it's all about the white chairs. When the services extend longer than expected because the president of the U.S. takes time to ask survivors to tell him about their loved one, remember ... it's all about the white chairs. When egos get bruised and tempers flare because the task seems overwhelming and thankless at times, remember ... it's all about the white chairs. When participating in the evening parties and gatherings to celebrate life, remember ... it's all about the white chairs.

As long as there is a need for white chairs to be set up on the lawn of our nation's capital on May 15 to remember and honor our fallen, our work is not done. Never should we lose sight of the reason we do what we must all do — which is to remember. Take pride in your efforts, for the FOP's National Peace Officers' Memorial Service doesn't just happen, it evolves out of our respect and admiration for those who have given far more than we have. **FOP**

Support the NFOP PAC!

We need your support of the National Fraternal Order of Police Political Action Committee (NFOP PAC), which, like our grassroots activism, is an essential part of our National Legislative Program. The NFOP PAC allows us to support candidates who support our members and our profession. As the oldest and largest law enforcement labor organization in the United States, it is crucial we keep our PAC strong, so we can help the candidates who not only support our members but the entire law enforcement community. It is up to us to ensure that they get elected!

We need to increase member participation in our payroll deduction and monthly recurring credit card programs. Please help us advocate on your behalf and do so with the resources needed to be effective. Help us grow our PAC and amplify our voice in the nation's capital.



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Remembering Our Fallen Brothers and Sisters



// **WRITE TO US!** If you have further questions, contact Jimmy Holderfield at (904) 813-0067, or jholderfield@fop.net.

Brothers and sisters, this month is the most solemn of all months as we cherish the memories our fallen sisters and brothers and honor their families. Once again, we will assemble at our nation's capital on May 15 at 12 p.m. to pay tribute to all who have made the supreme sacrifice. As in recent years, our theme will be the "white chairs." Our Memorial Committee and Auxiliary volunteers spend hours perfectly arranging the hundreds of white chairs that will seat the survivors. It is a somber task, but it is performed with much dedication and love. God bless our departed and watch over their families.

I do hope that you are able to attend the Memorial Service and the other events during Police Week. If you attend the service, please stay until the end. There is nothing more disappointing to the families than to see empty visitors' seats at the end of the program. Please show respect, dignity and support to the survivors — especially the children. Thank you, brothers and sisters.

I have received a total of 10 proposed amendments to the National Constitution and By-Laws. They are currently being reviewed by our National Constitution and By-Laws Committee for conflicts, grammar and order. Every lodge will receive the proposals by June 5, which is 60 days from the beginning of the National Conference. Most of the proposals are administrative changes, but a few, if passed, would dramatically change the way we do business. Please check with your local lodge secretary for review. I will also be publishing them in the coming months.

Your National Headquarters staff has been working tirelessly on the new membership database system. There are numerous moving parts in migrating our vast amount of data from the VUE system to the new ACGI (Association Anywhere) system.

Currently, our staff is learning the system and its "back office" features, which will enable them to assist the local and state lodges in more efficiently managing their members' information. We are on target to begin local and state lodge training sessions on May 19. During this time, and through late June, we will also be testing the system. Our goal is to work out any bugs and make sure that everything is perfect. The official go-live date is June 27. While there may be some minor interruptions during the week of June 23–27 as we transition from VUE, we will keep this to a minimum. Stay tuned for more details.

If you haven't already done so, please make sure your driver's license is a Real ID. This requirement goes into effect on May 7. The consequences for not having a Real ID are delays or refusal by TSA to allow you to go through airport screening. Also, Microsoft will stop supporting Windows 10 on October 14. You should consider upgrading to Windows 11. Your computer will probably still work after October 14, but you will be more vulnerable to security threats.

In closing, please let me or my staff know if we can be of assistance to you in any way. It is our pleasure to serve you. Stay safe, and I look forward to seeing you soon. **FOP**

FOP CALENDAR



National Police Week

May 11–17, 2025
Washington, D.C.

67th Biennial National Conference

August 4–7, 2025
Miami Beach, Fla.

Collective Bargaining

November 4–6, 2025
Las Vegas, Nev.
Save the date

Pathways to Excellence

March 29–April 3, 2026
Las Vegas, Nev.
Save the date

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

The FOP constantly endeavors to hear about the experiences of our members, so that we can understand how best to serve you.

The FOP was selected to partner with the Department of Justice to build standardized training in law enforcement peer support. Share your thoughts with us on how this training can best help our profession at surveymonkey.com/r/PowerInPeers.

A Daily Journal for Law Enforcement

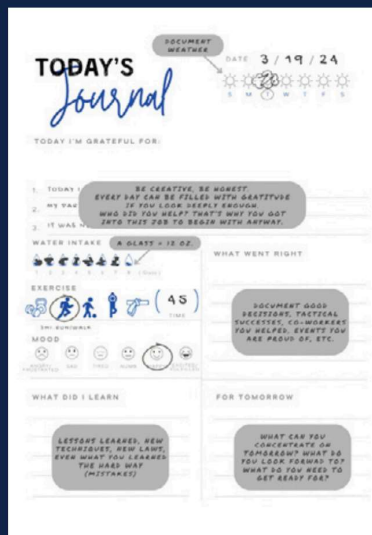
Chad W. Farley's *A Daily Journal for Law Enforcement*, part of the First Responder Daily Journal series, is a comprehensive tool designed to support the mental and physical wellness of police officers. It provides a structured space for reflection, promotes self-care practices, fosters a supportive culture and helps officers manage the unique stressors of their profession.

Benefits of journaling for first responders include:



Chad W. Farley

- Stress reduction
- Improved mental health
- Enhanced resilience
- Increased self-awareness
- Better sleep
- Enhanced communication skills
- Memory improvement



DOCUMENT WEATHER DATE 3 / 19 / 24

TODAY'S Journal

TODAY I'M GRATEFUL FOR:

1. TODAY I BE CREATIVE, BE HONEST EVERY DAY CAN BE FILLED WITH GRATITUDE IF YOU LOOK DEEPLY ENOUGH
2. MY DAY WHO DID YOU HELP? THAT'S WHY YOU GOT INTO THIS JOB TO BEGIN WITH ANYWAY.
3. IT WAS

WATER INTAKE (A GLASS = 15 OZ)

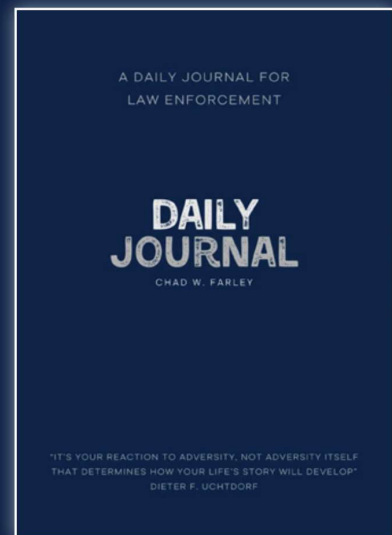
WHAT WENT RIGHT

EXERCISES (AS)

MOOD

WHAT DID I LEARN

FOR TOMORROW



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SALUTING THE FALLEN

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 2025



Tens of thousands of law enforcement officers, survivors and supporters from across the country will travel to the nation's capital from May 11–17 to attend National Police Week memorials, ceremonies and gatherings. They come to honor the bravery and heroism of federal, state, county, municipal, military, tribal and campus

officers who gave their lives in the line of duty and to support the loved ones they left behind.

During the 44th annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on May 15, the National FOP and National FOP Auxiliary will be honoring the 232 fallen heroes listed here. May their courage, sacrifice and dedication never be forgotten. **FOP**

ALABAMA

Jesse Cooper*
Timothy Wayne Johns
John McCrary
Jermyus Young

ARIZONA

Joshua Briese
Adam Buckner
Zane Coolidge
Ryan So
Jason Southard*

ARKANSAS

S. Justin Smith

CALIFORNIA

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Ryan Santana*
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Anthony Mezzacappa
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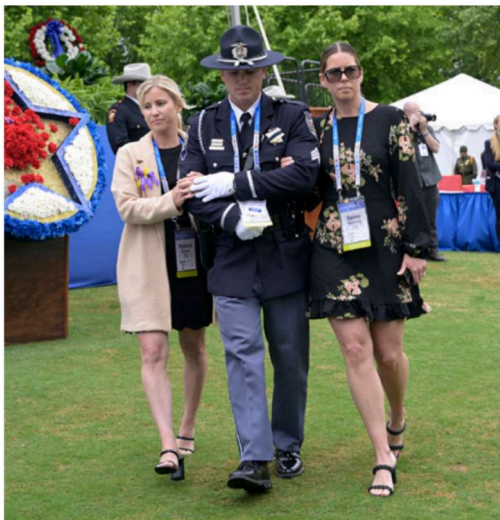


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 Steven Tyrrell
 Randy Van Name*
 James Ward*
 Thomas Waterman*
 John Welch*
 Alfred Williams
 William Wilson*

Continued on page 18 >



David L. Stevens



SALUTING THE FALLEN *Continued from page 17 >*

NORTH CAROLINA

William Elliott
Joshua Eyer
Michael Horan
Christopher Johnson
Russell Jones*
Samuel Poloche
Michelle Quintero
Gabriel Torres*

OHIO

Jacob Derbin
Rex Emrick*
Andrew Lansing
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Nevada Krinke

FEDERAL

Jesus Anaya
 Derek Baer
 Kevin Grossheim
 Justin Joslyn*
 Jeffrey Kanas
 Raymond Kuuchi
 John Leatham
 Joseph Love
 Christopher Luna
 Thomas Weeks

PUERTO RICO

Luis Algarin De Jesus
 Eliezer Ramos-Velez Jr.

*The officer's death occurred in a previous year but was determined to be a line-of-duty death.





National Police Week

May 6 Annual Blue Mass

St. Patrick Catholic Church (downtown Washington, D.C.); 12:10 p.m.

May 10 National Police Week 5K

Registration begins at 7 a.m., with opening announcements at 8:45 a.m. Race begins at 9 a.m.

May 11 National Police K-9 Memorial Service

National Memorial; 1 p.m.

May 12 Law Enforcement United Arrival Ceremony

Location and time TBD

May 12 Police Unity Tour Bike Ride-in and Ceremony

Ride-in arrives at the Memorial Wall at 444 E. Street, NW, Washington, D.C., at 2 p.m.

May 12 Honor Guard Reception at the Museum

Honor Guard members and teams who are volunteering for either the Candlelight Vigil or Stand Watch for the Fallen may attend. Registration is required; 7–9 p.m.

May 13 Fraternal Order of Police D.C. Lodge #1 Police Week Tent City

Solace Outpost and El Rey — Navy Yard, through May 14

May 13 36th Annual Candlelight Vigil

Held at 8 p.m. on the National Mall between 4th and 7th Streets and Madison and Jefferson Drives. Everyone is welcome.

**May 14 20th Annual Fraternal
Order of Police Steve Young Honor
Guard and Pipe Band Demonstration**

West Front of the U.S. Capitol at the Reflecting
Pool and 3rd Street; 9 a.m.

May 14 Police Vehicle Display

U.S. Capitol Reflecting Pool; 1–4 p.m.

**May 14 C.O.P.S. National Police
Survivors' Conference**

Registration is mandatory. Washington Hilton
Hotel; 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

**May 14 C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens
Program (Day One)**

Local law enforcement facilities; 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

**May 14 National Emerald
Society Parade**

Parade starts at Hyatt Place
Washington, D.C.; 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

May 14 C.O.P.S. Blue Honor Gala

Washington Hilton Hotel; 6 p.m.

**May 15 44th Annual National
Peace Officers' Memorial Service**

West Front of the U.S. Capitol in
Washington, D.C.; noon

May 15 Wreath-Laying Ceremony

Will be held immediately following the
memorial service at the National Law
Enforcement Officers Memorial.



**May 16 C.O.P.S. National Police
Survivors' Conference**

Registration is mandatory. Washington Hilton
Hotel; 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

**May 16 C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens
Program (Day Two)**

Local law enforcement facilities; 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

May 16 C.O.P.S. Blue Family Barbecue

Washington Hilton Hotel; 6–9 p.m.

For more information, go to policeweek.org for schedule details
and policeweekhg.com for Honor Guard and Drum and Pipe details.

Fraternal Order of Police National Memorial Committee

Matthew Hagen
Chair

NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL

2025 ROLL CALL OF HEROES SHIRT

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First and last name _____

Shipping address _____

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S: _____ M: _____ L: _____ XL: _____ 2X: _____

3X: _____ 4X: _____

Total number of shirts _____

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For a downloadable PDF version of this form,
go to tinyurl.com/rollcalloffheroesshirt2025.

Form updated 2/28/2025 - knewman

NATIONAL FOP AUXILIARY ROLL CALL OF HEROES

COMMEMORATIVE
CHALLENGE COIN

ORDER FORM

The National FOP Auxiliary is selling the above pictured Memorial Challenge Coins. This coin is 3.28 inches in diameter, 3.5-4mm thick, four-color with 3D components and the current Roll Call of Heroes names on this coin as a reminder It's All About the White Chairs. Your support is greatly appreciated.

To order, please email the completed form to **knewman.fopa@gmail.com**. You will receive an invoice via email from the National FOP Auxiliary Square account that includes a total for coins and shipping. If you have any questions, please text National FOP Auxiliary Second VP KaSandra Newman at (918) 230-3478.

Total # _____ coins @ \$20 each = \$ _____

For a downloadable PDF version of this form,
go to tinyurl.com/rollcallofheroescoin2025.



FRONT



BACK

Shipping and handling: Four coins or less = \$7, five to 50 coins = \$10.85 (USPS Flat Rate shipping with tracking), 51+ coins please email **knewman.fopa@gmail.com** for shipping rates to be calculated based on delivery address = \$ _____

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Form updated 2/28/2025

FOP Auxiliary

Whiskey and Cigar

Gift Set Raffle



With the cost of everything going up, our volunteers who go to the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service each year pay a lot of money out of their own pockets. We are trying to help offset some of those costs by holding a couple of raffles. **Proceeds go to the Volunteer Assistance Fund.**

Tickets are \$5 each, or five tickets for \$20.

PayPal: fopauxiliary@fop.net

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LIT SAFETY VEST



BE SAFE AND BE SEEN

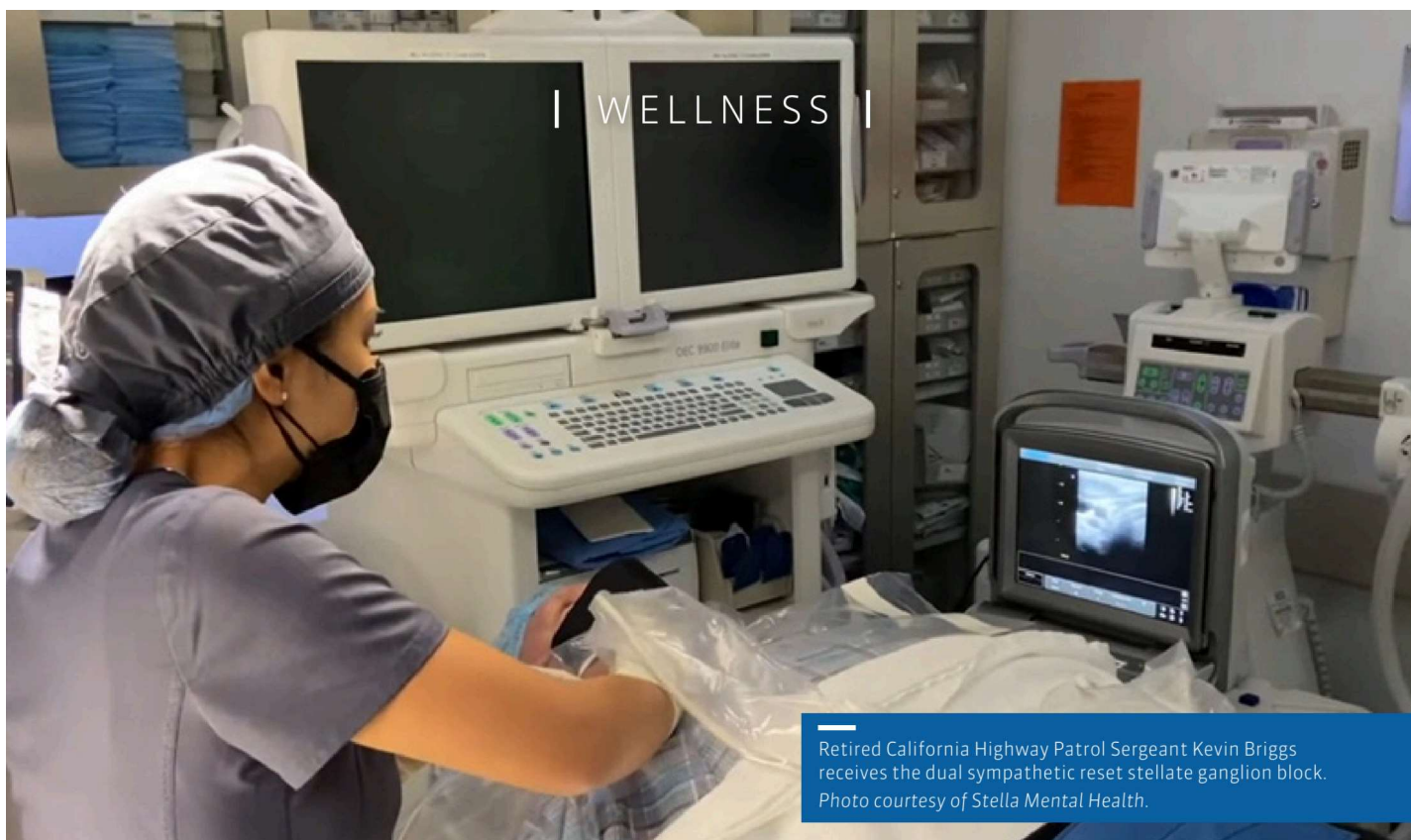
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**SCAN TO LEARN ABOUT
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Retired California Highway Patrol Sergeant Kevin Briggs receives the dual sympathetic reset stellate ganglion block. Photo courtesy of Stella Mental Health.

A NEW TREATMENT BRINGS NEW HOPE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

MIGRATING WHAT WORKS IN SPECIAL FORCES TO THE LEO COMMUNITY

SHAUNA SPRINGER, PH.D.

Research shows that law enforcement officers can sustain hundreds of trauma exposures over the course of their careers.¹ These exposures can lead to what I call a “hair-trigger nervous system”² — a variant of the physiological condition called “trigger finger.”³

Specifically, just as repeated use of a firearm can cause the trigger finger to become “frozen” into a bent position, the nervous system can become “locked” into a chronic state of fight or flight after repeated exposures to trauma.

When this happens, individuals report a set of predictable challenges:

- Disrupted sleep: “I only get a few hours of sleep a night if I’m lucky.”
- Sudden spikes in anxiety: “I get flooded with anxiety, even when I’m not in direct danger.”
- Irritability and anger: “I go from zero to one hundred in no time at all ... I yell at my partner or kids, and I feel so ashamed.”

- Difficulties concentrating: “I can’t read a book anymore.”
- Extreme, persistent hypervigilance: “I’m so keyed up all the time that I can’t even enjoy a movie in a public theater with my family.”

Given the life-altering burden of symptoms related to a dysregulated fight-or-flight system, new methodologies must be welcomed as a next step in the evolution of how we maintain a healthy, operational workforce within police departments.

Stellate ganglion block (SGB) is a 15- to 20-minute nerve block procedure that has been documented in medical literature for nearly a century, with longstanding applications to a variety of neurological and pain-related conditions. In recent decades, SGB has shown promise as a potentially life-altering treatment for those who suffer from a “hair-trigger” nervous system.

SGB for chronically overactive fight-or-flight symptoms is one of the most promising adaptations of a procedure well

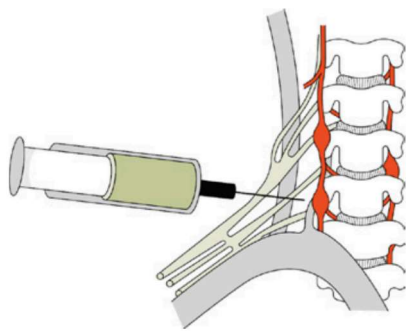
documented to be safe. However, it is not best used as a standalone “miracle cure.” Stella Mental Health has treated approximately 10,000 patients since 2020. Observed outcomes suggest that the best treatment results occur when SGB is deployed just before or concurrently with culturally aligned, trauma-informed talk therapy and other research-backed interventions.

However, SGB can play a critical role in changing lives — and potentially saving the careers — of law enforcement officers, including law enforcement executive leaders, who suffer from the predictable impacts of an overactive fight-or-flight system.⁴ When sequenced strategically within a plan of care, SGB often accelerates and enhances positive outcomes with concurrent trauma-focused talk therapy and other mind-body interventions. As a successfully treated patient once said, “SGB is the primer to the paint of seeing a doctor who gets it.”

What Is Stellate Ganglion Block (SGB)?

A conventional SGB procedure involves a single injection made on the right side of the neck, along the cervical nerve chain, near the C6 level. Innovators focused on the use of SGB for post-traumatic injury have evolved this protocol to include a second injection made at the superior cervical ganglion (C3 level) and injections made on the left side at least 24 hours after right-side intervention.

This dual-level SGB procedure is referred to as a “dual sympathetic reset” SGB (or DSR SGB) to differentiate it



DSR SGB has been shown to have dramatic positive effects in many patients and can help accelerate the positive impact of culturally aligned talk therapy.

from the conventional single-level SGB. Further, the use of ultrasound to guide injections is another protocol evolution, as it provides a better picture of the anatomy and subdermal vasculature without exposing patients to radiation.

At the time of this publication, NYU Langone Health is currently conducting a landmark randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of the effects of SGB on neural activity and symptoms in participants with post-traumatic stress disorder, using these protocol improvements.⁵

Efficacy and Safety of SGB

Across a variety of studies, the efficacy of SGB for symptoms of trauma ranges from 70%–83% of treated patients seeing clinically significant positive outcomes. In the largest published retrospective analysis to date, within a sample of 327 patients treated from 2016–2020, over 80% of patients experienced a 10-point drop in the PCL-4, the threshold for a clinically meaningful response as defined by the National Center for PTSD.⁶ Moreover, the average decrease in the PCL score for men and women was 28.59 and 29.2, respectively, a magnitude of change that is nearly three times higher than what is considered a “clinically significant outcome,” according to the National Center for PTSD.

SGB has been the subject of research for approximately 100 years. Its safety properties are well documented. In one study that was specifically focused on safety and potential side effects, over 45,000 participants received SGB.⁷ This study was conducted before the use of guided imagery techniques, and yet, even so, the incidence of severe side effects, even when SGB was performed blindly, was 1.7 per thousand participants.

The use of imagery guidance has been a critical evolution in safety protocols. A 2015 study by Dr. Brian McLean, an active-duty military physician who treated 250 soldiers with SGB, showed no long-term negative side effects. Similarly, the authors of a recent multi-site, randomized clinical trial, published in *JAMA Psychiatry*, describe SGB as a “safe, routine procedure.”⁸

A properly placed SGB injection carries no known adverse side effects. A good analogy is this: SGB has the same side effect profile as a properly placed epidural that thousands of new mothers receive every day in birthing units across the country. The expectation with both epidurals and SGBs, as long as the providing physician places the injection correctly, is that there are no long-term side effects from either procedure. This analogy is particularly apt, as SGB and epidurals during childbirth are based on

SGB can play a critical role in changing lives — and potentially saving the careers — of law enforcement officers.

the injection of the same FDA-approved anesthetic medication, typically ropivacaine or bupivacaine.

How Would Treatment Work, Practically Speaking?

Stella Mental Health is the nation’s largest and most experienced provider of the advanced form of SGB, the “dual sympathetic reset.” With a 9,000-square-foot headquarters in Chicago and about 20 clinics across the country — many located in major metropolitan areas — Stella offers an accessible, efficient treatment option.

The treatment itself takes 15 to 20 minutes, with two to three hours required for each of the two days in the clinic. So it’s possible to treat overactive fight-or-flight symptoms discreetly, over two days at a clinic, with minimal time required for recovery. A police officer can resume full duties 24 hours after a procedure. Stigma is not often a significant barrier to treatment, as Stella approaches post-traumatic stress as an “injury” rather than a disorder.

Continued on page 28 >

WELLNESS

Continued from page 27 >

The process starts with an intake that looks at target symptoms and medical factors. The total cost of full treatment is about \$2,000, which includes the intake, two days of treatment in the clinic and the medical follow-up. Some cities, police departments and affiliated associations have started to provide ways to fund or offset the cost of care. For example, the Chicago City Council unanimously passed a landmark resolution addressing the mental health of first responders and the growing crisis among the city's emergency personnel and employees.

Led by Alderman Anthony Napolitano, a retired police officer and firefighter who understands firsthand the challenges first responders face, the council has now made it possible for all city employees to receive DSR SGB at Stella Mental Health through the City of Chicago's Flexible Spending Account (FSA) program. The 100 Club of Illinois may also offset the cost of the procedure for first responders outside of Chicago, but within the state of Illinois, if donated funds are available. Other departments and first responder support associations across the country are beginning to follow suit, and officers have been able to use Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) and Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) in other states too.

The Big Question Police Officers Want to Know

The biggest obstacle for police officers is not the cost of the DSR SGB procedure, or fears about side effects with such a minimally invasive procedure. The biggest barrier is this: **"If I get treated, will I be able to respond to threats as quickly as before, or will this slow me down?"**

The confusion stems from the original name of the procedure: stellate ganglion **block**. The name is based on the use of this procedure as a "nerve block" within the pain treatment field for nearly 100 years. Contrary to its name, SGB does not block the response to threats.⁹ In fact, it enhances response time and operational capabilities. SGB is used as a **performance optimizer** within special forces units.

Those who are in law enforcement roles in today's America must "keep their



Stella Mental Health

Stella Mental Health physician Dr. John How uses ultrasound to place the DSR SGB injection.

edge." Understandably, many LEOs fear being caught "flat footed" in response to potential danger in their environment. This misconception is so powerful that it can prevent individuals from seeking relief for a range of debilitating symptoms. Again, though, **the effect of SGB is the opposite of what is feared.** Research conducted on a cohort of active-duty service members demonstrated that SGB does not degrade neurocognitive performance and can actually improve reaction time.¹⁰

This is one of the reasons why the latest evolution in SGB, the dual-level SGB, is now referred to as a "dual sympathetic reset." This terminology makes the target and expected outcome clearer for patients and unfamiliar providers alike.

Conclusion

To wrap up, it is time for us to embrace a performance enhancement model that has long been used in special forces units. While the role of talk therapists will remain a critical part of reorganizing the cognitive and behavioral patterns impacted by years of trauma exposure, many in law enforcement roles — from patrol officers to dispatch to chiefs — may benefit from receiving DSR SGB. With an option like this, no one must needlessly suffer the feeling that trauma has "broken" something that cannot be healed with the right insights

and the right treatment approach. A hair-trigger nervous system can be treated and healed. We just need to migrate what works in special forces to police departments across the country.

About the Author

*Shauna 'Doc' Springer, Ph.D., is a best-selling author, frequently requested keynote speaker and Police1 columnist ([police1.com/Shauna-Springer](https://www.police1.com/Shauna-Springer)). She is the author of *Relentless Courage and Warrior*, both of which have been sourced for mass book clubs by several organizations. Springer is the owner of *Thin Line Advisory* (thinlineadvisory.com), which provides specialized consultation to law enforcement leaders and their departments. In addition, she serves as the chief psychologist for Stella (stellamentalhealth.com), which has more than 20 clinics across the nation that offer innovative treatments for a range of psychological challenges, and is the lead psychological advisor for MAGNUSWorx (magnusworx.com), an innovative app that supports first responders. **FOP***

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PROTECTING THE HEARTS OF THOSE WHO PROTECT AND SERVE

Announcing a New Collaboration Between the American Heart Association and the National Fraternal Order of Police

This May, in recognition of **Blood Pressure Education Month**, **Stroke Awareness Month** and **National Police Week** (May 11–17), the American Heart Association is proud to launch a new collaboration with the National Fraternal Order of Police (NFOP) to promote and support the heart and brain health of police officers nationwide.

With **377,000 members** and **more than 2,200 local lodges**, the NFOP plays an important role in protecting our communities — and now, we're working together to protect the well-being of those who serve.

Why It Matters

Every day, police officers face intense situations and put themselves on the front lines to keep their communities safe. The demands of the job can take a real toll — both physically and emotionally. Over time, stress and pressure may impact overall well-being, including mental health and heart health, making it even more important to have access to tools and resources that support long-term wellness.

That's why this new collaboration is so important. The American Heart Association is joining forces with the NFOP to tackle the health issues officers experience head-on. With tools like the American Heart Association's Life's Essential 8 (tinyurl.com/h6xs594y), officers now have access to simple, step-by-step resources to help improve their health, including tips for managing blood pressure (tinyurl.com/4z2668z6).

One of the most important steps in managing blood pressure is self-monitoring at home (SMBP); see tinyurl.com/2p8nctc. Using a validated device regularly helps track trends over time and provides meaningful information to share with your health care provider. It's a simple yet powerful way to stay in control of your health — right from home.

What to Do Next

If you're a police officer — or have someone you love who is on the job — please share this information. Visit heart.org for more free tools, videos and resources to help take control of your blood pressure today.

We're excited about the potential for a long-term collaboration between the American Heart Association and the



National Fraternal Order of Police. Together, our shared mission goes beyond saving lives — we're dedicated to safeguarding the health and well-being of those who serve and protect. **FOP**

The American Heart Association and the National Fraternal Order of Police are proud to collaborate to improve the cardiovascular health and overall well-being of law enforcement officers.



**American
Heart
Association.**

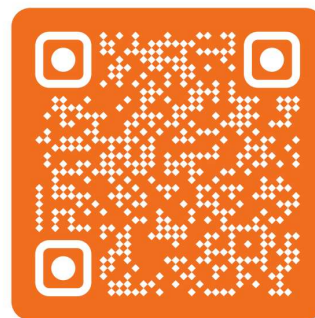


On the Front Line of Drug Identification: Trust The New TacticID 1064

Fast, Reliable Drug Identification for Every Critical Situation

The TacticID handheld Raman analyzer provides instant, safe identification of illicit substances for law enforcement, hazmat teams, and first responders. With results in seconds, a comprehensive library of narcotics and precursors, and non-destructive testing, TacticID ensures safety and evidence integrity in every situation.

Lightweight, rugged, and easy to use, TacticID is built for the demands of the field—empowering you to protect your community and respond with confidence.

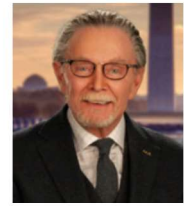


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 **Metrohm**



Updates on FOP's Legislative Priorities



LEOSA Reform Act Clears House Judiciary Committee

As expected, H.R. 2243, the LEOSA Reform Act, was considered and favorably reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary at the end of March. The bill, which was introduced by Representatives Donald J. Bacon (R-Neb.) and Henry Cuellar (D-Texas), will now go to the House floor the week of May 11 for a floor vote. The legislation passed the House last year on a 221–185 vote.

Currently, the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA) exempts qualified active and retired law enforcement officers from local and state prohibitions on the carriage of concealed firearms. This legislation amends existing law to ensure that officers can carry in the same venues as civilian concealed carry permit holders. The bill also extends the exemption to magazine capacity and would allow active and retired law enforcement officers to access services in U.S. post offices, Social Security Administration offices, Veterans Affairs offices and other federal facilities without disarming or securing their firearms elsewhere. It would also allow states to decide to extend the period between training certifications for qualified retired law enforcement officers from 12 months to 36 months.

The LEOSA Reform Act would not increase the number of officers who carry firearms under the current LEOSA statute. It does, however, remove conflict and confusion from current state and federal laws while closing existing loopholes to prevent

Just the Facts:

» Several FOP-backed bills are making their way through Congress, including the LEOSA Reform Act, which is headed for a vote on the House floor in May. The act amends existing LEOSA law to ensure that qualified active and retired officers can carry firearms in the same venues as civilian concealed carry permit holders. The FOP is also continuing its advocacy campaign for the Protect and Serve Act, meeting with numerous key House Judiciary Committee staff to build support for this bill, which creates a new federal offense for anyone who “willingly” assaults a law enforcement officer. Additionally, the FOP has voiced its opposition to several anti-union bills: the Protecting Taxpayers’ Wallets Act, the Preserving Presidential Management Authority Act and the Paycheck Protection Act.

any officer from inadvertently putting themselves in legal jeopardy.

The Senate bill, S. 679, was introduced in February and has not yet been scheduled for consideration.

House Judiciary Holds Markup on Seven Bills

In addition to H.R. 2243, the Judiciary Committee also considered and favorably reported H.R. 2240, the Improving Law Enforcement Officer Safety and Wellness Through Data Act, by voice vote, and H.R. 2255, the Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act, on a 14–9 vote. The FOP supports both bills.

The committee also favorably reported:

- H.R. 38, the Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act
- H.R. 60, the Knife Owners’ Protection Act
- H.R. 2184, the Firearm Due Process Protection Act
- H.R. 2267, the NICS Data Reporting Act

All of these measures are now pending on the House floor.

House Oversight Committee Adopts Anti-Union Bills

The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform considered, amended and favorably reported H.R. 1210, the Protecting Taxpayers’ Wallets Act, to the House floor on a 23–21 vote.

The legislation is blatantly anti-union and the FOP strongly opposes it. The legislation takes the extraordinary step of requiring executive branch agencies to charge labor unions representing agency employees a quarterly fee for their use of agency resources. It would make that fee based on the value of the time a union representative spends on official union business and the value of agency resources provided to the union while employed by the agency and on duty. The determination of such a fee could not be considered as an unfair labor practice or be subject to collective bargaining. The FOP will continue to oppose this legislation on the House floor. You can find our letter of opposition at [FOP.net/letter/h-r-1210-the-protecting-taxpayers-wallets-act](https://fop.net/letter/h-r-1210-the-protecting-taxpayers-wallets-act).

The committee also considered and favorably reported H.R. 2249, the

Preserving Presidential Management Authority Act, on a 23–21 vote. The bill would allow an incoming president, but not incumbents, to terminate any collective bargaining agreement provision entered into by employees of a federal agency that is in force and effect on the date such president is sworn into office. It also provides that any language in such an agreement that conflicts with a rule, executive order, presidential memorandum or any other presidential order, as determined by the president or the head of an agency, would not be enforceable. The FOP strongly opposes this legislation.

Finally, the committee considered and favorably reported H.R. 2174, the Paycheck Protection Act, on a 23–21 vote. This is another anti-union bill that would prohibit union members from paying their dues automatically from their paychecks — a standard practice at every level of public employment. This would place an unnecessary burden on union members who receive services based on their payment of dues. The

FOP strongly opposes the bill and will continue to fight against its passage on the House floor. You can find our letter of opposition at FOP.net/letter/paycheck-protection-act.

Executive Orders and Actions Impacting Law Enforcement

In March, President Trump issued an executive order (EO) entitled “Exclusions From Federal Labor-Management Relations Programs.” The action ends collective bargaining rights for most federal employees involved in “intelligence, counterintelligence, investigative, or national security work.” The EO does preserve collective bargaining rights for “agency police officers, security guards, and firefighters.”

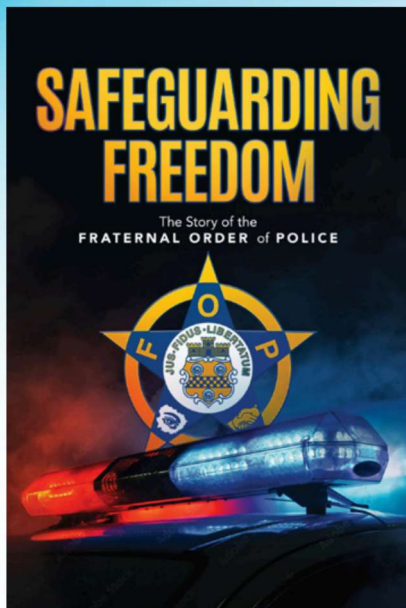
Also in March, President Trump issued an EO entitled “Continuing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy.” Section 2(a)(i) of the EO has effectively dismantled the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS), which has provided vital services to labor relations and has been especially valuable to law

enforcement labor organizations like the FOP. The FOP has written President Trump asking that he reconsider the EO’s implementation with respect to the FMCS, and the FOP is engaged with the administration on this issue. You can find our letter at FOP.net/letter/rifs-at-the-fmcs.

The FOP is also in a dialogue with White House officials about our concerns with the recent reductions in force at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, specifically within the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which, among other responsibilities, certifies first responders eligible for health care through the World Trade Center Health Program. The White House staff assured the FOP that they will work with us to ameliorate the impact of the reduction in force and to ensure that 9/11 responders receive the highest quality of care.

Deputy Attorney General Todd W. Blanche issued a memo entitled “Soliciting

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SAFEGUARDING FREEDOM: *The Story of the Fraternal Order of Police*

The National Fraternal Order of Police History Committee and the National Board of Trustees are excited to present you with a new book, *Safeguarding Freedom: The Story of the Fraternal Order of Police*. This literary work is the result of reviewing historical documents, combing through thousands of photographs and conducting interviews to give the reader a comprehensive history of how the Fraternal Order of Police has impacted policing in America. Author Max DiLallo, co-author with James Patterson on numerous books, along with the direction of National History Committee Chair David Stevens, has worked tirelessly over the past year to reveal the journey of the FOP.

This fantastic book is available from the National Office for \$25 plus shipping, and the proceeds benefit our National FOP Foundation. Donations of \$30 or more to the Foundation will receive a free book.

WASHINGTON REPORT

Continued from page 33 >

Feedback for Agency Reorganization Plan and RIF,” which solicited feedback from departmental components about concerns and proposals with respect to Section 3(c) and 3(e) of EO 14210, “Implementing the President’s ‘Department of Government Efficiency’ Workforce Optimization Initiative.”

The FOP wrote to the deputy attorney general about our concerns that the proposal could result in the termination of the independence of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), making this vital component of our national policing strategy into just another grantmaking program under the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). You can find our letter at **[FOP.net/letter/letter-to-deputy-attorney-todd-blanche](https://fop.net/letter/letter-to-deputy-attorney-todd-blanche)**.

We urged the Justice Department to maintain the independence of the COPS program and to consult with the FOP before embarking on any major changes to the structure, agencies or programs to the department.

The FOP continues to work collaboratively with the president and all components of his administration.

Budget and Reconciliation to Begin After Recess, but the House Still Needs to Act on a Bill to Fix D.C. Budget

The House considered and passed H. Con. Res. 14, which establishes the congressional budget for the U.S. government for fiscal year 2025 and sets forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034, by a vote of 216–214. The budget resolution acts as an outline for priorities on taxes, immigration, defense, energy and federal spending, and allows for the consideration of a reconciliation measure. A budget reconciliation measure can pass with a simple majority, avoiding a Senate filibuster. Republican leadership in both chambers is working on the measure.

When the Senate passed, and the president signed into law, H.R. 1968, the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act, lawmakers recognized that, however inadvertently, the continuing resolution would force



the District of Columbia to make very steep cuts across the board — including the budget for the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). To address this issue, the Senate also considered and passed S. 1077, the District of Columbia Local Funds Act, by unanimous consent. This bill is critical to preserving the ability of MPD to protect the residents and visitors of the District of Columbia.

President Trump called on House leaders to bring S. 1077 to the House floor and pass it immediately, and the FOP also urged them to pass the legislation. You can find our letter at **[FOP.net/letter/s-1077-the-district-of-columbia-local-funds-act](https://fop.net/letter/s-1077-the-district-of-columbia-local-funds-act)**. The House failed to act and then left for a two-week recess. This forced the mayor of the District of Columbia, Muriel E. Bowser, to issue an order immediately freezing spending and hiring. You can view the order at **tinyurl.com/mwshnzk2**. The mayor’s order also instructs the city administrator to begin planning for furloughs of D.C. government workers and closures of some D.C. government facilities in late April. Agencies including police, fire and the District’s 9-1-1 call center could face staffing cuts and facility closures.

The National FOP is working with the Labor Committee for the MPD on this issue.

Legislative Update: the Protect and Serve Act

The National Legislative staff continues our advocacy campaign. We’ve had numerous in-person meetings with key House Judiciary Committee staff to build support for this bill.

This month, National President Yoes sent a formal request to the committee’s

leadership, urging them to take up the bill. In addition, we have been targeting members of both parties who previously supported the legislation.

So far this year, there have been 17 ambush-style attacks on law enforcement officers, resulting in 20 officers shot, five of whom were killed.

The legislation has revised language that we believe has improved the bill and will help us grow support for it. The bill creates a new federal offense for anyone who “willingly” assaults a law enforcement officer and would sentence such an offender to a term of imprisonment of 10 years or for life in the case of murder or attempted murder. In order for federal charges to be brought, the state must ask the federal government to assume jurisdiction or the U.S. attorney general must certify that a federal prosecution is “in the public interest and necessary to secure substantial justice.” To make this certification, the U.S. attorney general must consider the extent of planning and premeditation, the intended outcome and a disregard for human life. These are very specific and narrow circumstances that were designed to respond to incidents like the assassination of two officers in New York City in 2014 and the mass murders of officers in Dallas and Baton Rouge in 2016.

We urge all FOP members to contact their representative and ask them to support this legislation!

Other Legislative Activity

Since the last issue of the *Journal*, the FOP has supported the following legislation:

- **H.R. 911**, the Patriot Day Act, which would establish September 11 as a federal holiday

- **H.R. 1433/S. 1247**, the Public Safety Free Speech Act, which would clarify and protect the speech of a public safety employee by allowing them to take legal action against an employer who violates this right
- **H.R. 1726/S. 1300**, the Project Safe Neighborhoods Reauthorization Act, which would reauthorize critical funding and support for local law enforcement agencies and community organizations that help reduce violent crime and enhance public safety
- **H.R. 2096**, the Protecting Our Nation's Capital Emergency Act, which would restore the collective bargaining rights, nondisclosure protections and disciplinary protocols of MPD officers that were lost in the implementation of the CPJRAA
- **H.R. 2194**, the HIDTA Enhancement Act, which would increase the HIDTA program's budget by over \$28 million to provide for the

creation of new grant programs in order to enhance fentanyl seizure operations and improve coordination between law enforcement agencies

- **H.R. 2240**, the Improving Law Enforcement Officer Safety and Wellness Through Data Act, which would expand the data collected by the federal government on attacks and aggressions against law enforcement officers in a comprehensive way
- **H.R. 2255**, the Federal Law Enforcement Service Weapon Purchase Act, which would allow federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons
- **H.R. 2502**, the Law Enforcement Training for Mental Health Crisis Response Act, which would provide grants to law enforcement departments at the state, local, territorial and tribal level to obtain vital behavioral health crisis response training to resolve behavioral

health crisis situations more safely and effectively

- **H.R. 2654**, the Lifesaving Gear for Police Act, which would protect the important surplus equipment programs for state and local law enforcement, like the 1033 program, from politically-driven interference and competing executive orders
- **H.R. 2711**, the Invest to Protect Act, which would establish a grant program, administered by the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office within the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), that would be used for the training of officers from police departments and municipalities that employ fewer than 175 law enforcement officers
- **H.R. 2735/S. 1333**, the Strengthening Child Exploitation Enforcement Act, which would close loopholes in federal child abuse criminal statutes

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WELLNESS PROVIDERS

Chateau Recovery Midway, UT

chateaufrecovery.com/programs/first-responders

FHE Health: Shatterproof Program Deerfield Beach, FL

therehab.com/services/first-responders

First Responder Wellness by Simple Recovery Costa Mesa, CA

firstresponder-wellness.com

Harbor of Grace First Responder Program Havre de Grace, MD

harborofgracerecovery.com/first-responders

Throttle and Thrive Palos Verdes Estates, CA

throttleandthrive.com

Warrior's Heart Bandera, TX

warriorsheart.com

Find more vetted and approved wellness providers and programs at fop.net/officer-wellness/providers.

Top Priorities in Brief



The Law Enforcement Officers' Equity Act

House: Not yet introduced

Senate: Not yet introduced

H.R. 1505/S. 636, the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act

House: 26 co-sponsors (5 R, 21 D)

Senate: 1 co-sponsor (1 D)

H.R. 2243/S. 679, the LEOSA Reform Act

House: 18 co-sponsors (17 R, 1 D)

Senate: 8 co-sponsors (8 R)

H.R. 1551/S. 167, the Protect and Serve Act

House: 53 co-sponsors (45 R, 8 D)

Senate: 8 co-sponsors (8 R)

H.R. 2094/S. 978, the Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator, and Responder (HELPER) Act

House: 41 co-sponsors (16 R, 25 D)

Senate: 12 co-sponsors (3 R, 9 D)

To see a full list of legislation

supported by the FOP in the

previous Congress, please

visit tinyurl.com/ycy5k5rv.

Members should continue to

monitor the FOP's social media

platforms and our website for

the latest legislative news.



WASHINGTON REPORT

Continued from page 35 >

- **S. 911**, the Chief Herbert D. Proffitt Act, which would amend the PSOB Program to ensure that Chief Proffitt's family, and any others in a similar situation, would be eligible to apply for the program's benefit
- **S. 1077**, the District of Columbia Local Funds Act, which would restore the District of Columbia's ability to implement its fiscal year 2025 budget
- **S. 1316**, the Strong Communities Act, which would establish a grant program for local law enforcement agencies to assist in recruiting officers from their own community
- **S. 1295**, the Bureau of Prisons Security Check and Action Against Narcotics (BOP SCAN) in Mail Act, which would require the director of the Bureau of Prisons to develop and implement a strategy to interdict fentanyl and other synthetic drugs in the mail at federal correctional facilities
- **S. 1401**, the Targeting Child Predators Act, which would extend the time law enforcement can seek a court order to delay a subpoena notification from 90 to 180 days
- **S. 1409**, the Public Safety Officer Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Health Act, which would establish concussion protocols for law enforcement agencies

Sign Up for the FOP's Weekly Update

Are you getting the *Weekly Update* from Capitol Hill in your inbox every week? If not, go to tinyurl.com/FOP-weekly-update to sign up. **This is especially important with the new Congress!**

Getting the *Weekly Update* in your mailbox every Friday will help keep you and your members up to date with the latest news from Washington, D.C., with Congress and the new administration.

Make sure you are a regular visitor to all our social media platforms, as

these frequent posts are the best way to keep up with the National FOP's daily activity. Follow the National FOP on:

- Facebook (@GLFOP)
- X (@GLFOP)
- Instagram (@FOPnational)

Do your part! Please **share**, **comment** and **like** our content.

Have You Given to the NFOP PAC?

The National Fraternal Order of Police Political Action Committee (NFOP PAC) needs more of our members to contribute to ensure that our PAC has the resources to support candidates who will fight for our officers and the issues that are important to them. With the next election cycle under two years away, now is the time to replenish our PAC funds.

We are asking all FOP members to find a way to contribute to the National FOP PAC. Our profession depends on having well-informed lawmakers who listen and understand the challenges facing law enforcement today.

We are urging members (and lodges) to sign up for recurring, monthly contributions using their credit card. This is the most effective and reliable way to contribute and to strengthen our PAC.

These contributions need not be for large amounts (though these are also very much appreciated) — but every dollar helps! If every FOP member gave just \$1, we could raise \$377,000! If 10% of our members gave just \$5 this year, we would raise \$188,500. We need your support to meet our fundraising goals!

To donate online, please go to nfop-pac.firstresponderprocessing.com. If you would like to donate via check, please make it out to the National Fraternal Order of Police Political Action Committee and mail it to 328 Massachusetts Ave. NE, Washington, D.C., 20002. For inquiries about our effortless payroll deduction program or to sign up for recurring monthly donations, please contact the Steve Young Law Enforcement Legislative Advocacy Center at (202) 547-8189 or David Taboh at dtaboh@fop.net.

Thank you to all of you who have supported and continue to support our PAC with regular contributions! **FOP**

The National Fraternal Order of Police University (NFOPU) has successfully paved the way for hundreds of FOP members to pursue higher or continued education. For more information on the NFOPU Consortium, go to fopconnect.com/education-connect/about-the-consortium.



Charles Town, WV



San Diego, CA



Arlington, VA



Williamsburg, KY



Ashland, OH



Rosemont, PA



Adelphi, MD



Fayette, IA



Orange Beach, AL



Tiffin, OH



Olivet, MI



Minneapolis, MN



Romeoville, IL



Cincinnati, OH



San Diego, CA



Wichita, KS



What Lawyers Need to Know About Using Artificial Intelligence



Artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping industries worldwide, and the legal field is no exception. For attorneys representing law enforcement agencies, AI brings both remarkable opportunities and distinct challenges. Generative AI, or GAI, creates new content including text, images, audio, video and software code in response to a user's prompts and questions. GAI tools that produce new text, like ChatGPT, accomplish this by analyzing large amounts of digital text culled from the internet or proprietary data sources. Some GAI tools are described as "self-learning," meaning they will learn from themselves as they gather more data. GAI tools may assist lawyers in tasks, including legal research, contract review, due diligence, document review, regulatory compliance and drafting legal documents such as letters, contracts, settlement agreements and briefs. However, it is essential for lawyers to have a firm grasp of the ethical and local rules that govern the use of GAI in their practice.

Model Rule of Professional Conduct 1.1 obligates lawyers to provide competent representation to clients. This duty requires lawyers to exercise the "legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation," as well as to understand "the benefits and risks associated" with the technologies used to deliver legal services to clients. Today, that means lawyers must have a reasonable understanding of the capabilities and limitations of the GAI tools they are seeking to use. To do this, they may learn the benefits and risks themselves by dedicating time to research, testing tools, reading articles or attending conferences and webinars focused on AI in the legal field. Alternatively, they may consult with experts who have specialized knowledge in this area. Given

Just the Facts:

» As artificial intelligence (AI) continues to evolve and integrate into the legal landscape, it presents both powerful tools and potential pitfalls for attorneys representing law enforcement agencies. Embracing AI can enhance efficiency, insight and case outcomes, but it must be done with a clear understanding of the ethical duties, jurisdictional rules and broader implications involved. As such, attorneys must remain vigilant by continuously seeking new information and engaging with resources that deepen their understanding of this emerging technology.

the fast-paced advancement of GAI tools, attorneys must remain vigilant by continuously seeking new information and engaging with resources that enhance their understanding.

For attorneys representing law enforcement agencies, AI brings both remarkable opportunities and distinct challenges.

The American Bar Association issued its first formal opinion related to the use of GAI last year (ABA Formal Opinion 512). The opinion states that before lawyers input client-related information into a GAI tool, they must evaluate the risks that the information will be disclosed or accessed by individuals both inside and outside the firm. This assessment aims to ensure the protection of information

from improper disclosure or use. This risk analysis is fact-driven and should be based on the client, the matter, the task and the GAI tool being used. Self-learning GAI tools — those designed so that their output could lead directly or indirectly to the disclosure of information relating to the representation of a client — require a client's informed consent prior to inputting any information relating to the representation.

Other ethical considerations include Model Rule 1.6, where lawyers have a duty to keep all information relating to the representation of a client confidential, regardless of its source, unless the client gives informed consent, disclosure is impliedly authorized to carry out the representation or disclosure is permitted by an exception. Model Rules 1.9(c) and 1.18(b) require lawyers to extend similar protections to former and prospective clients' information. Furthermore, Model Rule 6.1(c) requires lawyers to make reasonable efforts to prevent the inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure of, or unauthorized access to, information relating to the representation of the client.

Beyond ethical rules, lawyers must also understand how their jurisdiction regulates the use of AI. For example, in the Central District of California, Judge Rozella A. Oliver has a standing

order that provides: “Any party who uses generative artificial intelligence (such as ChatGPT, Harvey.AI, CoCounsel or Google Bard) to generate any portion of a brief, pleading or other filing must attach to the filing a separate declaration disclosing the use of artificial intelligence and certifying that the filer has reviewed the source material and verified that the artificially generated content is accurate and complies with Rule 11 obligations.” In the Northern District of Texas, Judge Brantley Starr requires certification regarding the use of GAI, attesting either that no portion of any filing will be drafted by GAI (such as ChatGPT, Harvey.AI or Google Bard) or that any language drafted by GAI was checked for accuracy. Finally, Judge Sharon Johnson Coleman in the Northern District of Illinois outright prohibits the use of AI to draft memoranda to the court.

Some lawyers have already faced discipline for misusing AI in their practice. In *People v. Crabill* (Colorado, 2023), the lawyer used “sham” case law citations produced by ChatGPT in a motion and lied to the court that an intern produced the errors. The lawyer violated his duty to his client to act competently and with diligence, as well as knowingly lied to the court in violation of the professional rules. This resulted in a one-year suspension, with 90 days to

be served and the remainder to be stayed upon successful completion of a two-year period of probation with conditions.

In *Park v. Kim* (2d. Cir. 2024), the plaintiff’s counsel cited nonexistent state court decisions in her reply brief by relying on ChatGPT to identify precedent supporting her arguments. She failed to verify the validity of the fake decisions cited. The lawyer was referred to the court’s grievance panel for consideration of a referral to the committee on admissions.

Finally, in *Smith v. Farwell* (Mass. 2024), a lawyer cited fictitious case law in opposing a motion to dismiss. Counsel submitted a letter to the court in which he admitted that the filings “inadvertently” included citations to cases that “do not exist.” He explained that the citations were the result of an AI system used by someone in his office to find relevant legal authorities. Counsel apologized and acknowledged his failure to “exercise due diligence in verifying the authenticity of all case law references provided by the AI system.” Although the court accepted counsel’s representation that the fake citations were not submitted with the intention to deceive, it emphasized that the apology does not absolve the fault or eliminate the need for the court to take appropriate action to prevent similar issues in the

future. The court imposed a \$2,000 sanction for a violation of Rule 11.

As AI continues to evolve and integrate into the legal landscape, it presents both powerful tools and potential pitfalls for attorneys representing law enforcement agencies. Embracing AI can enhance efficiency, insight and case outcomes — but it must be done with a clear understanding of the ethical duties, jurisdictional rules and broader implications involved. By staying informed, exercising sound judgment and approaching new technologies with both curiosity and caution, lawyers can responsibly harness AI’s potential while upholding the integrity of their practice and the interests of their law enforcement clients. **FOP**

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Southern States Association of the Fraternal Order of Police

The Southern States Association of the Fraternal Order of Police was organized in 1981 at the 45th biannual National FOP Conference in Orlando, Florida. The initial member states were Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. In 1998, Arkansas transferred its membership from the Western States Association to the Southern States Association, and in 2002, Florida transferred its membership from the Southern States Association to the Eastern States Association.

The Southern States Association was established to promote better law enforcement and foster fraternalism among its member states by facilitating communication and the exchange of ideas common to its members. The officers of the Association are the chairman, vice chairman and secretary/treasurer. Officers are elected each year at the annual meeting of the Association. The annual meetings are held

between March 1 and April 30 and rotate between member states. The FOP president of the next host state is elected as chairman

**The Association
was established
to promote better
law enforcement
and foster
fraternalism among
its member states.**

and the FOP state president of the following host state as vice chairman.

The secretary/treasurer office was created in 1991 at the annual meeting in

Louisville, Kentucky. Standing rules for the Southern States Association were also established at that meeting.

Prior to 1991, the voting members of the Association were the member states' FOP state presidents and two designees of the state president of each member state. In 1991, the National trustees from member states were added as voting members. Each member state is entitled to four voting representatives at each meeting of the Association. If the National trustee is unable to attend, the state president appoints a third designee.

Ralph Orms from Kentucky was elected as the first Southern States Association secretary/treasurer in 1991 and served until his death on November 28, 1992. Following his passing, Michael Hettich from Kentucky served as secretary/treasurer until the annual meeting in 1993. At that meeting, Chuck Canterbury from South Carolina was elected secretary/treasurer and served until 1996. Donald B. Penix from North Carolina was elected secretary/treasurer in 1996 and, as of 2003, continues to serve in that position.

The initial year membership dues were \$100 per member state. In 1993, the dues were increased to \$200, and in 2001, the dues were increased to \$500 per year.

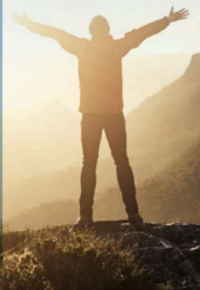
Any member state missing three consecutive meetings of the Association forfeits their eligibility to be elected to office in the term following their absence. A state may become a member of the Southern States Association by a majority approval of the representatives present at a meeting of the Association.

The National FOP History Committee members are David L. Stevens (chair, Fla.), James Flores (N.M.), Dewey Stokes (Ohio), Ben Roberts (Texas), Bruce Evarrt (Md.) and Adolph South (Ala.). **FOP**

SHARE YOUR STORY!

So many of us learn from the experiences of others, especially others with whom we share things in common. Do you have a story to tell of overcoming adversity in your own life? The National Officer Wellness Committee would like to hear it!

Whether you would just like to share your story privately with peers on the Committee or are willing to share with readers so that all can learn from it and celebrate with you, we want to hear from you! Contact us confidentially at officerwellness@fop.net.



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NATIONAL POLICE K9 MEMORIAL SERVICE

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Location: National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial
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Uniformed Personnel - Class A or Uniform of The Day

-For more information-
service@NationalPoliceDogFoundation.org
(888) 459-7768





Survey Says!

If you follow the *Journal*, you know that we are all super excited about next year's Pathways to Excellence, which will take place at the South Point Hotel, Casino Spa and Convention Center in Las Vegas, March 29 through April 3, 2026.

Most recently, we reviewed the evaluations submitted by participants of this year's Leadership Matters. We all take these surveys very seriously and were pleasantly surprised by the number of accolades many of our presenters received. We also expected a few negative comments on a couple of the presentations, and our intuitions were correct.

As we plan for next year's Leadership Matters, which will take place Wednesday, April 1, through Friday, April 3, 2026, as part of the overall Pathways to Excellence Program, we will certainly continue some of the most popular presentations. These include "Be Their Voice," a high-energy presentation by Vice President Joe Gamaldi and Treasurer James Smallwood on social media, media relations and getting your message out, as well as presentations by FOP Chaplain Rick Snyder, who exquisitely brings spirituality into everyday FOP life.

Another well-received presentation, new in 2025, that we hope to bring back is "Preparing for and Managing a Line-of-

Duty Death," presented by Second Vice President John Hoyt. As always, President Yoes' "Success by Design" and "The State of the FOP" were well rated and will, of course, be returning. Another usual success is Secretary Holderfield's "Lodge Secretary Duties, Responsibilities and Administration," which is a mainstay of the event. "You've Been Elected Lodge Treasurer ... Now What?" is also a very important training session, as it so clearly reflects the realities of the FOP world.

Member benefit presentations were also highly rated, a reflection on these types of

Continued on page 44 >

SAVE THE DATE!

PATHWAYS to EXCELLENCE

Education and Empowerment Summit

March 29 – April 3, 2026

South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Wellness Professionals' Forum

Wellness Summit

Labor Leadership Summit

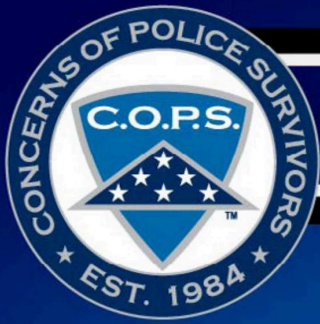
Legal Counselors Seminar

Leadership Matters

Excellency in Chaplaincy

One Conference, Six Paths — Your Training the FOP Way





BLUE HONOR GALA

May 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Washington Hilton Hotel

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\$150/Ticket or \$1,400/Table of 10

Musical Guest: DAVE BRAY



**Black/Blue Attire is expected.
Uniforms are acceptable.**

Purchase tickets by May 1, 2025.



SCAN FOR TICKETS



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Continued from page 42 >

presentations that cater to new leaders in the FOP. Sergeant-at-Arms Steve James does an excellent presentation on the FOP's Legal Defense Plan. Rating scores for these types of presentations have been on the rise for several years now, telling us that our attendees are younger and newer to FOP leadership. This was evident in comments made by several attendees' evaluations. There was an increased demand for rudimentary training courses on how to be a successful lodge president, vice president and sergeant-at-arms. Although we thought we addressed some of these skills through the chairman of trustee's presentation on "Roberts Rules of Order," it was evident that we need to do more, so stay tuned.

We still receive the familiar criticism relating to yearly repetition of presentations, such as "I was here last year and observed the same training this year." And some comments reflected the familiar frustration of not being able to attend all presentations during the three days, reflected in comments such as "I'll be back next year to hear more!"

The original concept that gave birth to Leadership Matters was the foundational realization that training for secretaries

and treasurers was sorely needed within the FOP. Over the years, these original foundations blossomed into what we have today — a multidimensional training curriculum that attempts to touch on all aspects of the FOP for new and aspiring leaders. The concept was designed to be repetitious, as it has been geared to new leaders seeking the basics. We understand that we cannot afford attendees all the opportunities to attend every presentation in our limited time frame, and encourage attendees to make their attendance a two-year commitment in order to experience all that is being offered. However, it should not be a yearly pilgrimage.

Perhaps in our new venue at South Point, we will have room for more breakout sessions that will allow us to schedule popular sessions several times over the three days. And perhaps we can have a day of executive training for the more skilled leaders within our organization who don't require the basics. What we are witnessing is our senior leaders bringing their understudies to Leadership Matters so they can introduce and mentor our up-and-coming leaders to the FOP. If senior leadership is willing to take time out of their busy schedules to attend Leadership Matters, we should offer them some advanced training opportunities.

In upcoming articles, I will delve more deeply in detail into what we will be presenting next year. The limited space here does not allow me to touch on all the successful presentations that were made, nor the new ones anticipated. However, as you can see, we are planning this event early on, and I encourage you to drop me a line with your ideas on how Pathways to Excellence can serve your needs for FOP education. We want Pathways to Excellence to be your training — the FOP way. See you next year in Vegas!

Until we meet again, God bless you and God bless the FOP! **FOP**

FOP DIVISION OF EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

If you have further questions, contact Director Keith Turney at kturney@fop.org, or (815) 482-5620. For more information on CRI-TAC, visit cops.usdoj.gov/cri-tac.

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When Is Enough Good Enough?

There is a psychology to negotiating, whether it is for a car, a house or a collective bargaining agreement. Everyone wants the best deal possible. This logically means giving up the least possible and getting the most possible. No one ever wants to leave money on the table.

There comes a point when the deal is at its best — when the parties have reached their maximum give. Recognizing that point is both a science and an art. With regard to compensation, math is the science. It will tell you when there is no more. The numbers are what they are. The art is knowing how to get as close as possible to that line without driving the negotiation to impasse.

The primary tool when considering where to land in negotiations is comparison. It is crucial to know the CBAs of comparable bargaining units. Analyze where your bargaining unit ranks in relation to comparable units, both currently and at the end of the new CBA's term. This allows you to negotiate benefits that maintain or improve your rank among the comparable units without losing ground by the end of the CBA.

If you are attempting to create a new or unique benefit that has no comparison in other units, you must be prepared to justify the expense of that benefit and explain why no other available benefits provide the same value. This tends to come up around medical benefits, both for active and retired unit members. To put it bluntly, it has to make sense.

The ultimate measurement in this process is what an arbitrator would decide. It is true that there is no way to guess ahead of time what an arbitrator will award. There are some cases where

Just the Facts:

» The primary tool when considering where to land in negotiations is comparison. It is important to know the collective bargaining agreements of similar bargaining units. Assess where your bargaining unit stands compared to others, both at present and at the conclusion of the new agreement's term. This approach allows you to secure benefits that either maintain or improve your rank among comparable units, ensuring you don't lose ground by the agreement's end.

the employer's ability to pay is clear, and equally clear is the employer's refusal to agree to anything meaningful, regardless of what the comparison analysis shows. In those cases, there is

that is simply not being met. Also, arbitrators will not make a bargaining unit the highest-paid bargaining unit, nor leave them at the bottom rank. It is more likely that the rank will be moved up to middle or remain the same after arbitration unless there has been a significant change in duties or calls for service. Knowing this, it is not necessarily a good strategy to push for a significant rank change in arbitration unless it is moving up from the bottom.

At the Labor Services Division, we have over 100 years of collective experience in collective bargaining. We are here to help. Please contact us for more information. **FOP**

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a valid approach that says, "I'd rather an arbitrator tell me I have to accept this paltry offer than agree to it at the table." These cases are rare.

It is far more likely that you will have a sense of what an arbitrator will do. Generally speaking, arbitrators do not like new and unique benefits unless there is an extraordinary need



Scan the QR code for more information about NFOP Labor Services.



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National Police Week: May 11–17



I would like to extend my appreciation to the Auxiliary NPOMS Committee, led by Chair Julie Black, and the FOP Memorial Committee, led by Chair Matt Hagen, as well as our partners with Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), for their continued dedication and commitment to honoring our fallen and supporting their families. We will be honoring 232 fallen heroes at this year's service on May 15.

Due to heightened security, we are requiring all FOP and Auxiliary National Executive Board members, all FOP and Auxiliary Memorial Committee members, all FOP and Auxiliary volunteers, and escort officers for May 15 to complete a security/credentialing request through the FOP via the QR codes that are provided in this *Journal* edition (see opposite page). This credentialing process will grant access to authorized areas on May 15. All volunteers signed up with the FOP Auxiliary should select "Glenda Lehmann" as their reports-to when completing the credentialing request. You will receive an email response when your submission is received, and further information and instructions will be sent closer to Police Week from the designated committee members.

The Auxiliary office and command center will be located at Homewood Suites NoMa, 501 New York Ave. NE, in D.C. During Police Week, we invite you to stop by the Auxiliary hotel and assist Auxiliary volunteers with stuffing the blue ribbons into the programs or to tour the medal preparation process. If you are interested in seeing the medal preparation, please reach out to me ahead of time, and we will schedule a viewing. Only authorized individuals will have access, and absolutely no photos will be allowed during this process out of respect. Programs will be available for the placing of ribbons May 11 to May 13. You can sign up to assist via SignUpGenius or stop by

when you have some free time. The Police Week schedule of events is included for your reference; see pages 20–21.

Transportation will be provided for volunteers staying at the Auxiliary host hotel who are scheduled to work at survivor registration, the Auxiliary information table and the tribute portraits table at the Washington Hilton, and the Auxiliary Ways and Means booth at Tent City. Transportation schedules will be available closer to Police Week and will be posted at the Auxiliary command center.

Police Week Volunteers

Watch for upcoming meetings for those volunteering in designated areas — invites will be sent via email.

- Tribute portrait table volunteers at registration
- Medal table volunteers
- Wreath-to-table and table-to-seat escort volunteers
- Auxiliary command center coordinators
- Auxiliary site team
- Medal inspection team
- Auxiliary information table volunteers at registration
- Pins committee
- Auxiliary Executive Board, committee and volunteer transportation team

Survivor Information

Please encourage survivor families, escort officers and co-workers who are going to D.C. to register with C.O.P.S. This registration drives the count of participating family members and nonparticipating family members and friends. (Registration closed on March 31.)

This information is critical to the coordination of planning for buses and chairs at the site. Once registered, they will need to go to the Washington Hilton upon arrival in D.C. and check in and pick up

their name badge, which is their credential for all events during Police Week. This includes escort officers for May 15.

May 15 Shuttle Service for Participating and Nonparticipating Families

This next section is for surviving family members and their escorts for May 15.

Busing to the 44th annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service will be provided to participating and nonparticipating family members, escort officers and co-workers staying at a C.O.P.S. hotel. They should continue to monitor the Police Week app and look for posted schedules at the Washington Hilton during Police Week for specific bus schedule times.

Participating family members:

Participating family members who do not stay at a C.O.P.S. hotel must provide their own transportation to the Washington Hilton. They cannot go directly to the Capitol to be seated. If they arrange their own transportation to the Memorial Service, the FOP/Auxiliary will **not** be able to place them in line onsite, and they will not be able to participate in the service.

Nonparticipating family members, co-workers and returning survivors:

Nonparticipating family members (those not taking part in the flower placement at the Memorial Service), co-workers who are **not** escort officers and returning survivors who are not staying at a C.O.P.S. hotel must provide their own transportation to the event. They should continue to monitor the Police Week app and look for posted schedules at the Washington Hilton during Police Week for specific bus schedule times.

Auxiliary and C.O.P.S. volunteers will be onsite at C.O.P.S. hotels on May 15 to assist with directing family members, escorts, co-workers and returning survivors to the appropriate buses and ballrooms.

Note: There will be **one bus trip only** to the memorial site for participants, and

one bus trip only to the memorial site for nonparticipants. There is no alternative plan for getting late arrivals to the site.

Note: Police vehicles, personal vehicles and other vehicles that are not part of the official motorcade from the Washington Hilton to the Memorial Service will not be allowed to join the motorcade. Motor officials have been instructed to remove these vehicles from the motorcade.

Seating of participating family members and escort officers at the Capitol site will take approximately one-and-a-half to two hours.

The 44th annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, sponsored by the National Fraternal Order of Police and Auxiliary, will start at 12 p.m. and last approximately two-and-a-half to three hours.

Approximately 30 minutes following the Memorial Service, the memorial wreaths are ceremoniously moved from the Capitol to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Busing will be provided from the Memorial Service to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial for those who wish to view the laying of the wreaths at the Memorial Wall. Please board the buses designated for the Memorial Wall.

Busing will be provided from the Memorial Service to C.O.P.S. hotels for survivors who do not wish to view the laying of the wreaths. They should check the signs in the bus windows to ensure they are boarding the correct bus. If they are not staying at a C.O.P.S. hotel, they must arrange their own transportation back to their hotel.

Volunteers staying at the Homewood Suites NoMa Union Station, Hampton Inn

NoMa Union Station and Homewood Suites Alexandria/Pentagon South will have buses clearly marked for return transportation after the Memorial Service.

Final bus departure:

- 5 p.m.: Final departure from U.S. Capitol
- 5:30 p.m.: Final departure from National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

Note: Bus schedules with specific times for participating and nonparticipating family members, escort officers, co-workers and returning survivors will be available closer to Police Week via the official Police Week app and posted at the Washington Hilton.

Bus and van schedules with specific times for Auxiliary volunteers will be available closer to Police Week and will be posted at the Auxiliary command center at Homewood Suites NoMa Union Station.

We Cannot Do What We Do Without Volunteers

With a core committee of six and a subcommittee of seven, the 75 to 100 volunteers make all of this possible. Thank you to all who have volunteered in the past, and thank you to those who will be in D.C. this year.

National Conference: August 2–8, Miami, Florida

The FOP Memorial Service will be hosted in opening ceremonies on the lodge floor on Monday, August 4. The Auxiliary Memorial Service will be hosted 30 minutes after opening ceremonies conclude on the Auxiliary business floor. Names for the

Auxiliary service will be submitted to our chair of trustees, Connie Barnes.

The following Auxiliary meetings will be held during the conference:

August 3:

- National Executive Board Meeting — 9 a.m.
- National Board of Trustees Meeting — 10:30 a.m.
- National Pre-Conference Board Meeting — 1 p.m.

August 4:

- FOP Conference Opening Ceremonies — 9 a.m.
 - The Opening Ceremonies will be held in conjunction with FOP on its conference floor.

August 4–7:

- National Auxiliary Conference
 - Opening a half-hour following the conclusion of FOP Opening Ceremonies on Monday with the Auxiliary Memorial Service
 - Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday — 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
 - Lunch: 12:30 p.m.–1 p.m. daily

August 7:

- Installation of Incoming National Officers and Trustees — 3:45 p.m.
- National Post-Conference Trustees Meeting — 4:30 p.m.
 - Election of Chair of Trustees
- National Post-Conference Board Meeting — 4:45 p.m.

Notice: The times on Thursday may shift based on how long the business session and elections take that afternoon. Please plan travel accordingly. **FOP**

National Police Week Forms



Escort Registration



National Peace Officers' Memorial Service Participant Credential Request

Honor guards, pipe bands, National Executive Board, performers, site set-up, medal distribution, NFOPA staff/committee, C.O.P.S. Support Service, etc.



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