

DON'T HAVE A FIT OVER THE COST OF FIT COPS 03/28/08

The following is an editorial submitted to the Chicago Sun-Times for publication.

Once again the media chooses to bash Cops over a topic that the media finds humorous but doesn't know, or care, about the underlying reasons that cause it.

Your editorial says that, "Illinois has a model for how to make this work." If you want to impose the standards used by the Illinois State Police, then give us the benefits that go along with it. Give us the pension benefit they enjoy, Troopers work 26 years and 8 months and retire with an 80% pension.

Your editorial says that the, "...sight of a chubby Cop doesn't do much to engender public confidence. It's hard to imagine that a Cop lumbering up the stairs in a three flat to end a domestic squabble or hopping a fence in an alley in pursuit of a thief."

I would say to you that the victim of domestic violence doesn't care that the Cop is overweight when he arrives, stops the violence, and arrests the offender and doesn't even notice if the Cop is chubby, nor would they care.

I would say to you that if you are being robbed by an offender who is contemplating whether or not to kill you and a chubby Cop arrives and saves your life, you probably wouldn't even notice his weight.

The comments I made about the kitchen was said in sarcasm and in attempt to prove a point which was obviously missed by you physically fit media people. We are attempting to get the same benefits enjoyed by fireman who workout while they work or Federal Agents who workout during their tour.

Lastly if there is a "bad guy" here, it's the media, who have no idea what stress a policeman deals with day in and day out. You should really have your reporters attend classes to learn about the relationship between stress and eating disorders. I would suggest that you have reporters ride along with policemen on the 1st or 3rd watch for a few weeks so that you can learn first hand what this job entails. You could then have them report on what they ate and when they found time to workout.

It is easy to sit behind a desk and give advice and decide who the bad guys are. I can assure you when the real bad guys show up at your house and you call 911 you won't care what the Cop looks like as long as he saves you.

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