

October

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F.O.P. NEWS

Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7

President's Report, By Michael Shields



FOP, Chicago Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.

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Eight-Hundred Eighty What?

We have recently been bombarded in the media by the Mayor's claim that he has put eight hundred and eighty-one officers on the street since taking office. If you believe it, I have lakefront property to sell you in Death Valley. It's not even close to being true. Last week, I read in the papers that the City just returned one-hundred and fourteen officers "to the street." The story claimed that fifty-five of those officers came from Patrol Bureau Administration and fifty-nine came from unspecified "specialized units." The FOP immediately reviewed all of the transfer and personnel orders for September 2011. Our audit showed a total of forty-one officers actually returned to the street, not one-hundred fourteen.

FOP also looked at the grand total of eight-hundred and eighty-one officers and, for the life of us, we can't figure out how the City and the Mayor arrived at that number. Prior to the one-hundred and fourteen officers the City claimed to have returned last week, the City only claimed to have returned seven-hundred and fifty officers. Last time I checked, 750 + 114 does *not* equal 881. Does anyone in the media ever check to see if they are being fed a steady diet of bull?

When you consider that MSF and TRU were already "on the street" proactively policing the City's worst crime areas, it is obvious that the Mayor can only realistically claim to have put perhaps two-hundred to three-hundred officers on the street in 2011...and that's being generous. Of course, no one mentions that approximately five-hundred Department members will retire in 2011. Our "street" presence is not growing. It's shrinking.

It's time to remind the Mayor that he promised to hire more new police officers. "Rahm will add 250 police officers who focus on crime in and around TIF areas," said a fact sheet distributed by his campaign. Between November 2010 and April 2011, the Mayor told any media outlet that would listen about his plan to hire 250 new officers using TIF funds. Fast forward to October and not a single police officer has been hired. So much for promises made.

Attorney General Lawsuit Dismissed

The Pension Board was sued by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan last February. The lawsuit was filed after the Board voted to allow Jon Burge to keep his police pension. Several weeks ago, Madigan's lawsuit was dismissed. The court reasoned that any review of a Pension Board decision must come via the Administrative Review Act. This law functions as an appeal for parties to administrative hearings and decisions made by agencies throughout the State of Illinois. It does not allow the State to somehow become a party and force a review of a Pension Board decision. The Board allowed Jon Burge to keep his pension because he was convicted of lying under oath when he answered written questions in a Federal civil suit. He answered those written questions many years *after* he had retired from service with the Chicago Police Department. Hopefully, reason will prevail and the Attorney General will not bother with an appeal.

Surprise! FOP Already Has Wellness!

Another recent all-out media campaign by the City centers on a proposed "wellness" program. The media and the City have been quick to point out that the FOP has not agreed to the new wellness program where employees will pay a monetary penalty unless they submit to regular health screenings by the City. There are a number of reasons we won't be participating.

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2012 Union Dues

Attention Annual Payers...
Retirees Under The Age Of
75...

Sergeants & Above, Fraternal
Members...

It's Time To Pay 2012's
Union Dues.

Retirees Pay \$40 Per Year.
Sergeants & Above, Fraternal
Members Pay \$65 Per Year.

See page 8 for the
payment coupon

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and foremost: We already have a wellness program. The FOP was the first union to obtain such a benefit when we fought for it in the 2003-2007 Collective Bargaining Agreement. It has been in place ever since. One major difference in our program is that officers and family members do not pay a penalty if they choose not to participate. Another important difference

is that we hire the vendor, the City does not.

At some point, I hope that the Mayor will stop trying to govern through the media and actually talk to City employees and the people who represent them. I hear the exact same thing from the Law Department, the Fire Department, Streets

and Sanitation, etc., etc. If the City wants to discuss manpower, healthcare, or any other subject, please pick up the phone and call us. Continuing to distort the facts on issues such as how many officers are really on the street will just lead to an endless media war that really serves no one.

1st Vice President's Report, *By Bill Dougherty*



Attention, Sergeants!

This month, you have the opportunity to fix a major problem at the Pension Board. The election for the Sergeants' trustee will take place this month.

Michael Lazzaro has served two terms and it is time for him to go. I have personally been to nearly every Pension Board meeting since Lazzaro took office. He has shown me that he is incapable of working with others and does not belong on the Board. Our pensions will be under attack at the veto session this Fall and throughout the coming year. Michael Lazzaro is not someone who should be making decisions for our Fund. Anyone who has regularly attended Pension Board meetings – like I have – will tell you the exact same thing. Please send in your ballots and make a change.

Union Leaders Pensions

Because of the increased media coverage regarding union pensions I felt it was important for our members to know that your union leaders that work full time for the Fraternal Order of Police receive the same pension as their career grade service rank. We receive nothing more than the pension we earned as police officers. We don't receive any additional pension monies because of our union positions. This is the way it has always been and this is the way it should be. Labor leaders should not receive higher pensions because of their positions. All of your past labor leaders have also received only the pensions that they have earned as police officers, not as labor leaders. It is these type of backroom deals that hurt us as unions. We have enough on our hands

with the fight over pension reforms. All labor leaders should not be lumped in with the few that are gaming the system for themselves.

Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment for 2012 runs from October 21st until November 21st. During this enrollment period, you have a chance to change your medical and/or dental plan, enroll for coverage for you or your dependents if you aren't covered now, cancel coverage, or combine coverage. The decisions that you make will become effective January 1, 2012. If you don't receive your open enrollment packets by October 21st, please contact the Benefits Management Office at (312) 747-8660. All members should read their open enrollment packet even though they may not be making any changes. Check to see that only the dependents that sure be covered are listed.

Flu Shots for FOP Members & Families

The Lodge will have our annual Health Fair for Free Flu Shots on October 26, 2011. The Flu shots are FREE for our members. Any FOP member, active, retired or disabled, can come down to the Lodge between 7:30am and 4:00pm for their shot. Family members may also receive a flu shot for a small fee. The cost for family members is \$15.00. There is no need to call for an appointment, walk-ins are welcome.

Flexible Spending Account FAQs

How much money can I put into my Flexible Spending Account?

To give you a breakdown of how the FSA account works is you choose the

amount you want to have deducted per pay period from an annual minimum of \$120.00 to a maximum of \$5,000 annually and all the money is protected by taxes.

Does the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #7 recommend it's members to enroll into this program?

Yes, the Lodge would like to see all members enroll into the FSA account program because it is a great program with a pre-tax benefit that all members would benefit from. Furthermore, let me give you a couple of examples on how great this plan is.

Example: Assume 25% tax rate and \$1,000 in medical expenses not covered by your health care plan. Officers without the tax benefit FSA account need to earn \$1250 to pay for medical expenses of \$1,000. Officers that are enrolled in the FSA account get the tax benefit has use of \$1,000 without tax to pay for medical expenses.

Example: Let's say that you have a child that needs braces and the amount of the braces is going to be \$1200. You have \$50.00 a pay period deducted from your account every pay period for a total of \$100.00 a month going into your FSA account. The FSA account begins in January and ends in December and you just found out in March that your son/daughter needs braces and they cost \$1200. Well you realize that you only have about \$300.00 in your FSA account. Your FSA account will loan you the additional \$700.00 that you need to get your child's braces done.

Can I get reimbursed if I don't use my

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First Vice President's Report Continued.

entire deposit amount?

Keep in mind that the money you have in your FSA account is a "use it or lose it" type of plan. All claims must be incurred by December 31st of the calendar year, however you do have until March 31 of the following year to submit any claims.

When can I enroll into the Flexible Spending Account?

For anyone that would like to enroll into the FSA account the only time you can enroll into this plan is during the open enrollment period.

When can I make changes to my Flexible Spending Account?

For anyone that would like to increase/decrease the amounts that they currently have going into their FSA accounts they can also make those changes during open enrollment. Furthermore, anyone that is currently enrolled into the FSA account and would like to opt out of this plan the only time for you to opt out is also during open enrollment.

2nd Vice President's Report, by Frank DiMaria



Discipline Screening Program

Officers, when a CR Investigation is sustained and there is a recommended penalty of fifteen days or less, the first step in the Officer's appeal process is the Discipline Screening Program (DSP). Officers will be notified of the sustained finding and recommendation of the penalty. Officers will be advised that he or she may accept the recommended penalty or request the Discipline Screening Program and must return the form within 72 hours. If the Officer chooses the DSP he/she must notify the Lodge and the Lodge will request the CR file. The Officer at some time in the future will be notified of the time and date of the DSP. The Officer prior to the DSP will have the ability to come into the FOP and review his/her CR file with a FOP representative. The DSP will be held with a representative of the Department and the Lodge and the facts of the case to reach on the original recommendation for discipline. If an agreement is reached, that recommendation will be forwarded to the Officer who will have two options: accept the recom-

mended penalty or reject it. If the Officer accepts the recommended penalty at the DSP, this penalty is binding on the Superintendent who can only decrease the penalty or grant options. If the original penalty is 1-5 days, the Officer will serve the suspension. After the suspension, the Officer can file a grievance as outlined in our contract. Officers if the recommended penalty is 6-15 days the Officer has the option of a Police Board Review. This is a paper review only via To-From Report directed to the Police Board with the goal of changing the finding or reducing the recommended penalty. The Lodge will assist the Officers in writing their appeal to the Police Board. The decision of the Police Board is final and cannot be changed by the Department. If the Police Board decision is to sustain the recommended discipline then the Officer will serve the suspension. The Officer will then file a grievance for just cause per section 8.1 of the contract.

Retiree Information

I was recently contacted by some of our retired members who asked that I report on some information which may be of

interest to or assist some of our retired members. My intention is to address and inform our retired members with the following information.

Some Officers, after they retire from the police department, believe they are no longer entitled to many of the benefits they enjoyed when active. One benefit that retired Officers maintain is the use of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Some of the services which are provided by the EAP include Professional Counseling Service, Alcohol Counselors and Peer Support. These services are available for Retired Officers, Disabled Officers, and their family members. The EAP is located at 1759 W Adams telephone number 312-743-0378.

Retirees, this is just a reminder that your 2012 Annual FOP membership dues must be paid by November 1, 2011. Retirees, no matter the rank they retired at, pay \$40.00. There is a notice in this Newsletter which can be returned with the payment to the Lodge or you may call the Lodge to make your payment by telephone.

Address Change Form, Effective Date: _____

Name: _____ Star Number: _____
(Last, First, MI)

New Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Return Form To The FOP – Unit 541 or 1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago Illinois 60607, Attn: Doreen

3rd Vice President's Report, by Daniel D. Gorman



Two Second Sound Byte

The FOP can give statements, comments, and interviews, but unless it's conducted in an unedited forum such as a live radio or television interview, there is little that can be done to control the accuracy of the information released. For example, when taking a fragment from a complete quote and spinning it out of context in a two second byte.

The FOP has one of the greatest fights on our hands. We cannot take job action or go on-strike, but one way we can be effective is to get our message out through the media. The FOP makes every attempt to push our message in the media and has done so successfully thus far.

Assisted with the research by Field Rep Saul Del Rivero, we went back four months to May 25th. In these past four months President Mike Shields has given a combination of 59 statements, comments, radio interviews, and full television interviews on the issues of low manpower, the City's budget, police budget cuts, fallen and honored officers, curfew crackdown and flash mobs.

Our research also shows that FOP Spokesman Pat Camden has been quoted or paraphrased at least 86 times in the last four months, delivering the bottom line on increased assaults on police, manpower, officer safety and of course, supporting officer's actions in police involved shootings. (Just outside of the four month research, let's not forget the night of the JJ Peppers shooting where Mr. Camden told the on-scene media, "Two very young and courageous police officers that were out there doing what they get paid for, these are the same people that they're looking to take pensions away from...The city should be thankful that they have young men that are out here still doing their jobs every morning while we're sound asleep.")

We appreciate the positive feedback by the membership as we continue to work with the media.

Officer Valadez Trial

Also charged in the murder of Officer

Valadez is Shawn Gaston. The jury was picked, opening statements were heard on September 21, 2011 and the trial remains in progress as I submit this article for print. The State's Attorney, Anita Alvarez, is putting the case on herself and did a fine job with her opening. The defense attorney, John Paul Carroll, did his best at insulting and discrediting police and their work, then went onto suggest police misconduct during the investigation.

Judge Alonso allowed a standing room during the opening to accommodate the amount of spectators. The spectators were made up of friends and family of Officer Valadez, police officers and persons wearing business attire. Left to stand in the hallway were those wearing the standard court attire of dark denim jeans and white t-shirts. This was proven when defense attorney John Paul asked the court if it would be possible for seats to be granted to defendant Gaston's family.

Thank you to everyone who showed support and for your professional courtroom conduct. Now the jury must do their civic duty, listen to the actual evidence, use their common sense, follow the jury instructions, follow the State statutes and reach a verdict of "guilty" on all counts.

"Ughh, Someone Needs To Be Responsible"

Some of us live near suburbs and those departments are typically good to us. Specifics are eliminated in fear of a retaliatory arrest being made of one of our own. While off-duty and on his way to work, one of our own stopped for food in a nearby suburb. The officer was placed in a deadly force situation, and fearing for life, the officer fired one time not striking anyone. The officer notified 911, reported the incident and waited on-scene until police arrived. Suburban detectives arrived and our officer cooperated with the investigation at the scene.

The suburban detectives responded by taking the officer's weapon at the scene, placing the officer into the back of a police car, transporting the officer to

the suburban station and placing the officer into a room. Just about an hour later, and only having ten minutes of representation, the officer was administered Miranda warnings by a detective from that department who then called the State's Attorney for review. Field Rep. John Farrell, Legal Counsel Dan Herbert and I were all on hand to provide representation for our member. The ASA arrived and advised the detectives to continue the investigation and our officer was allowed to leave. Our officer's weapon and identification were returned, even his duty bag, which was locked and secured in the officer's personal trunk.

In conversation, the detective admitted that the department does not have protocol for incidents like these and went on to say words to the effect that there was a discharge of a weapon and we can't have that without... [pause] ... ughh, someone needs to be responsible.

Could "be responsible" really mean be arrested? Is there really no protocol? Is it lack of experience? Brothers and Sisters, take what you will from this and be careful.

Upcoming Court Cases

Please mark your court calendars, appear and show support for our fallen brothers and their families. Send a message to the court through a strong police presence:

- October 24th, 2011, Kevin Walker and Christopher Harris, both charged in the murder of Officer Alex Valadez, 26/Cal, Room 207, Judge Alonso. (It may move to a larger room in the event of trial).
- October 25th, 2011, Timothy Her-ring Jr., charged in the murder of ET Mike Flisk, 26/Cal, Room 404, Judge Brosnahan.
- Lamar Cooper, charged in the murder of Officer Nate Taylor, is not yet set for trial.

Financial Secretary's Report, *By Rich Aguilar*



A History Lesson

All too frequently members question, "What has the FOP done for me lately?" The question is a valid one as the FOP does not normally play a noticeable part for a great majority of our members at a personal level. However, for a small part of our membership, they see first-hand exactly what the FOP is all about.

This question is asked by more of our younger members who have enjoyed all of the benefits, benefits that were earned through hard-fought battles with the City in contract negotiations and grievances that were argued during arbitration hearings, for their entire careers with the Department.

The Chicago Police Association of Nevada had their annual reunion last month. Now, I am not a kid. As a matter of fact, I just recently maxed out with my twenty-nine and a day and just like the younger members of our organization I, too, have enjoyed many benefits obtained by the FOP throughout my career. Even with all my time on the job it was interesting to speak with those who were employed by the Department before the FOP became the collective bargaining unit for Chicago Police Officers. One retired member, Walter Bortko, mentioned a phrase I hadn't heard for a while which sums up the times prior to FOP pretty well. You old-timers still here will remember the phrase, "Collective Begging". You younger guys and girls should familiarize yourselves with this phrase.

Prior to the FOP, Chicago Police Officers were at the mercy of the City politicians and Department administration. Things you and I may take for granted simply did not exist. There wasn't any time and one-half pay. There wasn't any bidding for District assignments. Officers certainly weren't working steady watches. Officers worked a rotating schedule. Your watch could be changed from period to period as there wasn't any guarantee you would even stay with your as-

signed watch. The change didn't have to wait for change day. It could occur even in the middle of a period. Day off groups meant virtually nothing. If the boss didn't like you, your day off group would mysteriously be changed just as your much-anticipated three day weekends approached.

With FOP came true collective bargaining and with collective bargaining came **GUARANTEES** for Chicago Police Officers. Walter gave a great analogy. "We used to be a group of Police Officers who had little recourse other than to go to the City with an open hand begging for anything we needed. You are now a group of Police Officers who have a closed fist that can make demands of the City or when that fails to have an arbitrator intervene."

Here is one great example that illustrates the point. Any Officer who is unfortunate enough to wind up on the wrong end of a court case always runs the risk of a court order that prohibits him from possessing or carrying a firearm. This is something that could happen to any one of us. The charges don't necessarily have to be true or even have any basis. For years, the Department has taken the position that any type of weapons restriction placed on an Officer is grounds to place the Officer in a no-pay status or force the Officer to begin to surrender elective time to remain in a paid status. Even if the Officer was able to convince a judge to allow the Officer to possess a weapon for employment purposes, the Department viewed the court order as still containing a weapons restriction and would not allow the Officer the right to work. Keep in mind this was all done prior to the Officer being convicted of any crime and before the Officer was able to answer any administrative allegations.

FOP has had several grievances filed on this issue. The ideal case finally came about and proceeded to a full arbitration hearing. Officer X was charged with a criminal act. A weapons restriction was placed on Officer X by the court, but in his order the judge also stated that Offi-

cer X could possess a weapon for employment purposes with the Department. The Department chose to ignore the portion of the restriction which the judge had obviously included that would allow Officer X to continue working and forced Officer X to begin surrendering elective time. Officer X went back to court and petitioned the judge in an attempt to completely remove the restriction. The judge would not remove the restriction stating that he could not understand why the Department was unable to comprehend an order that clearly allowed Officer X to possess a weapon for employment purposes.

Officer X was placed into a no-pay status for over a year while his grievance progressed. The grievance was finally heard and the arbitrator ruled in favor of Officer X by awarding him all back pay and benefits that would have been due him had he been allowed to work. Officer X will receive his salary, any monies expended for healthcare, and any other benefits he would have been entitled to. Combine this with the cost of the arbitration, court reporters, plus the man-hours expended by the attorneys that represented the City and you have an award that is in the neighborhood of \$150,000.00.

This one decision has established guidelines for Officers and the Courts that will keep officers working until their individual cases are adjudicated in court and administratively within the Department.

Please keep this in mind if you ever wonder, "What has the FOP done for me lately?" Hopefully, we will never have to do anything for you personally, but rest assured the FOP will always be there working in the background to protect you and your family.

One More Time, Challenge Coins, Etc., by Father Tom Nangle

I thought I'd written my final column for the FOP newsletter, but I have one more bundle of words before final becomes 'the end.' The retirement party you put together for me on Sept. 8th created the nicest night of my 67 years, and I am deeply grateful to the committee, the Emerald Society and the CPD Honor Guard as well as the PO's who showed up to drive me to the hall in a convoy of new and antique CPD cars (I laughed all the way) and all whose kindnesses behind the scenes I don't even know about. We tried to keep the talks and plaques and ticket price to a minimum, and apologies to the south-siders who had to travel so far north...we couldn't find anything centrally located in our budget range. To all who came, I am grateful.

A retired policeman designed an attractive challenge coin with the phrase, "Officer, remember Who you really work for," and it was our attempt to remind all working police officers that The Job has some downright Godly moments; you certainly can't say that about many other jobs. After dinner, we made the extra

coins available (for a minimum donation of \$10) with the promise the proceeds would go to Bill Cozzi when he comes back to town in early November. They were all sold immediately. Requests for more of the very popular coins have been coming in daily, so we were able to get a limited number of additional coins made up and they should be available in mid-October for a minimum \$10 donation, which we'll give to Cozzi when he returns to assist him in his transition, as a follow-through to what we did at my retirement party. We hope to give our brother a tidy sum, thanks to your loyalty and generosity. Please watch the FOP website for details on these last available coins, www.chicagofop.org and please be generous in your donation, as you always are. Also, we ask for *cash donations only* so we can give it directly to Bill without any fuss.

Two Loose Ends I Need To Tie Up, Please:

1. Someone gave me a set of drinking glasses with the 7 capital sins etched on them; the card on the nicely wrapped

package got lost, and I don't know who to thank. Does anyone know the gift-giver, please?

2. At the end of the party, around midnight, a policeman was admiring a blown-up picture near the podium and said he'd love to have it. I have all those photos now, and I'd like to get it to him, but I didn't get his name. If you can answer question 1 or 2, please let my friends Fr. Brandt or Rabbi Wolf know, and I'll do my best to wrap this up.

When the party was over and I got into Rabbi Wolf's car for the ride home that night, we talked about the evening that was ending. I started to weep; if you have to cry, tears of gratitude and simple happiness beat the other kind. If it was your intention to honor me and make me feel appreciated that night at The White Eagle, you succeeded, complete and total. I am so grateful to you and God for the last 41 years that words just cannot...

Gratefully,
Fr. Thomas Nangle, Chaplain, Retired

From The Desk of John Farrell, Field Representative

I became a field representative for officers involved in shootings four months ago. It's a pleasure to be back in a position where I can help and support the men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day. I have been traveling throughout the Country as an instructor with the Street Crimes Program. This has given me the opportunity to meet and talk with police officers from all over the Country. This has left no doubt in my mind that Chicago has the best police department in the world.

The first thing learned working for FOP is that I missed out having never worked in Area 2. I would have made an effort to get assigned there had I known the amount of FOP sponsored pizza they get.

On a more serious note, there is a safety issue I want to bring to your attention. As you know the number of officers killed by gunfire on an annual basis has risen dra-

matically the last few years. This year will be no exception as we are ahead of last year to date. A trend that is developing is the increase in ambush style attacks on officers. Prime examples are incidents that occurred this year in San Diego California and San Antonio Texas. In both cases officers were murdered while sitting in their squad cars at red lights. Assaults pulled up next to the officers at the red lights and fired multiple shots into the squad cars killing the officers. This type of attack has been common in Mexico. Drug cartels and street gangs have killed many law enforcement officers and public officials in this manner.

While on patrol you are constantly looking at people on foot and in vehicles. It's just as important to look at the rearview mirror to see who is coming up behind you. Watch for vehicles that appear to be following you and always leave enough distance between you and the vehicle in

front of you in case you have to quickly exit your lane.

Your job is more dangerous than ever. Continue to do the great job as always and make your safety a top priority.

General Meeting Notice

The next FOP, Lodge 7
General Meeting will be held
on Tuesday, October 18, 2011
at Noon.

Please sign in when you arrive!

From Your Chaplain, by Father Dan Brandt

Making rounds throughout the City with Rabbi Moshe Wolf and Chaplain Bob Montelongo, I have sat in on some roll calls and met with many of our officers. Last month, a commander on the west side said something that stuck, in speaking of his humble upbringing: "I used to think I was shortchanged because I didn't have the 'cool' gym shoes that so many other kids had. **Then I met a kid with no feet.**" Indeed, no matter how bad off some may feel at times, there is always someone worse off.

Last month, we commemorated the ten-year anniversary of 9/11. Having served in October/November 2001 at Ground Zero and the 30th Street morgue in NYC, it was a no-brainer: I had to return to visit old friends with whom I've kept in contact over the years. As you know, NYC took quite a hit that fateful day: almost 3,000 dead—including 343 FDNY, 23 NYPD and 37 Port Authority PD who ran INTO those buildings while even the mice were running OUT.

Let us continue to pray for them and their families...and for an end to spineless terrorism, silly gang warfare, senseless violence, and fruitless war. Thank YOU for being the front line in this effort.

With the help of some of our own dedicated officers who have served in the military, the Chaplains' Ministry is again sending Christmas care packages to the four dozen or so CPD members currently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. If you would like to help offset the cost of these top-notch gift boxes, please make a check payable to CPD Chaplains Ministry and mail it to the address below. You can also use intra-department mail and direct your donation to the Chaplains' Unit (120).

If we can ever be of support to any Department members, active or retired, please let us know. Rabbi Moshe Wolf, Chaplain Bob Montelongo and I are happy to visit, pray with and pray for anyone in need of God's help. The same offer is true of our recently-retired chaplains, who have expressed their desire to continue their ministry: Sharon Ellis-Davis, Kevin Dean, and Capatoria Wilson.

In the meantime, please know that you and your family are always welcome to join us for Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel at Mercy Home for Boys and Girls: 1140 W. Jackson Boulevard. While this is a Catholic Mass, folks of all denominations are welcome to join us.

Mass is usually over by 11:30, and fellowship (including coffee, juice and pastries) follows for those who can stick around for a bit. You'll be in good company. **(Note that due to the Chicago Marathon, the Police Mass is not celebrated on 09 OCT.)**

Finally...though you've heard it before, you can't hear it enough: **Indeed, you are doing God's work!**

Fr. Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain
1140 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60607

Always available at 312/738-7588
dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org

News From The Disability Committee, by PO Mike Lappe, Chairman

On September 21, 2011, the Fraternal Order of Police Disability Committee hosted a "Disability Forum" at the FOP Hall. The purpose of this event was to provide information to officers who are currently on the medical roll and may be considering applying for disability; regardless if it is duty, non-duty or ordinary disability.

Invited guests spoke about the process, from the initial time an officer submits a PAR Form, until a disability hearing has been concluded at the Pension Board.

The feedback received from those who attended was gratifying to hear. Many current and former officers never knew of some of the benefits that were available

after leaving the job and left the Hall with a clear understanding of how the process functions. I also need to point out that at the forum, officers met in person with whom they have been dealing with during their process. Speakers from Human Resources, Benefits Management Office, Chicago Patrolman Pension Board and the Committee itself gave a presentation.

The committee was asked by several attendees if we will be hosting another such event in the future. My best guess says yes, something next spring. Lastly, the Committee would like to thank the FOP for the use of the Hall and providing a lunch for all guests in attendance.

Departed Brothers & Sisters

- Paul J. Seiler, Age 67
- Frank Pelnar, Age 72
- James E. Tobin, Age 66
- Norman J. Schmit, Age 89
- Norman J. Kukuk, Age 80
- Marcelo Rogriguez, Age 57
- Patrick T. Foley, Age 69
- Eugene J. Connelly, Age 81
- Stanley H. Szyskowski, Age 79

Stress Management Class Openings



The Lodge and the Employee Assistance Program will be hosting Stress Management Classes for members.

The classes will be held at the Hartgrove Hospital, 5730 W. Roosevelt Road, Chicago, Illinois.

The classes run for 2 days from 0830 - 1630 hours and you must attend both days.

There are still openings for the upcoming Stress Management Classes:

Thursday & Friday, October 20th & 21st
Or
Thursday & Friday, December 1st & 2nd

To register for the class, please contact the Lodge and ask for Pat, 312-733-7776.

July 2011 Retirees

Name	Rank	Dist.	Yrs	Name	Rank	Dist.	Yrs
Bodie-Peals, Mae B.	Detective	384	20	Kelly, Richard J.	Officer	024	39
Brownlee, Dwendelyn A.	Officer	014	21	Kumiga, Donald J.	ET	377	39
Callozzo, Phillip A.	Officer	050	43	Lyman, Charlene R.	Detective	630	25
Casey, Lynn M.	Officer	145	26	Mercado, Wilfred	Officer	019	24
Castillo, Carlos E.	Officer	051	31	Mischka, Rita M.	Detective	640	20
Curd, Alexander	Officer	608	38	Peete, Harold W.	Officer	011	20
Davis, Sidney M.	ET	541	28	Powe, Myrtle L.	Officer	384	23
Gowacki, Christine M.	Officer	016	20	Putis, Anthony G.	Detective	630	26
Harrison, Richard	Detective	620	35	Stadler, Rosemary	Officer	016	20
Hayes, Maureen A.	Officer	008	29	Turnao, Rachelle J.	Detective	630	24
Hespe, William T.	Officer	023	13	Velgara, Julio	Sergeant	014	34
Jaskolka, Stephen M.	Officer	020	19	Womack, Cynthia J.	Officer	002	20
Kajdi, Steven A.	Detective	620	25	Zepka, Gloria H.	Officer	020	16
Keane, John M.	Detective	640	42				

Dues Increase—2012

All officers, active and retired, will see a dues increase for 2012 union dues. This increase reflects the increases in dues that were voted on at the State Conference in 2010 to go into effect in 2012. Our Constitution and By-laws call for the Lodge to pass these increases on to the membership.

Retired Officers and Sergeants & Above pay dues annually between September 1st and November 1st. Retiree dues will now cost \$40 per year, and Sergeants & Above Fraternal dues will now cost \$65 per year. Active Officers will see the dues increase beginning with the first check of 2012.

We are sure that our membership understands the necessity of these increases in light of the ongoing struggles with the Pension legislative issues. We will continue to fight on behalf of our members to keep their benefits.

The Lodge is preparing for its annual mailing to members. Please look at the address label on this newsletter; this is the address we will use to mail your 2012 Handbook, Membership Card and Stickers. Please contact the Lodge and make any necessary Name or Address changes now.

SECOND NOTICE: Annual Payers (Retirees, Sgts, etc.) 2012 Dues Payments Must Be Received Before November 1, 2011

Attention Retirees and Annual Dues Payers you can mail your 2012 dues now. The Lodge will begin accepting credit card payments over the phone after the Labor Day Holiday. If you turn 75 in 2011, you DO NOT pay!!

NAME:	PHONE:
ADDRESS:	CITY, STATE, ZIP:
BENEFICIARY:	
CHECK ONE: <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Retiree (All Ranks) Annual Dues <input type="checkbox"/> \$65 Active Sgts. & Above & Outside Units	
Enter Credit Card and Security Code located on back of card in signature area.	
_____ - _____ - _____ - _____ 3 digit code on back of card _____	
Expiration Date ____ / ____	

From The Desk Of Jim McCarthy, Field Representative



This past September 15th I was the scheduled on-call Field Representative for police shootings. At approximately 1100 hours I was contacted by our answering service informing me that a Police Officer had been involved in a shooting. I responded to the crime scene located in the 5300 block of North Kedzie Avenue and, as expected, observed several A/5 and 017th District personnel. The facts surrounding the shooting were rather quite remarkable and I would like to take this opportunity to share with the membership what I consider to be an outstanding piece of police work. At approximately 10:30 P.M., in the vicinity of the 4900 block of North Troy, an armed offender walked up to another individual and shot him in the face. After the first shot, the offender stood over the victim and continued to pour gunfire into the victims head at point blank range.

I later heard that the back of the victim's

hoodie was caked with bullet shrapnel based on the close proximity of the offender. After killing the victim, the offender was driven from the scene in a black truck and, as they left, the description of the vehicle was broadcast over the radio. P.O. Charlotte Gonzalez and P.O. Alejandro Acevedo of the 017th District Tactical Unit observed the aforementioned vehicle, activated their emergency equipment and attempted to pull the vehicle over. The offender who was seated in the passenger's seat immediately exited the vehicle and fired upon the Officers as they were getting out of their squad. As a result, there were several bullet holes in the unmarked squad from the offender. Both Officers under fire continued to move toward the subjects and their vehicle while returning fire. As trained, P.O. Gonzalez immediately secured the driver of the vehicle. P.O. Acevedo continued to pursue the offender who never stopped firing his weapon. P.O. Acevedo followed the offender into a dark vacant lot on north Kedzie Avenue. The lot in question had a building to each side, a

tall fence in the back and was quite narrow. The offender 507/330lb who was neither a standout track star nor a noted high jumper had a serious problem for he was in a lot which was a dead end. The officer and the offender continued to exchange gunfire in this narrow vacant lot. The officer was forced to re-load twice and at the conclusion of the investigation it was determined that the officers combined fired approximately 35 rounds. The offender who was struck several times died on-scene.

I think the description of the officers actions described above speak for themselves. I know all of the Officers involved do not need me to tell them that they were truly on top of their game in what is every Police Officers worst nightmare. What I would like them to know it was an honor and a privilege to be the representative for individuals who carried out such courage and bravery.

God bless and stay safe.

FOP, Chicago Lodge 7, along with Interactive Health Solutions, Invite You To Take Part In The...

Health Evaluations

October 14th & 15th—Odgen - Area 4
3315 W. Odgen, Chicago, Illinois

October 21st & 22nd—Chicago Lawn, Area 1
3420 West 63rd Street, Chicago, Illinois

Why not take 15 - 30 minutes to improve your health?

To register for the assessment, call 1-800-840-6100. Registration is Required!

Active employees and family members - please have your insurance card ready. You will need your insurance card.

Retirement Party

Honoring the 43-Years of Service of...

Detective Allen Szudarski "Sudz"

002, Area 1 Task, Area 1 SOG, 006, Area 1 Detective Division

Monday, November 7, 2011
1800—2330 hours

European Chalet
5445 S. Harlem Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

For tickets call Area 1 D/D, 312-747-8380

“The Story of Life”, Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf

This past September the world over took time to honor and memorialize all those heroes who lost their lives in the brutal attacks on our Country, we have come to know as 9/11. There were various local services held in our City; they were all touching ceremonies. Thanks to each of you who came out, en masse, to give honor to these heroes. We also honored our local heroes, our members who lost their lives in the line of duty. On behalf of the families who lost loved ones, thanks for "being there". Your kind words, your support and comfort, meant more than words can say. Moments as such make us stop, be thankful to have each other and reflect on "The Story Of Life"...

Sometimes people come into our lives and we know right away that they were meant to be there, to serve some sort of purpose, teach us a lesson, or to help us figure out who we are or we you want to become. We never know who these people may be (possibly a roommate, neighbor, coworker, long lost friend, lover, or even a complete stranger), but when we lock eyes with them we know at that very moment they will affect our lives in some profound way. Sometimes things happen to us that may seem horrible, painful and unfair at first, but in reflection we find that without overcoming those obstacles we would have never realized our potential, strength, will power, or heart. A few points to ponder as we travel down this road called "life":

Everything happens for a reason. Nothing happens by chance or by means of good luck. Illness, injury, love, lost moments of true greatness, and sheer stupidity all occur to test the limits of our soul. Without these small tests, whatever they may be, life would be like a smoothly paved, straight, flat road to nowhere. It would be safe and comfortable, but dull and utterly pointless. The people we meet who affect our lives, and the success and downfalls we experience, help to create who we are and who we become.

Even the bad experiences can be

learned from. In fact, they are probably the most poignant and important ones. If someone hurts you, betrays you, or breaks your heart, forgive them, for they have helped you learn about trust and the importance of being cautious when you open your heart. If someone loves you love them back unconditionally, not only because they love you, but because in a way, they are teaching you to love and how to open your heart and eyes to things.

Take a moment every morning to say hello to "The Boss", let us imagine, What If?

What if G-D couldn't take the time to bless us today because we couldn't take the time to thank Him yesterday?

What if G-D decided to stop leading us tomorrow because we didn't follow Him today?

What if we never saw another flower bloom because we grumbled when G-D sent the rain.

What if G-D stopped loving and caring for us because we failed to love and care for others?

What if G-D would not hear us today because we would not listen to Him yesterday?

What if G-D answered our prayers the way we answer His call to service?

So we take a moment and say, 'thank you G-d, for giving us more than we deserve'.

Make every day count:
Appreciate every moment and take from

those moments everything that you possibly can for you may never be able to experience it again.

Talk to people that you have never talked to before, and actually listen.

Let yourself fall in love, break free, and set your sights high.

Hold your head up because you have every right to.

Tell yourself you are a great individual and believe in yourself, for if you don't believe in yourself, it will be hard for others to believe in you.

Try to make the best of your life, some are given harder challenges than others.

If life gives you lemons make lemonade. Create your own life and then go out and live it with absolutely no regrets.

Most importantly!!!

If you love someone tell him or her, for you never know what tomorrow may have in store.

And never pass up an opportunity to share a kind word and a smile; it will brighten your day.

Always remember the work you do is G-d's work, and that's what makes your job sacred and you special.

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

Compliments of your Police Chaplain Rabbi Moshe Wolf
773-463-4780 or e-mail, moshe-wolf@hotmail.com

011th District Reunion

Anyone who worked in the 011th District in the 70s or 80s are invited!

Thursday, October 13, 2011
1630—2030 hours

Studio 31
Archer & Kolin, Chicago, Illinois

Tickets cost \$10 & Includes Food
Cash Bar

Please call Cindy Nieckula with Questions,
773-988-1406

018th District Luncheon

All 018th District Officers Are Invited to a Buffet Style Luncheon!

Thursday, October 20, 2011
1100—1400 hours

Marcello's Father & Son Restaurant
645 W. North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois
(FREE Parking in Rear)

Tickets cost \$23 & Includes Food, Coffee, & Soft Drinks...Cash Bar Available

Please e-mail John Wotring with questions,
JohnnyWol@aol.com



STORE HOURS:

MON-THURS, 9:00 – 5:00
FRIDAY, 9:00 – 4:00
SATURDAY, 9:00 – 1:00

STORE CLOSED:

OCTOBER 10, 2011

DIRECT LINE:

312-733-2344

NEW WEBSITE:

WWW.FOP7GIFTSHOP.COM

**T-Shirt
Of The Month**

“Chicago Police”
Embroidered Design
With Checkerboard For
Men & Women
(Sizes S-3XL)

30% OFF

Autumn is here and so are the SALES. We have to clear the shelves for new winter apparel. Shop now for the best deals. Whatever you do, don't forget Sweetest Day on October 15th.

Men's Water Repellent Hooded Jacket, Royal & Black With CPD Star, Med & Large Only
Was \$28.95 - Now \$17.95

Youth CPD Initial Tee-Shirt In Assorted Colors, Sizes 2T-4T & 2/4—14/16
Was \$7.95 - Now \$4.95...Closeout Price!

Girls White with Purple Ruffle on Sleeve & Bottom & CPD Sparkle Star, 40% OFF
6/8-10/12-14/16 Only - Was \$12.95 Now \$7.77

Ladies CPD Printed Initials Grey/Pink Hooded Sweatshirt in Large Only, 40% OFF Only \$14.97
Back In Stock - Navy or Grey Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt, Small- XL, \$22.95 & 2XL-3XL - \$23.95

Men's Sweatpants in Navy or Grey, Small-XL, \$19.95, 2XL-3XL - \$22.95

Long Sleeve Tees With Checkerboard & CPD Star Down Left Arm, Navy or Grey,
Small—2XL, 30% OFF! Was \$12.95, Now \$9.06, 3XL - \$9.45

Police Garden Frogs—30% OFF Closeout Price—\$7.66 to \$19.98. Three Styles to Choose From

Challenge Coin Set: Coin & Knife Coin was \$19.95, Now \$12.97
This Sale Ends November 30th, Or When Sold Out. Hurry In For This Great Buy.

Golf Club & Big Match BBQ Lighters—50% OFF

In Time for Halloween! Lights & Sound Skull Light Saber for the Kids.
Now Only \$11.96! Hurry In...Limited Supply...

10-1 Benefit

You're invited to attend a benefit for....
PO James “Bro” Weyforth, Star #12186

Officer Weyforth is an 18-year Chicago Police Veteran. He has suffered one heart attack and undergone two major heart surgeries and several vascular surgeries. He currently suffers from medical disabilities not allowing him to perform police duties.

Please come and join us for an evening of fun and laughter as we support our Brother!

Friday, October 21, 2011 from 1800—2300 hours

FOP Hall
1412 W. Washington Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois

Tickets cost \$20 each

For information or tickets please call PO Mark D'Amato at 773-742-8560 or PO James Carter at 773-851-7449.

Uniform Re-Sale

Time again for the Semi-Annual
F.O.P. Uniform Sale



Wednesday, 12 October 2011, 1300 – 1700

F.O.P. Hall
1412 W. Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

Officers from all over the City, all Ranks, Active & Retired, will be selling plenty of useable goods.

Tables will be available in the Hall. Sellers should be in the Hall by Noon to set up their wares.

Anyone interested in donating items can drop them off at the F.O.P. Office anytime before the date of the sale.

Contact Frank DiMaria with Questions
At 312-733-7776





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 1412 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago, IL 60607-1821
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 FAX: 312-733-1367
 www.chicagofop.org

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**IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?
 IF NOT, PLEASE CONTACT THE LODGE.**

THE RICHARD LIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

This is the application form for the annual scholarship drawing of Chicago Lodge #7. The scholarship awards are in the amount of \$1,000.00 each and are given in honor of our late State Lodge President, Richard Lis. There will be twenty names drawn at the October General Meeting, and we will also draw five additional names, in case some of the winners are not in college or elect not to continue their education. All applications are to be filled out and mailed to: FOP, Chicago Lodge #7, by police mail or U.S. Post to 1412 West Washington Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60607-1821, Attention: Scholarship Committee.

The following rules apply to applicants requesting scholarships:

- Scholarship grants are available to the sons and daughters (including stepchildren) of members of FOP Lodge #7, who will be attending a college or trade school for the first semester of the school year.
- There will be 20 scholarship grants given for \$1,000.00 each on a one-time basis. Payment will be made at our general meeting in January after proof of attendance is received by the Scholarship Committee.
- Scholarships will be available to high school graduates and any student who is presently attending a college or recognized trade school.
- The college attended must be recognized by the North Central Accrediting Association or the trade school must be recognized by the Illinois Department of Registration.
- **Only one** application per eligible child will be accepted.
- The scholarship grants will be awarded on the basis of a **drawing** of the submitted applications at the **October General Meeting**.
- **Applications may be submitted up to the time of the drawing at the October Meeting.**

RICHARD LIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATION

Applicant's First Name: _____ Applicant's Last Name: _____

Member's First Name: _____ Member's Last Name: _____ Unit# or RTD: _____ Star #: _____

Member's Phone: _____ Member's Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____ College or Trade School: _____

Mail To: **Richard Lis Scholarship Fund**, FOP Lodge 7,(Unit 541 via Police Mail), 1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607