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F.O.P. NEWS

Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7



FOP, Chicago Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.

Newsletter Committee:
Bill Burns, Chairman
Dan O'Brien
Glen Popiela
John Lipka
Russell Schultz

“Remapping Police beats and districts is not something that should be decided by way of the ACLU and a single Cook County Judge.”

President’s Report, By Michael Shields



Motion to Intervene

As many of you are probably aware, the ACLU filed a lawsuit against the City of Chicago. Who are the players in this lawsuit? The ACLU and the Central Austin Neighborhood Association are the plaintiffs. The City is the lone defendant.

What do the plaintiffs want? They have asked for a declaratory judgment stating that the current deployment of the Chicago Police Department is illegal. They also want an injunction against the City. Surprisingly, the complaint was filed in State court and in a non-jury division. Since when does ACLU file actions in State Court?

The ACLU has its own lawyers, of course, but its co-counsel on the case is the law firm Sidley Austin. In a normal world, this would just seem like a large law firm providing some pro bono work to the ACLU and a community group that could never dream of being able to hire such a powerful and prestigious law firm. But consider that the law firm Sidley Austin represented the City of Chicago this past summer, in a review of credit card use by City bosses. We may recall reading about it or seeing the story on TV. During the summer, the partner at Sidley who spearheaded the effort was appointed to the Chicago Police Board. So what? So, the stated mission of the Police Board, according to Municipal Code, is to adopt rules and regulations for the governance of the Police Department of the City.

What this means is that a law firm that did work for the City is now representing an organization that is suing its client – the City. A partner at that law firm who was directly involved in the firm’s work for the City now sits on the City’s Police Board – the very same Board that is responsible for governance of the Police Department. His law firm is now suing the City over the governance of the Department. If this all seems like a tangled mess, you are quite correct.

Remapping Police beats and districts is not something that should be decided by way of the ACLU and a single Cook County Judge. By the time you read this, our lawyers will have petitioned the court to intervene in the lawsuit. The FOP should not be standing on the sidelines while a powerhouse law firm that just represented the City and has a partner on the Police Board turns around and sues its client, which may have the potential to have devastating impacts on our membership and the citizens of Chicago. I’m not a lawyer, but I know a conflict of interest when I see one.

HB 3827

On October 25th, I met with Minority Leader Tom Cross to discuss his House Bill 3827. Thanks to the thousands of phone calls from the FOP membership and four busloads of officers who protested, Leader Cross agreed to not move this Bill. This Bill would have weakened the voice of the participants of the Chicago Police Pension Fund by reducing four trustees down to three. This Bill would have caused the City of Chicago Trustees to outnumber the elected trustees, four to three. Due to the immense pressure from our own membership in fighting this Bill, Leader Cross stated that he wants nothing to do with this Bill. To his credit, Rep. Cross requested an autographed protest sign produced by the Lodge, which said “Don’t CROSS us.” The FOP reached out to our very close Republican allies, State Representatives Angelo “Skip” Saviano and Mike McAuliffe, who were very influential in stopping this bill. We thank them.

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President's Report Continued...

Leader Cross is also a chief sponsor of Senate Bill 512. Everyone should know that 512 is the ultimate pension reform vehicle and to date we have done our best to keep FOP membership out of this Bill. In its current form, Chicago Police and Fire are both excluded and I aim to keep it that way. During the Spring legislative session, the membership must continue the phone calls and e-mails, which have clearly proved to be effective in combating this assault on public employees' unions and pensions.

Seasons Greetings!

On behalf of the FOP Staff, the Board of Directors and myself, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!



FOP License Plates
Exclusive for Members

- Random Issue, Personalized or Vanity Plates Available
- Passenger Vehicles, B-Trucks and Vans Weighing 8,000 Pounds or Less are Eligible
- Pricing is Comparable to Other Plate Purchase and Renewal Fees
- Purchases Support the Mission of the Illinois State Lodge
- Demonstrates Pride in Fraternalism and the Law Enforcement Profession

Applications Available at www.ilfop.org.

1st Vice President's Report, By Bill Dougherty



Medical Grievance Procedures

The Union has filed over 100 medical grievances in 2011. Examples of medical grievances are Injury-on-Duty being denied, officers forced on the medical roll for psychological and physical evaluation, payment of medical bills being denied, and limited duty issues, etc. When an officer is informed that he/she is being denied a medical issue that violates our contract, they have 10 days to contact the Union to file a grievance. All medical grievances are filed at the Lodge.

Once a grievance is filed, the Union notifies Management and Labor Affairs (MLAS). The Union meets once a month for mediation to discuss any new grievances and to follow up on any former grievances that are still unresolved. Discussions on the grievance will take place at the monthly mediation. Present at Mediation for the Union is our attorney Paul Geiger, my assistant Jessica and myself. Present for the City is their Attorney Jennifer Dunn, Jim Sullivan from MLAS, Barb Hemmerling the Medical Director, the Medical Section physician and the Committee on Finance, who apparently have the largest budget and send four

people. Some grievances are resolved at mediation some are not. If a grievance is resolved, the grievant is notified usually within 24-hours and apprised of the outcome. Sometimes a grievance will have to be sent back to mediation to get resolved. If a grievance is unable to be resolved, the Union will send the grievance to our Grievance Committee to get direction.

If the Grievance Committee believes that the grievance was a contract violation, then the Union will send a demand for arbitration to MLAS. An arbitrator will be selected and a future date for the arbitration will be set. The Lodge has been very successful at Medical Arbitrations over the last decade, winning 84% of them. Most of these grievances are denials of Injuries-on-Duty. This is usually a result of the Committee on Finance finding an officers injury to be non-compensable. Maybe the lawyers over at the Committee on Finance need to look up the definition of compensable.

Preparing for Disability

Each and every officer who has the misfortune of being injured in the line of duty starts out with emergency medical treatment and will follow up with the Medical Services Section for further

treatment. An officer is given a list of doctors to choose from and given referrals for follow-up treatment/surgery/therapy if necessary.

Contractually, an officer is entitled to up to 365 days of time off to recover from each IOD if needed. These 365 days are limited to that injury for the duration of the officer's career. Should the officer use the 365 days, he goes into a "no pay" status pending a hearing at the Pension Board. The officer at this time goes to the Pension Board and applies for disability and gets an affidavit that he/she fills out describing the circumstances of his or her injury on duty. Our in-house attorneys will assist the officer with this affidavit. The officer then turns this into the Pension Board. The officer is then required to go to the Benefits Management Office to set up direct pay for his or her health benefits. The officer pays the same amount per month as he/she did as an active officer while applying for disability benefits.

The Pension Board takes the affidavit and starts a process where the officer is sent to the Pension Board doctor along with all of his medical records from the Medical Section. This doctor decides,

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First Vice President's Report Continued.

based upon a physical exam and the records from the Medical Services Section, whether or not he believes the officer is disabled or able to return to work. The Pension Board which normally meets on the 4th Thursday of the month views the medical file and if the Board believes that the officer is incapable of returning to work the officer is then granted 50% duty disability benefits pending a full hearing before the Board to determine if the officer is granted the 75% duty disability benefits. If the Board doctor believes that the officer is capable of returning to work, then nothing is awarded until the officer's full hearing at the Board. At the full hearing, the officer's doctors may be brought in for testimony and cross-examination. There are occasions where

the Board's doctor has to send the officer to a specialist in a particular medical field to determine whether or not an officer can return to duty.

Once the officer is granted duty disability his benefits or award include 75% of his salary, tax free, which is determined by the salary rate on the date of the award. At this time section 18.9 of the contract is in effect. The employer (City of Chicago) agrees to pay all hospital, medical and prescription costs of an officer who is on a leave of absence for duty disability, at no cost to the employee. The employer also makes pension contributions on behalf of the employee as if he had remained in active service. This includes our 9% and the City's 18% so that when

the officer reaches retirement age he will be entitled to a pension for his years of service including the years the officer was on disability. Further, while on disability, if the officer needs any further treatment for the IOD, he gets a referral from the medical section and continues his care for as long as necessary.

Once an officer receives a letter from the pension board granting the officer duty disability, the officer can contact the Personnel Division at (312) 745-5300 and receive a duty disability star and identification card.

2nd Vice President's Report, by Frank DiMaria



Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The Holiday Season is quickly approaching, and with these festive times comes depression for some people. At this time alcohol related problems rise, and higher rates of suicide and general feelings of hopelessness occur. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is available to members of the Chicago Police Department (active and retired) and their families. The services of the EAP include Professional Counseling Service, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Unit and the Peer Support Program. The services of the EAP are free and confidential to those who use them. Just remember that you are not alone during difficult times; there is someone willing to listen. The EAP is located at 1759 W. Adams, and their telephone number is 312 743-0378.

FOP Vest Safety Day

The Lodge will be hosting a Vest Safety Day on 16 February 2012 from 0800 hrs until 1700 hrs. There will be representatives from the major soft body armor companies who will be displaying the current models of their products. Officers if you need to replace your old vest or just

want to see the most current models stop by the Hall. The soft body armor which we wear on a daily basis is one of the most crucial pieces of uniform equipment we put on when we hit the street and protect us from danger.

Parole Hearing

On 17 November 2011 the Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in Springfield for the En Banc Hearing to grant or deny parole of the convicted murderer of PO Patrick Crowley, Star 3614 of the 006th District, EOW 13 September 1976.

I, along with 28 members of the Chicago Police Department, and a representative from the Chicago Memorial Foundation traveled by bus to Springfield in the early morning hours to arrive by 0830 hrs for the Hearing. This case was called and the matter was reviewed. A motion to deny parole was made and seconded for this convicted murderer and the Board voted to deny parole. The Board also voted to grant a three year set for this convicted cop killer.

I would like to thank the Chicago Police Memorial for supplying the bus and all of the police officers who traveled with us to make our presence known and to keep

the memory alive for this fallen hero. We must continue to monitor these hearings to ensure that no one convicted of murdering a police officer is released before the end of their lawful sentence.

Clemency Hearing

The Lodge was recently contacted by the Illinois Prisoner Review Board to inform us of an upcoming clemency hearing in January 2012 for the convicted murderer of PO Anthony Rizzato, Star #12407 & Sgt. James Severin, Star #1319 of the A/6 Task Force, EOW 17 July 1970.

This case may sound familiar because we just had parole hearings during the summer regarding this murderer and Parole was denied and a 3-year set was granted by the Parole Board. The murderer was not happy with their decision and has now filed for a closed session clemency hearing in Springfield in January 2012. The families of the murdered officers believed they would not have to deal with this issue for at least three years and now they must endure the upcoming clemency hearing. The Lodge will circulate petitions obtaining signatures throughout the police department and the state to protest any possibility of release for this con-

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2nd Vice President's Report Continued

(Continued from page 3)

victed cop killer before the completion of his lawful sentence.

WE WILL NEVER FORGET!

Seasons Greeting

I would like to take this time and wish all of our members and their

families a Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season.

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



"Them"

Here in this great city of Chicago, no one man, woman or any team of minds has ever figured out, or is going to figure out, why crime occurs or predict

where it is going to occur. For that matter, a plan(s) for substantial percentages in crime reduction will never be discovered. Since the beginning of modern Chicago history, man has tried to implement new ideas and the level of success is still being debated today. If there was a plan that worked, the Department wouldn't be coming up with a reorganization of manpower, District closings or Area mergers. The cost savings of these plans are also questionable.

Ask anyone who has been an officer and they will say, letting the Police be the Police would give the best results in reducing crime. I would add, that the proper amount of manpower has to be maintained because a reduction in the REAL crime stats can't be done with field coverage spread too thin. Metaphorically speaking, it's as if they want to play long-ball without a center fielder and expect to win the pennant.

More and more, these policies are put in place by those who have never been "the Police". These same policies prevent coppers from successfully doing actual police work. Some of these policies/orders claim they "protect the safety and welfare of our members", but these policies/orders can easily be used as tools to administer discipline.

Technology also seems to be one of these anti-police tools, although an officer may have the best intentions, he/she can still be harmed. To name a few: audio/visual recordings without expectation of privacy, GPS monitoring, radio tracking, stop light

cameras, speed cameras (coming soon), security cameras, cell phone cameras, recording applications, and of course, the not so technological, dishonest police-hating witness disguised as the model citizen.

Brother and sister officers, during these difficult times we are faced with challenges unlike any other. Your back-up is now longer away, the Department's crime reduction experiment is about to be tested and you have policy and people that don't want the Police to police. So we can't leave it up to "them" or up to policies and orders to "protect the safety and welfare of our members". We must do it ourselves. Just in the way officers use different forms of communication to alert one another to possible harm, this has to be extended to other anti-police tools.

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 with a strong police presence.

Timothy Herring Jr.
charged in the murder of ET Mike Flisk
December 6th, 2011
Room 404, 26th & California
Judge Broshnahan

Kevin Walker and Christopher Harris
both charged in the murder of
Officer Alex Valadez
December 7th, 2011
Room 207, 26th & California
Judge Alonso

Lamar Cooper
charged in the murder of
Officer Nate Taylor
January 12th, 2012
Room 702, 26th & California
Judge Nick Ford

Seasons Greetings!

*On behalf of the Legal Defense Team
here at the Lodge, Kathy Moore,
Jim McCarthy and Myself,
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

Stay Informed!

Website: www.chicagofop.org

Sign Up For E-mail: To sign up for e-mail updates, go to the "Current Updates" page on our website and click the link at the top that says "subscribe"

* please use your personal e-mail account *

"Like" Us On Facebook: Fraternal Order of Police:
Chicago Lodge No. 7

Follow Us On Twitter: @FOP7Chicago

For social media inquiries, please contact Victoria at
Victoria@chicagofop.org

Financial Secretary's Report, *By Rich Aguilar*



Merry Christmas From My Family To Yours!

Specificity of IPRA Allegations

General Order 93-03 is titled Conduct of the Investigation. This order, issued in 1993, specifically states what an investigator is required to do when conducting an investigation into allegations of misconduct by an Officer. Item II-C-4-a of the order states *...the investigator will have the accused member read and sign both a Notification of Charges/Allegations form and an Administrative Proceedings Rights form to acknowledge that he has received a written copy of the specific allegations made against him.* The key word in this excerpt is the word specific. This order is not a guideline. It is a policy. Prior to October 2008, any time an Officer was alleged to have committed misconduct that was to be investigated by the Office of Professional Standards or its replacement agency, the Independent Police Review Authority, the Officer was served with specific allegations. The allegations stated exactly what the Officer was alleged to have done. In its simplest terms, if a complainant stated an Officer punched him in the mouth, then the allegations stated that the Officer punched the complainant in the mouth.

Ilana Rosenzweig is the Chief Administrator of the Independent Police Review Authority. Ms. Rosenzweig issued a memo in late October 2008. The memo outlined a new protocol where IPRA would now classify misconduct into sixteen categories of allegations, some of which included subcategories. Allegations that were specific became vague descriptions of the Officer's conduct. The allegations from a complainant who stated that an Officer punched him in the mouth now read that the Officer maltreated the complainant. This new IPRA policy was in direct conflict with the Department General Order. A Department General Order suddenly meant nothing to IPRA, the same investigative body that regularly uses violations of General Orders against Officers under investigation.

Neither IPRA nor the Department notified the Lodge of any new protocol that was proposed or implemented that changed the way allegations of misconduct were to be worded. The Lodge was notified when one of our members questioned the vague allegations he received in January 2009. A Class Action grievance was immediately filed on behalf of any member who was the subject of an IPRA investigation.

Arbitrator Steven Bierig presided over a hearing on July 20, 2010. Administrator Rosenzweig testified at the arbitration hearing that she made the determination to modify the way allegations were worded and instituted the new policy. She believed there were inconsistencies in the allegation descriptions written by different investigators and she wanted consistency in charges/allegations going forward. She also stated that some allegations were so specific that they did not constitute a violation of Department Rules and Regulations or ultimately prove irreconcilable with details provided by Officers in their interviews. This forced investigators to re-serve Officers with new allegations and provide Officers the opportunity to respond again. She went on to say that IPRA does not have the resources to continue to interview Officers on multiple occasions for the same incident. The new protocol would simplify the process.

I find it odd that Administrator Rosenzweig would believe that allegations of misconduct, allegations that are as unique as the people and elements involved in each case, could be neatly pigeonholed into sixteen categories. I also find her comment regarding allegations that did not constitute a violation of Department Rules and Regulations a bit disturbing. It almost implies that IPRA was attempting to create violations of Rules and Regulations rather than investigating the allegations presented to the investigator and classifying them as Unfounded. As to her final comment about resources and simplifying the process, silly me, I always thought the job of the investigator was to search for the truth

regardless of the time, effort, or monies spent to do so.

Arbitrator Bierig issued his award and ruled in favor of the Lodge when he sustained the grievance in November 2011. His reasoning can best be summed up by a few sentences from his award.... *Officers should not be given merely a summary category of the allegation, but rather, must be provided with the specific details of the actions alleged by the complainant. Officers must be provided with this information in order to thoroughly and properly respond via a To/From or to prepare for an investigative interview with IPRA. While IPRA does have a legitimate concern regarding conducting efficient investigations, that interest cannot compromise an Officer's fair opportunity to completely respond to the misconduct allegations made against them.*

This arbitration award is binding and rescinds the new IPRA protocol. The "fishing expedition" has ended!

Financial Responsibility

One of my duties as outlined by our Constitution and By-Laws is to properly manage the funds of the Lodge. This responsibility can be as simple as calling around to get the best price on a minor purchase for the Lodge, or can be as complex as presenting as many facts as are available to the Grievance Committee when the Committee has to make a decision on whether to spend our funds on an arbitration hearing. Sometimes the Committee makes tough decisions that affect some members, but these decisions are always made with the best interests of all our members in mind.

While I do not represent myself as an attorney, there was always one responsibility I thought we shared. I always believed that it was the responsibility of an attorney to advise his client as to what was best for his client, as I do for our members. I guess times have changed or I was totally wrong in my assessment.

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Financial Secretary's Report Continued....

(Continued from page 5)

Recently, I attended an arbitration hearing at the offices of the Corporation Counsel for the City of Chicago. The particular grievance at issue is not really of any importance here. What is important however, is that just prior to the beginning of the actual hearing, we were within inches of an agreement, which had the potential to resolve at least ten or more grievances in one, maybe two arbitration hearings rather than ten or more individual hearings.

Corporation Counsel Attorney Femi

Sokoya represented the City at this hearing. When we finally realized that an agreement was not possible and the City took the position that each grievance should be heard individually, I immediately asked if that was a financially prudent decision. I pointed out that a normal day of arbitration can cost anywhere from six to eight thousand dollars and that ten individual hearings could cost the City anywhere from sixty to eighty thousand dollars. Ms. Sokoya's reply was that it was not her responsibility to tell her client how to spend its money.

I honestly can't say whether I was more appalled as a representative of the Lodge by her cavalier attitude or as a taxpaying resident of the City of Chicago by her complete disregard for the finances of the City that you and I support.

Our Mayor wonders why our finances are in a black hole. It shouldn't be any mystery given the above circumstances. Questions need to be asked. Answers need to be given.

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

Over the past several months, members of the Disability Committee have fielded several calls from officers who are on disability asking why they are required to submit to a yearly physical exam. Prior to an officer being granted duty, occupational disease or ordinary disability the officer signed a form agreeing to fulfill their obligation in having physical exams throughout the time they are collecting disability funds.

If the officer resides out of state, it is up to the officer, at his or her expense, i.e.; transportation, lodging etc. to keep any and all appointments related to exams. Note: Officers who suffered a catastrophic, debilitating injury are also required to have their physician and/or care giver provide a status report every three years.

The next paragraph answers questions as

it is stated in the state statute.

(40 ILCS 5/5-156) (From Ch. 108 1/2, par. 5-156)

Sec. 5-156. Proof of Disability - Physical Examinations. Proof of duty, occupational disease, or ordinary disability shall be furnished to the board by at least one licensed and practicing physician appointed by the board. In cases where the board requests an applicant to get a second opinion, the applicant must select a physician from a list of qualified licensed and practicing physicians who specialize in the various medical areas related to duty injuries and illnesses, as established by the board. The board may require other evidence of disability. A disabled policeman who receives a duty, occupational disease, or ordinary disability benefit shall be examined at least once a year by one or more physicians ap-

pointed by the board. When the disability ceases, the board shall discontinue payment of the benefit, and the policeman shall be returned to active service.

Follow-up

A short follow up from last month's Committee on Finance reimbursement article; the officer received all funds due to him within two weeks of his IOD medical out of pocket expenses after being submitted. Thank you finance "adjusters" from the committee. Together with you, the FOP Disability Committee looks forward in assisting officers when needed.

Until Then, Stay Safe, Stay Tuned...

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**

From Your Chaplain, by Father Dan Brandt

A few weeks ago, I was at Christ Hospital with a P.O. who was shot in the leg while on duty. Dozens of co-workers and many of the bosses—all the way up to superintendent—were there, and I had the honor of praying with them and—most importantly—with the officer and his family.

Prior to that, I found myself at a home on the south side, where a police officer was murdered by a family member. Again, I saw a tremendous outpouring of support from brothers and sisters in blue (and white). This support system is indeed a blessing and something that we as a family sometimes take for granted.

I have witnessed this gift countless other times in recent weeks: at wakes, benefits, and in numerous non-life-threatening hospital visits. As my beloved predecessor, Fr. Tom Nangle, has said to me more than a few times, “Dan, THIS is where the rubber hits the road!”

I must admit, however, that I look forward more to meeting our personnel on the street as I make the rounds to different districts, and at **social** functions where we can make each other’s acquaintance in a more relaxed environment...and maybe even enjoy a meal together!

Christmas for Our Troops

Many thanks to P.O./Explosives Tech Dominick Kearns and his dedicated team who assembled the Christmas care packages we sent to our troops overseas. And

thanks to so many of you who generously supported this great cause! As you read this note, the packages are on their way to their recipients.

Good news... The number of our officers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan has dropped by over 50% since last year. I can’t wait until ALL of our men and women are home with their families and us...for good!

Police Mass

Please note: the Police Mass at Mercy Home (1140 W. Jackson Blvd) on Sunday 11 DEC is at its normal time of 11:00 a.m. But on Christmas Day, Sunday 25 DEC, we’ll offer Mass at **10:00 a.m.** in order to get you home sooner to open gifts and prepare dinner. While this is a Catholic Mass, ALL are welcome! Bring your family.

If the Chaplains’ Office can ever be of ANY assistance to any of our CPD members, please don’t hesitate to call on Chaplain Bob Montelongo, Rabbi Moshe Wolf, or me. We are all listed in your FOP book, and we are available around the clock.

May God bless you and your family as we approach this most special time of the year.

Fraternally, Fr. Dan Brandt, Chaplain
312/738-7588,
dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org

Departed Brothers & Sisters

Donald T. Klein, Age 75

Arthur J. Holmes, Age 71

Sheryl A. Younker, Age 57

Hester L. Scott, Age 55

Alfred V. Ryan, Jr., Age 88

Louis J. Rabbit, Age 63

Donald F. McGuire, Age 75

Francis J. Margie, Age 84

Eugene J. Hardy, Age 78

Lawrence J. Bangert, Age 84



**Officer
Hester Scott**
EOW 4 Nov 11

A dedicated Chicago Police Officer for 25 years, Hester Scott was the sole matriarch of her

family. She unselfishly loved and provided total care for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren until her untimely death on November 4, 2011.

A memorial fund has been established with the Chicago Patrolmen’s Federal Credit Union, 1407 W. Washington, Chicago, Illinois.

Donations may be made to continue her legacy to support her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. All donations are tax deductible. CPFCU members may select payroll deductions, or choose a one-time deposit.

Contact the Chicago Patrolmen’s Federal Credit Union at (312) 726-8814 or toll-free at 800-326-8814 to donate.

Hester Scott Memorial Fund
Account # 50821

SPECIAL NOTICE

On advice from our accounting firm, the Lodge is re-addressing an issue that was first addressed in December of 2006 regarding the 33% tax that was being paid on all political contributions that were being made. By your vote then to finance the Lodge PAC Fund from your dues money, the Lodge had saved that expense.

If any member objects to the Lodge using up to \$4.00 of your current dues money per year for Political Contributions that foster our Legislative Agendas, please notify the Lodge in writing by December 31, 2011.

Spread The News—Retired Officers Who Would Like To Rejoin The FOP!

Several years ago, a policy was adopted which allowed for the termination of membership of retired officers that failed to pay their Annual FOP membership dues before the deadline.

The current administration would like to make a change to that policy and invite those members to rejoin the FOP. Under the Constitution & By-Laws, active members must be in “good standing”. This is determined by having your annual dues paid in full. If you would like to regain your active status as a retired member,

you must pay unpaid dues. Otherwise, you may become a “retired” FOP member (non-active) without paying the back dues. Non-active members do not vote and do not have life insurance.

If you know of any retired members who were terminated from the rolls of the FOP, and would like to rejoin, please have them contact me by e-mail at p.vitaioli@comcast.net or by cell at 312-402-1040 with their names and addresses.

The Retirement committee will ensure

that a renewal application is sent to them. The completed application will then be forwarded to the FOP Board for review and possible approval.

I have been asked to Chair the Retirement Committee and have accepted the honor. I encourage all retirees to come back into this wonderful, fraternal organization.

Paul Vitaioli
And the Retirement Committee

August 2011 Retirees

Name	Rank	Dist.	Yrs
Bakutis, MaryAnn	Officer	008	23
Belluomini, Karen A.	Officer	050	22
Bembynista, Joseph S.	Forensic Inv. 1	177	41
Boyd, Thomas E.	Expl Tech 1	603	41
Burns, William B.	Officer	018	24
Carbone, Jr., Edward	Officer	50	34
Carlson, Ronald H.	Officer	018	10
Cegielski, Michael J.	Officer	004	29
Cook, Terrie A.	Officer	142	21
Cullinan, Timothy J.	Officer	051	30
Davis, Stephen L.	Officer	010	34
Davis, Sylvester	Officer	001	13
Fernandez, Jose R.	Officer	142	29
Fields, Lawrence	Officer	003	23
Finlon, Joel W.	Detective	384	25
Ford, Bruce L.	Officer	543	25
Gomez, Charles	Officer	004	35
Gonzalez, Sergio H.	Officer	008	25
Hill, Russell E.	Officer	001	29
Jones, Randall C.	Officer	019	25
Kodat, Garry R.	Officer	004	20
Liston, James R.	FTO	010	29
Maldonado, Deanna	Officer	701	25
McGarry, Dennis W.	Detective	630	29
Merrill, Volanda M.	Officer	021	20
Mikota, James R.	Officer	009	34
O’Connell, Vincent J.	Officer	019	20
Peterson, Steven	Deputy Supt.	180	39
Reape, John D.	Officer	051	30
Robinson, Geraldine M.	Officer	006	30
Schnoor, Roy E.	Officer	017	31
Scott, Janice I	Detective	610	26
Sheridan, Philip	Officer	145	35
Smith, Jr., James G.	Officer	051	38
Smith, William T.	Detective	189	25
Stajcic, John Z.	Officer	059	34
Wick, Michael A.	Commander	024	39
Williams-Lee, Balinda	Officer	384	21

Full 5 & Split 5B Furloughs

The Mayor agreed to host the 2012 G8 Summit and now he has instructed the Department to issue Department Notice D11-14. This directive eliminates full 5th period and split 5B furloughs. The Lodge immediately filed a grievance on behalf of all affected members. Any member who would like to exercise his contractual right to enjoy either a full 5th period or split 5B furlough should include this selection on his/her furlough selection form. Unless the Department decides to reinstate these segments the matter will be decided at the arbitration table.

Website Refurbishing

The FOP’s newly re-designed website has been up for a little more than two weeks! We hope you enjoy the site and mark it in your “Favorites.” We will do our best to keep you informed regarding all FOP Lodge No. 7 news, events and everything in between.

We also hope to use the website to better the circulation of information to our membership. Our homepage lists the most current FOP news (previously current updates) as well as upcoming events and links to our social media pages (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube) so don’t forget to Like Us, Follow Us and Watch Us!

Please find our Operational and Holiday Calendars under the EVENTS tab as well as an entire list of upcoming events (including holiday parties).

Lastly, don’t forget to sign up for our iPad giveaway! (Open to FOP Lodge No. 7 members only). Fill in all your information on the pop-up on the homepage and you will be entered for the January 1, 2012 drawing! Good Luck!

From The Desk Of Jim McCarthy, Field Representative



Recently, Grievance Chairman Rich Aguilar and I attended an arbitration hearing downtown at Corporation Counsel. The subject matter of the class-action grievance is whether or not the length of many IAD/IPRA investigations is unreasonable, as some of them take several years for some type of disposition. The city objected to the class-action grievance on several grounds, one of which was that each internal investigation has a different set of circumstances causing some investigations to take more time than others. To counter this, the Lodge cited several examples of incredibly lengthy internal investigations where there could be no reasonable justification as to why such investigations take 4 to 5 years to complete. For example, the Lodge subpoenaed a member who was involved in a bar fight over 5 years ago and is still awaiting a disposition of his CR investigation from IPRA. The Lodge made it clear to the arbitrator that this particular disciplinary case is a just a single example of a disciplinary system that is clearly broken and needs to be fixed. There is no legitimate justification for taking 5 years to investigate a simple bar fight and any inference otherwise is laughable. With the department facing an unprecedented shortage of manpower, it would make perfect sense to make a decision regarding officers who have been stripped of their police powers for several years. The arbitrator did propose a rather simple solution to this issue: as opposed to a class action grievance, any stripped officer could upon their own choosing file his or her own grievance and have it heard before the arbitrator. However, the city rejected this offer without explanation and as of today there is no resolution of this issue. The next date for arbitration is set to be heard on February 2, 2012. Any officer who was stripped or had a lengthy disciplinary investigation spanning over the course of several years is encouraged to contact the Lodge.

Detectives Class Of One

Last summer Englewood Police Officer

Thomas Krob approached me at the FOP Hall to discuss his getting passed over for a promotion to the rank of Detective. Officer Krob was passed over for promotion four years ago because he was deployed overseas with the Illinois Air National Guard on the date when the last Detective's class started. The officer brought this situation to the attention of the previous Superintendent and received a verbal assurance that he would eventually be promoted. Officer Krob also told me that at the time he was passed over he was not troubled by it, because he, like everyone else in the department, assumed that there would be another class of Detectives promoted in the near future. Four years later, not only have there been no new promotions to the rank of detective, sadly, despite being sorely understaffed, there are no plans to do so anytime soon. Officer Krob inquired as to whether there was anything that could be done on his behalf by the Union to ensure his promotion. My response to the officer was I did not know but I would conduct some research to see what options, if any he may have. After a little bit of research, it was apparent that under federal law, Officer Krob should have been promoted upon his return from service in the military four years ago. The federal USERRA law states the following regarding a reservist/guardsmen who returns to their civilian employment following a deployment: "in the case of a person whose period of service in the uniformed services was for more than 90 days *in the position of employment in which the person would have been employed if the continuous employment of*

such person with the employer had not been interrupted by such service." Based on the plain language of the federal statute, Officer Krob should have been promoted to the rank of Detective upon his return from his deployment. The Lodge drafted a letter to the department explaining why Officer Krob should be immediately promoted to the rank of Detective, using the above federal statute. Shortly thereafter the Lodge received a response from MLAS which clearly stated that nothing could be done for Officer Krob without an order from the National Labor Relations Board. It was the intention of the Lodge to file a federal suit on the officer's behalf if the department refused to promote this officer as mandated by federal law. In a last ditch effort before filing suit, this issue was brought directly to the attention of Superintendent McCarthy while at a meeting with the Union. The Superintendent to his credit told his staff to make this promotion happen. As a result, I am happy to report that soon to be Detective Krob is presently at the Training Academy undergoing Detective's training. I would personally like to thank Superintendent McCarthy for getting involved in this situation and correcting what should have been done years ago. I can assure him that he will not be disappointed with his decision. Officer Krob is a highly decorated Chicago Police Officer who has spent his entire career in the Englewood District. The officers at FOP wish Officer Krob the best of luck and are certain that he is going to make an outstanding Detective.

General Meeting Notice

The next FOP, Lodge 7 General Meeting will be held on
 Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at Noon.
 We will have our turkey raffle just in time for Christmas!

Please sign in when you arrive!

“So Don’t Stop Dancing”, *Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf*

As the year draws to an end we take a moment to reflect. There have been good times and there have been some trying moments. Times we laughed, times we cried, times we just stood back and tried to make sense of it all. Then comes the moments of us standing back trying to figure out what is meant by, "time for change". The bottom line, the year is almost over and thank G-d we made it, there are many we know who did not. So we say, thank You L-rd for the year gone by, and pray the coming year be a year filled with blessings for joy, happiness, good health and prosperity. And most of all, "Don't Stop Dancing"...as we learn from the following story...

Not too long ago a friend of the family, Jill, a writer by profession, had "one of those days." Jill was under immense pressure from a looming magazine deadline. In addition, she had company arriving in a couple days for the Holidays. The toilet was clogged and the house was a mess and this was only the beginning.

As Jill began to run her errands, she started at the bank, where the teller "in training" who was processing her deposit had to start the transaction over three times. After that, Jill swung by the supermarket to pick up a few things, finding that checkout lines were serpentine. By the time she got home, her errands somewhat complete, Jill was frazzled and sweaty and in a hurry to get something on the table for dinner.

Deciding on Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup, she grabbed a can opener, cranked open the can, then remembered that she had forgotten to buy milk at the store which she needed to dilute the soup. Nix the soup idea. Setting the can aside, she contemplated plan B, which was leftover baked beans. Jill grabbed the Tupperware container from the fridge, popped the seal, took a look and groaned. Jill's husband, Jeff, isn't a picky eater, but even he won't eat baked beans that look like

THAT. Really frustrated now, she decided on a menu that promised to be as foolproof as it is nutrition-free: hot dogs and potato chips.

Retrieving a brand new bag of chips from the cupboard, Jill grabbed the cellophane and gave a hearty pull. The bag didn't open. She tried again, nothing happened. Taking a deep breath, Jill doubled her muscle, and gave the bag a hearty wrestle. With a loud pop, the cellophane suddenly gave way, ripping the bag wide open, from top to bottom. Chips flew sky high. She was left holding the bag, it was empty, and it was the final straw. Jill let out a blood curdling scream, "I can't take it anymore!!!"

Her husband, Jeff, heard her unorthodox cry for help. Within seconds, he was standing in the doorway to the kitchen, surveying the damage; an opened can of soup, melting groceries, moldy baked beans, and one quivering wife standing ankle deep in potato chips. Jeff did the most helpful thing he could think of at the moment. He took a flying leap, landing flat-footed in the pile of chips. And then he began to stomp and dance and twirl, grinding those chips into the kitchen linoleum in the process! Jill stared and fumed. Pretty soon she was working to stifle a smile. Eventually she had to laugh.

And finally, Jill decided to join him. She too took a leap onto the chips. And then she danced. Now, Jill will be the first to admit that her husband's response wasn't the one she was looking for. But the truth of the matter is, it was exactly what she needed. Jill didn't need a cleanup crew as much as she needed an attitude adjustment, and the laughter from that rather funky moment provided just that..... End of story.

Now I have a question for you, and it's simply this: Has G-d ever stomped on

your chips? I know that in my life, there have been plenty of times when I've gotten myself into frustrating situations and I've cried out for help, all the while hoping G-d would show up with a celestial broom and clean up the mess I've made of things.

What often happens instead is that G-d dances on our chips, answering our prayers in a completely different manner than we had expected, but in the manner that is best for us after all. Sometimes we can see right away that G-d's response was the best one after all. Sometimes we have to wait weeks or months before we begin to understand how and why G-d answered a particular prayer the way He did. There are even some situations that, years later, we are still trying to understand. We figure that G-d will fill us in sooner or later, either this side of Heaven or beyond.

Sometimes we sulk, sometimes we dance. We're working on doing more of the latter than the former. I guess the older we get the more we realize that He really does know what He's doing. He loves us and we can trust Him. Even when the chips are down - SO DON'T STOP DANCING... and if you need a shoulder to lean on or an ear to listen, don't hesitate to give us a call, we'll help you dance.

On behalf of your Chaplains, Fr. Dan Brandt, Robert Montelongo and myself, a very blessed Holiday season and a very Happy New Year to you and your loved ones.

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; moshewolf@hotmail.com



HOLIDAY

STORE HOURS:

MON-THURS, 9:00 – 5:00
FRIDAY, 9:00 – 4:00
SATURDAY, 8:30 – 3:30

STORE CLOSED:

DECEMBER 24TH—26TH
DECEMBER 31ST
JANUARY 1ST & 2ND, 2012

DIRECT LINE:

312-733-2344

NEW WEBSITE:

WWW.CHICAGOFOP.ORG

**T-Shirt
Of The Month**

“CPD Chicago Illinois”
Navy, Gray or White
(Sizes S-3XL)

30% OFF

Don't forget!

We have the
Father Nangle coin for a
donation of
\$10.00 or more.

For The Kiddies!

All singing plush Christ-
mas animals now 25%
OFF

For The Kiddies!

Chicago Police Action
Figures, Male (\$23.95)
& Female (\$14.95)

For The Kiddies!

Light blue hooded sweat-
shirt, S-L
\$9.96 each

**MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HOLIDAYS
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



The FOP Gift Shop Staff wishes you and your family the best of the season. Thank you for your support in these difficult times. May the New Year bring you health, peace and prosperity. Ina, Bob, Tom, Jim, Jose, Sue, Ted, and Harold, Chairman.

Big Deals for our favorite customers – YOU!

Gold star pendants and rings still on sale **10% OFF** until December 19th.

Ladies pullover v-neck sweaters in sand, ivory or olive. Small to 2XL. Limited quantities super deal Was: \$19.95—Now **\$13.96**—soft and warm.

Light blue long sleeve CPD varsity tee. Small to 2XL. Was \$12.95
Now only **\$8.96**

Bobble head blue CPD bear now just **\$4.98**

Men's wind breaker style jacket with mesh lining black/charcoal with hood.
Was \$28.95—Now only **\$22.98**

Ladies polar fleece full zip jacket in pink or lilac with CPD star. Sizes Small—2XL
Was \$19.95—Now **\$14.96**

Ladies full zip sweatshirt assorted colors with CPD star only **\$14.95**

Snowflake light up necklace now **50% OFF**.
All other light up necklaces **10% OFF**

Crew neck sweat shirt in navy blue with white CPD star
30% OFF—Now **\$13.96 & \$14.66**, Large + XL + 2XL only while supplies last.

Chicago police squad car with lights and sounds.
Was \$9.95—Now **\$7.49**

New Chicago police brass ornament with the Chicago skyline, squad cars and CPD star. A real nice ornament, introductory price of only **\$7.95**





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

RETIREE BREAKFASTS AND LUNCHEONS

North:

1st Wednesday of Month @ 7:30 am
Lone Tree Manor, 7730 N. Milwaukee Ave,
 Niles, IL
 Joe Nalepa, 773-763-1362 & John Zielinski, 773-259-1087

The Northsider's Luncheon:

3rd Wednesday of January, April, July & October @ Noon
Biaggio's Superosa, 4240 N. Central Ave,
 Chicago, IL
 Paul Vitaioli, 312-402-1040

South:

2nd Wednesday of Month @ 10:00 am
Jedi's Garden, 9266 S. Cicero Ave,
 Oak Lawn, IL
 Don Januszyk, 708-364-9903

Bomb & Arson:

2nd Tuesday of Month @ 8:30 am
Fiesta Tapatia Restaurant, 2752 W. Cermak,
 Chicago, IL
 Roger Elmer, 773-763-2115

12th District Retirees and Alumni

1st Thursday of Month @ 10:00 am
Southern Belles Restaurant, 6737 Archer Ave.,
 Bridgeview, IL
 12retirees@comcast.net

Crime Lab, ETs, Forensic Services & Mobile Unit

1st Tuesday of Month @ Noon
Flap-Jack's Restaurant, 4830 West 111th Street,
 Oak Lawn, IL
 Bob Baikie, 773-284-1935

Orland Park Law Enforcement Organization:

3rd Thursday of Month @ 7:30 pm
Orland Park Civic Center, 14800 Ravinia,
 Orland Park, IL
 Don Ade, 708-408-9308

8th District 8 Balls:

Last Wednesday of Month @ Noon
 Call for location: Al Bilacki, 773-767-1885

Old School Deuce:

2nd Tuesday of Month @ 10:00 am
Lumes Pancake House, 11601 S. Western Ave,
 Chicago, Illinois
 Elbert Parker, 773-593-7743

Survivors Lunch:

2nd Saturday of Month @ 11:00 am
Beverly Woods Restaurant, 11532 S. Western,
 Chicago, IL

Public Housing Unit, (North, South & Administration)

1st Wednesday of Month @ 10:00 am
George's Restaurant, 83rd & Kedzie
 Chicago, IL
 Maurice Brown, 773-577-0154

Arizona Retirees:

3rd Thursday of Month @ 11:00 am
Hometown Buffet, 1312 N. Scottsdale,
 Scottsdale, AZ
 Ed Plawinski, 480-502-1630

Arkansas Retirees:

3rd Friday of Month @ Noon
Elks Lodge, Highway 62 E,
 Mountain Home, AR
 Dennis Dwyer, 870-431-4458

Las Vegas Retirees:

Every Thursday of Month @ 9:00 am
The Willows, 2020 W. Horizon Ridge,
 Henderson, NV
 Jerry Rutkowski, 702-575-4301

Florida Retirees:

1st Wednesday of the Month @ 1:00 pm
Cop Shop, 4423 S/E 16th Place,
 Cape Coral, FL
 Tom Faragoi, 239-770-7896