

March

2013

F.O.P. NEWS

Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7 -

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1412 W. Washington Blvd.

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President's Report, By Michael Shields



Sergeants' Contract

As you all know by now, the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association has forwarded a contract to its bargaining unit members for a vote. There is a lot of misinformation that has been going around about the proposed deal, so I would like to set the record straight.

First off, within hours of learning the details of the Sergeants' deal with City Hall, FOP hired an actuary to examine the deal. Did the Sergeants Union ever hire an actuary to see what a bad deal they were getting? I doubt it. If it did, I would challenge the association to release any actuarial report they have on the impact of the deal they made with Rahm on pensions. Our actuarial report was sent along with a letter from me to all of the active sergeants that currently maintain a fraternal membership in the FOP. The response to the letter and the actuarial report has been very encouraging. But we cannot stand by idly until this deal is defeated.

In order for the contract to be ratified by the City Council, the Sergeants' Union must accompany Rahm Emanuel's people to Springfield and lobby for pension changes. These changes would affect every single active police officer and retiree under the age of 80, regardless of whether they ever held the rank of sergeant or were ever in the Sergeants' Union. There are voices out there stating that the pension changes apply only to sergeants and that is absolutely one hundred percent not true. The sergeants do not have a separate Pension Fund; any change made to the Fund applies to all of us.

Our best information is that ballots are due from all sergeants on 8 March 2013, and they will be counted on 11 March. If you receive this Newsletter before 8 March, or read it online where it was posted on 23 February, please politely lobby **your** sergeant to vote "NO". Eleven-hundred sergeants have no right bargaining for the 25,000 people covered by our pension fund. Brothers and sisters, please keep in mind that your sergeant is not the enemy. Rahm's terrible deal, as far as I know, was only known to three executive board members and the sergeant's attorney, Thomas Pleines. Every other person was kept in the dark. I was kept in the dark as well.

There are rumors out there that I refused to meet with the sergeants regarding their deal. Those rumors are false. I called the Sergeants' Union President, Jimmy Ade, ten days prior to the release of the contract. He told me that they were nowhere near reaching a deal. It was not the first time that Ade had been called by FOP looking for information on contract negotiations. He gave us nothing. I have never refused to discuss any subject or meet with the Sergeants' Union on any issue.

The pension issue is a very complex one that should not be decided by one small group. The Fund is underfunded for a variety of reasons, mainly the City's repeated refusal to follow the advice of actuaries who have told the City of Chicago for decades that it needs to contribute more money to the Fund. Now, we have a Mayor and a Superintendent that have radically downsized our Police Department, and this downsizing is hurting the Pension Fund as less contributions are flowing into the Fund. To illustrate, the overall payroll of the Police Department went down by tens of millions of dollars between 2010 and 2011. Meanwhile, the Fund began to pay a whole new crop of retirees that the City had no intention of replacing. Any sane person knows that this type of situation requires additional funding. That is why the FOP led the charge in Springfield for the "ARC" funding law that forces the City in coming years to start funding the pension funds properly, as determined by actuaries. Rahm's deal with the sergeants would allow the City to ignore that proper funding for seven years, and would greatly extend the legally required timeframe for proper funding of our pensions. It just kicks the can down the road and gives politicians the green light to start raiding pensions statewide. That is something we can never allow.

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"The simple fact is that in return for our service to this City, we are promised a pension upon retirement. We have kept up our end of the deal. The City needs to keep up their end."

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President’s Report Continued...

Let’s hope that sergeants everywhere see the error of what their leadership and their attorney have done to all of us and vote a resounding “NO!” to Rahm Emanuel’s pension rip off.

Reality Check

On February 18, 2013, the Chicago Tribune published an editorial about the Sergeants’ contract and my public rejection of it. The editorial, among other things, accused me and other Union leaders of ignoring “the fact that the city and state overpromised and didn’t adequately fund pension benefits, and did all this over decades with the tacit permission of organized labor leaders.” I am not sure what the author of the editorial was basing this generalization on, but we have spent decades publicly denouncing the City for underfunding our Pension Fund and lobbying for change that doesn’t punish our membership.

More importantly, since 1998, the Illinois State Legislature has tried on ten different occasions to increase employee contributions to the Pension Fund, while placing no blame on the City’s failure to keep up its end of the bargain. All ten of these bills have failed.

Politicians in this state are the ones in need of the “reality check.” As the editorial pointed out, the City’s Pension Funds are “woefully underfunded.” We don’t dispute that. It is a problem that the City created and it will NOT be solved by punishing City employees, including our members.

Local and national media consistently focuses on crime and the murder rate in Chicago. We all know that this is a problem and we have been advocating for more manpower for months. Yet, the City would like to decrease the single biggest benefit this job provides—our pensions. How do they expect to reduce the murder rate if they take away the best incentives given to the officers who put their lives on the line to protect this City?

The simple fact is that in return for our service to this City, we are promised a pension upon retirement. We have kept up our end of the deal. The City needs to find a way to keep their end. However, we are not “blindly ignoring” the problem. Thus, FOP has proposed a bill to dedicate twenty (20) percent of gaming revenue to the Chicago Police Pension Fund. Please see the chart below for our other proposals.

Legislation Introduced by Chicago Lodge #7 in the 98th General Assembly 2013-2014		
House Bill # and Sponsor	Senate Bill # and Sponsor	Bill Description
HB1592 Turner	SB1771 Rauol	3% COLA for Policemen born on or after 1 Jan 1955
HB1558 Phelps	SB1564 Cunningham	20% of all proceeds from a Chicago Gaming License to go to Chicago Pension Fund
HB2271 Acevedo	SB1725 Mulroe	Requires the Gaming Board to contract with the City of Chicago for Police Service when a new owners license is awarded
HB2270 Acevedo	SB1673 Munoz	Allows Peace Officer to provide their work address in lieu of their home address on their Drivers License/State I.D
HB2688 Williams	SB1653 Hastings	Provides that when a Health Professional established a direct link between an act of suicide and the Officer’s active duty service, the survivors may be eligible for a Line of Duty Death

Pension Fund Facts

By now, all members should have received a letter from me, along with a listing of State Representatives and Senators, and a sheet of Police Pension Fund Facts. I urge each and every one of you to make an appointment with your Representative and/or Senator to make your voice heard. We are an organization with over 17,000 members. We can greatly influence which bills get passed if a majority of our membership makes their voice heard. Make sure your Representative and Senator understand that your vote is with your pension.

**UNION DUES FOR 2012 TAXES
WERE \$498**

General Meeting Notice

Tuesday, 19 March 2013
1200 hrs
Please remember to sign in!

1st Vice President's Report by Bill Dougherty



Would you give \$600 back to the City every year?

That's exactly what you are doing when you don't use your Wellness Benefit. Every active member of FOP, and all retirees who retired with the 55 Free Premium healthcare have a wellness benefit package. This benefit offers free yearly wellness checks for you and all your dependents. That is \$600 for each member and \$600 for each dependent. This is a benefit that the Union fought for in previous contracts. These health fairs are run by Interactive Health, not by the City. Every year, there are officers attending these fairs that learn that they suffer from conditions such as anemia, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, liver disease. Your health and the health of your loved ones should be your top priority. Our next Health Fair will be at the FOP Hall on March 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th. Please call 1-800-840-6100 today for an appointment.

IOD Bill Arbitration

The time that it takes the Committee on Finance to pay our Injury on Duty bills is pathetic. Every officer that has been injured at work has been contacted by providers and creditors wanted to be paid for their services. The Lodge has been building a paper trail of grievances regarding IOD bills. The Lodge went to arbitration on this issue last year. We received an award from Arbitrator Feuille regarding this grievance that was filed by an officer because his IOD bills were not paid on time. The officer's bills took years to pay and the officer was hounded by creditors. But, the officer never had his credit rating effected by the lack of bills being paid. The arbitrator denied the grievance and stated that he would be exceeding his authority under the collective bargaining agreement. However, the arbitrator hinted that because the officer's credit rating was not damaged because of the slowness of paying the bills it did not rise to the level of a contract violation. He also talked about the lack of language in Sections 18.1 and 18.5. Because of this loss we proceeded with another grievance in which an officer's credit rating was effected by the slowness of IOD bill payment. We have been filing grievances for officers when they are contacted by collection agencies. We will use the volume of grievances that we have filed and the arbitration awards to seek new language in the contract regarding bill payment.

Limited Duty Arbitration Award

The decision for the Limited Duty Arbitration came in. The arbitrator ruled that the department has the right to change the requirements for limited duty and was able to require officers on limited duty to safely effect an arrest of an active resister. The arbitrator also ruled that officers on non-IOD limited duty have a **maximum of two years** of limited duty beginning on January 1, 2012. The fees and expenses are to be paid by both parties. The arbitrator's award is on the FOP website @ www.chicagofop.org. There are many questions regarding this decision and the Lodge wants to address everyone's concerns. We will have a meeting to address these concerns on March 7th, 2013 at the FOP Hall at 1300hrs.

Sgt's Assn- Wake Up!

What right does the Sgt's Assn have to bargain/reduce benefits

for our members? The answer is they don't. But that's what President Jim Ade is trying to accomplish. He is trying to get contractual benefits for active sergeants, at the expense of all retirees no matter what their rank was when they retired. He stood with the mayor and is willing to crack the wall that organized labor has fought hard for over the last two years. I'm confident the sergeants themselves will vote this down and not be part of selling out their brothers and sisters.

Medical Mediation takes a New Turn

The Lodge has had monthly mediation with the city for over 15 years. We meet with the City and attempt to resolve medical grievances. Some grievances are resolved each month, other grievances need to be followed up for more information and some grievances the Lodge must demand arbitration to get some relief. The Lodge has had much success over the last decade on medical arbitrations winning approximately 85% of the arbitrations. For years the City and the Lodge have met in the same room and resolved this issues. Many times things get heated at mediation and a spade is called a spade. Just to be clear this has happen on both sides of the table. But, all of a sudden the City insists that we sit in different rooms and have the mediator run from room to room. Definitely childish on the City's part. It took twice as long to resolve our issues. We understand why the attorney wants to do it, because they are billing by the hour. But why would MLAS be interested or the Committee on Finance being interested in wasting their time? Never the less the Lodge will continue to fight for your grievances and certainly will not be silenced when it comes to speaking up for our officers.

Deceased Since The Last General Meeting February 19, 2013

Frederick C. Smith
Lawrence R. Mahoney
Nickolas P. Cesario
Tahnya D. Lewis
Leon Bradford
Vincent P. Sabella
Ralph D. Zons
Keith B. Wanat
Bernard P. Sweeney
Charles M. Accardi
Ryan P. Healy
William J. Ziegler
Shaunda Bond
Edgar J. Pochie

2nd Vice President's Report by Frank Di Maria



Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

During the last few months, the Chicago Police Department has experienced two losses of members who chose an extreme alternative to end their individual problems or issues by committing suicide. Many times when these terrible events happen there are questions and guilt associated with the losses. There is no absolute science to guide those left behind, only the memories of the people we have lost. Suicide is not partial to any age group because it strikes both the young and the old and does not discriminate between gender and race. We as police officers must better learn how to care for our emotional well-being and sometimes we must watch over our partners, friends and coworkers to ensure their well-being during a difficult time. If you are experiencing problems in your personal or professional lives you are not alone; there is someone willing to listen. The services of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) include the Professional Counseling Service, Alcohol Counseling and Peer Support. The services of the EAP are available to Active, Retired and Disabled Members along with their family members. The EAP is located at 1759 W Adams telephone#312 743-0378 and are available 24 hrs a day seven days a week. Please take care of yourselves and each other. Be safe!

Conceal and Carry Requirements for Retired Police Officers

HR 218 Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act was signed by President George W. Bush on 22 July 2004. The law allowed for qualified active and retired law enforcement officers to carry their weapons concealed nationwide. Active law enforcement officers are defined as those who are authorized to engage and perform law enforcement duties, who have statutory powers of arrest, who are authorized to carry a firearm, who are not the subject of disciplinary action which could result in the loss of police powers, who meet the standards established by their agency, who are not under the influence of alcohol or drugs and are not prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm.

A qualified retired officer is defined as an individual

who has left service with at least 10 years, who was qualified to engage and perform law enforcement duties, who had statutory powers of arrest, who was authorized to carry a firearm, who is not under the influence of alcohol or drugs and was not prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm. The procedure for signing up to qualify for retired members has changed over the years and the most current procedures will be detailed in this article.

Retired Police Officers in the State of Illinois may take advantage of the law and apply to carry concealed thru Illinois Retired Officer Concealed Carry (IROCC). Chicago Police Officers may obtain and fill out an application to IROCC anytime prior to retirement. Retired Officers must complete an application, questionnaire and a retirement/separation verification form, which must be signed by a authorized member of his or her agency. The retired officers must forward with the documents photo copies of their Department issued identification card, FOID, a photo for the permit and a non refundable application fee of \$75.00 for one weapon or \$100.00 for two weapons. Once the application has been preapproved the retired officer will receive notification they are eligible to enroll in a certification shoot at one of state wide range sites.

Retired Officers: once you are approved contact IROCC at 217 726-9537 to set up appointment or to answer any questions. Listed below are IROCC Approved Ranges in the Chicago Area:

Will County Sheriffs Police Range
2402 E Laraway Rd
Joliet, IL 60433

Lake County Sheriffs Police Range
15900 Russell Rd
Russell, IL 60075

University Park Police Range
650 Burnham Dr
University Park, IL 60484

Article II/Gun World Range
250 Cortland AVE
Lombard, IL 60148

Golfers Wanted

The Chicago Police Golf League is looking for golfers to join for the 2013 season. Dues for 2013 are \$80, with payment due prior to April 5, 2013. To be eligible for the draft, your dues must be paid before the day of the draft.

League play begins on Monday, April 22, 2013

Active or Retired CPD members interested should contact Bob Baikie at 773-758-1935 or visit the website at cpdgolfleague@gmail.com.

Lunch with the Easter Bunny!

Saturday, March 23, 2013
FOP Hall
1412 W Washington

Lunch and Egg Hunt 12:00-1:30
Pictures with the Bunny 1:30-3:00

3rd Vice President's Report, *By Dan Gorman*



Bike Lanes and CR Numbers

Many of your may not think twice about bicyclists on the road, but there has been an increase of CR numbers because of them. Some of our members have even been forced onto unpaid vacations as a result.

The number of bicyclists in the city is on the rise and so are accidents involving bicycles. With the City's plan to add 625 miles of bike lanes, (at an estimate of \$140,000 per mile) a solid white line painted on the pavement often is not enough of a "buffer" between motor vehicles and bicyclists.

Whether riding for recreation, health, daily commute or environmentally conscious reasons, most bicyclists are aware of the laws and ride with respect to traffic code. More importantly, most ride with a concern for safety; safety for themselves, pedestrians and motorists. However, this is not always the case.

There are the reckless bikers and there are the radical bicyclists. The reckless bikers don't obey the rules of the road; they believe they rule the road. They weave in and out of traffic as if they are invincible. Day or night, rain or shine, sleet or snow, they cruise in motorist's blind-spots and expect to be visible. Red lights and stop signs seem to mean nothing to them.

Even worse are the radical bike groups who have another whole other agenda. They possess a hatred of fuel burning vehicles and lack a respect for police. They hold training sessions on how to resist and evade police. They also train to stage traffic crashes with the goal portraying the motorist a villain and then filing suit. Their practice is to gang up on motorists in numbers; intimidation, theatrics and cell-phones are common tools used.

More common is retaliation from the bicyclists who believe they are always right. Retaliation ranges from the use of profanity to physically kicking and damaging the motorist's car to deploying mace at the driver of a car full of children.

Some of our own members have been on the receiving end of retaliation.

Just as motorists can receive violations to correct unsafe driving habits, bicycles are also subject to code. Some of the municipal bicycle code requirements are provided on pages 49 and 50 of the 2013 FOP handbook.

Upcoming Court Cases

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

Bryant Brewer - charged in the murder of **Officer Thor Soderberg**
March 7th, 2013; Room 602, 26 / Cal, Judge Sacks

Edgar Colon and Tyrone Clay - both charged in the murder of **Officer Clifton Lewis**
March 12th, 2013; Room 206, 26 / Cal, Judge Rosemary Higgins

Christopher Harris and Kevin Walker – both charged in the murder of **Officer Alex Valadez**
March 19th, 2013; Room 207, 26 / Cal, Judge Alonso

Antwon Carter "Pro-Se" - charged in the murder of **Officer Michael Bailey**
March 20th, 2013; Room 602, 26th / Cal, Judge Sacks

Timothy Herring Jr - charged in the murder of **ET Mike Flisk**
March 21st, 2013; Room 404, 26th / Cal, Judge Brosnahan

Paris McGee, Toyious Taylor, Marcus Floyd - all charged in the murder of **Officer Thomas Wortham IV**
April 5th, 2013; Room 606, 26th / Cal, Judge Porter



The F.O.P., Chicago Lodge 7's Annual St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 16, 2013—1800 - 2300 Hours

Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge No. 7

1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Illinois

Cost of ticket includes Dinner, Harrington's Corned Beef & Entertainment, The Katie Sullivan Band

Tickets can be purchased in the FOP Gift Shop or by calling 312-733-2344



When Will the Media Finally Report the Facts? By Rich Aguilar



Mark Suppelsa is allegedly an investigative reporter for WGN Television. I used the word “allegedly” as I sometimes wonder if Mark may actually be a part-time employee of the 5th Floor at City Hall. Lately, it seems as though every time you tune in to Channel 9, all you see are promos for Mark Suppelsa and Pension Reform. Coincidentally, or then again maybe not, pension reform is a big issue for Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

One example of Mr. Suppelsa’s stories was a report on a pension perk that benefits, in his words, about two dozen union leaders. These union leaders collect pensions based on their union salaries and not their City salaries that their contributions were based on. This is obviously a big hit for the affected pension fund.

I can certainly understand how this type of news story regarding so-called pension reform could be interesting to those taxpaying citizens of Chicago who do not have any idea how Chicago pensions became underfunded. This type of story is even interesting to me. As a member of a Chicago pension fund I definitely do not want to see any abuses in the system I participate in.

The problem is that this kind of story makes the taxpayers say enough is enough and assume that this and all other types of abuse apply to all of the public pensions that they support with their tax dollars. These stories, intentionally or not, serve to turn these citizens against anyone who receives a public pension which obviously includes Police Officers. As a matter of fact, the union leaders pension perk mentioned in your story has **never** benefitted any union leader who was a member of the Chicago Police pension fund.

Mr. Suppelsa, I am not saying that your stories do not have merit or incorrectly state the facts. I am simply asking that you abandon the hype for a couple of minutes to report the facts from the other side of the fence. I am not asking you to attempt to delude anyone that the pension situation in the City of Chicago is just fine and dandy, but many of the issues constantly mentioned by the media simply do not apply to the Policemen’s Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago; the fund that is responsible for the pensions of Chicago Police Officers.

Our pension fund is now underfunded due to the actions, make that the inactions of the Mayors, past and present, of the City of Chicago. Every year, for at least the past thirty years, the City has contributed two dollars for each dollar contributed by a member of the fund. Every year, during that same time period, the pension fund has issued an annual report. Each report contained an actuarial recommendation as to what the City contribution should have been in order to properly sustain the fund. Each year, the serving mayor chose to ignore this recommendation and not place the burden on Chicago taxpayers. Compound the lack of increases over the years and anyone can plainly see why the Police Pension is in its current state.

Police Officers who are members of the fund are not the people to blame. They have religiously contributed nine percent of their pay into the fund during this same time period. Now, one might propose the question: Why didn’t Police Officers pay more into the fund if the fund needed additional monies to sustain it?

This is a great question and this is exactly what the Fraternal Order of Police attempted to discuss in prior years during contract negotiations with the City: increased member contributions. The FOP was flatly told that pensions and their funding had no place at the negotiations table. Why? The answer was and still is simple. More contributions from the Police Officers would also equate to higher matching contributions made on behalf of the City. The City was fine with the status quo even though pensions were declining.

Fast forward to 2013 and suddenly we have a mayor who seeks what he labels pension reform. Not true pension reform mind you, but pension reform based on givebacks from those who have already retired and those who will eventually retire. In other words, they should forget the promises that were made to them even though they kept their part of the promise. People may wonder: Why does our mayor finally care? Again, the answer is actually quite simple. Our current mayor fears the legislation that was enacted by the State Legislature that will now put the burden of properly funding our pension squarely in the lap of the City; the lap where it unquestionably belongs. The moratorium on adequate funding levels will finally come to an end and the mayor is scrambling.

Mr. Suppelsa, I realize that I began this article with some pretty severe criticism as to your motivations for airing your Pension Reform stories. I urge you to prove me wrong. The FOP is more than willing to have you do a feature piece from a pension participant’s view. The taxpayers of Chicago have a right to know how our fund has regressed to where it is today. They should not be fed hyperbole and scare tactics designed by Mayor Emanuel to paint those who have worked decades, in order to receive their pensions, as the bad guys. The ball, as they say, is in your court.

St. Patrick’s Day Parades!!

**FOP is sponsoring a float in both parades!
Come out for the festivities!**



**South Side Parade
10 March 2013**

**North Side Parade
17 March 2013**

From the Desk of Jim McCarthy, Field Representative



Proposal for Military City Ordinance

The Chicago Police Department has quite a few Police Officers who serve in the military in addition to his or her service as a police officer. Every so often, a member serving in the Illinois Guard or the Reserves will call the Lodge seeking advice regarding leave from the Department while serving in the military. The outstanding issues range anywhere from pay to military leave, but most of the time center around attending weekend drill. Members currently serving in the military should keep in mind the following: under federal law (USERRA), the Department **must** give you the time off to attend weekend drill, annual training, deployments, etc. As a result, your position in the book requesting time off is irrelevant; the Department must grant you the time. When attending weekend drill, a member has the option of using CTU, V-Days, P-Days or BFD's if they would like to get paid by the Department as well. Affected members also have the option of being absent from their civilian employment without pay. A common misconception is that orders are always cut for any type of military service. Members should advise their supervisors, that it is not the policy of the military to cut orders for attending their monthly weekend drill. Under the current collective bargaining agreement, members who attend annual training (AT), will be paid their normal salary by the Department for up to 14 days in the Reserves and up to 15 days in the National Guard.

It is not my intention to give off the impression that the Chicago Police Department mistreats its employees who serve in the military. With rare exception, the Department does an excellent job for our members while they are serving. However, it has

been brought to my attention that such is not always the case in some other City agencies. In an effort to remedy some of the confusion, the Lodge's Military Committee, which is made up of Police Officers and Firefighters, has been trying to spearhead the passage of a City Ordinance. The proposed ordinance, which was drafted by the committee, would not give any of our member's additional pay or rights that are not already granted under federal or state law. Although the City Ordinance which covers military leave is outdated, the Law Department is not convinced that such an ordinance is necessary. The Military Committee contends that a City Ordinance would make it much easier for City supervisors to consult, as opposed to having them take the time to research relevant state and federal statute. In an effort to obtain passage of the ordinance, members or any City workers who have experienced problems related to military matters are encouraged to contact the Lodge. These incidents will be documented and compiled in an effort to help illustrate the need to pass this long overdue proposal. Any members with such information can e-mail me at jmccarthy@chicagofop.org.

Brotherhood for the Fallen: Fundraiser

On Thursday, March 14, 2013, at the FOP Hall, Brotherhood for the Fallen will hold its annual St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser. The organization sends uniformed Chicago Police Officers on a nationwide basis to attend the funeral of a police officer who was killed in the line of duty. In addition to representing our department at these funerals, the organization has donated generously to the fallen officer's family. The Lodge strongly encourages our members to attend, as well as consider joining this fine organization. The fundraiser will take place between 6 P.M. and 10 P.M. on the above date.

2013 FOP Family Auxiliary & The Chicago Police Detectives Association Scholarship Fund Drawing

This application form is for the 13th Annual Scholarship Fund Drawing of the FOP Family Auxiliary and The Chicago Detectives Association. The educational award is in the amount of \$500.00.

All applications are to be completed and mailed to:

The FOP Auxiliary, Chicago Lodge 7, c/o Angie Haynes, President, 4936 N. California Ave., Chicago, IL 60625.

NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING!

The following rules apply to all applicants entering this drawing:

1. All applicants shall be sons or daughters (including step-children) of active or retired police officers that are members of the FOP, Lodge 7.
2. Retired or Active Police Officers' children who are attending pre-school through 12th grade only are eligible.
3. Only one application for child will be accepted.

The drawing will be held at the General Meeting that will be held on May 21, 2013 at Noon.

2013 FOP FAMILY AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Student's Name: _____ Police Officer's Name: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____ Star #: _____ Unit #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ School Attending: _____ Grade Level: _____

“Lunch with G-d,” Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf

It was a cold winter night, maybe one of the coldest one that we have had in a while, in one of the busiest districts of the city, during an outdoor roll call. Little did I know I was about to witness an act of kindness that I will remember for a long time. We were standing in a group solving the world's problems, sharing some laughs and passing around some Kit Kats and Snickers that I brought along. All of a sudden one of the Sgt's says "Rabbi quick, give me the candy bag" and starts running down the street toward a woman walking with her seven year old child. He gave the child some candy and the mother and son came back to his squad car. Sgt. said to us, "I saw him staring at me and couldn't look away. I started thinking of my own kid; I couldn't let him walk away." The Mom said, "He loves the police, and would love to see the inside of a squad car, can you let him look?" They spent a few moments in the warm squad car and all left smiling. It reminded me of the story "Having lunch with G-d"...

A little boy wanted to meet G-d. He knew it was a long trip to where G-d lived, so he packed his suitcase with Twinkies and a six-pack of root beer and he started his journey. When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old woman. She was sitting in the park just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to her and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old lady looked hungry, so he offered her a Twinkie. She gratefully accepted it and smiled at him. Her smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered her a root beer. Again, she smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word. As it grew dark, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave, but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old woman, and gave her a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever. When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you look so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with G-d." But before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? She's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!" Meanwhile, the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned to her home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace on her face and asked, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?" She replied, "I ate Twinkies in the park with G-d." However, before her son responded, she added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. And to the person in need YOU are G-d's presence. Remember, we don't know what G-d looks like. To some He might come in the appearance of the old lady, or the appearance of the young boy. And to some He might be wearing a blue uniform with a blue or white shirt. People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime. Embrace all equally!

Message From Father Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain



I recently had the unfortunate honor of ministering to a police family following the death of their little daughter. It was an awful incident that no parent should ever endure—though many folks reading this article have sadly been there. Our department has experienced untimely deaths several times this past month. Such sad occasions create scars that never heal. If you have been so affected—no matter how much time has passed—please do not hesitate to call on the other chaplains or me. Contact information is listed on our website: www.ChicagoPCM.org.

Talking with some friends while making the rounds last month on Ash Wednesday, the question came up: “So, what are you ‘giving up’ for Lent?” One of the guys in our circle answered, “Chocolate.” Another, “Beer.” So why do we “give up” something during this season? In a sentence: sacrificing allows us to better relate to those who are less fortunate. Our 40-day journey mirrors that of Christ himself. That in mind, I re-aligned my Lenten priorities some years ago and decided: **RATHER THAN “GIVING SOMETHING UP,” ... WHY NOT DO SOMETHING SPECIAL?** After all, the Lenten discipline is three-fold: it involves not only sacrifice (FASTING), but also **ALMSGIVING** and **INCREASED PRAYER**.

So... my challenge to you, Judeo-Christian or not: if you haven't yet made (or if you haven't been able to KEEP) a Lenten discipline, why not try this—as we are now more than half-way through Lent: 1: Give to a charity that you find worthy of your generosity. Of course, Police Chaplains Ministry is a happy beneficiary of your goodness: visit www.ChicagoPCM.org to donate. You also know of plenty of *other* worthy causes—and I hope you'll take this opportunity to support them. 2: Exercise extra discipline when it comes to your behavior and attitude at home or on the street. Go out of your way to treat your loved ones and those you encounter at work, at the store, or elsewhere, as if they are Christ Himself. 3: Get to church/synagogue/mosque/*whatever*, especially if that's *not* part of your regular routine. Know that you are always welcome there. While communal prayer is fruitful, pray also at home (with your family—at meals and bed time), or before lunch with your partner, or on your way to/from work, or ANYWHERE. (There's NO wrong place or way to pray!)

To that end, here's a reminder: the police Mass on Palm Sunday (24 MAR) is at 11:00 a.m. But the following Sunday, Easter (31 MAR), we'll move it up an hour to 10:00 a.m. so folks can get home and prepare their Easter meals. Mass is over in under 30 minutes for the sake of attendees who are working. The location remains the same: Mercy Home for Boys and Girls – 1140 W. Jackson Blvd. While this is a Catholic Mass, ALL are welcome!

Annual Pre-ACT Exam Offered At The F.O.P. Hall

The best preparation for the ACT Exam is a solid academic high school curriculum. However, in our competitive academic environment, students must also have test “SMARTS.” Statistics have shown that the students who have had preparation in testing strategies, practice testing, test format and test instructions, substantially outperform others. The COLLEGE VISIONS STRICTLY STRATEGIES workshop that will be offered at the F.O.P. Hall focuses on these important test strategies and techniques.

By mandate of the State of Illinois Department of Education, all public and private high school juniors will be required to sit for the ACT Exam this April. By attending this workshop and taking a practice ACT Exam, your child will have a week or two to become more prepared in certain areas where they may not have tested as well as they would have liked, prior to the ACT being offered at their particular school. In an effort to prepare **the children of “F.O.P. LODGE #7” members** for this very important exam, the F.O.P. has invited COLLEGE VISIONS to conduct their workshop for the daughters and sons of F.O.P. members. This workshop will be offered on Sunday, March 24, 2013, from 1300 - 1600 hours and will be held at the F.O.P. Hall, 1412 W. Washington Blvd. This program usually costs \$50.00 or more. The cost for the children of the F.O.P. will only be \$25.00 per child.

The presenters of this program are knowledgeable and experienced educators. They have prepared thousands of students in the Chicago area to be “test smart.” The Lodge encourages you to involve your child in this program. If your child only picks up one or two items that assist him/her in taking the ACT Exam, it is to his/her advantage. There is limited space available at the F.O.P. Hall, so please complete the application and send it, along with a check or money order for \$25 made payable to College Visions, by Monday, March 15, 2013.

College Visions, ACT WORKSHOP, Strictly Strategies

Session Time: Sunday, March 24, 2013 1300 – 1600 hours	Location: Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 7 1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607	Registration Fee: \$25.00
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**Please return this registration form and your fee (cash or check payable to College Visions) to
Kathy Moore at F.O.P. Lodge No. 7, by Friday, March 15, 2013**

Student Name: _____ High School: _____

Member’s Name: _____ Star #: _____ Unit: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____



HEALTH FAIR NOTICE

Locations & Dates:

**March 25—28, 2013
Fraternal Order of Police – Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington – Main Union Hall**

To schedule an appointment call 1-800-840-6100.

Active employees and family members – please have your insurance card ready.

You will need your insurance card ID number.



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CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

13 February 2013
The Honorable Michael Thompson
Chairman
Gun Violence Prevention Task Force
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing on behalf of the Fraternal Order of Police, the oldest and largest law enforcement organization in the United States, to thank you for including the FOP in the discussions leading up to the release of the recommendations of the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force.

The FOP strongly supports several measures, all absolutely critical elements of addressing gun violence, in the comprehensive plan put out by the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force.

These measures are:

- o Supporting the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens;
- o Expansion of background checks on firearm purchasers;
- o Improving the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS);
- o Reinvigoration of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to ensure that it has the tools and resources necessary to its mission;
- o Develop legislation to address penalties for firearms trafficking;
- o Supporting responsible gun ownership;
- o Improved law enforcement access to mental health records in the context of firearms acquisition; and
- o Funding to put more State and local law enforcement officers on the street.

With the horrible tragedy in Newtown, the increased number of mass shootings in our country, and, candidly, the gun violence which happens on some scale every day in big and small municipalities across the country, many plans are being offered to curb the violence and better protect our citizens. We were happy to see many of the ideas we discussed in Task Force meetings were included in your plan.

As we have discussed, the most logical starting point to address gun violence is the expansion of the background check system. Incomplete or absent background checks create a gaping hole in

the wall between firearms and criminals. Loopholes in the background check system give criminals unprecedented opportunity to access firearms. This problem must be remedied quickly. An expanded and improved background check system will provide the first level of defense against criminals arming themselves.

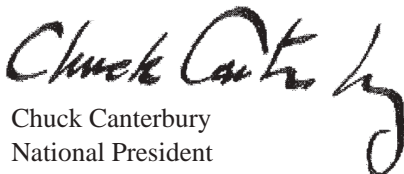
We greatly appreciate your recommendation to expand the resources available to ATF to combat firearms trafficking. ATF provides invaluable assistance to State and local law enforcement officers and agencies engaged in the ongoing battle against the violent criminal misuse of firearms. It is also necessary to provide ATF with the resources and manpower necessary to enforce the laws already on the books. As things stand now, ATF has been scraping by with a dwindling number of agents and other resources while ATF's mission has expanded. Frankly, this is unacceptable. For too long we have denied ATF the proper resources and our nation and our children have paid the price. We also believe specific penalties must be incorporated into the Gun Control Act of 1968 for illegal firearms trafficking. This addition would greatly assist ATF agents during the investigation and prosecution process.

In addition, local and State law enforcement agencies, who have been hit so hard by our nation's ongoing financial woes, need the resources to put more officers on our streets and in our neighborhoods. Federal programs assisting State and local law enforcement have been cut to the bone and beyond, with more cuts on the way. There are jurisdictions out there telling civilians bluntly that they will have to defend themselves because their agencies do not have the manpower to respond. Proactive and community-oriented policing, key strategies of our nation's anti-crime strategy, are rapidly becoming impossible because our local and State law enforcement agencies lack the resources and manpower.

Along with comprehensive background checks, better access to mental health records is critical to keeping guns out of the wrong hands. Without access to these records, law enforcement, at all levels of government, is handicapped which gives the criminal element the advantage. And, most obviously, State and local law enforcement need the resources and manpower to better target and reduce gun crimes. These are all common sense, easy fixes which will have far-reaching impact and better equip our law enforcement officers to fight gun violence and protect our citizens.

On behalf of the more than 330,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you for your willingness to work with us on these issues. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in my Washington office.

Sincerely,



Chuck Canterbury
National President



Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7 -
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THE ED REINES MEMORIAL FISHING TOURNAMENT

Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #7, will be holding its
 Annual Ed Reines Memorial Fishing Tournament
 at the Chain of Lakes, Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

All members, active and retired, are invited to take part in this event.
 There will be a barbecue at the weigh-in with beer and soft drinks from 2 – 4 p.m.

THE BASIC RULES

Starting time: 0500 hrs – with all boats in by 1430 hrs. All fish must be caught on the Chain of Lakes waters between the Wisconsin
 Border and McHenry Dam.

Two fishermen per boat; one must be an FOP member.

NO PRO FISHERMEN PLEASE

We'd like everyone to have a fun time.

Complete rules and location of the weigh-in will be sent out to members making application for the Tournament.

Name: _____ Active: _____ Retired: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Fishing Partner: _____ If youth, age _____

Make checks (\$40 per man - \$80 per boat) payable to F.O.P., Lodge 7 and send Attn: Frank DiMaria at 1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607