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F.O.P. NEWS

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1412 W. Washington Blvd.

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President's Report, *By Michael Shields*



The Lodge is disappointed that the Executive Director of the Illinois Labor Relations Board has dismissed the Lodge's unfair labor practice that the City bargained in bad faith after it responded in October 2012 to the Lodge's contract proposals. We will file an appeal to the Board which has the ability to reinstate the charge and to direct a full hearing on the Lodge's charge. If that step is unsuccessful, we end up in court.

The Lodge believes that the City's bad faith bargaining did not take place at the first bargaining session on July 31, 2012, or during the six months immediately following the March 27 letter from the City. While the City met with the Lodge in 2011 before the dispute over the notice of re-opener and had already talked about contract negotiations on several occasions, it was the City's conduct, beginning October 3, 2012, that waived its position that the contract had renewed for another year. These are the facts and the legal argument that the Executive Director ignored.

On October 3, 2012, the City responded on the merits to each of the Lodge's nearly 60 contract proposals. It was on this date that the City first claimed that the contract had not been re-opened and had rolled over for one year. The unfair labor practice was filed on April 1, 2013, within 6 months of the October 3rd response from the City. At that point, the Lodge and the City had met at 26 formal bargaining sessions including 16 "core and full group" sessions and 10 subject matter sub-committee sessions on proposals assigned by the parties to a particular sub-committee. The City also made approximately 30 non-economic proposals on November 15th. The City later agreed to a number of tentative changes and actually put one of those tentative agreements into effect before July 1, 2013.

Bargaining over some issues, but not all, is bad faith bargaining. Making non-economic proposals, but not a single wage proposal, is bad faith bargaining. Implementing a new mediation procedure that both parties thought was positive is inconsistent with arguing that the contract re-opens only on July 1, 2013. How do you amend a contract in March 2013 – and have 3 mediations using a newly agreed procedure – and at the same time argue that the contract had already been renewed without any changes for July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013? The City can't argue that the old contract is still in effect when it just agreed to change that contract before July 1, 2013! This is just one way that the City waived its claim that the letter was untimely. But the Executive Director completely ignored the fact that the City's unfair labor practices were "ongoing" well into 2013 and the Lodge's unfair labor practice charge was filed well within the time allowed by law.

As for the letter, in hindsight, I wish I had sent one within the window the City wanted. Unfortunately, I cannot rewrite history. As the President of this Lodge, the responsibility of submitting the letter lies with me. If I would have known what direction the Mayor would spin this, I would have acted differently. With that said, I still believe in the merits of our legal position. The Mayor single handedly is threatening to stick it to 10,000-plus police officers simply because he can. So far, the Mayor will not publicly state what he will do. Another City Union had the same letter issue and the Mayor did not screw them out of retro pay. For nearly a year and a half, Mayor Emanuel's advisors have used this issue to try to divide the membership. I ask during these pivotal contract negotiations that members stand united and realize that this is the exclusive decision of the Mayor – and no one else – to bargain in bad faith. Do not allow this Mayor to divide and conquer the FOP.

The Status of our Pension Fund

The Policemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago recently issued its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The report, which totals over 120 pages, is divided into four substantive sections entitled: Financial, Investment, Actuarial, and Statistical. Together,

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"It is no surprise that, after years of City neglect, our Pension Fund is significantly underfunded. Complete disregard by the City of the need to properly fund our Pensions at the actuarially determined contributions levels detailed in each and every annual actuarial report caused this crisis."

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President's Report (Ctd.)

the sections provide a comprehensive overview of the status of our Pension Fund.

The report reveals that our Pension Fund is not healthy. The primary reason for the Pension Fund's poor health is buried in the Financial and Actuarial sections of the report. The City of Chicago's consistent failure to contribute the amount annually recommended by the Pension Fund's actuaries is at the heart of the crisis. The Pension Fund employs an outside actuarial firm to determine, among other things, the annual required contribution levels needed to keep our Pension Fund fiscally sound. In so doing, the actuary must establish the Normal Cost, Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) and the Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL).

The actuary starts with the adoption of an actuarial cost method, or a set of techniques used to develop contribution levels under a retirement plan. The actuarial cost method used by the Pension Fund's actuaries is the entry age normal actuarial cost method. Under this method, each participant's benefits are assumed to be funded by annual installments, equal to a level percentage of compensation payable from the date of participation to the assumed retirement period. A total "Normal Cost" is the sum of the current year's annual installment determined for all active participants, the "Actuarial Accrued Liability" is the excess of the value of the projected benefits for all participants both active and retired over the discounted value of the Normal Cost determined for future years of service. To the extent that the current assets and future normal cost do not support participants expected future benefits, the UAAL develops. It is the UAAL that poses the greatest risk to our Pension Fund. It is the UAAL that must be extinguished. At the current time, the contributions that exceed the Normal Cost do not even cover the interest on the UAAL.

The bottom line is that the Pension Fund is currently 7 billion dollars underfunded. Each year, the Plan Participants and the City should be contributing the Normalized Cost coupled with an amount to amortize the UAAL – in order to ensure that the Pension Fund is to be able to provide the benefits we have earned. The Pension Fund's actuaries have determined that the shortfall in contributions for 2012 was almost 300 million dollars. This amount is determined by adding the Normal Cost plus the amount needed to amortize the UAAL, plus an interest adjustment for the timing of contributions, less the Plan Participants and City contributions.

The CAFR provides that "the Board of Trustees is very concerned with the funded level of actuarial liabilities." Their concern is well-founded. A simple review of past actuarial reports reveals that the funding levels have decreased from 48% in 2008 to 31% today. Further deterioration of the Pension Fund jeopardizes its integrity and potentially compromises the ability of the Pension Fund to meet its obligations to us, the Plan Participants and Annuitants.

Fortunately, the formula by which the City's contributions are determined has changed. Recent Legislation (Public Act 096-1495) requires that the City (beginning in 2015) annually contribute the actuarially determined employer contribution rather than minimum amount set forth in the current statutory funding multiplier formula. Such actuarially determined contributions will be established with a funding goal of 90% by the end of 2040. The determination will be further based upon the actuarial value of Pension Fund assets, and application of certain required actuarial assumptions and methodologies. Public Act 096-1495 also mandates that failure by the City to remit the required contributions to the Pension Fund can result in withholding of certain grants owed by the State of Illinois to the City with a corresponding direct deposit of such monies to the Pension Fund. The City is seeking relief from this obligation under the guise that it is unduly burdensome.

The net assets of the Pension Fund totaled \$3,213,400,000 at the end of 2012. This amount represents a net increase in 2012 of 38 million dollars. The net investment return of the Pension Fund was approximately 352 million dollars during 2012. This increase reflects an investment return of 12.39% - well above the past and current actuarially assumed rate of return of 8% and 7.75%, respectively.

During 2012, the Pension Fund received Plan Participant contributions of 95.5 million dollars and \$207 million from the City. The benefit payments during 2012 increased by approximately 35 million dollars from 2011 to an amount in excess of \$600 million dollars. It is important to note that while the number of retirees and beneficiaries increased in 2012, the long trend of declining active participant police officers continued. Today, the Pension Fund has slightly over 12,000 active Plan Participants - down more than 1,700 from less than a decade ago. These demographic changes have severe negative consequences for a Pension Fund with such a huge UAAL.

It is no surprise that, after years of City neglect, our Pension Fund is significantly underfunded. The growing UAAL, left unaddressed, will jeopardize the integrity of the Pension Fund and the ability of the Pension Fund to meet its obligations to the dedicated men and women of the Chicago Police Department. Although Legislation has passed which allows the City a grace period until 2015 to prepare for increased contributions needed to attack the growing UAAL, the City is challenging the new funding obligation. The City has publically explored a number of options to avoid meeting its financial commitment and the mandate provided by Public Act 096-1495. Among those ideas are the extension of the UAAL amortization period, a decrease in the target funding level to 80%, a reduction in the Plan Participant's benefits and an increase in the Plan Participant's contributions.

As we know, this situation did not arise over night. The events of 2008 alone did not cause this situation. Complete disregard by the City of the need to properly fund our Pensions at the actuarially determined contributions levels detailed in each and every annual actuarial report caused this crisis. With the expectation that future investment returns will be below 8% on an annual basis, the only solution to stop the deterioration of the Pension Fund is the solution created by the legislature.

As hard as we worked to ensure the passage of Public Act 096-1495, we must remain vigilant and act now to prevent the legislature from succumbing to pressure from the City to reverse course and alter the prudent contribution levels established by the new law.

1st Vice President's Report by Bill Dougherty



The Mayor's Response

In last month's newsletter, I submitted a letter that I sent to Mayor Emanuel. Shockingly, the Mayor did not respond to my letter. Maybe he was too busy yelling at his Chief Financial Officer Lois Scott for recommending that he hire the federally indicted City Comptroller Amer Ahmad.

Medical Service Section Requests

I get calls every week from officers with complaints about the Medical Service Section (MSS). When contacting MSS whether you are requesting a referral or leaving a message for your nurse, you should also follow up with an e-mail to the nurse. By sending an e-mail, you establish a paper trail that shows who, when and what you are requesting from the MSS. This way, if an officer is made to wait an unreasonable length of time for service, there will be an e-mail trail showing whether the MSS responded or not. Please use this as a tool to get the treatment that you need in a reasonable amount of time.

Health Fairs and Heart Attacks

USA Today had an article that was titled "Heart Attacks are killing more cops." After reading this article, I thought it was something that I would share with our members. Fatal heart attacks among law enforcement officers have been quietly mounting through the first half of this year, and most strike victims younger than 50, according to data compiled by two police groups.

So far this year, 9 of the 58 officer deaths have been from heart attacks, drawing attention away from the most volatile and traditional causes, guns and vehicle accidents. Overall, officer deaths are down slightly this year, firearm deaths are down 14% and fatal traffic incidents are down 21%, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund and Officer Down, the groups that track police fatalities. The 9 heart attack victims so far this year is three more than last year's total of 6, according to the NLEOMF. From year to year, the causes of line-

of-duty deaths can swing indiscriminately, but authorities are expressing serious concern about the increase of heart attack deaths this year.

We're looking at the full spectrum of a police officer's life. This effort comes as medical and occupational health journals have been publishing research on the heightened risk factors associated with law enforcement jobs. Last year, an article in the medical journal *Cardiology in Review* concluded that the common risk factors, hypertension, obesity, smoking, sedentary life styles and sudden physical stress, for police officers "often exceed that found in the civilian population."

In March, The National Occupational Research Agenda, part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, listed cardiovascular disease and its relationship to officer to officer disability and death among its top priorities. By 2016, according to NORA, federal health authorities hope to assess more fully the disease's prevalence in the public safety workforce. "Americans aren't as fit as they should be, and we, as a profession, are no exception," Although many law enforcement agencies require officers to meet certain fitness standards prior to employment, few departments require officers to maintain those standards as conditions of their continuing employment. There really is no follow-up.

Perhaps the most striking aspect of the recent deaths, authorities said, is that at least five of the nine victims were younger than 50. The youngest, a 26 year-old federal corrections officer, died while responding to an alarm inside a Beaumont, Texas prison. Here is a list of health fairs that are being held in 2013. Please plan on attending.

September 9th and 10th in the 016th District.
September 24th and 25th in the 019th District.
October 2nd and 3rd in the 020th District.
November 12th, 13th and 14th at FOP Hall.

2013 Gold Star Candlelight Vigil

Tuesday, September 17, 2013
1930 hours

Gold Star Families Memorial and Park.

All police officers, their families, and friends are invited.

This ceremony is expected to last one hour and will take place rain or shine. As part of the tradition of the Candlelight Vigil, the names of all Chicago Police Officers who died in the line of duty will be read.

Those who wish to read the name of a Fallen Officer should e-mail Beata.Staszewski@chicagopolice.org or call Special Events at [312-745-5253](tel:312-745-5253).

Gold Star Families Memorial and Park is located near Waldron Drive (in the shadow of Soldier Field). Uniformed CPD personnel will direct attendees to the parking lot at the 18th Street exit off of Lake Shore Drive.

2nd Vice President's Report by Frank Di Maria



Death Benefits from the Pension Board

The following is a summary of information regarding Death Benefits for a Chicago Police Officer from the Policemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago (Pension Board). An ordinary Death Benefit is payable to the beneficiary of a deceased police officer. If the officer is still working and the death occurs before the age of 50, the Death Benefit is \$12,000.00. Every year thereafter, the benefit is reduced by \$400.00 until the benefit is reduced to \$6,000.00. If the Officer's death occurs after he/she has retired, the benefit is \$6,000.00. If the police officer's death was a result of the performance of duties prior to retirement the benefit is \$12,000.00 regardless of age. No death benefit is paid to a retired police officer on an authorized and approved leave of absence in the event such death occurs after sixty (60) days have lapsed from the commencement of such leave.

Officers who complete twenty years and a day of service and are fifty (50) years of age or older are eligible for a pension. However, officers who complete the minimum time in service of 20 years, but have not attained the required age of 50 to collect a Pension still have options. This category of police officers may resign, or take an approved leave of absence from the Police Department, and may leave their contributions in the Pension Fund until they reach the required minimum age and can begin to collect their pension.

I recently learned that officers who resign from City service prior to collecting their pension are disqualified from receiving the \$6,000.00 life insurance policy which is a benefit of the Pension Fund upon the member's death. The Pension Fund based this decision to deny the deceased police officers beneficiary on Illinois Law ILCS Chapter 40 section 5-153, which governs our Pension. Many of these police officers, had they known of this rule or law, may have made arrangements for an independent life insurance policy, so that their loved ones would not have this burden to deal with at the time of their death. I hope that now with this information, our members can plan accordingly.

Discipline Screening Program

When a CR Investigation is sustained and there is a recommended penalty of fifteen days (15) or less, the first step in the Officer's appeal process is the Discipline Screening Program (DSP). Officers will be notified of the sustained finding and recommendation of the penalty. Officers will be advised that he or she may accept the recommended penalty or request the Discipline Screening Program, and must make the decision and return the form within 72 hours. If the Officer chooses the DSP, he/she must notify the Lodge, and we will request the CR file. The Officer at some time in the future will be notified of the time and date of the DSP. Prior to the DSP, the officer will have the ability to come into FOP and review his/her CR file with an FOP representative. The DSP will be held with a representative of the Department and the Lodge to try to reach an agreement on the original recommendation for discipline.

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

EMERALD SOCIETY OF ILLINOIS Annual Dinner Dance! Honoring FOP President Michael Shields and Father Dan Brandt!

27 September 2013
7:00pm
Gaelic Park
6119 W 147th Street, Oak Forest

For more information please visit
www.emeraldsocietyofillinois.org

Constitution and By-Law Proposals

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee has received two proposals for amending our Constitution. Both proposals were tendered properly through the Secretary and were addressed at the June Board of Directors Meeting. The proposals for which parts that would have been removed are in bold are:

Article IV- Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Lodge President, the Immediate Past President, the 1st, 2nd **and 3rd** Vice Presidents, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, three (3) Sergeants-At-Arms, and seventeen (17) Trustees.

Article IV -Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Lodge President, the Immediate Past President, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Vice Presidents, Recording Secretary, **Financial Secretary**, Treasurer, three (3) Sergeants-At-Arms, and seventeen (17) Trustees.

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



PPOs, 99 Units, Attacks on Police Officers

The month of August brought more attacks on police including one in the Englewood Community where a subject used a baseball bat to beat an officer while working alone during the hours of darkness. I had the pleasure of visiting the officer and his family at the hospital; the officer was responsive but far from being 100 percent. We wish him a full recovery. The Department has been responding to officer's To/From requests not to work Ten-99 during the "hours of darkness".

The Lodge had also received calls from Unit Reps reporting that PPOs not yet finished with their training cycles were working Ten-4 units with each other. On few occasions, the PPOs told Field Reps that they did not know where they were (geographically) while generating activity for the Department. We brought this officer safety issue to the attention of the Department and it is being followed up.

10 Days for an Escaped Prisoner

Rights of offenders, comfort of the arrestees and safety for officers and all citizens are always considered by our members. Although our members make thousands and thousands of physical arrests a year, there are rare occasions when prisoners are able to free themselves from detention. When these incidents occur, it is our members who are the ones whom are ultimately held responsible. Typically, the administrative penalty for an escapee is between a written reprimand and a one day suspension. It is hard to argue those penalties when there aren't any other outlying circumstances.

While reviewing the past months Discipline Screening Program files (DSPs), I came across a sustained CR file regarding a juvenile shoplifter who escaped custody after being arrested for stealing miscellaneous sporting goods and a bag of extra hot cheetos. In just under 6 months, the CR was initiated, investigated, and accused were presented with the recommended penalty. Complimentary and disciplinary histories of the accused were considered, the "command channel" which included the First Deputy concurred with B.I.A.'s original recommended penalty of a one day suspension. The accused then accepted the one day suspension.

After not hearing anything for nineteen months, the accused received a penalty recommendation for a ten day suspension for the incident! One may ask, "How can that happen?" "Is this a mistake?" I then reviewed the remaining DSP files which showed it was not the only case. A call to B.I.A. was made and the response was, "There is nothing in writing, it's the Superintendent's decision to increase the penalties."

In each case, the discipline was not "Progressive", nor reasonable, nor related to the seriousness of the "offense", nor equally administered. The Lodge will encourage the grievance process to each of the affected members if the members choose not to accept the results for the DSP hearings.

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.

Timothy Herring Jr - charged in the murder of
ET Mike Flisk
August 27th, 2013
Room 404, 26th / Cal, Judge Brosnahan

Paris McGee, Toyious Taylor, Marcus Floyd - all charged in the murder of
Officer Thomas Wortham IV
August 29th, 2013
Room 606, 26th / Cal, Judge Porter

Antwon Carter "Pro-Se" - charged in the murder of
Officer Michael Bailey
Sept 4th, 2013
Room 602, 26th / Cal, Judge Sacks

Christopher Harris and Kevin Walker - both charged in the murder of
Officer Alex Valadez
September 4th, 2013
Room 207, 26 / Cal, Judge Alonso

Bryant Brewer - charged in the murder of
Officer Thor Soderberg
September 5th, 2013
Room 602, 26 / Cal, Judge Sacks

Edgar Colon and Tyrone Clay - both charged in the murder of
Officer Clifton Lewis
Sept 5th, 2013 (Colon)
Sept 17th, 2013 (Clay)
Room 206, 26 / Cal, Judge Rosemary Higgins-Grant

Robin Johnson - charged in the murder of
Officer Richard Francis
September 18th, 2013
Room 302, 26th / Cal, Judge Gainer

Benefit for John Cradick!

October 26, 2013
St. Juliana's School in Chicago
7200 N. Osceola
Chicago, IL. 60631.
7:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Online donations can be sent to:
Help Support Friends of John
www.giveforward.com

“Would One of Own Treat Us This Way” by Financial Secretary Rich Aguilar...



Some time ago, 2008 to be more precise, some genius in the Department came up with the brilliant idea that all sworn Department members needed to possess a valid FOID card in order to stay employed. The Illinois Compiled Statute concerning FOID cards seems to indicate otherwise, as it states that the statute does not apply to a

sworn Police Officer while in the performance of his/her duties. The Lodge challenged the Department's position at an arbitration hearing. The Department took the absurd position that an Officer is not performing any duties while taking a personal day, taking lunch, or performing any task on his own behalf; as if the Officer could bury his head in the sand and ignore a citizen if he demanded the Officer's services while taking care of his so-called personal business. Unfortunately, the arbitrator bought the Department's argument hook, line, and sinker and ruled in favor of the Department. It should be noted that no other Police Department or Sheriff's Office in the State of Illinois took this position when the Department first implemented its current policy.

As of this writing, nobody in the Department has ever supplied any rationale for implementing this ridiculous policy. Possession of an FOID card does not remove any liability from the Department and, conversely, does not place any liability on the Department if a member does not possess one. An Officer, like a normal citizen, does need a valid FOID card to possess a firearm while off-duty. There is not any argument there, but that is not the issue. The Department has made it a condition of continued employment.

The reason I am again beating this dead horse is because I don't believe that the Department really thought this one through, as we now have Officers who require the services of a mental health professional, but don't know what to do. Hopefully, one of the higher-ups will read this and realize that someone made a mistake. There needs to be at least one exception to this policy or are they waiting for a tragedy to happen?

You are probably aware that for decades the Department has encouraged its members to seek professional help if they are having a rough go of it for either personal or professional reasons. There are even training bulletins available on this subject. I agree with this advice wholeheartedly, but, when a member takes the Department's advice and seeks out that help and voluntarily admits himself for help with a mental health issue, the FOID statute forces the Illinois State Police to revoke the Officer's FOID card. When the Department drew its line in the sand, it meant that the Department will then place that Officer into a no-pay status or force him to surrender any accrued elective time, personal days, baby furlough days, or vacation days he may have earned in order to remain in a paid status. He will remain in this status until he can demonstrate to ISP that his FOID card should be reinstated. Does this added pressure from the Department really serve the Officer's best interests?

The Department's FOID policy, specifically with regard to Officers with mental health issues, has been discussed at length with Superintendent McCarthy as early as June 2012. He assured us he would look into the situation and address it. Over a year later, he has done nothing to help Officers who wind up in this

situation.

What could he do? He could reinstate these Officers into any administrative position within the Department with duty restrictions in place that would forbid the Officers from carrying or possessing firearms. He does not have any problem placing duty restrictions on an Officer who may be facing disciplinary action. Yet, he chooses not to accommodate these Officers who have done exactly what the Department has encouraged them to do and what they should do.

It alarms me to think that even one Officer may choose to ignore his problems in order to avoid the sanctions the Department will place on him should he choose to do the right thing by seeking out the help that he may desperately need. Any logical person could interpret our Superintendent's action, or should I say inaction, as an attempt to discourage our Officers from getting that help. Or, maybe it could be that he just doesn't care. Is he waiting for a tragedy to happen before he is forced to make a decision?

What might be even more alarming is that I learned about a new requirement that has been imposed by the ISP in order to have an FOID card reinstated just prior to this article going to press. An Officer is now required to submit a letter from the Department, which includes a statement about the Officer's suitability for firearms. I have inquiries out to see just who is supposed to compose this letter on the Officer's behalf. My suspicion is no one. It seems pretty clear that the Superintendent is unable or unwilling to help these Officers. It is unlikely one his subordinates will pick up the ball and be willing to accept any liability by commenting on the Officer's suitability for firearms.

There is a silver lining to the cloud that the Department has created. I would like to point out that there are certain steps that an Officer can take and use to his advantage. An Officer seeking help from a mental health professional on an outpatient basis will not be in any jeopardy of having his FOID card revoked if he remains an outpatient. More importantly he will take the Department, one that obviously does not care about its members, completely out of the mix.

Please contact me if you or another Officer need more information, or if I can be assistance to you if you are in this situation at raguilar@chicagofop.org.

General Meeting Notice

It's time to resume the General Meetings!

Please attend the September General Meeting on
Tuesday, September 17, 2012 at Noon.

Also, please remember to sign the attendance books as you enter the meeting. Retirees are not required to use their star numbers, just write RTD in place of your star.

From the Desk of Jim McCarthy, Field Representative



Military Contract Proposal

Many of our members who serve in the Illinois National Guard or the Reserves have experienced payroll issues while serving on military orders. There is without question a misunderstanding as to how these members should be paid by the City, while serving in the military. Part of

the confusion stems from the different benefits provided under federal and state statute, most of which were passed into law after Section 30.2 was written into our contract. As a result, those laws have superseded some of the language contained in Section 30.2, rendering it null and void. Illinois service members were granted more benefits by the Illinois legislature and it is time the Department recognize such. In an effort to remedy these issues, the Lodge's Military Committee spearheaded an effort to pass an all-inclusive City ordinance that would have combined relevant federal, state and municipal law. If passed, the proposal would have guided all City agencies and departments regarding pay and benefits for Reservists and Guardsman. To date, those efforts have failed. The easy thing to do would be to point fingers at timekeepers and employees at Human Resources for these misunderstandings. Simply put this misunderstanding is not their fault. The root of the problem is and remains that there is no source of referral for these employees, other than outdated contract language. This past month, the Military Committee drafted a contract proposal to revise the language in Section 30.2 of the CBA. The proposal would make relevant federal and state laws part of our contract. The aforementioned proposal was submitted to City representatives at contract negotiations this past month. The representatives of the City stated they would review the proposal and get back to the Lodge. However, the City also acknowledged there have been problems and as a result, they are working on a new Department directive that would remedy these shortages in pay. Between the contract proposal and a new Military General

Order, I am hopeful that in the future these issues can be resolved and appreciate the concern shown by the Department.

Search for IPRA Director

With the departure of previous IPRA Director Ilana Rosenzweig, the search for her successor is now underway and a committee has been formed. The committee to select a new Director includes the long time Pastor of St. Sabina, the Rev. Michael Pflieger. A couple of years ago, the Reverend flew the American flag upside down in protest of "gun violence." Who can forget the now infamous video taken during the 2008 presidential primary of the Reverend gyrating across the altar like a young Elvis? Both displays were disgusting and the appointment of the Reverend comes as surprise to me in light of Mayor Emanuel's proclamation regarding "Chicago values." Last year, the Mayor took issue with the owner of Chick-fil-A's position on gay marriage, stating "Chick-fil-A's values are not Chicago values. They're not respectful of our residents, our neighbors and our family members and if you're gonna be part of the Chicago community, you should reflect Chicago values." (Note: I didn't realize all City businesses had to reflect Chicago values in order to operate, but I'll still pass on the family outing to the Crazy Horse.) The Mayor's stance against Chick-fil-A won him a notorious Jefferson Muzzle award, an award given by the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression to those who oppose Jefferson's vision of free speech. So, opposition to gay marriage is not a "Chicago Value," but apparently flying the flag of the United States upside down and spewing political hatred has become acceptable. The appointment of Rev. Pflieger to this search committee reeks of poor politics and undermines the credibility of the committee. A City Hall press release announcing the formation of the committee stated in part, "The committee will recommend a person of both integrity and professionalism to lead this agency." Such standards should apply to members of the search team, one would think a Catholic priest as well.

FOP Golf Outing!!!



On the morning of August 26, 432 golfers gathered at Cog Hill Country Club, to honor the memory of Tom Skelly and kick off the Annual FOP Golf Outing. The always beautiful Cog Hill did not disappoint, and golfers of all playing abilities were challenged by three championship courses. Some of the more seasoned golfers participated in contests to test their skills, including "longest drive", and "closest to the pin". As the afternoon came to a close, golfers were treated to dinner and drinks while enjoying the serenades of singer, John Vincent. Unfortunately, no one was lucky enough to shoot a hole-in-one and drive home in a brand new car...but there's always next year! Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's outing a success.

Message From Father Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain

A few Saturdays ago, between CPD baby baptisms and a CPD wedding, I stopped at Bunker Hill Woods to say hello to one of our units hosting an annual work/family party. It was a gorgeous day (Rabbi Wolf arranged for *perfect* weather) -- and a wonderful chance to visit with our brothers/sisters and their families. I **love** being kept busy with these many happy occasions to share stories, smiles and laughs.

I also have a chance regularly to meet folks at benefits for PO's who get jammed up. Last month I stopped by a north-side party hosted by friends of two Toms (literally, two Toms) who found themselves in a bind several months back. They asked me to use this outlet to express THEIR appreciation for the many, many PO's and bosses who came out to show their support of a couple of really good guys caught in an unfortunate situation. I thank God for being included in the incredible support system and brother/sisterhood we share.

I was again reminded of the blessed familial relationship we share when well over a hundred officers gathered at Christ Hospital and proceeded to the morgue together following the untimely death of one of our own, Sgt. Jean ("John") Borja on Sunday night, 18 AUG. The outpouring of support from CPD members for his parents was remarkable, as was the display of loving, prayerful camaraderie for his saddened CPD family. THANK YOU for making me and the other chaplains present so very proud to be members of this great family!

On Monday, 19 AUG, we added five names to the wall at Gold Stars Memorial and Park: Terrence Knox, Sidney Sam, William Goles, Cornelius Rourke and John Furlong. These heroes bring the number of names on those sacred walls to 567. **May they rest in peace!** We can be proud that decades after these five officers' deaths, our promise remains: WE WILL NEVER FORGET! For more information on Gold Star Families Memorial and Park, please visit the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation website at www.CPDMEMORIAL.ORG.

Thanks to the Emerald Society for nominating me "Irishman of the Year." What a source of pride for me to receive this distinction...humbling as it is! The awards banquet, where a policeman of the year is also recognized, is scheduled for Friday evening, September 27th, at Gaelic Park. For more information or tickets, please visit the Emerald Society Website at www.EmeraldSocietyOfIllinois.org.

September 29 is the feast of St. Michael, the patron saint of police officers and soldiers. If you'd like more information on this saint, or if you'd like to request a St. Michael prayer card be mailed to you free of charge, please visit our website (below).

Finally, I'd like to thank all those who came out for our very first Cub rooftop party, raising funds for the Police Chaplains Ministry. It was a sold-out event, and all in attendance had a **great** time. Thanks to the folks in 019 who made this happen. White Sox fans will be pleased to know the Cincinnati Reds won 6 to 4 that night. Check out the pictures of the evening on our website's "Photo Album" page.

Fr. Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain 312/738-7588 (office) | 773/550-2369 (cell/text) dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org

Disability Benefits Application Process, by Tina Perilli, Committee Chair

When you have used 275 days of medical time, it is time to start the disability process. Your first step is to contact the Medical Services Section and notify them about your intention to apply for disability benefits. You will be required to sign a PAR Form and a medical records release form allowing the Medical Section to copy your medical file and send it to the Pension Fund. **Any delay in signing your PAR Form can negatively affect the application process going forward.**

It is important to know that signing the PAR Form to take a leave of absence to apply for disability, or signing the disability application, does **not** lock you into the disability process. If your Doctor releases you to return to duty before your last day on the medical roll, and you've already signed the required disability application forms, you can rescind the PAR Form and the application, and your claim for disability benefits will be terminated.

Once you have signed the appropriate forms with the Medical Section, you should call the Pension Fund and speak to a benefits advisor about the disability process. When the Pension Fund receives your medical file, you will be contacted to set-up an appointment with the Pension Fund office to complete the application that covers all aspects of the disability process, and the Pension Fund staff will go over every step with you.

The goal of the disability application process is to provide you with an appropriate disability benefit in a timely manner. By starting the process two months before your last day on the medical roll, it will provide you and the Pension Fund with enough time to complete the various tasks required to receive disability benefits. However, it is incumbent upon the officer to be proactive and take the necessary steps to start the disability application in a timely manner. **Any delays during the application process can increase the period of time you may be without income.**

The Committee is finalizing a date for our "Annual Disability Fair," we will keep you posted on the date and location of this informative event. It would be advantageous for anyone who is limited duty to attend. I would like to extend my appreciation to Retired Superintendent Philip Cline (Chicago Police Memorial) and Father Dan Brandt (CPD Chaplain Unit) for always helping our officers in their time of need. You are both Chicago's Finest! Until next month, enjoy the nice weather and be safe out there!

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

A few weeks ago I was paged to an area hospital to do a well-being check on one of our members, who was brought in for chest pains. It was a weekend evening and the Emergency Room looked more like a train station than a hospital with all of the people walking about. I checked in with the floor nurse, who told me that our member was in booth number 14. I walked in, exchanged some small talk and thank G-d, things looked good. It was just a case of system overload and a rough lunch.

As we were sitting and chatting, the officer looked up to me and asked, "Why do we have ups and downs in life; why can't I just have smooth sailing?" He continued, "Those ups and downs are really getting to me." At that point I was looking around the room and saw that he was hooked up to an EKG heart monitor, which showed the needle going up and down. Just then, a paramedic named Stan, who originally brought our member to the hospital, popped his head into the room, and I asked him, "Stan, can you explain to me in simple terms what it means when the needle goes up and down?"

He answered, "In the simplest of terms, when the needle goes up the heart gets an electrical charge, when it goes down it gives up the electrical charge, and that is the cycle of the heart." He then continued, "And if it flat lines, that means the heart stopped." I looked at our member and thought out loud, "Isn't that what life is all about? We all have our ups and downs, our struggles and happy moments, and our task is to try to learn from our struggles, improve on what we can and make the best of the hand that we are dealt. But if we want just 'smooth sailing' we flat line!" The officer looked at me and said "Does that mean I have to give up smoking and start working out?"

This incident brought to mind the story of "The Butterfly and the Cocoon." Once a little boy was playing outdoors and found a fascinating caterpillar. He carefully picked it up and took it home to show his mother. He asked his mother if he could keep it, and she said he could if he would take good care of it.

The little boy got a large jar from his mother and put plants to eat, and a stick to climb on, in it. Every day he watched the caterpillar and brought it new plants to eat. One day the caterpillar climbed up the stick and started acting strangely. The boy worriedly called his mother who came and understood that the caterpillar was creating a cocoon. The mother explained to the boy how the caterpillar was going to go through a metamorphosis

and become a butterfly. The little boy was thrilled to hear about the changes his caterpillar would go through. He watched every day, waiting for the butterfly to emerge.

One day it happened, a small hole appeared in the cocoon and the butterfly started to struggle to come out. At first the boy was excited, but soon he became concerned. The butterfly was struggling so hard to get out! It looked like it couldn't break free! It looked desperate, fighting for life! It looked like it was making no progress! The boy was so concerned he decided to help. He ran to get scissors, and then ran back to the struggling butterfly. He snipped the cocoon to make the hole bigger and the butterfly quickly emerged!

As the butterfly came out the boy was surprised. It had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings. He continued to watch the butterfly expecting that, at any moment, the wings would dry out, enlarge and expand to support the swollen body. He knew that in time the body would shrink and the butterfly's wings would expand. But neither happened! The butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly...

As the boy tried to figure out what had gone wrong his mother took him to talk to a scientist from a local college. He learned that the butterfly was **SUPPOSED** to struggle. In fact, the butterfly's struggle to push its way through the tiny opening of the cocoon pushes the fluid out of its body and into its wings. Without the struggle, the butterfly would never, ever fly. The boy's good intentions had actually hurt the butterfly.

As we go through our ups and downs, or our "EKG of life," let us remember that struggling is an important part of any growth experience. In fact, it is the struggle that helps us to develop, and gives us our ability to fly. And remember that in life, the 'downs' are just as important as the 'ups.' It gives us the opportunity to reflect, improve and grow.

Thanks so much for all that you do, your work is holy and noble. Should you need a shoulder to lean on, or have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to call or drop us a line. To all the members of my flock of the Jewish faith, best wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year. On behalf of ALL the Chaplains, May G-d bless you and keep you safe. Amen.

Rabbi Moshe Wolf
773-463-4780 or e-mail: moshewolf@hotmail.com

Address Change Form, Effective Date: _____

Name: _____ Star Number: _____ E-Mail: _____
(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**

THE RICHARD LIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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

The following rules apply to applicants requesting scholarships:

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

RICHARD LIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATION

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

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

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

Relationship to Applicant: _____ College or Trade School: _____

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

Deceased Since The Last General Meeting

Kristie A. Wilkerson
 Restituto E. Abejero
 Brian P. McDevitt
 Richard B. Keating
 Robert Roth
 Doris Razo
 Harold J. Gordon
 Clarence Young
 Thomas J. Fahy
 Johnny M. McDaniels
 Joseph J. Kropel
 Charles E. Bailey, Sr.
 Kenneth M. Dooley
 Patrick T. Maslanka
 Robert Pesavento
 Edward J. Carroll
 Charles E. Christian, Jr.
 Stephon Dockett
 Herbert L. Wilk
 John E. Harris
 Randall J. Robinson
 Thomas E. O'Donnell
 Donald R. Signoretti
 John P. Loughnane
 Joseph F. Dockus
 Daniel W. Coffman
 John G. Rafferty
 John R. Garber
 Edward M. Wilkowski, Jr.
 Charles B. Odegard
 Thomas J. Wiggins
 John W. Chirillo

008th District Reunion

Come one...come all....anyone who ever worked in the 008th District and visit old friends.

Thursday, September 26, 2013
 6:00 pm—10:00 pm

Moose Lodge, #44
 7536 S. Harlem Avenue
 Bridgeview, Illinois

Parking is in the back....

All are welcome to attend!



STORE HOURS:

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

STORE CLOSED:

OCTOBER 14TH

DIRECT LINE:

312-733-2344

Thermos
bottle with
CPD star.
Was \$9.95,
Now \$6.97!

30 % OFF Tee
shirt of the
Month:
Property of
CPD
Football Tee

Medium to
2XL
Was \$12.95 2XL
- \$13.95 Now
\$9.06
2XL \$9.76

Labor Day is over...
The kids are back in school...
It's time to have an END of Summer SALE!

40 % Off Ladies shorts: small to XL in teal or pink
Was \$10.95, Now \$6.57!

Tank top "CPD 1835" in blue, grey or black, small to 2XL
Was \$10.95, Now \$8.21!

40% OFF Ladies tank top with CPD Star, pink or blue
Small to 2XL. Was \$9.95, Now \$5.97!

Girl's youth tee, tie on the side with
CPD in heart design. In pink, blue or mint.
Size 2/4 to 14/16. Was \$10.95, Now \$7.96!

20% OFF Boy's youth two tone grey tee shirt 2/4 to 14/16
Was \$9.95, Now \$7.96!

CPD folding Camp Chair with CPD star on the back
Was \$24.95, Now \$19.96!

Heavy cloth cinch bag in blue, pink, orange and green
Was \$12.95, Now \$9.96!

Chicago Police color patch coffee mug
Was \$9.95, Now \$7.96!

Back by popular demand: CPD Star Stickers!!
Only \$2.95 each!



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SEPTEMBER 2013
IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?
IF NOT, PLEASE CONTACT THE LODGE.

The Lodge is preparing for its annual mailing to members. Please look at the address label on this newsletter; this is the address we will use to mail your 2014 Handbook, Membership Card and Stickers. Please contact the Lodge and make any necessary Name or Address changes now.

FIRST NOTICE: Annual Payers (Retirees, Sgts, etc.)
2013 Dues Payments Must Be Received Before November 1, 2013

Attention Retirees and Annual Dues Payers you can mail your 2014 dues now. The Lodge will begin accepting credit card payments over the phone after the Labor Day Holiday. *If you turn 75 in 2014, you DO NOT pay!!*

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

BENEFICIARY:

CHECK ONE:

\$40 Retiree Annual Dues

\$65 Sgts. & Above AND/OR Outside Units

Enter Credit Card and Security Code located on back of card in signature area.

____ - ____ - ____ - ____ 3 digit code on back of card ____

Expiration Date ____ / ____