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# F.O.P. NEWS

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## President's Report, by Dean Angelo, Sr.

### FOIA Case Update



Over the past few weeks, the Lodge has once again been in court arguing another case against the release of disciplinary files that date back this time to the year 1967, yes 1967! We first appeared in Chancery Court in front of the Honorable Peter A. Flynn on October 29 and then again on November 15. The Lodge initially filed a Temporary Restraining Order challenging the release of these files. The Temporary Restraining Order requested that the Court consider that the discipline files be stayed (to stop or suspend the release). It is the Lodge's position that the mother lode of the files in question should have been destroyed at either the 5 or 7 year mark, depending on the type and/or eventual finding of the allegations. If the Department had been in compliance with the long standing language of our Contract, most of the allegations under consideration and ready to be released should not be in existence. For those of you familiar with the process concerning the destruction of files, it should have taken place years ago. This is in fact what the Contract states and calls for under Article 8.4.

It is the Lodge's position that if the Department had followed the processes as delineated within the Agreement (90% of which were investigated with findings of Not Sustained, Unfounded or Exonerated) these files would not be an issue today. Every working officer knows that complaints are part and parcel of enforcing the law. No one likes to go to jail, get a ticket or lose their freedom. Any reasonable person should come to realize that working in this particular field of employment invites complaints. When we regularly engage in and confront conflict or try to restore the peace, Officers are all too often are brought face-to-face with individuals and situations where someone is left feeling less than delighted. Ergo, an invitation to complain (against the very people summoned to the scene by virtue of their employment) becomes readily available.

Oral arguments are next on the agenda and presently scheduled for December 15. Since the Lodge began this latest process, the *Tribune* has enjoined along with the City to argue that the complete and intact files be released as originally requested. After some additional back and forth, the most current status of our situation has changed after seven additional FOIA requests occurred after our hearings in the Court that were brought to the Lodge's attention. After our counsel contacted the City and responded in a manner that addressed these new requests were to include complaints beyond the 4 year limit, the City reevaluated their intentions and will now voluntarily comply with our position (in accordance with our TRO language) and only release those files within the past 4 years and furthermore only allegations pertaining to on-duty nature.

To wrap this issue up at this time, although the *Sun Times* is another requester of the files, they have yet to sign on or participate in the proceedings. We promise to continue to keep the Membership advised as things continue to progress. Stay tuned and please watch for an email blast, the Lodge website or our Facebook page for any and all updates.

### Rest In Peace Your Honor

On November 17, 2014, it was my privilege to represent the Membership, both past and present, at the Memorial Service for Mayor Jane Byrne which was held at the impressive St. Vincent de Paul Church. Many of us remember when Mayor came into office and how she was received. She never backed down and continued to succeed in a Council chamber that had not seen the likes of her before. She had fire and a way about her that continued to impress the strongest of her critics. When she was told to not to entertain collective bargaining for her public employees, again she didn't back down and wound up breaking the mold by giving us what would eventually turn into the first Lodge Contract. "She really loved the police", as it was shared to me by her daughter Kathy. As I returned our condolences and fondness for her mom, I also reminded Kathy that Chicago, Lodge 7 would not be what we are today without her mother's support.

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## President's Report Continued...

Mayor Jane Byrne may have been somewhat small in stature, but she was certainly a dynamic woman who had the strength and foresight to make a seldom seen stand against the status quo and take on the political resistance by going forward with her initiative to offer the Police Officers of the City of Chicago collective bargaining. Collective bargaining would eventually secure our Members the same opportunities for benefits and protections that many other workforces had long enjoyed. As members of the Chicago Police Department, we are thankful. We will never forget what she did for us. Eventually the Lodge inked the first Contract in 1981. Since that time, much has changed within the Lodge and in Policing in general. However as much as things change, some remain consistent. Each and every time one of our Members takes advantage of a Contractual benefit, or puts in a time due slip (either to request time off or put in for time earned), or bids for a watch or a unit, or gets a chance to have their voice heard to dispute some type of wrongdoing; they have Her Honor, Mayor Jane Byrne to thank. Our prayers are with her and her family, may she Rest in Peace.

### City Council Ratifies Contract

On November 3, 2014, I attended the Chicago City Council meeting and waited for the Committee on Finance Report to get to our Contract. After attending to some other business of the day, Alderman Ed Burke eventually got to us. The endorsement and recognition of the Lodge's efforts and success were echoed throughout the chamber and repeated by several of the Aldermen. To say that it was impressive to have listened to the more than several accolades given to us by the elected representatives of the City Council, would be an understatement. Chicago, Lodge 7 was recognized for our ability to work through recent adversary and being able to do so with such professionalism. We were also touted for our dedicated work ethic and determination to stick to the tasks at hand which was demonstrated by accomplishing so much in just over six month period of time. Organizationally, we were so very well received by the entire City Council that it was somewhat humbling for me to have been witness to. I am pleased to report to everyone that our Contract came out of Committee on Public Safety with unanimous approval as shared with the full Council by the Committee Chairman, Alderman Pat O'Connor. Immediately following the Committee's decision, our Contract was unanimously approved by the full City Council as well. Although the Aldermanic applause that followed was directed towards me, the more deserving recipients of that recognition are best suited to go to the Membership who supported and voted for the approval of the Agreement. Congratulations, you are the ones who truly deserve the accolades and applause.

### Final Contract Language Status

It was also on November 17 that we finally completed all of the last minute language changes and details of this Contract. Maybe it is the Professor in me, but once we entered into the negotiation process, one of our goals was to work on cleaning up some of the stale and out of date language in our Contract. Eventually, the City agreed to form a six-person Contract Language

Clean-Up Committee, three for the Lodge and three for the City. Needless to say, the clean-up took a bit longer than expected. Go figure, there was some resistance on an issue here or an issue there. At times we were more than a bit surprised at how long it took to get the total and complete compliance, but we finally signed off on the final-final language. The signed documents then went to the Mayor's office for his signature, which officially puts an end to the process. According to those responsible for making the monetary adjustments, all calculated increases in pay-roll checks should be reflected at some point in December and retroactivity payments should arrive by mid-January. Once again, if we hear anything to the contrary, we will let the Membership know as soon we know.

### Monthly Membership Meetings

Since taking office, this Administration has attempted to be as sincere and direct as possible, whether the communication occurs in the monthly *Newsletter*, telephone conversations, face-to-face individual encounters or at the monthly Membership meetings. Each of these opportunities is a chance to relate to, learn from and hopefully inform the Membership. We welcome these encounters and genuinely look forward to them. We also enjoy when Members take the results from our exchanges back with them and continue the informational sharing Members that might not have the same free time or ability to give us a call or make the monthly meetings. We applaud those who bring the message back to the troops and for that we wholeheartedly thank those of you that do just that.

I would like to address some incidents that tend to occur more or less at the monthly Membership meetings. There are times, infrequent as they may be, when a question comes from the floor that winds up not being answered and thereby no exchange of information occurs. The Member asking the question leaves the mic with no definitive response. If they were planning on sharing the answer to their question with their units of assignment, that doesn't get a chance happen either.

When the Membership has a specific concern, whether it is the individual at the mic or that Member was asked to carry the question to the meeting and then bring a response back to the unit; neither one gets the information they are looking for. This winds up being contrary to our intentions of trying to keep everyone as informed as possible. The question now becomes, how do we fix this? My suggestion to the Members is, come to the monthly meetings. When you realize that you have a concern or when you learn from someone in your unit that has a concern, give the Lodge a call with the question prior to the monthly meeting taking place. One thing we learn as we get older and brighter is that no one has all of the answers. No one can expect that the Officers sitting on the dais know everything there is to know, nor are they clairvoyant. We cannot expect and prepare for any and all potential questions from the floor. However, if your intention is to get an accurate answer to your concerns or if your intention is to bring an accurate answer to the women and men in your units of assignment;

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## President's Report Continued...

Then I ask that you give us a bit of a heads up on exactly what information you are looking for. Rather than sit on a concern or question for several weeks call the Lodge. Let us know what you or your coworkers are concerned with. That way, maybe you can get your answer at the next general meeting and take that answer back to the unit with you. This way you are the carrier of accurate information for your co-workers. This way you can truly be the "go to" person in your units. As one that believes knowledge is best when it is shared, being a "go to" person plays much better than a "got you" person, unless the latter is your intent.

### Holidays and Hope

As the year comes to an end, most wind up spend what is left in the calendar year by running from store to store, party to party, meal to meal and family event to family event. We move so fast that we don't take the time to recognize that not everyone has enough money to hit the stores, or enough food to put together the food fests we have become accustom to, or even a family to spend time with. If we take the time to look around, there might be a person not that far from us that is lacking the funds to buy

gifts, or food for a decent meal or a family to spend the day with. Maybe this is the year we can be the one who reaches out and offers some holiday hope. Maybe we could buy a gift for a child whose family can't. Maybe we can buy nice ham for a family that can't. Maybe we even invite that person who will be alone over for some cheer. Maybe this year we can.

If you are looking to engage in something beyond worthwhile, join me and others at the Dreams for Kids Holiday for Hope Event. This annual takes place indoors at the Broadway Armory Park, located at 5917 N. Broadway. The event is held on December 20<sup>th</sup> and begins at 10:00 AM. Last year we handed out bags stuffed with toys to over 1,600 Chicago children. If you are looking to help out for the day, you will never forget it. If you bring you own children to help out, they will come to appreciate it. If you have a toy you want to donate, we will take it. You can discover more about this amazing day and the Dreams for Kids organization by visiting [www.dreamsforkids.org/holiday-for-hope](http://www.dreamsforkids.org/holiday-for-hope) or by calling Shelly at (312) 585-4995.

Have a Wonderful Holiday Season. Be Safe and God Bless the Police.

### At the November General Meeting the Lodge drew the names of the 20 winners and 5 alternate winners of \$1,000 Richard Lis Scholarships. This year's winners include:

- Erin Baldwin, Western Illinois University, Daughter of Detective John Baldwin (610)
- Frank Balestri, Iowa State, Son of Officer Frank Balestri (051)
- Katherine Bochantin, DePaul University, Step Daughter of Officer Peter Koski (024)
- Sydney Galvez-Daley, Valparaiso University, Daughter of Officer Charlette Galvez (116)
- Brendan Finnegan, Barry University, Son of Detective Brian Finnegan (606)
- Sofia Flores, University of Chicago, Daughter of Officer Ruben Flores (124)
- Anthony Francis, Moraine Valley Community College, Son of Officer Al Francis, Jr. (145)
- Daniel Gillespie, University of Illinois, Son of Detective Daniel Gillespie (630)
- Michael Huerta, Northern Illinois University, Son of Officer Paul Huerta (012)
- Zachary Jacoby, University of Nevada, Son of Officer Steven Jacoby (001)
- Ryan Kolb, Southern Illinois University, Daughter of Retired Officer Patrick Kolb
- Courtney Kosiewicz, Moraine Valley Community College, Step Daughter of Officer Penny Keating (008)
- Lucas Kratz, University of Iowa, Son of Officer Brian Kratz (050)
- Matthew Kuszynski, Oakton Community College, Son of Detective Louis Kuszynski (630)
- Richard Kuszynski, Illinois State University, Son of Detective Louis Kuszynski (630)
- Jack McHugh, Central Michigan University, Son of Officer John McHugh (701)
- Ashley O'Connell, University of Illinois University, Daughter of Officer Robert O'Connell (701)
- Josue Ortiz, DePaul University, Son of Officer Josue Ortiz (012)
- Abdul Salam, DeVry University, Son of Officer Mohammed Salam (019)
- Juleesa Torres, Northeastern University, Daughter of Officer Veronica Castillo (167)

## Recording Secretary's Report, *by Greg Bella*



### FOP Health Fair

It has been a while since the FOP has had a Health Fair but since we took office we worked to resurrect this program. Loyola University

Health System will be offering the health screening at the FOP hall on December 11, 2014 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. No appointments are necessary and the screening should take about thirty minutes. The screening is more comprehensive than a regular office visit and if you don't have a Doctor and don't get yearly physicals then you should attend the fair. We believe this is a worthwhile benefit for the membership and many of our members don't have a physician or get routine physicals. The early detection of a serious illness can save your life. Our goal is to have two Health Fairs one north and one south in January and then have them to move them around the city, on every watch to accommodate all our members. We will keep you updated in the newsletter and on the FOP Lodge 7 website.

### FOP website

The FOP website now has information for both our members and the public. To access members only information and videos you have to go to the upper right corner and click on the Login tab. Then a box will appear asking for your username and password. This will give you access to the member only site. If you have not signed up the go the FOP website at [www.chicagofop.org](http://www.chicagofop.org) and you will see a column on the right. Within that column there is a box that's says "new feature." At the bottom of that box is a tab for first time users, click and it will redirect you to a new page where you will be asked to provide basic information, as well as to create a unique username and password. Please be sure to use your given name when registering, as this is how we verify your membership and subsequently approve you for access to the members only section. The member's only page is for both active and retired members.

### Contract Change For Furloughs

The new contract will compress furloughs. Please note that these changes will

not be **effective until January 1, 2016.**

Changes to the furloughs are as followed:

1-4 years (currently 1-5 years)	20 straight days
4-9 years (currently 5-10 years)	24 straight days
9-14 years (currently 10-15 years)	22 working days
14 or more (15 years or more)	25 working days

### Retiree news

The Retiree Committee met and there was a question about H.R. 218. If I have HR 218 IROCC card can I carry my gun anywhere? Am I exempted from laws or ordinances that prohibit firearms on their property? We had the Lodge attorney research the question and received a legal opinion. HR 218 was enacted in 2004. It's called the "Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act." Section 926C applies to retired police officers. It says (in summary) that, notwithstanding any State laws, a qualified retired police officer may carry a concealed firearm. It says the section will not supersede State laws that permit private persons to prohibit the possession of a firearm on their property or in any State or local government property.

Basically, retired officers who want to carry concealed weapons are allowed, subject to any State laws regarding conceal carry. As a retiree in possession of an IROCC card you can carry your weapon from state to state but you are subject to local laws. The law (H.R. 218) does not exempt retired police officers from any state laws which allow private entities to prohibit firearms on their property.

### S.B 1 Diminishing Retirement Benefits For State Retirees

At the Oct. 8 hearing, the Sangamon County Circuit Court decided it would take up the motions filed by We Are One Illinois coalition and other plaintiffs who argue that the Pension Protection renders SB 1 unconstitutional. This action will resolve the question of whether SB 1 is constitutional. The court directed the plaintiffs to file their replies in support of their motions by October 31<sup>st</sup> and set November 20<sup>th</sup> for arguments at 1:30 p.m. As the unions have always maintained, and the recent Kanerva

decision confirms, the pension protection clause of the Illinois Constitution is absolute and without exception. There is no merit to the States justification for the unconstitutional diminishment and impairments that SB 1 imposes on State retirees. The Constitution is clear, our pension benefits cannot be diminished or impaired and part of that benefit is your health insurance. This case will clearly be a game changer and justifies every dollar that was spent protecting our benefits. The Attorney General has said she will appeal this decision to the Supreme Court as was anticipated.

This is just another hurdle in a long fight. We hope there is swift resolution in our favor and only then can the job of repairing our Pension Fund begin. Governor elect Rauner has said if the State loses the decision at the Supreme Court he would sit down with State Legislators to draft bipartisan legislation to correct the pension problem. These are the very people that created this disaster, why any sane person go back to them for the solution is beyond me. Governor elect Rauner would better serve the State and the people who elected him if he sat down with the unions to find an equitable solution. Rauner's actions will show us if he really intends to shake up Springfield or continue with business as usual.

### The Korshak/Underwood case

Our attorney Clint Krislov will be in court on the retiree health care case and is requesting that we fill the court room with retirees. Krislov wants the Judges to see the faces of the retiree health care issue. The hearing will be at 9:30 am on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in room 2721 at the Federal Building. The RCPA President Harold Brown will be providing a bus to take retirees to the hearing. You can park in Plumbers Lot just east of the FOP and the bus will leave at 8:30 am. If you get to the FOP early we will provide coffee and donuts prior to the bus leaving. This is not limited to police retirees all city retirees are welcome.

**In closing, I would like to wish everyone a safe and healthy Christmas and a Happy New Year.**



## 1st Vice President's Report, by Ray Casiano, Jr.



### "It's an Honor!"

Brothers and Sisters, as we near the end of the year I realized that eight months has passed since I have been voted into office and the swearing in of the Lodge's new Board of Directors. Although much work has been accomplished throughout this time, there is still more left to do. We have overcome challenges and built bridges to better serve the members. The concepts of professionalism, good work ethics and teamwork have been the foundation of this administration. These concepts, although simple, have the potential to have great implications when serving a membership as large and diverse as ours. This could not be more evident than in the past month— medical grievances were able to be averted due to our efforts in taking extra steps. These extra steps were able to yield positive results for the affected members. We also were able to reach reasonable settlements and awards for our some of our members affected by unfair disciplinary actions applied to them. Through negotiations, various grievance procedures, and acting in a professional manor, we have brought justice to our members.

### Reaching Out

As promised, the Trustees and I have been going out to the districts to address concerns, answer questions, and bring you updates. I will continue to seek out Trustees to go and visit the districts and units. It was a pleasure last month meeting with the

members from O'Hare, 17<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> district. As I have mentioned before we anticipate questions that may not be answered during our visits, but I assure these questions will be brought back to the Lodge and answered within a reasonable time frame.

### Acknowledgements

Last month during my acknowledgements I made an error that I would like to correct. On behalf of Lodge 7, I would like to salute Joe Ahern, Chief Executive Director of The 100 Club of Chicago and his staff. They have done a tremendous job in helping families of first responders who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

### Season's Greetings

This time of year is a time for family traditions and giving. We all know how much our members have given throughout the year. No matter how you choose to celebrate this season, your families have sacrificed a lot in sharing you with the citizens of Chicago, so take this time and enjoy the warm company of your family and friends.

*Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.*  
**FOP is here to "Serve and Protect" you, so that you are able to better "Serve and Protect" the citizens of Chicago.**  
**God Bless!**

## 2nd Vice President's Report, by Frank DiMaria



The Holiday Season is quickly approaching us and though these are often festive times, they may not bring joy to everyone and sometimes can even cause some people to become depressed. During this time, alcohol related problems arise, higher rates of suicide, as well as general feelings of hopelessness occur. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a wonderful program that is available to both active and retired members of the Chicago Police Department as well as to their families. The services of the EAP include Professional Counseling Service, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Unit and the Peer Support Program. The services of the EAP are free and confidential to those members who participate. Just remember that you are not alone during a difficult time you are experiencing that there is someone willing to listen. The EAP is located at 1759 W. Adams and the telephone number is (312)743-0378.

On 30 October 2014 in the early morning hours twenty six Chicago Police Officers, myself included, traveled by bus downstate to Springfield to attend the En Banc Hearing being held before the Illinois Prisoner Review Board to decide to release or deny parole for the convicted murderer of PO Herman Stallworth 10965, 003<sup>rd</sup> District, EOW 24 May 1967.

The Board convened and acknowledged our presence, as well as each of our protests to deny parole. The case was presented by the Hearing Officer who had conducted and heard testimony for both sides. A motion was made to deny parole which passed. A second motion was made to grant a three year set which also passed so the Officers Family will not have to endure these hearings during that time.

I want to take this time to thank all who assisted in this parole denial. If you supported by simply signing one of the more than 3,000 petitions or if you were someone who showed their support by attended the Protest or En Banc Hearings, we appreciate all that you do. I would also like to thank the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation for supplying the bus and their continued support for these sorts of efforts. Our combined efforts resulted in this convicted cop killer to remain behind prison walls serving his lawful sentence that was imposed. WE WILL NEVER FORGET!

I would like to wish all of you and your families a Merry Christmas and a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. If you have any comments or questions please feel free to email me at [fdimaria@chicagofop.org](mailto:fdimaria@chicagofop.org)



## Financial Secretary's Report, by Kevin Kilmer



First and foremost, I would like to wish each and every one of you a happy and safe holiday season. As a P.O. who has worked these holidays for the past 15 years, I understand what it's like to kiss your family good bye, put on your uniform, and hope for a quiet night while the rest of your family prays you return home safely. You folks have my sincerest admiration and I thank you for ensuring the safety of this great city.

With the anticipated arrival of the Watch Selection form, it's that time of year again to review the procedure to ensure you correctly apply for your preferred watch. Countless members can attest to the fact that filling out your Watch Selection form incorrectly can make the following year a very long one. The first thing you should do is review Department Notice D14-08 entitled "Annual Watch and Furlough Selections, Vacation Schedules, and 2015 Operations Calendar." Since I became a member of CPD, the utilization of the No Bid always confused me. A thorough understanding of this process is essential for properly filling out your Watch Selection Form. Over the years, there have been a number of Officers who decided to place a No Bid, hoping their Commander would assign them under the Department's management percentage to a desirable watch with mixed results. I would caution officers in placing a No Bid selection because, by doing so, you are opting out of the selection process and are telling the Administration they may place you wherever they choose, in turn eliminating your seniority rights for the watch bid process. For example, a less senior officer who may have wanted and had been promised 2<sup>nd</sup> watch thought he would be given the assignment if a No Bid was selected but ends up on 1<sup>st</sup> Watch. This Officer could have obtained a 3<sup>rd</sup> Watch assignment by seniority if he didn't utilize the No Bid process but wound up on midnights because of not fully understanding the process. I would caution you that if you place a No Bid as your second choice, you should have received some prior assurance from the Commander that he will use his management percentage to assign you to your desired Watch.

On a Watch Selection form, you have the option of choosing from 4 selections: 1<sup>st</sup> Watch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Watch, 3<sup>rd</sup> Watch and No Bid. Officers should determine which watch is most desirable to them and then designate it as their first choice. Then they should input their next desired selections in order of preference. Officers may not select the same watch more than once. **If a Watch is selected more than once, your form will be considered invalid and you will be at the mercy of management as to which watch you will be working on in 2015.**

Another important decision you should be considering is whether to enroll in the Health Care Flexible Spending Account included with your Open Enrollment. A Health Care FSA lets you set aside money from your paycheck on a pre-tax basis to use for eligible out-of-pocket health care expenses.

The account reimburses you for various eligible expenses, including medical, dental, vision, hearing, and prescription drug expenses. To enroll or if you have any questions, please call 877-299-5111 or [www.cityofchicagobenefits.org](http://www.cityofchicagobenefits.org). Something that myself and Trustee Steve Schorsch have been working on is getting dependent day care expenses included in the FSA. In many similar plans, the Health Care FSA is eligible for expenses related to the care of your child. As a father of two young boys, I understand what a huge savings this would be for our members. Please stay tuned as we communicate with the City to establish this policy by next year's Open Enrollment.

Finally, I would like to thank the midnight crew in 009 for their hospitality and allowing me to address their roll calls. It was great to be out with the working police and I look forward to chatting with the rest of you folks as I promised.

## Field Representative Report, by Keith Carter

I would like to start out by informing our members about the proper procedures for filing and resolving of Grievances. A grievance is defined as a dispute or difference between the parties of the contract concerning interpretation and/or application of the contract or its provisions.

There are actions taking against officers by the department that are unfair. Some actions violate Department Rules or even the law. However, just because something is unfair or even illegal, does not make it a grievance. Before filing a grievance, read the Contract to find out if a violation has in fact occurred. If in doubt, talk to the Watch or Unit FOP Representative or call the Lodge office. Remember, other remedies exist for officers who have been wronged when the Contract hasn't been violated, such as civil suits, CR numbers, or Labor Board Complaints. It makes the officer's case stronger and the grievance process move more expediently if the grievant can maintain any documents that support his/her cause, i.e., copies of any pertinent paperwork, and send these in along with the grievance. It also helps if the

grievant requests that pertinent communication tapes are preserved.

A grievance may be initiated by the Lodge or an aggrieved officer. Any officer shall have the right to initiate a grievance at any time, although it is understood that the officer should attempt to satisfy his/her concerns on an informal level before they opt to participate in the grievance procedure. In the event an informal resolution proves to be unsatisfactory, a grievance may be filed in a form to be agreed upon between the Lodge and the Employer and shall be processed in accordance with this Agreement. Upon request the grievant shall be represented by representative of the Lodge, provided, however, the grievant officer may have the grievance adjusted without a Lodge representative, so long as such adjustment is not inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement.

I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to everyone of the FOP staff, who has worked together for a smooth transition after the election.

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## Field Representative Report Continued

This starts at the top with President Dean Angelo Sr. providing leadership and guidance to follow the path he has laid out for us to lead the membership into the future. The experience of Greg Bella and John Capparelli has provided a wealth of information that has been very helpful to me. The staff has also done a phenomenal job working hand in hand with us to ensure that every possible resource is available to the Reps to help the membership. The expertise of John Farrell and Kris Kato has been invaluable during the call outs for Police involved shootings. The FOP'S team of Attorneys has provided guidance during the contract negotiations, grievance process, and all legal issues during our tenure. The support staff in the FOP Gift Shop and the maintenance personnel who set up, breaks down, and keeps clean the Hall for all events. Finally, I would like to thank Rep Marlon Harvey for taking me under his wing and showing me the ropes.

The generosity of our members is second to none, especially during the Holidays. Please remember those who are less fortunate by supporting your local food pantry, Toys for Tots, coats for the needy, and as always the Lodge accepts unwrapped toys to be distributed at Christmas. I would like to take this time to wish the members of FOP Lodge 7 and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Field Representative Report, *by Marlon Harvey*

Our contract clearly determines how Officers will be selected to work the positions of Desk Assignment. As many of you know, often times positions are not assigned properly either through error or by intent. Either way an Officer that rightfully has an expectation to be assigned to the desk can become victim to a game of musical chairs. One day you got it then the next day you don't. When the Officer inquires why they are not on the desk the common response is, "This is what we were told to do; you are on the street today."

An Officer that experienced the exact same scenario filed a grievance during the year 2011 challenging this practice of musical chairs with desk assignments. The grievance was successful in moving forward and finally to an arbitration hearing where the Lodge won the case for the Officer. The significance of winning the arbitration hearing is not so much the merits of whether or not the Officer was wrongly being assigned to the street. As almost anyone could clearly see the contract shows what should have been done. The critical factor is that the arbitrator in his award is allowing the City and the Lodge an opportunity to agree on an award for the Officer. At this time the Lodge through its attorneys are now submitting in total to the arbitrator all that the Officer has lost by being improperly assigned to street duties. The game of musical chairs happened to this Officer during the year 2011, 2012 and 2013. Totaling to well over a thousand hours in potential compensation. This means that not only has the Lodge estab-

lished a clear understanding of how the desk is to be assigned, the Lodge is now also moving forward to establish how an officer that was improperly assigned will be compensated.

The trial for the offenders responsible for the murder of Chicago Police Officer Thomas Wortham IV concluded on 13 November 2014. Both defendants were found guilty of several charges. The most important is the verdict of guilty for Thomas Wortham IV's murder as well as guilty for the murder of a Peace Officer. Through the years since 2010 when this tragic event occurred, everyone involved, especially the Wortham family, has endured great pain and sorrow while working on this case. Despite the overwhelming emotions, everyone involved did an outstanding job on the investigation, evidence, prosecution and testimonies in court.

During the presentation of the evidence I was reminded that Officers that collect and process crime scene evidence are a very crucial part of the investigation. While the command staff and detectives are busy determining what occurred at the crime scene, Forensic Investigators or commonly known as ET's are quietly working in the background. ET's have an uncanny sense of how to find things where most of us would never imagine looking. Then it all comes together during the trial when the evidence is presented. ET Eric Szwed provided a detailed testimony when the States Attorney presented the evidence to the court. The Lodge thanks ET Eric Szwed for his on scene work and for his professionalism during trial. Thank you for

a job well done.

On behalf of the Wortham Family the Lodge wants the Officers of the Chicago Police Department to know that all your prayers and sympathies are appreciated. The support that the Family has received means a lot to them. I can't tell you how many times I could hear one of the Worthams thanking someone.

The sentencing hearing for the offenders is scheduled for 15 December 2014 in room 500 at 26<sup>th</sup> California. Lets once again give our support. Check the FOP website for updates on the sentencing hearing in the event there are last minute changes with the date. Also, be ready for the commencement of trial for murdered Chicago Police Officer Michael Flisk. Jury selection is expected to begin 9 January 2015.

During this holiday season the Lodge wishes the best for all members and their families. I always end my monthly news article with a quote that gives further insight into the subject that I have written about. This month I will end in prayer.

The prayer of Saint Michael. Blessed Michael, Archangel, defend us in the hour of conflict; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God restrain him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust, down to hell, Satan, and with him the other wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

Continue to back each other up out there and be safe. Have a wonderful Christmas and a safe New Year.

## Field Representative Report, by Tom McDonagh

### IPRA

Recently, several issues have come to light regarding police shootings and how exactly IPRA is going about investigating these various incidents. There has been much speculation and rumors circulating that IPRA is stripping every member involved in a police shooting. As of this writing, there has been only one incident where an FOP member was relieved of his powers pending the completion of the investigation. I spoke with the head of IPRA, Scott Ando, and he assured the Lodge that stripping those involved in a shooting is not their normal policy. IPRA reviews and investigates each incident separately, based on the specific merits of the incident. Ando later went on and stated that the IPRA hierarchy has changed since the days of Ilana Rosenzweig. Ando filled his first deputy chief administrator position with a retired DEA agent and his chief investigator is a retired State of Illinois agent. For obvious reasons, the Union will never have a great relationship with any office that investigates our own, but we acknowledge that it is beneficial for the membership to have a working relationship with these offices.

### Elections

Last month, a new governor was elected and the State of Illinois will have a republican at its helm for the first time in since George Ryan in 2003. There are certain ambiguities surrounding the election of Governor Bruce Rauner and what his vision of Illinois will be going forward. An accomplished businessman, Rauner will be tasked with cleaning up the financial mess that the State of Illinois is currently drowning in. Rauner has publicly stated that first responder pensions and benefits are untouchable. It is my hope that his stance on pensions will remain steadfast, but it is an issue that we will all follow with much anticipation.

In fact, this upcoming year is the most impactful year to date for issues affecting our pensions. The political hierarchy has one year to figure out how the ARC payment will be made to shore up our pensions. It is important that we work together as a group to keep the pressure on our elected officials, especially the green ones

that are fresh to the landscape. The New Year marks the beginning of our battle to protect what is ours.

### Judges

On 11 November 2014, Circuit Court of Cook County Judge Matthew Carmody found a 92 year-old offender not guilty on charges in connection with a deadly shooting involving a FOP member and his wife. The 92 year-old offender and her husband were in the midst of a disagreement with the victim, whose husband is a Chicago Police officer. During the argument, the 92 year-old offender struck the wife of the Chicago Police officer with a broom and told her husband to get the shotgun out of their residence. This initial altercation led to the shooting of the officers wife, subsequently wounding her. In fact, the resulting injuries were so grave that ultimately the poor woman lost her arm and was blinded in one eye. Our loyal FOP member defended his wife and shot the offenders husband dead. The elderly offender was also wounded during the attempted murder.

The offender was subsequently charged with battery and aggravated assault. Fast forward to November and the not guilty verdict that surprised many at the Leighton Criminal Courts building. The merits of this case should have been adjudicated with a guilty finding and for reasons unknown, it was not. Many of us are puzzled by the decision but let us make a sound effort to remember Judge Carmody's name in the future.

We as a law enforcement community work together on a daily basis. We need to band together and support each other. Support for political campaigns should not be the only time that the judiciary publicly supports the FOP in an effort to gain our endorsement.

### 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.

Marcus Floyd - charged in the murder of **PO Thomas Wortham IV.**  
December 2nd, 2014: Room 606,  
26<sup>th</sup> / Cal, Judge Porter

Timothy Herring- charged in the murder of **ET Mike Flisk.**

December 2nd, 2014: Room 504,  
26<sup>th</sup> / Cal, Judge Brosnahan

Antwon Carter - charged in the murder of **PO Michael Bailey.**

December 4th, 2014: Room 602,  
26<sup>th</sup> / Cal, Judge Sacks

Tyrone Clay - charged in the murder of **PO Clifton Lewis.**

December 11th, 2014: Room 206,  
26<sup>th</sup> / Cal, Judge Rosemary Higgins-Grant

Edgar Colon - charged in the murder of **PO Clifton Lewis.**

January 7th, 2015 Room 206,  
26<sup>th</sup> / Cal, Judge Rosemary Higgins-Grant

*From my family to yours, have a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday season.*

### Members Deceased Since The Last General Meeting November 18, 2014

*Anthony T. McNicholas*

*Patrick H. O'Donnell*

*Ralph Kleiner*

*Elmer J. Atkinson*

*Donald E. Barnes, Sr.*

*Richard W. Lewner*

*Jesse S. Valles*

*Michael R. Duffy*

*Thomas P. Tobin*



## “A New Perspective For The New Year” Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf

As we enter the New Year let's take a moment to reflect on the past and learn for the future. Sometimes people come into our lives and we know right away that they were meant to be there, to serve some sort of purpose, teach us a lesson, or to help us figure out who we are or who we want to become. We never know who these people may be (possibly our neighbor, coworker, long lost friend, lover, or even a complete stranger), but when we lock eyes with them, we know at that very moment they will affect our lives in some profound way.

Sometimes things happen to us that may seem horrible, painful, and unfair at first, but in reflection we find that without overcoming these obstacles we would have never realized our full potential, strength, willpower, or heart. Everything happens for a reason. Nothing happens by chance or by means of good luck. Illness, injury, love, lost moments of true greatness, and sheer stupidity all occur to test the limits of our soul. Without these small tests, whatever they may be, life would be like a smoothly paved, straight, flat road to nowhere. It would be safe and comfortable, but dull and utterly pointless.

The people we meet who affect our lives, and the success and downfalls we experience, help to create who we are and who we become. Even the bad experiences can be learned from. In fact, they are probably the most poignant and important ones. If someone hurts us, betrays us, or breaks our heart, let's forgive them, for they have helped us learn about trust and the importance of being cautious when we open our hearts. If someone loves us, love them back unconditionally, not only because they love us, but because in a way, they are teaching us to love and how to open our hearts and eyes to things. Make every day count.

Let's appreciate every moment and take from those moments, everything that we possibly can for we may never be able to experience it again. Let's talk to people that we have never spoken to before, and actually listen. Hold your head and chin up because you have every right to. Tell yourself you are a great individual and believe in yourself, for if you don't believe in yourself, it will be hard for others to believe in you. You can make of your life anything you wish. Create your own life and then go out and live it with absolutely no regrets. Most important: If you love someone tell him or her, for you never know what tomorrow may have in store. Be sure to remember, learn a lesson from what life teaches you each day, that you live a better tomorrow. Most of all remember the most important rule, "You can't turn the clock back and make a new beginning, but we can all start today and make a better ending!"

The following story, titled "A Rose For Mom" helps put it all in the right perspective...A man stopped at a flower shop to order some flowers to be wired to his mother who lived two hundred miles away. The man got out of his car and he noticed a young girl sitting on the curb sobbing. He asked her what was wrong and she replied, "I wanted to buy a red rose for my mother but I only have seventy-five cents, and a rose costs two dollars." The man smiled and said, "Come on in with me, I'll buy you a rose." He bought the little girl her rose and ordered his own mother's flowers. As they were leaving he offered the girl a ride home. She said, "Yes, please! you can take me to my mother." She directed him to a cemetery, where she placed the rose

on a freshly dug grave. The man returned to the flower shop, cancelled the wire order, picked up a bouquet and drove the two hundred miles to his mother's house.

A short "New Years Blessings" to you and your loved ones: May the coming year bring you get a clean bill of health from your dentist, your cardiologist, your gastroenterologist, your urologist, your proctologist, your podiatrist, your psychiatrist, your plumber and the IRS. May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your abs and your stocks not fall. May your blood pressure, your triglycerides, your cholesterol, your white blood count and your mortgage interest, not rise. May you wake up on January 1st, finding that the world has not come to an end, the lights work, the water faucets flow, and the sky has not fallen. May what you see in the mirror delight you, and what others see in you delight them. May someone love you enough to forgive your faults, be blind to your blemishes, and may the world appreciate your virtues. May the telemarketers wait to make their sales calls until you finish dinner. May your checkbook and your budget balance, and be enough to include generous amounts for charity. May you remember to say "I love you" at least once a day to your significant other, your spouse, your child and your parent. Finally, may you fill your world with love even more than you have in the past and never let a day pass without sharing a good laugh..

Thanks to each of you for helping make our world a better place to live by your actions and deeds. Our City is most grateful to you for your daily sacrifices. Seasons Greetings, a very Happy New Year to you, you families and your loved ones. May 2015 be one of your best years yet! On behalf of ALL the Chaplains May G-d bless you, keep you safe and always keep you in his loving care. Amen. Should you ever need a shoulder to lean on, want company for a ride-along, or have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to give us a call or drop us a line. We're here for you 24/7.

Compliments of your Police Chaplain  
Rabbi Moshe Wolf 773-463-4780 or e-mail:  
[moshewolf@hotmail.com](mailto:moshewolf@hotmail.com)

### GENERAL MEETING NOTICE



Tuesday,  
December 17th  
@ 7:00 pm

*Join us in the FOP Hall.*

## Message From Father Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain

Recently the family of one of our officers experienced a violent tragedy. In a most unfortunate turn of events, I once again witnessed the *best* of our Department during the worst of times. Very compassionate officers, detectives and supervisors, along with Peer Support, FOP, and our Unit, worked with a holy synergy to comfort and provide support for one of our own. I was reminded that night of the reason folks on this job often refer to co-workers as their “Police Family.” I hope you’ll join me in thanking God for the blessed honor of being a part of such a family.

A note of thanks to Sgt. Jerry Negrete and officers of the 010<sup>th</sup> District who at a recent police Mass presented a check for \$500 in support of our ministry. Police Chaplains Ministry depends solely on donations (primarily from officers and retirees) to continue our vital work. The men and women of 010—like several other districts—have always been there for us (which allows *us* to always be there for our officers, active and retired)!

Christmas is around the corner... If you’d like a blown glass 3” x 4 ½” CPD Christmas tree ornament, please visit our website and click on the “PCM Merchandise” link. A limited supply is available at great prices...and bulk prices are available if you’d like to buy them for your team. One side of the ornament (pictured) reads, “Proud to be the Police,” and the other side reads, “Proud to be an American.”

This month Police Chaplains Ministry again hosts our beloved Gold Star Families at a holiday dinner on the Club Level of Soldier Field, overlooking the police me-

morial. This is a wonderful evening indeed. Letters were sent out last month to those on our mailing list, soliciting financial support for this evening...and very generous donations have been flowing in. But I also wanted to invite you via this means to consider making a donation. If you wish to do so, your tax-deductible gift (payable to Police Chaplains Ministry) may be made online at our website, sent via CPD mail to Unit 118, or mailed to/ dropped off at 1140 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago 60607. Thanks in advance for helping us to remind Gold Star Family members that they and their loved ones are NEVER FORGOTTEN.

Christmas for Our Troops: Many thanks to P.O./Explosives Tech Dominick Kearns and his dedicated team of volunteers who assembled the Christmas care packages we sent to our troops overseas. And thanks to so many of you who generously supported this great cause! As you read this note, the packages are on their way to their recipients...our brothers and sisters who have switched uniforms, but continue to carry out the mission of protecting our freedom and rights.

Police Mass: Please note: the Police Mass at Mercy Home (1140 W. Jackson Blvd) on Sunday 14 DEC, and Sunday, 28 DEC, is at its normal time of 11:00 a.m. But on Christmas Day, Thursday, 25 DEC, we’ll offer Mass at 10:00 a.m. in order to get you home sooner to open gifts and prepare dinner. While this is a Catholic Mass, ALL are welcome! Bring your family.

The Chaplains’ Section (along with the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation) will

be hosting an END-OF-LIFE WORKSHOP next month. Southsiders can attend on Monday, 12 JAN, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Morgan Park Academy; the same program will be repeated for Northsiders at the Irish American Heritage Center on Tuesday, 13 JAN, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Come learn how to start the difficult conversation regarding end-of-life decisions. An attorney will also be present to offer *free* estate planning advice. There is no charge for the event. Get more information and exact times by contacting Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis at [Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org](mailto:Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org) or 312-771-6638. RSVP by 05 JAN.

Finally, mark your calendar for an evening retreat for first responders: Tuesday, 13 JAN, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Resurrection Catholic Church...3043 N. Francisco Avenue in Logan Square. Register at [www.MayslakeMinistries.org](http://www.MayslakeMinistries.org) or by calling 630-852-9000. Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis and I will be co-facilitating this evening for YOU involved in first response. Please consider taking a couple hours out of your schedule to enliven your soul.

This time of year can be very stressful. For hints on how to thrive during the holiday season, please see the “Resource and Outreaches” page on our website. *Whatever* holiday you might celebrate, may God be a big part of it—with abundant blessings to you and your family!

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

### 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: 1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago Illinois 60607, Attn: Kathy Moore**

## Pension Board Trustee Report, *by Mike Lappe*

### Update

For several past months, myself and other elected Pension Board Trustees have been repeatedly asked; “what is the Fund going to do if the mayor refuses to fulfill the city’s obligation to deposit the requested \$593,000,000 million dollars?”

The Fund is required by law to notify the city of any requests for funding by January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. To ensure there is no miscommunication about sending a letter, as we have experienced in the past, (was the “letter” sent or not) the Fund sent formal notification (s) via a letter and electronically via an e-mail to those officials responsible for administering this challenging event. Copies of all the letters were distributed at the November general meeting as well as the required funding resolution for the year 2015, section (40 ILCS 5/5-168) Financing (pension code), and the GRS certification letter that indicates that the current Funded Ratio as of 12/31/2013 is **30.29%**. The Fund is well ahead of the deadline and we monitor developments on a day to day basis.

Now the big question. What if the mayor refuses to deposit the monies that need to be deposited into the Fund? Think about this political process as an expensive game of checkers. We all know how simple yet strategically checker moves need to be played. Right now the next move is in the mayor’s corner. The wild card is the new Governor. We now have a new player in the game. Our Governor elect may decide to revisit past pension legislation.

I can only speculate several scenarios or moves in this game. Unfortunately, we at the Fund have to wait and see what the opposition decides to do. If, the city opts to postpone and/or delay the monies due the Fund, our Board Attorney and our Executive Director will at such time submit a formal request to the State of Illinois asking that monies collected from various taxing sources be sent forthwith to our Fund, as required by State Law.

### Recap

Policemen’s Annuity and Benefit Fund (PABF). All information is reflective of historical timeframes.

- Budget by the city-October 2014 for 2015. (communication by the PABF re: funding already sent)
- Levy Tax in 2015, send documentation to Fund (PABF) in early 2016 regarding tax receivables.
- Collections in 2016 as real estate taxes are paid (generally late winter and late summer)
- So, the \$593 million dollars to be received in 2016 as residents pay taxes.

As new developments happen, I will make every attempt to keep you apprised. I hope that this correspondence finds our efforts here at the Fund transparent and informative.

## Please Join Us For The Annual Lunch With Santa *Hosted by The FOP, Lodge 7 Family Auxiliary*



**Saturday, December 6, 2014  
at the FOP Hall**

**Noon—1:15 pm Lunch**

**Followed by pictures with Santa & a Raffle  
from 1:15pm—3:00pm**

**Tickets cost \$5 each.**

**To purchase tickets or for more information,  
please feel free to contact:**

**Angie Haynes at 773-334-5718 or Marianne Boggs at 708-602-2738**



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**DECEMBER 2014**  
**IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?**  
IF NOT, PLEASE CONTACT THE LODGE.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**  
**Wishing you and yours, health and happiness in the New Year! From your friends at the FOP Store!**

We will close at 2P.M. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve- So shop early!

(We will also be closed on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015 for Inventory )

**GOLD SALE 10% off star pendants and rings,**

...sale ends December 15<sup>th</sup> to ensure Christmas Delivery!

**30 % OFF T-Shirt of the month CPD initials with Stars in grey, blue or pink.**

**SPECIAL OFFER! – Buy the t-shirt of the month and receive 20 % off a matching full sip sweatshirt in sport grey and heather denim... A great Holiday Deal!**

**4 pack CPD star rubber Coaster Set only \$5.95 a great Stocking Stuffer!**

**Ladies V-neck Thermal long sleeve tee with CPD Star in pink or blue**

**Small to 2XL was \$12.95 now SANTA priced at only \$9.07**

**40% Off Girls V-neck Thermal Long sleeve tee in blue, grey or maroon ...now \$6.57**

**White CPD Patch coffee cup was \$8.95... now \$5.99**

**40 % OFF Camo t-shirt in green or tan limited quantities—but a great price!**

**Back in Stock-O'Brien Street Alumni T-shirt**

**Medium to 3XL \$12.95-\$13.95**

**Ladies ¼ zip Fleece with cadet collar in black or blue**

**CPD Star on left chest Small to XL was \$21.95 holiday priced at \$14.95**

**Firearm Key chains assorted styles was \$4.95 -Stocking stuffer priced at \$3.95**

**Stainless steel with CPD Star water bottle with flip out spout and attached clip now only \$6.95**

**“Don't forget the Dog” Cloth checkerboard dog collars assorted collars by Boston Leather now \$15.96 !**

**“New” Hockey Hooded Sweatshirt come in and check them out!**

