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F.O.P. NEWS

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Fraternal Order of Police
Chicago Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60607

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



CONTRACT ACCOLADES

By the time this Newsletter gets delivered to the Membership, voting would have begun for the ratification process on the new Lodge 7 Contract. To say that the months we have spent on working towards the new language was time consuming, would be one of most understated descriptions ever levied. Before getting into the details, we need to offer our most sincere compliment and respect to lead attorneys Joe Burns and Taylor Muzzy. The way these two men worked together was not only impressive but how they continually complimented each other was seamless. The City was consistently facing a one-two punch that regularly kept them a bit off balanced and certainly worked towards allowing us to move ahead of all of the other public safety bargaining agencies, benefits-wise. Joe and Taylor never ceased to amaze us as they regularly offered unique options to protect the Membership throughout a very difficult and unorthodox negotiation. We cannot thank them enough and the Lodge was very fortunate that these men were on board from day one. We would be remiss if we did not give another huge "Thank You" to three other attorneys that were of constant guidance and support. Catherine Chapman, Brian Hlavin and certainly Pat Fioretto each offered additional layers of specific area-related experiences that worked so well with the lead attorneys. Once again, "Thank You All" for your hard work on behalf of Lodge 7.

GETTING CAUGHT UP

At long last we are able to share specifics and a complete (as space will allow) run down on these negotiations. Starting at the beginning, the run-off election ended on 3 April 14, got inducted 3 days later and attended an AM meeting with the Mayor on the same day we conducted our first meeting with the new Board which occurred on 8 April. Two days later on 10 April we needed to get up to speed ASAP and met with Joe Burns and Taylor Muzzy on where we were at contract-wise. It was at that first meeting that we felt that these men grasped what Police do and how important it was for our Officers to secure a fair and acceptable Contract. They both got it! They shared an emotional attachment and enthusiasm that impressed us and made the decision to offer them the opportunity to continue to work on the Contract an easy one. It was also at this meeting that we learned (much to my chagrin) that Joe was not the "voice" of the back and forth negotiation process. He was very frank and upfront as he informed us that he felt somewhat minimally utilized within the room and stated that he spoke "approximately 40 words" over the 2 years of negotiating the Contract. I was shocked to learn that the Lodge literally had Patrol Officers attempting to be the voice of a process that affects over 10,000 members! Not a wise move!!

CHANGE OF LEAD & START OF PROFESSIONALISM

As I've regularly lectured in Unionization and Public Sector Labor courses of the past many years, one of the worse things any Union can allow is to have its Membership be the lead in back and forth negotiation processes. In this environment, professionals are needed, Labor Lawyers and not Police Officers! We don't care if you fancy yourself the best gang guy/girl, the top homicide investigator, or the world's greatest warrant writer; you have no business sitting across from and trying to 'out lawyer' one of the best labor lawyers this town has to offer; let alone a team of them. Needless to say, our second decision concerning how we were going to move forward was also an easy one. Joe and Taylor were now in the driver's seat and were green lighted to do what they do best...be Labor Lawyers.

Within days after meeting our attorneys, we sat in front of the City representatives. They were accommodating enough to give us the time necessary to get caught up to speed on where they were at offer-wise. It was at this time that we informed them that Joe Burns and Taylor Muzzy were now going to take on the lead role. We can share with all of you now that it was during this initial meeting with the City that the temperature of the room changed from that moment on. The professional

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exchanges began immediately. We were now ready to get to work and work we did. We met at least 2 to 3 times per week from that point forward.

WHAT IS NOW IN PRINT

The Article by Article results are now in the hands of the voting Membership. We have done several videos as an additional way to communicate to the masses. We have held several Town Hall meetings and addressed numerous Roll Calls. There has been so much misinformation spread by a few, much of which has taken on a life of its own. During many of these sessions (and daily in the office) we found ourselves addressing things that were just plain wrong. As you read on, remember that our lead attorney Mr. Burns has over 35 years of labor law and negotiating experience. He is in no way a new-comer to the process, nor would he do anything to harm his client's (the Members of Lodge 7) position, benefits and/or futures. Let me attempt to make some critical points and clarification with the space left.

THE LASTING ERROR OF FAILING TO FILE NOTICE

Before addressing these issues, let me point out that previous administration's lack of placing the City on notice to begin the new Contract talks placed us in a very difficult position. First, Lodge 7 always negotiated first, thus setting the trend that all of the other bargaining groups would strive for. That was not the case now, for the first time since securing bargaining rights Lodge 7 went last. The past administration's error cost us any claim to July of 2012 through June 2013. After skilled back and forth negotiating, we wound up being successful in securing that year and the raises that the other groups received. That error was devastating to the Membership and will not be available to reclaim in arbitration if this Contract is not ratified...plain and simple. The City purposely front loaded the other Contracts with the early 4% on purpose, to send a clear message to the Lodge's previous administration. July 2012, January 2013, 4% Raise and Retro

Please don't hang your hats on the retro pay. Retroactivity pay is substantial (even without the lack of overtime for the first 12 months of the new Agreement) and should not be completely disregarded. Although the retro is being talked about in every District, Unit and Area; we would rather have the Membership focus on the 4% raise that occurred over that same first (originally lost but now resurrected) year. All active Members need to realize that the loss of the 4% raise for that year would cost you tens of thousands of dollars over the length of your career and even more over the length of your eventual retirement. Speaking of retirement, for those that retired since the end of the last Contract a failure to ratify costs Retirees the same 4% for the rest of their lives. If you have parents, other relatives or ex-partners who recently left the job, they take a 4% hit for life. These women and men put in many years as working Police and deserve something for that calendar year. They should not suffer for the error of the past administration, nor active Police. You deserve that compounded raise for the rest of your active and retired lives as well.

2017 HOSPITAL TIER SYSTEM CLARIFICATION

Another issue we found ourselves regularly clarifying was the Hospital Tier changes. First off, every other City employee is going into the changes in January of 2015...every other City employee except Lodge 7 Members that is. This is a huge win for us. The Tier system is a bit confusing and there is a short video on line that attempts to simplify it, however let me attempt to do the same now. There are 3 Tiers beginning in 2017, two years after everyone else. Tier 1 is comprised of institutions that have partnered with the City to offer services at a lower rate than Tier 2 institutions. Tier 2 locations are still available for Members to utilize and are in no way eliminated. Any family max of health care costs are the same and do not change for the length of the Contract. The only difference between Tiers offers those who use Tier 1 institutions to get to their max sooner than those in Tier 2. We have already witnessed that the list of available Tier 1 institutions grow from 2014 to 2015 and it is our position that Tier 1 locations will continue to develop by the time we join these changes in 2017.

NO WELLNESS!!!

Avoiding Wellness was one of the largest requests made to us by the Membership...and we heard you loud and clear! We are very proud that we were able to bring this one home! NO WELLNESS FOR LODGE 7! This is what many are talking about as our biggest win. To be able to properly explain the amount of work and skilled technique that lead up to this result would take much more ink than this entire Newsletter offers. As most know, once more Lodge 7 is the only City Union that is not in Wellness! We felt and still feel that this program is arbitrary and improperly fines employees who do not meet a standard of participation orientated guidelines. These fines are levied against the spouse of the City employees as well as the employee if in fact they don't participate at an expected level. Our members spoke and we listened. If we fail to ratify this Agreement, Lodge 7 may very well be placed in Wellness by an arbitrator if he/she likens us to every other City of Chicago employee.

Pension Reopener Language

By far, the language that we used in our Contract to protect our pensions was borrowed verbatim from the Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain and Fire Fighter Contracts. The confusion and out and out attack on this language has been one of the more puzzling issues brought to us by some Members. There is such a major disconnect being made by some, it is truly an amazing thing to wonder how one can look upon this language as anything but a protection to the future of our financial solvency. First of all, pension law is part of the Illinois Constitution and we have no legal authority to negotiate anything that would change, alter or impact our pensions.

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President's Report Continued...

Secondly, the lawyers that worked on each of the public safety contracts (Sergeants, Lieutenants, Captains, Fire Fighters and Lodge 7) collectively have **“well over 100 years of labor law and negotiating experience.”** But there are some sitting in Roll Call, a Unit or an Area that are telling Members that these men made mistakes. These same persons are trying to say that this language places you at risk, pension-wise. This is ridiculous. Is there anyone out there that truly believes that the person sitting next to you at work knows more than the previously mentioned lawyers? Do you really think that the collective knowledge, skill, ability and experience of these people would move them to somehow conspire to work against their clients and harm the financial futures of the Police and Fire Fighters? All the language does is to protect us against any contribution increases that might occur to us by forcing the City to renegotiate our salaries.

In closing, there was so much behind the scenes work and struggle done throughout the past several months concerning the new Contract. At no time did the Labor Lawyers and Contract Team take their responsibilities lightly, nor were any decisions considered without lengthy discussion. Whenever a negotiation ends, both sides walk away with a feeling that they could have done better. This has exactly happened with us and I truly believe the City feels the same. We won in several areas where the other Unions were not successful. We went further in time and salary increases than all of the other CPD bargaining units. We have the same salary increases as Local 2, but went further than them in some major non-economics; and Local 2 ratified their Agreement with an 80% approval. Lodge 7 Members have a major decision to make about their futures and we believe that the best decision to make is to be the first collective Membership body to ratify an Agreement in 20 years. The Votes will be counted on 17 October, hopefully the Members agree.

Be Safe and God Bless the Police

RICHARD LIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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 **Nov. 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

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



"Trick or Treat?"

Brothers and Sisters, many of you attended September's General meeting with doubts and questions about our Tentative Agreement with the City. Some viewed the contract as a trick because of the misinterpretation of it and others as a treat with the benefits we got that other unions did not. We listened to all of your concerns and provided you with correct information. Additionally, we set up Town Hall meetings, visited districts and posted videos on the Lodge's website to clarify the language and dispel rumors. I believe the efforts helped members better understand the Tentative Agreement. Continue to use us as your primary source of information regarding Lodge business.

Call Outs

The Lodge recently reconfigured the schedule of its Field Reps pertaining to call-outs. Each Field Rep is now on-call three (3) days at a time, increasing the likelihood for a Field Rep to be called out. Every call-out increases our experience and knowledge which ultimately allows us to better serve you. Besides changing the call-out schedule, we have also adopted an ongoing communication protocol between each of the Field Reps, whether on-call or not. The communication between each of us has contributed to the assurance that coverage is maintained when facing extraordinary circumstances, as we experienced this past summer.

Health

First responders routinely deal with physical, psychological and spiritually dangerous assignments. The injuries they receive are not always physical. Sometimes injuries that hurt the most are not visible. I'm referring to Alcoholism and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder [PTSD]. If you think that you may be suffering with one of these and need help please contact EAP 24/7 at (312) 747-5492 for a confidential appointment or call me at the Lodge at (312)733-7776. Members may also contact the Police Chaplains at (312) 738-7588. We must exercise caution with the medical section when seeking help for one of these as well as for

Postpartum depression. The Department is responsible for ensuring that its officers are fit for duty. A member through no fault of their own seeking help from the Department may be forced to go on medical or stripped, and in some extreme cases have their FOID card revoked resulting in a no pay status. Contact us or EAP with concerns before going to the medical section. If you are a veteran you may call **Veteran's Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255** press (1).

Flu Shots

This month the Flu shot will be offered. The Lodge will have medical professionals offering our active members free Flu shots on Thursday, October 16, 2014, from 7:30 am. – 4:00 pm. However, there is a \$20 fee for your family members.

Grievances

Concerning military leave, the City has said it will comply with State and Federal laws. Consequently, we won a military grievance award for a member. The member was forced to use comp-time for military drill. The award was for about 200 hours almost equal to \$7,500. As a result of this victory, the member has 200 hours on the books. There are others with similar grievances that will surely be won in favor of our members.

Acknowledgements

This month I wish to acknowledge Nichelle Fraction, Anthony Morales, and Louis Silva from the Bureau of Organized Crime-Narcotics Division for a job well done. Last month they received an award from HISLEA. Their work resulted in the recovery of five kilos of cocaine, four weapons, eight vehicles, two motorcycles, a 38 foot Bay Liner boat and \$35,000 USC. Six offenders were arrested and charged with *Calculated Criminal Drug Conspiracy and Delivery of a Control Substance*. We are proud to call them our own.

**FOP is here to "Serve and Protect" you, so that you can better "Serve and Protect" the citizens of Chicago.
God Bless!**

Recording Secretary's Report, by Greg Bella



Contract

Historically the FOP being the largest union in the City always negotiates their contract first and thus sets the tone for all the other unions that follow us in the negotiation process. When the letter was not sent to the City in time and the subsequent behavior by that administration, the tone was set. The City made the decision to negotiate with everyone else first and set the FOP up to be the last union to negotiate. This placed the FOP at a severe disadvantage because many major issues important to our members were already resolved with the other Labor Organizations. The FOP at the time took the issue of the letter and the City's position that 2012-2013 is lost to the State Labor Board where they lost. The FOP then went to Court where the case was dismissed. This issue has been fought and lost and an arbitrator cannot even look at 2012-2013. An arbitrator will start our contract July 1, 2013. You can see how these actions put us behind the eight ball making contract negotiations very difficult.

The easy thing for Dean to have done is have the Labor attorney Joe Burns declare impasse and demand arbitration. Dean could then blame the past administration for the losses we suffered in arbitration but that would not have been the right thing to do for our members. Our attorneys and this core group did everything in their power to get us a fair contract in spite of where they started. There is a saying about contract negotiations, if no one is happy it is a fair contract.

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

Retiree Healthcare

All City retirees in the Korshak/Underwood class have received a packet from the City of Chicago informing them that healthcare costs have been increased by 40%. We have some members (single Medicare) being increased as much as 85%. To make matters worse retirees must choose from four different health care plans. If you are retired and live out of state you must choose from only two different health care plans. We immediately called Clint Krislov, the attorney who is suing the City of Chicago in the Underwood case and sent him a copy of the paperwork. Clint Krislov reviewed the documents and is going to file an injunction to stay the health care increase until the outcome of the court case. This only makes sense because the basis of the case is that the City of Chicago cannot increase your health care costs.

We do not get the big pensions that the politicians get, we do not get the compounded COLAS and some of our members do not get a COLA at all. We have members who have retired and their pension is only \$27,000 a year. Now these retirees are being told that their health care costs are increasing from \$277.00 to \$422.00 a month. At the other end of the spectrum we have members who were paying \$890.00 and their rates have increased to \$1,280.00 a month. This is blatantly unfair to people who are on a fixed income and who have given their life to the service and protection of the citizens of Chicago.

This Mayor, who if the right candidate comes forward could find himself in the fight of his life, just succeeded in mobilizing 120,000 people to vote against him. Every man and woman on this job should register to vote and make sure your family members are registered to vote. This upcoming mayoral election could be the biggest vote of your life and if you never voted, this election should be your first.

The FOP Website

The website is updated and you can now login in to a secure section for important member information. We started video recording the September General Meeting and you now will be able to login on the FOP website and watch the meeting. We will take every step to protect our member's identity and the only faces that will be seen are the Lodge officers sitting on the stage. This will be a work in progress and we will make any necessary changes to improve this process. I believe with everyone's hectic schedules this is the only way to get you the information you need. If you can't come to a union meeting then we have to bring the meeting to you. You will be able to watch the meeting from a computer, an i-Pad or a smart phone.

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



Hauser & Kilroy Street Sign Dedication

On 9 September 2014 at the intersection of Nordica and Palmer an Honorary Street Sign was dedicated in memory

of PO Gregory Hauser #14680, 025th District, EOW 13 May 1990, and PO Raymond Kilroy #14686, 025th District, EOW 13 May 1990.

These two Officers were killed in the Line of Duty on 13 May 1990 (Mother's Day) at the intersection of Nordica and Palmer while investigating a domestic disturbance involving the offender and his grandmother.

A resolution was proposed and sponsored in City Council by the Alderman of the 36th Ward to place an Honorary Street Sign honoring these two brave dedicated Police Officers for their ultimate sacrifice. The resolution was passed and the planning began. The day of the event arrived and both Officers Families along with over two hundred Police Officers (active and retired) and citizens from the neighbor-

hood attended the unveiling of the street sign for something that occurred over twenty four years ago. It was truly an amazing sight and made me proud to say I was a Chicago Police Officer.

I would like to personally thank Alderman Nick Sposato, Retired Sergeant Al Piantkowski, the Chicago Police Department Honor Guard, Mounted Unit and the Pipes and Drums of the Emerald Society for making this happen. We will never forget!

Times Have Not Changed

We are now in the 21st Century and technology is at its peak. We are better educated society than fifty years ago but, sometimes I think times have not changed that much since the violent days of rage or the anti-police sentiment of the 1960's. It sometimes appears that we are retrogressing as opposed to progressing.

There have been consistent reports in the news media about crime being on the decline. Yet, there have been no reports exposing attacks on Police Officers them-

selves. Again we have seen a rash of violent attacks of Police Officers not just in Chicago but across the country. Fifty miles from Chicago's City limits, a Merrillville Indiana Police Officer Nicholas Schultz, EOW 7 September 2014 was murdered in the Line of Duty while he was investigating a disturbance. This young Officer was taken from his family and the Law Enforcement Community too soon and without reason. Since Officer Schultz's murder, our Nation lost five more Law Enforcement Officers from different areas of the country. Chicago Police Officers face these inherent dangers and are victimized daily by offenders who have no regard for the law or society. I wish to remind Officers use caution in what you encounter everyday out on the streets. Do not take anything for granted and stay aware of your surroundings.

Take care and be safe. If you have any questions or comments please email me at fdimaria@chicagofop.org

Financial Secretary's Report, *by Kevin Kilmer*



Autumn is my favorite time of the year, between the beautiful colors and the beginning of football, there is no better season. Having the kids back at school full-time is an additional bonus. Unfortunately, not everyone will be able to enjoy this wonderful time of year. In mid-

September, the administration of the City of Chicago decided to send letters out to all of our retirees informing them that their healthcare expense will be going up an average of 40%. This correspondence is reprehensible in so many ways. A Chicago Police Officer's job is extremely demanding, both physically and mentally. We do and see things throughout our career that puts an undo toll on our health that other occupations cannot compare. Working strange hours, wearing burdensome equipment, being forced to eat in unsanitary establishments, and being surrounded by unhealthy individuals are just a few examples of the physical toll police officers endure on a daily basis. Observing things no human being should ever witness, being away from our families, and having to schedule things months in advance depending on your day off group are a few examples of the mental toll we cope with. Because of these unorthodox responsibilities our profession endures, it is especially disturbing that the City seeks to renege on their promise of affordable healthcare for those people that need it the most. For those active officers who don't think this issue applies to them, try to budget your household income with 40% added on your mortgage bill with no additional income coming in.

The good news is Lodge 7 is aware of this travesty and is working on some viable options to preserve the benefits our retirees earned through their years of admirable service. Our first move is to have our attorney, Clint Krislov, file an injunction to stop these changes from happening due to the previously Titled "Korshak case" which is now known as the "Underwood case." These cases involve the guaranteed health care enjoyed by city retirees, their spouses, and quali-

fying children. Our case has been strengthened by "Kanerva v. Weems," which was an Illinois Supreme Court decision on July 3 in which the court ruled that health care for retired state workers is a pension benefit protected by the state constitution. In the meantime, I have been meeting with several insurance professionals to explore other avenues in case the injunction is unsuccessful. When there is any progress made on these fronts, I will immediately communicate it to all our members, both retirees and active.

One of the things that would bother me the most when I would sit in my roll call room is that the FOP Board members would only visit when they needed something, usually around election time. Because of this, I pledged to come around during non-election time to keep the membership informed on the comings and goings here at the Lodge. Here is a tentative schedule of where I will be visiting in the month of October: October 21, 2014 24th District 3rd watch & October 28, 2014 8th District 3rd Watch. I will try to hit a few more during the month, schedule permitting, to ensure I get to every edge of the City.

Finally, I would like to take a moment and honor retiring Board member, Tim Moriarty. Tim has decided to resign his post as a member of the Board of Directors since he has recently made Sergeant. Tim constantly stood out as a true champion for the working police officer. He always voted in favor of his conscious and was never swayed by the political shenanigans of the previous Board of Directors, while serving this organization with dignity and honor. It was because of these traits that I ran for my current position with Tim and learned quickly that we are here for the good of the order and not the good of the individual. I am quite certain that I was elected to my current position because of the example he provided me and for that I will be eternally grateful. I wish Tim Moriarty good luck with his new position and I will pledge to continue his pursuit of ensuring the protection of benefits to all of our officers.

Retired Police Association Corner... *by Bill Burns*

For 2015, the City will continue to offer the existing plan (PPO Standard Plan – Yellow) for NON-Medicare eligible retirees. In addition to this plan, the City is offering three additional new plan options (PPO Value Plan-Orange, Blue Choice Standard Plan-Blue, and Blue Choice Value Plan-Purple). Medicare eligible participants must enroll in the City Medicare Supplement Plan, which is the current plan. Just as occurred in past years, your prescription co-pays for mail order drugs will increase by 5% for both Medicare and NON-Medicare participants. The plan will also continue to require that you use the mail-order plan for all maintenance prescriptions. The enrollment change period will be offered from September 15, 2014 through October 3, 2014. If a retiree wants to remain in the current plan, he/she does not have to call they will remain in the yellow plan. However, if you want to change plans, you have to call the Benefits Service Center at 1-877-299-5111 from 8 am – 7 pm (CST) through October 3, 2014. Any plan changes will be effective on January 1, 2015.

IMPORTANT: If you forget to call the Benefits Service Center to make changes by October 3, 2014, you will be enrolled in the current PPO Standard/Yellow Plan.

To check with medical providers to see if they are in the Blue Choice PPO Network, you can look online at www.bcbsil.com or call Blue Cross-Blue Shield customer service at 1-800-772-6895. For further information on retiree health plans visit <http://chicagoretireebenefits.org>.

Field Representative Report, by Keith Carter

I would like to start off by informing our newest members to Lodge 7, those Probationary Police Officers who are between their 12th and 18th month periods, about the benefits that shall apply to them upon completion of the first twelve months of the probationary period. It would take my entire report to name all the benefits, but I will name several of the most important ones, Uniform Allowance, Duty Availability Allowance, Educational Reimbursement, and Life and Health Insurance Provisions. The listings of all benefits that apply are on page 81 of the contract book.

For most of our members, all working VRI requires is just a few taps on the computer. But from time to time, as with most anything on this job, the need to for each member to check that your activity is correct and in the computer system is of the utmost importance. If you experience any discrepancies with your activity, double check that your work is being downloaded into the computer system. Submit a TO/FROM report to Special Employment enclosing a photo copy of your ac-

tivity pointing out the discrepancy. Give the Lodge a call if the issue is not addressed in a timely manner to ensure that you can be afforded the opportunity to participate in this overtime initiative.

As I have stated in a past edition of the FOP Newsletter, the Lodge will put forth the best effort possible to make our members whole during the Grievance process. Over the past several weeks the Lodge has been able, to reduce the time that a Grievant was going to serve by a significant amount, or get their time put back on the books. The FOP will always make every effort to be very attentive to the needs of our members.

There is a concern that I feel needs to be addressed, namely the Departments attempt to remove members from their D-2, D-2A, and D-3 positions. Order E05-06-01 explains the process for removing a sworn member below the rank of Sergeant from D-2, D-2A, and D-3 assignments. With morale at an all time low, and with all due respect, you would think that the Department would try to implement policies to build up morale, and not tear it

apart. I believe that it is in the best interest of all members to take a look at this order even if one isn't in one of those three positions.

A friendly reminder, communication and dissemination of information is the backbone of any organization. Lodge 7 will always do its best to ensure that our members are kept up to date on issues that affect all of us the most. If any of our members have any questions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Lodge 7.

Finally, I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to all of the First Responders in the Chicago land area and throughout the United States of America. During the week of 9-11, we occasionally get a thank you from a citizens who really does both understand and appreciate what we do day in and day out. They appreciate all we do to ensure the safety of the communities that we work and live in. To our First Responders who are also called upon to perform double duty when your military units are called up to protect this country, I cannot express my gratitude enough.

Retiree Breakfast & Luncheon Schedule

North:

1st Wednesday of Month @ 7:30 am
Lone Tree Manor, Niles, IL
 John Zielinski, 773-259-1087

The Northsider's Luncheon:

3rd Wednesday of Jan, April, July & October @ Noon
Biaggio's Superosa, Chicago, IL
 Paul Vitaoli, 312-402-1040

South:

2nd Wednesday of Month @ 10:00 am
Jedi's Garden, Oak Lawn, IL

8-Ball Luncheon:

Last Wednesday of the Month @ Noon
Les Brothers, Bridgeview, IL
 Dorothy Piscitelli, 773-972-0139

Bomb & Arson:

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

12th District Retirees and Alumni

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

Crime Lab, ETs, Forensic Services & Mobile Unit

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

Orland Park Law Enforcement Organization:

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

Old School Deuce:

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

Survivors Lunch:

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

Public Housing Unit, (North, South & Administration)

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

Arizona Retirees:

3rd Thursday of Month @ 11:00 am
Casino Arizona Eagle Buffet, Scottsdale, AZ
 Ed Plawinski, 480-502-1630

Arkansas Retirees:

3rd Friday of Month @ Noon
Elks Lodge, Mountain Home, AR
 Bob Zdora, 870-405-5407

Florida Retirees:

1st Wednesday of the Month @ 1:00 pm
Cop Shop, Cape Coral, FL
 Tom Faragoi, 239-770-7896

Las Vegas Retirees:

Every Thursday of Month @ 9:30 am
The Willows, Henderson, NV
 Jerry Rutkowski, 702-575-4301

Michigan Retirees:

1st Thursday of Month @ 7:00 am
 Eagles Lodge, Gladwin, MI
 John Nielson, 989-246-2276

Field Representative Report, by Tom McDonagh

I attended the sentencing of Jason Austin at the Dirkson Federal Court on 18 September 2014. As many of you recall, Austin was accused of murdering Detective Robert Soto and his acquaintance Kathryn Romberg in the 3000 block of West Franklin Boulevard in August of 2008. Area Four detectives worked diligently to apprehend those responsible for the murder of a Chicago police officer and ensure that they were charged accordingly. Unfortunately, as the trial progressed, the case began to unravel after several witnesses changed their stories after being intimidated by gang members. Austin was a high ranking member of the gang that controlled the drug operation close to where the homicides occurred. After being threatened and beat, several witnesses appeared at the Grand Jury and changed their testimony. Two eyewitnesses, both of whom were in the vehicle driven by Austin the night of the murders, ended up recanting their original versions of events that evening. Both witnesses stated that they were held against their wishes and coerced to make statements that were false.

The detectives assigned the case were lambasted about their motives throughout the investigation. The media was quick to criticize the police department about the way this case was handled and whether there was a quick rush to judgment in apprehending a suspect. The detectives involved with the scene the night of the homicides are two of the better detectives you will meet on this job and as important, two of the most genuine people you will meet. This investigation was thorough. Every piece of evidence and witness testimony led to Austin being rightfully charged as the offender in this heinous crime, yet the pressure of intimidation allowed a cop killing savage to be to walk the streets a free man.

This injustice set in motion a coordinated effort to cripple the drug operation at Kedzie and Ohio. Chicago Police Department's Gang Investigations/Enforcement Units and Narcotics Unit teamed up with the FBI gang squad and charged Austin with multiple federal drug conspiracy charges and ultimately he was convicted in 2013. The murders of Detective Soto and Kathryn Romberg were brought up during the sentencing phase for the drug conspiracy charges. Judge Joan Lefkow sentenced Austin to 35 years in prison for his contribution to the drug operation and said it was "very likely" that Austin committed these murders. Thankfully, Austin will remain incarcerated until he is an old man, unable to harm any more innocent people.

What stood out the most regarding this unfortunate incident was the unity amongst the various units and law enforcement entities to make sure that this cop killer was not going to walk. Camaraderie is a forgotten word as of late and it was refreshing to see it exemplified.

Regarding the contract, there are issues with this contract that push people one way or another. The beauty of this process is you have the opportunity to vote. The negotiation process had become stale and nonexistent during the FOP elections. Vast progress has been made in the last 5 months and now you have the opportunity to voice your opinions and vote. We were at a disadvantage being the last union to negotiate and I feel huge strides were made in a short period of time. Whatever everyone

decides, make sure we promote the process and encourage our fellow coworkers to return the ballots.

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.

Alexander Villa - charged in the murder of **PO Clifton Lewis**.
September 24th, 2014: Room 206, 26th / Cal,
Judge Rosemary Higgins-Grant

Marcus Floyd - charged in the murder of **PO Thomas Wortham IV**. September 30th, 2014: Room 606, 26th / Cal,
Judge Porter

Bryant Brewer - charged in the murder of **PO Thor Soderberg**.
September 30th, 2014: Room 602, 26th / Cal,
Judge Sacks

Timothy Herring Jr. - charged in the murder of **ET Mike Flisk**.
October 6th, 2014: Room 504, 26th / Cal,
Judge Brosnahan

Antwon Carter - charged in the murder of **PO Michael Bailey**.
October 6th, 2014: Room 602, 26th / Cal,
Judge Sacks

Tyrone Clay - charged in the murder of **PO Clifton Lewis**.
October 7th, 2014: Room 206, 26th / Cal,
Judge Rosemary Higgins-Grant

Edgar Colon - charged in the murder of **PO Clifton Lewis**.
October 9th, 2014: Room 206, 26th / Cal,
Judge Rosemary Higgins-Grant

Toyious Taylor- charged in the murder of **PO Thomas Wortham IV**. October 20th, 2014: Room 606, 26th / Cal,
Judge Porter

General Meeting Announcement



Tuesday,
October 21, 2014
@ 7:00 p.m.

All members are welcome.

Message From Father Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain



A few “Thank You’s” are in order. First, to all who attended our Wrigley Field rooftop party last month. As you can see by the smiles here, a great time was had by the scores of people who came out to support Police Chaplains Ministry. We are especially grateful to our generous host: **Wrigley Field Rooftop Club**.

Special thanks to **009th District** officers who recently hosted a golf outing benefitting both Police Chaplains Ministry and the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation. Between golf, raffles, and a silent auction featuring autographed sports memorabilia, the organizers raised several thousand dollars for two good causes. We are grateful for all your hard work!

Thanks, also, to **PO Mike Curry** and the first watch folks from 010 who designed and sold t-shirts to raise funds for Police Chaplains Ministry. We appreciate you looking out for the folks who look out for you!

Also, thanks to all who came out to support the **100 Club of Chicago** at last month’s “*Laugh Patrol: Finding the Funniest Cop in Chicago*.” A handful of PO’s competed on **The Laugh Factory**’s world-famous stage, as did Rabbi Moshe Wolf and me. It was a wonderful evening, with a sold-out crowd raising funds for a worthwhile cause. It’ll be posted (as is last year’s show) on our website.

Finally, thanks to the hundreds and hundreds who attended this year’s Candlelight Vigil at Gold Star Families Memorial and Park. The **Chicago Police Memorial Foundation** is to be acknowledged for their promise to NEVER FORGET the 571 Chicago Police Officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

We remember these fallen officers at our regular **police Mass**. In addition to our usual 11:00 a.m. Police Mass every 2nd and 4th Sunday at Mercy Home, next month we’ll also celebrate a special Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday, 27 NOV. at 10:00 a.m. (Please note the adjustment in time for the holiday.) No matter your faith tradition, you are **most** welcome to attend. On-duty worshippers, you’ll be out as usual in less than 30 minutes.

Please note that the Chicago Marathon route prohibits entry to Mercy Home on race day. So our Mass on Sunday, 12 OCT, 11:00 a.m., will be celebrated at Queen of Peace High School, 7659 S. Linder in Burbank.

One other change to note: the “**Upper Room Club**” which usually meets on the first Thursday of the month will meet on the *second* Thursday of October due to a conflict at Pizano’s, our host. I look forward to seeing and sharing faith and prayer with active and retired CPD members of this Bible study group on 09 OCT. For more information on this group, please email me. **God bless you** in your most noble work,

Fr. Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain

312/738-7588 (office) | 773/550-2369 (cell/text)
dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org |
www.ChicagoPCM.org



Deceased Brothers & Sisters

- Dennis W. McNally
- Jeffrey T. Fitch
- Raymond F. Ziolkowski
- Thomas R. Gambell
- Stanley I. Taitt
- Thomas F. Eich
- Joseph J. Eisa
- Carl R. Ford
- Susan A. Petersen
- Thomas J. Flaherty
- Barrett J. Moran, Jr.
- James L. Sallee
- Richard Sorak
- Susan L. Lascola
- Kathleen J. Thompson
- Donald J. Pacourek
- Thaddeus E. Sowa

HAVE YOU MAILED YOUR BALLOT?

The Contract election will be held on Friday, October 17, 2014 at the FOP Hall.

If you did not receive your ballot package in the mail, don’t worry. You can vote in person on Friday, October 17, 2014 from 0900—1200 hours.

Please mail your ballot in time to be processed by the close of business on the 16th. The U.S. Post Office must process each envelope through their systems, so mail early.

Thank you

Lessons From Nature...Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf

One of the most beautiful and precious traditions of the Chicago Police Department is the once a year Candlelight Vigil held at the Gold Star Memorial and Park, to honor and memorialize all the men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. It lets the Families of these honored Heroes know that their loved ones will never be forgotten.

A BIG Thank You to all the organizers including the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation and all who played a part in putting this event together; you all did a great job. A special thanks to all my Brothers and Sisters in blue who showed up; your presence spoke volumes because there are those moments in life that it is not necessarily the spoken word that provides the comfort, it is just you "being there."

At the end of the ceremony, I met with family members of one of our Heroes. We hugged and shed a tear in silence, then they said, "The biggest lesson that we carry with us, after the passing of our loved one, is "no one is guaranteed tomorrow, make the most of every day." It reminded me of the popular inspirational piece by Robert Hastings called "The Station." Let me share it with you.

"The Station"

Tucked away in our subconscious minds is an idyllic vision. We see ourselves on a long, long trip that almost spans the continent. We're traveling by passenger train, and out of the windows we drink in the passing scene of cars on nearby highways, of children waving at a crossing, of cattle grazing on a distant hillside, of smoke pouring from a power plant, of row upon row of corn and wheat, of flatlands and valleys, of mountains and rolling hills, of biting winter and blazing summer and cavorting spring and docile fall. Uppermost in our minds is the final destination. On a certain day at a certain hour we will pull into the station. There will be bands playing, and flags waving and once we get there, so many wonderful dreams will come true. So many wishes will be fulfilled and so many pieces of our lives will finally be neatly fitted together like a completed jigsaw puzzle. How restlessly we pace the aisles, damning the minutes for loitering... waiting, waiting,

waiting, for The Station.

However, sooner or later we must realize there is no one station, no one place to arrive at once and for all. The true joy of life is the trip. The station is only a dream. It constantly outdistances us. "When we reach the station that will be it!" We cry. Translated it means, "When I'm 18 that will be it; when I buy a new 450 SL Mercedes Benz that will be it; when I put the last kid through college that will be it; when I have paid off the mortgage that will be it; when I win a promotion that will be it; when I reach the age of retirement that will be it; I shall live happily ever after!" Unfortunately, once we get it, then it disappears. The station somehow hides itself at the end of an endless track.

"Relish the moment" is a good motto, especially when coupled with Psalm 118:24: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." It isn't the burdens of today that drive people mad. Rather, it is regret over yesterday or fear of tomorrow. Regret and fear are twin thieves who would rob us of today. So, stop pacing the aisles and counting the miles. Instead, climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot more often, swim more rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more and cry less. Life must be lived as we go along. The station will come soon enough.

Some Thoughts to Ponder

- Just because two people argue doesn't mean they don't love each other, and just because they don't argue doesn't mean they do love each other.
- We don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.
- No matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that.
- You can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.
- You should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them.
- That we are responsible for what we

do, no matter how we feel.

- That either you control your attitude or it controls you.
- Sometimes when we are angry we have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give us the right to be cruel.
- It isn't always enough to be forgiven by others, sometimes you have to learn to forgive yourself.
- Remember that no matter how bad your heart is broken, the world doesn't stop for your grief.
- The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything, they just make the most of everything they have.

On behalf of ALL the Chaplains, may G-d bless you, keep you safe and always keep you in His loving care. Should you need a shoulder to lean on, don't hesitate to give us a call. To all members of my flock of the Jewish faith, Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Sweet New Year!

Compliments of your Police Chaplain,
Rabbi Moshe Wolf,
773-463-4780 or
E-mail moshewolf@hotmail.com

Friendly Reminders!!

Have you paid your dues?
Retirees and Sergeants and above,
dues are being taken right now.

Dues must be paid by November 1,
2014. We accept cash, checks, Visa,
MasterCard & Discover.

If you turned 75 years old in 2014
you are considered a "Member for
Life" and no longer pay dues.

The National FOP is offering
Lifetime Members a new ID card
for \$5.00 each.

For more information please call
Doreen at 312-870-7949.



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

DIRECT LINE:
312-733-2344

WEBSITE:
WWW.FOPGIFTSHOP.COM

**ATTENTION
Volunteers Needed**

*CPD is looking for
volunteers to implement
new youth programs in all
22 districts.
Duties include coaching,
mentoring, and more*

*Active & retired personnel
and their family members
are encouraged to
volunteer.*

*For more information
email chicagoCAPSHQ@chicagopolice.org*

Happy Autumn !!!!

Ladies Chicago Police since 1835 design.
Full zip hooded sweatshirt in Orange -Blue- Grey
Large & 2XL was: \$19.95 & \$20.95Now: \$15.96 & \$16.76

Retired CPD star polo's with pocket in Heather-Blue,
M – XL was \$22.95 – 2XL \$23.95 & 3XL \$24.95.
...NOW 30% off these prices.

NEW!!! Ladies V-neck Motorcycle Unit Black Tee
SM – 2XL \$12.95 & \$13.95.

Performance Tee- White with CPD star. ...Great to wear under your vest.
SM – XL \$14.95...2XL-3XL \$16.95... NOW 30% off these prices.

Get ready for "FALL Inspection" 10% off All duty leather goods including Belts.
This sale is from Oct 15th to Nov. 1st ONLY.

Wind shirt black with embroidered subdued star : MED – XL \$24.95, 2XL- \$25.95
3XL- \$26.95 ...NOW 20% off these prices

Locker Mirrors still only \$4.95

Girls (Youth) Hoodie V-neck tee shirt Chicago Police with star design.
XS – SM – MED only was: \$9.95 ...NOW 50% off limited quantities.

CPD Vintage Tee : SM – MED- L only \$11.95 ...NOW: \$8.36
Full zip sweatshirt with collar in black & white with white CPD embroidered star.
Now 20% off only \$19.95 L & XL & \$21.95 2XL

NEW!! Officer Mullen's Apple Sauce. Delicious Regular and No Added Sugar.
Helps support the Chicago Police memorial Foundation. ONLY \$3.99

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: Kathy Moore**



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OCTOBER 2014
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 2015 Handbook, Membership Card and Stickers. Please contact the Lodge and make any necessary Name or Address changes now.

SECOND NOTICE: Annual Payers (Retirees, Sgts, etc.)
2015 Dues Payments Must Be Received Before November 1, 2014

Retirees and Annual Dues Payers. you can mail your 2015 dues now. The Lodge is now accepting credit card payments. *If you have signed up for payroll deduction through the Pension Board, you can disregard this notice. If you turn 75 in 2014, you DO NOT pay!!*

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

BENEFICIARY:

CHECK ONE:

\$40 Retiree Annual Dues

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

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

_____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration Date ____ / ____