

January

2015

F.O.P. NEWS

Official Publication of Chicago Lodge No. 7

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



FOP, Chicago Lodge 7
1412 W. Washington Blvd.

Newsletter Committee:
Greg Bella, Chairman
Bill Burns
Michael Carroll
Joseph Gentile
Thomas McKenna
Glen Popiela
Reggie Smith



New York Tragedy

As much as we hope to never again have to suffer through another senseless loss of life within our Law Enforcement family, as realists we know all too well that it is only a matter of time when one of our Sisters or Brothers will fall serving and protecting. What happened in Brooklyn on 20 DEC 14 was a monstrous act, one that ended the lives of Officer Wenjian Liu and Officer Raphael Ramos. The inexplicable actions that took these two men from their families became much more troubling once we learned what led up to the murders and then exactly how they took place. Even with what happened around the country as of late, it is still hard to phantom why anyone would carry out such a cowardly act. But Police see horrific circumstances happen on the streets or within homes too often enough to know that humans carry out some of the cruelest and most gut-less acts imaginable; at times to strangers and at times to family. We know the wrath of these monsters and we look directly into their eyes. Even though we become accustomed to violence and death, it hurts us to the core whenever we lose another Officer. The post-event ceremonies, comments, photos and sadness are nightmarish and heart wrenching memories that have now been forever etched in our minds. As we mentioned over and over, our prayers continue to be offered to the families of the fallen and to our Sisters and Brothers of the NYPD.

Tarpon Springs Tragedy

We also want to make sure that we not overlook the murder of another Hero, Tarpon Springs Officer Charles Kondek who was brutally murdered on 21 DEC 14, while responding to an early morning noise complaint. So please keep in your prayers his surviving spouse and their six children. Just as we know of many Lodge 7 Members regularly make some type of personal/shift sacrifices in order to accommodate family; it is being reported that this 17 year veteran opted to work the midnight shift so he would not miss his daughter's soccer games. Which surely sounds familiar and personalizes him to a lot of us that have done the same thing. Officer Kondek was recently elected as a one of the agencies union representative as well.

If anyone wants to contribute to the family of this Hero, the following arrangements have been made. According to *Officer Down Memorial Page*, donations may be made for the family of this fallen Hero at any Wells Fargo Bank or mailed to Sun Coast PBA, 14141 46th St. N., Suite 1205, Clearwater, FL 33762. Checks should be made out to Sun Coast Law Enforcement Charities/ Officer Charles Kondek Memorial Fund. The Sun Coast Police Benevolent Association has a webpage that is set up for electronic donations as well. You can also purchase an Officer Kondek Memorial T-Shirt by accessing the following web site, <http://www.suncoastpba.com/kondek.html>.

As Police Officers, we must constantly remember that there is, and has always been, segments of society out there that has an unnatural hostility towards the Police. It really doesn't matter whether the hostility is deep-seated, arose from familial influence or from previous issues of an arrest, from a problem with authority, or a fear of big-brother government repressing them. It also doesn't matter whether the animosity began after an incident in Missouri or an incident New York or the flame of disdain was stoked by the verbal berating of the activists, community leaders and/or elected officials who found it impossible to refrain from speaking out against the Police. No matter the reason, Police everywhere must be more careful today than they were yesterday and even more cautious tomorrow. At a time when most families enjoyed the Holidays, some lost a Hero. Instead of sharing Christmas joy or cheering in the New Year, some are mourning.

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President's Report Continued...

When...

When did it become popular to disparage the women and men of Law Enforcement? **When** did the very population who go out each and every day into the unknown and then put their lives on the line become the enemy? **When** did elected officials decide that it was good politics to distance themselves from us and call into question our unselfish and Heroic service? **When** did it become appropriate for clergy to use their pulpits to speak out against the Police with such demonizing and vilifying rhetoric? **When** will the media cover the countless acts of Heroism and compassion that Officers perform each and every day? **When** will the Law Enforcement community once again secure the respect and recognition that is so long overdue?

Maybe...

Maybe if Officers beat their collective chests or send out selfies every time they lock up the violent domestic abuser, predatory child molester or destructive, narcotics dealer people might have a clue of what great work Police do each and every shift; and do so typically without recognition or appreciation. **Maybe** if someone thought about the consequence prior to making a conscious decision to involve themselves in criminal behavior, they may not have the local authorities summoned to deal with their transgressions. **Maybe** if you are not involved in breaking the law (sometimes major violations of the law and certainly sometimes not), you won't find yourself in a situation where orders to submit to an arrest arise from a responding Officer. **Maybe** when an Officer of the Law orders an offender to place their hands behind their back, exit their vehicle or drop a weapon, the incident wouldn't result in death. **Maybe** elected officials should drive their own vehicles to and from speaking engagements and not use sworn Officers to ensure they arrive and leave safely, especially if they don't want to support the Police any longer. **Maybe** elected officials should ask to have their internal office personnel or interns body guard them at their next town hall meeting if they don't need the Police to protect them any longer. **Maybe** our pastors and clergy need to re-open *The Book* the next time their congregation gathers and turn to Matthew 5:9. **Maybe** they can re-read the following words to everyone and call the passage into consideration...*Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God.* **Maybe** our media outlets will become more concerned with being accurate and speak to our end-

less acts of Heroism and avoid the sensationalism of incidents of criminal behavior, thus causing the offenders to become positive role models. **Maybe** media outlets should lead in and share accounts of the coaches, ministers, den mothers/fathers and the countless hours of volunteer work that is commonplace within the ranks of our agencies. **Maybe** present-day opinions about the Police would be much better than they currently are...**Maybe**.

FOIA Challenge Update

On 15 Dec 14 the Lodge returned to the courtroom in order to continue our argument to stop the release of the list of CR Numbers that date back to 1967. We discussed the predicament in more much more detail in the December *Newsletter*. For those of you that need updating, this litigation started with the Lodge attempting to stop the blanket release of CR records dating back to 1967 from being turned over to the media. According to the language that has existed in the Contract, these records should have been destroyed years and years ago. Upon taking office, we searched to find and eventually located documentation that allowed us to fight for the letter of Contract to be followed as it is written.

Our attorneys presented a very detailed and specific case in front of Judge Flynn on 15 Dec 14. The City basically argued that their hands were tied and that they had no choice but to release the entire list as it exists today, even though they recognize that we have language that should have been followed concerning the file destruction clause of the Contract. To say that it was interesting to watch things play out would be a major understatement. Attorney Pasquale Fioretto did an amazing job of explaining the significance of the Lodge's position and protection according to our Contract language in Article 8.4.

After some serious consideration, Judge Flynn basically allowed our arguments to remain in place and (for now) any of the older files that should have been destroyed in compliance with our Contract will not be getting released. The Lodge already has an arbitration set with the city to get a decision. It is our hope that the forthcoming decision will be in our favor thus mandating that all of the files that have a shelf life beyond the years allowed within our Agreement will be destroyed and therefore not available for released. Stay tuned, this is not over, more to follow.

Address Change Form, Effective Date: _____

Name: _____ Star Number: _____
(Last, First, MI)

New Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

**Return Form To The FOP – Unit 541 or
1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago Illinois 60607, Attn: Doreen**

President's Report Continued....

A Very Special Letter...

Last *Newsletter* we mentioned the importance of doing something positive for those less fortunate. At times people question whether or not their efforts are worth it. For anyone that might think that what they do goes unnoticed or unappreciated, please read on. The personal identifiers have been removed from the following letter and we did some minimal editing for to accommodate limited spacing. The following letter was sent to the offices of **Dream's for Kids** (DFK) regarding the annual **Holiday for Hope** event that was held on 20 DEC 14. Over 1,500 celebrated a wonderful day. Donated toys came from generous people throughout the city as well as from Lodge 7 Members. DFK founder Tom Tuohy attached the following comment to the letter when he sent it to me; "Dean, This is why we do this".

Hi,, My name is S. D. I will be faxing over the names of 5 kids today. I see there is a \$5 donation that I am able to pay for my daughter and her friends.

*The other two girls are my nieces but unfortunately I don't have the funds for them. I am very thankful and appreciate you for extending an invitation to me to bring my daughter to the event for the past several years. Someone invited me to bring her when you all came out to where I live. I think she was one or two years old [at the time]. She has attended every year since. She absolutely loves and looks forward to going to **Holiday for Hope** every year. She starts asking me about it around July.*

The last year and a half has really been challenging. I am a single parent. I was terminated from my job last March, but as it worked out [so I could care for] my mother [with] severe diabetes. She passed away this past March. I finally became employed in October. I had to play catch up to keep us with the bare minimum that we couldn't afford while I was unemployed. In November [due to foreclosure], my landlord told me we had 30 days to be out of our unit. We are now staying with others until I can find permanent housing.

[Shortly after], my transmission went out on my car a couple of days before Thanksgiving. [Luckily] someone [helped and] paid for that. Now every pay check goes to them towards paying back the \$2,000 they [spent] to fix my car, [which I needed to] keep my job.

*[The] moral of this story and the reason I am sharing this with you is simply to say **THANK YOU** for allowing my daughter to come to this event again. [This] will be her last year because she's eight years old [now]. Thank you for all the other years as well.*

Your kindness, help and extending joy to my little girl's heart year after year allowed her to have a tradition at Xmas. I have only \$28 to my name, but I [want to] tell you I will be using it to donate [to DFK] and for the gas for her to get there. The gift bag she will be getting at the party will be her [only] gifts for Xmas and the party will be her [only] festivities as we don't have family to celebrate with. She won't be opening [any other] presents on Xmas due to [our] lack of funding. So this year, her last year, will be her best year. HOLIDAY HOPE is just that for her.

[Further] she plays bingo with senior citizens on Fridays. She loves to spend time them. So if your organization has a place where she could volunteer to give back to DFK; she would love that. Once again thanks for being a Blessing to me and to my daughter over the years, especially this year when it was truly needed.

*Your kindness, love and support to help others that may be less fortunate, is exceptionally amazing and truly appreciated. I know I speak for a lot of the single parents and less fortunate families that your organization has helped and continues to help.
Keep up the good work!*

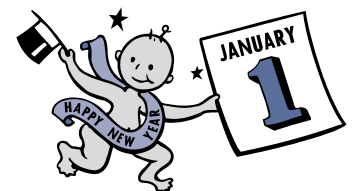
*Although you may not know everyone's situation, know that you are a Blessing and appreciated for all you do.
The organization is a miracle for a lot of us during our tough times in life.*

May your family and loved ones be Blessed and Safe. Happy Holidays!!!!!!

Sincerely, S. D.

...and you thought that no one appreciates what you do. Thank you to all who go out and watch over us. Speaking for the entire Board of Directors, we pray you stay out of harm's way and enjoy a Healthy New Year.

Be Safe and God Bless the Police



1st Vice-President's Report, by Ray Casiano



"Happy New Year!"

Brothers and Sisters, I like to wish you all a "Happy New Year!" and may you keep all your resolutions. As we enter the New Year, take a moment to reflect back on 2014. The year started with our FOP election, giving us all an opportunity to make changes. Then we had a busy summer where several field reps, including President Dean C. Angelo Sr. went out on shootings during the course of the 4th of July Holiday Weekend. The year ended with law enforcement being forced into the spotlight. Due to recent events across the country, the public has been increasingly interested in Police accountability. Our City's leaders should feel proud of the professionalism displayed by our members. Examples of this professionalism have been highlighted by events such as the 2012 NATO Chicago Summit to the most recent protests and demonstrations. We raised our hands taking the oath to "Serve and Protect" our City. As we continue to do this honorable profession, and stand fast in the face of danger, let's remember to be safe. We should rise to the level of our training for we are the barbwire between the sheep and wolves. Continue to seek out Department training and do a great job.

I.O.D.S

During the General meetings, I have given my medical report, which has included the numbers from month to month of members that have been denied I.O.D. or forced on to medical, etc. I will be taking new steps from just reporting that to also reporting the good news of medical grievances that have been won or settled. If you have an I.O.D. that is denied, please contact Maggie O'Grady or I here at the Lodge immediately so that we can help you through the process and explain what to expect. At times the staff and I may need to contact a member regarding a grievance issue or other related business, but are unable to do so because the contact information on file has not been updated. These things happen either because the member moved or changed their phone number and forgot to inform us. If this is the case with you, please contact the Lodge so that we can update your contact information.

Reaching Out

Our Trustees continue to go out to visit different districts and units each month. I have been updated by several of them of their visits, as well as from the members that are pleased that this administration is reaching out. We understand that it's easier said than done, but the fact is that our members are well deserving of our efforts. I will continue to ask our Trustees to go out. A couple of them have called the Lodge looking for answers and correct information to dispel rumors. Stay tuned for a Trustee's visit near you soon.

You elected us to work for you and we are. Now let's elect candidates that will work towards protecting our benefits. The 2015 election is around the corner and the candidates will be seeking your vote. It's important that you register to vote, but even more important that we go out and vote on Tuesday, February 24, 2015. The polls will be open from 6am to 7pm. We have many issues on the table that will be addressed by the future elected officials, so take part in our future and vote.

Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge the Officers from the 004th District Tactical Team: Sergeant John Piechocki, Officer Timothy MacFarlane, Officer Mark D'Amato, Officer Marvin Otten, Officer Thomas Der-

ouin, Officer Richard Rice, Officer Eric Hansen, Officer Robert Lobianco, Officer Davis Martinez, Officer Sophia Gonzalez and Officer Michael Olbrich. On December 09, 2014, they received the "Award of Valor and Excellence in Police Operations" from the Illinois Security Chiefs Association. These Officers truly echo the motto, "We Serve and Protect" and they are a credit to our City and Lodge.

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

Departed Brothers & Sisters

In Memory of.....

- Robert DeSilva
- Theodore W. Niedbalec
- Edward J. O'Connell
- Walter G. Stec
- Edward A. Wielosinski
- William A. Hamel
- William H. Jacob
- Ronald J. Kearns
- Edmund P. McCue
- Frederick S. Harder

General Meeting Schedule—2015

- January 21, 2015 - Noon
- February 18, 2015 - 1900 Hours
- March 18, 2015 - Noon
- April 15, 2015 - 1900 Hours
- May 20, 2015 - Noon
- June 17, 2015 - 1900 Hours
- July 2015 & August 2015 - NO MEETINGS — SUMMER BREAK
- September 16, 2015 - Noon
- October 21, 2015 - 1900 Hours
- November 18, 2015 - Noon
- December 16, 2015 - 1900 Hours

Recording Secretary Report, by Greg Bella

Jet Blue

Jet Blue Airlines really stepped up to the plate in a time of tragedy. Jet Blue offered to fly, at last count, 24 Officers from Chicago to New York for free so they could attend the funeral of our slain NYPD Brothers. I know the Brotherhood of the Fallen as well as other Officers were able to take advantage of this offer. We cannot thank Jet Blue Airlines enough and their contribution to Law Enforcement and they should be commended. Think of them next time you need to book a flight!

FOP Handbooks

There were mistakes with the day off groups for February and May and re-printing the books would have doubled the cost and delayed the shipment until January. We know that you count on having the books before January so the easiest fix was to include corrected pages with adhesive backs so that you can just peel and stick the page over the incorrect pages. We will have listed the instructions and corrections on page 8 of this Newsletter, and we will be posting them on our website as well. I apologize for the mistake and if you need to vent please call me at 312-733-7776.

Retiree Health Care Update

On December 10th we attended the Appellate Court hearing on the Underwood case at the Federal Building. We had a bus load of retirees and along with other city retirees the court room was packed. The Judges heard from Clint Krislov and the city attorney and will render a decision in the next seven weeks. The Judges could rule on the case, they could wait for a decision on the Matthews case which is similar to ours but it does not mirror our issues or remand our case back to the Illinois Supreme Court. Anything you hear before the Court rules is just speculation. Our hope is the case is remanded back to the Illinois Supreme Court where we think we have the best chance for a favorable ruling. We have the audio transcript of the hearing on our website and you can listen to the proceedings. Go to the retiree health care update and hit the click here button to listen. I want to thank everyone who attended the hearing yesterday, it put a face on our cause. Feel free to call us, and continue to watch the FOP website for updates.

We met a lot of retirees from different departments at the hearing

and they are under attack just like we are. They have started a Facebook page named "city workers past and present." We have networked, shared information with them and one thing is for sure there is strength in numbers.

Source One Dental and Eye Care Insurance

Just a reminder that those retiree participants who were covered under Delta Dental's plan have automatically switched over to Metlife October 1st. Any retirees that would like to make changes to their current enrollment and/or any retirees that would like to newly enroll in the plan please contact Meghan Rowland, at Source One Benefits at 1-844-466-0883 as soon as possible. There have been specific questions that have come up since the switch over such as: What plan am I currently on? How much are my current deductions? When will I receive my new insurance card? How do I find in-Network providers? For questions such as those as well as, any other questions and/or concerns please, do not hesitate to contact Source One Benefits and a team member will gladly assist you with the answers you are looking for. As always if you have any problems you can contact me at the FOP.

Health Fairs

On December 11th we had 107 people attend the Health Fair at the Lodge. It was a very nice blend of active and retired members. Unfortunately, a last minute budgeting problem with the city resulted in an inability to offer all the tests previously scheduled. We anticipate these problems will be resolved by the next wellness program in January of 2015. All tests were at no cost to our members and not submitted to their insurance. The member costs will be paid by the Lodge out of the wellness benefit we receive from the city. We will keep you updated through the FOP website and the newsletter.

55 to Medicare Free Health Insurance

The window to retire in 2015 closed as of December 1, 2014. For retirements effective in 2016, at least 100 Officers must file for retirement by October 1st, 2015.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy New Year. Looking forward to 2015! If you need to contact me you can e-mail me at gbel-la@chicagofop.org

Tax Time!

Active Members paid \$498.00 in union dues that can be claimed on your income tax in 2014. In accordance with IRS guidelines, the Lodge is required to furnish to each dues paying member the portion of Lodge expenditures during the previous year which was represented as lobbying costs, since this amount would not be considered tax deductible.

The lobbying costs represented about 2.15% of the total expenditures of the Lodge.

Take this article to your taxman when you have your taxes done.

Financial Secretary's Report, by Kevin Kilmer



Happy Holidays

I would like to wish all of the members of FOP Lodge 7 and their families Happy Holidays and a Great New Year. With the holidays upon us, I would like to take a minute to thank all you folks who are out there working during this holiday season. Since this will be one of the few Christmas Days I am not hitting the streets, I am especially grateful to all of you members of CPD who are protecting and serving so the rest of us can have a safe and happy holiday.

A special thanks goes out to all of the Unit and Watch Representatives who donated an incredible amount of toys for the Dreams for Kids Organization at our annual Christmas party. This wonderful organization hosts an event called Holiday for Hope where toys are donated to thousands of underprivileged and at-risk children whose families do not have the means to provide for their children. It's a side law enforcement that the media and "community activists" fail to discuss when they are trying to demonize our profession as a whole. Now, thanks to

your generosity, there will a vast number of children who were able to wake up on Christmas morning with gifts under their tree.

Adding A New Dependent To Your Insurance

After you get married or have a baby, you have 30 days to submit an enrollment form to the City of Chicago's Benefits Management Office to ensure your new dependent is covered on your insurance plan. In addition to the enrollment form, you have 180 days to provide a certified marriage certificate or birth certificate for proof of dependency. The Benefits Management Office is located at 333 S. State Street, Room 400. I would strongly recommend that you bring these forms in person and ask for a stamped copy to ensure the proper person receives the required documentation. If you miss any of these deadlines, your dependents will be forced to be without insurance until the next open enrollment period so please don't wait until the last minute to take care of this very important step in providing for your new family. A call over to the Policemen's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago to update your dependents is also a

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



Happy New Year

I would like to start off by wishing all of you a Happy New Year. Recently Police Officers have been profiled as brutal. It appears the media is trying to sensationalize headlines in order to sell newspapers or air time. I would like to take this time to tell you all that you are not villains and would like to thank you all for what you do on a daily basis Serving and Protecting the Citizens of this City. Take care of yourselves and each other and stay safe.

2015 FOP Vest Safety Day

The Lodge will be hosting a Vest Safety Day on 26 February 2015 from 0800 until 1700 hrs. The Representatives of the various soft body armor companies will be at the FOP Hall displaying the current models of their products. Officers if you need to replace your old vest or just want to see the most current models, please make an effort to stop by the Hall. The soft body armor which we wear on a daily basis is one of the most crucial pieces of uniform equipment we put on when we hit the street that will protect us during a time of danger.

Parole Hearing

The Lodge was notified of a hearing before the Illinois Prisoner Review Board for the convicted murderer of PO Patrick Crowley 3614 - 006th District, end of watch 13 September 1976. On 18 December 2014, I along with twenty four (24) Police Officers and a Representative of the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, travelled by bus, which is provided by the Police Memorial Foundation, in the early morning hours to attend the En Banc Hearing in Springfield. Upon our arrival to the hearing we were notified that another Police case was on the agenda at the request of the murderer of Sgt. James Severin, Star 1319 and PO Anthony Rizzato, Star 12407 – both of the A/6/Task Force - and both having ended their watch on 17 July 1970. This inmate case was previously been voted on by the Board and parole was denied with a three (3) year set had been granted. We were informed that due to some technicality this case would also be heard today for a revote over the strong objections by the Cook County Assistant State's Attorney.

The Crowley case was called and the facts were presented by the Parole Board Members who heard the Protest and the in-

mate's case for release. There were further discussions and a motion was made and 2nd to deny parole to this inmate. A vote was taken and parole was denied to this convicted murderer and a three (3) year set was granted.

The Severin & Rizzato case was called next and the Parole Board Member who heard the case previously presented the case today. The same facts which were previously presented remained the same and only the facts which the inmate wished to enter in the record was added.

I would like to take this time and thank the Police Officers who attended the Protest & En Banc Hearing, the Chicago Police Department for their continued support of these cases, the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation for their continued support and for supplying the bus and to all of the Police Officers and Citizens who signed the petitions your signature makes a difference.

WE WILL NEVER FORGET!

Please feel free to email me with questions or comments at fdimaria@chicagofop.org

Field Representative Report, by Tom McDonagh

'Tis The Season To Hate On The Police

What happened to the old saying during the holiday, "'tis the season to be jolly"? It has been replaced with sayings such as, "the Police murder people" and "the Police take innocent lives". When did the Police become the most targeted group in this country? I am sick to my stomach listening to all the haters speaking negatively about the Police. The most ironic part about all of this is that these are the same people that call 911 immediately when danger looms large and wet their pants. I will have twenty years on this month and I have never witnessed this amount of hatred towards us. The mindset of this country is that we are all reckless, racist, gun slingers that are above the law. When each and everyone of us leave our home to go to work, we have common goals: do your job, have a few laughs, make it home safe and sound. The last thing any of us want to do is use deadly force. That being said, we will use deadly force when it is necessary and we will not second guess our actions, especially in these times. Unfortunately, I foresee in our future, new laws and policies that will someday restrict our use of deadly force. These changes will be a result of knee-jerk reactions to certain Police related incidents where the Police were found just.

With regards to the incident in New York City, everyone keeps harping on the fact that the incident dealt with loose cigarettes. Some of the citizens of New York City have an issue with a law on the books that says selling loose cigarettes is illegal...so what? Despite the fact that people may not like the law, does not mean the Police are not required to enforce it. If you do not agree with the law you need to vote. Police Officers enforce the laws that are enacted by elected officials, period.

One of the most outspoken people regarding relationships between the Police and civilians, is none other than Charles Barkley. Barkley tells it like it is, and warns people the the Police are the only thing keeping our cities from becoming the wild, wild west. Barkley does not stifle his opinions, and continues to advocate for Police across the country. Maybe the next time Barkley is in Chicago, we can have a parade down Washington Boulevard in his honor, we can even put him on one of the memorial horses!

"Sweet Home Alabama"

In the month of December, one of our Officers took a ten (10) day suspension for allegedly playing the smash hit "Sweet Home Alabama" on the unmarked squad car's public address system. I talked about knee-jerk reactions earlier in the article and this is right out of that playbook. Was the playing of a song that has word Alabama in it that horrific that it warranted a ten (10) day suspension? Absolutely f%\$*@!g not! Allegiance to a football team, in this case, Alabama, who was playing in a conference championship that very day, should not make you a target for nonsense. It is unfathomable. Welcome to the new and not so much improved world of policing!

IPRA

Within the language of the new contract is a provision allowing the witness Officers from Police involved shootings to postpone their interview with the Independent Police Review Authority. The contract states that if an Officer is physically or emotionally unable to provide a statement within the two hour period, the option to make arrangements to conduct that interview within forty-eight (48) hours. According to IPRA, every shooting brings about a unique set of circumstances. In light of these distinct circumstances, each case will be reviewed on a case by case basis and that if the witness Officer can give the statement within two hours of the incident, they will be allowed to do. The Lodge will be meeting with IPRA, our attorneys, officials from the Police Department and detectives from all three areas to attempt to get a formal procedure in place.

Desk Sergeants

The Lodge will be reviewing all desk sergeant grievances that have been compiled up to this point. Myself and the attorneys from Baum Sigman will be evaluating these grievances and working to find the grievances that specifically address supervisor responsibility, as opposed to actual desk responsibility. Our attorneys have given the Lodge an outline of what we are looking at going forward and this is available to those affected members. Please email me at tmcdonagh@chicagofop.org for a copy.

I hope everyone has a prosperous and healthy New Year!

2015 FOP BOOK CORRECTIONS

February 2015 : Replace with corrected sticker (received with FOP book mailing).

March 2015: 4-2 DOG on March 31st should be 64-65 (not 65-66).

April 2015: 5-2 DOG on April 24th should be 7-1 (not 3-4) & CAPS Day should be eliminated , (as it has been replaced by Police Memorial Day on the 25th).

May 2015: Replace with corrected sticker (received with FOP book mailing).

July 2015: July 3rd is listed as Independence Day should be July 4th.

August 2015: The date August 16th is misprinted as August 19th.

September 2015: 4-2 DOG on September 27th should be 64-65 (not 64-66).

Chicago Lodge 7 Life Insurance Benefits For Your Records

Members (Age 63 and Younger)

- \$3000** Life benefit is paid when an active member dies from any cause. **(Members age 63 and younger)**
- \$3000** **Accidental Death** benefit is 24 hour coverage - business or pleasure. This benefit pays when a member dies from a sudden, unforeseen, and unexpected event including exposure or disappearance
- \$5000** **Line of Duty** benefit is defined as a “covered activity” and will pay in addition to the Accidental Death benefit when a member is killed while performing law enforcement duties.
- \$3000** **Common Carrier** benefit is paid in addition to the Accidental Death benefit if a member is killed while riding on a qualifying land, air or water transportation.
- \$1500** **Felonious Assault** benefit is paid in addition to the Accidental Death and Line of Duty benefits when a member’s loss of life results from use of force equivalent to a felony under the jurisdiction in which the accident occurred.
- \$3000** **Seat Belt** benefit pays in addition to other applicable benefits if a member is killed as a result of an automobile accident while properly utilizing a seat belt, as evidenced by a Police report.
- \$3000** **Occupant Protection Device** benefit pays in addition to other applicable benefits if a member is killed as a result of an automobile accident while protected by a properly deployed air bag. This benefit is only paid if the Seat Belt benefit is payable.
- \$3000** **Heart & Circulatory Malfunction** benefit pays in addition to other benefits if a member suffers a covered loss of life due to a heart or circulatory malfunction within 48 hours after participation in an emergency activity. Also, up to \$250 of medical expenses will be reimbursed for initial treatment of the symptoms for a suspected heart or circulatory malfunction.

Additional Benefits are paid when a member is involved in an accident that directly results in one of the following losses:

* Loss of Hands or Feet	\$3000	* Reattachment of Hand or Foot	\$1500
* Loss of Hand or Foot	\$1500	* Loss of Speech	\$1500
* Loss of Thumb and Index, same hand	\$750	* Loss of Hearing (both ears)	\$1500
* Paraplegia	\$1500	* Loss of Sight, both eyes	\$3000
* Quadriplegia	\$3000	* Loss of Sight, one eye	\$1500
* Hemiplegia	\$1500	* Uniplegia	\$750

Members (Age 64 and Older)

- \$1000** Life benefit is paid when a member dies from any natural cause. **(Members age 63 to 74 only)**
- \$500** Life benefit is paid when a member dies from any natural cause. **(Members age 75 and older)**
- \$3000** **Accidental Death** benefit is 24 hour coverage - business or pleasure. This benefit pays when a member dies from a sudden, unforeseen, and unexpected event including exposure or disappearance. (All ages)
- \$3000** **Common Carrier** benefit is paid in addition to the Accidental Death benefit if a member is killed while riding on a qualifying land, air or water transportation.
- \$3000** **Seat Belt** benefit pays in addition to other applicable benefits if a member is killed as a result of an automobile accident while properly utilizing a seat belt, as evidenced by a Police report.
- \$3000** **Occupant Protection Device** benefit pays in addition to other applicable benefits if a member is killed as a result of an automobile accident while protected by a properly deployed air bag. This benefit is only paid if the Seat Belt benefit is payable.

Additional Benefits are paid when a member is involved in an accident that directly results in one of the following losses:

* Loss of Hands or Feet	\$3000	* Reattachment of Hand or Foot	\$1500
* Loss of Hand or Foot	\$1500	* Loss of Speech	\$1500
* Loss of Thumb and Index, same hand	\$750	* Loss of Hearing (both ears)	\$1500
* Paraplegia	\$1500	* Loss of Sight, both eyes	\$3000
* Quadriplegia	\$3000	* Loss of Sight, one eye	\$1500
* Hemiplegia	\$1500	* Uniplegia	\$750

“Reflections for the New Year”, *Compliments of Rabbi Moshe Wolf*

As this goes to print, we join our brothers and sisters of the NYPD who are mourning the loss of two brothers who were murdered in cold blood in the line of duty. Please keep these Officers and their families in your prayers. Please be careful out there, always have each others back and always be vigilant. May G-d always keep you safe. Amen!

Happy New Year to all! May 2015 bring with it blessings of peace on Earth, good health, joy and happiness to you and your loved ones.

The following parable story, is a bit of 'food for thought' to start your new year: One of our members called recently to tell me the following story. "Not long ago I had "one of those days." I was feeling pressure from a writing deadline for a school assignment, had company arriving in a couple days and the toilet was clogged.

I went to the bank, and the trainee teller processing my deposit had to start over three times. I swung by the supermarket to pick up a few things and the lines were serpentine. By the time I got home, I was frazzled, sweaty and in a hurry to get something on the table for dinner. After deciding on Cream of Mushroom Soup, I grabbed a can opener, cranked open the can, then remembered I had forgotten to buy milk at the store. Nix the soup idea. Setting the can aside, I went to plan B, which was leftover baked beans. I grabbed a Tupperware from the fridge, popped the seal, took a look and groaned. My husband isn't a picky eater, but even he will not eat baked beans that look like caterpillars.

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

Retrieving a brand new bag of chips from the cupboard, I grabbed the cellophane and gave a hearty pull. The bag didn't open. I tried again. Nothing happened. I took a breath, doubled my muscle, and gave the bag a hearty wrestle. With a loud pop, the cellophane suddenly gave way, ripping wide from top to bottom. Chips flew sky high. I was left holding an empty bag. It was the final straw. I let out a

blood curdling scream. "I can't take it anymore!!!"

My husband heard my unorthodox cry for help. Within minutes he was standing at the doorway to the kitchen, surveying the damage: an opened can of soup, melting groceries, moldy baked beans, and one quivering wife standing ankle deep in a mess of potato chips.

My husband did the most helpful thing he could think of at the moment. He took a flying leap, landing flat-footed in the pile of chips. And then he began to stomp and dance and twirl, grinding those chips into my linoleum in the process! I stared. I fumed. Pretty soon I was working to stifle a smile. Eventually I had to laugh. Finally I decided to join him. I, too, took a leap onto the chips, and then I danced. Now, I'll be the first to admit that my husband's response wasn't the one I was looking for. However, the truth is that it was exactly what I needed. I didn't need a cleanup crew as much as I needed an attitude adjustment, and the laughter from that rather funky moment provided just that.

Now I have a question for you, and it's simply this: Has G-d ever stomped on your chips? We know that, as we go through life, there have been plenty of times when we may have gotten ourselves into various frustrating situations and we've cried out for help, all the while hoping G-d would show up with a celestial broom and clean up the mess we've made of things.

What often happens instead is that G-d dances on our chips, answering our prayers in a completely different manner than we had expected, but in the manner that is best for us after all.

Sometimes we can see right away that G-d's response was the best one after all. Sometimes we have to wait weeks or months before we begin to understand how and why G-d answered a particular prayer the way He did. There are even some situations that, years later, we are still trying to understand. We figure G-d will fill us in sooner or later, either this side of Heaven or beyond. Sometimes we

sulk, sometimes we dance, sometimes we complain and sometimes we are accepting.

The older we get the more we realize that He really does know what He's doing. He loves us and we can trust Him, even when the chips are down, so don't stop dancing!

Listed below are some points to ponder as we move into the New Year...

Faith is the ability to not panic. If you worry, you didn't pray, if you prayed, don't worry.

As a child of G-d, prayer is kinda like calling home every day. Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.

Do the math, count your blessings. Dear God, please help me realize, that I may be part of the problem.

Laugh everyday. Laughing is like jogging for your soul. Growing old is inevitable, growing up is optional.

I was looking for the city of happiness, and found it in the state of mind. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.

We do not remember days but moments, life moves fast, so make sure to enjoy your precious moments.

It is all right to sit on your pity pot every now and again, just be sure to flush when you are done.

Surviving and living your life successfully requires courage. The goals and dreams you are seeking require both courage and risk-taking. Learn from the turtle, it only makes progress when it sticks out it's neck.

Last but not least, remember what Forest Gump famously said, "life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what the inside has in store for you, you should eat the chocolate anyways!"

On behalf of ALL the Chaplains, may G-d bless you, keep you safe and always keep

From Your Chaplain Father Dan Brandt



Serving the public on AND off-duty: Here’s a shot of two of our members doing us proud as they serve meals at a community dinner for those who otherwise might go without a holiday meal. Thank you, Mary O’Connor and Gia Divito for showing your dedication to the most marginalized people of our city *even on your personal time*.

Also, our Gold Star Families holiday dinner on the Club Level of Soldier Field (overlooking the Police Memorial) was again a tremendous success! Hundreds of our beloved who lost family members in the line of duty had a wonderful evening together. They were greeted by members of the Mounted Unit and escorted upstairs by Officers in their dress blues. This elegant evening is made possible by the thousands of good people who support the mission of Police Chaplains Ministry. Together, we make sure

that our Gold Star Families know that their loved ones are NEVER FORGOTTEN!

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. in the 022 District community room; 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 or 312-771-6638.

We still have room at 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. The program will be repeated for south siders on Friday, 27 FEB, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at Maple Park Methodist Church. Register at 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.

On Tuesday, 27 JAN, an all-day Police suicide awareness and prevention seminar will be held in Oak Brook. If you would like more information on this event, please contact me. Sunday, 01 FEB, St. Barnabas Parish (10134 S. Longwood Drive) will be our host as Fr. Tom Mulcrone (CFD Chaplain) and I concelebrate a special Police and fire Mass at 10:00 a.m. Please join us, in uniform if possible, to offer thanks and praise with our brothers and sisters in the fire service.

Finally, some Officers have asked me about a gesture made by Archbishop Blase Cupich while celebrating Mass at St. Clement Parish last month. For those interested, a clarification/explanation may be found on the home page of our website (below). Once again we learn through this experience that the mainstream media is *not* our friend!

God bless you in the New Year!
 Fr. Dan Brandt, CPD Chaplain
 773-550-2369 (cell/text) dan.brandt@chicagoPolice.org

Stress Management Class

The Lodge and the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will be hosting Stress Management Classes in 2015 for our Members. The classes are all held at the Hartgrove Hospital, 5730 W Roosevelt Road. Classes take place over two (2) days, beginning at 0830 hrs and lasting until 1630 hrs. Attendance on both days is mandatory. If you are interested in participating, please contact Pat Suchocki at the Lodge (312) 733-7776, for a registration form and information about class availability.

2015 Class Dates

22 & 23 January 2015
 26 & 27 February 2015
 28 & 29 March 2015
 23 & 24 April 2015
 28 & 29 May 2015
 25 & 26 June 2015

23 & 24 July 2015
 27 & 28 August 2015
 24 & 25 September 2015
 22 & 23 October 2015
 No Classes in November
 3 & 4 December 2015



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 1412 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago, IL 60607-1821
 Phone: 312-733-7776
 FAX: 312-733-1367
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 (JANUARY 2015 ISSUE)

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

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- 40% off Long Sleeve tie die tee in blue or grey Small to XL with a CPD logo
 - 40% off Ladies thermal CPD wings design in pink, blue or white Small to XL
 - 40 % off Jack Daniels CPD Style tee Medium to 3XL
 - 30 % off Ladies Heart Flower CPD design V-neck tee in black, pink or grey Small to XL
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 Bargain bin will be full. More Clearance items available in the store.
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 Retro Check Special Sale starts the day the checks are issued until February 28th
 10% off all gold star pendants and rings ...Makes a great sweat heart gift!