



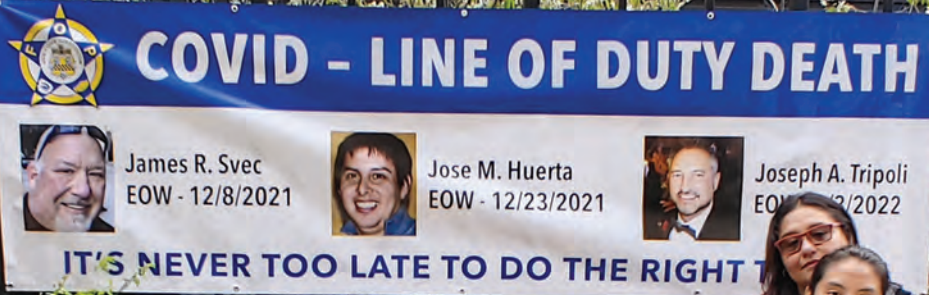
Fraternal Order of Police

CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine • December 2022

Finally

Nearly a year after they were lost, City does the right thing and gives line-of-duty designation to three heroic Lodge 7 members



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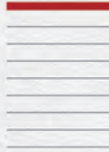
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COVER STORY



Page 39

Banner Day

For nearly a year, the families of Chicago Police Officers James Svec, Jose Huerta and Joseph Tripoli, who were lost to COVID, waited for their loved ones to be recognized with line-of-duty death recognition. When the City hesitated to do so, Chicago Lodge 7 advocated, advised and even argued on behalf of these families. The Lodge also created that omnipresent banner to call attention to the issue. And finally, the City did the right thing, granting these officers the honor they rightly deserved.

COVER DESIGN BY GINA CROTCHFELT

MESSAGES FROM LODGE 7

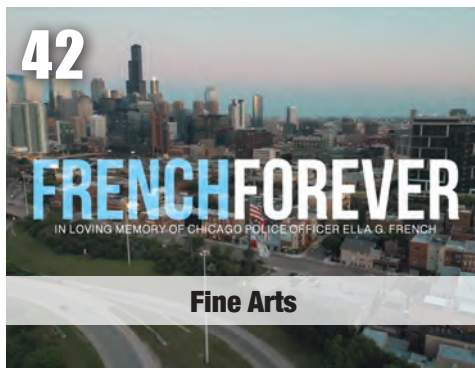
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Founder

DECEMBER 2022 - VOLUME 8, NO. 12

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CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine
President's Report



All Right



JOHN CATANZARA JR.

The City approved the COVID deaths. Finally.

Yes, this is huge. Gigantic.

For nearly a year, we have been requesting, demanding and expecting the City to grant line-of-duty-death designation for brothers Jim Svec, Joey Huerta and Joe Tripoli. More than a year ago, we lost all three to COVID. But the City would not do the right thing like they did for our four members who died after getting COVID in 2020.

Finally, we received word right before Thanksgiving that the City realized how they had screwed it up. And how badly they had messed with the Svec, Huerta and Tripoli families and the opportunity to honor the memory of these dedicated officers who loved their jobs.

I would love to stick it to the City with another big, fat "I told you so" because we put their names on the Lodge 7 Memorial Wall during our annual memorial service in May. But that was just the right thing to do.

Of course, we are happiest for the families. I cried right with them when they finally heard that their loved ones were given the due they earned and deserve. And you can read all about what it meant to them in our story beginning on page 36.

Let me tell you more about why this recognition is huge. The presumption of exposure is now on the officers' families to prove where they got COVID, which is ludicrous. Overnight, it changed from assuming officers got it on the job to having to prove it.

The question is, where does it end? If an officer dies from COVID six years from now, is that going to be a line-of-duty death? I don't know. If someone dies from exposure to radiation because of a call they went on, does that mean they're going to give you line-of-duty? I don't know.

It's kind of a different day now. But what if someone gets bit by somebody with hepatitis or AIDS and the copper ends up dying from it. It's going to be a line-of-duty-death. So I don't get the goofiness of this. The standard should be the standard.

I can tell you this, though. If we see one of our members who has made the ultimate sacrifice and is not getting the line-of-duty-death distinction rightly deserved, we will not rest until it is done. I feel that our continuing to apply the pressure ultimately forced the City to cave and finally recognize our fallen heroes.

I think the repeated reminders, threats that we were going to end up in court over this and that we were going to provide the attorney for the families, finally got it done. When I repeated our intentions as directly as I could at the general membership meeting everybody was like, "Fuck yeah."

And then it was basically two days later that I heard whispers from the City officials that they were in a meeting making the decision. Maybe they just realized it was the right thing to do. Or maybe they just realized they were in a no-win situation, and they were going to be embarrassed beyond belief during an election season. Or maybe the mayor finally realized she had no other choice but to finally do the right thing.

This is just step one. Jim, Joey and Joe will finally get their names on the memorial at Gold Star Park. I kept telling the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation that if they put the names on the wall, the City won't have a choice but to do the right thing. Nothing ever stopped them from putting the names on the wall.

But that's the wall. Their stars will also be retired into the showcase at headquarters. And the pension fund will have to reclassify the pensions as line-of-duty widow's pensions. So there's a pretty sizable chunk of money coming to the families, which was my main focus. Especially for Joey's wife, Liz, with two young kids, who will now be able to have their education paid for.

I hope this also shows our members about our belief to always go above and for them. Once the decision was announced, our team in the office said, "We did great. You got it done."

It's satisfying that they pay attention to going the extra mile, because we expect to go that far. I'll always go a couple steps of beyond myself for our members.

But like I said, it's just the right thing to do, and we never should have been having this conversation to begin with. To me, it's a microcosm of how upside down this police department really is. I mean, they talk about never forgetting. Well, if it wasn't for the FOP and my big mouth, they would've forgotten, because they would've gotten away with it. The families, sadly, might have been so beaten into the ground that they might have given up.

I'll say it until I'm blue in the face: Whether it's the superintendent or the mayor where it all starts, what took them so long? They gave the line-of-duty to the officers we lost to COVID in 2020, so it easily could have been done for these three. But the superintendent had nothing to say about it when he

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Another great homecoming

Go back to view my TGIF video from Oct. 21 so you can hear how pissed off we are about the City's continued obstruction of what is just and fair in Phase 2 of the contract negotiation. We had just finished four rounds of mediation to try and get some contract topics off the table prior to going to arbitration with arbitrator Tom Sonneborn.

Arbitration is definitely going to happen, because the City has made it perfectly clear in the conversations we've had that there are issues we are never going to resolve. Mediation in October basically resulted in two minor, tentative agreements. We put forth some serious considerations for proposals, but they couldn't give us a con-

crete yes or no at the end of the day.

It has been very clear that the City has no intention of doing anything right by the men and women defending this city. Every argument we make is as fair as can possibly be. We are not asking for pie-in-the-sky demands. Just fair and balanced, to try and balance out what we've been dealing with since 2020, when law enforcement was turned upside down overnight. It really created a climate where they felt the need to reinvent what law enforcement is like. And it has made contract negotiations hell because it's given them cover to hide and do nothing.

Election Notice

We're less than three months from the Lodge 7 elections. Our general meeting on Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. will be interesting to see what kind of response we get.

According to Article VII of our constitution, we will accept nominations for the election with the presentation of completed petitions from candidates at this meeting. Then, there will be a meeting of candidates in January to discuss election procedures.

Ballots for the election will be mailed to members in February 2023, and votes will be counted in the FOP Hall on March 3. Members who do not receive a ballot for whatever reason can vote in

person on March 3 at the FOP Hall from 9 a.m. to noon.

I think we have to be focused more on the municipal election. Hopefully, we will have at least eight, if not nine, officers on the ballot for City Council.

It's encouraging that members understand the mindset that the best way to change this is from within. You can blow up the house all you want. But it's better if you buy the house, and then you remodel it the way you want it. But first, we have to get inside the house.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

could have been publicly crying out for it on behalf of his officers. What kind of leadership is that?

And where was the command staff in all this? The same com-

mand staff that had no problem giving direct orders to members, telling them to risk getting shot, basically was nowhere to stick up for three fallen officers. Their number-one prerogative is remembering the fallen and protecting the existing. But when it came time to do the right thing, nothing. Crickets. Just sad that it took so long.



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Dec. 15

Bureau of Internal Affairs and Recruitment and Retention Unit 2022 Holiday and Retirement Party

Pompei Restaurant
1531 W. Taylor St.
6-10 p.m.

For more information, visit <https://www.chicago-fop.org/news/events?view=article&id=348&catid=15>

Dec. 15

6th District Holiday and Retirement Party

Hilton Oak Lawn
9333 South Cicero Ave., Oak Lawn
7-10 p.m.

For more information, call 312-745-3641

Dec. 15

Area Three Detective Division Holiday and Retirement Party

Moretti's Ristorante & Pizzeria
6727 N. Olmsted Ave.
6 p.m. beverages, 7 p.m. dinner

For more information, call 312-744-8263

Dec. 22

19th District Holiday and Retirement Party Biagio Events and Catering

4242 N. Central
6:30-11 p.m.

For more information, visit <https://www.chicago-fop.org/news/events?view=article&id=354&catid=15>

Jan. 14

Retirement of 7th District Detective Tim Murphy

Baracco's Event Center
3124 W. 111th St.
6-10 p.m.

For more information, call 773-914-9026

Jan. 14

Latin American Police Association at Professional Bull Riding Event

Allstate Arena
6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont
6:45 p.m.

\$35 per ticket

To purchase tickets, visit <https://offer.fevo.com/chicago-il-saturday-bxevm1-ec25b19?fevoUri=chicago-il-saturday-bxevm1-ec25b19%2F>

Jan. 30-31

Fraternal Order of Police 2023 Wellness Summit

Sheraton Music City
777 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN

\$375 per person, registration deadline: Jan. 9

For more information, email ssimpson@fop.net

Feb. 2-4

Fraternal Order of Police Leadership Matters 2023

Sheraton Music City
777 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN

\$400 per person, registration deadline: Jan. 9

For more information, call 800-451-2711, or visit <https://fop.net/event/leadership-matters-2023/>

Feb. 10

100 Club of Illinois First Look for Charity at the 2023 Chicago Auto Show

McCormick Place
2301 S. King Drive

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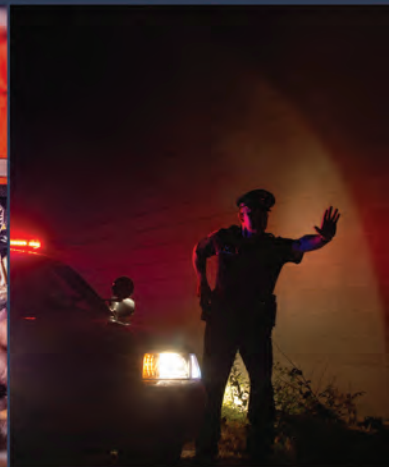
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Outcasts in our own minds



MICHAEL
METTE

As I write this article, we are processing the reality of yet another officer suicide. We all know and talk about how hard this job is and the effects of it. The truth is much more simple than the problems that drive an officer to make that final decision to end his or her life. Yes, this job sucks much more now than ever before. Yes, we are treated and looked at differently than in the past. We are no longer put up on a pedestal of honor and distinction. We are spat on, yelled at and accused of being what is wrong in today's society. The simple truth is none of that really matters!

The same crap was happening decades ago. My father was around for the riots in '68 and then again during the Bulls championship days, and every day in between. In the past two and a half years being in this office, I have come to see the real ugliness of our profession. And it isn't from the loudmouth protestors or the violent thugs on the streets. The real ugliness comes from within our own selves. We don't have the camaraderie and relationships with our fellow officers anymore. We have ostracized ourselves from society and from any normalcy within it.

We have made ourselves into outcasts within our own minds. We are the "POLICE." And what exactly does that mean? It means we have thrown away our identities as human beings and become something else. The problem with that is we then don't know how to act, think and feel about regular old human emotions. We become awkward in our own skin. It happens. It is human to build up barriers to defend ourselves against what may harm us. But if we don't do anything to change that mindset, we begin to lose all of

what makes us who we were before.

Life can be difficult. Life as a police officer can be much worse. Life is a journey that rides like a roller coaster. Much like our careers on this job, life brings us our highs and our lows. The good thing about falling down is picking ourselves back up and learning how not to fall back down. This becomes much easier with a good support system. Family, friends, coworkers and all the available services from EAP and us here at the FOP are ready and willing to make sure you have the support and help with whatever comes your way. You are never alone, and you are not the only one thinking and feeling the way you do.

We need to do a better job of being true brothers and sisters to each other. Instead of posting on social media about all the bad, start posting something inspiring. I tell my kids: Be the reason someone smiles today. I don't know where I got that quote from, but I like it so much that it's on the window outside my office. Smiling is contagious and makes you feel better. Make sure you keep your eyes open for all the good things that surround you. If you can't see it, you just might not know what to look for anymore. And that's ok — we are here to help you. You are needed, and you are loved.

If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out to EAP or FOP for help in getting that officer or family member the help they need and deserve. Call any of these numbers:

- EAP 312-743-0378
- Peer Support 312-672-9973
- Lodge 7 Officer Wellness: 312-736-1990 or 773-619-8928
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: text or call 988
- Copline: 800-COPLINE (All calls are answered by retired officers)

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The latest discipline briefs



DAN GORMAN

In the November issue, I reported that Lodge 7 had filed an unfair labor practice against the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) after COPA consistently implemented increases in suspension recommendations without negotiating.

During the past month, the new grievances filed by officers indicate that the recommended suspensions have continued to increase, compared to what COPA has issued in the past.

Below are just a few examples of the grievances that have been filed by officers over the past month. Lodge 7 has approved each of these cases to go to arbitration.

Whether there was enough just cause to support that each allegation occurred will be the subject of arbitration. In other words, just because the COPA claims that the accused committed any alleged act does not mean that COPA reported the facts accurately.

General Summary of Allegation(s)	COPA's Recommended Penalties
Verbal abuse "Push" used to get arrestee into squadrol No BWC	180-day suspension
"Push" a resister's face into ground during handcuffing No TRR No BWC	180-day suspension
Baton use during riot	30-day suspensions
Baton use during riot	90-day suspensions
"Display" firearm while on duty	60-day suspension
Taser use "Kick or stomp" Untimely BWC activation	100-day suspensions
"Kicking or stomping (arrestee) in the head/face without justification" Failing to "properly" document the use of force	60-day suspension
Deploy OC spray during riot	15-day suspension
Deploy taser Untimely BWC activation	45-day suspension
"Forcefully taking (arrestee) to the ground" Untimely BWC activation	30-day suspension
"Punch (offender) on or about the face (once)" after offender threatened and spit in the officer's face Profane language: "You catch another punch to the face if you do that shit again." "You're lucky I only hit you in the face once."	90-day suspension
While attempting to arrest a homicide offender, "enter" an apartment, "grabbed" and "attempt to remove" complainant from apartment	25-day suspension
"Grabbed" aggressor "by neck with both hands" [COPA took 5.5 years to investigate]	45-day suspension



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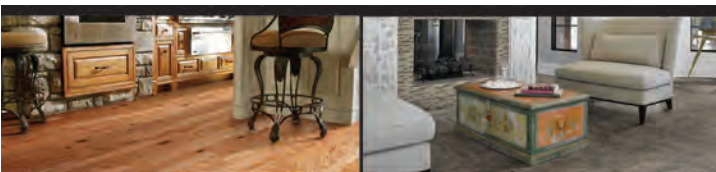


Growing up in a first responder-family, I know and appreciate your sacrifices

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FERNANDO FLORES

I hope you had a great Thanksgiving, hope you got to see all your loved ones and people you care about, and I hope everybody is healthy and good.

It has been brought to my attention that when I give my report at the General Meeting, it's usually short and seems somewhat angry. If I seem angry, it's because we have seasoned officers who are going down to IAD and trying to give a statement, as an accused or as a witness, without any legal representation. You do not have the luxury of making that decision on your own.

Luckily, we have IAD investigators who have been the police and understand the repercussions and ramifications of an officer giving a statement without legal representation. If you make a statement without representation, it is possible that you are going to contradict the statement given by other officers involved in the same complaint-registered allegation.

Don't do it! By giving a statement on your own, it is possible you might put other officers in the trick bag unwittingly. Please call and ask for representation.

A new program has been rolled out under department notice D 22-04: Center for Conflict Resolution, or CCR. This program has been mandated because of the consent decree. Any law enforcement agency that is under the consent decree has had to implement this new program. It is not by the City, it is not by COPA — it is mandated per the consent decree and is strictly voluntary on the officer and the complainant's behalf.

The process is this: A notification is sent out to the police officer involved and the complainant. If both the complainant and the of-

ficer agree to meet, the meeting will be held at 11 E. Adams and will be overseen by two independent mediators. Both the officer and the complainant will be introduced to the rules and regulations on how the meeting will proceed and they will be given to each individual. There will be no audio or video recordings, and any notes taken by the arbitrators will be destroyed at the end of the meeting.

Any body-worn camera video that may have been involved in this investigation has already been viewed by COPA. If both parties agree to sit in the same room and have the discussion, that will be arranged. If the complainant does not feel comfortable with the officer being in the same room, they will be placed in two separate rooms, and an arbitrator will be in each one of them.

Each party involved will be able to explain their side of the story, and as long as the arbitrator feels that each party is being cooperative and dealing in good faith, the meeting will continue. If at any time the arbitrator feels that either party is not participating in good faith, the meeting will be stopped. If the complainant does not wish to continue, the interview will be completed, and COPA will be informed that the officer cooperated in good faith.

At that point, the investigation will be concluded without a penalty. If the interview goes to its conclusion without a resolution, COPA will be informed that the officer cooperated in good faith, and the investigation is concluded. As I stated earlier, this is strictly voluntary, and if you don't feel comfortable speaking to the arbitrator, you can let them know when they notify you that you would rather give a statement before COPA.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at the Lodge. Be safe and stay healthy. And remember: No lawyer, no statement.



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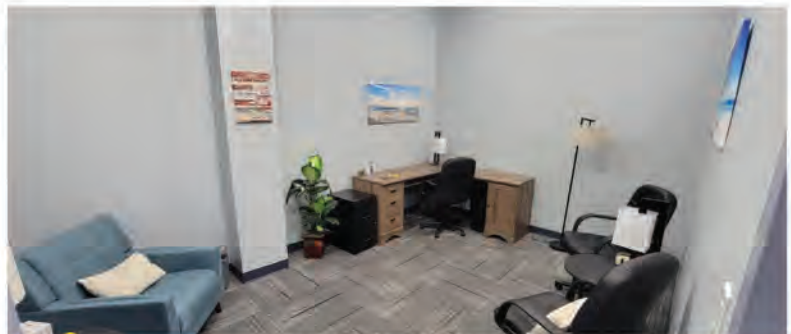


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North Side Location: 540 Frontage Rd. #2125, Northfield, IL 60093

Get those PAR forms signed on time



JIM
JAKSTAVICH

Hello again, members, both active and retired. I hope you had a pleasant Thanksgiving and are looking forward to a blessed holiday season. Please remember each other, as this can be a difficult time of the year for some. Remember that we at Lodge 7 are a phone call away and can provide you with assistance. You are never alone.

I have included a PAR form checklist with my report this issue that you can keep to assist you

with bids. Many of us have only bid once or twice in our entire careers, and now that the Department has two forms (one old PAR form and one revised PAR form), it can lead to confusion. Please be aware of the time constraints when getting your PAR form signed by your WC or CO and turned into MLAS/LRD. The issue of "late bids" is the most common reason officers are disqualified.

God bless and stay safe.

PAR FORM SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

1. Date of submission (current date)
2. Name (last, first, middle initial)
3. Star/Badge number
4. Employee Number
5. Unit of Assignment (your current unit, not the unit you are trying to bid into)
6. Effective date (date the change will take effect, normally change day)
7. Job Title (your current job title, not the job title you are applying for)
8. Social Security Number write: "on file"
- THE NEXT THREE BOXES (9,10,11) ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU CHECK.**
9. Transfer Request: You are asking management to use their 20% to move you. (Checking this box sends your PAR form to the First Deputy's Office, not MLAS/LRD.)
10. Recognized Opening Bid (FOP): This box is used for in-house bidding, openings within a district or unit, i.e., watch relief, lock-up, re-view, etc. Do not check this box if you are looking to transfer to another district or unit.
- RECOGNIZED VACANCY BID (FOP) vacancies in districts or units**
11. Unit of assignment requested: In this box you indicate the unit you want to be assigned to, i.e., 050, 016, 003, etc.
12. Your home address
13. Your phone number
14. Your seniority date (the date you were hired by CPD)
15. Title Code, i.e., 9161, 9165, etc.
16. Grade: D1, D2, D2A, etc.
17. Date assigned to present unit
18. Date of birth
19. VERY IMPORTANT: If you are bidding to another district or unit, the recognized vacancy # or facsimile #. If you are bidding within your unit, use the recognized bid #.
20. Position requested: the position you are asking for, i.e., watch relief, desk officer bid, tact officer, etc.
21. Date submitted: To be completed by commander or watch commander (You must get YOUR district/unit commander's signature. You cannot have anybody else sign.)
22. Time submitted: by CO/WC
23. Signature: by CO/WC
24. Star Number: by CO/WC
25. Remarks section
26. YOUR SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED OR THIS PAR FORM IS NO GOOD.
27. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE RECOGNIZED VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT. (You have 72 hours from the time of posting to get the PAR form signed by your CO/WC. You have another 48 hours to get the PAR form time-stamped by MLAS/LRD.)

Prepared by Lodge 7 Financial Secretary Jim Jakstavich. If you have any questions, please call 312-733-7776 or email jjakstavich@chicagofop.org.



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**ROB
NOCEDA**

From my family to yours, may the holiday season bring you good health and time with family and friends.

I had to take a few days off to exhaust my vacation. As field reps, we do not get a furlough segment or a furlough — just sporadic days off here and there when possible, to ensure efficient and effective Lodge 7 coverage.

Almost six years ago, most of my dad's side moved to Arizona. So after years of not seeing my dad, one of my four kids, my teenage son, said he missed Grandpa. So we got on a plane.

We flew into the Valley of the Sun. I finally got to see the old Mexican (Dad) and all my cousins, aunts and uncles. It was a beautiful family gathering, long overdue. I had missed them dearly.

Between family karaoke, a Phoenix Suns Game, a tree lighting ceremony, my cousin's kid performing a dance routine and having dinner with them to catch up, these few days have flown by.

You're probably wondering, "Rob, why are you writing this? We don't need your itinerary." Well, you're getting it anyway. We are always on the go in Chicago. I'm a workaholic, too, just ask my kids. But it's good to step back to take in life.

We all get caught up in our day-to-day, grind-it-out way. It is easy to get lost working special, housing, SDI, or extension of tour. This short trip with my son and seeing my extended



Rob Noceda with his dad, Bob.

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family reminded me again of the importance of living to enjoy the moment.

Put that phone, TV and computer away. Talking, laughing and reminiscing with loved ones are what is needed. It's where those cherished memories come from.

Yes, we are the police. But we are not just our job. We are much more than a job title or title code. We are loved by many. We have hobbies, interests and outside goals. It's easy to lose sight of things when you're working all the time. So, call a family mem-



Tree lighting with palm trees in Maricopa County, Arizona.

ber, old friend, fellow retiree or old partner and wish them well. You never know whose day you'll make unless you try.

Also, this holiday season, when it's your time to be off, be off! Whether it's furlough, elective time or RDO, turn that police light switch off and enjoy the moment and memories with loved ones. You won't regret it.

I have to get back to the family now. More time to live in the moment, once again. May God continue to bless you and your families.



Rob's cousin Sam pictured in his Arizona law enforcement uniform.

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A special Día de los Muertos



MONICA ORTIZ

On Nov. 1, Chicago Lodge 7 hosted a Día de los Muertos event for the first time. Our November issue detailed this event, which was held to honor our members, including officers Jamie Avila, Erik Moreno, Fernanda Ballesteros, Patsy Swank and Anthony Graffeo. The event successfully raised funds for our officers and their family members.

Día de los Muertos is one of Mexico's most important cultural and religious events. The food, music, colorful decorations of paper streamers and skull artwork and the families attending the celebration at the FOP Hall made it even more beautiful. We wanted to ensure we got all the little details right, and we did so by coming together.

I would like to recognize the people behind the scenes responsible for this event's success. I've been part of many police fundraisers and worked with different foundations selling raffle tickets to

parties, ballgames and so on. What made this event unique was that several police clubs volunteered to help with anything we needed to make this event fantastic. Thank you to our police clubs:

- LAPA (Latin American Police Association)
- HISLEA (Hispanic Illinois State Law Enforcement Association)
- Puerto Rican Police Association
- Chicago Police Men's and & Women's Soccer Teams
- CPD Football Club
- CPD Knights Baseball Team
- CPD Finest Baseball Team
- CPD Enforcers Football Team
- Lodge 7 Women's Committee

All these organizations had a hand in this event, from having the folkloric dancers perform to preparing and serving tamales, pan de muertos and churros to selling tickets, decorating T-shirts and posting flyers. Several meetings ensured we succeeded in making this an authentic event.

This fundraiser brought people to-



gether, and we all had one common goal: to support our officers and families. As organizers of the event, the Yanez family and Balvina Ranney, Carlos Yanez's cousin, who is a Cook County sheriff, had the opportunity to invite police officers and their families to share a meal, dance, smile and celebrate life. The Yanez family will continue to hold events to help police officers feel united and build morale.

I wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy holidays.

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Honoring Retired Members

July 2022

Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years
Rosemary Loaiza Arteaga	Officer	012	23
Kimberly M. Valenti	Officer	012	23

August 2022

Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years
Rosco Stiff	Officer	004	25

September 2022

Name	Rank	Unit/District	Years
Timothy A. Nelson	Officer	024	14
Michael F. O'Grady	Officer	025	24
Ana L. Pacheco	Officer	012	17
Reginald C. Robinson	Officer	006	20
Mark S. Schlink	Officer	018	26
Joseph J. Smith	Officer	059	24
Edmund M. Szudy	Officer	152	20
Issac Thomas	Officer	005	19
Andrea Walker	Officer	050	25
Thomas P. Young	Officer	050	28

Retiree Meetings

Check the contact info listed with each location to confirm meetings are being held

North

First Monday of month
@ 9 a.m.
Kappy's American Grill
7200 Dempster St., Morton Grove
Ken Hauser, 312-485-8388

The Northsiders' Luncheon

Third Wednesday of January, April,
July, October @ noon
Suparossa, Chicago
Paul Vitaioli, 312-402-1040

South

Second Wednesday of month
@ 10 a.m.
Jedi's Garden, Oak Lawn

8-Ball Luncheon

Last Wednesday of month
@ noon
Les Brothers, Oak Lawn
Dorothy Piscitelli, 773-972-0139

Bomb and Arson

Second Monday of month

@ 9 a.m.

Fiesta Tapatia Restaurant
Chicago
Ross Horne, 312-613-9182

12th District Retirees and Alumni

First Thursday of month
@ 10 a.m.
Southern Belles Restaurant
Bridgeview
12retirees@comcast.net

Crime Lab, ETs, Forensic Services and Mobile Unit

First Tuesday of month @ noon
Flap-Jacks Restaurant, Oak Lawn
Bob Baikie, 773-284-1935

Orland Park Law Enforcement Organization

Third Thursday of month
@ 7:30 p.m.
Orland Park Civic Center
Orland Park
Don Ade, 708-408-9308

Survivors Lunch

Second Saturday of month
@ 11 a.m.
Beverly Woods Restaurant
Chicago

Public Housing Unit (North, South and Administration)

First Wednesday of month
@ 10 a.m.
George's Restaurant, Chicago
Maurice Brown, 773-577-0154

Arizona Retirees

Third Wednesday of month
@ 11 a.m.
Tavern Grille
8880 E. Via Linda, Suite 106
Scottsdale, Arizona
Brian DuFour, 623-521-6146 or
bdu4@aol.com

Arkansas Retirees

Third Friday of month @ noon

Elks Lodge
Mountain Home, Arkansas
Bob Zdora, 870-405-5407

Florida Retirees

First Wednesday of month
@ 1 p.m.
Cop Shop, Cape Coral, Florida
Tom Faragoi, 239-770-7896

Michigan Retirees

First Thursday of month
@ 8 a.m.
Macks on Main
101 W. Cedar Ave.
Gladwin, Michigan

Northern Illinois/Southern Wisconsin Retirees

Second Thursday of month
Herner's Hideaway
N202 Williams Road
Genoa City, Wisconsin

Remembering Sisters and Brothers who have passed

Name	Status	Age	Date of Passing
Steve Pizzello	Retired	98	Sept. 21, 2022
William J. Stachula	Retired	75	Oct. 30, 2022
James Wisniewski	Retired	81	Nov. 2, 2022
Clarence E. Junkins	Retired	72	Nov. 12, 2022
Joseph M. Rizzo	Retired	77	Nov. 17, 2022
Philip Dore	Retired	93	Nov. 19, 2022
Raymond A. Karlik	Retired	84	Nov. 25, 2022
James V. Esposito	Retired	82	Nov. 26, 2022
Robert E. Kelly	Retired	77	Nov. 27, 2022
Hyuk Lee	Unit 020	46	Nov. 28, 2022



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RDO final award reiterates Department's violations



PAT FIORETTO

As the year comes to an end, two themes discussed in this magazine throughout 2022 have collided: police officer safety and continued cancellations of regular days off (RDOs). Most people know how dangerous it is to be a police officer and how important it is for them to have adequate time off. Even the current mayor once testified under oath, "You can't be well if you don't have time to recover from one of the most tough and traumatic jobs that there are, which is to be a police officer in an urban environment like Chicago." Sadly, the Department and the mayor seem to

have forgotten.

In a recent report compiled by the National Fraternal Order of Police, as of Nov. 1 (with two months left in the year), 281 police officers across the country have been shot in the line of duty — which represents a 1 percent increase from the same time period in 2021 and an 11 percent increase over 2020. In those 281 shootings, 55 police officers were killed, which represents a 6 percent increase from 2021 and a 31 percent increase from 2020. In Illinois alone, 12 have been killed by gunfire.

The number of suicides, tragically, is significantly higher in the law enforcement field than in most other professions. The figures are staggering, highlighting how dangerous it is to be a police officer, especially given today's anti-police climate.

Ironically, the National Fraternal Order of Police report, issued on Nov. 2, 2022, came the day after Arbitrator Roumell issued his opinion and final award in the "weekend deployment" class action grievance which dealt with the Department's continued

cancellation of RDOs. Initially, the arbitrator reiterated his main finding from the Sept. 27, 2022 interim opinion and award: the Department exercised its management right arbitrarily when canceling RDOs Department-wide due to the Festival of Lights Parade and tree lighting ceremony and for New Year's Eve weekend, since those events were known to be upcoming before the commencement of any 28-day police period. The arbitrator suggested the parties attempt to craft a remedy which would take into account their competing interests: the Lodge's concerns of officers' safety and wellness on one side, and the concerns of the Department around managing and assigning staff personnel on the other.

Since the parties could not find a mutually accepted remedy as suggested in the interim opinion and award, the arbitrator issued a final award, in essence making the terms of the Summer Holiday Pilot Program permanent. Specifically, for all known events, which include:

- the "summer holidays" (Memorial Day, Juneteenth/Father's Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day);
- the Festival of Lights Parade;
- the annual tree lighting ceremony;
- Thanksgiving;
- New Year's Eve; and
- arguably, any other "known" pre-planned events (parades, concerts, summer festivals, etc.)

The Department will provide 28 days' anticipatory notice before canceling any RDOs Department-wide going forward. The anticipatory notice must apprise police officers of the then-

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anticipated deployment needs (subject to change due only to unanticipated operational needs). The anticipatory notice shall be communicated to the official email accounts of all police officers, and an AMC message also will be sent and will be read at roll calls. Police officers will be offered the opportunity to volunteer to work on days during the scheduled deployment they are not scheduled to work (e.g., RDO or furlough). In the event of a need for additional manpower for the Department, the Department will first utilize those officers who volunteered to work pursuant to the anticipatory notice.

Next, the Department will provide, 14 days in advance of the scheduled deployment, an effective notice (both via email and AMC message), containing the then-anticipated length of the deployment, whether or not RDOs will be canceled, which units will be subject to the deployment and whether 12-hour workdays will be implemented. It is understood that this effective notice is subject to change only due to unanticipated operational needs.

If not enough volunteers are available, then the Department may cancel RDOs but shall make reasonable efforts to maintain a normal (8.5- or 10-hour) schedule and assign those police officers as needed. Police officers who have had both RDOs canceled will be given priority treatment for time-off requests pursuant to the negotiated time due MOU between the City and the FOP. Police officers whose RDOs are canceled can seek to find a replacement.

Significantly, the arbitrator enshrined the practice in which the Department will continue to give good faith consideration for those police officers who show good cause to retain their RDOs. Any police officer whose request is denied by an exempt commanding officer may appeal the denial to the appropriate deputy chief and chief.

Furthermore, officers on a 4/2 work schedule will not be required to work more than 10 consecutive days. Similarly, offi-

cers on a 5/2 work schedule will not be required to work more than 12 consecutive days. The Lodge had presented evidence at the hearings that many police officers had worked anywhere between 12 and 18 consecutive days, and often 12 hours or more each day. Equally important, officers now will have a minimum of nine hours off between shifts when RDOs are canceled Department-wide.

Finally, in the past, the Department would cancel RDOs by claiming a general “increase in crime” and the need to increase manpower to address the spike. The Lodge presented evidence that such modest increases in shootings over previous periods did not result in Department-wide RDO cancellations. Once again, in balancing the respective interests on this issue, the award provides that if the Department decides to cancel RDOs on a Department-wide basis because crime “has increased based on a statistical analysis,” the Department must give 14 days’ notice so as to permit a survey for volunteers and officers to obtain substitutes. As the arbitrator explained, this notice requirement is of a short duration so that the Department can address the crime situation.

The only issue which the arbitrator left open and on which he wants further arguments from the parties is whether the remedy should also apply to those police officers who work the fourth and fifth watches, as well as those who work in specialized units. Additional briefing is due in the weeks ahead.

The City is aware of the mental toll that working long hours without sufficient breaks or a stable schedule can have on police officers. Yet, it took the Lodge filing and pursuing a grievance and then an arbitrator issuing a final award in favor of the Lodge to ensure that police officers get what they not only need, but what they are entitled to under the contract.



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Foot pursuits



TIM GRACE

COPA has found its new shiny toy to play with, which was given to them by a weak-spined Department and a cowardly mayor. It is the new foot pursuit order.

While their first loves will always be salty language when being fired at or failure to activate the body-worn camera during an ambush, this new order may make it into their top five. Of course, they have to be careful, as COPA doesn't do pursuits or any part of policing. But much like a child who just saw "Star Wars," they will be granted an audience with NASA scientists because, hey, they took a class or two.

While we all know we could attack the lack of competency at COPA all day long, it is not the purpose of this article, in spite of the enjoyment one may get. The new policy is real, and we are seeing more and more allegations of violations. The main issue is that many of the officer-involved shootings emanate from the initiation of a foot pursuit. While a shooting may be justified, COPA is trying to argue that but for the improper violation of the foot pursuit policy, the offender would be alive and weeks away from finally giving us a cure for all dreaded diseases of the day. That's winning the battle but not the war.

As always, to avoid the violation, we must know and under-

stand the general order. The foot pursuit general order can be found at GO3-07. Like most general orders, it is 13 pages of bureaucratic doublespeak and has the approach of how one may make a cheap stew. The overriding principle that is prevalent throughout the order is that officers need to continue to reassess the situation — which, to be honest, is not a bad thing, but something we already know. The order clearly states in IV A that the decision to engage in a foot pursuit must be objectively reasonable considering the totality of the circumstances. In cop speak, it has to make sense.

Then, as we were taught at the academy and as all officers know, you must be mindful of the Fourth Amendment. A foot pursuit is a detention. You can only detain someone when you have reasonable, articulable suspicion to believe that the subject has committed, is committing or is about to commit a crime, or probable cause exists to arrest. However, just because you may be legally justified under the law to initiate, the general order requires a balancing test. We have seen the balancing test before in the vehicle pursuit general order, and it is not too different. Prior to initiating the foot pursuit, the officer must weigh the risk to the involved officers, the public and the subject with the necessity for immediate apprehension. The initiation and the continuation are governed by this balancing test, meaning you must continue to engage in the analysis during



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the pursuit. It is difficult and is a recipe for failure. An overriding question that may make it easier would be to ask yourself, "Is this worth it?" Just realize you are talking about the current pursuit and not the actual job of being a police officer!

The list of prohibitions is long, and you should familiarize yourself with the mandates. Let's look at some of highlights: A person who flees with no other facts present does not meet the basis to initiate a foot pursuit, as you must be mindful of the search and seizure laws. You cannot pursue for an offense that is less than a Class A misdemeanor, unless the offender poses an obvious threat to the community or any person. If you are unaware of your current location or lose contact with OEMC, you cannot initiate or continue the pursuit. You must make reasonable efforts to be in contact with OEMC at all times and continue to assess the need to continue with the pursuit.

Then the one that is most difficult is coordination with your partner and other units. The order clearly states that you cannot lose separation with your partner "to the extent where the loss of visual contact, distance or obstacles will delay the ability to provide assistance during the apprehension of the subject." More evidence that this order was composed by people who have never policed.

There is an exception, as someone was paying attention, that allows separation. You may consider separating from a partner or other units if it is a coordinated effort, when using tactical positioning or containment strategies to eliminate flight opportunities, reduce the likelihood of continued flight by a subject, preserve officer safety or provide for the safe apprehension of the subject. Lots of exceptions that almost make the "no separation" rule inconsequential. However, like in all areas of

policing, you must be able to articulate why you separated and be prepared to give a conscious, considered reason for your actions.

We can do this; we just need to understand it. Of course there is a foot pursuit report that needs to be completed. That is the 30,000-foot view of the order, but you must read it, understand it and review it from time to time, as COPA will show no mercy if they believe there is a violation. Again, they have a new toy and want to play with it.

The last thing that is important is the idea that this order is even necessary. We must follow it, and in no way is there a suggestion that we shouldn't. But like all general orders, there should be a legitimate reason why, after more than 150 years of our existence as a Department, it is even needed. There is no police reason for it. Your job, like it or not, is to get the evildoers, and sometimes that requires you to chase after them.

At the time of the order's passage in June 2021, there were some very high-profile foot pursuits that resulted in the death of the offenders. All, without exception, were done within policy, and all the officers showed great courage and ability in the process. The problem was that the anti-police movement was aghast with horror that police officers would try to apprehend a subject armed with a gun. And once again, the loudest got their way. Now we have a foot pursuit policy that does nothing to lower the crime rate, does nothing to make offenders obey lawful commands, but simply gives more ammunition that the police are violating the rules. Maybe someday we will look at general orders from the position of stopping crime, but until then, learn the order and be attentive to what it requires.



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Portraits by Peter Bucks

Tributes to officers from the CPD Officer, Lodge 7 member and renowned artist

‘The underdog winning’

■ BY ESTHER GONZALES

As a member of the CPD Narcotics Unit and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service task force, no two days are the same for Officer Michael Amorella.

Some days, he will begin his day at a computer, looking through a list of suspicious packages to intercept in the mail. Then, when he arrives at a post office, he will begin the process of applying for a federal search warrant and having a K-9 sniff the package for narcotics.

Amorella noted that he also could spend up to eight hours surveilling a location. And that can lead him all over the city, following someone.

In his two years of working in narcotics, Amorella admitted it seems like he has only made a small dent in the drug epidemic. And as he now sees fentanyl pills disguised as candy, he is motivated to protect children and youth, who are seemingly the most vulnerable.

“If you’re keeping some of the stuff from going through the mail and off the streets, you’re helping some of these kids,” Amorella explained. “You’re just trying to help people by not having them exposed to this kind of thing and trying to take as much out as you can. But there’s just so much stuff out there, it blows your mind.”

Amorella began his law enforcement career in 2000 on the West Side of Chicago in the 15th District, where he worked for 17 years before joining the gang enforcement unit for two years. Before coming on the job, Amorella served in the U.S. Marine Corps and in the Army National Guard.

After his time in the Corps, Amorella began his college journey, until as a junior he was hired by the CPD. Amorella described feeling drawn to the classes pertaining to criminal justice. In 2020, he received his master’s degree in law and criminal justice.

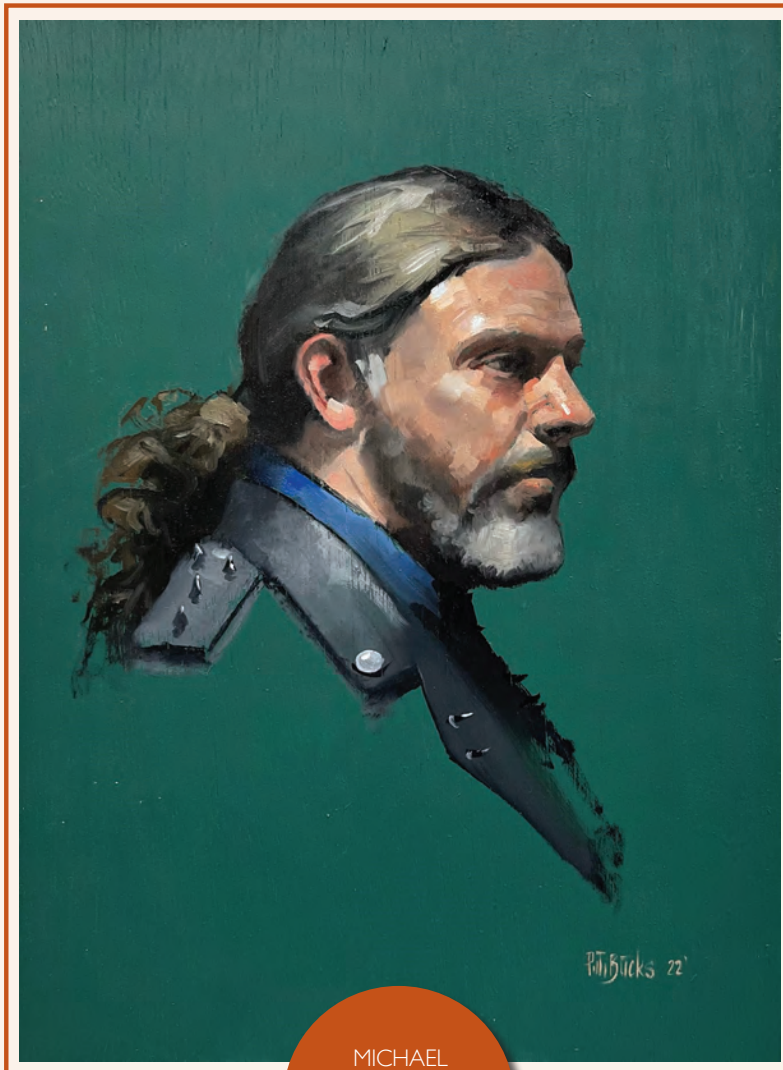
It was no small feat, as he once believed he would never graduate from college. He said he owes it all to his mother, who passed away in 2017.

“It was a pretty big accomplishment, and it’s just something I can’t even believe I did,” Amorella related. “But it was really my mom who made me get my undergrad. She said, ‘You’re going to get that.’ And so, I went back. She never saw me get [my master’s], which she’d be very surprised by.”

Throughout his time on the job, Amorella has been motivated by his fellow brothers and sisters in law enforcement to make a lasting impact. He has seen over and over again how drug dealers take over communities by finding an elderly person’s home and selling drugs there.

As he nears the end of his law enforcement career, he hopes to continue fighting for communities that have been targeted.

“Our impact sometimes could be as easy as taking some drug dealers off the corner so kids can come out and play,” Amorella added. “Because that’s really what’s going on in some of these neighborhoods. People just take over, and nobody wants to do anything about it because they live there. But if you take enforcement action and get them out of there, it’s kind of like the underdog winning, just helping the little guy or girl.”



MICHAEL AMORELLA
Star #10544
Unit 189

A recap of 2022 and what to expect going forward



DAVE SULLIVAN

The Illinois State Legislature has completed business for 2022. But the legislature is scheduled to return the first week of January for the lame-duck session.

In the last week of session, the House and Senate passed the third trailer bill to HB 3653, the Safe-T Act. While these are improvements in the law, we will continue to work with the legislature on changes to this law.

At the same time, there are dozens of county state's attorneys throughout the state who are suing the state to overturn this law. There may be a decision on that lawsuit in December.

These latest changes seek to clarify when an accused offender can be detained and issues relating to trespassing. The state's attorneys from DuPage, Kane and Champaign counties led the negotiations on these changes with Democrat legislators and advocates for the law to improve it. There were serious practical issues that are addressed in this trailer bill. While not perfect, it is a step forward.

Lodge 7 Political Director Mike Cosentino and I spent the veto session working on this legislation and in conversations

with House and Senate members from both parties to discuss issues moving forward. It was a very productive time as we seek to improve our relationships with some legislators and continue our strong bond with many others.



The Chicago FOP PAC donations are being noticed and well received. It was a great decision to make the PAC stronger and better funded. About 90 percent of the Democrat and Republican legislators the FOP donated to won their elections. It is an outstanding start!

As you saw in the election, the Democrats gained seats in the House, and the Republicans gained one seat in the Senate. As a result, the Democrats will continue to have supermajorities in both chambers next year. House GOP leader Jim Durkin is retiring and will be succeeded by downstate GOP Representative Tony McCombie as minority leader. She will be the first woman to lead a caucus in the House.

In the Senate, GOP leader Dan McConchie will be replaced by DuPage County Senator John Curran as the Senate minority leader. Suburban legislators Senator Don Harmon and Representative Chris Welch will continue as Senate president and House speaker, respectively.

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Reflections and perspectives



RABBI
MOSHE
WOLF

As the year 2022 comes to an end, let us take a moment to reflect on the past and learn for the future. Sometimes people come into our lives, and we know right away that they were meant to be there, to serve some sort of purpose, to teach us a lesson or to help us figure out who we are or who we want to become. We never know who these people may be (possibly our neighbor, co-worker, long lost friend, lover or even a complete stranger), but when we lock eyes with them, we know at that very moment they will affect our lives in some profound way.

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

The people we meet who affect our lives, and the success and downfalls we experience, help to create who we are and who we become. Even the bad experiences can be learned from. In fact, they are probably the most poignant and important ones. If someone hurts us, betrays us or breaks our heart, forgive them, for they have helped us learn about trust and the importance of being cautious when we open our hearts.

If someone loves us, love them back unconditionally, not only because they love us, but because in a way, they are teaching us to love and how to open our hearts and eyes to things.

Make every day count.

Appreciate every moment, and let us take from those moments everything that we possibly can, for we may never be able to experience those moments again.

Talk to people who you have never talked to before, and actually listen.

Hold your head up, because you have every right to.

Tell yourself you are a great individual, and believe in yourself, for if you don't believe in yourself, it will be hard for others to believe in you.

You can make of your life anything you wish.

Create your own life and then go out and live it with absolutely no regrets.

Most importantly, if you love someone, tell him or her, for you never know what tomorrow may have in store.

And remember, learn a lesson in life each day that you live.

The following story helps put it in the right perspective:

A man stopped at a flower shop to order some flowers to be wired to his mother, who lived 200 miles away. As he got out of his car, he noticed a young girl sitting on the curb, sobbing. He asked her what was wrong, and she replied, "I wanted to buy a red rose for my mother. But I only have 75 cents, and a rose costs two dollars."

The man smiled and said, "Come on in with me. I'll

buy you a rose."

He bought the little girl her rose and ordered his own mother's flowers. As they were leaving, he offered the girl a ride home. She said, "Yes, please! You can take me to my mother."

She directed him to a cemetery, where she placed the rose on a freshly dug grave.

The man returned to the flower shop, canceled the wire order, picked up a bouquet and drove the 200 miles to his mother's house. (Way to go! Definitely a thought to keep in mind.)

As we are about to enter a new year in 2023, let us take a moment to give thanks for all of our blessings of the past and pray that we continue to merit G-d's love and blessings. Let us use the following creed to help us with our New Year's resolutions!

A creed to live by

Don't undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others. It is because we are different that each of us is special.

Don't let your goals be based on what other people deem important; only you know what's best for you.

Don't take for granted the things close to your heart; cling to those you love as you would your life! For without them, life is meaningless.

Don't let your life slip through your fingers by living in the past or for the future. By living your life one day at a time, you live all the days of your life.

Don't give up when you have something to give. Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.

Don't be afraid to admit that you are less than perfect. It is this fragile thread that binds us to each other.

Don't be afraid to encounter risk. It is by taking chances that we learn to be brave.

Don't shut love out of your life by saying it's impossible to find. The quickest way to receive love is to give love; the fastest way to lose love is to hold too tightly. And the best way to keep love is to give it wings.

Don't dismiss your dreams. To be without dreams is to be without hope, and to be without hope is to be without purpose.

Don't run through life so fast that you forget not only where you've been, but also where you're going.

Life is not a race, but a journey to be savored each step of the way.

And a little humor to finish your year with a smile...

"How did you get rich?"

A young man asked an old, rich man how he had made his money.

The old man fingered his worsted wool vest and said, "Well, son, it was 1932, the depth of the Great Depression. I was down to my last nickel. I invested that nickel in an apple. I spent the entire day polishing that apple,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

Holiday happenings



FATHER
DAN
BRANDT

Thank you to all who participated in the chaplains and EAP's "Get Un-Scrooged" event last month. Viewing and discussing Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" allowed us to remind ourselves what really matters during this magical time of year — and how to address the inherent stressors of the season.

Last month, we also teamed up with FOP to send high-quality care packages to 30 CPD members who are serving abroad in the military reserves.

Let us keep in prayer our brothers and sisters who still serve, just in a different uniform. In a special way, we remember them (and their families, who miss them) during the holidays.

On Dec. 1, we hosted our beloved Gold Star Family members at the annual pre-holiday dinner at Soldier Field. What a wonderful opportunity for us to thank these families for the sacrifice they endured and to reiterate that their loved ones who died in the line of duty will never be forgotten! Thank you to all our supporters who make the annual event possible!



On Dec. 17, we commemorate the four-year anniversary of the untimely and tragic deaths of Officers Conrad Gary and Eduardo Marmolejo. May they rest in peace, and may their families be assured of our loving, prayerful support!

Theirs and many other memorial cards may be downloaded from our website. If you'd prefer to have any cards mailed to you, simply email or call me.

During the Advent season, many people try to pray more intentionally. So, just a reminder: Every Friday at 1 p.m., the Chaplains Section continues to facilitate a Bible study/prayer/faith-sharing group at the police academy. No matter your faith tradition, all are welcome to share and hear words of encouragement at these brief, Christian-based gatherings.

A similar (though more intimate in size) nondenominational Christian prayer opportunity is offered every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room at Public Safety Headquarters.

And Muslim (Jumma) prayers are offered every Friday at 1 p.m. in room 202 of the academy. To confirm times, or if you'd like more information, please email Joseph.Jackson@ChicagoPolice.org, Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org or Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org.

In addition to our regular second- and fourth-Sunday Masses at Mercy Home (11 a.m. at 1140 W. Jackson Blvd.), we'll gather for Mass on Christmas morning at 10 a.m. (note the difference in time for the holiday). So that social distancing can be observed, we gather in the indoor soccer field rather than the chapel. More information can be found at the "Police Masses" link at www.ChicagoPCM.org.

Attention, married couples: Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis is putting together a police marriage weekend retreat. It will be held the weekend before Valentine's Day. Mark your calendar to come strengthen your marriage with a dozen or so other couples! Enrollment is limited, and attendee costs are offset by Police Chaplains Ministry and the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation. To reserve your spot, please email Chaplain Lewis-Davis at Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org.

May God bless you and keep you safe and healthy!

Contact Father Dan Brandt, directing CPD chaplain, by cell or text at 773-550-2369 or at dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org.

MOSHE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

and at the end of the day, I sold the apple for 10 cents.

The next morning, I invested those 10 cents in two apples. I spent the entire day polishing them and sold them for 20 cents. I continued this system of polishing and selling, each time reinvesting my profits into buying more apples."

"Wow!" said the young man. "And that's how you accumulated your fortune?"

"Nah," said the old man. "My wife's father died and left us 20 million dollars." LOL

For the curious: Why I put the dash in the name of G-d

Please note: I do not spell out the name of G-d out of re-

spect. Spelling out the name and then throwing it in the trash would be considered by some a desecration of the name, so I put in the dash. This is a religious custom some follow, thanks for understanding.

On behalf of all the chaplains, may G-d bless you, keep you safe and always keep you in His loving care.

Season's greetings, Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and a very Happy New Year. May 2023 be one of your best ones yet!

Should you need an ear to listen or a shoulder to lean on, or perhaps have some good humor to share, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Contact Rabbi Moshe Wolf at 774-463-4780 or moshewolf@hotmail.com.

Gun insurance: On duty/off duty and retired



I don't need to remind you that lawsuits against police officers continue to increase. Add the hostility against the police, coupled with the number of well-armed bad guys on the street, and you are more at risk today than ever before.

The risk to your safety should not include risk to your assets. As you know, no liability insurance policy is issued by the City to protect you. And whether you are still working or retired, the liability risk for using your firearm is a constant concern.

While taking steps to protect your assets is a priority, for as long as I have known, on-duty insurance protection for using your firearm did not exist. Lloyd's of London was an everyday insurer of the police. But they dropped police coverage decades ago.

What are your options today?

Shield U Firearm Liability Insurance

Shield U has been around for a few years. However, they were limited to off-duty and civilian gun liability insurance coverage.

The good news is that Spriska Specialty Risk of America recently acquired Shield U. Spriska now offers Blue Cover, a very affordable, high-coverage-limit firearm insurance policy for all active-duty and retired police officers.

Blue Cover Firearm Liability Insurance

Blue Cover premiums for law enforcement officers begin at as little as \$229 per year, with policy limits from \$250,000 to \$1 million.

- Coverage for acts of self-defense arising from using a legally possessed firearm.
- Coverage for moonlighting and private security.
- Reimbursement for criminal defense attorney costs up to your coverage limit, with a \$10,000 attorney advance.
- \$2,500 monthly for your loss of income during the pendency of the administrative investigation.
- Additionally, full coverage is extended to your spouse and all relative members of your household at no additional cost.

Civilian firearm liability insurance

For your out-of-household family and friends who own firearms, premiums start at \$149 per year, with policy limits from \$100,000 to \$1 million.

- Liability protection with defense costs for civil liability claims for civilians and family members arising out of the use of a firearm.
- Coverage for concealed carry, hunting, gun range and gun events.
- Reimbursement for your choice of a criminal defense attorney with costs up to your coverage limit, with a \$10,000 attorney advance.

For police and civilians, these are must-have policies for personal and family protection in these times. They are available to Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Arizona and Ohio residents. However, your coverage extends to legal firearm use in all 50 states.

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Tom Tuohy is the grandson of a CPD Chief and son of a CPD Detective

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- A living trust estate plan includes healthcare and financial power of attorney documents. It also consists of a last will and testament.
- A will is necessary for guardianship of minor children. It also transfers assets in your name out of probate.
- A living trust contains a no-contest provision and beneficiary asset protection clauses.

Tom Tuohy is the founder of Tuohy Law Offices and the FOP Benefits Plan. He has been a police lawyer for over three decades. His father was a CPD detective, and his grandfather was the CPD Chief of Major Investigations. You can reach Tom at 312-559-8400 or tom@tuohylawoffices.com, or visit his office in Oakbrook Terrace.




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When one door closes



**DR. RON
RUFO**

The other day, a dear friend of mine who is a police psychologist from Virginia, whom I met at a wellness seminar a few years ago, called me and asked if I would speak to one of her clients. She said Frank (not his real name) wanted to speak to a fellow cop, not from his city. I told her that I would be happy to help and looked forward to speaking with him.

Frank called me within the hour. He explained that he works for a small police department in Virginia and that he and another fellow officer were both in line for the next detective position. There was only one opening, and unfortunately, Frank was not chosen. Frank indicated that he dislikes the politics in his department. He felt that he was well qualified and was a far better candidate for the position. He felt that politics played a role in that decision. He just needed to vent.

Frank said, "I could not let this frustration go. I made a big mistake by complaining to everyone in my department, including supervisors, how unhappy and angry I was about not being made detective. I knew I ruffled a few feathers. Ron, I was totally frustrated with the system. I was angry and said a few choice words about fairness and my department. I did not expect the chief to react so soon to my tongue-lashing."

Frank went on: "My chief called me into his office before my next shift. I could see he was not happy with me and my short

but boisterous tirade. The chief's eyes and body language said it all. I knew I was in trouble because of my mouth. The chief said, 'It is apparent that you have anger issues. All of the supervisors agree that you should be closely monitored.' The chief explained that because of my anger issues, I would be mandated to see a department-appointed psychologist for a fit-for-duty evaluation.

Frank said, "I was devastated. This is the only job I know, and I am at risk of losing my career. I feel like everything started to spiral downwards. Not only did I not make detective, but I may be suspended or possibly fired. I am in the hands of a psychologist that I do not know."

I let Frank talk as I listened intently. The theme of his entire conversation seemed to be that he truly was sorry about lashing out. He also seemed to lack confidence in himself. Not making detective really brought him down. He asked me for advice.

This is what I told him: "I remember my grandmother telling me that when one door closes, another one opens, and that God puts us where we are supposed to be." I told him that not making detective was not the end of the world. It was not his time to be detective, but never rule out the possibility at a later time. Let it go for now. Do not let it control your thoughts. The main focus should be to get back to work and prove that you are a great officer and deserve another chance to prove yourself. I explained that I would personally apologize to every supervisor and the chief.

I told him I believed in him and that he was unique in that not everyone can handle a career in law enforcement. It takes a special person to be a cop. I told him that I think it is important to always have confidence in yourself. There is power in positive thinking, and he can accomplish anything that he puts his mind to.

I said to Frank, "Take the week off pay as a way to collect your thoughts and relax." I expressed to him that the therapist wants to hear that you are confident and fit to return to work. I told him to own it, and that he can do it, that I am praying for a positive result for him, and that I believe in him. I said, "Good luck and let me know the outcome."

Frank called and said he had taken my advice. The city psychologist cleared him for duty, and he is back at work. He said he had learned a valuable lesson.

Dr. Ron Rufo is a highly decorated Chicago Police Officer with over 22 years of service. He began his career in the 9th District, was assigned to the prestigious Ambassador Program and was eventually assigned to the Preventive Programs Unit, where he served as a crime prevention speaker for over 13 years. For most of his career, Dr. Rufo was a peer support team leader for the CPD Employee Assistance Program (EAP) of the Chicago Police Department. He has had specialized training in police suicide prevention and is a member of the Critical Incident Team. He retired from the Chicago Police Department in July 2015. He is the author of Police Suicide: Is Police Culture Killing Our Officers? and Breaking the Barriers: Changing the Way We Support the Physical and Mental Health of Police Officers. Dr. Ron Rufo's book Breaking the Barriers: Changing the Way We Support the Physical and Mental Health of Police Officers is available through Amazon, at ronrufo.com or through the FOP bookstore.

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Chicago Lodge 7 Officer Awards

Distinguished Service Award

Police Officer Austin Morgan, Star #9702
 Police Officer Ulises Ocana, Star #10773
 Police Officer Artur Tomkow, Star #18747
 Police Officer Slawomir Skubaja,
 Star #9475
 Police Officer Mark T. Nash, Star #4836
 Police Officer Charles R. Honore,
 Star #18674
 Detective Brendan Bruno, Star #20213
 Detective John N. Korolis, Star #21339
 Detective Marc B. Leavitt, Star #21081
 Nominated by Sergeant Allen Finley,
 Star #1214

On March 19, 2021, an armed robbery occurred where the victim was stabbed several times and later succumbed to his injuries.

Officers canvassed the location of the incident and located video that provided a description of the wanted offender. Officers provided the information they had garnered to their fellow officers, who conducted a street stop of a suspect matching the



description of the wanted offender.

These officers completed a contact card and notified follow-up investigators of the possible suspect. The detectives continued to gather information against the suspect until a search warrant was obtained that yielded damning evidence linking the suspect to the crime.

Due to the officers' combined efforts and intense investigative skills, a dangerous felon was removed from the streets of Chicago and charged with first-degree murder.

It is with great appreciation that FOP Chicago Lodge 7 presents these officers with the Distinguished Service Award.

Distinguished Service Award

Police Officer Andrian Arsenyan,
 Star #5830
 Police Officer Maureen Boyle, Star #5525
 Police Officer Artur Tomkow, Star #18747
 Police Officer Slawomir Skubaja,
 Star #9475
 Police Officer Aman Haidari, Star #18122
 Police Officer Samer Ihmoud, Star #17044
 Police Officer Enes Menkovic, Star #2817
 Police Officer John Welliver, Star #19026
 Police Officer Zohaib Zaib, Star #10988
 Nominated by Sergeant Syed Quadri,
 Star #2406

The 2406 RBT Mission Team was able to form a partnership with members from the Department of Homeland Security Investigations and the Office of the Inspector General. An illegal casino had been plaguing the north end of the 24th District and became a troublesome hot spot for the community after criminal activity and shootings.

The partnership led to countless hours of surveillance operations, traffic stops and multiple arrests. The collaborative effort resulted in a high-risk search warrant executed on Feb. 8, 2022, at the location of 6948 N. Western Ave. This joint investigation led



to multiple arrests and the subsequent demolition of the problem building.

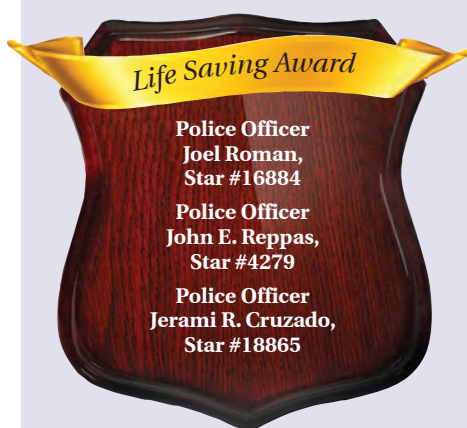
The 2406 team again collaborated with federal agents after a recent ATM aggravated robbery. The 2406 team observed video from the robbery and was able to identify a person of interest through his tattoos.

The team had previous knowledge of this same offender from the illegal casino operation. The investigation revealed that this offender was responsible for a similar ATM robbery in Skokie and two additional attempted robberies reported in Chicago. The 2406 team and its federal partners conducted surveillance in the area of the robberies and observed the offender.

The offender was located at North Park Inn Motel and arrested on an active Chicago warrant for UJW/Failure to Appear. The offender was found to be in possession of another loaded firearm equipped with a laser sight at the time of his arrest. The offender was charged with UJW by a Felon/No FOID Card and the active warrant.

It is with great appreciation that FOP Chicago Lodge 7 presents these officers with the Distinguished Service Award.

Chicago Lodge 7 Officer Awards



Nominated by Police Officer Sean Hogan, Star #6648, 19th District Watch Rep

On Sept. 18, 2021, a victim staggered into the 19th District station located at 850 W. Addison Ave. and related that he had been stabbed just a few feet from the station.

Officers Roman, Reppas and Cruzado immediately rendered aid to the victim utilizing their LEMART training. The officers applied a chest seal to the victim's stab wound on his upper torso and used direct pressure to stabilize him. EMS finally arrived on scene and transported the victim to Illinois Masonic Hospital.

Officers at the district reviewed video of the incident and were able to provide a flash message and description of the offender. Officers monitoring the radio zone located the offender match-

ing the description sitting on a park bench located at 3358 N. Broadway. The offender still had blood on his hands, and a knife was recovered from his front pocket.

The offender was placed into custody, transported to the 19th District and charged accordingly. Due to the officers' quick action, a victim's life was spared and the offender responsible for the attack was apprehended.

It is with great appreciation that FOP Chicago Lodge 7 presents these officers with the Life Saving Award and Distinguished Service Award.

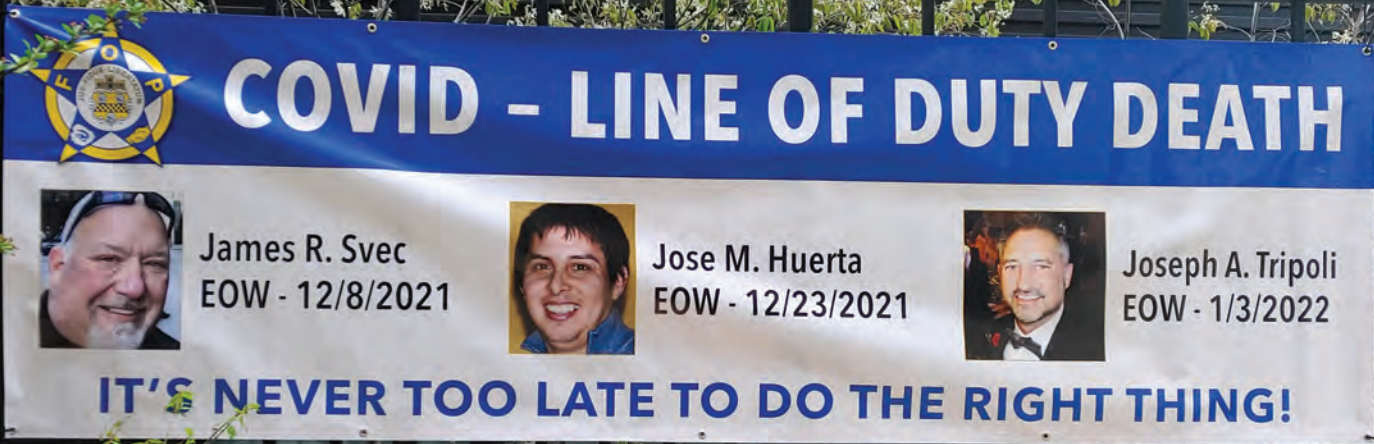
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Remembered... Finally

The families of James Svec, Jose Huerta and Joseph Tripoli express the elation of having their loved ones honored and their gratitude to Lodge 7 for fighting for what's right

BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

Word that her husband's death finally, finally received line-of-duty designation reached Elizabeth Huerta while she was still at work on Nov. 17. She stepped away and cried over how the City finally did the right thing to honor Chicago Police Officer Jose "Joey" Huerta, along with Officers James Svec and Joseph Tripoli, who were all lost to COVID during the past year.

A few hours later, she walked into her house to tell her daughter, Ariel, and son, Joseph Jr., what they had been waiting to hear since Joey passed on Dec. 23, 2021.

"I got a phone call today. They approved Daddy," Liz declared.

Both kids started crying and let out their emotions.

"My daughter was like, 'Finally. They are honoring my dad they way that they should have done a long time ago,'" Liz related. "And then my son's like, 'This is going to show what a good guy my dad was.'"

Lodge 7 had been pining to get line-of-duty designation for Jim, Joey and Joe for nearly a year. Chicago FOP President John Catanzara responded as only he can when the recognition was not granted in a timely manner. Why would the City not do the right thing for these officers, as it had for Officers Marco Di-Franco, Titus Moore and Ronald Newman and Sergeant Clifford Martin, who were lost to COVID in 2020?

When Lodge 7 held its annual memorial service in May to honor fallen officers, there was no hesitation to add the names of Svec, Huerta and Tripoli to its memorial wall right alongside Ella French. Elizabeth French even commented that neither she nor Ella would want it any other way.

At the same time, the Lodge unveiled its now-renowned ban-

ner with pictures of Jim, Joey and Joe and their end-of-watch dates above the caption "It's never too late to do the right thing."

The exhale/sigh/gasp Detective Beth Svec let out after hearing that her ex-husband and forever best friend Jim received the designation seemed to reverberate across the City. Better late than never, especially because the Svec, Huerta and Tripoli families never lost faith with the Lodge beating the drum.

"Well, of course we felt cheated, because when any line-of-duty death happens, things happen right away. But here Jim was just shoved under the rug with Jose and Joe," Beth confided. "And now that we have been vindicated, we can say, 'Hey, you have to fight for what's right.' And we are happy that this does open it up for other officers to say, 'Don't give up.'"

Banner day

Jacqueline Tripoli and her younger brothers, Joseph and Anthony, now know they can have more moments like the one they experienced at the Lodge 7 memorial service in May. As she pulled back the blue tape to reveal her father's name on the memorial wall in the FOP courtyard, Jacqueline exclaimed, "Beautiful."

Think of how beautiful it will be for these sons and daughters and spouses to see the names of their fathers and husbands in-





Lodge 7 President John Catanzara, left and Third Vice President Fernando Flores carried the banner around Gold Star Park at the candlelight vigil to advocate for James Svec, Jose Huerta and Joseph Tripoli receiving line-of-duty-death designation.

scribed on the wall at Gold Star Families & Memorial Park. And at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., where they all hope to be for National Police Week in May 2023. Jacqueline knows what the honor will mean to her family when they hear her father's name during the Candlelight Vigil and the National Peace Officers Memorial Service that culminates National Police Week.

"I'm happy that they're fighting for it. I didn't think that it would be a possibility," shared Jacqueline, who lost her dad on Jan. 3, 2022. "I'm happy to see that they are pushing forward, because COVID is definitely something that was unexpected in a lot of people's lives. I think that all the officers that are lost should be honored because they did give their lives to the force for so long."

Such thoughts beg the question of whether the City actually understood how much the job meant to Jim, Joey and Joe—that they would give their lives for it. Catanzara, for one, certainly asked that question along with many others several times during the past year.

Perhaps he was looking for an explanation of how the City could hesitate to grant line-of-duty designation to these officers amid the hundreds of others who have been lost to COVID across the country. The 301 federal, state, tribal and local law enforcement officers who died because of COVID in 2021 almost doubled the number from 2020.

Nevertheless, Chicago Police Officers, like many of their sisters and brothers across the U.S., did not hesitate to go out there every day amid the virus. And that's what kept Catanzara and the Lodge fighting for what's right.

"Unconscionable that there's a waiting process," the Lodge 7

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

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president charged. "All of the sudden, they have to take a micromanaging look at these officers. I guess the questions was, 'Where does it all end?'"

In the line of duty

Beth went right to the top to ask a few questions of her own. She explained that Jim was part of the mayor's detail and how she found it strange that the mayor didn't send a card or offer any personal thoughts when he passed on Dec. 8, 2021.

Then in May, Beth saw the mayor when she attended the superintendent's awards dinner. She asked permission from the detail commander to speak to the mayor, who related to Beth that she would take care of the matter in a very quick manner.

Inaction, however, spoke louder than words, "I thought we would be fighting this until whoever the next mayor is," Beth submitted. "She knew it was the right thing to do, but that's the way it is sometimes with this Department. They think if you don't say anything, it'll just go away. You have to keep pursuing what needs to be done."

Any member who knows Beth, or has heard about her, knows about her relentlessness. But as the pursuit went on, she saw what it was doing to their daughters, Samantha, Chelsea and Sydney.

"The way the City reacted tainted them," Beth added. "And I didn't want them to be tainted, because there are more good things with this Department than bad."

Liz Huerta had a conversation of her own with the powers that be. Joey was part of a detail that received an award at the superintendent's dinner. So she was invited to attend.

She attended with her kids, accepted the award and shook hands with the superintendent. And that gave Liz a chance to

make a pointed plea.

"I said to him, 'You need to do the right thing by my husband, by my kids, by my family,' Liz detailed. "He said, 'It will be done. It will be done.' But months and months and months went by, and I didn't hear anything. Every time we brought it up, we had to relive it. We didn't have peace."

Liz was grateful to Lodge 7 for arranging to have the CPD Pipes and Drums play at Joey's funeral and for the CPD Honor Guard to stand by Joey as he was laid to rest. When the designation finally came, Liz was even more grateful, and not just for the peace of knowing the City did the right thing or that Joey finally received his deserved recognition.

"Before the designation, my daughter was worried about having the funding for her education," Liz revealed. "I told her not to worry, that I would find a way. But now that we have this, my kids' education will be covered. She wants to be a veterinarian, so I'm hoping now her dream does come true. I told her to do it for Daddy."

The right way

What ultimately compelled the City to finally do the right thing might never be fully pinpointed. Beth reported that she had received almost weekly updates from Catanzara since May about the fight.

At the annual candlelight vigil in September, Catanzara and Lodge 7 Third Vice President Fernando Flores carried the banner around Gold Star Park for nearly three hours. They wanted everybody to keep seeing it. And one person in particular.

"I wanted the mayor to walk under it on her way out," he explained. "Her car went from one side of the park to the other depending on where we were standing because she wanted to dodge the banner. It was priceless."

Eventually, in November, the Lodge turned up the heat even

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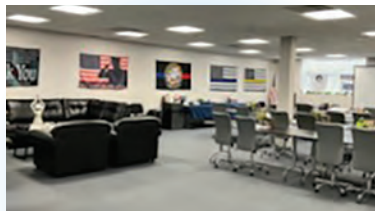
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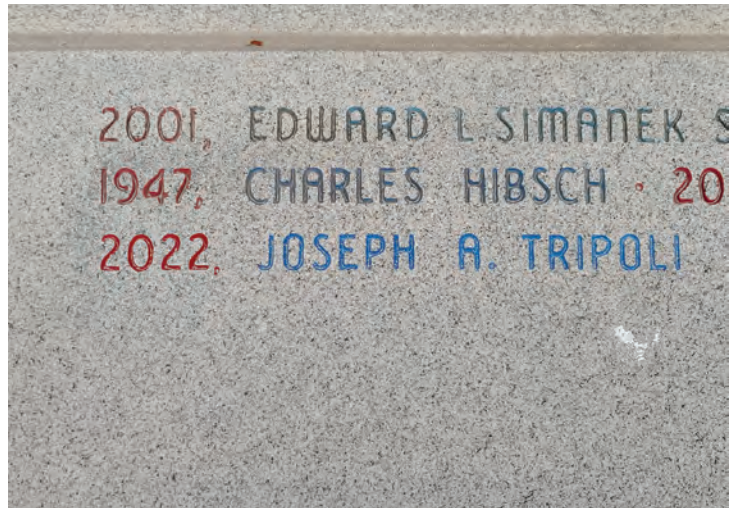
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Lodge 7 added the names of James Svec, Jose Huerta and Joseph Tripoli to its memorial wall in May.

more. Catanzara wanted the Lodge to have its attorneys file a lawsuit against the City on behalf of the Svec, Huerta and Tripoli families.

He asked the Lodge 7 board to provide authorization and then brought it to the members. When Catanzara pitched the idea at the November general members meeting, he reported hearing an overwhelming refrain of "Fuck yeah" echo from those who attended.

At yet another meeting with the City, Catanzara again heard little or no response. So he told all the parties that Lodge 7 was moving forward with the lawsuit. A few days later, Beth said she received a call from headquarters that the line-of-duty designation finally had been granted.

She couldn't say for sure what the tipping point had been, but

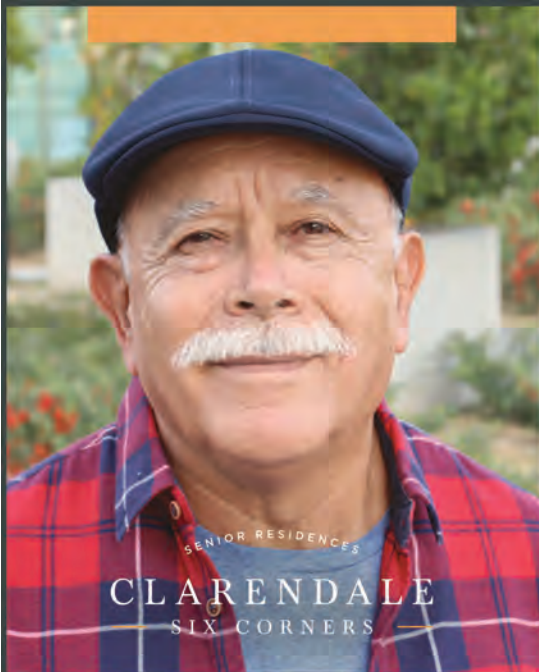
she knew who moved the mountain.

"Because John is a fighter," she emphasized. "We haven't had a fighter like that in the FOP. I knew he would never give up."

And then talk about blessed events. On Nov. 12, Samantha delivered a baby boy. John Jacob was born three days before Jim's birthday. And then Beth was going to announce the news of the designations two days after receiving the call at an engagement party for Sydney.

But this was a moment that Beth and the girls needed to share among themselves.

"We all got on the phone, and we cried for a while," Beth acknowledged. "The families will now get the line-of-duty benefits, and that's a great thing for the kids who need it. But they will all get the benefit of having their dad's name on the wall."



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Action PAC-ed

General election results confirm Lodge 7's political action has created a growing presence in Springfield

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

During the two weeks following the Nov. 8 general election, Lodge 7 Political Director Mike Cosentino and lobbyist Dave Sullivan suddenly found themselves on a most-wanted list. As they made the rounds in Springfield, more than 50 newly reelected state senators and representatives from throughout Illinois wanted to speak with the Lodge 7 contingent and meet with them about opportunities to grow support for law enforcement in the state legislature.

Lakeisha Collins, the new leader of the Black Caucus in the House and representative from the 9th District, on Chicago's Near West Side, indicated that she wants to sit down with Cos and Sullivan. Word also circulated that Speaker of the House Chris Welch and Senate President Don Harmon recognized the efforts from Lodge 7.

"From the north to all the way south in the state, people were very impressed that FOP Lodge 7 is really becoming a player, and they gave us a lot of accolades," Cosentino commented. "They see that we're willing to come to the table, and we are willing to work with them."

Talk about having established a substantive seat at the table. State Senator Elgie Sims, who represents Chicago's South Side, spotted Cosentino at a Springfield restaurant and came over to shake his hand and offer some words of encouragement.

"He said, 'I can't believe you are down here. Let's start working together on the stuff we can,'" Cosentino reported.

Here was only the preliminary evidence of the return on investment the Lodge and its members are anticipating from an elevated and energized political action committee (PAC) fund. The political action dollars members committed within the past year or so have helped elevate Lodge 7's political presence throughout the state so much that noted analyst Rich Miller recognized the impact in his must-read insider publication *Capitol Fax*.

When assessing the success of Lodge 7-supported candidates for the House and Senate in the 2022 election, an important differentiator comes into play. Members and the general public see the candidates the Lodge endorsed in the election.

But the way the political action game is played these days, money generates as much juice as endorsement. Perhaps more.

"And at this point, we think that the giving of money sends bigger shivers to the opposition because of how the tacticians look at the election data," Lodge 7 Political Action Committee Chair Brock Merck explained. "The people who are in the weeds in politics look at the Illinois Board of Elections website to see the candidates' D1s and who gave them money. We've had candidates who have returned the money because they don't want the FOP on their D1s."

That was elections past. Merck's analysis of this election leads to a perspective on a whole new world.

“We have candidates who are now accepting the money and actually telling the world, ‘I embrace FOP,’” he added. “Candidates are now in office who are willing to wear the badge ‘I am an FOP money-taker.’ And that causes them to have to defend FOP positions.”

Members who have been following the way Lodge 7 has ramped up its political action know that Cosentino is an astute student of the numbers. Based on his pre-election numbers-crunching, Cosentino forecasted that the Chicago FOP could see successful outcomes in the races for 62 of the 66 candidates it had given money to.

Final counts show that FOP-funded candidates won 59 of those races. And in three races that Lodge candidates didn't win, the margin of victory was a meager 1 percent, approximately.

Cosentino credits the Lodge 7 board of directors and President John Catanzara for authorizing and empowering the action that has the Chicago FOP in position to be a prominent political player and rising power in Springfield.

“I personally talked to a few board members who we sometimes don't agree with, and they were all in on this,” Cosentino articulated. “Their courage to do this under John's direction is really going to pay dividends in the future.”

Not that the Lodge is in position to rally legislators to repeal HB 3653, the infamous SAFE-T Act, just yet. But the presence will manifest in a seat at the table with many legislators to create conversations that can result in something like the legislature moving to amend the no pre-trial detention bond requirement that was part of 3653. Such action may keep more offenders in prison awaiting trial rather than getting out just because they say they can't afford bail.

Cosentino detailed how he and Sullivan are now in a better position to grow relationships and to have conversations with legislators on both sides of the aisle. That is the next phase of the game and could yield an immediate return on investment for members.

“Now, legislators are asking us, ‘What can I help you with?’” Cos continued. “We have some legislation that we're actually going to be pushing in January, and we will also be in position to block legislation. Look, these people are not monsters. They want to do what's right.”

The general election success also gives Lodge 7 momentum going into the mayoral and city council elections on Feb. 28. Merck analyzes that the Lodge is now in position to put crime reduction prominently on the ballot in the municipal election as a way to bring the City back from how far it has fallen under the current administration.

“You will have progressive candidates who want to say how successful their progressive agendas are. And they will be laughed at because progressive policies have destroyed the City,” Merck appraised. “If people want to have a successful City, they have to understand we have out-of-control criminals who are not being attended to by our criminal justice system.”

Accordingly, the Lodge 7 political director offers this directive for members to start getting ready for municipal elections:

“Our members need to get involved, and they need to vote,” Cosentino advised. “We did vote higher than the state average in the last election, and we're building on it every day. If we can maintain that unity and really start voting as a bloc, we're going to be unstoppable.”



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Work of Arts

CPD Graphic Arts Section's 'French Forever' video tribute nominated for a regional Emmy

BY ESTHER GONZALES

On Saturday, the 7th of August 2021 ... right around 2100 hours ... all hell broke loose. Everything changed at that moment. I heard something in my ear, some rattling. ... Someone's out there running. Someone needs some help.

Blue lights flash against the night sky from a line of CPD squad cars. A recording from the police radio plays.

"Officer down," a desperate voice declares.

In the first few seconds of the video tribute "French Forever," produced by the members of the CPD Graphic Arts Section, Communications Operator Keith Thornton Jr. recounts the heart-wrenching radio transmissions that came in that night. A somber piano melody plays in the background as hundreds of Chicago Police Officers gather to lay CPD Officer Ella Grace French to rest.

As officers fill the church, a voiceover pierces:

"We're also mindful tonight that our sister died doing God's work. She did not give her life. Her life was taken from her."

Officers escort Ella's mother, Elizabeth French, into the room as her voice echoes in the background. "I have two children, Ella and Andrew. They are my heart. Today I am here with half my heart."

In tears, Elizabeth French bends down and kisses Ella's coffin, covered in a CPD flag.

In the wake of that night, which shook almost every Chicago Police Officer, the Graphic Arts Section worked relentlessly to capture even a glimpse of the immense support and unwavering brotherhood that stands behind their fallen. "French Forever" created such a profound impact that on Oct. 10 it was nominated for a National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) Regional Emmy Award for outstanding achievement for human interest.

"I think the most important thing we were kind of able to see through this is that the videos and the photography were able to help officers not only in CPD, but around the country,



From left, CPD Graphic Arts Section Officers Jonathan Miano, Eduardo Echevarria Jr. and Frank Alatorre produced "French Forever," a video tribute that was nominated for the Chicago Midwest Emmy.



mourn together,” explained Chicago Police Officer Jonathan Miano, who helped produce the video. “And to hopefully have some shared healing together, as well. It allowed them to get to know Ella’s character and love for people. It’s nice to get recognized. But I think our mission will continue to be the same whether we receive awards or not.”

As an extension of the News Affairs Division, the Graphic Arts Section offers its creative services to the Department in numerous ways. It creates graphics, photographs special events and produces video content for award ceremonies, community events, academy graduations and funerals.

Officer Frank Alatorre, who has been on the job for 15 years and has been assigned to Graphic Arts for several years, explained that since 2017, the unit has moved in a direction to incorporate a special video series to highlight Chicago Police Officers and the activities members are involved in. It only began documenting officers’ funerals in the past couple of years. “French Forever” is the second memorial video to be nomi-



Honoring fallen Chicago Police Officer Ella G. French, Star #15013

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nated for a regional Emmy. Last year’s nomination “Honoring Canine Domi” detailed the story of K-9 Domi’s time on the job, the process of his adoption, and his memorial service after he was put down due to illness.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 44

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A lasting image from "French Forever."

PRODUCED BY: P.O. MIANO
 SGT. NIEVES
VIDEO: P.O. ECHEVARRIA JR
 P.O. MIANO
 P.O. ALATORRE
 P.O. MCDONOUGH
VOICES: FR. BRANDT, CPD CHAPLAINS UNIT
 ELIZABETH FRENCH
 DAVID TINBERG
PHOTOS: ERIC DAVIS
EDITED BY: P.O. ECHEVARRIA JR

Members of the CPD Graphic Arts Section produced and edited "French Forever" to honor Ella French.

WORK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 43

"You always say, 'Never forget, always remember, and you don't want to forget their sacrifice,'" Alatorre related. "And I think that's our main goal — to always honor their sacrifice. All the functions that go into play and all the Department members who are involved with putting together the honors for the fallen families and the officers, I think that's of great significance."

Throughout the process of producing "French Forever," members worked with the Special Activities Unit and the CPD Honor Guard to schedule interviews and gather information

to document the funeral procession. The team used several cameras to capture various angles of French's funeral and wake. After gathering the footage, Officer Eduardo Echevarria Jr. began editing the video with input from team members.

"My whole objective of it all is to tell the story correctly," Echevarria affirmed. "And even though me and my team never met Ella French, I still wanted to recapture the moment and get to know her through the video. I wanted to just showcase the fact of who she was and who she is. We went hands-on, working so many hours, trying to capture it."

After the officers submitted the video to NATAS, they remarked how it felt bittersweet to receive news that it was nom-



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inated. But they believed this was an incredible opportunity to help Ella's legacy live on.

"This was the one video that meant a lot to us," Alatorre added. "Especially because she was a police officer and because of what happened. So, once it was completed, we knew that this is what we wanted."

On Dec. 3, Alatorre, Echevarria and Miano attended the NATAS Chicago Midwest Emmy Awards. Representing the CPD, these officers expressed they felt immensely honored to have been nominated.

And although they did not win the Emmy Award, Echevarria expressed that he felt they had already won.

"It would've meant everything to have won, but Emmy or not, we already won when we initially created this video for Elizabeth French and Ella's extended family," he said. "This video will forever tell Ella's story and continue to share her legacy. And with that alone, we are extremely proud to have been part of it all."



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Happy Cops-giving!

Chicago Police Officers give it up for their communities at Thanksgiving

This Thanksgiving season, Chicago Police Officers did not hold back. From hosting Thanksgiving parties to delivering food to those in need and giving away turkeys and hot meals, these officers seem to have given their communities a lot to be thankful for.

Here is a glimpse of how Chicago Police Officers gave back to their communities.



3rd District

On Nov. 18, 3rd District DCOs partnered with the Ring of Hope and delivered boxes of food to seniors in need. Donations included canned goods, dried food and frozen turkeys, just in time for Thanksgiving.



10th District

Members of the 10th District partnered with the Latin American Police Association to distribute Thanksgiving dinners to six families who were victims of recent gun violence in the city.

CAPS officers of the 10th District hosted a coat drive on Nov. 2 for children in the community. Members handed out more than 500 coats and jackets by the end of the event.



12th District

Members of the 12th District CAPS Office served Thanksgiving dinner to residents in the community on Nov. 25 at Holy Trinity Church.



14th District

In partnership with McDonald's and the CPD Knights, 14th District officers helped hand out free turkeys to residents in need on Nov. 18.



15th District

On Nov. 22, 15th District officers gathered with children and youth in the community during their weekly Hip Hop Tuesday event to host a Thanksgiving party. The evening included delicious food and decorating ornaments for the station.



18th District

Officers of the 18th District partnered with Jewel Osco and Catholic Charities on Nov. 22 to provide Thanksgiving dinners to those in need.

Can't Stop the Music

1st District officers donate instruments to local man

BY HINAA NOOR

On Nov. 17, the 1st District hummed with melodious tunes by Beethoven and Bach. Officers were all smiles as a young man played his violin and guitar for them.

"He was very excited to play for us," 1st District Chicago Police Officer Tri Tran stated. "He sounded very professional and knew what he was doing."

Just a few weeks earlier, this 23-year-old man was reported missing. He had wandered off. When his mother couldn't locate him, she turned to officers in 001.

Shortly thereafter, officers found the young man in a nearby field. But there was still something missing.

The young man's mother told officers that her son's violin had been lost. She mentioned his love of music and that he was becoming a gifted musician.

Upon hearing about all this, Officer Tran, who works CAPS in 001, decided to donate his violin to the young man.

"When our officers found him, they got to know him better," Tran expressed.



"We heard that he played the violin very well. The officers discussed helping to set up something for him. I had a violin that I didn't play anymore, so I volunteered to donate that as well."

Two weeks after the incident, five officers from the 1st District invited the young man's mother to come by the station, where they had planned a surprise for him. Officer Ruby Alvarez decided to also give a guitar to the young man. The mother was not only relieved to see her son back, but also happy to have his violin back.

When Officer Alvarez handed over the guitar to the young man, he was sur-



prised to have both musical instruments. Officers from 001 have continued their relationship with the young man and continue to keep in touch with him.

"He kept thanking us," Tran stated. "He loves the police, and he was just really thankful."

For First Responders

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Lights, Camera, Action

District 15 officers hosted a memorable movie night for local kids

■ BY HINAA NOOR

When the movie “Black Panther: Wakanda Forever” was set to premiere, 100 or so kids in the 15th District might have thought they would never get to see the blockbuster. But even though shows were sold out, officers in 015 managed to book a theater all to themselves.

On Nov. 12, they hosted a movie night for kids in the Austin neighborhood. The kids got to see Queen Ramonda, Shuri and War Dog Nakia protect their nation from intervening world powers in the wake of King T’Challa’s death.

“To be honest, I didn’t know it was this easy to reserve a whole theater,” 15th District Youth Liaison Officer William Martinez explained. “We did it early because the theaters were sold out for the movie.”

The moviegoers were accompanied by 12 officers. It became an independent experience for the children, who never had been on their own in a theater before.

The young people, who came from different organizations, had the chance to have their own large popcorn and sodas.



Officer Martinez remembered two siblings who looked at each other in surprise that they were able to each have their own popcorn.

When he heard about the movie coming out, Martinez planned the event and presented the idea to Meridian Illinois for sponsorship.

“When I told them what I wanted to do, they loved it so much that they were like, ‘Let’s make it an event,’” Martinez added.

The children were able to see the movie on a weekend so they could go back to school on Monday talking about it. They celebrated the experience by taking pictures with officers afterward. Some of the



015 officers even dressed in Black Panther costumes for the movie night.

“They were emotionally invested in ‘Black Panther,’” Martinez stated. “They see themselves as the hero, who looks like them. They were talking about it for the next two weeks after the program.”

Children who attended also came from the 12th and 18th districts, as well as 015. Others came from local churches and from Westside Health Authority. Martinez passed along a flyer and posted on social media about the opportunity to attend.

“Everything worked out so well,” Martinez said. “The key to this whole thing is collaborating. This was for the kids.”

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CPMF steps up for officer health and fitness

BY DAN CAMPANA

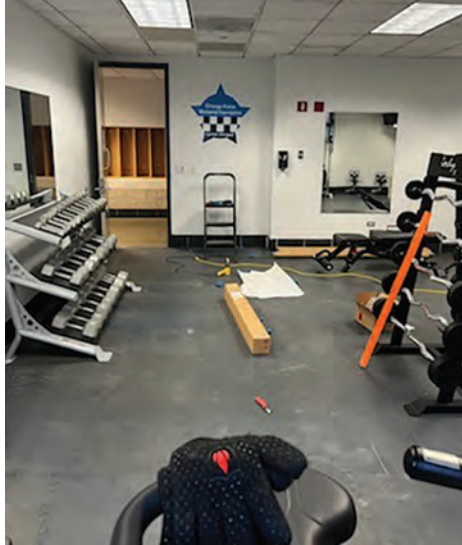
The Chicago Police Memorial Foundation has kicked off a new initiative that will put more than \$400,000 into refurbishing gyms and updating equipment at all 22 districts and three other CPD facilities.

Speaking at the 16th District — the first to have its workout room upgraded — CPMF Executive Director Phil Cline described the organization's mission, which includes a focus on supporting active officers who perform a difficult, physically demanding job.

"We can all agree that officer fitness and wellness should be a priority," Cline said. "If we want our officers to be in good physical shape, then we ought to back them up with a commitment to provide facilities and equipment."

To that extent, CPMF is in the process of contacting all districts, the training academy, CPD headquarters and the Homan Square facility to understand what's needed at each location. Officials said every CPD gym is highly used, making this gesture by CPMF very timely.

The 16th's renovations were nearly



complete in mid-November, with new free weights and exercise equipment standing out in the district's workout space.

"We are proud to be able to provide new equipment in an effort to enhance the physical and mental wellness of our officers who risk so much for us all every day," the 16th District said in a tweet, along with photos of their gym.





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Cops and the Community

The moments that define support and appreciation are unique, and they can be a two-way street. Chicago Police Officers found moments in November to show they care, and citizens reciprocated in special ways that aren't easily forgotten.



17th District



1st District

Officers in 001 saw their rides spruced up thanks to the staff of 360 Hazardous, who celebrated their version of Law Enforcement Appreciation Day by stopping by district headquarters to sanitize squads and other vehicles.



Giving Tuesday hit a high mark in the 17th District, where officers and the community showed up in a big way for a blood drive held in partnership by the district, Chamberlain University and Vitalant-Illinois. Officers rolled up their sleeves to help the drive reach its goal for the day.



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5th District



A milestone birthday like Ms. Parker's 100th brought out 5th District officers, who greeted her at home and held a roll call at House of Hope Church to honor her special day.



16th District

Every day is a good day to hang with the kids, just as the 16th District's Officer Friendly did at Prussing Elementary School, where she met plenty of eager and interested second graders.

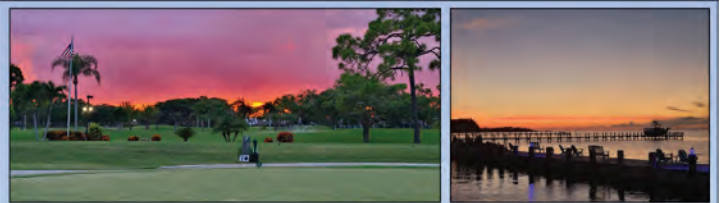


Remembering Officer Samuel Jimenez

The 2nd District paid tribute to Officer Samuel Jimenez on Nov. 19 with a memorial roll call to mark the fourth anniversary of his line-of-duty death. The somber gathering included many of Jimenez's colleagues, as well as words of love from family members and many others who wished to honor him.

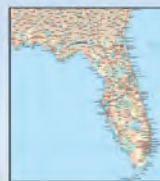
Just 28 years old and less than two years on the job, Jimenez died after being shot when he responded to a call of a disturbance at Mercy Hospital. Jimenez and another officer pursued a man into the hospital after he had shot and killed a woman outside the facility.

The man opened fire on officers attempting to apprehend him, fatally striking Jimenez and a bystander.



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I tell my patients with hip and back pain/stiffness to stand up and move every hour. Motion is lotion! When we move, our body increases blood flow and synovial fluid (nutrition and lubrication) to the joints, which improves health and mobility. Below are stretches you can perform throughout your tour to help reduce back and hip pain/stiffness.



Seated figure four: Sit up with good posture and cross one ankle over the opposite knee. Perform 3 times for 30 seconds on each side.



Thread the needle: Stand and place one hand on a raised surface. Bend over at your hips and stagger your feet. Rotate the free arm and your back away from the table, then return to neutral. Perform 3 times for 10 seconds on each side.



Standing hip flexor: Stand up with good posture. Place one foot in front of the other, lunge forward, and keep the back leg straight. You should feel a stretch in the front of the hip on the leg behind you. Perform 3 times for 30 seconds on each side.

Hamstring: Sit up with good posture. Straighten one leg and bend forward at your hips. Keep your knee straight, feeling a stretch in the back of your leg. Perform 3 times for 30 seconds on each side.



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DR. FAN XI

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Sex is critically important for men's happiness and health, and performance problems can really impact them negatively. Estimates vary, but one study found about half of all men experience ED at some point in their lives, with the percentage increasing after age 40.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Men don't like to talk about it, but erectile dysfunction is very common and increases with age. The good news, though, is that medicine can help. Erectile dysfunction medications revolutionized the treatment of ED when they were first approved by the FDA in 1998. Several are available in generic form now that the large pharmaceutical companies' patents have expired.

Generic ED drugs are less expensive, but it's distressing that companies are exploiting men's insecurities by charging high prices for them. We believe this is wrong.

To combat this and help men get the medication they need, Ziven Health recently added tadalafil (generic Cialis) to its product line. Ziven specializes in testosterone restoration treatment, but the addition of ED medication lets Ziven offer men more options for better outcomes.

At Ziven, we truly care about men's health and happiness. Optimizing a man's testosterone — not just getting it to "normal" — is the gold standard of treatment. But ED drugs have a place, too. We think it's outrageous for companies to charge high prices for generic ED drugs—and testosterone replacement, too, for that matter. Both of these can be vitally important for a man's happiness and health. Men should be able to afford them.

Our programs are designed to be as simple and affordable as possible. Patients sign up online — no doctor visits or embarrassing phone calls are necessary, although we do offer telemedicine sessions if needed. For our ED program, we offer one drug, one dosage and one bottle at a time, at a much lower price than other companies charge.

I hope men who are experiencing ED, or who are paying high prices for their ED medication, will look to a program like Ziven's to improve their health and happiness.

Few things benefit a man's self-confidence as much as a healthy, vital sex life. Optimal testosterone is key to laying down a long-term foundation for sexual happiness, but a quality ED drug at an affordable price can do wonders for a weekend.

Ziven Health's programs for optimizing men's health and happiness, including testosterone restoration, ED medication and more, are available at zivenhealth.com.



Dr. Fan Xi graduated from Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University in 2001. He practices in New Jersey, where he specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation. Visit zivenhealth.com for more information, including the sources for the information referenced in the article.

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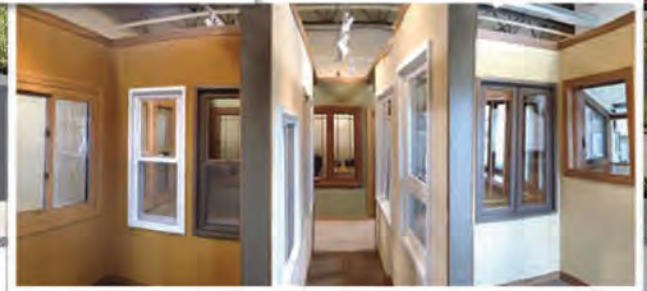
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