



*Fraternal Order of Police*

# CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine • July 2025



**OFFICER KRYSTAL RIVERA**

**STAR #19020**

**END OF WATCH: JUNE 5, 2025**



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## COVER STORY PAGE 36

### Krystal Gazing

Her mesmerizing look. Her infectious smile. Her beautiful daughter. Life just radiated from Chicago Police Officer Krystal Rivera. She had an otherworldly presence that compelled officers throughout the City to offer tribute after Krystal was lost in the line of duty on June 5. Thousands came out for the visitation on June 24 and the funeral service the following day to express what made Krystal a great friend, great colleague, great officer and great mother. Our Krystal collection of tributes includes:

- Accounts from her family members, fellow officers and Department leadership about why she was a rising star.
- A special look from the 6th District and Tac Team 663 showing Krystal's determination and dedication.



COVER DESIGN BY JENNA RAMOS

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# CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine  
President's Report



## Making it Krystal clear



JOHN  
CATANZARA  
JR.

Every officer we lose in the line of duty hits me like a punch to the gut. But there I was at the funeral for Krystal Rivera, sitting at the Living Word Christian Center and experiencing a memorial service like we have never seen. Flipping through the program, a picture hit me harder than I expected.

Krystal is walking and holding the hand of her daughter. She is looking down. Bella is looking back up. The same smile is coming right back to both of them. Pause for a second to wipe away the tear.

That is the defining image of Krystal. And the lasting image, from my perspective. Let's remember Krystal like this. Let's do everything we can to put that smile on her daughter's face as often as possible as the best possible tribute to her mom.

Several factors made this line-of-duty death different from many of the others. Aside from the obvious, which I will get to in a minute.

The service, for one, provided a memorable touch. Having singers from the Living Word Praise Team perform songs of faith in honor of Krystal was a tremendous way to lift up the hundreds of members who attended the service. Hearing her aunt speak for the family explained the love that flowed so unconditionally from Krystal to her daughter, her family, friends and right through the 6th District, where she worked, and Tac Team 663, which she was a part of.

If you did not hear the vibe that Krystal's best friend, Jen Topacio, emanated during her tribute, please go to YouTube and see for yourself. The fact that the funeral came three weeks after the incident on June 5 made Jen's humor more palatable, more appropriate. I suspect Jen was trying to get Krystal to laugh that "snorting laugh," and she would have been happy that we were all laughing out loud.

It was a perfect way to top off the tributes. Make it a little more lighthearted and a little more personal, to show the fun side of us because we are human beings above and beyond being officers. So that was definitely great, at least from my perspective. I hope the family appreciated it, picturing Krystal with that smile, the way she will always be for me.

I do have some additional thoughts in the wake of this incident, so allow me to address them one at a time.

### Family first

I want Krystal's family to know that Lodge 7 is always going to be there for them. So far, we have not had a lot of interaction with her parents, her sisters and her daughter. Not that there is anything wrong with that. We are respecting their wishes as we have for every Gold Star family.

I'm just glad her daughter had some time to digest the situation before the service. We could all learn from her with how poised she has been and how composed she was at the funeral, even when the superintendent presented her with one of the flags covering her mom's casket.



President's Report continues on Page 6

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I remember the night it happened, and whether it was at the hospital or the morgue, the sheer devastation in Bella's face was as palpable as it can be. I'm certainly not implying she's over it. She will have a lot of hard days ahead and a lot of instances when the reality hits of "Mom's not here" in moments of joy and accomplishment. She's going to be missing that pat on the back and that hug. So to that degree, I'm glad she was at least able to absorb the pomp and circumstance and respect and honoring of her mom from the Department's perspective.

So our time will come when we will be there Krystal's family. And we will.

For now, interaction with her family has been limited because of the circumstances and the reality of defending her partner and his actions. I know that is a point of contention to some degree, so we are making sure their wishes are honored at this time.

But our offer to do whatever they would reasonably request remains unconditional. We sponsored the post-funeral luncheon for family and friends as has become our tradition. Because of the circumstances, we have kept our distance for the time being and be there whenever they call, whenever they need us.

We will continue to hear about Krystal being a hero, and her service as a Chicago Police Officer is unequivocal. She was also a remarkable parent, an involved single mom thriving in a life that is not easy: being a single mom police officer. Support has always been a big part of her life, and that will continue to come for her family as the best tribute we can give to our colleague, our friend, our sister.

### Partner up

I reached out to officers in the 6th District who, to a person, told me how great a person Krystal was, how great a worker she was. And that she really, really enjoyed working with her partner. She would always defend him, no matter who had anything bad to say about it. She was the epitome of a great partner.

It is so hard to find the right words, especially knowing what the family's thoughts are at this time, at least until they heal a little bit more. I was in the room when he was notified that it was his round, and his first thought was, "How could I ever look at myself in the mirror again?"

It was just sheer devastation because he kept repeating over and over, and I will never forget this, "She's the only one who ever stuck up for me." She was a partner in every sense of the word, and those are rare on this job, quite honestly. So that adds to the tragedy, to me: for someone who was so dedicated to their partner to lose her life the way she did. And then to have that devastation and guilt transferred to her partner. That's just an unimaginably tough situation for everybody.

After we process what happened to Krystal and the family and this little girl left behind, you go immediately to her partner. We are keeping a 24-hour watch on him right now.

I talked to him the night before the *Sun-Times* ran that hit piece on him just a few days after the funeral. Just despicable. I let him know that I tried to persuade them not to run the article, but to no avail.

Then he called me the morning when it came out, and he was livid because of so many inaccuracies and misperceptions. I told him to F the media for now. It's going to get worse before it gets better now that Krystal's been laid to rest. And he got it. He knows in his heart it was a 100 percent unavoidable accident.

All officers involved in a deadly shooting with their partners, whether they are responsible or not, play that "what if" game. I've had this conversation with Carlos Yanez, and God bless him for trying to be there as much as he can for Krystal's partner. You always play the game of "what if I did this differently, maybe they'd be here." That's just human nature to Monday-morning-quarterback to that level. But that doesn't mean in the moment that "what if I did something differently" was realistically available. It's this never-ending tug of war mentally. I guarantee he's going to go through this the rest of his life.

The reality is, if the rifle that guy in the apartment building came out wielding had been loaded, we would've had two funerals rather than one. Fortunately, the rifle was not loaded.

His reactions were as textbook a police response to an officer-involved shooting as I think you can have in this situation. When it is released, I think the body cam footage will just show how well he actually did keep himself together, render aid, carry her out and was aware of what was going on after he knew Krystal was on her way to the hospital.

I have a very accurate account of what he did. Pretty amazing response to what was going on at the moment — again, with his belief that she was shot by the bad guy. If he knew that he had fired his gun and shot her, I guarantee he would've collapsed in an emotional heap, and his responses would've been very different, which also gives credence to the storyline that he didn't know he fired the gun. There's no way he would've responded the way he did if he had known. So, yeah, it's sad all the way around for all directly affected.

### Bad press

I put my weekly video up a day early, on June 26, in advance of the *Sun-Times* hit piece. I tried to explain to them that this kid's in a fragile state.

This kid literally has to deal with the guilt of accidentally killing his partner, and now here you are trying to make him a bigger boogeyman than some people have already tried, putting more guilt and doubt in his head.

The reporter told me, "Not at all. I'm very sensitive to that."

So I responded, "We shouldn't be having this conversation, should we? But here we are having it anyway."

He said, "Let me talk to my editor. I'll call you back."

I got a call back two hours later to let me know they were going through with the story. That's shame on them. Just shows how slimy and scummy the press can fucking be.

I don't necessarily think that's going to be a bridge we have to cross. We have a lot of support for her partner, and we've got him in a good position in his head in terms of explaining that we know what he did, how he reacted, how it happened. I know the doubt is making him go back and forth. I can only really imagine, but I think he grasps that in those moments of doubt, he needs to contact somebody, and there are plenty of options for him.

We don't need to lose two officers over this tragedy. We lost one. We can't get her back. We've got to do everything we can to make sure we keep him.

The ridiculousness the *Sun-Times* put out there about why he was removed from the tac team confirms the lack of credibility of this story. The chief of patrol said no one with under three years on the job can be on a tac team. Anybody with less than three years was removed, and when he actually got past three years, he was put back on the team.

Just simple smoke-and-mirrors distraction. Nonsense, just to muddy the waters. A 100 percent hit piece on this officer with a reference to him as a PPO and what happened his first day on the street. As we all know, the FTO makes the decision whether someone's getting arrested. In that moment, a PPO is not going to tell an FTO, "We're locking this person up my first day on the street." It's "You're teaching me how to do this and apply everything I learned in the academy." It's just such disgusting and grotesque reporting that created this public lynching. Shame on them.

I think the superintendent has been great with his response, realizing that there is going to be an attack on this officer and the Department. But we don't need to do it ourselves. We can't stop what other people do, but we can control how we react and what we do about it. So I give credit where credit is due, and it is definitely due in how the superintendent has handled this situation to this point.

### Last words

I hope to have a conversation with Krystal's family at some point about what happened to her, giving us a case to address the SAFE-T Act



legislatively in Springfield. What has happened here is a textbook example of the loophole created by the act eliminating felony murder from the statutes.

Four years ago, both of these offenders from that night would have been charged with murder. No doubt, 100 percent. The SAFE-T Act absolutely needs to change for law enforcement. We need to have felony murder back on the books just for the sake of all victims' families in these situations.

So we're going to make a push to get a lot of these Gold Star family members in front of the right legislators and compel them to make a decision publicly. And if they want to stick with where they're at, well then, politically, they're going to have to pay a price. Enough is enough.

All of which brings me back to what was going through my mind listening to the Living Word Christian Center Praise Team send up those songs of faith. Now, in this moment, more than any other, it's a perfect time to remind everybody that we need to be better to each other.

We can, and we should, be better to each other because many times we do have support. Many times we are our only support, so when we start going after each other, it makes it harder for everybody to do this job. So I would just hope that that message sinks in. It may sound a little hypocritical, but if you've got nothing nice to say, don't say it at all. My job is to say things. That's what I'm supposed to do. But we certainly don't have to attack each other.

I hope this resonates with all members. You don't really know what somebody else is going through more times than not. But a kind word will help somebody through a moment. It doesn't cost you anything. It can be hard sometimes, especially in today's climate. But do unto others.... You can be sure Krystal always did!



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# Discipline Briefs



DAN  
GORMAN

Part of my report given at the monthly General Members meetings include examples of arbitrators' decisions issued at binding summary opinion (BSO) arbitration hearings. Every investigation has its own individual circumstances, and in most cases, there are multiple allegations and redundant alleged "rule violations" (usually piled on by the investigators). However, below are examples of relatively simpler CR investigations and recent dispositions that have been awarded by the binding summary arbitrators. The following discipline briefs only provide a generalization of the allegations that were sustained in the CR investigation.

General Summary of Allegation	Original Recommended Penalty	Arbitrator's Award
Alleged no probable cause	10-day suspension (2x's)	Expunged
Fail to "immediately" notify OEMC after and OIS. Late BWC activation & early deactivation	5-day suspension (2x's)	Violation Noted, No Discipline only for early BWC deactivation
Pursuit, fail to notify OEMC of a 9-second pursuit, no BWC	15-days suspension 10-days suspension	3-days suspension 1-day suspension
Verbal: directed towards supervisor	10-days suspension	8-days suspension
No BWC during riots	1-day suspension	Violation Noted, No discipline
Fail to report misconduct. No GOCR to citizen.	7-day suspension (2x's)	Reprimand

## QUOTE BOARD:

To add context to some of the above listed dispositions, below are just a few notable quotes taken directly from the arbitrator's written awards/decisions.

### Quote from the 8-page arbitration decision re: Alleged no probable cause

"COPA did not claim the Grievants were lying, but rather relied on the criminal court's finding there was no probable cause for the search. Again, this search was based on consent, not on probable

cause. While COPA claimed to have taken the Grievant's personnel histories into account in forming its recommended punishment, it is difficult to understand how it did so. Both were highly decorated officers with unblemished records."

### Quote from the 6-page arbitration decision re: Fail to notify OEMC immediately after an OIS

"[COPA's] rationale is somewhat perplexing." "COPA seems not to recognize that the second pointing incident was a much more personal threat to an individual officer, which understandably had a more direct impact on the threatened officer's state of mind." "This situation is no different from a scenario where an officer has been physically injured and unable to contact OEMC."

### BWC:

"[The officers] were caught by surprise when [the offender] suddenly appeared with a weapon pointed at them." "They did not have time to turn on their BWCs when giving chase or when [the offender] was pointing a gun at [one of the officers]. The Department recognizes that there are emergent times when officers cannot divert their attention away from the moment to activate their BWCs. This was one of those moments."

### Quote from the 8-page arbitration decision re: Stop vehicle without justification / used restraints without justification

"...the 12 minutes includes the time that the driver was still upset and acting aggressively, but even more significantly the Grievant left the handcuffed driver with the other officers while he returned to his police vehicle to write up the tow report. The Grievant did not have control over the time..."

"The Grievant did not have grounds to tow the vehicle and to do it because of a negative experience with a citizen is punitive and an abuse of power."

### Quotes from the 11-page arbitration decision re: Pursuit (9 seconds), fail to notify OEMC, no BWC

"I also note that Officer [REDACTED] did initially begin a vehicle chase, but quickly (within 9 seconds) abandoned the chase. In addition, the events occurred over a very compressed time period. Further, as to reporting to OEMC, and activating their BWCs, the situation unfolded very quickly and the Officers were focused on dealing with the situation. While the Officers clearly did not follow the Rules to the letter, the situation required a quick reaction. I also note that two members of the CCR recommended decreases in the penalties for Officer [REDACTED], and one member recommended a decrease in the penalty for Officer [REDACTED]"

### Quote from the 7-page arbitration decision re: Verbal: directed towards a supervisor

"It is clear that Officers are required to comply with the Rules and Regulations of the Chicago Police Department, including behaving appropriately towards Superiors. Specific mechanisms identify the procedures with which one must comply to report a complaint regarding a Supervisor. In this case, Officer [REDACTED] did not follow said procedures. I note that the Department is a paramilitary organization, in which the chain-of-command must be respected."

### Quotes from the 7-page arbitration decision re: No BWC during riots

"[The officer] was served with a 1-day Suspension on September 7, 2022, approximately 28 months after the incident. I note that the Union has indicated that the delay in the Investigation was

a significant mitigating factor. I note that the delay in issuing the discipline is a mitigating factor in determining whether the penalty was appropriate”.

“It is uncontested that the instant incident was extremely chaotic and the Department’s resources were overwhelmed by the situation.” “[The officer] admitted that he failed to activate his BWC. I note that while [the officer] failed to activate his BWC on the night in question, I cannot find that this is a serious violation in light of the overall circumstances.”

**Quotes from the 9-page arbitration decision re:**

***Fail to Report Misconduct and no case report for a citizen:***

“The CCR reviewers raise reasonable concerns as to a 7-day suspension for what amounts to a mistaken belief that a report did not need to be submitted, especially when the supervisor had taken over the investigation and failed to give the Officers adequate guidance as to their responsibilities. While the excessive delay in this matter may not have prejudiced the Grievants, as already discussed, a 7-day penalty would serve no corrective purpose after nearly 5 years. Instead, it would be punitive and contrary to the progressive discipline principles agreed upon by the parties in their CBA. It is also an excessive penalty for a document oversight by two Officers who believed they were doing everything by the book.”

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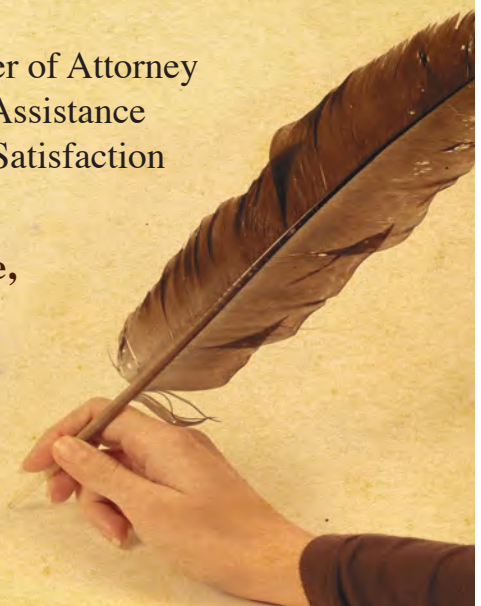


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# Injury On Duty Recurrence Claims



MONICA  
ORTIZ

I want to revisit this topic to keep officers informed about the steps to take when needing a referral for a prior injury. There have been several calls from officers requesting referrals for a prior injury on duty (IOD). Under the contract, there is a section titled Appendix N that addresses the steps for filing recurrence claims for injuries. I would like to inform the officers so that all necessary steps are followed appropriately. Suppose you need treatment for an injury or illness you believe is related to an IOD. The medical section will have you complete a TO FROM addressed to the medical director, listing the year and date of the claim, as well as the pain or discomfort you are experiencing related to your injury on duty. The medical section physician will evaluate the claim. The medical section physician can concur with and provide a referral **or refer** you for a related examination. In that case, when a case is sent for a relatedness exam, the case manager in the medical section should be provided with a list of physicians for the **relatedness examination**. Officer, you choose the doctor you want to see from a list of available doctors. Do not let the medical section select a doctor for you. The doctor conducting the related exam will submit a report to the medical service section with a conclusion of his exam. Officers, if you undergo a relatedness exam, ask the doctor questions about the specific body part you are examining. If you have medical records from past diagnoses, including x-rays, MRIs, or any scans that showed you already had the injury, bring those with you and hand them to the doctor conducting the relatedness exam. The parties may accept the referral physician's findings, which shall be final and binding for the officer and his employer. Ensure that you are sent for a relatedness exam first, and the medical section does not skip a step by sending you directly for an IME exam. If the officer or employer does not agree with the conclusion from the referral in the above step, they both have the option to seek an **Independent Medical Exam (IME)**. The officer will be given a list of IME doctors to choose from and must select at least two doctors for the IME exam. The list of IME doctors should be for the appropriate medical specialty.

The IME physician shall consider all documents and medical records. The medical service section, as part of the police department, is not concerned about your care. The medical service section appears more interested in aggressively protecting the city against more IOD claims. I'm bringing this up because I have concerns about how the city handles this process and the transparency of the Appendix N process. We have requested that the city add more doctors to the list of doctors for IME exams. I un-

derstand there will be instances where an injury is unrelated and is clear from all the accurate documents. My concern stems from some grievances I've handled in which it was clear that an officer's injury is related to the officer's original injury on duty. The IME returned with a conclusion that did not favor those officers. If you are an officer who needs to visit the medical service section due to a recurring IOD, please do not hesitate to contact me, and we can discuss the process.

Another thing I've seen occur and should not is an officer going in for a recurrence and not being sent for a relatedness exam. That step is skipped and is sent directly for an IME exam. If that occurs, please call me.

## Prescription Medications/ IOD injuries / Disabled officers.

If you are an officer who has an IOD injury or is on disability using prescription medications as part of your IOD care and suddenly, without any notice your prescriptions are denied from medical section doctor, please call the FOP and ask for me

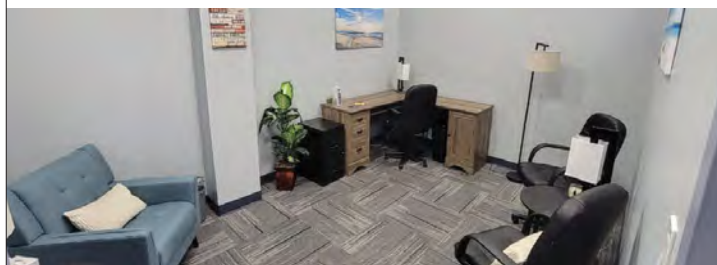
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[info@firstresponderswellnesscenter.com](mailto:info@firstresponderswellnesscenter.com)

South Side Location: 477 E. Butterfield Rd. Suite 408-410, Lombard IL 60148

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

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**ROB  
NOCEDA**

Hello Lodge 7, stay cool this summer! I pray this finds you well. On the Puerto Rican festival weekend deployment, we were cooking for the membership. It went great. Once again, the Lodge #7 Trailer team (comprised of Lodge #7 Board Members and Field Reps) made sure hundreds of members had a good meal before hitting the streets for the busy weekend. It is always an honor to serve our members on the collective bargaining side. But, I do enjoy the fraternal aspect as well. Members are always extremely grateful when we come out to feed them. I see they are extra grateful and possibly very hungry when they come in line 2 to 3 times (lol). I have to mention the operation requires lots of details and teamwork. It's comparable to running a full-service kitchen. So, it is a successful endeavor when hundreds of Officers are smiling and enjoying a delicious Cheeseburger, Hot dog, Italian Beef or Italian Sausage. Good food goes a long way on a tour of duty.

Also I must mention our trailer visit to Hillside for Juneteenth. It was a nice event on a very hot day. Thank you to the Illinois Speaker of the House Chris Welch for inviting us to serve so many people. Lots of smiles and good cheer for the Juneteenth celebration. The Speaker greeted us in our very hot kitchen with handshakes and gratitude for being there. It was a pleasure to be able to bring joy and some delicious food to many in attendance. It is building bridges and partnerships that the food trailer brings to not only our membership but the community as well. The community members in Hillside were so supportive, welcoming and grateful. We heard lots of God Bless you's and thank you's. It was a wonderful experience.

Again, thank you members for allowing us to serve you in a multitude of ways. We will continue working and solving the many issues that we face. We also will continue with the good will, esprit de corps and camaraderie. I'll leave you with my favorite line when in the trailer serving the members. "Hot Dogs, no line, no wait, tastes great!!" God Bless and stay safe

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## Constitution and By-Laws

### 1. Throughout the Constitution:

The name needs to be changed to reflect the new name of: Chicago John Dineen, Lodge #7 and/or the shortened version of "Lodge 7."

### 2. Article IV – Board of Directors Section 3:

The Board of Directors shall be ~~composed~~ **comprised** of the Lodge President, the Immediate Past President, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Three (3) Sergeant-At-Arms, and Seventeen (17) Trustees. The term of office for each of the positions listed in this Section shall be four (4) years. This will be effective ~~after~~ **upon** the results of the ~~next~~ General Election in 2023 **and for all elections thereafter**. No member shall serve as an elected official **in any position on the Board of Directors** after once achieving the rank of Sergeant.

### 3. Article VI – Delegates Section 1:

Members in good standing who have attended at least ~~one-half~~ **six (6)** of the regular business meetings as provided in these By-Laws and Constitution in the past twelve (12) months may be candidates for delegates to the State or National Conference.

### 4. Article VII – Nomination and Election of Officers and Trustees:

The elected Officers of the Lodge shall consist of a President, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Vice-Presidents, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Three (3) Sergeant-At-Arms, and Seventeen (17) Trustees. The term of office for elected officers of Lodge #7 shall be four (4) years. This will be effective ~~after~~ **upon** the results of the ~~next~~ election in 2023 **and for all elections thereafter**. The duly elected officers of the Lodge and elected/appointed unit and watch representatives by virtue of their office shall be delegates to the State and National Conference.

### 5. Article VII – Section 1:

Only Active members below the rank of Sergeant, who have been in continuous good standing for two (2) years, **including the year of the nomination meeting**, and who have attended at least ~~one-half~~ **six (6) of the regular business meetings held in the past twelve (12) months of January to December of the nomination year** may be candidates for office in this Lodge. The official sign-in book and excused absences for good cause shall be sole materials used to determine eligibility for office. Nominations may be made in December of each third year following December 1986. **Effective December 2022, Nominations will be made in December of each fourth year following December 2022.** Nominations will be made from the floor by any member in good standing and do not require a second. The Nominations cannot be re-opened after being duly closed at the Nomination Meeting. Any qualified candidate will be required to sign a letter of acceptance during the month of nominations in order to be eligible for election purposes.

## Constitution and By-Laws

### 1. Throughout the By-Laws:

The name needs to be changed to reflect the new name: Chicago John Dineen, Lodge #7 and/or the shortened version of "Lodge 7."

### 2. Article I – Section 1:

All persons are eligible for membership in the ~~Fraternal Order of Police~~ Chicago **John Dineen**, Lodge #7 whose membership is not otherwise restricted or precluded by this Constitution or the Constitution(s) and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and/or Illinois State Lodge provided no such restriction or preclusion shall be based upon race, creed, color, sex, national origin, ~~age~~, or ~~age~~ **any other protected classification identified by any federal/state law applicable to Lodge 7**. Suspended or expelled members, or any person who is not a member in good standing, i.e. not current in the payment of dues, assessments, or other financial obligations shall not be considered members for any purpose.

### 3. Article I – Section 11

For any member **on leave from the Department due to who will enter military service, by recall or selective service** the Lodge, upon application by that member, will assume his/her per capita tax for each year **on leave from the Department in such** service until thirty (30) days after discharge from such military service.

## Constitution and By-Laws

### 1. Article III – Section 1(a) The President shall:

The Chief Executive Officer of the Lodge. He or she shall preside in all meetings of membership and meetings of the Board of Directors. He or she shall have the general management and supervision of the business affairs of the Lodge, its Officers and employees, and shall see that orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect. He or she shall execute any and all contracts that may be authorized by the Board of Directors. He or she shall appoint all Lodge Representatives as stated in the Bargaining Contract with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. **Unless otherwise provided within the Constitution and By-Laws of Lodge 7**, he or she and the 1st Vice President shall appoint all committees; the President shall appoint the majority members with the 1st Vice President appointing the minority members. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees. He or she shall have the power to appoint a committee picked in this fashion from the Board of Directors or membership to inquire into any affair or matter affecting or concerning the welfare of Lodge 7, or to appoint such other committees as he deems relevant to the interests of the Lodge. The President shall furnish a surety bond for the faithful performance of his or her duties in such amount that shall be specified by the Board of Directors and paid for by the Lodge.

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Constitution

### Article IV – Board of Directors Section 3:

The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Lodge President, the Immediate Past President, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Three (3) Sergeant-At-Arms, and Seventeen (17) Trustees. The term of office for each of the positions listed in this Section shall be four (4) years. This will be effective after the results of the General Election in 2023. No member shall serve as an elected official after once achieving the rank of Sergeant. **The Immediate Past President shall, upon request by the President or the Board of Directors, provide advice, guidance and historical knowledge to the Board of Directors; but shall have no voice**

(including making a motion or second on any matter) or vote on any matter before the Board of Directors.

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Constitution

#### Article IV Board of Directors Section 4:

Any vacancy of the Board of Directors shall be filled by appointment by the Lodge President with the advice and Consent of the Board. **For a vacancy within the office of Trustee or Sergeant-at-Arms, the President shall appoint the individual who received the next highest number of votes for such office in the immediately preceding election.** In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the 1st Vice President will act as President until such time when an election for an acting President **from among the existing Board of Directors.** The Acting President elected by the Board of Directors will fill the remaining term of the departing President. **A vacancy shall be defined as an event that significantly prevents the member from serving in his/her role on the Board of Directors, including but not limited to: resignation; suspension beyond his/her remaining term in office; expulsion from membership within the Lodge; serious illness or death; promotion to a rank of sergeant or above, etc.**

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Article VII – Section 1:

Only Active members below the rank of Sergeant, who have been in continuous good standing for two (2) years, and who have attended at least one-half may be candidates for office in this Lodge. The official sign-in book and excused absences for good cause shall be ~~sole~~ **the primary** materials used to determine eligibility for office. **Additionally, meeting minutes or other similar irrefutable evidence from the meeting also may be used to determine attendance.** Nominations will be made from the floor by any member in good standing and do not require a second. The Nominations cannot be re-opened after being duly closed at the Nomination Meeting. Any qualified candidate will be required to sign a letter of acceptance during the month of nominations in order to be eligible for election purposes. **A Nominee may only submit a letter of acceptance and be a candidate for one (1) office during an election cycle.**

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Article VII – Section 1 (a) Excused Absences:

In order to obtain an excused absence, a member must make a written request to the Recording Secretary **via email at least one (1) hour** prior to the **date start time** of the meeting for which the excuse is requested. The written request must state the member's name and star number, the date of the meeting for which the excuse is requested and the reasons why the member believes that he or she is entitled to receive an excused absence from the meeting. Upon receipt of a request for an excused absence from a member, the Recording Secretary shall determine whether the request for an excused absence demonstrates good cause for granting an excused absence. If the Recording Secretary determines that the member has good cause for an excused absence, the Recording Secretary shall grant that member an excused absence **which shall be noted in the official sign-in book. A member shall not be granted more than two (2) excused absences in a calendar year.**

If the Recording Secretary determines that the member has failed to demonstrate good cause for an excused absence, the member shall not be credited with an excused absence, but shall have the right to appeal the denial of an excused absence to the full Board of Trustees for review. If the majority of the Board of Trustees believes that the member has demonstrated good cause for an excused absence, the member shall be credited with an excused absence **which shall be duly noted in the official sign-in book.**

### Article VII - Section 2:

The President shall promulgate election rules governing the procedures(s) and conduct of the election not inconsistent with this Constitution and By-Laws. **At least three (3) months prior to the month of the nomination meeting, the President shall appoint an Election Committee and Chairman. The Election Committee shall conduct the election consistent with the election rules promulgated by the President as well as any additional rules or procedures promulgated by the Election Committee; provided however, that such rules and procedures promulgated by the Election Committee shall not be inconsistent with the rules promulgated by the President or this Constitution and By-Laws.** It shall be the responsibility of the Election Committee to arrange the preparation of ballots in a form which will ensure a fair, secret and expeditious tally of all ballots cast, and such ballots will be processed ~~by mail~~ in March of the year following the nominations meeting. Each ballot shall list the Nominees by the office for which they are running so that qualified voters can vote in the manner set forth by the Election Committee. **Ballots may be distributed, processed and tallied by mail, electronically or a combination of both as determined by the President or Election Committee. Additionally, in-person walk-in voting will be permitted on the day of ballot tabulation during a time period and in a manner as determined by the President or Election Committee.**

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Constitution

#### Article VII – Section 4:

The Election Committee shall appoint an election judge who shall have full authority to decide all challenges, disputes and objections to the conduct of the election, including determinations of voter eligibility, election procedures, **election/campaign misconduct**, counting of ballots and issuance of certification of election results. Counsel for the Lodge shall be available for such legal advice and services as may be warranted. **The Election Committee and/or Election Judge shall have full and final authority to ensure a fair, secret and expeditious election occurs and may take whatever remedial action deemed appropriate to achieve such an election, including but not limited to: fines, suspensions and/or disqualification of any member, nominee, candidate and/or slate of candidates.**

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Constitution

#### Article VII – Section 6:

A copy of the Lodge's membership list shall be available for inspection only, and not for distribution or copying, to properly nominated candidates upon request once during the month of February preceding the election. In the event that a candidate wishes to distribute campaign

literature to the Lodge membership the candidate shall provide the literature **to the Election Committee for approval. Once approved, the candidate shall provide** the literature to the Lodge, which shall make the distribution at the candidate's expense. A deposit sufficient to cover such distribution shall be made to the Lodge Treasurer just before distribution is made.

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Constitution

#### Article VII – Section 11:

**The candidate declared the winner shall be deemed elected to such office upon the issuance of the certification of election results by the Election Committee.** The newly elected Officers shall take office in April at the first business meeting following the election. Arrangement for installation of Officers shall be handled by the outgoing President. The installing Officer must have obtained the office of Past President or be a National President.

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Constitution

#### Article VIII – Amendments – Section 1:

Only active members in good standing of this Lodge, may propose an Amendment to this Constitution. **Such proposal will be limited to a single subject, but should reference all provisions of the Constitution and/or By-Laws to be modified by said proposal.** Such proposals shall be attested by the signature of eleven (11) Active Members **in good standing along with their CPD Star number and printed name clearly presented next to their signature.** The signatures will not be necessary when the proposals are made by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee appointed by the President and 1st Vice-President. An amendment on a particular subject may be presented and/or voted upon only once in a twelve (12) month period, unless reconsideration of the proposed Amendment is approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Article VIII, Section 2

Proposed amendments, to this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Recording Secretary within a two month period commencing on April 1st and ending on May 31st of each year or when an issue has been identified as having significant importance to the Lodge by the President, with the consent of the Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary upon receiving any proposed amendment in the proper manner will then attest his or her signature, date of receiving, attest the Seal of the Lodge and forward the proposed amendment to the Board of Directors for review, consideration and recommendation. **The Board of Directors and/or Constitution and By-Laws Committee may amend or modify a timely submitted proposed amendment, with the consent of the submitting member, in order to correct any defect to the proposed amendment, but maintain the intent of the proposed amendment, to ensure its consideration by the Board of Directors.**

## Constitution and By-Laws

### Bylaws

#### Article I – Section 1:

All persons are eligible for membership in Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 whose membership is not otherwise restricted or precluded by this Constitution or the Constitution(s) and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and/or Illinois State Lodge provided no such restriction or preclusion shall be based upon race, creed, color, sex, national origin or age. Suspended ~~or expelled~~ members or any person who is not a member in good standing, i.e. not current in the payment of dues, assessments, or other financial obligations ~~shall not be considered members with any purpose~~ **shall remain bound to the duties and obligations set forth in the Constitution and By-Laws but shall have no rights or privileges under the Constitution and By-Laws until such time as the member returns to Active Membership. Expelled members shall not be considered members for any purpose. Notwithstanding the foregoing, suspended and/or expelled members shall retain their right to appeal their suspension and/or expulsion in the manner provided within the Constitution and By-Laws of Lodge 7, the State Lodge and/or National Lodge.**

#### Article II – Section 5:

At the hearing, a recording of the proceedings shall be maintained, and the accused member shall be provided with an opportunity to present evidence in opposition to the evidence presented in support of the charges against the member. **Attorneys, or other non-members shall not participate or otherwise attend the hearing on behalf of either the accused or the charging member; however, both the accused and charging member may each designate one (1) Lodge 7 member in good standing, excluding honorary or associated members, who will be able to attend the hearing and assist such member in the presentation of his/her evidence.** At the next scheduled Board Meeting, the Committee shall present its recommendation as to whether the evidence as a whole supports the charges against the member, and what, if any, penalty the Special Committee believes is appropriate in the event that the accused member is found guilty. Penalties may include fines, suspension, loss of privilege and/or expulsion from membership in the Lodge.

#### Article II – Section 6:

The accused member may appear before the Board to contest the recommendation. **The Board of Directors shall, by majority vote, either accept or reject the Special Committee's recommendation as to whether the evidence on the whole supports the charges against the member. In the event the Board sustains the charges, the Board shall then vote whether to accept or reject the penalty recommendation of the Special Committee. In the event the penalty is rejected, the Board, may impose a penalty it deems appropriate which may include fines, suspension, loss of privilege and/or expulsion from membership in the Lodge. In the case of expulsion, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors shall be required with respect to both the findings of guilt of such act or omission and also the penalty recommendation.**

#### Article II – Section 9:

After a hearing by the Board of Directors and the event found guilty of such act or omission by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors,

~~the member shall forfeit his membership and all benefits of this Lodge and the Fraternal Order of Police.~~ Following such a decision **by the Board of Directors upholding the charges and/or imposing a penalty, the member has the right to appeal the decision of the Board of Directors to the State Board of the Fraternal Order of Police of Illinois and may further appeal to the State Conference and thereafter if the State Board upholds the decision of the Lodge #7 Board, the member may further appeal to the National Board of the Fraternal Order of Police and further, if necessary, make a final appeal to the Biennial Conference of the Fraternal Order of Police.**

#### **Bylaws**

##### **Article III – Section 1 (f):**

He or She shall fill vacancies not otherwise provided for this in this constitution and By-Laws for the term of such office, but provided that the individual appointed to fill that vacancy shall fulfill the same eligibility requirements as stated for that position and the appointment shall be approved by a majority of the Board of Directors. **A vacancy shall be defined as an event that significantly prevents the member from serving in his or her office, including but not limited to: resignation; suspension beyond his/her remaining term of office.; expulsion from membership within the Lodge; serious illness or death; promotion to a rank of Sergeant or above, etc.**

##### **Article III – Section 2:**

Attend the Biannual State Conference and meetings of the Board of Directors. **The Immediate Past President shall, upon request by the President or the Board of Directors, provide advice, guidance and historical knowledge to the Board of Directors; but shall have no voice (including making a motion or second on any matter) or vote on any matter before the Board of Directors.** He or she shall advise and assist the President and Board of Directors in the performance of their respective duties and shall execute such assignments that may be ordered by them or either of them. When there is no living **eligible** Immediate Past President, these duties shall be performed by the last living **eligible** Immediate Past President.

##### **Article XII – Section 1:**

Only active members, in good standing of this Lodge may propose amendments to these By-Laws. **Such proposal will be limited to a single subject, but should reference all provisions of the Constitution and/or By-Laws to be modified by said proposal.** Such proposals shall be attested by the signature of eleven (11) active members in good standing **along with their CPD Star number and printed name clearly presented next to their signature.** The signatures will not be necessary when the proposals are made by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee appointed by the President and 1st Vice President. An amendment on a particular subject may be presented and/or voted upon only once in twelve (12) month period, unless reconsideration of the proposed amendment is approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

##### **Article XII – Section 2:**

Proposed amendments, to these By-Laws shall be submitted in writing to the Recording Secretary within a two month period commencing on April 1st and ending on May 31st of each year or when an issue has been identified as having significant importance to the Lodge by the President, with the consent of the Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary upon receiving any proposed amendment in the proper manner will then attest his or her signature, date of receiving, attest the Seal of the Lodge and forward the proposed amendment to the Board of Directors for review, consideration and recommendation. **The Board of Directors and/or Constitution and By-Laws Committee may amend or modify a timely submitted proposed amendment, with the consent of the submitting member, in order to correct any defect to the proposed amendment, but maintain the intent of the proposed amendment, to ensure its consideration by the Board of Directors.**

## **Constitution and By-Laws**

### **ARTICLE II OBJECT**

We, the members of the Chicago John Dineen Lodge # 7, associate ourselves for the following purposes:

- (1) To unite all Police Officers eligible for membership into one group, in an effort to seek and obtain the most favorable, beneficial and secure wages, hours and other terms and conditions relating to employment, through collective bargaining, legislative activity and all other lawful means.
- (2) To provide a medium for the exchange of information, knowledge and experience in the law enforcement field, which will aid our members in improving their professional standards.
- (3) To protect the constitutional, statutory and contractual rights of all members of the Chicago John Dineen Lodge # 7 bargaining unit.
- (4) To fairly represent Officers in resolving meritorious grievances arising out of their employment.
- (5) To encourage higher professional standards of conduct among our members.
- (6) To engage in and carry on such functions that will serve the best interests of this organization and our membership.
- (7) To serve our members in time of sickness or distress and to lend such assistance that will aid their speedy recovery and tend to diminish their misfortune.
- (8) To foster true patriotism among all our citizens, and to educate and encourage them to respect and defend law and order.
- (9) To promote the aims and principles of the Fraternal Order of Police on a local, state and national level.
- (10) **To create a subordinate Lodge or other affiliated entity whose purposes shall be the representation of non-Chicago Police Department bargaining units of law enforcement personnel in the Illinois Counties of Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, McHenry and Will and to act as a labor organization for the purposes of collective bargaining and any other purpose authorized by the Illinois Labor Relations Act.**

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# Cancellations



JIM  
JAKSTAVICH

Hello again officers, both active and retired. Summer is in full swing. Regular days off are being canceled, and time due is restricted. The department has issued "Anticipatory Notices" for the Puerto Rican Fest in the middle of June and then for the upcoming Pride Parade at the end of June. The department is requiring all officers with requests for time off or to retain RDOs accompanied by a to/from. In these To/Froms, officers should include an itinerary if you are able. This would include travel arrangements, airfare, hotel accommodation, even invitations to a family event (weddings, graduations, birthdays, etc.). I realize that most officers feel that the department does not have the right to know what we are doing on OUR time off, and I cannot agree more. But, if you submit an itinerary with personal information that you feel you should not share with the employer, simply redact that portion of the information. The requirement for a to/from is not going away. Even after an arbitration on cancellations, Arbitrator Roumell's award did not find this invasive. He felt that this allowed the officer the ability to show good cause to be granted time off. Here is a quote from his arbitration decision: "8. The Department will continue the practice of giving good faith consideration to Officers who request to retain their RDO where good cause is shown. Commanding Officers may appeal the denial to the appropriate Deputy Chief and Chief." Note: the arbitrator did not define what "good cause" is. Nor did the arbitrator ever specifically give management the right to determine what "good cause" is. The department has traditionally granted time off for those officers that would suffer a "financial impact" or lose money on nonrefundable airfare or reservations.

This leads to the next most popular argument from officers regarding time off and who is granted that time off. An officer who just wishes to

stay at home or travel to a family cottage only an hour or so away does not have an itinerary. They do not have reservations for their backyards or family cottages. All they know is that during the summer, their kids may finally be out of school, and they would like to spend some time with family simply decompressing and away from the job. I suggest that officers look at the memorandum of understanding in the contract on page 150. The last sentence in the first paragraph of the MOU states, "Use of elective time allows Police Officers to cope with job related stress and spend quality time with family and friends." Feel free to cite this page of the CBA and use that sentence when requesting time off.

Lastly, if you are assigned to a 4th watch assignment, your hours are subject to change. Unfortunately, those of you assigned to headquarters and the academy are being used/treated like a tact team. In the days leading up to the first series of cancellations we met with our attorney, and he had crafted a letter to the department on June 10. In this two-and-a-half-page letter to the department, we requested that the department seek volunteers first before indiscriminately cancelling days off. As you can imagine, this was met with resistance and Labor Relations cited "management rights and operational needs." One of the few protections offered to 4th & 5th watch personnel and those in specialized units is the "minimum of 9 hours between shifts." If you are made aware that your cancellation assignment will violate the nine-hour minimum between shifts, immediately notify your direct supervisor of this conflict. Your supervisor should adjust your hours. If your supervisor fails to adjust your hours to allow for the nine-hour minimum between shifts, notify FOP and we will contact the Labor Relations Division and attempt to remedy the situation. We will continue to fight to make the best out of the current working conditions. Please realize that the department is not at the appropriate staffing levels and this will be the norm for the future. Stay safe.

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MICHAEL  
COLLINS

Hello brothers and sisters, both active and retired. We have been getting a lot of calls from officers requesting FOP Legal Defense representation after they're served with a civil lawsuit. However, the city of Chicago is responsible for representing an officer for civil matters for actions taken in the performance of duty, whether the actions taken were on or off duty. For off-duty incidents, the key to indemnification is "in the performance of duty," meaning you must identify yourself as a Chicago police officer, and that you took police action. If the city of Chicago chooses not to indemnify an officer after reviewing the case, the officer should immediately contact FOP to obtain legal counsel and file

a grievance. An FOP attorney will then represent the officer until the grievance is resolved.

Here is the process and steps you need to take once you are served with a civil summons notifying you that you are being sued civilly. First, the officer should submit a To-From to the superintendent of police stating that you have been served with a civil lawsuit. This

To-From notifies the department and city of Chicago that you were named in a civil lawsuit. You must include the lawsuit number, and date/time you were served. Officers should then contact the city of Chicago corporation counsel office at 312-744-0200. Corporation counsel will then assign your case to an attorney who will serve as your legal representation. Any conversation with your assigned attorney(s) will be confidential and have attorney/client privilege.

In a lot of these civil cases in which your actions were in the performance of duty, the city will most likely settle before it ever ends up going to trial. If it does end up going to trial, the officer will receive as much prep time as needed prior to the trial. When the trial starts, the officer will most likely be detailed to corporation counsel for the duration of the trial.

I hope this helps the younger officers understand the process and steps that need to be taken once served with a civil suit. Also, please familiarize yourself with Article 22 of the FOP contract titled Indemnification. If you have any questions on this matter, please call me at FOP.

Stay safe everyone!

## You serve the city. Let us serve you.

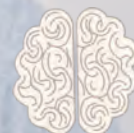
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# Where's my stipend payment?



KENYATTA  
GAINES

For some time now, we have been talking about the CIT stipends. There was an ongoing conversation between the department and the union. During negotiations, it was decided that the stipends would be paid out quarterly after eligibility requirements were met. I have received countless phone calls and emails from members who either have not received any stipends or did receive them in the past and have not currently been getting the payments.

The understanding was this with respect to the LEMART Stipend, eligibility is conditioned upon the Officer carrying the I FAK (Individual first aid kit).

With respect to the CIT stipend, the parties agreed that eligibility for the stipend is limited to those officers who voluntarily participate and remain in the CIT program. To be eligible for the bike officer stipend, the officer must be available for events that necessitate the assignment of bike officers. All three stipends will be paid on a quarterly basis (\$250 per quarter). Payment of the stipend shall be made in the last pay period of the quarter following the quarter in which the stipend was earned as a further condition of eligibility for any of the three stipends, the Officer must have been eligible for Field assignment assignments during at least half of the preceding quarter in calculating eligibility, pursuant to the proceeding sentence, time and pay status due to furlough, baby furlough, personal days, and approved injury on duty leave Under section 18.1 shall be included.

What changed, you ask? On 03 SEP 24 an Adam Pondexter via CPD email sent a survey to members regarding CIT. On 04 SEP 24 an AMC message titled CIT officer OPT-IN read...

*All members who are currently CIT trained received an email on 03 SEP 24 from adam.pondexter2@chicagopolice.org. The email includes a quick one question survey which gives the choice to opt in or opt out of the CIT program. The Department has discontinued the "mandatory" CIT Officer status. In order to be recognized as a Certified CIT Officer and be eligible to receive the associated stipend, you must opt in to the program.*

*This will not impact training history. It will impact prioritization to receive CIT calls and scheduling for CIT Refresher training every three years. The survey must be submitted by 16 OCT 24. Supervisors, please reach out to members that are on furlough, medical, or leave to give them the opportunity to complete the survey via their unique email link. If you are currently CIT trained and did not receive an email, please reach out to Information Services at 312-745-5545. To be read at roll call for seven consecutive days.*

I've learned that some members did not receive the email, some were voluntary status so this email does not address them, and others were already scheduled for a training or refresher CIT class, which keeps them in the program. The Department is slowly addressing stipend issues. They have conceded that members who initially did not respond to the survey but have taken a CIT training course automatically elects them into the program/stipend payment. NOTE: If this applies to you and you still have not received the CIT stipend, submit an inquiry form on the Wire and let me know.

The "Survey" is still the problem! A few officers responded to the survey and still were not paid the stipends, so the "system" isn't perfect. For that, and other reasons, we are still having discussions about stipend payments with the department. A grievance has been filed as well. A new "OPT-IN" opportunity will be available soon. We will get the word out via your unit and watch Reps when the date and method to OPT-IN has been finalized.

In the meantime, it is imperative that members fill out an inquiry form. If you are missing any stipend payments, please file a discrepancy on the WIRE. Upon completion you will be given a ticket number. Send the Payroll Request ticket number AND the response given to kgaines@chicagofop.org. Refer to the illustration below (you must log into the WIRE to submit an inquiry). Follow the prompts.

Stay Safe!

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# Officer Safety: How Much Does The Department Really Care?



PAT  
FIORETTO

As I am sure you are aware by now, in February 2025 the department's Arsenal Committee recommended that the department remove the Sig Sauer P320 weapon as a prescribed firearm for all sworn police officers based on apparent safety concerns. For many years, CPD allowed officers to use the Sig Sauer P320 as both a primary and auxiliary weapon. About 1,400 current police officers have such a firearm registered with (and approved by) the department. The Lodge did not learn about the issue until April 2025 and unsuccessfully tried to address the matter with the department.

Why the concern? Other law enforcement jurisdictions across the country have already addressed this issue and moved to eliminate the danger associated with the continued use of the Sig Sauer P320, which has occurred across the country. Specifically, the Milwaukee Police Department, concerned about the propensity for the Sig Sauer P320 to fire without a trigger pull, agreed to swap out all the Sig Sauer P320's and replace them with Glock pistols, at no cost to the officers. Based on several reports, more than 100 people had reported unintentional discharges and 80 injuries resulting for the Sig Sauer P320 since 2016. In March 2025, the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission became the latest to permanently ban the Sig Sauer P320 from its training facilities. Many other police departments are doing the same.

When the Lodge learned of these concerns, it formally demanded to meet and bargain with the city to address all the issues surrounding the weapon. At the time, in late April 2025, the department had failed to issue any formal notice and/or determination on how to proceed. Certainly, the Lodge had not received any formal notification. Moreover, it remained clear that the department had knowledge of the potential dangers associated with the continued utilization of the Sig Sauer P320. The department already had informed current recruits at the Chicago Police Academy that the Sig Sauer P320 is no longer a prescribed weapon for them.

As part of the demand to bargain, the Lodge also sent the superintendent a letter demanding that the department take action sooner rather than later. The Lodge informed the superintendent that both police officers and citizens remain at risk, especially given the department's knowledge. If an accidental discharge occurs, the Lodge wanted to know if the city would indemnify and defend the officer, both civilly and criminally. The Lodge also filed a safety complaint with OSHA.

Eventually, the parties met on May 5, 2025. The parties agreed to exchange proposals. As a result of the meeting, the Lodge submitted a written list of items two days later that it previously raised at the meeting. The Lodge reiterated its demands. First, the department must immediately notify all officers that they must cease using the Sig Sauer P320 weapon as either their primary or secondary department-approved weapon. Next, the Lodge demanded that the department pay each impacted police officer, up to \$1,000, for the replacement cost of securing a new weapon, as well as the appropriate holster and three magazines.

Next, police officers who transfer their secondary weapon to a primary weapon would be required to demonstrate at a CPD facility an ability to qualify with their new primary weapon. Additionally, each police officer who is required to cease using a Sig Sauer P320 would be required to undertake at least four hours of training on their replacement weapon, at no cost to the police officer, while on their tour of duty. Finally, any police officer who does not have a secondary weapon that they can transition to a primary weapon should be placed on

light duty or be detailed to the call-back unit; should remain in pay status until the officer is able to obtain a department-approved replacement weapon and approved holster; and further should remain in pay status until the officer is able to qualify on the department-approved replacement weapon and a holster, at which point the officer would be returned to full field-duty status or returned to the prior unit of assignment.

Not surprising, despite the urgency, the Lodge did not hear back from the city in a timely manner. Subsequently, the Lodge declared an impasse in bargaining negotiations and, on May 13, 2025, requested the parties engage in a Dispute Resolution Board proceeding as soon as possible.

As this article is going to print, the parties selected Robert Perkovich to act as the neutral arbitrator. The parties are exploring dates in which to conduct the hearing respective collective bargaining agreements in the immediate future.

Needless to say, the Lodge is disappointed (yet not surprised) that the department failed to do the right thing and act swiftly to alleviate this continuing danger. Since this issue clearly impacts both safety and budgetary concerns, the Lodge also brought the matter to Monitor Maggie Hickey's attention as well, since it clearly falls under the existing Consent Decree. Once again, that request fell on deaf ears.

Time and time again, it is always the Lodge who looks out for the safety of its members. We will continue to keep the membership apprised.



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# Us Supreme Court Still Committed To Totality Of The Circumstances Test



TIM  
GRACE

The United States Supreme Court has once again come down on the behalf of law enforcement and affirmed its commitment to looking to the “totality of the circumstances” when analyzing officer involved shootings. On May 25, 2025, the court issued its ruling in *Barnes v. Felix* and confirmed that the almost 36-year-old decision in *Graham v. Connor* is still the correct analysis when an officer is required to use force, be it deadly or otherwise. The new attack on *Graham* was to essentially not look to the moment the officer used force but to try to argue, in a simplistic way, that the officer created the exigency that

required deadly force by placing him or herself in the situation in the first place. So essentially, if you didn’t chase him down that dark alley, you would not have been confronted with a homicidal offender with a knife which triggered you having to use force. Scary stuff if our Supreme Court was manned by some real haters. The Court rejected that argument. However, some of the more progressive state courts and federal districts could read it differently.

To understand the concepts, and it is complicated, you must go back to the essential ruling in *Graham v. Connor*. In *Graham*, the court stated that all excessive force claims must be analyzed under an objectively reasonableness standard based upon the totality of the circumstances. The “reasonableness” of a particular use of force must be judged by the point of view of the officer. With respect to a claim of excessive force, the same standard of reasonableness at the moment of force applies. Not every push or shove, even if it may later seem unnecessary in the peace of a judge’s chambers, violates the law. The determination of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments – in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving – about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation. The “reasonableness” inquiry in an excessive force case is an objective one: The question is whether the officers’ actions are “objectively reasonable” in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them, without regard to their underlying intent or motivation. The “reasonableness” of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight taking into account the totality of the circumstances. That’s the law.

Recently, as stated above, the movement has tried to argue that the “totality of the circumstances” means courts should look back to the actions taken by the officers that lead to the use of deadly force in the first place. So now their analysis shifts to try and look at the tactical decisions made by the officer that led up to the eventual use of force. The argument would be that while the officer was justified in the use of force at the time of the discharge, it was the officer that created the situation that requires the force in

the first place. Wow. Let’s blame the officer for the actions of the knife-wielding offender. The idea of officer-created risk is not what *Graham* had in mind when going back two minutes prior to the actual use of force. In this scenario posed by the advocates against the police, any of the officer’s actions was the reason why there was a need to use force. The *Barnes* decision clearly states that is not the reasoning in *Graham*.

The facts of *Barnes* are very typical of policing in the United States. A Texas officer stopped a vehicle for a minor traffic violation and the driver claimed his identification was in the trunk. The driver then restarted the engine and attempted to flee. The officer opened the door and was in the doorsill and the officer’s head was above the roofline. The officer gave verbal commands to stop, the car moved forward, and the officer then discharged his service weapon. A federal civil rights suit was filed, and the court dismissed the case finding that the officer’s use of force was consistent with *Graham* in that “at the moment of the threat” the officer could reasonably have believed that he was at a serious risk of harm and thus his discharge was reasonable. In the ensuing appeal that eventually ended up at the Supreme Court, the estate of Mr. Barnes argued that the lower court should have looked to what happened prior to the discharge. Essentially arguing with the officer placed himself in that position by almost entering a moving car. The Supreme Court agreed that the circumstances prior to the use of force are important but not for the purposes the movement wants. The Supreme Court held that, yes all of the facts known to the officer are important in a “totality of the circumstances” analysis. Things like the criminal background of the offender, pre-attack indicators of the offender prior that indicate he may be violent, or any other fact that a reasonable police officer may use in his or her decision to use force. It does not mean we should look to officer created jeopardy in evaluating the reasonableness of the use of force.

The reason why the case was remanded was due to the fact that the lower court failed to go back in the timeline and examine the entire stop but rather just looked to the second the officer discharged. The Supreme Court found this reasoning failed to take into account all of the things the officers knew and perceived as he approached the stop. The lower court failed to do that and was thus misapplying the rule found in *Graham*. And thank you Supreme Court for being very clear about what its ruling meant. The Court specifically stated that the ruling does not address “officer own creation of a dangerous situation factors into the reasonableness analysis.” This is clear and direct language that the law in use of force case should not look to officer created risk. The created risk should still apply to the offender. The problem is that the more progressive lower court (input Illinois) may try to expand this ruling and ignore the plain language of the Supreme Court. We shall see, but it is clear to this author – just drop the knife and we can all go home safely.

# Spring Session Wrap Up



DAVE SULLIVAN

The spring 2025 legislative session came to an end in the early morning hours on Sunday, June 1. After five months of session and over 7,000 bills filed, the legislature passed a balanced budget and a mere 432 bills. The legislature has 30 days to send each bill to the governor who then has 60 days to sign or return the bill with a veto or amendatory veto. Veto Session has been set for October and is scheduled to be completed before Halloween. It is possible that the legislature may return before then, but we do not foresee that.

As we anticipated, the focus was on passing a balanced budget in a challenging year. Thus, as you will see below, there are several items classified: unfinished business.

On the final day of session, SB2510, the budget appropriations bill passed, which included just over \$55 billion in spending. The budget spends \$118 billion between state and federal funds, with \$55.2 billion coming from the general revenue fund. The final bill made \$193 million in operational reductions, and \$330 million in reductions from the elimination of the Health Benefits for Immigrant Adults program. The governor was also granted an unprecedented grant of emergency powers. The budget bill contains a new Budget Reserve for Immediate Disbursements and Governmental Emergencies with \$100 million in reserves to be used for emergencies, creating contingency funds for short-term needs and revenue gaps. No appropriation was made to the Rainy Day Fund, which sits at more than \$2 billion. The budget package also includes supplemental appropriations for FY25 totaling \$2.5 billion.

The second bill, HB1075, the budget implementation bill, included the substantive language required the state to implement the state's spending.

The third bill, HB2755, the revenue package, supports the state's budget. Among the revenue proposals in the package is a one-year delay in the final transfer of the sales tax on motor fuel to the Road Fund. In addition, the bill also includes the following revenue proposals: Tax amnesty from Oct. 1, 2025, through Nov. 15, 2025; an additional sports wagering tax; removal of the hotel exemption for short-term rental hosting platforms; Increase and expansion of the tobacco tax (45 percent); an increase to the telecommunications tax from 7 percent to 8.65 percent to fund the 9-8-8 suicide prevention and mental health crisis line; change of a regulation that will allow the state to collect more corporate income tax, in some instances, and; requires businesses outside of Illinois selling \$100,000 or more worth of physical goods to Illinois residents to collect Illinois sales tax, even without an in-state presence.

The budget also included statewide and local capital projects. Each Democratic legislator received additional capital spending for local projects, and most of the projects that remained unfinished were reappropriated. Notable capital appropriations are \$6.2 billion for new IDOT construction projects, including \$4.5 billion for road and bridge construction; \$300 million for demolition and deferred maintenance projects at state facilities; \$35 million for OSLAD grants; \$75 million for DCEO's prime sites business development programs, and \$50 million for the Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program. There was also \$500 million included to make investments in the state's surplus real property and state-owned sites to market and recruit out-of-state businesses to locate in Illinois.

In addition, the state's \$33.7 billion Medicaid (state+federal+provider tax) was conservatively funded, adding just \$900,000 in costs to the program along with a number of programmatic changes. There were also a number of healthcare investments including: \$120 million for safety net hospitals, \$15 million in medical debt relief, \$24 million for reproductive health initiatives, a dedicated revenue source for the 9-8-8 mental health crisis line, and \$263 million for the Home IL program. The state-funded healthcare program for 33,000 undocumented immigrant adults aged 42 to 64 will be terminated on July 1.

There were a number of issues that the legislature failed to complete before adjournment, many of which we anticipate will be completed during veto session this fall.

For example, competing proposals were introduced to address the \$770 million fiscal cliff impacting the state's public transit system, however, the state failed to pass a bill through both chambers. Although, the Senate did pass its transit bill over to the House, which included approximately \$1.5B in revenue. Revenue sources to fund public transit, included a 10 percent tax on all rideshare rides in Cook and the Collar counties, a \$1.50 tax per delivery on package and food deliveries statewide, a fee on electric vehicle power providers, and a real estate transfer tax in Cook and the Collar counties of \$1.50 for every \$500 of the sale price. However, the House did not take up the bill before adjournment.

Medical aid in dying, which authorizes the process for allowing those diagnosed with a terminal illness and given less than 6 months to live the ability to obtain a prescription to aid in dying passed the House but stalled in the Senate.

A bill regarding cannabis regulatory relief and hemp regulation was contained in a House bill with variety of reforms, including permitting every dispensary to sell to medical patients, allowing agencies to waive fees and financial assistance for social equity licensees experiencing financial hardship, and permits drive thru and curbside pickup for all dispensaries.

The governor also pushed for the removal of cell phones from the classroom, but the debate over this continues. Again, the bill passed the Senate but stalled in the House amid questions and concerns from various parties, including the House Black Caucus.

A much-anticipated energy omnibus bill stalled in the House after five amendments in the final 48 hours of session, with amendments ranging from data center requirements to bring their own renewable power, increased fees on nuclear facilities, electrification energy efficiency, and battery storage. This issue is likely to be taken up in veto session as battery storage regulations will be needed in order to meet CEJA clean energy goals.

Legislation that prohibits pharmaceutical manufacturers from imposing restrictions on hospitals, FQHCs, and pharmacies and expands access to the federal 340b program stalled in the House. The debate is likely to continue in veto session.

And finally, Tier 2 pension reform never got out of the working groups. After months of negotiations and hours of meetings the parties just couldn't find common ground to finish the issue this spring. This is likely to be taken up more fully in the spring session. There was a Tier 2 pension parity bill for Chicago police and fire that did pass.

Filing for petitions to run for election next year will take place during the last week of veto session and ending on Nov. 3.

# Honoring Retired Members

## May 2025

Name	Rank	Unit	Years				
Alvaro A. Aich	Officer	016	28	Latonia Harris	Officer	025	34
Kimberly T. Alexander	Officer	005	33	Tracy Jackson	Officer	051	29
Kevin Ardito	Detective	650	29	Zachary J. Jenskovec	Officer	004	11
Noel Areizaga	Officer	015	24	Tom Krawczyk	Officer	008	20
Felicia G. Armstead	Detective	620	25	Joselito Mercado	Officer	020	20
Jesse Arroyo	Sergeant	016	29	David Montes	Officer	008	32
Donald Barrett Jr.	Officer	051	29	Tanya Neita	Officer	050	29
Michael J. Barz	Captain	126	30	Guy Nelson	Officer	484	23
Rita M Blunt	Officer	011	30	Thomas O'Connor	Officer	057	33
Tracy Boland	Officer	016	27	Ruben J. Orta	Detective	630	33
William Burke	Detective	650	31	Leonardo S. Prieto	Detective	603	25
Christopher Chmelar	Officer	189	21	Timothy J. Schumpp	Officer	008	31
Michael J. Cleary	Officer	007	26	Anita L. Sullins	Officer	014	30
David Deane	Detective	630	31	Michael J. Thomas	Officer	017	25
Najma Fowler	Sergeant	005	27	Traci Tokarz	Officer	016	29
Andre Frierson	Officer	005	21	Wilfredo Torres	Sergeant	016	28
Whitney Garbarz	Officer	167	24	Iraida Torres	Officer	241	29
Catherine Gerich	Officer	011	31	Raymond P. Urbanski	Officer	051	31
Reynaldo Gomez	Officer	019	30	Donna Whisenton	Officer	002	28
				Ramon Zavaleta	Officer	004	23

## Retiree Meetings

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

### North

First Tuesday of the month  
@ 9 a.m.  
D'Agostino's Pizza and Pub  
7530 W. Oakton St., Niles  
Steve Marchfield 773-771-0877

### 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

### Orland Park Law

#### Enforcement Organization

Third Thursday of month  
@ 7:30 p.m.  
Orland Park Civic Center  
Orland Park

### 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 Thursday of month  
@ 11 a.m.

Eagle Buffet at Casino Arizona  
524 N. 92nd St.  
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  
John Nielson  
989-324-0877  
jnnielson@gmail.com

### Northern Illinois/Southern Wisconsin Retirees

Second Thursday of month  
Herner's Hideaway  
202 Williams Road  
Genoa City, Wisconsin  
(Rt. 12 at IL border)  
George Gottlieb, (847) 840-5060

### Hellenic American Police Association Northsiders Retiree Breakfast

First Monday of month  
@ 10:00 a.m.  
Burgundy Restaurant  
5959 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago

### Hellenic American Police Association Southsiders

### Retiree Breakfast

Second Monday of month  
@ 10:00 a.m.  
Valois Cafeteria  
1518 E. 53rd St., Chicago

### 25th District Retirees

1st Wednesday of the Month  
Tavern on the Point  
6724 N. Northwest Hwy  
7 P.M.

### Northern Illinois/Southern Wisconsin Retirees

Second Thursday of month @ noon  
Herner's Hideaway  
202 Williams Rd.  
Genoa City, WI (Rt. 12 at IL border)  
George Gottlieb, (847) 840-5060

# Honoring Sisters and Brothers who have passed

Name	Status	Age	Date of Passing
Daniel Steen	Retired	70	April 9, 2023
Martin Hegarty	Retired	65	February 14, 2025
Ignatius Las Cola	Retired	85	May 10, 2025
Robert Smolik	Retired	81	May 17, 2025
Gerald A. Slusarski	Retired	84	May 21, 2025
Stanley Richard	Retired	82	May 23, 2025
Angela Schreiner	Retired	80	May 24, 2025
Janice Kasper	Retired	71	June 1, 2025
Krystal Rivera	Unit 006	36	June 5, 2025
Brian K. Burton	Retired	55	June 5, 2025
Erroll Davis	Retired	64	June 9, 2025
John T Brennan	Retired	85	June 13, 2025
Joseph Diaz	Retired	75	June 16, 2025
Louis Dazzo	Retired	94	June 16, 2025
John Fennell	Retired	76	June 23, 2025
Anthony Opiola	Retired	77	June 24, 2025

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JEFFERSON PARK



NORWOOD PARK



TOTAL SALES



UNITS SOLD

**46+ HOMES SOLD** In 2023\*\* **\$17+ MILLION IN SALES** In 2023\*\*

Source: CAR Units Sold Jefferson Park & Norwood Park Residential Sales Volume of \$10.0M - \$21.4M, Residential Sales Units of 23-44  
\*\*MRED, LLC, based on closed sales data for Lisa Sanders, 01/01/2023-12/31/2023



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# I Wish You Enough



RABBI  
MOSHE WOLF

At the time of this writing, our police family mourns one of our own. Police Officer Krystal Rivera lost her life in the line of duty. Krystal, was loved by all and loved all. Krystal always gave 200 percent of herself. You could always count on Krystal and her big heart. The world is a richer place because of Krystal and is now poorer because Krystal is gone. Krystal accomplished more in four short years than many others in twice that time. Please keep the Rivera family in your prayers. I dedicate this month's column in memory of our beloved Police Officer Krystal Rivera. I was told the following story recently, by one of our members, that brings to light the feelings of the moment.

## "I Wish You Enough"....

Recently while sitting at the airport waiting for my flight, I overheard a father and daughter in their last moments together, saying goodbye to each other. They had announced her departure and standing near the security gate, they hugged, and he said, "I love you. I wish you enough." She in turn said, "Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy."

They kissed and she left. He walked over toward the window where I was seated. Standing there I could see he wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he welcomed me in by asking, "Did you ever say goodbye to someone knowing it might be forever?"

"Yes, I have," I replied. Saying that brought back memories I had of expressing my love and appreciation for all my Dad had done for me. Recognizing that his days were limited, I took the time to tell him face to face how much he meant to me.

So, I knew what this man experiencing.

"Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever goodbye?" I asked.

"I am old and she lives much too far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is, the next trip back might be for my funeral," he said.

"When you were saying goodbye, I heard you say, 'I wish you enough.' May I ask what that means?"

He began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone." He paused for a moment and looking up as if trying to remember it in detail, he smiled even more. "When we said 'I wish you enough,' we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with enough good things to sustain them through difficult times," he continued and then turning toward me he shared the following as if he were

reciting it from memory.

"I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright.

I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more.

I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive.

I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger.

I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.

I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.

I wish enough "hellos" to get you through the final Goodbye."

He then began to sob and walked away. End of story.

My dear friends, my blessing to you today is, "I wish you ENOUGH today, so tomorrow comes with no regrets." PO Krystal Rivera taught us a lesson that no one is guaranteed a tomorrow. So take a moment reach out to your friends and loved ones TELL them how much they mean to you. They say, "It takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but then an entire life to forget them."

To our dear Krystal we say, "We salute you." You and your accomplishments will go down in the books of the Chicago Police Department as one of our best. Gone, but never forgotten.

On behalf of all the chaplains, a personal thank you to all the officers whose presence at the scene, hospital, wake and funeral was a tremendous show of support and comfort to the Rivera family through this most difficult time. You just being there was appreciated more than words can say.

And before we close, a bit of humor from the "Moshe Files" to keep you smiling.

## Art History

A young woman, pursuing a graduate degree in art history, was going to Italy to study the country's greatest works of art. Since there was no one to look after her grandmother while she was away, she took the old lady with her. At the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, she pointed to the painting on the ceiling. "Grandma, it took Michelangelo a full four years to get that ceiling painted."

"Oh my," the grandmother said. "He and I must have the same landlord."

On behalf of ALL the chaplains, may G-d bless you and keep you safe. Should you need a shoulder to lean on or an ear to listen, or perhaps have some good humor to share, please don't hesitate to give us a call. Your chaplains are here for you 24/7.

**Chaplains website:** [www.chicagopcm.org](http://www.chicagopcm.org)

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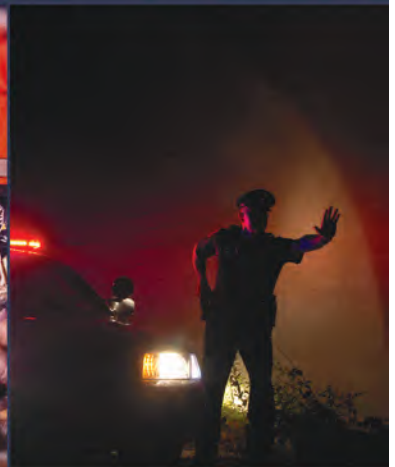
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FATHER DAN BRANDT

On June 15, we celebrated our annual Father's Day Mass at Gold Star Families Memorial and Park. Hundreds gathered to pray with and for our fathers, living and deceased. We remembered in a special way those dads whose names are permanently inscribed on the memorial wall. As you can see, our Mounted Unit joined us as usual, along with (in the distance) the 5-11 Club of CFD, providing water, Gatorade, etc., to our attendees.

On June 19, Chuck and Lois, two of our Upper Room Club "regulars," hosted our group with a delicious barbeque in their back yard. Rabbi Moshe Wolf graced us with his presence,



sharing with us some of the similarities and differences between Christianity and Judaism, and touching on the current state of affairs in the Holy Land. If you would like to be invited to future Upper Room Club gatherings, please send me an email.

Also last month, Police Chaplains Ministry hosted hundreds of our beloved **Gold Star Families** on their 28th



annual luncheon cruise aboard the Spirit of Chicago. Though the event is over, if you would like to help underwrite the cost of this outing, feel free to donate via our website or by mailing a check to Police Chaplains Ministry, 1140 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60607.

Thank you to Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis, who coordinated our police marriage retreat last month. It was a great success!

Thank you, also, to all who supported "Bowling with Brandt" last month! We had a "ball." (See what I did there?)

I will be celebrating a Blue Mass at the National Shrine of St. Jude (91st and Commercial) on Wednesday, July 16, at 7 p.m. As always, ALL are welcome to come and pray with/for our police.

Keep up with all of the above and LOTS more at [www.ChicagoPCM.org](http://www.ChicagoPCM.org).

Thank you for helping to make others happy (AND SAFE!).

God bless you and keep you safe!

**Fr. Dan Brandt, Directing CPD Chaplain**

773/550-2369 (cell/text)

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## CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Police Officer Martin Teresi #11254  
 Police Officer Omar Moreno #16924  
 Police Officer Brian Gaffney #6388  
 Detective Matthew Vaci #20118  
 Lieutenant Denis O'Keefe #292  
 Sergeant Stephen Pietrzak #2278  
 Sergeant Vladan Milenkovic #1460  
 Cook County Sheriff Joe Panaterra #11288

Nominator: Police Officer Donald Klein #12446 022nd District Unit Rep



On Dec. 18, 2024, the 022nd District SDSC room dispatched a job of a bank GPS tracker activation on 10701 S. Western Ave. Moments later, Zone 9 dispatched a bank hold up alarm at the PNC Bank located at the same address. The officers in the SDSC room began giving real time information to responding units. Information was received that the offender may have entered a bus on northbound Western Avenue. The responding units located a Pace bus stopped at 9901 S. Western Ave. and waited for additional units to arrive on scene. The officers blocked all the exits of the bus and had the driver open the doors. When the doors opened, the officers observed the offender standing at the rear door holding a large amount of USC at which time he began dropping it to the ground. The officers placed the offender into custody and a pat down revealed a taser/stun gun recovered from his front pants pocket. The offender was relocated to the bank where a show up was conducted, and bank employees positively identified him as the offender who entered the bank and wrote a note demanding \$5,000 and no silent alarm. The offender was charged with robbery of a financial institution and UUW by a felon. The offender had an extensive criminal background with two convictions for sexual assault, five larceny convictions, and 14 past burglary convictions. Why was he even walking the streets?

**It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents these officers with the Distinguished Service Award. Nice Pinch!!!**

## CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Police Officer Julian Morgan #11826  
 Police Officer Jason Richmond #3123

Nominator: Police Officer Oscar Martinez #7573

On 29 Jul 2023 at the location of 4300 W. 63rd Street, 008th District Officers responded to a person stabbed. The Officers were able to ascertain a description of the offender and gave a flash message over the zone. Officers Morgan & Richmond toured the area and



observed a subject matching the description walking eastbound towards Pulaski at 69th Street. The Officers announced their office and detained the subject. The witness was brought to their location, and a show up was conducted and the witness positively identified the offender as the person who stabbed the victim multiple times with a knife. The offender was transported to Area 1 for processing and charged with Aggravated battery.

**It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents these Officers with the Distinguished Service Award. Nice Pinch!!!**

## CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS

### LIFE SAVING AWARD

Police Officer Antonio Nelson #17395  
Police Officer Steven Gilbert #3084

Nominator: Police Officer Sean Hogan #6648



On Oct. 21, 2023, at the location of 3600 N. Recreation Drive, 019th District officers responded to North Belmont Harbor for a car in the water. Upon arrival the officers scaled the fence of the boat dock and walked carefully to the end of the pier. The officers observed the victim in the water struggling to swim and threw a rope out to him. The victim clenched the rope and was pulled into safety by the officers.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents these officers with the Life Saving Award. Thanks for a job well done.



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# CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS



Nominator: Police Officer Carlo Rubino #3307 Unit Rep 019th District



On Nov. 18, 2024, at the location of 2056 W. Berteau Ave., officers were dispatched to a call of shots fired and a person shot. While off duty, PO Brian Nunes arrived at the scene and observed the victim, a retired Chicago police sergeant, with a graze wound under his chin and a gun shot wound to his left arm. Officer Nunes began providing medical assistance to the victim when additional on duty units arrived on scene. Officers Mazzone and Wojtasik observed the bleeding to the victim's arm was not stopping with direct pressure and elevation and applied a tourniquet. The officers' actions directly contributed to saving the life of the retired sergeant after it was discovered that his injury was to his brachial artery and the source of excessive blood loss.

**On behalf of the Illinois State FOP, these officers' actions brought great credit to the Chicago Police Department.**



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# CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS



Nominator: President John Catanzara Jr.

This Fraternalism Award is being presented to Dave “Truck Stop” DiSanti for his continued focus and participation in promoting the sense of brotherhood and the true spirit of camaraderie. Dave was first elected as an FOP trustee in 2020 and to second term in 2023 in which he was elected as the chairman of trustees by the board’s trustees. Chairman of the trustees is not Dave’s only honorific. He



is also the treasurer of the Retired Police Association. Although Dave wears many hats, he has consistently attended every event, regardless of whether they’re FOP or department related, he has been there, traveling hundreds of miles and spending countless hours representing FOP. This has allowed Dave to make lifelong friendships and volunteer whenever an officer is in need. He has been a fixture at court proceedings for our members when they or their loved ones needed support or at benefits fostering social connections. Dave documents much of his participation with pictures and posts to his social media page. His dedication to this organization, love for the membership, specifically the president, has been unwavering. Dave’s passion for the FOP and is only rivaled by his passion for Miami Vice or his Trans Am. We are truly blessed to have “Truck Stop” as one of our own.

**It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents the chairman of the trustees with the Fraternalism Award.**

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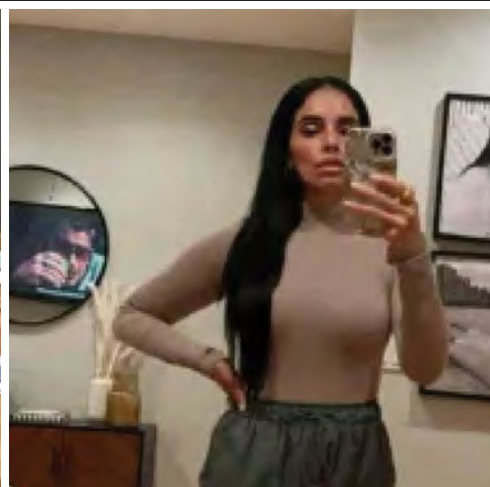
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# FOREVER ASCENDING

Momentous tributes for Krystal Rivera capture how she has always been an angel.  
And always will be.



Among the slideshows, montages and expressions of Krystal Rivera's unforgettable presence, a single image served well to frame this tribute. The fearless, undaunted, exquisite Chicago Police Officer is ascending a mountain of some kind. Striding her way up, if you can picture that.

With that same presence her aunt Marisa Mercado shared she saw when first holding Krystal the day she was born. And the same way her best friend, Jen Topacio, confirmed that Krystal always pulled it off with confidence and class. And with that energy her sisters and brothers in the 6th District declared will never go away.

Remembering the life of this fallen hero — always present, joyful and lending a hand — begins with 20th District Officer Jacquelyn Grijalva recalling her BFFship with Krystal, going back to when they were at Wright College. Two women in their 20s, going after their degrees, taking the test to get on the Department, doing whatever they could to get into the academy.

"And we just kept telling each other, we're not going to stop, we're not going to stop," Grijalva related. "No matter how long it takes for us to keep going back to do the workouts, we're still going to keep going."

Picture where the climb would have led Krystal Rivera.

For sure, more moments like the one 006 Commander Michael Tate related to the more than 1,000 officers who packed the Living Word Christian Center on June 25 for Krystal's funeral service. One of those days when she would stop Tate in the halls or come into his office and ask:

"Commander, is there anything or anywhere you want us to attack today?"

"I would jokingly say, 'Krystal, this is the 6th District. Pick one,'" Tate revealed. "Lo and behold, on most days, within an hour, I called down to the tac office, and there Krystal would be, smiling with a weapon or two, along with drugs, illegal car-opening devices and multiple offenders, sitting in the processing area. Then she would say, 'Commander, I know it's only 10:30. We'll knock this out, and we'll get you something else.'"

\*\*\*\*\*

Man, so much flows from a heartbreak like when Krystal was lost on that June 5 night. The tributes are mountainous, including on that night, when Superintendent Larry Snelling had to let Yolanda Rivera, Krystal's mom and hero, and her stepfather, Rico, know what happened. And also having to tell Krystal's beautiful 11-year-old daughter, Bella.

The superintendent described what happened as a tribute to what made Krystal a spectacular copper, beautiful person and — fulfilling perhaps the highest calling in the world — single mom and police officer.

"I saw strength. I saw courage. I saw power. I saw a lot of love," Snelling announced at the service. "And in that pain, in that courage, in that love, I saw resilience."

All of which Krystal no doubt poured into every day. Snelling also detailed how Tate called Krystal "a hard charger. A worker." Praise and titles that have to be earned, as every Chicago Police Officer would proudly confirm. Praise that every copper knows meant Krystal understood how to go out and keep people safe in the City.

"I'm sure she wasn't looking for recognition. The great ones don't look for recognition. They roll their sleeves up, and they do the work," Snelling continued. "If we had more Krystal Riveras in the world, we'd be a lot safer."

\*\*\*\*\*



Among the reverberating words of praise, tributes to Krystal's policing prowess and inspiring description of her style, the heart-wrenching declarations also flowed. It only began with Bella stepping up the day after the incident and the day before her 11th birthday party to tell the *Sun-Times* about her mom leaving for work that night.

"When she said 'bye,' it's like she had a feeling," Bella was quoted as saying. "She gave me the biggest hug, biggest kiss, and she said, 'If anything happens, I'm always right here,' in my heart."

Tears rolled as well when Aunt Marisa expounded on what transpired after holding Krystal the day she was born.

"As Krystal grew, her presence was magnetic. She was bold, joyful and fearless," Mercado evoked. "From early on, it was clear serving and protecting were inherently part of her DNA."

And Topacio recognized what endeared her to friends, family, members of her Tac Team 663, everybody in 006 and the entire Department.

"If you ever heard her laugh, you know it was as loud as her loyalty," Topacio explained. "I could hear that ridiculous snort-laugh from a mile away. Her smile was just as contagious. You could see it in her eyes before it ever reached her lips. Her nose scrunched up, little wrinkles forming beside her freckles as her whole face lit up."

### HIGH POINTS

A moment, an incident, a life like that does not go on without the memorable remarks and homages that come in the wake. The soundtrack of the legacy, if you will.

In the eulogy, Pastor Wilfredo De Jesus praised the strong, independent woman who walked into a room and lit it up with her smile and her presence.

"The word 'legacy' in its original text means a gift, and Krystal has given you a gift," De Jesus extolled. "She had a heart for the hurting, a special compassion for the homeless."

In the obituary reading, Officer Kimberly Lewis-Davis, a Chicago Police chaplain, noted how that light radiated to give off lasting memories.

"Kystal had a unique style that reflected her beautiful complexity, equally passionate about fashion and comfortable in her tomboy spirit," Chaplain Lewis-Davis stated.

When Krystal started in 006 four years ago, Officer Eboni Ad-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

ams-Jones admitted she couldn't help but notice the then-32-year old PPO. She would give Adams-Jones a hug whenever they passed, and eventually she saw the makings of the great detective Krystal wanted to become.

"I was like, 'Girl, you are a badass,'" Adams-Jones remarked. "Nothing scared her away. Even if it was a new experience for us, a new assignment, she jumped right in. She's like, 'OK, I'll do it first.' If she messed up, she wanted to learn how to do better."

Too many accolades to include here, but dressed in her black cowboy hat, vest with fringe and cowboy boots to reminisce about how much she and Krystal loved Beyonce, Topacio sang some lasting praise with a little "Cowboy Carter" accent.

"Bold enough to wear a badge. Too jumpy to sit through a horror movie. Fierce one moment, a total softie the next," she crooned. "She had this way of making you feel protected, valued and yes, slightly afraid if you pushed her a certain way. She embodied the epitome of motherhood, not just in raising her own, but in how she nurtured, defended and loved everybody around her. She didn't just love hard. She loved with her whole soul."

### RISING STAR

Among the examples cited of Krystal's policing prowess, the underscore came not with the 663 team leading 006 in weapons recoveries and arrests. But with the recognition from command staff that she was a police officer in every sense of the word.

Still, it was not a story of one of those arrests that the supe shared in tribute. Rather, he recalled giving Krystal a lifesaving award for rendering aid to a catastrophically injured citizen and keeping him calm through the entire response.

Tate cited Krystal's leadership with 663, her reading reports in the sergeant's absence and initiating plans to apprehend suspect offenders. On the team, they referred to her as "Mama 2" behind Sergeant Tammy Matthews, who was "Mama 1."

"She was a calming force in our tac office, very, very active, uplifting, always willing to help out anyone," added Ricky Rivera, now the commander in 014 but the 663 lieutenant for much of the time that Krystal was on the team. "She was a great tactical officer, a great officer in general. All the tools, she had them."

\*\*\*\*\*

Her legend might have been spawned in the academy, where she first became known for her devotion to fitness. Krystal advocating for some extra time in the gym went with her to 006, where she would get others to go, too, by uttering a simple, "Come on."

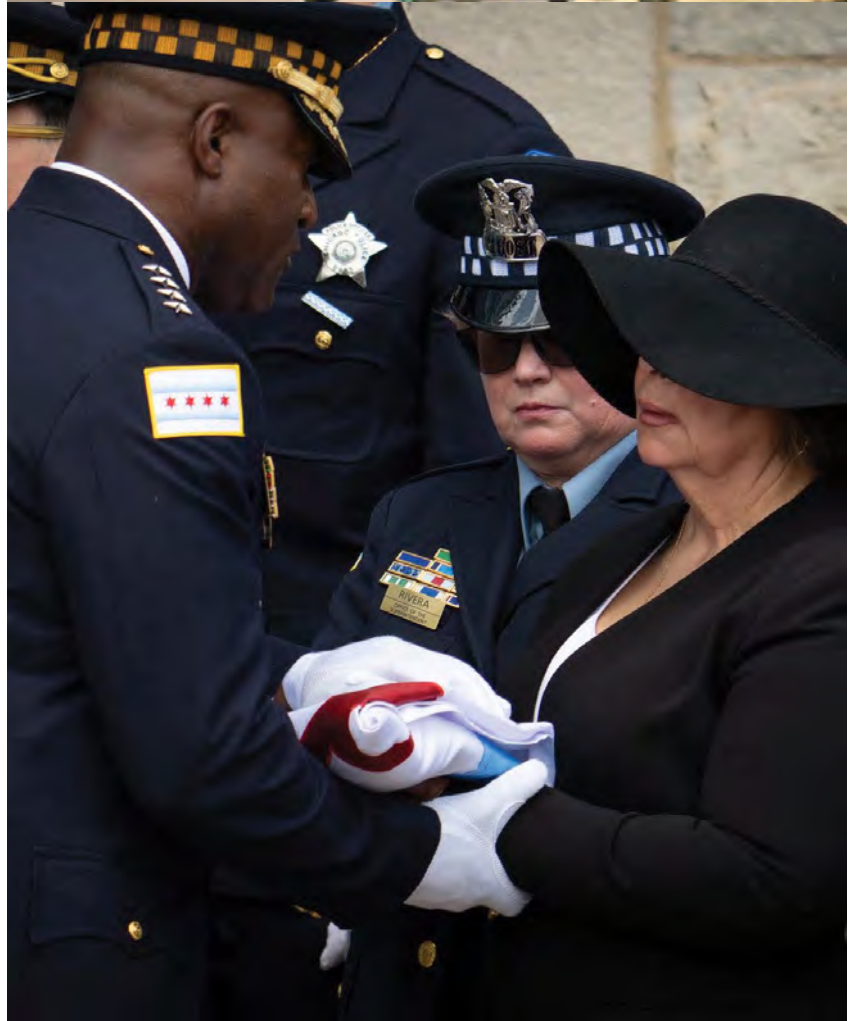
"No one could fail in our team. She wanted to push everyone with her," Adams-Jones reported.

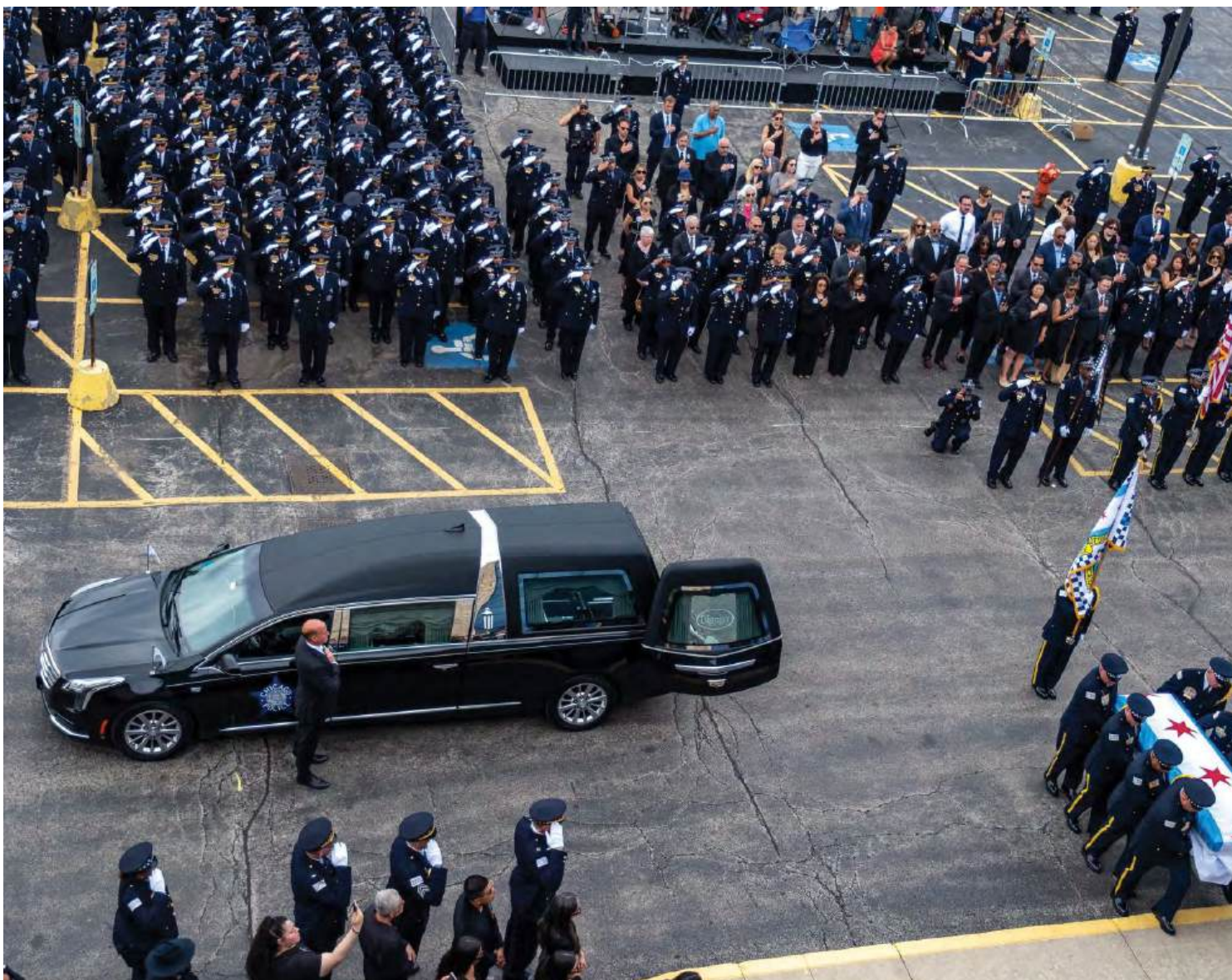
"She's like, 'If I don't like running and I'm still running, we can all do it.' She was definitely a motivator in the group."

Kenneth Griffin, a youth officer for the Department who lives in the 7th District, used to see Krystal working on the street. But it wasn't her tac work that stood out to Griffin. He suspected that Krystal was motivated to make an impact on the youth in the district by those mama bear instincts and by having a young daughter.

"She was one of those people who showed that if we meet them at a young age, we can help them grow," Griffin observed. "She was a great role model for officers in general. Just showing us that there's a light within us all if we go look for it in the right way. And she was one of those people that loved and showed love to the community and that we're out to police the right way, that side of policing that a lot of people don't think exists."

Asking those who knew her policing led to the same response. Krystal would put the other person first and never think twice about it.





“One thing that I noticed about Krystal before she was on the tac team and during it, is that she was always backing everyone up,” noted Sebastian Gonzalez, a tac officer in 006. “She was pretty committed to being a proactive officer to make the area safer.”

### ASCENDING ORDER

Every picture of Krystal tells a story. The one of her holding little Bella wearing a CPD shirt, both showing that smile that lights up the room. The ones of her in her dress uniform that always looked so immaculate. The one showing “Bella” tattooed on her hand. The one of her hanging in the academy right where the haircut and grooming standards are displayed.

Not enough time or space to mention them all. Not enough time or space to describe all that was behind the smile.

Krystal loved basketball and playing on her championship church volleyball team. She liked comedies and action movies, especially “Transformers.” She called her mom her superwoman and was fiercely protective of her older sisters, Jacqueline and Yasmin. Aunt Marisa shared that her niece loved to fix your hair without saying a word, just so you felt good walking into the world.

“That’s who she was. Someone who wanted everyone around her to win,” Mercado added.

The pictures tell a story of a beautiful officer, mom and person who always looked dressed to the nines no matter what she wore. And was a 10 inside and out.

“Kris wasn’t just a police officer, she was the fashion police officer,” Topacio emphasized. “No matter what Krystal wore, she pulled it off

with confidence and class. That was her superpower.”

\*\*\*\*\*

The honors for Krystal featured the Living Word Praise Team performing two songs of faith. The ensemble of a lead vocalist and a chorus of back-up singers started with a song in Spanish that included the lyrics “Tu nombre es canta ángeles,” and then translated it to the English, “The angels sing your name.”

Then, the culmination included the CPD Honor Guard carrying her casket out while “Taps” and “Amazing Grace” were played. Snelling presented CPD flags to mom and daughter, with the superintendent getting a hug and, of course, a smile from the girl who is now the City’s and Department’s daughter forever. All accentuated by the final salute as the recessional escorted Krystal to her final resting place.

Among the honors, Krystal would probably have most loved one that Pastor De Jesus offered.

“I want to bless the police department. I want the police department to know that we honor you, we support you. Here in Chicago, you are heroes,” he proclaimed. “You all know how to honor each other. That brotherhood or sisterhood — policehood — is a powerful reflection of the love and impact Krystal had on each of us.”

An elected official on hand submitted, “Let this be a reflection and remembrance of the courage and the bravery of the women and men who put their lives on the line for this City every single day.”

An epilogue that Krystal always lived up to.



# YOU GO, GIRL

The special power of Krystal made officers who worked with her and hung out with her always feel the love

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

The love for Krystal Rivera gushing through the 6th District streamed like tears when the officers from Gresham stood side by side during the visitation on June 24. Inside the chapel at Montclair-Lucania Funeral Home on the Northwest Side, the St. Jude service was about to start, and several of Krystal's sisters and brothers in the district could not remove their mirrored sunglasses.

"Yeah, you were right. Trying to fight them, but couldn't hold back," Aja Ellis responded when asked about whether she was hiding tears behind those rims. "Once we got on the tac team, it's just like, you spend 12 to 15 hours with one person in a car, you develop a bond. And she somehow became my EAP and vice versa. We would vent. And toast with Red Bulls in the car."

And so the love notes flowed from those who worked in 006 and on Tac Team 663, the Chicago Police Officers who knew Krystal Rivera best. They marveled at her seemingly boundless energy that let them all know, if Krystal had a break, she could likely be found running on the treadmill in the gym upstairs at 006 headquarters.

They lived for the hugs that Krystal gave out every tour, all tour. They praised her relentlessness in Tac to go after bad guys. They admired her ability to learn and pass on her knowledge, answering every question the PPOs had, even if it came when she was off duty. They shared her pride in daughter Bella.

"She was a for-sure trooper, man," Ellis added. "F---ing badass, for sure."

On 663, Sergeant Tammy Matthews referred to Krystal, Ellis and Officer Andrea Diamond as the "Powerpuff Girls."

Ellis explained that she was Buttercup. Diamond was Blossom because she wanted to be in charge. And Krystal was Bubbles because, well, if you know her personality, who else would she be?

Following the St. Jude service, the 006 crew moved outside the funeral home. The sun began its descent, leaving a glow under which the officers surely would have loved some Red Bulls to toast their love.

Nichelle Fraction, the Tac lieutenant in 006 for the past couple of months, answered a call to describe Krystal. She smiled, and without hesitation, responded, "girl power."

"She was just so happy to see women stepping up and being part of the Department," Fraction continued. "There were a lot of things that she was wanting to accomplish in this job, and she has put that power in all of us to ensure that we move forward in her name."

When Krystal came to the district as a PPO, she alternated going out with two officers, one of whom was Michelle Gaona. They worked midnights, and Gaona quickly saw something that made her think Krystal was a real one.

"I feel like she could have talked to anybody, empathized with anybody," Gaona recalled. "Even if it was the grimmest person you met on the street, she found a way to talk to them or to have some type of dialogue. Even if it started out as negative, she turned it around."

Those who rode with Krystal knew she could break out dancing in the seats if a certain song came on. Beyoncé's "Run the World (Girls)" was one that could get her going, especially on midnights, when officers always need a lively song to keep them going. They might even see her dancing to it in the hallways with the other Powerpuff Girls.

Until a call came in.

"She was definitely a go-getter, out there gunning and running," Gaona added. "She loved it. She was great at what she did."

Whenever he headed upstairs to the gym in the district headquarters, Gabriel Gamino saw Krystal there, he remembers. Even in the midst of a 15-minute treadmill break, her bubbly personality showed; she would greet Gamino with a smile and some words of go-getting.

He described Krystal as full of motivated energy. Motivated to learn everything and be involved in everything.

"I don't think there was a day where you weren't seeing her in the district with an arrest. I think that's what kept her motivated," observed Gamino, who has been on for 10 years. "Those people are rare in a sense. Just always wanting to advance her knowledge in the field."



So many levels to Krystal. Sitting at a table, she could easily bond with fellow officers, like she did with Romele Jackson, who worked Tac in 006 for two years after coming over from 011.

They had been comparing their full sleeves of tattoos. Jackson has a God's eye and a tree of life on his forearm. He admired Krystal's angel, on her left forearm.

"Extremely fresh," he complimented.

With the slightest of interactions, Krystal could make a lasting impression.

"She brings everybody together. She huddles everybody up," Jackson continued. "She's willful. She's patient. She's helpful. She's optimistic.

You can never tell her one thing and she only believes that one thing. She's open to new ideas."

Krystal had been talking to Sade Henderson before work recently, offering an update on Bella's basketball team. Henderson loved Krystal's style, invoking the glam of the red dress she wore to the holiday party last year.

Henderson confided how she will miss the smiles, the hugs, the utter Bubbles of her powerful Powerpuff friend. And what they can all do to carry on for Krystal.

"Just treat people how you want to be treated," Henderson concluded. "And always remember to do it with a smile."







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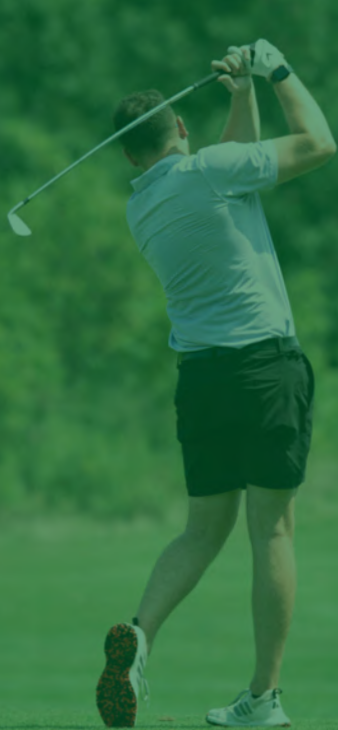


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