

NATIONAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER'S MEMORIAL



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
2026 INFORMATION GUIDE
WASHINGTON, D C



WELCOME

To those of you that are reading this, having expressed an interest in taking part in the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOM) in Washington DC in 2026, *Thank You* on behalf of all the LEO Gold Star Family members. There were 111 recognized Law Enforcement Officers who lost their lives from line of duty deaths in 2025, consisting of 102 males and 9 females, well down from the 148 officers in 2024, which represents a 25% near historic low decrease. Gunfire remains the main cause of death with the 1st case on 15 January 25, and with the last case on 23 December 25. The average police officer killed in 2025 was 44 years of age with a reported tenure to be 14 years of service. The average number of children left behind by each officer was two. Through varied accounting, depending on the source of the report, an especially disheartening statistic is the fact that a five-year (2019-2024) study average indicates that 184 law enforcement officers were recorded as having died by suicide annually during that time. Sadly, more LEO's die annually by their own hand by suicide than by murder. (There is hope with caring, expert assistance; PLEASE reach out for help.)

BACKGROUND

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which it falls, as National Police Week. Over the many years, members of the Chicago Police Department have made the journey annually to Washington DC each May, sharing in the observance to honor our fallen. In 2002, following the 9/11 tragedy, the Chicago Police Department had an unrivaled turnout at the National Memorial. Our attendance of over 500 members matched or exceeded that of the New York Police Department who, along with the NY Port Authority, tragically lost a total of 72 law enforcement members on 9/11. Since then, the Chicago Police Department has upheld their reputation many times as one of the largest voluntary law enforcement agencies in attendance for two decades. This recognition is due strictly to the numerous individual Chicago Police Department members and supporters who sacrificed their own time and funds over these many years to be part of this most honorable tradition. Compassion and solidarity, while doing 'God's Work,' along with many heartfelt experiences and memories, will be your personal reward.

GETTING THERE

If using air travel, the most direct and recommended airport is Reagan National (DCA) with numerous flights out of O'Hare (ORD) and Midway (MDW) airports. Flying into Dulles airport would require unnecessary additional modes of transportation to access downtown DC. Reagan National has a convenient Metro Rail stop just outside the airport that will take you directly downtown and surrounding areas, including Arlington VA. Rideshare vehicles, i.e. UBER/LYFT are also available and convenient. (See 'AIRPORTS' and 'GETTING AROUND' in this guide) You may also consider driving or joint carpooling. The average drive time from the Chicago area is approx. 11-13 hrs., with various factors affecting travel.

THE 'UNOFFICIAL' CHICAGO POLICE INFORMATION GUIDE - WASHINGTON DC, 2026

The pages that follow contain researched and updated information relative to the NLEOM in Washington DC during the main part of pertinent Police Week activities (10-16 MAY) 2026. It is provided to assist and inform our members, especially first-timers, in planning their activities based upon the listing and explanation of some of the Police Week functions and events. All listed events, times, locations, costs and statistics etc. are as accurate as possible, as of the early release of this year's 2026 Information Guide. Many photos and credits for this year include-CPD Graphic Arts photographers and their unit, along with many organizations and other individual LEO websites including, not limited to, C.O.P.S., DC Metro, FOP, NLEOMF, ODMP & Police Unity Tour, with apologies to anyone inadvertently not listed within.

MAY 2026							5A, 5B, 6A	
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT		
POLICE MEMORIAL MONTH								
GUN SAFETY DAYS MAY 27 - 28, 2026								
7-1 77-71-72 65-66	1-2 71-72-73 66-61	2-3 72-73-74 61-62	3-4 73-74-75 62-63	4-5 74-75-76 63-64	5-6 75-76-77 64-65	6-7 76-77-78 65-66	7-1 77-71-72 64-65	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
6-7 76-77-71 66-61	7-1 77-71-72 61-62	1-2 71-72-73 62-63	2-3 72-73-74 63-64	3-4 73-74-75 64-65	4-5 74-75-76 65-66	5-6 75-76-77 66-61		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		

AIRPORTS

Ronald Reagan Washington International Airport (DCA)



DISTANCE FROM DOWNTOWN:	4 Miles (Closest, most convenient and recommended airport)
DRIVE TIME: (Non rush-hour)	20 Minutes (Rental Car)
TAXI: (Typical <u>minimum</u> fare app.)	\$ 25.00-\$30.00+ (Depending on distance and time of day)
UBER/LYFT: (Typical <u>minimum</u> fare app.)	\$13.00-\$25.00+ (Depending on distance, time of day, type, i.e., Pool, Uber X, XL etc)
METRO RAIL: (Based on <u>distance</u> traveled)	\$3.00-\$4.25 (Convenient/recommended) * See discounted unlimited pass option below @ IAD
Board Metrorail right outside airport (illustration above). Take <u>YELLOW</u> or <u>BLUE</u> line to closest Metro stop of your destination.	

WASHINGTON DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (IAD)

DISTANCE FROM DOWNTOWN:	26 Miles
DRIVE TIME: (Non rush-hour)	1 hour
TAXI: (Typical <u>minimum</u> fare app.)	\$90.00+ (To downtown DC, \$35.00 to closest Metrorail Station-Rosslyn)
UBER/LYFT: (Typical <u>minimum</u> fare app.)	\$50.00-\$90.00 (Depending on distance within downtown DC and various conditions)
METRO RAIL: (Recently Available)	The direct <u>SILVER</u> Metro Rail extension to Dulles finally opened November 15, 2022. Dulles to Metro Center in downtown DC takes about 53 minutes (19 stops) Rosslyn, (Arlington) 45 minutes. Dulles terminal trains depart app. every 15 minutes. A timed walk between Dulles terminals via the 3 moving sidewalks and 2 escalators to the Metro station takes > 5 minutes. Average Metro cost is \$3.00 - \$6.00, during peak hrs., with off-peak hrs., \$2.00-\$4.00. (based on distance) * A one-day unlimited pass is \$13.00 & a three-day unlimited pass is \$28.00, a good option if sightseeing.

BALTIMORE-Washington International Airport (BWI)

(Needlessly too distant, inconvenient and expensive to downtown DC)

DISTANCE FROM DOWNTOWN:	40 Miles
ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION :	IF absolutely necessary to utilize this airport it is recommended to take Amtrak rail to the DC Union Station, then transfer/board Metro rail line to desired closest station in downtown DC, available within the (Amtrak) Union Station. Free shuttle service is provided between BWI and Amtrak. The cost of an Amtrak train ticket into Union Station from BWI varies depending on the time of your travel with the cost between \$15.00-\$45.00 for a <u>one-way</u> ticket, plus any additional cost of an appropriate Metro ticket.

(ALL COSTS AND INFO LISTED ARE LATEST APPROXIMATIONS, INCLUDED FOR INFORMATION AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

DC AREA HOTEL INFORMATION

DC's hotel occupancy traditionally reaches its peak in March through July and October. Average daily rates reach their highest levels during March through May and October. The latest 'average' downtown room rate per night is in the +/- \$250.00 - 300.00+ range with many variables affecting the average. Hotels adjust their rates upwards based upon demand by market evaluation of predicted occupancy of scheduled or recurring conventions, meetings, events (Police Week) etc., a classic case of supply and demand. Hotels share raw data (rooms sold, revenue and rooms available). The data is then aggregated into regions and used to benchmark for each hotel and geographic area. The uppermost room rates during our travel period remain at the downtown chain hotels due to better marketing, ranking and amenities coupled with the desired closer proximity to most tourist attractions, convention centers, and government buildings. In addition, most downtown hotels are within increased location access to the Metro rail stations, the main course and recommended transportation throughout downtown DC and surrounding areas. Staying just outside of downtown DC, hotel rates tend to drop off respectively based upon location, distance out, convenience, hotel quality/ranking, taxes and amenities along with the distance/access to the Metro rail line. Arlington VA, for example, is basically just across the river from DC and 1-3 additional Metro rail stop(s) outside of the downtown DC area. Based upon individual budget and preference, members may explore their best personal accommodations and rates on their own through the conventional methods such as recommendations, travel agents or simple Internet hotel comparisons of location, rates and availability. Internet hotel search sites for example, such as *Trivago.com*, or *Kayak.com* in a "search-all" mode allows simultaneous access to *Hotels.com*, *Hotwire.com*, *Price/line.com*, *Expedia.com* and *Booking.com* for comparison of rates and options. Oftentimes, after favoring a particular location from one of these sites, a direct call to the specific hotel reservation department may sometimes result in a better rate than those featured on the alleged discounted web search sites. When calling directly to the hotel, members should inquire about specific discounts not featured on-line such as government rates, AAA travel discounts, AARP (retired), Hilton (Honors), Holiday Inn (IHG Rewards Club), etc. Note that some hotels listed on these sites or individual hotel sites sometimes offer a lower rate, but have some fine-print stipulations (i.e. total pre-payment, varying/no refund or cancellation policy, limited amenities, less desirable locations etc.) Read all terms and conditions prior to confirming and check the proximity to the closest Metro rail line. Some hotels list pricing options for the same type of room according to their cancellation options with last-minute cancellation dates closer to check-in, typically more expensive. For example, some hotels will offer a noticeably cheaper rate but there may be a 'no cancellation' policy for that particular rate. While most hotels advertising claim to have a cancellation policy, they prefer the option to have time to resell/book the room recently cancelled, thus the earlier the cancellation date notice, the better the opportunity for the hotel to make the room available for resale. In DC, some hotels list that they are close (in 'direct' mileage) to specific buildings, downtown and tourist attractions, but the miles listed may be in a straight line between locations and not necessarily transportation travel miles or they may be in 'less desirable' neighborhoods. Some hotels include a complimentary breakfast in their rates. Note the difference between a possible 'continental' style and 'light' breakfast premium (basically coffee, rolls, pastry, toast, yogurt, juice etc.) as opposed to a 'full' breakfast selection (eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, waffles etc.) Some hotels offer breakfast as an 'add-on' option to the everyday rate. Compare the added daily expense to match one's normal breakfast eating habit tendency to closely match your own personal choice/cost for each day. Many hotels do not list the daily parking fees for those driving to DC, with some adding an additional cost sometimes reaching \$50.00 a day. Review all the components when booking and consider that rate alone should not be the deciding factor. The overall picture should be considered, i.e. location, cleanliness, daily housekeeping policy, amenities, convenience, room accommodations, food and drink availability, shuttle service, Metro rail proximity etc. Cost can be offset by dividing the rate by the number of occupants sharing the room or suite. Hotel rooms, depending on type/size, can minimally sleep up to 3-4 occupants, (2 queens plus extra fold out couch/bed etc.)

NOTE: Again, this year the NLEOMF/CPD DC INFORMATION GUIDE, since publication for nearly 20 years, will once again not include publishing a specific list of (a) recommended hotel(s) that were researched and personally negotiated for a discounted group rate for consideration as in the past. One option, without bias, again is merely listed here annually for informational purposes, and offered through the "Police Week" hotel on-line reservation network sponsored by the DC/FOP via their site at PoliceWeekHotelRooms.com. Partial proceeds from booking through this site are donated to the FOP and NLEOMF. Again, all the aforementioned factors should be considered, no matter what the source of hotel reservations made, to make your stay as pleasing, memorable and cost-effective as possible. Finally, members need to explore and book reservations ASAP as historically, belated bookings tend to have increased costs and less desirable availability options.

BOOK NOW and SAFE TRAVELS

GETTING AROUND METRO (RAIL)

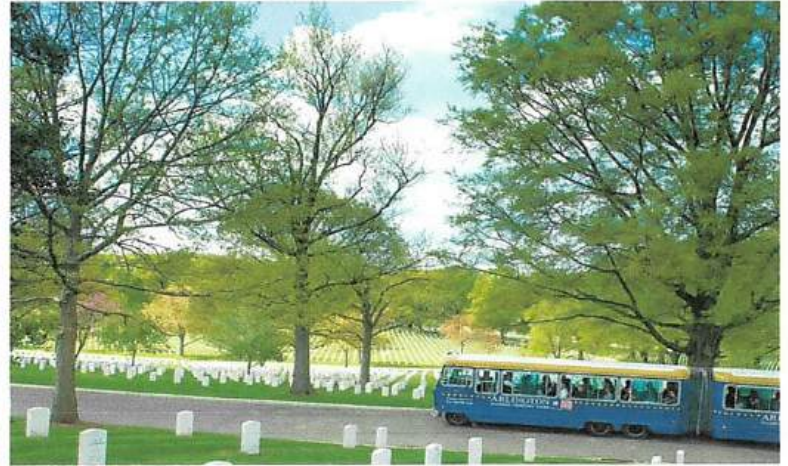
Their subway system is relatively safe, clean, efficient and close to most points of interest in downtown DC along with an extensive surrounding city and county area. Their subway stations are identified at street level by a sign containing the letter **M** in boldface, indicating **M**etro(rail). During some "Police Week" years in the past, law enforcement officers in uniform or with appropriate I.D. were allowed to ride for free. It should be especially noted (emphasis added) that this is/was an 'unofficial courtesy' during "Police Week." As such, it is subject to varying interpretations by individual agents allowing/denying access based upon annual policy changes and discernment including termination/suspension as having been experienced in the past. Therefore, it is in your best interest to familiarize yourself with the purchase/use of the Metro SmarTrip fare card. The procedure is simple. One can buy a new plastic card online and receive it by mail in 3-5 business days. Recently added was the ability to download the SmarTrip app for your iPhone or Android. In addition, every Metro station has a 'SmarTrip' fare card dispensing machine. All one needs to do is insert cash or a credit card into the machine in the desired amount of credit. You will receive a rechargeable 'SmarTrip' transit card for use on their system. All one needs to do is insert or scan at the top of the 'entry' (green arrow) turnstile, the transit card which will electronically record your starting point and provide you access through. When you arrive at your final destination (you may have to switch lines at a transfer point on occasion) you simply insert or scan your same card into the 'exit' turn style (green arrow) and the amount will automatically be deducted from your card, according to distance traveled. The physical cards are re-chargeable at any station. The unused portion on the card does not expire and can be utilized in the future as necessary. Depending on the amount of individual travel via the Metro one may utilize, an initial amount of \$20.00 - \$25.00 would be an average amount necessary to allow one to get around during "Police Week" depending on the amount/distance of travel. The six (6) area Metro 'lines' are identified by **COLORS** and the stations or stops by their areas within the city. Since multiple (color) Metro trains may pass through the same station, signage is provided at every station that indicates the 'color' of the next approaching Metro train in-bound into that station along with, in minutes, the arrival time. When the arriving train is app. 30 seconds away, round lights at the edge of the platform appear, start blinking to indicate pending arrival, serve as a warning to step back and remain lit once the train is in the station to illuminate boarding. Always step back from the opening train doors initially upon arrival to allow the passengers to alight from the train first. Also, it is expected that when using the Metro escalators to always stay to the right on the stairs, as the left portion of the escalator steps are for the people who customarily bypass on the left side. See the Metro map included in this info guide and note that handy pocket size versions are available at most Metro stations and hotels all throughout the DC area. The SmarTrip app is available at wmata.com for iPhone/Android users to buy passes, add/pay via Apple Wallet or Google Pay's "tap and go" feature, along with current **M**etro train/color station arrival times, maps, fares and a host of other app features.



GETTING AROUND

(continued)

Most points of interest in the downtown area are within reasonable walking distance, depending on condition, age and sobriety. Locate the closest Metro stop to your destination from a Metro map first, then walk. Tour mobiles and bus tours are available to almost all of the points of interest for a fee that covers the day and allows one to get on/off and spend as much time at a particular site as necessary, before re-boarding to continue the tour or return to the point of origin. The service makes continual loops to most of the important downtown attractions in the DC area. This appears to be the "typical tourist" mode of transportation. There's also a "night tour" where one can experience the sights in a completely different evening atmosphere. Although admission is free to enter/walk through Arlington National Cemetery and view the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown, and Kennedy grave memorial etc. on your own, similar guided bus tours are available at Arlington National Cemetery for a separate fee. Changing of the Guard is every 1/2 hr. during May.



Unless you're taking the Metro to a specific area for cost and convenience, you'll find DC area taxi transportation not all that expensive with the average fares throughout downtown about \$20.00-\$25.00, depending on distance and traffic conditions. If you split the cost between occupants or take turns paying the fare you'll find that it's not all that expensive for the door-to-door convenience. During late night excursions, especially after drinking, taxi, Uber, Lyft etc. transportation is highly advised. "WITHIN" the designated 'downtown' DC area, all cabs work on 'zone to zone' rates or fares. Predetermined rates apply from one zone to another as opposed to a metered rate that registers the distance traveled. Some applicable charges *may* apply, i.e., additional passenger fees, am/pm rush hour rates i.e. (0700-0930 & 1600-1830) and radio dispatch fee extra. "OUTSIDE" of the 'downtown DC' area, the cabs are 'metered.' It works out about the same with a 'zone' rate to Georgetown for example within a few dollars of a 'metered' return ride back. In general, experience indicates that taxi service in DC is fairly reliable. Uber/Lyft is also available in DC if you are registered and have the appropriate app on your phone. These 'ride share' vehicles also allow you to choose the size of the vehicle depending on the number in your party and are plentiful even in areas not heavily patrolled by cabs. On your phone you also get to view the drivers photo, vehicle (make & license plate #) and their location and app. wait time while tracking their location on your phone. Your credit card is charged within minutes of the completion of the transaction. Tipping is not required in ride share type vehicles but good drivers/service can be acknowledged and compensated. Bicycles and DC Pedicabs are also available for rent along with electric scooters. Guided Segway tours and Segway rentals are also available in DC.



Metro System Map

wmata.com
Information: 202-637-7000 | TTY: 202-962-2033
Metro Transit Police: 202-962-2121 | Text: MYMTPO (696873)

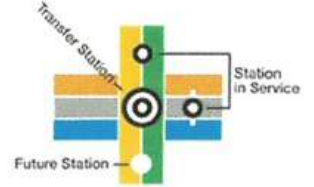
Legend

- **RD** Red Line • Glenmont / Shady Grove
- **OR** Orange Line • New Carrollton / Vienna
- **BL** Blue Line • Franconia-Springfield / Downtown Largo
- **GR** Green Line • Branch Ave / Greenbelt
- **YL** Yellow Line • Huntington / Greenbelt
- **SV** Silver Line • Ashburn / Downtown Largo

Station Features

- P Parking
- H Hospital
- A Airport

Connecting Rail Systems



Metro is accessible.



No Smoking



No Eating or Drinking



No Animals (except service animals)



No Audio (without earphones)



No Littering or Spitting

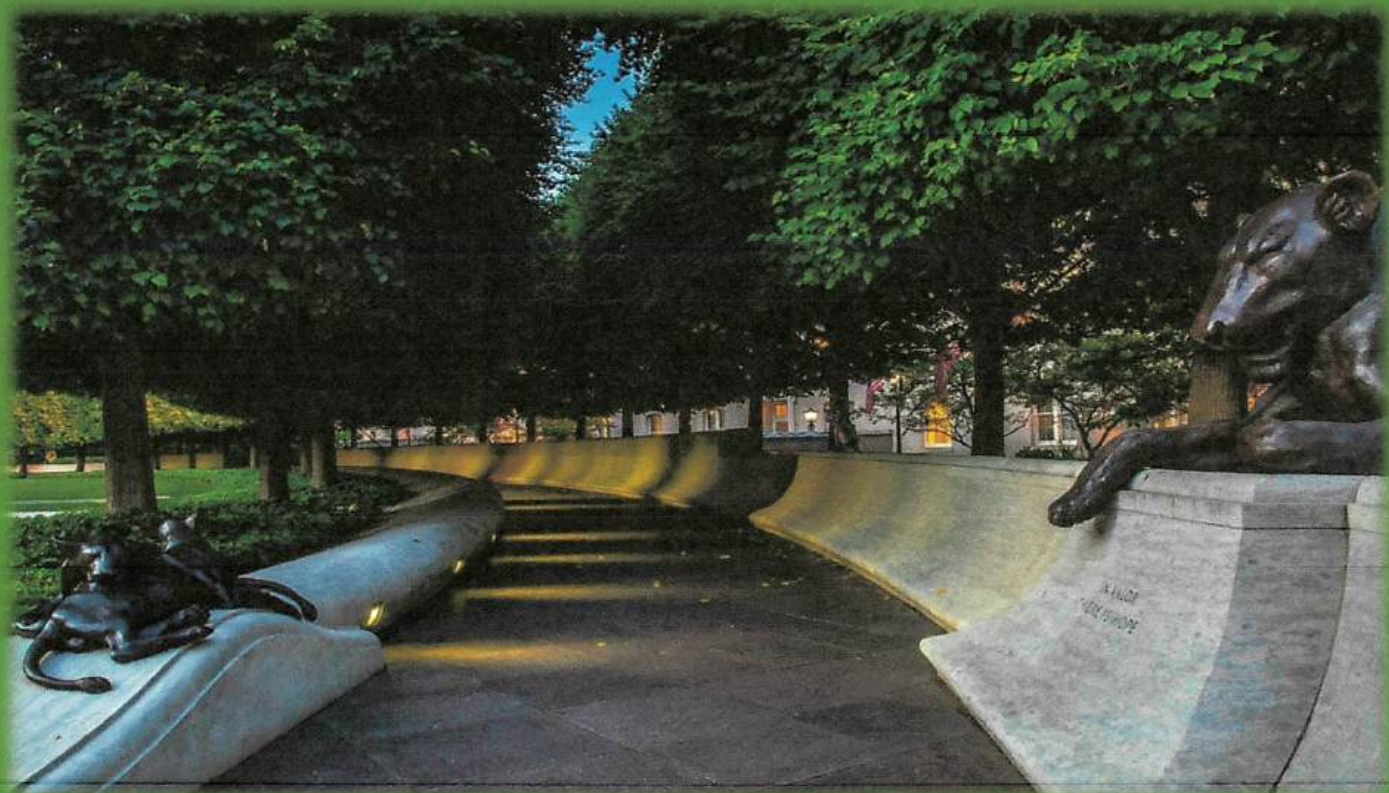


No Dangerous or Flammable Items

CHICAGO POLICE INFORMATION GUIDE
NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
MEMORIAL SITE OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION



450 F ST. NW, WASHINGTON DC, 20001



NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL

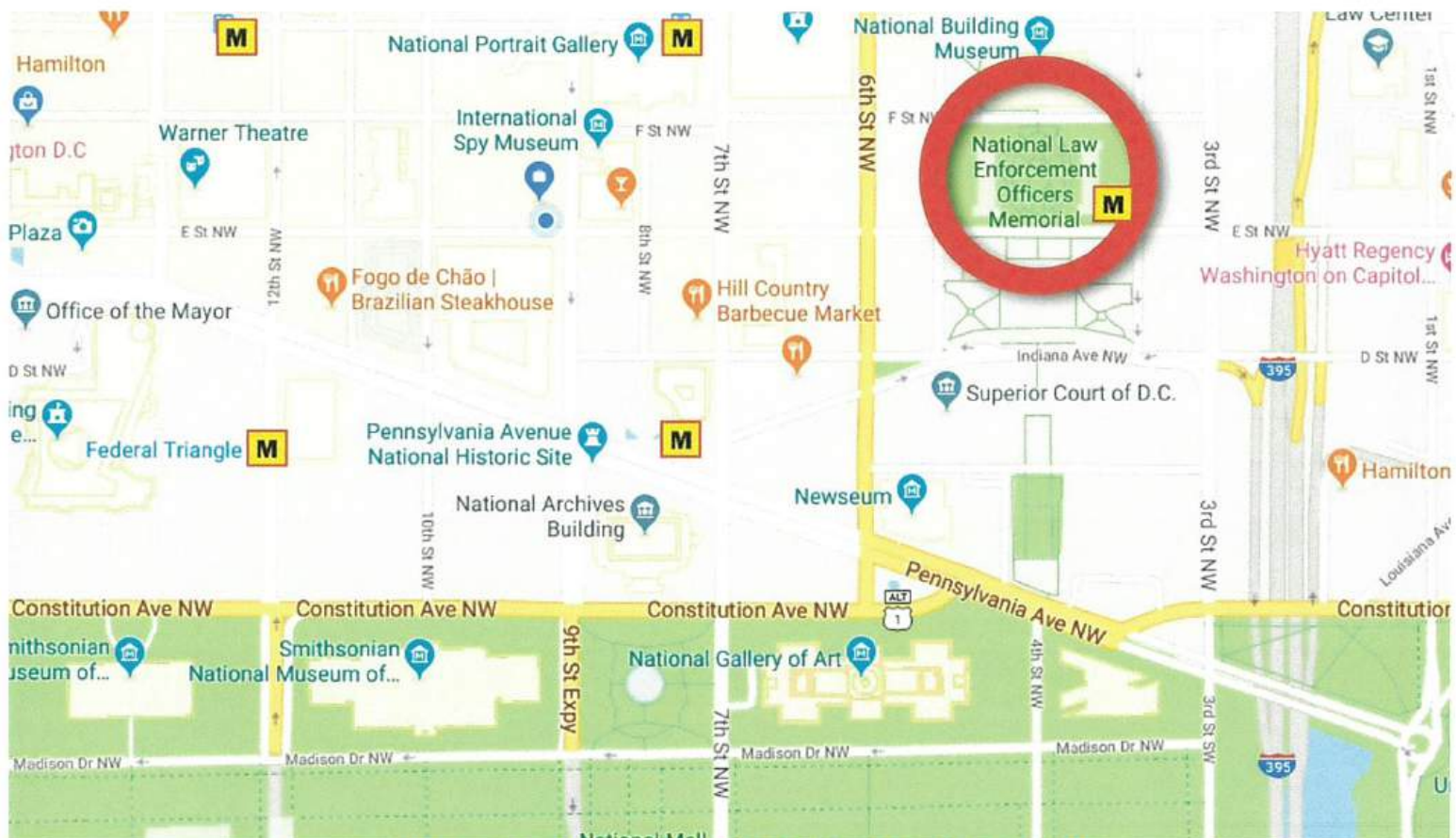


The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOM) is always open and available for viewing 24 hrs. a day. The Memorial sits on three acres of federal park land in downtown DC called 'Judiciary Square.' The Memorial grounds boast plush carpets of grass, nearly 60,000 plants and 128 trees. Each April, more than 10,000 daffodils bloom at the site, providing a burst of color. The Memorial's central plaza features an intricate paving pattern and a bronze medallion with the Memorial Fund logo: a blue shield with a red rose draped across it. Bordering the Memorial's beautifully landscaped park are the two tree-lined 'pathways to remembrance' where the names of the fallen officers are engraved. Each of the pathway entrances is adorned with a powerful statuary grouping of an adult lion protecting its cubs. The bronze statues symbolize the protective role of law enforcement officers and convey the strength, courage and valor that are hallmarks of those that serve and protect. Allow ample time to visit the NLEOM that pays tribute to over 22,000 members of law enforcement to view all the thousands of pictures, cards, notes, large and small artifacts and mementos left at the two curved 300 foot walls. While it tends to be more crowded during daytime hours, the area is accessible for late night viewing as well. Parking is limited in the area and Metro use is highly recommended and very convenient during available Metro hours. Check Metro schedule for hours. Access the RED Line Metro and get off at the JUDICIARY SQUARE Metro station, F Street exit and the NLEOM is *right above* at street level. Note that the Judiciary Square Metro station closes during certain late evening and some weekend hours. The NLEOM is located on E St at 5th St., NW-> (map follows)

For a 360 degree 'Virtual Tour' of The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and member search go to...

<http://support.nleomf.org/site/PageNavigator/MemorialVirtualTour.html>





CHICAGO POLICE NLEOM INFORMATION GUIDE

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM LOCATION AREA MAPS





On 30 Oct 1989, ground was broken for the NLEOM in Judiciary Square, Washington DC. Along with President Bush, was Officer Gregory Jaglowski, recipient that year of our nations "Top Cop Award" for his heroic actions in a gunfight with a crazed killer who had previously shot and killed a victim then sadly also killed Greg's partner, Officer Irma Ruiz on 9/22/1988. Greg was also wounded in the direct firefight.



Dedicated on October 15, 1991, the NLEOM walls originally contained 12,561 names and was designed for enough space through 2100.



Names were added annually and reached an unanticipated early peak in 2019 of app. 20,000 names with a need to expand the 304 ft. walls



Architects designed a new 15" higher wall top-cap replacement that would add the needed space for names for another thirty-five years



The original wall top-cap was removed and replaced with a more spacious and useful addition for names to continue to honor our fallen



The project will serve the NLEOMF community for over three more decades and provide additional space for memorabilia in the interim

THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO
ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
INSCRIBED ON THESE WALLS ARE THE NAMES OF THOSE
MEN AND WOMEN WHO DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY



Police Unity Tour

WE RIDE FOR THOSE WHO DIED

Most activities during National "Police Week" are organized by three main groups consisting of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Foundation (NLEOMF), Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) and the DC National Fraternal Order of Police (FOP). Together, they have historically coordinated and sponsored the main activities and events working in harmony with one another. There are also many individual and group corporate sponsors that have contributed to the history, longevity and success of "Police Week" activities. One major group sponsor is the Police Unity Tour. Organized in May of 1997, initially their goal was to raise awareness of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. Their secondary purpose is to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial and Museum. They began with a 1997 four day fund-raising bicycle ride from Florham Park, NJ to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington DC which raised an initial total of \$18,000.00 from the eighteen participating bike riders. Unable to ride to Washington, DC in May 2020 due to Covid-19, their nationwide group now consisting of 2800 members were still able to raise and contribute to the NLEOMF, another 2 million dollars. Their total donation for 30 years is an impressive 40 million dollars. The final leg of their 300+ total mile trip will arrive at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in a special ceremony on 12 May, Time TBD, *Visit their website.



THE BELOW SITE LINKS ARE LISTED FOR REFERENCE & CREDITS, MANY OF WHICH WERE INITIALLY RESEARCHED TO COMPLETE THIS GUIDE.

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Foundation

nleomf.org/memorial

Police Unity Tour

* info@policeunitytour.com

Concerns of Police Survivors

cops@nationalcops.org

Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 1

dc-fop.org

Officer Down Memorial Page

odmp.org

Honor Guard Pipe/Drum Competition

policeweekhonorguard.com

Tent City Information

policeweektentcity.com

Candlelight Vigil

vigil@nleomf.org

Blue Lives Matter

blue_lives_matter_chicago



NLEOM ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT VIGIL, 13 MAY, 8 P.M.



Each year, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund produces its annual Candlelight Vigil—a signature event of National Police Week in Washington, DC. Traditionally, the annual National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOM) Candlelight Vigil will take place on the National Mall between 4th and 7th Sts., NW and Madison and Jefferson Drives, starting at 8 p.m. Everyone is invited and no tickets are required. A reading of all the newly engraved names for this year which consist both of current line of duty deaths along with those historical names of past members recently recognized and approved for addition this year are read at the conclusion of the observance. This event is an extensive program that includes remarks by dignitaries and musical tributes in a large open area with seating limited to the honored guests and Gold Star Family Members. Dress is casual according to the weather. Uniforms are not required at this event but may be worn if preferred. It is suggested that some sort of Chicago police type logo apparel be worn to show support and affiliation of our agency, as well as identify our members in attendance to one another as well. Our Chicago Police Honor Guard will be in uniform to officially represent our department and provide escort to the Gold Star Family Members to their seating. Parking is virtually non-existent close to this event due to the crowds in attendance along with many buses, law enforcement vehicles and escort motorcycles parked in the immediate and adjacent areas. Metro, taxi or ride share use is HIGHLY advised to this event. Metrorail **ORANGE**, **BLUE**, **SILVER**, **YELLOW** & **GREEN** line trains all stop at the L'Enfant Station and it's within reasonable walking distance to the Candlelight Vigil. Arrive extra early to find a location that best fits your viewing and personal needs. Note that at the conclusion of the Candlelight Vigil program large groups in attendance will also be headed toward the Metro rail stations in the area as well. Expect delays, crowded trains and restaurants in the area. Hired ride share vehicles or taxi cabs, when obtainable in the area may be a good alternative. It appears that the candlelight vigil can again be witnessed, if not attending in person, via available Livestream on these sites: NLEOMF web page at NLEOMF.org/vigil, FACEBOOK at Facebook.com/NLEOMF, and You Tube at YouTube.com/the NLEOMF. To check on any changes, current or last minute weather updates or questions, use their email at vigil@nleomf.org or call their direct line at 202.737-3400. This impassioned tribute remains a poignant experience and is highly recommended, especially for our first timers.





NATIONAL HONOR GUARD COMPETITION

Police Week

WASHINGTON DC

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE



The Steve Young National Honor Guard Competition and Demonstration and Pipe and Drum competitions provide an opportunity for law enforcement organizations to perform ceremonious and patriotic tributes for public viewing. These teams are a highly dedicated group of law enforcement officers that represent organizations from across this great Nation and Canada. They converge on the Nation's Capital every year for National Police Week, where peace officers are honored for their dedicated service to the protection of our communities. The annual Steve Young National Honor Guard Competition and Pipe Band Competition are hosted by the Fraternal Order of Police and takes place at the Grant Statue (West end of the US Capitol) on 14 May. Starting time is app. 8:00 a.m. to approximately 4:00 p.m. The Honor Guard competition consists of three phases. First is an intense uniform inspection for exacting detail where anything from a piece of lint, a blur in the polish of the badge or a loose thread on a patch loses points. Next is the posting of the Colors by the entire Honor Guard Unit, followed by the Honor Guard group presentation or performance. All of the judges are from the elite U.S. Army Drill Team or U.S. Military Honor Guards assigned to the White House or Arlington Tomb Guards. Our Chicago Police Honor Guard participates in this event annually to honor our fallen, however at the time of the early release of this Information Guide, the exact scheduled time for their particular exhibition(s) has yet to be determined and released. In addition, at this early stage it is also uncertain if our area Pipes and Drums of the Chicago Police Department and/or Pipes and Drums of the Emerald Society will compete. Particular information, closer to Police Week relative to the National Honor Guard & Pipe Band competition times and attendees will be available by accessing the NLEOM listed web site.

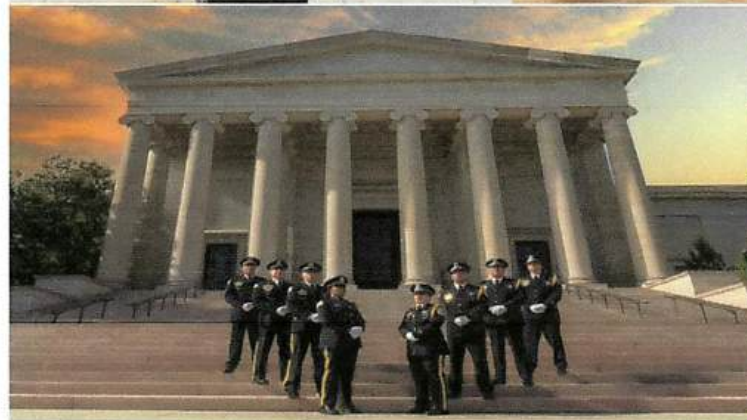
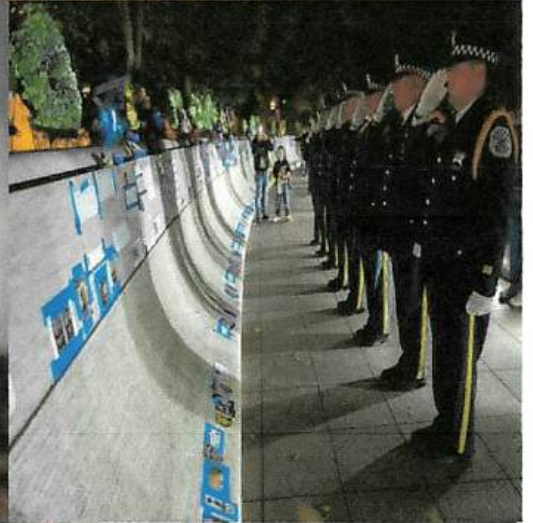


(Prior year Chicago Police Honor Guard and Pipes and Drums competition photos included on the following pages)

2025 HONOR GUARD COMPETITION INSPECTION AND PRESENTATION OF COLORS







2025 CHICAGO PIPES AND DRUMS COMPETITION



CHICAGO POLICE HONOR GUARD WREATH LAYING CEREMONY TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Note that in prior years, our Chicago Police Honor Guard has been chosen to lay a wreath in an exclusive ceremonial event at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery, on behalf of our department.

The date and time for this possible event has yet to be determined and confirmed at this early stage. Interested members wanting to view this unique and honored event should contact Special Activities, Pax: 0363 Bell 745-5827/5900, closer to all the May NLEOM confirmed events or check the CPD Website for the latest info.

Admission to Arlington is free and normally the CPD wreath laying ceremony takes place in between the "Changing of the Guard" ceremony which takes place every half hour at the Tomb of the Unknown, during May.





The National Conference of Law Enforcement Emerald Societies is pleased to announce their Annual Memorial March will be taking place on May 14, 2026, at 6pm EST. The Memorial March and Service started in 1995 and has become a signature event during Police Week activities in Washington DC. The march starts at 6:00 pm on Capitol Hill at New Jersey Avenue and F Street NW. The march proceeds along E Street and enters the NLEOM on the south side at E Street. The march procession will include Pipe bands, Emerald Societies, Honor Guards, antique police cars/motorcycles from across the United States and Canada. At 6 pm, a Memorial Service will begin with opening tunes from public safety pipe bands to include members from police/ fire/ law enforcement/ sheriffs and Emerald Societies. This is the largest contingent of mass pipe bands during the Police Week activities. The 2026 Host Pipe band will be the Philadelphia Police and Fire, Pipes and Drums. The service includes various guest speakers, pipe tunes from mass bands and concludes with placing two wreaths at the center of the memorial. The Memorial Service not only pays tribute to fallen Irish American Law Enforcement Officers but all officers that have made the ultimate sacrifice. Over the years, Members of Congress, Chiefs of Police, as well as local, state and Federal leaders have been in attendance. The service has also received nationwide media attention by being featured on a special edition of "America Most Wanted" hosted by John Walsh. The National Conference of Law Enforcement Emerald Societies (NCLEES) which sponsors the Memorial March and Service was started in 1995. Chief Robert Kearns, the current National President of NCLEES is a 37-year veteran of the Jersey City Police Department. NCLEES has over eighty-nine chapters comprised of law enforcement and firefighters from around the country. NCLEES also has chapters in Canada and United Kingdom. All Pipe bands, Emerald Societies, Honor Guards, departmental motorcycles and vintage police vehicles are invited to participate in the Memorial March. Everyone's invited to attend the service.

Stage Area / line up at 5pm at New Jersey Ave and F street NW

Step Off at 6pm. March route is New Jersey Ave; E street NW to the NLEOM.

Service at NLEOM is at 7pm.

Retreat: Irish Channel 500-H St. NW (2 blocks from Memorial)

National Law Enforcement Officers Museum



The National Law Enforcement Officers Museum officially opened on 13 October 2018 after nearly three years in the construction phase which followed multiple years of planning, fundraising and the collection of artifacts and law enforcement related historical items. The museum is located at 444 E St., NW which is directly across the street from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. A unique feature of the museum is that it was built entirely 'underground' across from the NLEOM. The glass pavilion enclosure (featured above) provides the architectural cover to the stairs and escalator to the lower level providing access to the museum. Unless otherwise noted for special NLEOM "Police Week" hours, the Museum is usually open daily, 10 am – 5 pm. Check their link below for specific time and event details.

Current individual admission prices are as follows:



Adults (age 18-64) - \$22.00

Survivor (1st Yr FREE) - \$18.00

Seniors (ages 65 and up) - \$20.00

Student (18 or older with ID) - \$20.00

Youth (17/under, with Family Plan)- FREE

LEO/Military (active/retired, Show ID)- \$18.00

Stand With Honor Member- (See *link below) FREE

Note that there is an additional charge for some Museum exhibits & features and that (non-refundable) tickets need to be "pre-purchased" for specific times and dates for entry.

* Advance Ticket Info: nleomf.org/museum/admission

Latest Exhibits Info: nleomf.org/museum/exhibits/current-exhibits

General Info: Info@lawenforcementmuseum.org or call Visitor Services at [202.737.8538](tel:202.737.8538)

NLEOMF MAIN MEMORIAL EVENT ~15 MAY

This Annual *National Peace Officers Memorial Day Service* is the main event of the entire trip. This program takes place on the West end (Mall side) of the United States Capitol Building. The assembly location is on the grassy area in front of the Capitol. When using taxi, Uber/Lyft service to get to the Capitol, get dropped off on the Northwest side of the Capitol Bldg. (Union Station side) You'll be closest to the assembly point of the CPD/Illinois contingents. If using the Metro rail, take either the **BLUE** or **ORANGE** line and get off at the "Capitol South" station. Once you exit the Metro rail at the Capitol South stop, you will have a 4-5 block walk to the Capitol Building special entrance area. **NOTE:** You will have to go through a Secret Service checkpoint. Listed requirements for '2025' follow in italics/quotes. → *"All Law Enforcement Officers attending must wear their badge on their outer most garment. They must also have two (2) forms of Government ID. Retired Officers are not permitted to carry their firearm on US Capitol grounds and will be turned away."* This is a 'required' stipulation by the U.S. Secret Service. Be prepared for this requirement, please. Upon arrival of the Gold Star Family survivor's cordon, they then are escorted down the pathway by their respective police agency representatives to the base of the steps of the Capitol for the Main Memorial Ceremony. Law enforcement officers in 'dress uniform' from throughout the USA assemble behind the seated families at this time. All police agencies group together by state in their own chosen area. It's normally easy to locate the CPD/Illinois group due to the large amount of members in uniform. **ALL ILLINOIS** police agencies are equally invited to unite with the CPD contingent on behalf of our state. (i.e. Illinois State Police, County Departments and Sheriffs, railroad special agents, all suburban LEO agencies etc.) Proceed all the way up front and the farthest to the left along the pathway as you face the Capitol Building. At this exclusive location, all Chicago/Illinois LEO's traditionally are the first organized police agencies the Gold Star families witness on their way in to the event. Dress of the day for 'Active Chicago' members in uniform are, "Class A" uniforms, consisting in part of the CPD blouse, tie and uniform crown cap. NO variations of the 'Class A' uniforms please. White gloves optional. Retired members, family supporters in civilian dress are encouraged to wear respectable casual attire, according to the weather, preferably with a (CPD, Memorial Foundation, Brotherhood for Fallen etc.) insignia, emblem etc. to show our group affiliation. All particulars relative to our role here will be explained to you when you arrive at the appropriate time. Just look for our Illinois sisters and brothers and join the assemblage. The keynote speaker at this event is, *The President of the United States*.



You will be able to meet police officers from all over the nation here as once the families are seated and the program begins, there will be time to casually intermingle and converse with the many law enforcement members in attendance. Oftentimes LEO patch or challenge coin exchanges occur at this time. Later in the program, when the names from our state (IL) are being read, we will again fall in as a group and hold a salute while the names from Illinois are being read as a sign of solidarity. Since this is the main event and the culmination of Police Week, we ask for your compassion, especially at this ceremony. While Chicago always has an impressive turn out at this observance, the true test of our dedication and commitment is how many of us, remain to the end. When the ceremony has concluded, the Gold Star Family members are again escorted out down the same pathway that we lined upon their arrival. At this time our CPD/Illinois contingents are joined by LAPD/California in our exclusive and traditional joint respective positions as they exit for their closing tribute.



See: MAIN MEMORIAL EVENT (continued)

MAIN MEMORIAL EVENT (continued)

Illinois and California historically will remain as the final two assembled Law Enforcement groups the survivor's cordon witness upon exit. We will hold our mutually exclusive positions until the very last Gold Star Family member is escorted from the Capitol area. Over the years we have maintained this respected distinction and have since developed a very unique and special bond with the LAPD and Los Angeles Sheriff's departments. The continued association with Los Angeles has developed into a more personal relationship level. To that end, in a private act of brotherhood between our respective agencies, we will conclude by holding our exclusive, "Route 66 Contingent" time-honored observance. This poignant ceremony between our agencies bears witness to the solidarity that has matured between us over the past decades of attendance. For a more comprehensive explanation on the adage "Route 66 Contingent" and its tradition, see the following pages that include a detailed description along with a pictorial account.



The entire program lasts for app. >3 hours, a small sacrifice on behalf of those that gave their all, "*The Ultimate Sacrifice*." Depending on the weather, you will possibly be out in the open with little or no shade, so prepare yourself for your own personal needs as necessary, such as water, medication, sun block, rain gear, etc. Many officers extend their stay and leave the following day to give themselves time for a final dinner or sightseeing that afternoon or perhaps the following morning if they book a late flight out. It is suggested that if you drive to DC that you seriously consider leaving on the following day, especially if you are the lone driver, as the ceremony is physically and emotionally challenging. It is in your best interest to hit the road for the drive home... 'Fully Rested.' At app. 2:30, the flowered wreath completed at the Capitol with individual flowers placed by each of the family members that lost loved ones that year, is then transported and placed at the NLEOM wall in a short ceremony sponsored by the FOP, for those wishing to witness that event. **NOTE:** (emphasis added) Please arrive a MINIMUM of 1 hour (0930-1000) earlier to assure our CPD/Illinois agencies our annual select location up front and allow our members to 'be in place' well before the arrival of the Gold Star family members and their department escort representatives. Attendees arriving from the NW side of the Capitol building are even more likely to be halted outside our assembly area as entry to everyone is held up when the Gold Star families initially arrive. This not only precludes our members from witnessing firsthand all the nations Gold Star Family members and their department escorts, but it also deprives them of observing OUR full assembly on THEIR behalf. For this reason it is again stressed to arrive early as stated above to be part of our group as a show of total solidarity as the families pass by our group. Also note that during any movement of POTUS into the Capitol building proper, the Secret Service shuts down all activities around the Capitol including our law enforcement check-in, so again please arrive extra early to avoid being held back during this crucial time period. Chicago has held the well-known and respected honor of having one of the largest voluntary turnouts at this event many times for over two decades. This recognition is owed to the individual members that sacrificed their own time and funds to earn this esteem.



LOS ANGELES POLICE



<ROUTE 66 CONTINGENT>



CHICAGO POLICE

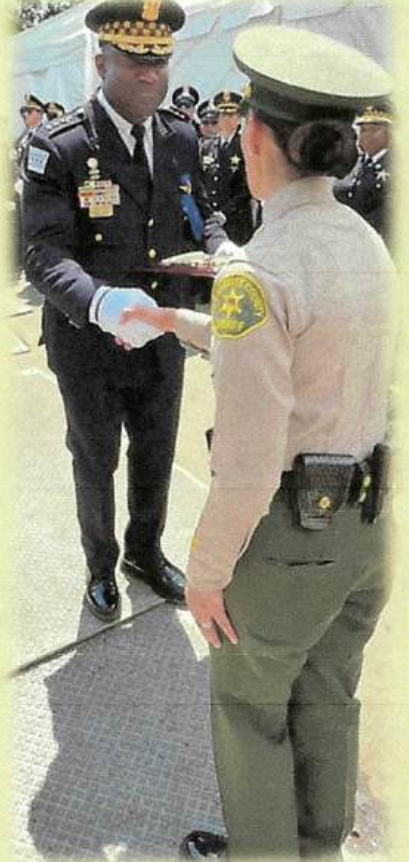
BACKGROUND

Presently, an inimitable tradition has grown between the Los Angeles Police / Sheriff's Dept. and the Chicago Police Department, May 15th annually during Police Week in Washington DC. The practice dates back nearly two decades when, at the finale of the Main Memorial Service at the Capitol Building, Los Angeles joined up with Chicago as the last two assembled law enforcement agencies the Gold Star Families witness upon exiting this final Police Week event. We're joined together, united in solidarity, standing loyal to our mutual commitment to all the Gold Star Families every year that we represent our promise to, "Never Let Them Walk Alone." Over the many years it has now developed into a more personal bond between our respective agencies. Only after the very last Gold Star Family Member in the survivor's cordon has been escorted out of the area, denoting the official culmination of the main events of Police Week, does our reciprocal and historical ceremony take place. Now, mainly private without further fanfare, our Illinois/California law enforcement contingents once again all assemble together for our exclusive and traditional ceremony. The corresponding agency ranking members are called forward to represent their respective departments and an exchange of dialogue is given on behalf of their assembled law enforcement personnel. Historically, a presentation of gifts consisting of plaques, commemoratives and challenge coins are then exchanged at this time.

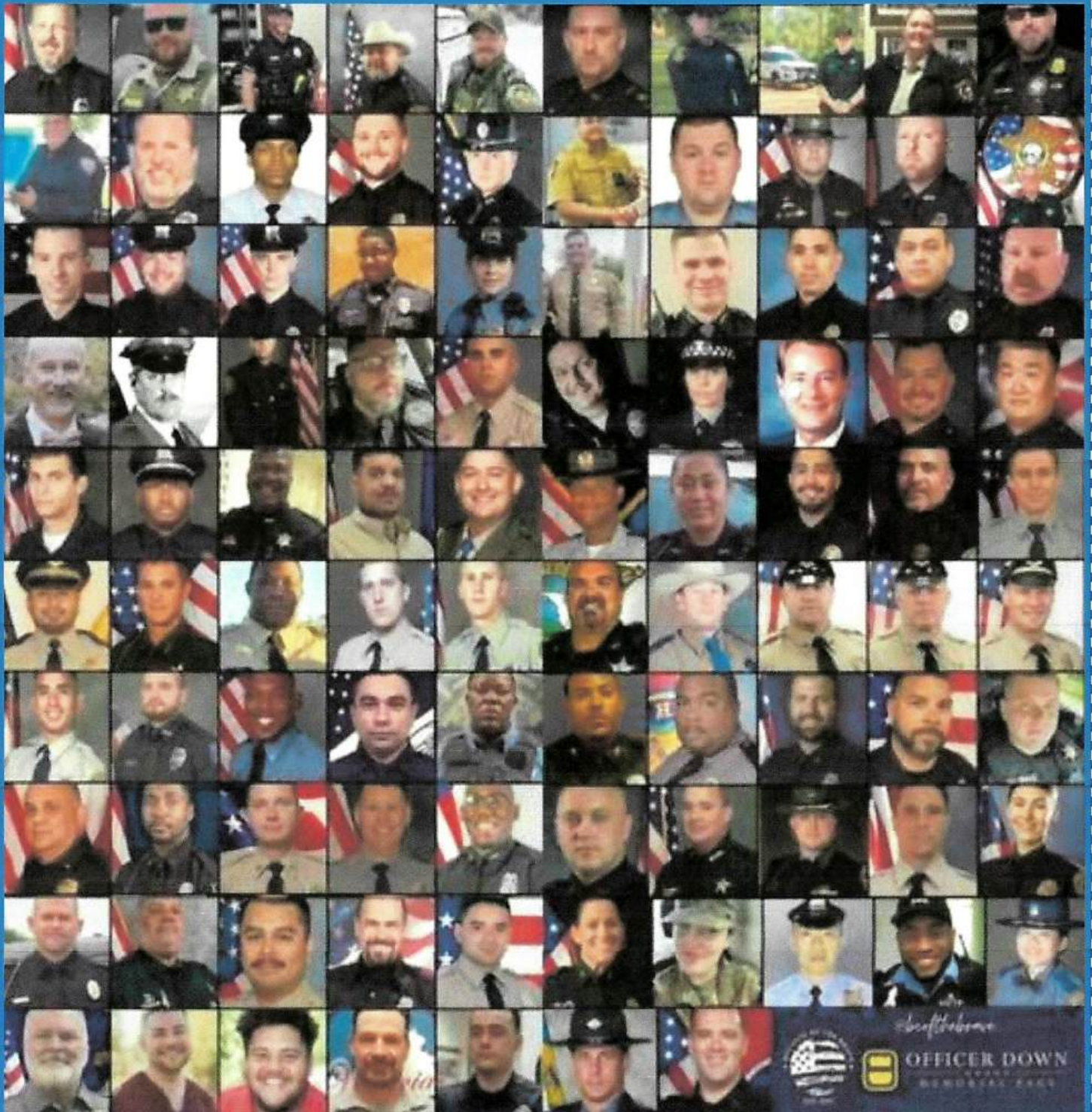


This continues as a solemn and respectful tradition that remains supported and unbroken notwithstanding the various rank and file personnel changes throughout these many years. Though we are separated geographically by miles, we remain united by our loyalty and values. Our "Route 66 Contingent" was so named as it is the direct line that connects the cities of Chicago & Los Angeles. In law enforcement we remain directly linked by the ["Thin Blue Line."](#)





2025 LAW ENFORCEMENT LINE OF DUTY DEATH ROLL CALL OF HEROES



To some, they may be just police officers; but they were sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, husbands, wives & siblings.

Those of us in law enforcement call them our heroes and their sacrifice will never be forgotten or taken for granted.

Join our CPD family in 2026 at the National Memorial where we honor their legacy of bravery, courage and sacrifice.

ILLINOIS LINE OF DUTY DEATHS 2025



POLICE OFFICER KRYSTAL RIVERA

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

END OF WATCH: JUNE 5, 2025



DETECTIVE TIMOTHY JONES

PARK FOREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

END OF WATCH: DECEMBER 3, 2025

2025



DET. TIM JONES, # 204

(GUNSHOT WOUNDED, 19 MARCH 2016)

EOW 3 DEC. 25

PARK FOREST IL, POLICE DEPT.



CARVED ON THESE WALLS
IS THE STORY OF AMERICA
OF A CONTINUING QUEST TO PRESERVE
BOTH DEMOCRACY AND DECENTY
AND TO PROTECT A NATIONAL TREASURE
THAT WE CALL THE AMERICAN DREAM

PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH

**HONORING CHICAGO'S FINEST
NATIONAL MEMORIAL
WASHINGTON DC 2025**

REMEMBERING
CHICAGO'S FINEST



KRYSTAL RIVERA #19020

EOW 5 JUNE 2025



POLICE OFFICER KRYSTAL RIVERA, #19020
CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT



Police Officer Krystal Rivera #19020

End of Watch June 5, 2025

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

**COMMUNITY
CAPS
POLICING**

Special Bulletin



We Serve and Protect
Terry G. Hillard
Superintendent of Police

**SUPPLEMENT BULLETIN
VOLUME XLIV, NUMBER 76
Monday, 17 March 2003**

CONFIDENTIAL FOR POLICE USE ONLY

AN ADDRESS TO CHICAGO POLICE OFFICERS

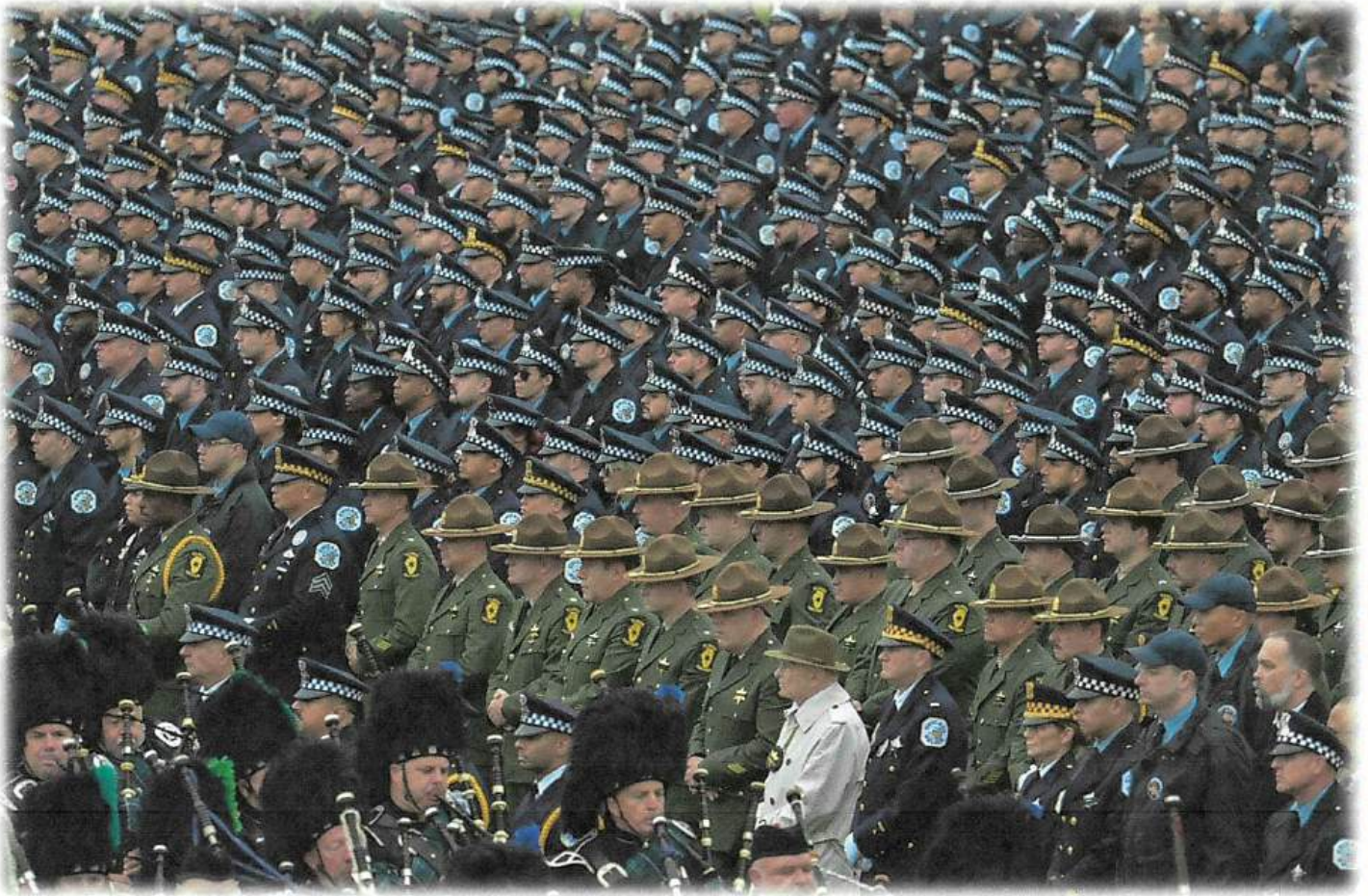
The following address was given by First Deputy Superintendent John R. Thomas. It is fitting and appropriate that every member of this Organization hear these words. All of the words are true. Secondly, John believed this with all his heart.

"When you begin to doubt the nobility of your mission or the sanctity of your profession because your heart is heavy, or you feel anger, disillusionment, disenfranchisement, betrayed or confused - Stop and listen to the voices rising from those sacred stars that are enshrined at 35th Street; the voices that rise up from the folded City flags that are encased and at rest in homes throughout this city; listen to the voices rising from a field in Pennsylvania, from a wall at the Pentagon and from the spot of earth the world has come to know as Ground Zero. Because if you listen, you will hear those souls tell you "Thank You" for what you do as the police, hear them cheering you on. Let them carry you through this difficult moment, allow them to nourish you and encourage you - and doubt no more - for you are warriors and champions for those who have gone before and to those most vulnerable now. You are admired and respected, for you are the best at what you do. God Bless you and God Bless America."

*These are the words of
John R. Thomas
First Deputy Superintendent
Chicago Police Department*

EPILOGUE

The Chicago Police Department has earned the much-revered distinction of having some of the largest volunteer attendance records in Washington DC for over two decades. This is testament to the many individuals who sacrificed their personal time and funds over these many years to participate in this honorable tradition. To those that will join us again this year, may the solidarity and commitment that you put forward on behalf of our profession doing "God's Work," reward you with His blessings and countless heartfelt memories in this truly humbling experience. We will always remain loyal to our sacred promise to "Never Forget" as we uphold our devotion to ALL our Gold Star Families that ...



WE WILL NEVER LET THEM WALK ALONE



"SGT. AL" CPD ret.