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# CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine • February 2025

## The ICE Man Cometh

**Tom Homan**

Director of U.S. Immigration  
and Customs Enforcement





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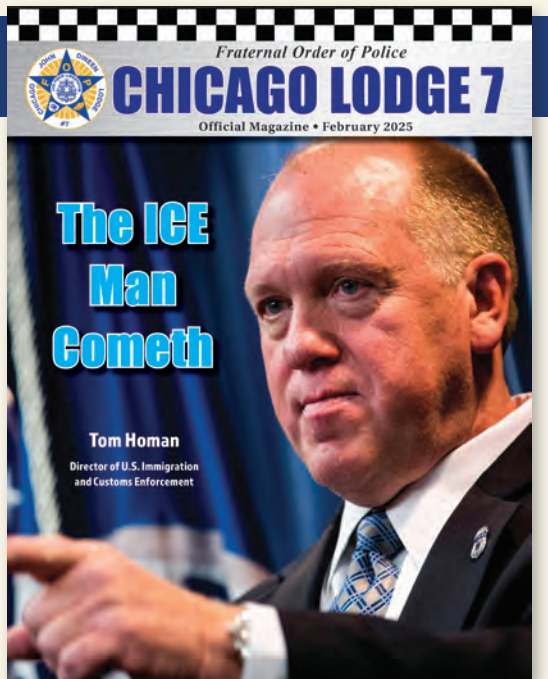




**COVER STORY  
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# ICE Age

On the first day Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents began targeted raids in Chicago on illegal immigrant violent criminals, Border Czar Tom Homan came to the city to personally oversee President Trump's plan to deport these criminals. Some elected officials, including the governor and the mayor, might object to the operation, but those in the neighborhoods with a large immigrant populations indicated they are in favor of the raids if they make the City safer for residents and Chicago Police Officers. This special report looks inside the work Homan is doing with ICE.



COVER DESIGN BY JENNA RAMOS

**Lodge 7 Magazine Main Number:**

312-733-7776

For information about advertising, subscriptions or editorial submissions:

**Call:** 312-733-7776

**Email:** [kathy.spiewak@chicagofop.org](mailto:kathy.spiewak@chicagofop.org)

**www.chicagofop.org**

**JOHN CATANZARA JR.**

Publisher

[john.catanzarajr@chicagofop.org](mailto:john.catanzarajr@chicagofop.org)

**JENNA RAMOS**

Art Director

**MITCHELL KRUGEL**

**SEAN CARLIN**

Contributing Editors

**DAN CAMPANA**

Contributing Editor

[dan@dancamcom.biz](mailto:dan@dancamcom.biz)

**MAGAZINE COMMITTEE**

Rob Noceda (Chair)

Michael Carroll

Carolynn Crump

Lisa Ford

**FEBRUARY 2025 ▪ VOLUME 11, NO. 2**

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# CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine  
President's Report



## The ICE Age



JOHN  
CATANZARA  
JR.

We can tell by the look you see in Tom Homan's eyes on the cover of this issue that there's no bullshit when it comes to finding the violent criminals — any criminals — who are illegal immigrants and getting them the hell out of here. Believe it when he says, "We're going to do this job. And we're going to enforce the laws of this country. ... We're going to do this operation without apology. We're going to make our communities safer."

There's no doubt he will.

Looking at the second Trump administration, immigration seems to be the simplest aspect to address with regard to making America great again. And for the president to choose Tom Homan, who served as acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) during the first Trump administration, as his "border czar"? Well, there's no better man for the job.

We don't need a politician in the job, as in the previous administration. We saw how well that worked, which is why we have Tom and acting U.S. Deputy Attorney General Emil Bove coming to Chicago as part of initiating the roundup of illegal immigrants who are violent

criminals. Or any kind of criminals.

Homan is also leading the raid on the hypocrisy of positions by some elected officials in Illinois. The reality is that they all take an oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution, and the rule of law makes illegal entry a violation. Just on its face value, that would be ironic if it wasn't so dangerous.

But I think recently, the articulation of the incoming border czar is pretty clear, and I think it cuts right to the chase. If you don't want to get violent criminals out of your community, you should not be a public servant. If the way to get them out is by deporting them because they're committing violent crimes, but you are against it, that is obstructing justice. Period.

And for the "true believers" (quotation marks intended) like Chuy Garcia, Delia Ramirez, Brandon Johnson and even the governor: Are you going to start housing these illegals in your own personal property and even risk your own personal freedom to protect them?

I don't think you'd be willing to go that far. I think you're just a bunch of paper tigers who are literally toeing a line for political purposes and points. You can't say you're for the rule of law, which is another joke now with the Trump pardon drama. As if Democrats are now going to try and claim the high ground on backing the blue when there was not even a single indictment for anybody who attacked and injured 51 of our officers in the Columbus statue riots back in 2021.

So to now blast Trump for a very poor decision to pardon 16 violent criminals, as opposed to kind of separating that from violent criminals who are illegal immigrants, misses the point altogether. Look, the National FOP made its stance on those January 6 pardons pretty clear. Extremely disappointing, and that's the decision Trump must live with for the rest of his presidency.

But we are left with this game of chicken that the governor originally threw down but then backed off. And now he is talking about not wanting criminals in this state. And even Senator Durbin is now echoing the same line about violent criminals who are illegals.

But they don't want to cooperate.

If the governor really doesn't want illegal immigrant criminals in this state, he would task cooperation between the Department of Corrections and the Illinois State Police to make sure that when those violent offenders are in custody or getting ready to be released from custody, they inform ICE. I mean, it's not complicated, it's not rocket science, but they're not willing to go that far. So it just makes all their public sentiment BS.

And Homan's comments about a lack of cooperation are only going to lead to more people getting caught up in this dragnet who aren't violent criminals. They might be here illegally, and they're going to get deported because of lack of cooperation with the targeted focus.

Everybody must keep their eye on the ball here, which for Chicago Police Officers is about supporting the rule of law. We're talking about deporting illegal immigrants who are violent criminals.

From my point of view, that only starts with shootings, stabbings and murders. If you start adding robberies, and I know they call burglary a victimless crime, but to me, if you're a felony shoplifter and you're here illegally, then you don't deserve to stay here. Not to mention the more than 1 million federal deportation orders issued by courts for people who did not meet the criteria to come into this country for whatever reason. How are you literally respecting the rule of law when you won't even collaborate with court orders?

The American people have spoken that something needs to be done about illegal immigrants. If you don't like the law, then change the law. Change the law and make it an open border. And good luck with that be-

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## Opa, COPA

Biggest win of the season, even more than the Bears finally beating the Packers, is COPA relinquishing determining discipline for Chicago Police Officers.

There's also a push in City Council to have language drafted to amend the COPA ordinance to cede discipline control to the superintendent's office. COPA will do the investigations, but the supe will deem the appropriate discipline for sustained complaints.

I think we have enough automatic support to make a serious push at that. And we also have the agreement of COPA's chief administrator, Andrea Kirsten. She does not object to those proposals. We shall see, but it would be a seismic shift in discipline, to say the least.

I think at some point Andrea decided to get out way over her skis with regard to administering discipline. We tried to articulate it in the simplest form at a public forum: that COPA lost its mission with our members because of the excessive discipline.

Nobody likes a CR. Nobody likes a COPA investigation, but it's got to be done. But then you should turn over the discipline to the su-

perintendent from there if you want to gain any credibility with this membership. And she outrightly said, "I don't have a problem with that."

So we will see how serious that public statement was on her part. I think it'd be a definite sense of fairness if the superintendent is making the decision based on an agreed-upon matrix for discipline, and everybody would be operating under the same understanding of what's going to happen if you step in a pile of crap, so to speak. Nobody ever really knows what's going to be the outcome, and it can be anywhere from two days to 60 days sometimes for the same incident.

Of course, this will be huge for morale. Especially now that the majority of the membership thinks the superintendent is doing a great job. But at some point, he won't be the superintendent anymore. And I think that's the need for the discipline matrix: to lock in any future superintendent to not be able to go full-on hammer when they decide they want to send a signal to somebody, which has been notoriously the way of the past.

## Back DROP

Our legislative priorities for 2025 start with getting the DROP program through both chambers in Springfield and working collaboratively on a Tier 2 fix.

The DROP program, whether it's due to lack of understanding or willful deception, has been lumped into Tier 2 as if it's some kind of pension enhancement, which it has never been. It has a zero-sum cost, especially with the amended language that we agreed to. But because it had this moniker as a pension giveaway, the legislature decided to sit on it. So it's frustrating.

Because it's a new assembly in Springfield, we're going to have to take it back through both chambers. Again, I don't really see any difference in the House going forward. DROP passed unanimously once already, so there's no reason that should change.

There's somebody who is dropping the ball here that makes the notion that these branches of government operate independently a farce. When the governor can pick up the phone and make known

his intent of what he doesn't want to see on his desk, and then leadership gets to decide you're not going to see that on your desk, that's not independence. But that's part of the major problem with one-party rule and supermajority rule on top of it.

To see how inefficient and ineffective one-party supermajority rule is, just look at the chaos in L.A. right now. Everybody's pointing fingers at each other because nobody wants to be the one holding the bag for the idiotic decisions that have been made the past 20 years in that state and city party.

There also certainly could be a lot of moving pieces toward the second half of this year once we find out if Senator Dick Durbin is running for reelection or walking away. If he walks away, then that starts a slide puzzle of who wants that spot, then who's going to take that person's spot, who goes over there, and so on. It's going to be a very interesting dynamic within the Democratic Party.

## A New State in Cook County

All we have ever wanted from new Cook County State's Attorney Eileen O'Neill Burke is a fair shake. I think a couple of decisions that have been made thus far are very good signals that she is actually putting some teeth into the letter of the law, which should have always been the way.

There's a consideration for use of force for police by dropping charges that should never have been filed against an Oak Lawn officer. Another aberration of Kim Foxx and how many charges Risa Laniar put on our officers that were unsuccessful because they should not have been brought.

I will say, one of the big pushes going forward for this new state's

attorney administration is to have Lodge 7 Second Vice President Dan Gorman and Tim Grace, one of our criminal attorneys, work with them to address the Brady issues for officers who were on the "do not testify" list, because Kim Foxx deemed them unreliable or liars. So we certainly want to get a lot of those members taken off that list that do not belong on it.

Officers were put on the list simply because they were disobeying direct orders related to COVID vaccinations and stripped of their police powers. So that put them on a Brady list. Just dumb justifications like that, and all I can say is "good riddance" to the previous state's attorney.



## President's Report

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

cause with an open border, there will be more ICE here than at a Bears game tailgate.

Otherwise, respect the rule of law.

I could tell you that as a whole, everybody in law enforcement, anybody who really appreciates law and order in this state, did not appreciate the SAFE-T Act being rammed down our throats and the elimination of cash bail. It's just a rule of law.

Now, do we have to handle it? Unfortunately, yes, we do. But the politicians do not follow their own mindset when it comes to illegal immigration, even though it's the rule of law. They get to make up the rules and the enforcement mechanisms, kind of like Kim Fox did for eight years with shoplifting and other violent crime.

When it comes to illegal immigration, the rule of law should Trump everything. (Yes, pun intended.) We don't want people coming into our country to rob and pillage.

It doesn't even have to be violent crime. To me, it could be habitual. If you're constantly getting arrested and you're an illegal immigrant, you shouldn't be here. We supposedly let the best and brightest into this country to pursue a better life and to make this country better. If you're not making this country better and you're just a habitual criminal, then get the hell out.

I think that's where America's been for quite a while, and the reelection of President Trump is the best example of that mindset. That emphasizes another point about changing the law. If it's about letting more people

in, change the number of nationalities allowed into a country. Come in legally like everybody else did, through Ellis Island, where everything was documented.

Not to be naive, but the reality that you're going to be able to deport everybody who is here illegally, no matter whether they violated federal law, is ridiculous to begin with. So then the question becomes, what's the most logical approach? And I think the violent offenders, habitual offenders, people with deportation orders and people with terrorist ties are first. Which upholds the rule of law and best protects our members and our City.

For Republicans to deny workers in agriculture and everything else, doing the jobs Americans don't want to do, is a real argument to make with how the cost of things would go up. To me, finding a middle ground is as simple as acknowledging the rest of that group that is here illegally just trying to get a better life.

I know there are going to be people who get their noses bent out of shape. And listen, we know the reality is that some of our own members' families are going to be affected by this, but that's a conversation for another day. I'm not even going to get into family dynamics and personal decisions because I'm sure some members think that deportation is wrong. And I think it's more personal and emotional than factually or law-based, but I get it.

Still, let's put this situation on ICE, get the violent criminals the hell out of here and make the City safe for all our members and their families.

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# Looking Out for One Another: A Call to Action for Our Membership



MICHAEL  
METTE

As members of the Chicago Police Department, we carry a responsibility that extends beyond protecting and serving the public. We are also tasked with protecting and supporting each other. The demands of this job are immense, and the toll it takes can sometimes feel overwhelming. That's why it is crucial to ensure that no one in our ranks feels forgotten or left behind, especially those who may be navigating challenging circumstances.

Every officer has their own story. Some have been sidelined due to illness or injury, while others may be dealing with personal struggles or facing suspension. These situations can often lead to feelings of isolation, frustration, or even hopelessness. As a department, as a team, and as a family, we must actively reach out to our fellow officers in these moments. A simple check-in – a phone call, text message, or even a visit – can remind them that they are not alone and that they are still a valued part of this department.

For those officers who have been out of work for an extended period, the return to duty can be daunting. Questions may linger in their minds: "Have I been forgotten?" or "Will I be able to reintegrate seamlessly?" By staying connected with them during their time away, we can ease this transition and reaffirm their place among us. This small act of kindness can make a world of difference, bolstering morale and reinforcing the sense of camaraderie that is the backbone of any successful team.

Let's also remember those who are sick, whether it's a temporary ailment or a long-term condition. A heartfelt "How are you doing?" can bring light to a dark time. Similarly, officers facing suspensions may be struggling in silence, worried about their reputation, future, or how they are perceived by their peers. Reaching out to them demonstrates that we believe in second chances and care about their well-being.

In addition, let's not forget our retirees. These men and women have dedicated their lives to serving the city of Chicago and remain an integral part of our family. Retirement can bring its own challenges, including a sense of detachment or loss of purpose. A simple gesture – checking in, inviting them to gatherings, or asking for their guidance – can show them that their service and wisdom are

still valued and appreciated.

As police officers, we know the importance of backup on the street. That same principle applies off-duty as well. When we take the time to check on one another, we strengthen the bond that keeps us united and resilient in the face of adversity.

So today, I urge every member: Reach out to someone who's been away. Send a message, make a call, or knock on a door. Remind them they are not alone. Together, we are stronger, and together, we will continue to protect and serve –not just the city of Chicago, but each other.

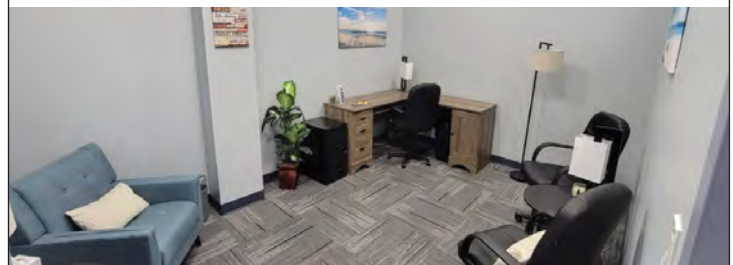
As always, stay safe and healthy!



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# Discipline Briefs



DAN  
GORMAN

## IN MEMORIAM: ARBITRATOR GEORGE T. ROUMELL, JR.

Sadly, on Jan. 21, 2025, several sources from both Chicago and Detroit shared notices with the Lodge that Arbitrator George T. Roumell Jr., had passed away days prior. Since then, more and more notices have been shared (despite not being able to locate an official obituary at the time of this article).

Arbitrator Roumell, from Detroit, was well known in the labor sector and highly respected by his peers (usually a bit younger than him). From a review of our arbitration records, George has provided his services to the Lodge since 1985 and possibly earlier.

Despite being from Detroit, George would travel to the Lodge to hold hearings no matter the weather. Even in his 90s, he still insisted on the round-trip every day he had a hearing at the Lodge, especially for an officer's discipline case. It seemed that George understood the importance of an officer's suspension grievance, no matter if it was a one-day suspension or a 365-day suspension. (Although Arbitrator Roumell didn't hear many 365-day suspension because 365 days were rarely issued until relatively recently).

With respect to discipline, Arbitrator Roumell believed in ensuring that an officer received their due-process, fair investigations, and his ultimate goal was to correct bad behavior rather than "punish" behavior that could be corrected. George literally saved officers from serving thousands of suspension days while, at the same time, making better police officers.

Arbitrator Roumell was proud of his hometown and spoke fondly of his wife (decd. 2024). He bragged about being born in 1928 and was able to give a historical perspective to just about any topic. He was a storyteller, and he loved practical jokes. George was a regular sponsor of the FOP annual golf outing. The only food that I personally ever saw George eat were "Jimmy Johns No. 1s."

Arbitrator George T. Roumell Jr., thank you for the laughs, the conversations, and the lessons learned. Rest in peace, George.

## ARBITRATOR GRANTS OFFICER'S RETIREMENT CREDENTIALS:

As you may know, as part of the "Phase II" negotiations, officers now have the ability to submit a grievance when the department arbitrarily and capriciously denies an officer retirement credentials. It was necessary for the Lodge to secure this right as it became more and more frequent that the department was automatically denying retirement credentials merely because an officer had an "open" CR number regardless of how minor the unproven allegations.

Not only do "credentials" symbolize that the officer gave decades of honorable service to the city and its citizens, but it also provides the officer with the ability to qualify for the Illinois Retired Officer Carry Conceal (IROCC), which allows that retired officer to carry a firearm throughout the country, and gain continued employment where credentials are required.

One such case is an officer who was denied credentials upon his retirement just one month after the Phase II contract terms were ratified. It would be the first "credential" grievance that was filed (January 2024). Generally, the Lodge and the city have the ability to schedule three grievance arbitrations per month, with the exception of most discipline grievances, but between 20 and

40 grievances are filed by officers across the department every month. Because of the limited availability of arbitration hearings, the Lodge is required to carefully select which grievances will be slotted for hearing before others.

Case in point, a 30-year veteran officer winding down his career arrives home after a long tour of duty. Being careful not to wake anyone in his household, the officer intends on taking his dog for a walk. The officer's attention is drawn to a group of masked individuals apparently attempting to steal a catalytic converter. The officer, aware that catalytic converter thieves often carry (and use) firearms against anyone interfering cautiously draws closer to investigate, identify the offenders, and gather descriptions. The officer yells at the offenders in an attempt to divert them from completing their crime. One of the masked individuals fires a handgun at the dog-walking off-duty officer, and the officer shoots back. The car full of bandits flees the scene.

Before the officer had any chance to check himself for injuries, the officer received a call from one of his young, panicked, and frantic family members who was awoken by the gunfire. By this time, responding officers were already enroute. Miraculously the officer was not harmed by gunfire. The harm would come once COPA got their hands on the case.

Although no one was injured by gunfire, COPA would still investigate. COPA would (supposedly) conduct a "fair" and "objective" investigation and (allegedly) consider the "totality" of the circumstances that the officer was faced with. If you thought COPA found that the officer's actions were justified, then you're wrong.

When all was said and done, COPA completed their investigation and ultimately felt that the officer:

1. Discharged his firearm without any justification despite being shot at
2. Failed to immediately notify OEMC of a weapons discharge [while taking a phone call from young frantic family member]
3. Failed to identify himself as the police before taking police action [while being shot at off-duty, mentally decompressing after an exhausting tour of duty, and with a desire to avoid confrontation in his personal time]

COPA submitted a recommendation for the officer to be terminated. Yes, after three decades of service, no one was hit by gunfire, but COPA felt that the officer should lose his employment. Interim Superintendent Fred Waller disagreed with COPA and submitted a nearly 2000-word nonconurrence to COPA, but COPA would go onto ignore every bit of Waller's professional opinion.

The officer's retirement day was rapidly approaching, and the officer still had not heard a final disposition of COPA's recommended penalty. The officer had goals of obtaining post-retirement employment and goals to begin the second leg of his law enforcement career. But upon arriving at human resources to retire in January 2024, he was denied credentials. There is no indication that anyone in HR contacted the superintendent's office to inquire if the superintendent would grant the officer his credentials (since Waller's opinion was already on file). The officer pled with HR, and you may use your imagination on how the officer was received.

The grievance was filed in January 2024, the six-hour arbitration hearing was held in July, the post-hearing briefs were accept-

ed by the arbitrator in November, and the arbitrator's award was issued in December. In summary, the arbitrator granted the officer his retirement credentials. It did not seem the department was in any hurry to comply with the award, but on the one-year anniversary of the officer's retirement, the Lodge sent an email to the city attorney, and to labor relations, and the officer received his credentials the very next day. So, we express our gratitude to the city attorney and labor relations.

To give context to the arbitrator's 24-page decision/award, several quotes are provided below. It should be noted that despite some city representatives belief that arbitration should be "public," we will refrain from including names of individuals who share fault at "arbitrarily and capriciously" withholding the officer's retirement credentials.

**Quotes from the 24-page arbitrator's award:**

*"As the Lodge duly emphasizes, there is no evidence that the Superintendent of Police had any involvement at all in the City's decision to deny the Grievant retirement credentials. Nor is there any evidence that, before the decision to deny retirement credentials was made, any City decisionmaker ever gave any consideration whatsoever to any of the circumstances surrounding COPA's*

*investigation of the Grievant."*

*"The Lodge is therefore correct in its contention that, when the City processed the Grievant's retirement paperwork, it simply ignored the first paragraph of the new Retirement Credentials provision, which expressly required that any decision to deny the Grievant retirement credentials be made by the Superintendent, based on the totality of the circumstances surrounding COPA's investigation. Because the City denied the Grievant retirement credentials without any such decision ever being rendered by the Superintendent, the City plainly violated the clear requirements spelled out in the first paragraph of the "Retirement Credentials agreement."*

*"While the City may deem it advantageous to its argument to turn a blind eye to that language, it would be an egregious dereliction of my fundamental duty as the arbitrator in this proceeding to do the same."*

*"For all of those reasons, I find that the appropriate remedy for the City's violation of the Retirement Credentials agreement, and its arbitrary denial of retirement credentials for the Grievant, is to make the Grievant whole by directing the Department to grant the Grievant retirement credentials retroactive to the date of his retirement. I will fashion my award accordingly."*

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# Reporting An Injury/Illness On Duty



**MONICA ORTIZ**

I understand that handling medical grievances and injury on duty (IOD) are not often discussed. I am revisiting this topic to ensure you have the information for reporting injuries promptly and receiving timely medical treatment. I frequently encounter IOD denials due to delayed reporting of injuries, which can lead to treatment denials, prolonged recovery periods, and potential complications. As responsible officers, we must promptly report injuries sustained while on duty. I've included the department order number for IOD reports for your reference. Below are the steps to follow when injured at work, as outlined in the order.

**Employee Resource E03-01-01**

- Injured sworn Department members will:
- A. Notify their supervisor, or if their supervisor is not available, a supervisor from the district/unit of assignment in which the injury occurred as soon as possible but by the end of their tours of duty when sustaining or becoming aware of an injury.
  - B. Notify their supervisor again if not contacted by their supervisor or another supervisor within twenty-four hours of the injury/illness.
  - C. Identify witnesses for the investigating supervisor whenever possible.
  - D. Be provided with a printed copy of the completed Injury on Duty Report.
- How much medical time do I get for (Injury on Duty) IOD and Non-IOD injury or illness?
- We often get calls at FOP with questions about medical time and what happens when I am at the medical or IOD during my furlough segment.

**Injury On Duty**

Officers who suffer an injury while on duty and go on the medical roll

are entitled to 365 days for that injury once the injury has been certified as an IOD. Officers who have exhausted 365 days from that IOD can file for disability if they cannot return to full duty, may apply for a limited-duty, or retire. Officers who cannot take your furlough segment because you are recovering on the medical/IOD will be given the next furlough segment on the calendar upon your return. Officers who cannot return from an IOD injury before the end of the calendar year will automatically be given the last furlough segment of the year. You can follow up with your unit time-keeper if you fall into these two scenarios so you know what dates you will be using during your furlough time.

**NON-IOD Injury or Illness- Officer**

An officer is entitled to 365 days for non-injury illnesses or injuries. If an officer exhausts their 365 days on the medical, they can file for the limited duty program, file for disability, or retire. If you have a furlough segment while on the medical roll, you will automatically be removed from the medical roll, placed on furlough, and placed back on the medical roll once your segment has ended. To generate more medical days to your medical bank, you must return to work for two years, not using the medical roll, which will give you back 365 days.

You can locate detailed information about Injury on Duty (IOD) and Non-IOD injury or illness entitlements in:

**Sworn Medical Roll Injury on Duty Status** - Employee Resource-E03-01-01.

**Sworn Medical Roll** - Non-Injury on Duty Status -Employee ResourceE03-01-02.

**Payroll and Timekeeping Attendance** - Employee Resource E02-02. **Sections 18.1 & 18.2 of the contract.** These sections specifically outline the procedures and entitlements related to workplace injuries and illnesses.

God bless you and stay safe.



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# The Art of the To/From



**ROB NOCEDA**

Hello, Lodge 7, I pray all is well with you and your families in the New Year.

I wanted to go over one of the most basic (but very important) subjects officers learn in the academy and will continue to complete throughout their career. You're probably wondering, why is Rob bringing up this topic? Well, good question. Due to the number of calls the Lodge has taken regarding To/From/Subject Reports, I thought this would help.

Usually, you're asked to write a To/From for a wide range of issues. It could be a witness statement when a fellow officer gets injured. It could also be when you're applying for a NOJO (notice of job opportunity). When members call the Lodge, it is usually discipline matters, and you must place the disclaimer (on page 154 of FOP book) of your disciplinary questions for your To/From.

To ask for guidance is a good thing. It is good to complete a thorough To/From Subject Report. I want to be very clear, I do not do the To/From Subject Reports (nor have I ever). I explain to officers that they need to be efficient, consistent, and accurate. Let's dive in.

Officers should explain in full sentences when answering questions regarding allegations posed their way.

Note: Please ensure the To/From disclaimer on page 154 of FOP

book is placed on your document.

Example question: Did you observe your partner being disrespectful towards citizen Bob?

Example answer: R/O did not observe any disrespectful behavior from R/O's partner. R/O observed citizen Bob yelling multiple profanities that were directed toward my partner during the domestic incident. My partner was firm and professional in his encounter with citizen Bob.


Example Short Answer: No (no context).


Painting a true and accurate description of the incident in question will dispel any allegations made against you or your partner. Please explain in sentence form and present the facts. That small extra time you spend on your To/From will always help in the long run and any future issues that may arise.

So, the who, what, where, why, and when are good, but they must be applied in sentences, not short, one-word answers. Be descriptive, be concise and it's ok to ask for advice. We are always here assisting officers. Call, email or drop in to the Lodge. We are fighting for you each day.

God bless and stay safe.

You can reach Rob at [rnoceda@chicagofop.org](mailto:rnoceda@chicagofop.org).





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|---|---|--|

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# Time Check!



**JIM  
JAKSTAVICH**

Hello again, officers, both active and retired. I and the other field reps at the FOP have recently taken calls from officers who have been written up by the inspection division. These writeups occurred in their respective districts as well as at overtime initiatives. When Superintendent Snelling took over, he mentioned to FOP leadership that he was going to enforce uniform standards (uniforms, beards, haircuts and unnatural colors, etc.). Well, for me and most officers who I speak with, this is something that we have agreed with for some time. The purpose of our uniform standards is a set of consistent rules or guidelines that ensure everyone follows the same procedures or specifications.

On Jan. 7, 2025, the Medical Services Section issued an AMC Message Reference #317004, Exemption from CPD's Clean Shaven Policy. Inside the message it requires that all "Bump Cards" expire within this year, 2025, with varying dates. The new bump card issued is no longer valid for two years, IT IS GOOD FOR ONLY ONE YEAR. Upon expiration of the card, you must comply with Employee Resource E03-01-07 and return to a clean-shaven status unless a renewed exemption is obtained. You must always carry your bump

card with you and produce it upon request to any supervisor. Here's a section from Employee Resource E03-01-07: A full beard is not to exceed one quarter (1/4) inch in length while on duty. You cannot have a goatee or any other customized beard style. It is safe to say that with this new AMC message going out the inspection division will be in full swing requesting bump cards from those of you with facial hair. Please remain in compliance and don't become an easy mover for an inspector.

With the cold weather upon us, I know it's easy to want to wear a hoodie under your uniform sweater or a skull cap with your favorite team logo. This layering is important to stay warm if you are trapped outside on a crime scene or stuck directing traffic somewhere, but it must be department approved gear. My favorite line I have heard from other officers regarding uniforms and other department standards is "so what, I work in the ghetto." Being stuck on midnights in a fast district doesn't release you from maintaining your uniform standards and professionalism. Again, please don't become an easy mover for the inspectors and create any problems for your direct supervisors who will have to answer for you as well. This is just a friendly reminder and a heads up to everyone. Stay safe.

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# Legal Defense COPA & BIA Statements



MICHAEL  
COLLINS

As I settle into my new role taking over legal defense for the membership, I would like to thank everyone for the warm reception. One thing I have noticed is that some members are not calling FOP to obtain legal representation until the day of, or day before their scheduled disciplinary statements. This is not enough time for us to schedule an attorney. Once you receive the notification that you must appear at BIA or COPA for a statement, please call FOP right away. That gives us time to review your CR/LOG# and secure legal counsel. It also gives us time to discuss your allegations with you and determine if mediation is a viable option in lieu of going down and giving the statement. Under absolutely no circumstances should you appear to give a statement to BIA or COPA (witness or accused) without legal representation. Our team of attorneys here at FOP are some of the best and well-respected attorneys in the state.

Another thing I want to touch on is that legal representation coverage is for duty-related incidents regardless of whether the incident took place on, or off-duty. However, off-duty incidents are handled on a case-by-case basis in which we will determine if it was a duty related-incident when the allegations occurred. Simply put, did you take police action? If so, legal coverage will be provided for you no matter how many statements you must give. If it is determined the off-duty incident was not a duty-related incident, then the member can request to come before the legal defense committee to explain their situation and ask the committee to cover their legal fees. From there, the legal defense committee will make a recommendation, which will then go in front of the full board of directors for a final vote on if the FOP will provide and pay for your representation.

If anyone has any legal questions, feel free to call or stop in and see me. Stay safe!

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# A Family Who Remembers Wants to Make Sure You Do, Too

The first CPD Female Officer Line of Duty Death  
Dorelle Corrine Brandon • Star #2684 End of Watch • Jan. 25, 1984



KENYATTA  
GAINES

I had the pleasure of speaking with Dorelle's niece, CPD Officer Tonya Scott. PO Scott is still enthralled with the passion and legacy of her Black, female, Auntie, Godmother, Police Officer Dorelle Brandon. PO Scott anxiously embarked on the journey of policing to honor Dorelle. Scott admired her aunt's concern for others within the community and the dedication she exhibited for her job. She told me Dorelle used to check on the seniors around the neighborhood and pass out quarters to the young kids. At times, Dorelle was the much-needed buffer between Scott and her mother. She made tough situations lighter. Tonya showed up to the academy excited, polished and full of pride knowing that she was following in her aunt's footsteps. She was prepared to hear the tales of her heroine Dorelle. Sadly, it appeared that no one knew of PO Dorelle Brandon.

Matthew Brandon met Dorelle in the Chicago Police Academy in 1978. They were happily married in 1979. Matt was truly proud of his beautiful, kind wife. He shared the following story with me. One day, as PO Dorelle made her rounds through the neighborhood, she stopped to check on her stepsister, who had recently had a baby. To Dorelle's surprise, she found the baby alone and cold in the back room of the house. Unbeknownst to the elderly occupant of the home, the stepsister was gone and left the baby behind. Dorelle took the baby to the hospital. Several days later, with the permission of the parent and the blessing of her husband Matt, Dorelle brought the baby home to raise as her child. Dorelle rescued baby Barbara.

On Jan. 25, 1984, at 1:13 a.m., Officer Brandon was working undercover with her partner PO Keith. The officers were engaged in a "controlled buy." As Dorelle attempted to arrest offender Anthony Brown, he resisted, and a struggle for her gun ensued. During this struggle, Brown was shot by Dorelle's partner and tragically, one shot accidentally hit Officer Dorelle Brandon.

On the fateful day that Dorelle's tragedy occurred, a partner's life was changed forever, the two support officers witnessed something they could not unsee, and a family lost one of their treasures. Dorelle's mother lived with the loss of her daughter until she departed this life at 91 years old. She rarely spoke of the tragedy. The family says she was never the same after losing Dorelle. Officer Brandon was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police. She is survived by her husband, CPD/CHA Officer Matthew Brandon Jr., daughter Barbara Sharee Brandon, stepsons: Marvin and Sean Brandon, her parents: retired CPD Officer Charles and Dolores, stepfather Norman White, three brothers, and five sisters. Each family member suffered the loss of Dorelle. Though she passed nearly 41 years ago, for them, at times, it feels like yesterday.

After Dorelle's tragedy, Matt unintentionally insulated himself from the department. He picked up multiple side jobs to keep himself busy and support their family. The dedicated husband, determined to honor his wife's wishes, sought custody, fought for, and ultimately adopted baby Barbara. Recently, Matt found himself thinking of PO Ella French and PO Arenah Preston, and became sad. He knew the burden of that loss. He was glad that the officers were deservedly honored in the manner which they were and thought, what can I do for Dorelle?

With an ask to the department and the support of the 3rd District Commander Melvin Branch and work of retiree Rita Pritchett (coworker and friend of Dorelle) the 3rd District Community Room was re-dedicated to Police Officer Dorelle Brandon, star #2684 on Friday, Jan. 24, 2025.

The family is so grateful. They want to let everyone know that programs for Gold Star Families, through the many supportive facets, help to ensure that we as a Law Enforcement Community NEVER FORGET. They are grateful for the Officer Down page, and the myriad literature showcasing the name of their lost loved one.

Happy Black History Month. Stay safe!





# Arbitrator Rules Officer Is Entitled To Retirement Credentials



PAT  
FIORETTO

A decision by an arbitrator last month resulted in a police officer who retired “under investigation,” finally to obtain his retirement credentials. Relying on a new provision, which the parties incorporated in the most recent contract, Arbitrator Brennwald found the city violated the “Retirement Credentials” provision of the contract when it denied the grievant his retirement credentials. As a remedy, he ordered the city to make the grievant whole by granting him his retirement credentials retroactive to Jan. 15, 2024, the date he retired. I am happy to report that as this article goes to print, the department complied

with the ruling.

The grievant officer served the city as a distinguished police officer since November 1993. The grievant became eligible to retire in September 2022, under the “55 and out” benefit and initially intended to retire by the end of 2023. However, he changed his retirement date to January 2024 in order to assist with the transition of new personnel in his unit.

On his retirement date of Jan. 15, 2024, the grievant had no discipline on his record. Rather, he left behind a proud legacy, filled with an extensive complimentary record, which included a Life Saving Award, a Special Commendation, five Department Commendations, Police Officer of the Month Award, two Problem Solving Awards, Traffic Stop of the Month Award, two Complimentary Letters, 271 Honorable Mentions, and 23 other awards and commendations.

Although the grievant had no discipline on his record at the time of his retirement in January 2024, COPA had initiated an investigation into an off-duty shooting incident in April 2022 (City Ex. 3). Not surprisingly, COPA recommended that the department discipline the grievant for his role in the incident and a final decision remained pending when he retired. COPA had recommended the grievant be terminated, while the then-superintendent did not agree and proposed a 10-day suspension instead. When the department completed the grievant’s “End of Employment Form” on Nov. 15, 2023, it did not contain any notice of discipline.

Meanwhile, on Dec. 13, 2023, the City Council ratified phase two of the term sheet and the new collective bargaining agreement between the city and Lodge, which contained a new provision on retirement credentials, in which the parties intended to provide police officers with the same process provided their PBPA supervisors. Specifically, during negotiations, in the city’s own “Comprehensive Offer to Resolve Terms of Collective Bargaining Agreement” which it tendered to the Lodge, the city proposed:

*In accordance with the current policy, the Superintendent has the discretion to decide whether the Officers personnel file should state that the Officer resigned or retired while “under investigation” based on the totality of the circumstances surrounding the investigation including, but not limited to the likelihood that the investigation will result in a sustained finding accompanied by a recommendation for the substantial disciplinary penalty, the possibility that the investigation may result in the decertification of an Officer as a peace officer and/or the extent to which the officer has cooperated in the investigation both before and after his/her separation from employment.*

*In the event that the Lodge disagrees with the Superintendent, the Lodge may submit the grievance to arbitration. The Arbitrator may satisfy the Superintendent’s decision only if the Arbitrator determines that the Superintendent’s decision was arbitrary or capricious i.e. without a rational basis or justification at the time of retirement.*

As part of the overall negotiations, the Lodge agreed, and the parties memorialized the commitment in the term sheet as follows: “Retirement Credentials: Denial of retirement credentials reviewed in the same manner as for PBPA supervisor (arbitrary or capricious stan-

dard).” Needless to say, the department failed to review grievant’s ability to obtain his retirement credential “in the same manner as for PBPA supervisor.” Instead, it summarily denied his request for credentials without any consideration to what had been agreed upon.

The arbitrator began his analysis by finding that the city was bound by the language of the new retirement credentials provision at the time the grievant retired and when the city denied his credentials. In accordance with the new policy, he then found that although the superintendent has the discretion to decide whether the officer’s personnel file should state that the officer resigned or retired “while under investigation,” the new provision requires that any such decision be “based on the totality of the circumstances surrounding the investigation.”

The retirement credentials provision then sets forth three of the “circumstances” that the Superintendent is required to consider in making a decision: (1) the likelihood that the investigation will result in a sustained finding accompanied by a recommendation for the substantial disciplinary penalty; (2) the possibility that the investigation may result in the decertification of an officer as a peace officer; and/or (3) the extent to which the officer has cooperated in the investigation both before and after his/her separation from employment.

Next, the Lodge has the right to grieve the superintendent’s decision in the event it disagrees with the decision and at any arbitration hearing to resolve the issue the superintendent’s decision may be set aside by the arbitrator if, and only if, the arbitrator determines that the superintendent’s decision was arbitrary or capricious, meaning “without a rational basis or justification,” at the time of the officer’s retirement. Presently, the arbitrator found the city failed to comply on all aspects, noting:

*When the City processed the Grievant’s retirement paperwork, it simply ignored the first paragraph of the new Retirement Credentials provision, which expressly required that any decision to deny the Grievant retirement credentials be made by the Superintendent, based on the totality of the circumstances surrounding COPA’s investigation. Because the City denied the Grievant retirement credentials without any such decision ever being rendered by the Superintendent, the City plainly violated the clear requirements spelled out in the first paragraph of the Retirement Credentials agreement.*

He went on to find that the underlying provision:

*[R]equired that any decision to deny the Grievant credentials be made by the Superintendent based on the “totality of the circumstances” of the disciplinary investigation. Yet the record conclusively established that no review of the circumstances of the disciplinary investigation was ever undertaken by the Superintendent, or by anyone else, for the purpose of determining whether the Grievant would be allowed to retire with credentials. Because the City’s decision to deny the Grievant retirement credentials was made without regard to the facts and circumstances the Superintendent was required to consider, I find that the City’s decision was the very definition of an “arbitrary” exercise of managerial authority: “action is arbitrary when it is without consideration and in disregard of facts and circumstances of a case, without rational basis, justification or excuse.*

Taking all the evidence into consideration, the arbitrator concluded that the Lodge successfully carried its burden and found the city to have violated the plain language of the retirement credentials provision when it denied the grievant’s credentials upon his retirement. He explicitly commented that the city’s decision to deny grievant’s credentials amounted to an arbitrary exercise of its managerial authority.

Kudos to Lodge attorney Catherine Chapman on a job well done at the hearing. And congratulations to the grievant officer on his retirement and on the receipt of his credentials. Thank you for all the years of the stellar service you provided to the citizens of Chicago!



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# De-Escalation



TIM  
GRACE

There seems to be a new approach at COPA regarding cases involving officers' use of deadly force. We are seeing more and more cases in which the officer is clearly justified in his or her use of deadly force, yet COPA decides that it is still the fault of the officer for failing to de-escalate. In their circular logic, COPA will claim that the ultimate use of deadly force was within policy, but if the officer would have done X, Y, or Z prior to the discharge, then the use of deadly force would never have been needed in the first place. That is text book bias, or a solution in search of a problem. But that is where we are. COPA has found its new shiny object and it is de-escalation.

As always, we must fight this nonsensical approach with the general orders. Under GO 03-02 we are told that the highest priority is the sanctity of human life. We are further directed that we are supposed to obtain "voluntary compliance" of the offenders. Of course, COPA believes that officers seek out situations to use force and play lip service to all concepts of force mitigation and de-escalation. They believe this because they, being the tip of the sphere of the movement, have no understanding of how law enforcement officers do their job each and every day. You all know that the last thing any officer wants to do is to have to use any force and especially deadly force. Going hands on with an offender is not only not a lot of fun, but extremely dangerous. You are all keenly aware that being able de-escalate is always the first and most coveted position to be in. However, sometimes the offender will dictate where the encounter will lead. Sometimes that destination is not going to be a very pleasant place to go, and the offender has no one to blame but himself.

The general order tells us that you should constantly assess the situation and specifically the offender's behavior. We are told to use verbal commands and persuasion and to destabilize the process by utilizing time, distance, and positioning to isolate and contain. We are instructed to request additional personal, to slow the process down and assess the person's mental state, age and disability. That all sounds great, and I hope all of you that slept through that introduction to psychology class still have your friend's class notes. The problem that confounds COPA is that they don't understand deadly force situations. Officer-involved shootings present officers with dynamic and fluid facts that can rapidly accelerate. In spite of your best efforts to try and get him to drop that gun, he

doesn't. This is where COPA and the anti-police crowd not only gets it wrong but is also being intellectually dishonest. My first suggestion is that they read the entire order. Implicit to all the general orders is the idea that the officers need not place themselves in harm to comply with these directives. The order clearly states that all of these de-escalation techniques are to be employed "unless doing so would place a person or department member in immediate risk of harm or de-escalation techniques would be clearly ineffective under the circumstances at the time." The thought process behind this is that sanctity of life is not only for the gun wielding offenders but also the officer's life, his partner's life and the life of the person in the foreground getting his mail.

Back to COPA and their shiny objects. It is clear that COPA has become an agency that looks not to the position the officer was in at the time, but rather to the result. If you use deadly force and the offender is hit and God forbid dies, they will immediately begin to back track from that point. This means COPA is always end-result orientated and will second guess each and every step the officer took that led to the discharge. This is unfair and ignores all concepts of use of force law. A good example is the offender in Jewel wielding the gun. The officers will respond and see that he has a gun and is threatening everyone around him. All good officers will make all attempts to clear the store out, tactically position themselves, and try to begin a dialogue. The officers will use force mitigation and will try to convince the offender to drop the gun. The officer will use time and distance. We all know this. The officers never just go in with the intent to shoot. However, it is a shrinking window and time may not be on their side. Once the offender begins to acquire targets and discharge his weapon, we have moved past de-escalation. Once innocent citizens and officers are in danger the threat needs to be stopped. Yes, it would be nice to get a negotiator and SWAT on scene, but there is not always time for that. And to be honest, if the offender begins to discharge and the first on scene officers retreat and a civilian gets injured, we all know who will be blamed. The end result is to always attempt to de-escalate but don't do so the point where we are risking innocent lives. Understand the concept and be able to articulate what you did to follow the order in good faith, but don't place yourself in a deadly situation just to satisfy people who have no clue what it means to be a police officer. As always remain safe.

# An Update From Springfield



DAVE SULLIVAN

The 104th General Assembly has begun! The lame duck session in early January did not produce much public policy. There were a few changes, however, in the House Democratic Caucus, especially on the top staff level. Four of Speaker Welch's top staff members have left. The new chief of staff is Clayton Harris who you may recall ran for Cook County state's attorney last year. I have been friends with Clayton for over 20 years and look forward to working with him in this new role.

In 2025, the partisan breakdown remains the same in both the House and the Senate with the Democrats continuing to hold supermajorities in both chambers. The House and Senate Democrats have changed a few of the members of their leadership teams while reelecting Senate President Harmon and House Speaker Welch. The GOP has also reelected Senate Republican Leader John Curran and House Republican Leader Tony McCombie. Despite millions of dollars being spent on the campaigns last fall, the partisan breakdown in the Senate remains 40-19 while the House continues with its 78-40 Democrat majority. There was no partisan change in either chamber.

The state faces many fiscal challenges as they begin 2025, including a projected deficit of more than \$3 billion, a transit fiscal cliff of \$1.5 billion, funding issues for Chicago schools, and tier two pension costs among others. These financial pressures are bigger than the legislature has seen in many years. These negotiations will be complicated and difficult.

In addition, it will be interesting to see how Illinois interacts with the new Trump administration. It is obvious that most Democrats are not happy about President Trump being back in the White House. We do expect some political fireworks.

There will be a lot of discussion about public safety and pension issues throughout the session. We will continue to work with legislators on public safety and pension issues in Springfield.



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# Honoring Retired Members

## October 2024

| Name          | Rank     | Unit | Years |
|---------------|----------|------|-------|
| Darryl Corter | Sergeant | 025  | 30    |

## November 2024

| Name                   | Rank      | Unit | Years |
|------------------------|-----------|------|-------|
| Robert C. Arnolts      | Officer   | 050  | 28    |
| Ne'Cole Bryson         | Officer   | 001  | 30    |
| Robert Cygnar          | Officer   | 024  | 27    |
| Robert S. Giglio       | Sergeant  | 007  | 30    |
| Keisha D. Guy          | Officer   | 001  | 24    |
| Andrew J. Hurman       | Officer   | 050  | 22    |
| Abraham Lara           | Officer   | 050  | 29    |
| Gary R. McGovern       | Officer   | 050  | 30    |
| Christopher L. McGuire | Officer   | 015  | 21    |
| Martin McNaughton      | Officer   | 050  | 29    |
| Luz A. Nieves          | Sergeant  | 025  | 34    |
| P. Timothy O'Brien     | Detective | 630  | 29    |
| Rafael F. Ostos        | Officer   | 022  | 20    |
| Barbara Z. Owca        | Officer   | 025  | 20    |
| Joseph Rizzi           | Sergeant  | 011  | 29    |
| Ronald J. Rodriguez    | Sergeant  | 017  | 28    |

## December 2024

| Name              | Rank      | Unit | Years |
|-------------------|-----------|------|-------|
| Wilfredo Cruz     | Officer   | 019  | 25    |
| Frank A. Fish     | Detective | 630  | 29    |
| Jackie A. Gregory | Officer   | 012  | 20    |
| Edward Johnson    | Officer   | 189  | 21    |

## 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

### The Northsiders' Luncheon

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

### South

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

### 8-Ball Luncheon

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

### Bomb and Arson

Second Monday of month  
@ 9 a.m.  
Fiesta Tapatia Restaurant  
Chicago  
Ross Horne, 312-613-9182

### Crime Lab, ETs, Forensic Services and Mobile Unit

First Tuesday of month @ noon  
Flap-Jacks Restaurant, Oak Lawn

### 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  
N202 Williams Road  
Genoa City, Wisconsin

### 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.

# Honoring Sisters and Brothers who have passed

| <b>Name</b>        | <b>Status</b> | <b>Age</b> | <b>Date of Passing</b> |
|--------------------|---------------|------------|------------------------|
| Donald G. Mayberry | Retired       | 83         | May 8, 2019            |
| Ralph Chiappetta   | Retired       | 90         | August 9, 2019         |
| Francis R. Higgins | Retired       | 96         | October 13, 2020       |
| Henry Wiemeler     | Retired       | 84         | September 2, 2021      |
| Patrick Shannon    | Retired       | 81         | December 7, 2022       |
| Joseph B. Kennedy  | Retired       | 94         | May 6, 2023            |
| Richard J. Topel   | Retired       | 81         | May 10, 2023           |
| Michael Pavelich   | Retired       | 99         | September 18, 2023     |
| Charles Lind       | Retired       | 90         | July 28, 2024          |
| Tonita Marshall    | Retired       | 76         | December 9, 2024       |
| William Hoogland   | Retired       | 88         | December 17, 2024      |
| Robert J. Shields  | Retired       | 85         | December 23, 2024      |
| Richard D. Filas   | Retired       | 82         | December 27, 2024      |
| Derrick McClinton  | Retired       | 73         | December 28, 2024      |
| Brett Johnson      | Unit 701      | 55         | December 29, 2024      |
| Michael Bass       | Retired       | 78         | January 1, 2025        |
| Timothy Eades      | Retired       | 56         | January 2, 2025        |
| James Shader       | Retired       | 77         | January 3, 2025        |
| Jesus Nunez        | Retired       | 74         | January 6, 2025        |
| John F. Martin     | Retired       | 89         | January 7, 2025        |
| Brian Yaverski     | Unit 620      | 59         | January 10, 2025       |
| Philip Casale      | Retired       | 96         | January 10, 2025       |
| Allan Fujara       | Retired       | 73         | January 16, 2025       |
| Joseph Pipolo      | Retired       | 92         | January 19, 2025       |
| Michael Michalek   | Retired       | 76         | January 19, 2025       |
| Ronald Berkheiser  | Retired       | 78         | January 21, 2025       |
| Robert Bogacki     | Retired       | Unknown    | Unknown                |



# Are You a Thermometer or a Thermostat?



RABBI  
MOSHE WOLF

Recently on a cold morning in the wee hours, I was parked in front of my local Dunkin' Donuts getting ready to order my morning coffee, and I noticed a big sign on the front window, "Breakfast special \$2.99, get your coffee and a donut, the weekly special. I really didn't pay any particular attention to it. I go in, get in line with quite a few people ahead of me. Right behind me, walk in two of our members. After a few moments of chatting, one of them says to his partner, "I think there is some trouble up at the counter."

It seems that one of the local homeless elderly street women were arguing with the young salesperson behind the counter regarding the cost of the coffee and the donut. The voices were getting louder and the situation looked like it was escalating. The homeless lady had only two dollars and asked for the morning special, while the young salesperson said, "Look, the morning special is \$3, either pay up or move out of the line."

In a quick moment, our officer assessed the situation. He reached into his pocket, took out a dollar, put it on the counter and told the homeless woman, enjoy your breakfast. The situation was resolved, and the homeless person said, "Thank you, sir, you are a G-d sent, you are an angel thank you, I appreciate you."

The young inexperienced counter person apologized to the officer and said, "I should have thought for a moment before I let it escalate."

We got our coffee and, on the way out, I thanked the officer for his kind heart, generosity, and street smarts. He made us all proud that morning. The officer said, "Rabbi, we always have to be mindful of the metaphor."

"Are you a Thermometer or a Thermostat?" Let me explain:

A thermostat verses a thermometer, which one are you? Obviously, I am not speaking literally. Both devices are inanimate objects and could not be reading this article. In a more figurative sense, each one of us is either a Thermostat or a Thermometer. Usually, we are a little bit of both. To better understand what I mean let us look at each device and the service they perform.

We will start with a thermometer. What is the function of a thermometer? It makes little difference if it is used for meat or medicine or on a human. The main purpose of a thermometer is to measure the temperature of its surroundings and read accordingly. It is what we would call a reactionary device. If the temperature is hot, the thermometer will read accordingly. If the temperature is cold, it will show that. The thermometer has little effect, if any, on what it is measuring. We all know people like this, don't we? If they find themselves in a room full of people who are productive and happy, they will be productive and happy. If they are in a room full of people who would rather stand around complaining and gossip rather than work, that is what they will tend to do. These people, much like a thermometer, have little or no impact on their surroundings. If you are looking for someone to look up to and inspired by, you would not want a thermometer. If you are looking to be productive you would not want to rely on a thermometer.

This is not to say, there are not times when adapting your behavior to the situation is appropriate. You certainly would not want to wear a tuxedo to the corner restaurant any more than you would want to show up at the opera in ripped jeans and a flannel shirt. There is a big difference between adjusting to the current social situation and changing the very essence of who you are. Let us look at our above example of being in a room filled with individuals more content to discuss the actions of others than to take any action themselves. In this case it would not be a good idea to adopt the current culture. What should we do if we find ourselves in just such a situation? That will bring us to our next point.

A thermostat. That funny shaped device on the wall that regulates our inner environment. How does a thermostat work? Simply put, if we set a desired temperature, it will utilize the heating and cooling systems to achieve that temperature. Should the room drop too far below the set temperature the thermostat will engage the heating systems to warm the room to the desired condition. Should the temperature rise too far above the set number it will utilize the air conditioning to bring it back down. The thermostat not only has a great impact on its environment, but it also actually sets the environment.

We all know people like this too, don't we? There are people who can light up a room as soon as they walk in. There are also those people who can bring everyone down with a simple conversation. In other words, these people set their environments. We all know people who never seem to have a bad day. We ask them "What is your secret?" and they answer quite simply, "I just decide to have a good day." Much like the thermostat, they adjust as the day goes along. If things start to go bad, they kick in their "heating system" to bring the level of joy up. If they find themselves getting upset over traffic, the acts of a rude coworker or anything else they turn on their "air conditioning" to relax and cool themselves down. Thermostat people are action people. If they see a situation that does not suit them, they take actions to change the situation.

Ask yourself today if you are a thermostat controlling your environment or are you a thermometer just reacting to whatever the world is handing you. If the sun is out and traffic is great you are happy. If it is raining and the car won't start you are unhappy. Why put control of your emotional well-being in the hands of other people and things? Be like our friend and decide to have a good day. If challenges do come up as they always will, ask yourself two very important questions, "What else can this situation mean?" and "Is it in my power to change? and if I can't change the situation, please Lord guide me through it." These two questions will allow you to be in control to be able to ask yourself today "Am I going to be a thermostat or thermometer?" What a great metaphor!

## "Think Before You Judge"

A 24-year-old boy seeing out from the train's window shouted, "Dad, look the trees are going behind! Look, the trees are green!"

Dad smiled and a young couple sitting nearby looked at the 24-year old childish behavior with pity.

Suddenly he again exclaimed "Dad, look the clouds are running with us!"

The couple couldn't resist and said to the old man "Why don't you take your son to a good doctor?"

The old man smiled and said "I did and we are just coming from the hospital, my son was blind from birth, he just got his eyes today."

Every single person on the planet has a story. Don't judge people before you truly know them, their story and their challenges, the truth might surprise you.

And before we close, a little humor from the "Moshe Files" to keep you smiling:

#### "The Miracle Doctor"

Doctor Brown, who was known for miraculous cures for arthritis and other ailments, had a waiting room full of people when a little old lady, completely bent over in half. She shuffled in slowly, leaning on her cane. When her turn came, she went into the doc-

tor's office, and, amazingly, emerged within half an hour walking completely erect with her head held high. A woman in the waiting room who had seen all this, walked up to the little old lady and said, "Wow, It's a miracle! You walked in bent in half and now you're walking erect. What did that doctor do?"

She answered, "Miracles, shmiracles, the doctor gave me a longer cane." LOL

On behalf of ALL your chaplains, thanks to each of you for going out every day to do the HOLY work that you do. We thank you and appreciate you. May G-d bless you keep you safe and always keep you in His loving care. Should you need a shoulder to lean on, an ear to listen, or perhaps have some good humor to share don't hesitate to give us a call. All of our information is available in your FOP books and on the CPD Chaplains website: [www.chicagopcm.org](http://www.chicagopcm.org).

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**28 YEARS OF SERVING LODGE 7 MEMBERS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS**





FATHER DAN BRANDT

In last month's column, you saw our volunteers stuffing 300-plus care packages to be personally delivered to officers stuck working on Christmas night and New Year's Eve. Now, it comes full circle. All the gift bags were hand-delivered both nights by some elves and me. Pictured here, grateful recipients include PO Bolivar Guaman and PO Jose Flores from 024. From 004 and 005 to 016 and 024, over 300 officers expressed their gratitude to our supporters who made this outreach possible again in 2024!



On Jan. 17, Officers Fenysha Fields and Brian Smith each received a handmade quilt from Quilts for Cops. These seasoned officers were involved in a serious squad car accident on their way to a call, when a car full of nuns ran a stop sign and struck them (OK, the NUN part was a joke, of course). The accident caused several broken bones and other very serious

injuries to Officers Fields and Smith.

Upon their recovery, these beautiful quilts were presented to them by Deputy Chief Migdalia Bulnes, accompanied by Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis, Chaplain Hysni Selenica, Officer (and Deacon) Rafael Yanez, Officer Nora Garza and Officer Raven Hoskins. (Officer Hoskins had previously received a quilt from Quilts for Cops following a duty-related injury.)



On Jan. 22, the St. Jude League and Police Chaplains Ministry hosted a dinner for our St. Jude Chaplains. A wonderful evening was had by all. Here you'll see not only our chief of patrol and a couple of officers, but also two of our St. Jude volunteer chaplains. Thank God for these folks who dedicate so much time to our ministry!

Ash Wednesday is March 5. In keeping with time-honored tradition, CPD chaplains will distribute blessed ashes at various locations throughout the city. The schedule will be posted on The CPD Wire and our website.

Save the date! Your department chaplains are hosting a day-long marriage retreat on Friday, June 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanical Gardens in Palos Heights.

We are excited to invite all active and retired Chicago police officers and their spouses to participate in this program intended to strengthen relationships, improve communication and achieve better work-life balance.

This retreat will provide a safe and supportive environment for couples to connect, share experiences and learn valuable relationship-building skills tailored to the unique challenges of law enforcement life. Childcare is included. Please contact Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis for more information at kimberly.lewisdavis@chicagopolice.org or 312.771.6638.

God bless you and keep you safe,

Fr. Dan Brandt, Directing CPD Chaplain  
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# The Courage to Be Happy: A Guide for Law Enforcement Professionals



BRIAN  
MCVEY

I recently came across an inspiring book titled *The Courage to Be Happy: Discover the Power of Positive Psychology and Choose Happiness Every Day* by Ichiro Kishimi and Fumitake Koga. The book explores Adlerian psychology, which highlights the importance of personal responsibility, social connection, and the ability to shape one's happiness through choices. These principles hold significant value for those in law enforcement, a profession often marked by high stress, emotional challenges, and, for many, a tendency toward cynicism.

Cultivating happiness requires effort but striving to be a positive influence in someone's life offers a meaningful approach to finding joy through responsibility and relationships. For law enforcement officers, embracing these ideas can lead to transformative changes in both their professional and personal lives. By choosing happiness, remaining present, and fostering meaningful connections, officers can enhance their well-being, increase their effectiveness, and strengthen relationships with the communities they serve. In such a demanding field, these principles aren't just helpful – they're vital.

## How These Principles Benefit Law Enforcement Professionals

### Managing Stress and Burnout

Law enforcement is inherently stressful, with officers often exposed to daily traumatic events and long hours. By adopting the principle that happiness is a choice, officers can shift their perspective to focus on what they can control, such as their reactions to stressors. Techniques like reframing negative thoughts and practicing gratitude can significantly reduce burnout and improve overall mental health.

### Enhancing Decision-Making

Officers frequently need to make quick, critical decisions that impact life and death. By staying present "in the moment" and mindful, they can avoid becoming overwhelmed by external pressures or past regrets. This approach leads to clearer thinking and more effective responses in critical situations.

### Building Stronger Team Dynamics

Positive interpersonal relationships are essential in law enforcement. Applying Adlerian principles, such as mutual respect and empathy, can help officers strengthen their connections with colleagues. A supportive work environment fosters collaboration, reduces conflict, and boosts morale.

### Promoting Personal Accountability

The idea of taking responsibility for one's happiness can empower officers to address personal challenges proactively. Whether it involves seeking support for mental health issues, improving physical fitness, or pursuing professional development, this mindset fosters a sense of agency and growth.

### Resilience in the Face of Adversity

Courage is a recurring theme in the book. For law enforcement professionals, this means having the bravery to confront difficult situations head-on while maintaining a positive attitude.

For me, confronting an unethical supervisor took me a long time to do, but it was very difficult to do. However, I was happier doing it!

## Practical Applications for Law Enforcement

- **Mindfulness Training:** Encourage officers to engage in mindfulness practices, such as meditation or breathing exercises, to stay present and reduce stress BEFORE your shift at roll call.
- **Focus on Intrinsic Motivation:** Shift the emphasis from external rewards to the internal satisfaction of contributing to public safety and justice.
- **Strengthening Relationships:** Provide opportunities for team-building activities and open dialogue to enhance camaraderie among officers.
- **Professional Development:** Offer training on resilience, emotional intelligence, and positive psychology principles to empower officers to navigate challenges effectively.

Brian T. McVey, MAPP

Proud Father, Former Chicago Police Officer, Author  
You can reach Brian @btmcvey77@gmail.com

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Dr. Robin Kroll, owner and Clinical  
Director of BRAVE Police & Public Safety  
Wellness Center, is a Board-Certified  
Police and Public Safety Psychologist.

# Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



On Dec. 9, 2023, 014th District officers responded to a DUI traffic accident at the intersection of Division & Homan. Upon their arrival, the officers discovered the driver of unit no. 2 with a severed hand. The victim was bleeding profusely and screaming in pain. The officers acted quickly and without hesitation by applying a tourniquet to the victim's upper arm. The victim was transported to Stroger Hospital and the doctors noted that the actions of the officers

saved the victim's life. The officers exemplified the core values of the department sanctity of life.

**It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge No. 7 presents the Life Saving Award to the officers. Thanks for a job well done.**

# Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



On Dec. 16, 2023, Mass Transit Tactical Officers responded to a "shots fired" call at the Roosevelt Rd Redline platform. Upon their arrival, they located a victim who was shot multiple times. The officers applied two tourniquets to the victim's legs, kept pressure on his torso, and managed to place a chest seal on the victim's chest wound. The entire team utilized their LEMART training and continued to speak and comfort the victim, keeping him conscious until EMS finally arrived on scene. The victim was transported to Northwestern

Hospital where the doctor attributed the officers actions to saving the victim's life. These officers went above and beyond to ensure that another victim of Chicago's rampant gun violence did not become just another statistic at COMPSTAT.

**It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge No. 7 presents these officers with the Lifesaving Award.**



# Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



On Oct. 18, 2024, officers were travelling on the inbound congested lanes of the Kennedy Expressway when they were flagged down by a vehicle traveling in the same direction. The frantic driver explained that they were on their way to the hospital when his pregnant wife's water broke, and she was now in labor. The officers devised a plan to escort the couple to the hospital by activating their emergency equipment, with one squad car in the lead and another squad car behind the expectant parents. The officers provided a safe passage

all the way to the front doors of Prentice Women's Hospital and upon arrival loaded the mother into a wheelchair and whisked her into a triage room. The mother delivered a healthy baby boy named Alex, and the parents were grateful for the officers' quick and decisive actions. A blue card was completed on the baby as well.

**It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge No. 7 presents the Distinguished Service Award to the Officers.**

# Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



On Oct. 14, 2023, offenders in a black Jeep Cherokee fire multiple rounds at subjects attending a wake at 5112 S. Western Blvd., striking one victim. As the offenders fled the scene, they fired upon another mourner at 51st & Western, striking a second victim. The 009th District SDSC room was able to capture a license plate and began tracking the offending vehicle on POD cameras. The vehicle was reported stolen from the 011th District. The vehicle was observed via POD camera fleeing back to the westside and exiting I290 & Kostner exit. The vehicle was attempted to be curbed and continued to flee until it struck a parked vehicle and the offenders fled on foot. Two of the five offenders were placed into custody, with one offender found to be in possession of a .223 Cal Anderson AM-15 rifle

recovered from his backpack and the second offender found to be in possession of a Glock 19 with laser sight. The officers were able to locate and inventory one Glock 17 handgun with a 50 round drum magazine and a Glock 19 handgun with an extended magazine. These weapons were discarded by the other offenders who managed to elude capture. The offenders were transported to Area 1 where they were charged with numerous felony counts of Agg Batt w/ Firearm and Agg UUV.

**It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge No. 7 presents these officers with the Distinguished Service Award. Nice Pinch!**

# Chicago Lodge 7 Awards



It is with extreme gratitude that Chicago John Dineen Lodge No. 7 presents Father Tom McCarthy with the FOP Appreciation Award. St. Rita's school motto is Veritas, Unitas, Caritas which is Latin for Truth, Unity, Love. Well, we can add honor and respect for the support they have shown to our brothers and sisters killed in the line of duty.

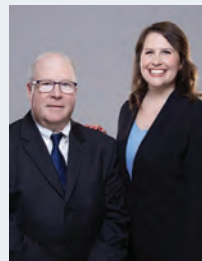
The school is named for Rita of Cascia (1381–1457), an Italian Augustinian nun and Roman Catholic saint. St. Rita High School was founded in 1905 by Augustinian friar Kevin Campbell, he bought the 5-acre site on which the original school sat for \$30,000. Green Hall was the initial building on the original campus. The school was formally dedicated on April 22, 1906. In 1990, the St. Rita campus moved from 63rd and Claremont Avenue to its current location at 7740 S. Western Avenue, the former Quigley South Seminary. [

Many of us will always remember St. Rita High School for being a rival of our own Catholic league high school or for some of their most notable alumni, Ray Manzarek (co-founder and keyboardist for the Doors), Ed Farmer (former MLB pitcher and radio voice of the Chicago White Sox from 77-83), and I would be remiss if I did not mention that our own president, John Catanzara, managed to slip through the cracks and earn a diploma from there, as well as the numerous first responder alumni who have attended the high school. But I do know that police officers who came from across the city, state and nation and attended the line of duty funerals at St. Rita Cascia Shrine Chapel will associate the names of our fallen brothers and sisters Gary, Marmolejo, French, Vazquez-Lasso, Huesca, and Martinez with this school. They will remember the beautiful service and sendoff, the First Responder Mural at the front of the chapel and the full honors ceremony inside St. Rita campus. We will never forget. And we will never forget your kindness and support.

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# FIRE IN ICE

**New border czar Tom Homan comes to Chicago to ignite Immigration and Customs Enforcement working with other federal law enforcement agencies to begin the deportation of illegal immigrant violent criminals**

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

Sightings of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers and other federal law enforcement agents prowling around Chicagoland early on Sunday morning, Jan. 25, surfaced on social media posts. Tom Homan, President Trump's hand-picked border czar, and acting U.S. Deputy Attorney General Emil Bove joined ICE, ATF and Customs and Border Protection agents as Homan called Chicago ground zero for mass deportations of illegal immigrants who are violent criminals.

Homan reported that illegal immigrants rounded up in raids that Sunday included six convicted of serious sex offenses, multiple gang members and two others who were previously convicted of murder and aggravated sexual battery. The one-time director of ICE in the first Trump administration also noted that the federal government has 300 targets in Chicago, including 150 people Homan said had previously been in police custody but were released despite requests to hold them.

The first arrest Bove witnessed in Chicago was of a person living illegally in the U.S. who allegedly had killed a 19-year-old woman while driving under the influence.

Over in his 15th Ward, which includes Back of the Yards, Brighton Park, Gage Park, West Englewood, Canaryville and other neighborhoods that could also be ground zero for legal and illegal immigrants, Alderman Ray Lopez considered how the ICE age has stoked his constituents. Plenty of people have been dealing with what's going on and the lack of action for quite some time.

"My residents, immigrant citizen or noncitizen, overwhelmingly want to be in a safe neighborhood. And they know that when you take the time to explain that we're focusing solely on dangerous people, they understand that, they appreciate that," Lopez related. "You have a small percentage of folks who are taking the extreme position that the mayor's taking, which is we have to protect everyone, criminal or not. I believe overwhelmingly, most people want to see threats removed from our neighborhoods."



### ICE picks

In an interview with CNN, Homan called enforcement actions in Chicago that Sunday morning a "game changer." Perhaps ICE is helping to make inroads to deal with Chicago as having some of the strongest sanctuary city protections, which bar cooperation between Chicago Police Officers and immigration agents, an initiative in play going back to the first Trump administration.

Sanctuary cities actually protect illegal immigrants who are criminals in jail. So instead of ICE being able to arrest the criminal aliens in the safety and security of a jail, the sanctuary protection eventually leads to many cities releasing them back into

the community.

To break through sanctuary sanctity, the second Trump administration has warned state and city officials not to interfere with the immigration crackdown. And Homan has said that all government law enforcement has focused on public safety and national security threats in Chicago.

"I don't think we arrested any families," Homan responded to a news media charge of sweeping up noncriminal undocumented residents. "We've arrested public safety threats and national security threats. Bottom line, the biggest national security threat this country's seen, at least in my lifetime."

Lopez contends that the latest ICE escapades can address situations like one that occurred in the 15th Ward, when individuals at a house at the corner of 59th Street and St. Louis Avenue were involved in a shooting that left three people dead and five more wounded.

"Why is it that we are not allowed to say that these were migrants?" he questioned. "Why is it that we're not allowed to say that the shooters,

if we catch them, should be deported?"

Homan promised that all available tools will be used to address obstruction and other unlawful impediments to protect the sanctuary. His presence is already making a difference in the City becoming safer.

"I'm glad he's here on the ground," Lopez commented. "This is the second or third time Tom has been to the City of Chicago. Keep in mind, that is more face time with what's really going on in the last eight days than we got in the last four years of the previous presidential administration. Not only has he said that his intention was to go after criminal migrants who are a danger to our City, but he also wanted to make sure that he was on hand to ensure that it was correctly reported."

### ICE packed

ICE reported that raids on that Sunday put 956 illegal immigrant criminals on, well, ice. Worth noting is that during the fiscal year that ended on Sept. 30, 2024, ICE averaged 322 arrests per day. According to reports, the bulk of the raids in Chicago took place before dawn, with some lasting until late morning.

Multiple sources told CBS News Chicago that those held by ICE on Sunday had active warrants. In addition to ICE, ATF and Customs and Border Protection, the FBI, DEA, U.S. Marshals Service and federal prosecutors were also involved in the operation. Bove called it a national emergency arising from four years of failed immigration policy to secure the border and stop the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34



invasion on America.

The pushback from the governor and the mayor has been well documented and is likely politically motivated. The governor said he supports any mission to remove convicted criminals who are undocumented.

“If that’s who they’re picking up, we are all for it,” he commented during an interview with CNN that same Sunday morning.

Lopez takes this issue personally. His family crossed illegally some hundred years ago. He is married to someone who benefited from the Reagan amnesty in the 1980s.

He shares the pain with so many people in Chicago continually trying to force those good immigrants, documented or otherwise, into the same category as those who are here and have no regard for society or law and are dangerous threats.

“We are not the same,” he emphasized. “They are not the same, and we cannot continue to talk about them as if they are the same.”

Certainly, collateral captures will undoubtedly happen as ICE goes looking for its targets, knocks on doors and finds somebody else that they weren’t looking for. Lopez explained that his people in the 15th Ward, and across the City, hope to find a happy medium that will lead to the bad guys, but he believes that Mayor Johnson and company “don’t care about that.”

Lopez is clear that his constituents definitely want to see illegal immigrants who are child sexual predators, murderers, rapists or dangerous individuals, gone. And would love to see the City work with ICE to get them out of their communities.

“If you’re here to be a little asshole, then we’re going to help you on a one-way ticket back to wherever you came from,” Lopez elaborated.

Lodge 7 President John Catanzara has had enough contact with Homan to know that ICE storming in in pursuit of violent criminals will be enough to keep agents busy for quite some time. As for the lawful undocumented immigrants in the City, Catanzara has an idea that doesn’t turn a blind eye to the value they provide in their communities.

“They can have an opportunity to have permanent residence status and work in the open with a Social Security number, pay taxes and pay a fee for coming in this country illegally in exchange for that permanent resident card,” he detailed. “I always spitball that they should pay \$25,000 over five years interest-free for the card. And that money goes for border control in perpetuity going forward. But after the five years, your penalty’s paid, you have your permanent resident card. Your children and your grandchildren who are born here are U.S. citizens. If it’s about bringing a better life throughout the generations, that should not be afforded to you if you are breaking the law.”

### **ICE blocks**

Politics, of course, threatens to be an ICE breaker.

The Illinois Trust Act limits local involvement with federal immigration enforcement. The act blocks Chicago Police Officers from cooperating with ICE agents. Homan argues ICE wouldn’t need to conduct such community arrests if local law enforcement were allowed to collaborate more closely with the agency to target high-priority criminals.



If it's a political game of ICE hockey, the Trump administration scored a goal with the signing of the Laken Riley Act into law on Jan. 29. The legislation requires detention of illegal immigrants charged with crimes such as theft and allows attorneys general from any state to sue a federal administration that fails to enforce immigration laws.

That follows up on another Trump goal of willingness to use federal law enforcement beyond the Department of Homeland Security to carry out long-promised mass deportations. Bove has also instructed the U.S. Justice Department's civil division to work with a new Sanctuary Cities Enforcement Working Group to identify and potentially challenge state and local laws and policies that "threaten to impede" the Trump administration's immigration efforts.

Still, the governor shoots back with being adamant about refusing to coordinate with federal officials on the arrest of people when federal agents do not have a judicial warrant. Lopez said that the governor's shot is fueling a narrative from mainstream media that activists and hard left politicians are out to get everybody.

"I've been on programs where my colleagues have said the police are going to deport you if you jaywalk, completely lying to the residents' faces," he continued. "And they do a huge disservice to law enforcement, our City and our country as a whole. You are intentionally spreading fear like that just to win the argument, just to keep people from joining the right side of things, which is that we should not protect dangerous criminals in our City."

Injecting politics into the pursuit of illegal immigrants who are violent criminals has bungled it for the past four decades, according to Lopez. Since President Reagan granted amnesty and gave America the chance to hit the reset button on not only the law, but also on enforcement, there have been people stoking fears that the police are the bad guys out to get everyone.

"Police want these bad guys gone just as much as everybody else, and I think even more so," Lopez submitted. "It pains them when we know we have an easy way to get rid of them. If our officers arrest someone for sexually abusing a child who is not a citizen, we have a very easy remedy for that individual if we choose to do it."

Lopez added that he believes the virtue of Homan coming to Chicago is to show not only the full weight of what's possible, but



also a commitment to being as transparent as possible so that everyday Chicagoans and, in particular, the immigrant community, see that the hysteria over neighborhood raids is manufactured.

"They're specifically going after targets, and they're trying as best as they can to do so within the context of the law," the alderman reiterated. "Not to get collateral captures at this time, I think it's a smart move."

All of which might not even have become a mainstream media morass if the Chicago City Council had adopted the Lopez proposal to change the Welcoming City Ordinance. If the alders had voted to do so, it would have allowed officers to coordinate with immigration officials when an illegal immigrant arrested is someone who has committed one of these categories of crimes: drug-related offenses, gang-related offenses, prostitution, human trafficking or sex crimes involving minors.

"Sadly, the mayor and 39 of my colleagues chose to side with human traffickers and child molesters as opposed to doing what was needed, which was to give officers the ability to inform ICE when we arrest someone who doesn't have citizenship," Lopez articulated. "Now, we have Tom Holman and Donald Trump, who finally have access to the list of priority targets, and they're going after them. We should be thankful for that because it keeps our community safe, it keeps our police officers safe, and if we had actually coordinated with them, we'd be able to get through this list a whole lot faster."



# Thank You To A Training Officer



PETER  
MAGNINE

I was sent to the 15th District on Chicago's West Side for street training after academy training in late 1977. Officer Mike Kirby was my training officer. This was before they had field training officers. Mike and Duane Ytsen were partners on "THE WAGON" in 15. Duane was also given a recruit for training.

I did a lot of my training working on the wagon with Mike. But Mike did all the driving. At this time recruits were on the street for two weeks and then sent back to the academy for two weeks of college courses. Fortunately, or unfortunately, I did not have to return for the classes. So, Mike was stuck with me for the entire period of training.

Mike was about 20 years older than me and a WWII veteran. I found him to be one of the kindest and nicest men I met. He taught me a lot.

At this point in time the district patrol officers rotated shifts, so I went around the clock with Mike and the wagon. One of the things about midnights that he taught me was to eat breakfast in the morning. That way you kept your eating schedule on a normal cycle.

After the training with Mike, I worked with various other officers in the district. I finally found a permanent partnership with Randy Ugorek. We remained friends until the day he passed away.

I was in 15 for about four years until I moved on to other units. I never saw Mike again after I left. I feel bad about that. Mike passed away in 2003.

I would like to acknowledge him with this story. He made my first months on the streets a pleasant experience.

I have learned that not all recruits had good experiences. But if you did, I hope you remember your first months on the streets with happiness.

I remember Mike from this photo. Sitting in the driver's seat of the wagon.



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# 2025 Chicago Polar Bear Plunge

On January 25, 2025, the 10th District DCO team once again braved the freezing winter weather to participate in the annual Chicago Polar Bear Plunge at Oak Street Beach. With temperatures dropping to 22 degrees, the team joined over a thousand other participants in diving into the icy waters of Lake Michigan to raise funds for the Special Olympics. Representing the Chicago Police Department of the 10th District D.C.O. team showed in-

credible commitment to this important cause, raising \$200 dollars highlighting the power of teamwork and community spirit.

The event served as a reminder of the team's dedication to making a positive impact beyond their daily responsibilities. The plunge into the frigid lake may have been cold, but the warmth of their efforts for such an inspiring cause resonated far and wide.





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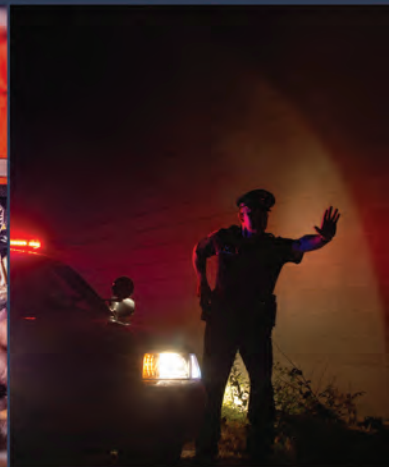
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