



Fraternal Order of Police

CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine • April 2025

One Step Forward...

Two Steps Back

Snelling naming Talley First Deputy a sequel to the Brown-Carter trainwreck



HERE, YOU'LL EARN A TOP-TIER EDUCATION.

Discover what a DePaul degree can do for you.

When you choose DePaul, you're choosing a university recognized for its academic excellence. Our goal is to help you prepare for what is next in your career. You'll have the help you need along the way, with faculty and advisors who recognize the intense demands in juggling work, home and school.

Join us for an upcoming virtual information session.

UNDERGRADUATE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM

Major in Business Administration (School of Continuing and Professional Studies)

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

MASTER OF ARTS IN APPLIED PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

focusing on Organizational Leadership (School of Continuing and Professional Studies)

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES with a concentration in Criminal Law

(College of Law, formerly Master of Jurisprudence)

Thursday, May 22, 2025 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

For more information
visit go.depaul.edu/FOP
or email Ed Ramsay at
eramsay@depaul.edu



We Will Not Be Undersold!

#1
Dealer of the year award

37 Color Combinations To Choose From
DOUBLE HUNG • CASEMENT • BOW & BAY

CPD DISCOUNT
and
INTEREST-FREE FINANCING AVAILABLE!



Patio Doors
Start at \$895
*White 60X80 Door



50% OFF SIDING ORDER
Lifetime Warranty
EnergySavers Vinyl Windows 04-30-25



Bow & Bay Windows
Start at \$1495
*Price based on 73x49 Du Bay or Bow, All Sizes Available

50% OFF ALL WINDOWS
Double • Hung Casement • Bow & Bay
EnergySavers Vinyl Windows 04-30-25

Visit our **showroom**



EnergySavers
Vinyl Windows

708-301-7426

FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATES

SHOWROOM HOURS:
Mon.-Fri. 9am-6pm • Sat. 9am-4pm



11535 West 183rd Place • Unit 117 • Orland Park • www.energysaverswindows.com



**COVER STORY
PAGE 30**

First Things

After a year and a half of not having a first deputy, Superintendent Larry Snelling named Yolanda Talley to the position on March 17. Really? Moving her from BIA chief to being second in command raises all sorts of questions, including whether the decision came from the mayor's office or was motivated by somebody else at City Hall. Will Talley be able to overcome an incident in 2022 that has left her stature with many officers in question? And is this move a sign that the Snelling-Talley team will become an arm of City Hall just like the Brown-Carter tandem before them?



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
www.chicagofop.org

JOHN CATANZARA JR.
Publisher
john.catanzarajr@chicagofop.org

JENNA RAMOS
Art Director

**MITCHELL KRUGEL
SEAN CARLIN**
Contributing Editors

DAN CAMPANA
Contributing Editor
dan@dancamcom.biz

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE
Rob Noceda (Chair)
Michael Carroll
Carolynn Crump
Lisa Ford

APRIL 2025 ■ VOLUME 11, NO. 4

Chicago Lodge No. 7 FOP Magazine is a monthly publication dedicated to law enforcement and criminal justice professionals operating in the City of Chicago, and throughout the State of Illinois. ©2023 Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7. Reproduction of any part of this Magazine without express written permission is prohibited. Reader comments and editorial submissions are welcome, but Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 does not assume any responsibility for the return of unsolicited material. The Publisher manages and controls all advertisement relationships and ultimately retains the right to accept or reject any advertisement. The acceptance of advertisements by Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 Magazine does not constitute an endorsement of the products or services advertised. Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7, nor any of its officers and/or employees, make any warranty, express or implied, including the warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process included in any written or submitted content or in any advertisement. The views and opinions of any advertiser or third-party article contributor do not necessarily state or reflect those of Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7, and are not used for advertising or product endorsement purposes. Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 and its publishers assume no financial responsibility for errors.

MESSAGES FROM LODGE 7

President's Report	Page 5	FOP Labor Report	Page 17
First Vice President's Report.....	Page 7	Legislative Report	Page 20
Second Vice President's Report.....	Page 10	Deceased Members	Page 22
Third Vice President's Report.....	Page 12	Retired Members	Page 23
Recording Secretary's Report.....	Page 13	Compliments of Rabbi Moshe	Page 24
Financial Secretary's Report	Page 14	From your Directing Chaplain	Page 26
Field Representatives' Reports..	Pages 15 & 16		

INSIDE STORIES





CHICAGO LODGE 7

Official Magazine
President's Report



A sequel sure to flop



**JOHN
CATANZARA
JR.**

Back to the Future 4. CPD Trek II: The Wrath of Johnson. A Nightmare on....

What's about to play out with Larry Snelling taking on Yolanda Talley as first deputy superintendent could very well become the scariest sequel we have ever seen. Just like Brown and Carter as directed by Lori Lightfoot, Snelling and Talley appears to be the wrath that could F up the Department and F with our members.

Now, full disclosure here. I have known Yolanda Talley since the day she became a Chicago Police Officer. We are both from Academy Class 95 1A. She was in my homeroom. Part of a very diverse class, but that's a subplot I will get to shortly.

My review of this sequel is simple. This choice is absolutely going to ruin every bit of morale and good things the superintendent has done for the majority of the Department, and so many officers absolutely don't trust and can't stand this person who will serve as second-in-command.

Call it "The Dark Knight Rises" meets "Evil Dead II." Who is directing this picture that's ready to bomb?

As I posted on our Facebook page, it was the superintendent's choice, which calls into question his judgment when she was in front of his face the whole time. Why didn't she get named to that spot a year ago when he first became the superintendent? Or was he forced to finally give in and do what City Hall wanted him to do?

If that's the case, shame on you because you said you were going to run the Department your way. You should have named your own person and dared the mayor to fire you.

But he didn't do that, as he pledged he would. So either way, it's 100 percent on him. Shame on him. It's going to be a big hit to his reputation with the members.

I really had no issues with Talley until I became president and she kicked me out of a suicide scene of one of our members. I was there for almost an hour because two of my good friends on this job were the first two on the scene. So I was just checking on them, making sure they were all right.

And I had already known what he wrote in the suicide note and made a reference to how bad the job had become because of the mayor. Once she realized that was in the suicide note, I'm 99.9 percent certain she was talking to Eric Carter on the phone when she kicked me out of the crime scene, which she didn't have legal authority to do. I mean, I have the right to have access to my members as the president of Lodge 7. So I was done with her at that point because she had 100 percent proved her uselessness.

Some of her career could be the subject of a "Fast & Furious" episode. Especially the debacle with her niece in the car. That's a laughingstock in itself when in February 2022, Talley's personal vehicle was involved in a narcotics arrest in the Harrison District. The first deputy's niece was driving the car, and a man in the passenger seat was seen by police throwing a package of heroin out the window before officers placed him under arrest.

In body-worn camera footage obtained by the *Chicago Tribune*, Talley's niece told responding officers, "Don't even worry about it 'cause my auntie's probably your boss."

And then she was given her car back with no questions asked. The Department even had it washed, filled up with gas and delivered back to her house.

There are so many different ways this can be spun. So what? Who cares? It still was Larry's choice. And I will remind everybody reading this article that Larry's crowning moment, that he just couldn't wait to take multiple victory laps over, was the Democratic National Convention, which luckily for the City and for him, did not have the major turnout of protests originally planned and made the Department's efforts look that much better.

But that success wasn't all Larry Snelling. Duane DeVries, the chief of counterterrorism, was in large part responsible for putting the plan together. So if Larry got all the accolades for that, why wasn't DeVries considered or appointed first deputy right away? If that was the crowning moment of this Department — that they can hold up and honor people's constitutional rights to protest and to free speech — that should have elevated DeVries to first deputy right away. Turns out, that would have been Mission Impossible V: The Impossible Dream.

Because this decision was totally the Johnson Ultimatum. There were so many other options, because beyond empowering a female leader being part of that selection, if that's the mayor's spin, we all know she's politically connected to City Hall. And people in it who might be part of "The Empire Strikes Back."

Look, if this was about female empowerment, maybe address what has happened to Donna Rowling, who has been commander of management and labor affairs for more than four years now. That spot has never had as little power as it has currently under her in that position. I'll remind people, she was one of the

President's Report continues on Page 6

CHICAGO JOHN DINEEN LODGE #7

EXECUTIVE BOARD

JOHN CATANZARA JR.
President

Michael Mette
First Vice President

Daniel D. Gorman
Second Vice President

Monica Ortiz
Third Vice President

Rob Noceda
Recording Secretary

Jim Jakstavich
Financial Secretary

Dennis McGuire
Treasurer

Sergeants-at-Arms
Michael J. Collins
John Delanty
Nenad Markovich

Trustee Chairman
David DiSanti

Trustees
Matthew Beesley
Harold Brown
John T. Capparelli
JC Cardenas
Keith B. Carter
Ray Casiano Jr.
Timothy Covelli
Patrick W. Duckhorn

Rick King
Tom Lonergan
Jack O'Keefe
Steven Olsen
Carlos Salazar
Ronald Shogren
Daniel G. Trevino
Carlos Yanez Jr.

Field Representatives

Michael Cosentino
Kenyatta Gaines

eight initial candidates for the superintendent job but obviously didn't get to that second level of consideration.

Nonetheless, she still has minimal authority as a commander, which is a joke. Why would you not empower her to do what she knows is contractually right and obligated by the Department? Because what they have been doing ever since she's been in charge — and ever since I've been in charge — is literally picking and choosing what parts of the contract they want to ignore that are inconvenient to their Department policies.

If we are really serious about elevating female command in this De-

partment, empower Donna with making those decisions, elevate her to chief of management and labor affairs, and give her the authority to make the decisions herself and not necessarily have to run everything by other people. I know she passed promotional tests. I can't say the same for the No. 1 and No. 2 in this Department right now.

Look, I'm not saying she'd be the perfect fit for that spot either. And I'm not even saying Larry's going to turn over control of the Department to Talley — which historically, the first deputy has had while the superintendent is more the public figurehead and the ultimate decision-maker. But by all accounts, he was told, this is going to be your first deputy. And he acquiesced. Shame on him.

Hopefully, it's not a fade-out from here.

President's Report: Second Stories

Let's play fair

There's not a hell of a lot realistically taking place in Springfield within the spring session. I think there's a lot of everybody holding their breath about what's going to happen politically. Is Sen. Dick Durbin going to leave? Is Pritzker going to announce he's not running, or is he waiting for political dominoes to fall as we get closer to summertime? Because petition season is about six months away. So people are going to have to start deciding what they're doing.

We certainly have our focus on three big initiatives: the DROP, the Tier II fix and the pension board realignment in Chicago. It would have to be done statutorily out of Springfield, but we're simply trying to have what every other pension fund in the state has: control over the actual benefits paid to their own pension fund. As you might not know, it's not like that in Chicago, where it's a 4-4 split of pension board trustees between the City and the cops and firefighters.

We're just trying to add two more spots to give us a 6-4 majority in votes like everybody else has. Nothing can be done without that fifth vote. Now, you need at least one City person. And it's been very clear under Lightfoot and this guy that these four appointees of the mayor's have their marching orders. They have been in lockstep almost 96 percent of the time, especially on the more tense votes.

We have a retired member, Tom Lonergan, and a trustee representing patrol, Brock Merck. Then you have a rep from the sergeant's union and one from lieutenants and captains, which is bizarre to me because they have equal representation for 200 members when we have 10,000. So the goal with the two additional reps is to have a rep for detectives and

one for disabled officers.

So we'll see where these three initiatives go. It's certainly expected that the DROP should finally see a finish line this spring because it will save money. I think there's some level of a Tier II fix that has to get done. Do I think it's as grandiose and as comprehensive as many people wanted? Probably not, because the bigger the price tag, the more of a problem the governor's going to have, especially wanting to run for president.

Too many people take that as a financial enhancement, and it's not an enhancement; it's just parity. Tier II should basically be the equivalent of Tier I. Tier II was created because people were retiring earlier and living longer, and the funds were getting drained. But there's a lack of fairness right now with two cops riding in a car and one is Tier I, the other is Tier II, and they're doing the same job. It's also not fair that our retirees have to pay for even a percentage of their healthcare when others never did until Mr. Wonderful, who supposedly might be running for president, came along.

Right now, we probably have more active Tier II officers than Tier I, and they have to go to age 55 or they get penalized. Not a big help when trying to recruit and retain officers. And I don't think anybody would argue that it's not fair that somebody who's maxed out in their pension percentage calculations has to stay because if they leave, they get penalized. But if you're maxed out and you can't increase your pension at that point, then you either shouldn't have to pay into the pension anymore or you should absolutely be able to leave without a penalty.

Giving members their dues

We had some news come out of the National FOP spring board meeting in Salt Lake City in March.

National is asking for a per capita annual dues increase of 55 percent. They want to up it six more dollars per member over the next four years. That's \$3 next year and \$3 in three years.

As we were leaving town, I mentioned to the National FOP general counsel that the increase could cost our Lodge approximately \$100,000 per year. And what do our members get for it? Spoiler alert: absolutely nothing.

Every single facet of the national organization's services, we offer ourselves. Technically speaking, I think we have a much better relationship with the State Lodge with me being the state first vice president and feeling like our opinion matters.

That's not the case on the national level. We are the biggest Lodge in the country, so do we need to stay? Our budget is tight. We're using our royalty money to cover expenses. We already increased dues for two

very specific reasons: to have a PAC fund that matters and obviously to have the resources to build a new lodge somewhere on a modern site.

See, it was that type of board meeting. Coming from Chicago, it rubs me the wrong way that an organization founded on improving working conditions and labor rights in Pittsburgh is having meetings in a state that no longer has collective bargaining for its police. OK, it was a little last-minute. The law just got changed a few weeks ago.

But to go forward with a national conference in two years in a state that doesn't want labor there for an organization that was founded on labor just seems bizarre to me. It seems counterintuitive that there are no talks about threats to the powers that be in Utah or the governor's office that if there's not a carve-out for law enforcement, we'll just pull our conference and take it somewhere else. It's like no one even wanted to broach the subject. And I remind everybody, the option they had other than Salt Lake City is the city where the largest FOP Lodge is located, with the strongest union protections in the country.

Join Us for National Police Week 2025

A Journey of Honor and Remembrance



**MICHAEL
METTE**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Every year in May, law enforcement officers from across the nation gather in Washington, D.C., for **National Police Week** – a time to honor our fallen, support their families, and stand together as one law enforcement family. If you have never attended, I invite you to join us for this powerful and unforgettable experience.

National Police Week is not just an event, it's a tradition of honor, reflection, and unity. As members of the **Chicago Police Department and the Fraternal Order of Police**, this is our opportunity to pay tribute to those we have lost, including our own CPD heroes from 2024, PO Luis M Huesca, PO James Crowley, and PO Enrique Martinez, whose names will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

What to Expect

- **Candlelight Vigil (May 13th)** – A solemn and moving tribute as the names of our fallen officers are read aloud and added to the memorial. Standing among thousands of fellow officers and survivors, holding a candle in the darkness, is an experience you will never forget.
- **National Police Officers' Memorial Service (May 15th)** – A formal ceremony at the U.S. Capitol, where the President of the United States and law enforcement leaders honor our fallen brothers and

sisters.

- **Law Enforcement United's Road to Hope Ride** – A journey of remembrance where officers and survivors cycle hundreds of miles to D.C. in honor of the fallen. Even if you don't ride, welcoming them at the finish line is a moment of shared strength and unity.

- **Fellowship and Support** – Meet officers from around the country, share stories, and build lifelong friendships. Whether you are there to honor a fallen partner or simply to show support, you will leave with a renewed sense of purpose and pride in the badge you wear.

Why You Should Attend

If you've never been to National Police Week, this is the year to go. Experiencing this tribute firsthand is a reminder that we are never alone in this profession – our sacrifices are recognized, and our fallen are never forgotten.

Whether you join us for the vigil, the memorial service, or simply to stand among your brothers and sisters, your presence matters. We owe it to those who gave their lives to ensure their legacies live on.

Join us in Washington, D.C., this May. Honor. Remember. Support.

If you have any questions or need help with travel arrangements, please reach out. Let's stand together for those who can no longer stand beside us.

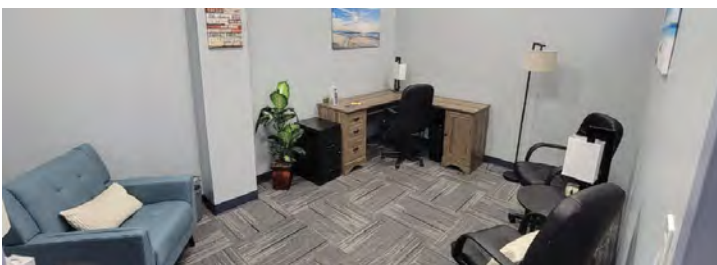
As always, stay safe and healthy!



First Responders Wellness Center

**Providing clinical services at
Chicago FOP Lodge 7 • 1412 W. Washington Blvd**

The First Responder Wellness Center is a full psychological services center for only first responders and their direct families. All of the clinicians are former first responders or those who have worked directly with first responders and provide confidential therapy.



630-909-9094

info@firstresponderswellnesscenter.com

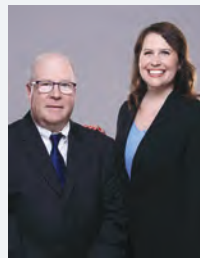
South Side Location: 477 E. Butterfield Rd. Suite 408-410, Lombard IL 60148

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

Proud supporters of all first responders

It's never too late or too early to prepare for retirement. We'll create a personalized plan based on your vision for the future—no matter what stage of planning you're in. **Let us help you prepare for your retirement.**

Contact us today for a complimentary consultation.



Calkins Investment Group

Patrick Calkins
First Vice President –
Financial Advisor
patrick.r.calkins@rbc.com

Theresa Calkins
Financial Advisor
theresa.calkins@rbc.com

(630) 472-5501

us.rbcwm.com/
[calkinsinvestmentgroup](http://calkinsinvestmentgroup.com)



**Wealth
Management**

© 2024 RBC Wealth Management, a division of RBC Capital Markets, LLC, registered investment adviser and Member NYSE/FINRA/SIPC. All rights reserved. 24-OK-00686 (03/24)



Heating & Cooling



Proudly serving
the Law Enforcement
community.

GMS Heating & Cooling
thanks you for your
support & keeping
our communities safe!



Follow us on Facebook

6022 Dempster St • Morton Grove, IL 60053 • 224-616-1776

GMSHeating7@gmail.com

Discount for the First 50 Registrants!

- **24/7 Access ONLINE**
- **J. Harris Training App**
- **Video/Audio Lessons**
- **Study Materials**
- **Online Flashcards**
- **Practice Exams**
- **And, Other information for Highly Testable areas of your exam!**



CHICAGO POLICE

PROMOTIONAL TEST PREPARATION

Detective's Exam

Lieutenant's Exam



I legit just want to say thank you. Your class helped me tremendously. I ended up scoring 92 percent in total on the Chicago Police SGT Test!

Joel, Chicago PD

WWW.JHARRISTRAINING.COM

Discipline Briefs



DAN GORMAN

Part of my report given at the monthly general members meetings include examples of arbitrator's decisions issued at binding summary opinion (BSO) arbitration hearings. Every investigation has its own individual circumstances, and in most cases, there are multiple allegations and redundant alleged "rule violations" (usually piled on by the investigators). However, below are examples of relatively simpler CR investigations and recent dispositions that have

been awarded by the binding summary arbitrators. The following discipline briefs only provide a generalization of the allegations that were sustained in the CR investigation.

General Summary of Allegation	Original Recommended Penalty	Arbitrator's Award
Alleged striking a cellphone out of citizens' hand.	5-day suspension	Expunged
Alleged unjustified entering apartment (hot-pursuit). Unjustified verbal altercation with citizen.	20-day suspension	10-day suspension
Unregistered firearm used in gun-battle. Fail to qualify. Fail to fully load with same ammo.	10-day suspension	1-day suspension for not qualifying with the unregistered firearm. Violation Noted for the ammunition.
Improper custodial search	10-day suspension	Expunged
2020 Riots/looter arrest: Fail to fasten arrestee's seatbelt. Fail to notify a supervisor when the arrestee complained. (Officer was 99-unit with less than 2-years experience).	3-day suspension	Reprimand

QUOTE BOARD:

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

Quote from the 5-page arbitration decision re:

Alleged striking a cellphone out of citizens' hand

"The incident occurred on July 8, 2017, COPA finalized its investigation on October 31, 2018. The Department served the Grievant on April 26, 2023. The Lodge correctly notes that there is

nothing in the file that indicates why the Grievant was not served with the discipline until 6 years after the incident occurred. The City also offered no explanation at hearing for such a delay for an incident that took place nearly 7 ½ years ago. The evidence is convincing that the Grievant would be prejudiced here because the BWC footage does not show the critical moments of the incident, and at hearing the Grievant stated, "My memory isn't the greatest" as to the events. This delay is excessive and clearly prejudices the Grievant and violates the just cause provision of the parties."

Quote from the 7-page arbitration decision re:

Alleged unjustified entering apartment (hot-pursuit) unjustified verbal altercation with citizen

"In considering the reasonableness of the Grievant's action, and whether he had probable cause to enter the apartment, he ran up the stairs to the porch in pursuit of one or more individuals believed to be armed. He had to decide in a split second whether these individuals would go into the resident's apartment to escape or jump from the third-floor of a building to an adjacent building. It is certainly not unreasonable to think someone would pick the apartment's backdoor over a death-defying leap."

"Finally, COPA concluded "flight" of the three individuals is insufficient grounds to believe they were the trespassers and therefore the subsequent warrantless entry was not justified. However, the evidence also shows the Grievant believed two of the three individuals were armed, plus the supposition that innocent people don't usually run from police, justifies the Grievant's pursuit of the individuals and the good-faith belief that they were the accused trespassers. Given these facts, the evidence supports a finding that the Grievant had probable cause, per the hot pursuit doctrine, to briefly enter the resident's apartment without a warrant."

"A Chicago police officer using profanity is not particularly shocking, and while the job description does not require officers to be choir boys (or girls), the job does require them to act professionally and to de-escalate situations when faced with difficult and angry citizens. That was not done here and the Grievant showed an extreme lack of self-control and professional demeanor that undermined CPD's public image and its relationship with the community."

Quote from the 6-page arbitration decision re:

Unregistered firearm, and fail to fully load with same ammo (discovered after gunfire exchange)

"As to the penalty, the recommended 10-day suspension is

excessive. It is relevant that the registration requirement at the time did not mandate a specific timeframe to register a weapon although 3 months (from the time the Grievant purchased the weapon to the time of the shooting incident) would appear to exceed what might be considered a reasonable grace period. It is also noted that the ammunition complaint involving a single cartridge, nearly identical to the others, is at best a minor or even a de minimis offense.”

Quotes from the 5-page arbitration decision re: Improper custodial search

“The offender’s clothes were not removed, the reason to pull back his waistband for only a few moments was for the legitimate reason of searching for drugs he had hidden on his person and were falling out of his pants while being searched. There was no bad intent here but only a misunderstanding of what the

[search] policy required. The Grievant admits to his mistake and believes he would not make the same error again. To impose a 10-day suspension on this Officer after a five year and nine-month delay, and 7 years since the incident, would serve no corrective purpose but only be punitive in nature, contrary to the progressive discipline goals embedded in the parties’ contract.”

Quote from the 5-page arbitration decision re: Fail to fasten arrestee’s seatbelt & fail to notify a supervisor when the arrestee complained

“A more experienced officer would have been more assertive but the Grievant was only a few months off probationary status, he was not assigned a partner, and an officer’s inexperience should be considered in mitigation when considering a disciplinary penalty.”

33% Police and Family Discount for a Living Trust Estate Plan

Tuohy Law Offices has served FOP members for 36 years
Tom Tuohy is the grandson of a CPD Chief and son of a CPD Detective

Living Trust Estate Plans Include:

Living Trust
Last Will & Testament
Health Care Power of Attorney

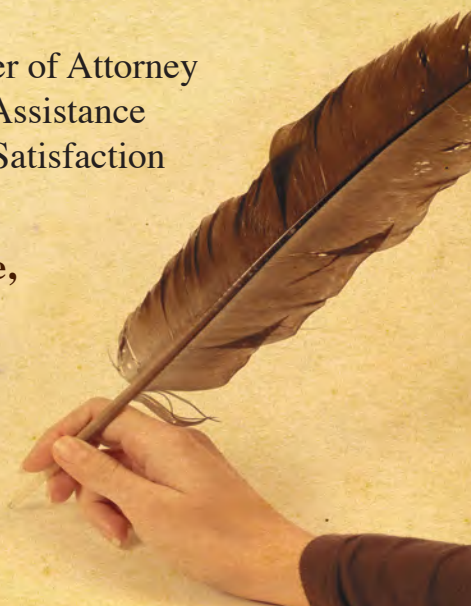


Financial Power of Attorney
Unlimited Assistance
Guaranteed Satisfaction

Free Consultations on Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice, Corporate, Nursing Home Abuse

TuohyLawOffices.com
17W 220 22nd St. Suite 300
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
info@tuohylawoffices.com
312-559-8400 · Fax 312-559-8484

In-Person or Zoom Signings
Free Parking
Call before April 30, 2025
Mention FOP for 33% Discount



Health Benefits Interrupted and/or Terminated



MONICA ORTIZ

Recently, the Lodge has received calls from members who had interrupted and/or terminated medical benefits. I have written about this in the past, but I wanted to touch on this subject again so that members have a path to follow if this occurs to them. Any interruption of someone's medical benefits is a serious issue. I have been trying to find a remedy to the problems that arise with the customer service representatives at the benefits management office. Here are some examples of

situations that have impacted our members. We had a member who went through a divorce and followed the steps that were asked of her to update her insurance submit the required documents. The member sent the necessary paperwork and was told by BMO that the forms were untimely, and the member lost all benefits. Another member had a newborn and added the child four days later to their insurance. The BMO alleged that the member forgot some information on the forms, and the child was not added to the policy, leaving their new baby without insurance for the remainder of the year. Most recently, we had a retired member who applied for COBRA benefits and completed all the required forms. The member was required to pay COBRA rates even though months went by, with no coverage. The member called the BMO call center many times and was given misinformation. This went unresolved for months, before it was resolved.

Officers who encounter this issue should take the following three steps.

1. Call the call center to report the issue. Get a name, date, and reference number.
2. If there is no resolution in step one, ask for a supervisor and get a name, date, and reference number.
3. If the issue is not resolved in step two, contact FOP and we will contact benefits to address the issue. All calls are recorded. Please ensure you get names and reference numbers so we can forward that information to benefits.


We will ask for officers to sign a medical release so we can speak on their behalf.


I strongly encourage officers to visit the city of Chicago benefits web page and enroll in the employee portal. This step will allow you to download documents and update your files, such as dependents, marriage certificates, etc. Taking control of your benefits in this way can help prevent issues like those we have discussed. You can enroll using the link: www.cityofchicagobenefits.org Benefits management-1-877-299-5111

You can enroll using the link: www.cityofchicagobenefits.org

I will meet with the benefits management office director in April to discuss some of the issues our members encounter with the customer service call center and to better understand how that office operates, its procedures and policies. I will report back any new information that I think will be helpful to our membership.

God bless and stay safe.





MCNABOLA
& ASSOCIATES, LLC

Helping CPD officers in personal injury, wrongful death and medical malpractice for over 30 years

Over \$200 million secured on behalf of our clients

<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 14px;">"Amazing, empathetic and tenacious in helping my family through our tragedy."</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; color: #666;">Ofc. Daniel Hernandez Office of Community Policing – 024 District</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 14px;">"I was turned down by other attorneys and Ted not only took my case but achieved an incredible settlement."</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; color: #666;">E.T. Daniel A. Vasquez (ret.)</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 14px;">"Ted fought one of the world's largest corporations on our behalf and we are forever grateful."</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; color: #666;">Hengyi Yang, widow of Ofc. Kevin Meng, Dec'd</p>
---	---	--

Free Consultation (312) 888-7000 • injuryillinois.com

By-Law Time



ROB
NOCEDA

Hello, Lodge 7. I pray you are well and in good spirits.

Every year we have a certain time for proposals to amend our constitution and bylaws. This process is between April 1 and May 31. Below is Chicago John Dineen Lodge 7 Constitution, Article VIII Amendments. This is the full process from start to finish, per the constitution and bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

- Section 1: Only Active members, in good standing of this Lodge, may propose an Amendment to this Constitution. Such proposals shall be attested by the signature of eleven (11) Active members in good standing. The signatures will not be necessary when the proposals are made by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee appointed by the President and 1st Vice President. An amendment on a particular subject may be presented and/or voted upon only once in a twelve (12) month period, unless re-consideration of the proposed amendment is approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- Section 2: Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Recording Secretary within a two month period commencing April 1st and ending May 31st of each year or when an issue has been identified as having significant importance to the Lodge by the President, with the consent of the Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary upon receiving any proposed amendments in the proper manner will then attest his or her signature, date of receiving, attest the Seal of the Lodge and forward the proposed amendment to the Board of Directors for review, consideration and recommendations.
- Section 3: If the proposed amendments, upon the review of the Board of Directors, are found to be in conflict (read unconstitutional) with the State or National constitution or unlawful, these amendments will not be forwarded to the membership for a vote. In the event the submitting member does not agree with the decision of the Board of Directors, he may appeal said decision in the following manner. The member may appeal the decision of the Board of Directors to the State Board of the Fraternal Order of Police of Illinois and may further appeal to the State Conference, and thereafter if the State Board upholds the decision of Chicago John Dineen Lodge # 7 Board, the member may further appeal to the National Board of the Fraternal Order of Police, and further, if necessary, make a final appeal to the National Biennial Conference of the Fraternal Order of Police.
- Section 4: The Board of Directors shall have the option of determining whether such vote shall be by mail ballot or voice vote of members who attend the applicable membership meeting. Members will be given notice of any impending vote on amendments to the By-Laws or Constitution by use of the regular monthly mailing of Chicago John Dineen Lodge # 7, prior to any vote.
- Section 5: All amendments to be submitted to the membership for a voice vote will be read and voted upon at the General Business Meeting of September of that year. All amendments to be submitted to the full membership for a mail ballot shall be mailed in the first week of September of that year for return and counting before the General Business Meeting of October of that year.
- Section 6: When an issue has been identified as having significant importance to the Lodge by the President, with the consent of the Board of the Directors, the President shall propose an amendment to these Constitution and By-Laws. Members will be given notice of any impending vote on such amendment by use of the regular monthly mailing of Chicago John Dineen Lodge # 7 prior to any vote. The Board of Directors shall have the option of determining whether such vote shall be by mail ballot or voice vote of members who attend the applicable membership meeting. If the proposed amendment is sent for a mail ballot, it shall be returned and counted within twenty-one (21) days of the mailing.
- Section 7: A two thirds (2/3) majority of the Active members present and voting at said meeting or in a mail ballot shall be required for adoption of any amendment.

Continued Support



**JIM
JAKSTAVICH**

Hello again officers, both active and retired. We here at FOP will always try to attend court proceedings for the murders or shootings of our officers. We, the field representatives, cannot all be there at one time, but we send notices out to the Board of Directors and the unit and watch representatives. By notifying the unit and watch representatives, we ask them to spread the word so officers who are attending court can stop in, even if just for a few minutes, to show support for our fellow officers and their families. These officers have become victims at the murderous hands of the same violent offenders they are protecting the citizens from. The state's attorney has dedicated employees who work with victims and witnesses who attend court with the families of victims as well as police officers' families. These court proceedings last for months and even years with motions and continuances granted by the judges. Then finally comes the trial, the families of victim officers must hear testimony, watch and listen to videos of their loved one's final actions, and even their last breaths. I cannot even begin to imagine the emotions that are felt during a trial, often re-living the pain of the loss of their loved one. I think most can now realize why we must show support for our fellow officers.

I recently attended an attempt murder trial at 26th & California for two tactical officers from the 011th district. This was a four-man unmarked tact car which stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. The driver of the vehicle stopped, but the offender in the front passenger seat decided to bail from the vehicle after he was observed making furtive movements. The offender fled on foot down the block and then through a nearby alley with two of the tactical officers in hot pursuit. The cowardly offender began firing at one tactical officer who was closing in on him, narrowly missing him as bullets whizzed by the officer's head. The second tactical officer entered the mouth of the alley as the offender turned and fled. These events were captured on private video surveillance cameras or BWC worn by the officers.

The offender was eventually located hiding under a porch like the rodent that he is with multiple handguns recovered nearby. The offender's defense for his murderous actions was that he thought he was being carjacked! You can't make this shit up. The offender decided to roll the dice and refused the 16-and-a-half- year offer by the state's attorney. He went to trial, only to be convicted by the astute jury who heard all the facts and didn't believe a word of his bullshit defense. He was convicted of one count attempted first de-

gree murder, two counts of aggravated discharge, and one count of armed habitual criminal. The offender will be sentenced sometime in May. Now convicted, he faces at least 21 years in prison. This trial was only two days long. Thankfully the verdict was in OUR favor. These heroic tactical officers involved in this incident did not ask anyone to be there with them as we only found out from victim/witness the day before. There should have been many more fellow officers in that courtroom with them in support. Please remember that if you are or become aware of an upcoming trial, let us know. If you are promoted on this job and you are directly supervising officers involved in such a traumatic incident, make every effort to attend court with them. I want to be clear: am not attacking anyone for not being there, only shining some light on what needs to be done in the future. Stay safe everyone.

BRAVE Police & Public Safety Wellness Center

**Being Brave Together
Help strengthen those who serve**



- Individual, group and family therapy
- Road to Resiliency Program
- Trauma & Addiction Tracks
- Stress Management Training
- First Responder's Yoga



6323 N. Avondale Avenue, #111B,
Chicago, IL 60631
847-778-9322
drrobinkroll@gmail.com
www.bravewellnesscenter.com



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

Felony Review Bypass Pilot Program For Firearms Charges



MICHAEL COLLINS

Hello brothers and sisters, both active and retired. In the past as you all know, when an officer made a felony UYW arrest, they had to call felony review to get charges approved. That could often be very time consuming and frustrating waiting to speak with an ASA. Effective Jan. 1, the department started a firearms charges bypass pilot program that will only be initiated in the 007th District and applies to arrests made in the 007th District. Felony charges will be approved by the 007th District watch operations lieutenant. The scope of the firearms charges bypass pilot program only applies to charges brought under

the following statutes when the criteria established in this directive (BOPSO: 25-08) are met.

- Aggravated Unlawful Possession of a Weapon (720 ILCS 5/24-1.6)
- Unlawful Possession of Weapons (720 ILCS 5/24-1)
- Unlawful Possession of Weapons by Felons (720 ILCS 5/24-1.1)

It should be known that the firearm charges bypass pilot program will not apply in instances to any other felony charge that requires felony review approval in addition to the above firearm

charges. If officers are unsure, they still have the option to call the Assistant State's Attorney Felony Review Unit.

Department members seeking to place felony firearms charges will use the same procedures consistent with charging felony narcotics cases. The watch operations lieutenant will be responsible for ensuring that probable cause exists, and the statutory elements outlined in the aforementioned charges are met.

Please keep in mind that all felony charges resulting from the firearms charges bypass pilot program will be reviewed by an ASA prior to a preliminary hearing or grand jury for indictment. In the event the ASA's review contradicts information captured on BWC such that the ability to pursue formal charging is impeded, the officer(s) responsible for the discrepancy will be reported to the chief of patrol division, and will no longer be permitted to continue to participate in the firearms charges bypass pilot program.

We are hoping this program continues to go smoothly and will eventually be an option city wide. Please take the time to read the Bureau of Patrol special order (BOPSO: 25-08) on this which can be found in department directives. Any questions or concerns regarding this feel free to shoot me a call or email.

Stay safe everyone!

Representing those who serve and protect since 1999.

ALLEN, GLASSMAN & SCHATZ
 ——— LLC ———
FAMILY LAW

150 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
 SUITE 3600
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601
 312-853-3000

GEMMAALLEN@ALLEGLASSMAN.COM
 TODDGLASSMAN@ALLEGLASSMAN.COM
 JONATHANSCHATZ@ALLEGLASSMAN.COM

**DIVORCE • PARENTING ISSUES • PENSION DIVISION • CHILD SUPPORT
 MATRIMONIAL & FAMILY LAWYERS**

The Healing Power of Laughter



KENYATTA
GAINES

Policing is a demanding profession that requires quick thinking, emotional resilience, and the ability to handle difficult situations with calm and authority. But amid the pressure, there's a powerful tool that can make a significant difference: laughter.

Did you know that laughter isn't just for fun? From reducing stress to boosting your mood, humor is a natural remedy. We face unique stressors daily, from responding to emergencies to dealing with volatile situations. The physical, emotional, and mental demands of the job can take a toll. Humor helps lower the body's stress response by reducing levels of cortisol (the stress hormone that promotes weight gain around the belly. Ah, No Please!) and increasing the production of endorphins – the body's natural feel-good chemicals. It also improves blood circulation and oxygen intake.

Mental health and laughter have a connection as well. Humor can act as a shield against negative emotions, offering a momentary escape from worries and helping us to view difficult situations in a lighter way. That's why we may chuckle on a crime scene. It's not about being inappropriate – it's about giving ourselves the mental space to recharge and keep going. Like a brief escape from the intensity of a situation, allowing officers to release tension and reset emotionally. This reset makes it easier to handle the next challenge with a clear head.

Law enforcement is a team effort, and teamwork is essential

in handling the daily challenges officers face. The simple act of laughing can also bring us closer to others. Laughter is a great way to foster camaraderie and build strong, trusting relationships among officers. When shared, humor creates a sense of solidarity and strengthens the bonds between colleagues. Officers who can laugh together are more likely to communicate openly, support each other in tough times. That shared joy creates a sense of connection and reminds us that we're all in this together. The more we laugh, the more we create an atmosphere of positivity in the workplace, which helps improve morale.

Incorporating laughter into a law enforcement career doesn't require much effort, but it does require intentionality. For this reason and all those mentioned above, I am hosting a comedy show here at FOP Lodge 7 Hall. It is the first of a series entitled, Tac-Tickle Comedy – A night of laughs with law enforcement comedians starting April 4. Check the FOP 7 website for details. I look forward to continuing this conversation in my next article.

In the meantime, be kind and don't laugh at others until you can laugh at yourself. Let go of perfectionism and embrace moments of humor in your own actions. The next time you're feeling overwhelmed, remember that a good laugh can be one of the best ways to stay balanced for whatever comes your way. Let humor lighten your load.

The healing power of laughter is a gift. Let it help you continue to serve and protect with strength and resilience.

Stay safe!

BAUM SIGMAN AUERBACH & NEUMAN, LTD.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS

Available to Practice In:

Labor Relations Law • Employee Welfare & Pension Benefit Law

Worker's Compensation Law • Personal Injury Law

Construction Related Injuries

JAMES M. NEUMAN
PASQUALE A. FIORETTO
CATHERINE M. CHAPMAN
STEPHEN J. ROSENBLAT
DESTINY A. COLLINS

BRIAN C. HLAVIN
LAURA M. FINNEGAN
PATRICK N. RYAN
CARSON W. FALLO
FIONA M. LAMB

200 W. ADAMS STREET, SUITE 1825

CHICAGO, IL 60606

(312) 236-4316

WWW.BAUMSIGMAN.COM

COPA Update



PAT
FIORETTO

On Feb. 13, 2025, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability's (COPA) former chief administrator, Andrea Kersten, resigned. Think of it as an early Valentine's Day present to police officers and the citizens of Chicago who value tenets such as "transparency" and "due process." Apparently, Ms. Kersten saw the writing on the wall. Her tenure had been marred by controversy from the moment she assumed the position as COPA's leader for nearly three years, from 2022 to 2025. Ms. Kersten appeared to relish her position with a specific agenda in mind: conduct anti-cop, bias driven probes, without regard to contractual or constitutional rights.

What led to her demise? For starters, 16 current or former COPA employees wrote a letter, which they all signed, calling on the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (CCPSA) to consider taking the first step towards removing her from the position. The authors urged the CCPSA to take a no-confidence vote against her, alleging that Ms. Kersten has "manipulated investigations to align with her own policy agenda" and retaliated against employees who have complained about "bias and mismanagement." Wow! Did they read the Lodge's complaint?

As many of you know, last summer the Lodge filed a lawsuit naming Ms. Kersten and many of her minions in a Section 1983 federal lawsuit. Several courageous police officers agreed to be named as plaintiffs to object to COPA's systemic violations of federal and state laws. The Lodge's lawsuit alleges that all the "defendants" (including the city and police department) have violated police officers' federal civil rights, which are guaranteed under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution not to be deprived of their life, liberty, or property without due process of law. The complaint further alleges that under Kersten's regime, COPA conducted untimely, biased, and unfair investigations, which led to the police department upholding excessive disciplinary recommendations.

Interestingly, the letter sent to CCPSA by folks inside COPA also highlights the recent terminations of two COPA employees, now considered "whistleblowers" for raising similar complaints to the inspector general's office over COPA's illegal actions. One of the COPA employees fired previously had been named by the Lodge as a defendant in its lawsuit: COPA Deputy Chief Administrator Matthew Haynam. The letter notes that both fired employees cooperated with the CCPSA

and Inspector General Deborah Witzburg's office, which is reviewing claims of misconduct referred by the CCPSA about a widespread pattern and practice of improper conduct at COPA.

Shortly after Ms. Kersten learned that CCPSA considered taking a vote that would lead to her firing, she sent a letter accusing the civilian-led commission of serving as a "kangaroo court." Many would consider COPA, under her leadership, to be a kangaroo court as well. Instead of defending herself on the merits, Ms. Kersten chose to send a response letter in which she accused CCPSA of conducting an "inherently unfair" inquiry into allegations of misconduct lodged by a group of current and former staffers. Again, many would consider COPA under her leadership as conducting inherently unfair investigations under the pretense of being "fair and impartial," as required under COPA's ordinance.

Finally, Ms. Kersten also claimed she was denied due process, insisting that the CCPSA provided "minimal information" about the accusations made against her and refused to identify the employees in her office who made the complaints. Perhaps now she can understand the pain, frustration, and anger that officers felt when they were denied their due process rights while under investigation by COPA under her leadership. It's funny how the tables now have been turned.

Ms. Kersten blasted not only the CCPSA, but also Chicago Police Superintendent Larry Snelling and the Lodge in an attempt to somehow change the narrative while she oversaw a flawed agency. The CCPSA alleged that Kersten fostered a toxic work environment that "raises concerns among some staff members about the quality and integrity of COPA decision-making." Sadly, as the Lodge alleges in its complaint, the city of Chicago and Chicago Police Department had been well aware of this conduct for quite some time. The Lodge regularly sounded the alarm, but the pleas fell on deaf ears. Instead of correcting COPA's behavior, the city had condoned it.

All the defendants filed a standard motion to dismiss the Lodge's federal lawsuit, which has been fully briefed and is now awaiting a decision from the court. As mentioned before, this litigation will be a long and drawn-out process. However, now it seems that others have joined the call for COPA reform: CCPSA, the inspector general, and even former Deputy Chief Administrator Matthew Haynam. Better late than never.

We will continue to keep you posted as new developments unfold in the litigation.

No-Knock Warrants



TIM
GRACE

The amazing amount of hysteria that comes from a group of people's ignorant understanding of the law can never be underestimated. It is no more apparent than when we look at the current legislation being argued concerning a search warrant being executed without requiring the law enforcement officer to first "knock" and then "announce" their office. This is commonly called the "no-knock" warrant. Recently, there have been some cases – some very public – involving the execution of a warrant that turned up no evidence of crimes and led the entire movement to conclude that the police

have "once again" violated the rights of the occupants and did so on purpose or without probable cause. While all law enforcement officers know that policing is not always exact, and that we make decisions on the best information that we have at the time, the haters expect perfection and anything else is considered malfeasance. Never mind the fact that sometimes in these fluid, dynamic situations, the facts on the ground are constantly changing. Why is that? The criminals are not dumb, and they move their contraband around or give officers bad information. Either way, the new shiny object being chased right now is to try and eliminate the no-knock warrant or limit it to the point where it would be rarely allowed. Never mind the fact that not only do officers rarely request a no-knock warrant, but judges in Cook County are also even less likely to grant it. But don't let that stop the crowd for looking for a solution to a problem that does not exist.

The law in Illinois has already addressed the no-knock warrant issue and a reading of it could not be simpler to digest. Under 725 ILCS 5/108-8, the state legislature has set forth the use of force when executing a search warrant. The Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that the people shall have the right to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and other possessions against unreasonable searches. The point is that all searches must be reasonable, whether it is based upon probable cause the officer encounters in the street or an application and execution of a search warrant. The United States Supreme Court held in *Wilson v.*

Arkansas, in 1995 that when a search warrant is issued, one of the reasonableness inquiries is whether the police knock and announce their office prior to entry. The court found that the failure of the police to knock and announce their office prior to executing a warrant is presumptively unreasonable. However, the court recognized that an announcement is not constitutionally required in every case and certain circumstances may justify an unannounced entry. The court noted that an unannounced entry may be reasonable when officers have reason to believe there exists a threat of violence or that evidence would likely be destroyed upon an announced entry. A no-knock warrant is not unconstitutional. You will find its prohibition nowhere in the Constitution or any statute.

Section 5/108-8 followed this reasoning and allowed for the existence of exigent circumstances, which if found by a judge, for a warrant to be executed without first knocking and announcing. The statute reads that "(b) Upon a finding by the judge issuing the warrant that any of the following exigent circumstances exist, the judge may order the person executing the warrant to make entry without first knocking and announcing his office ... [that being] (1) the presence of firearms or explosives in the building in an area where they are accessible to any occupant; (2) the prior possession of firearms by an occupant of the building within a reasonable period of time." It seems pretty reasonable to me. If you believe that the person inside the dwelling who is either the target of the search warrant or is anticipated to be present is a dangerous guy who has access to weapons, then entry can be made as quickly and tactically as possible without knocking and announcing your presence. Now, Illinois courts have interpreted this language and have added additional requirements. In *People v. Krueger*, 175 Ill.2d 60, (1996), the Illinois Supreme Court held that the mere possession of the firearm is not enough but rather there must be a reasonable belief that the offenders will use the firearm against police officers and the use of the no-knock warrant as opposed to the knock and announce warrant will mitigate any chance of violence against the entry team and other officers. OK, what's the problem? If you have a dangerous guy in the house who you have a reasonable belief has weapons and has no issue with using them, you have exigent circumstances and you explain

this in your petition for search warrant to the issuing judge. The law is based upon the reasonable man standard, but the movement has proven time and time again that they are incapable of acting reasonable.

The interesting thing about the hearings that have been taken place in Springfield about this issue is that they keep going back to the seminal case in Chicago involving the entry into the house with the resident who was not clothed at the time. While we all feel for the person, a review of the facts of the case find that the officers were not given, nor did they ever seek a no-knock warrant. The officers, per even COPA, knocked and announced. It was not a no-knock warrant. Now, that didn't stop the city of Chicago from paying out millions, and it certainly won't stop Springfield from attempting to change the law. Lost in all of this is the safety of the police officers. The officers are there for a reason - to get a bad guy. They don't just pick a house out of a hat. Officers spend much time and effort to try to get it right and the least they can expect is to be allowed to do a very dangerous job as safely as possible. But that appears to be the last thing the people in power consider as this is way too reasonable of thought for them.



GRACE & THOMPSON

The Law Firm of Grace & Thompson Specializes in Representing Chicago Police Officers



Seasoned trial attorneys representing Chicago Police Officers in matters before the Chicago Police Board, Internal Affairs, COPA, Inspector General and Civil and Criminal Courts.

The Law Firm of Grace & Thompson also provides professional legal services in other areas:

- Personal Injury
- Divorce
- Criminal and Civil Defense Litigation

James E. Thompson, Partner
JThompson@ggtlegal.com

Timothy M. Grace, Partner
connorgrace@aol.com

We pride ourselves in maintaining a small-firm feel by treating each case with care and consideration.

Contact us today for a free consultation!

312-943-0600 - GGTlegal.com

311 W. Superior Street, Suite 215 - Chicago, IL 60654



You serve the city. Let us serve you.

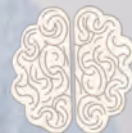
Our cutting-edge treatments help first responders find relief:

TMS Therapy – A non-invasive, medication-free treatment for depression, OCD & more

SPRAVATO® (Esketamine) – FDA-approved for treatment-resistant depression

IV Ketamine – Fast-acting relief for PTSD, depression, and anxiety

855.205.4764 | info@reliefmh.com | reliefmh.com
Lakeview, West Loop & Additional Chicagoland Locations



RELIEF
MENTAL HEALTH
THE MIND SOLUTION

Springfield Update



DAVE SULLIVAN

The Illinois Legislature is working through its spring session with thousands of bills being addressed. Only a few hundred of those pieces of legislation will be successful by the time session ends in late May. Until then, the House and Senate will be in session almost every week. We have been working with our police allies and key legislators on a variety of police related issues from pension discussions to the proposed DROP program to policing policies. At this point in session, the Legislature has worked heavily on committee work and now moves to debate on the floor in the House and Senate on bills that have cleared through the committee process.

The House and Senate have been slowly moving bills so as to not overwhelm the system when May crunch time arrives. It seems like this has been a deliberate action by leadership in both chambers to

limit the number of bills that make it out of committee. There will be some huge issues to address in late May so this effort now should help alleviate that level of work later. The legislature will need to address Medicaid funding, the overall budget problems, property taxes, and the Chicago area transit fiscal cliff issues among others.

An added intrigue this year in the House has happened virtually every day on the House floor. For about an hour each day, the House Democrats and Republicans have squared off on whatever the issue of the day is that has come out of Washington, D.C. As you know, there is plenty of news coming from the Trump White House. Much of it aggravates progressive Democrats while it pleases MAGA Republicans. I think it's a unifying of the Democrats effort by Speaker Welch. It's an interesting debate society that has developed on the Illinois House floor every session day.

Proud Family of CPD | CFD | M&M

LISA SANDERS

your REALTOR® for life

773.398.0378

lisasanders.sold@gmail.com

lisasanderssells.com

10104 Calumet, Rosemore
List: \$324,000 | Sold: \$324,000

★★★★★

*"Lisa was absolutely AMAZING!! I was referred to her by other CPD friends. She helped me get the house ready by providing her contractors who buttoned up some stuff and provided her home stager **getting me TOP DOLLAR...** she is **very easy to work with** and a **good communicator** on top of everything, **if you want success call her ... she's the BEST!"** -Ricardo, Retired CPD*

JEFFERSON PARK

NORWOOD PARK

TOTAL SALES

UNITS SOLD

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

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



R2R 5K

Run to Remember

MAY 3, 2025

Gold Star Families Memorial & Park
Soldier Field | 1410 Special Olympics Drive

Come and celebrate the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation's 21st Annual Run to Remember 5K. And, more importantly, help us to never forget to honor our fallen officers who unconditionally ran into conflict to serve and protect.

Run to Remember!

REGISTER TODAY!



For questions, call 312-499-8899

give.cpdmemorial.org/Run2025

CHICAGO POLICE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

Learn more by visiting www.cpdmemorial.org or contact us at 312-499-8899 | info@cpdmemorial.org
Chicago Police Memorial Foundation | 1407 W. Washington Blvd, 2nd Floor | Chicago, IL 60607

Honoring Sisters and Brothers who have passed

Name	Status	Age	Date of Passing
Nicol Walker	Unit 019	50	June 6, 2020
Peter Calandra	Retired	79	December 24, 2024
Donald B. Nauer	Retired	81	January 4, 2025
James R. Nowlin	Retired	78	January 13, 2025
James McSwain	Retired	85	February 23, 2025
Dennis L. Prowicz	Retired	79	February 27, 2025
Robert L. Rohe	Retired	74	March 6, 2025
Peter De Francisco	Retired	82	March 16, 2025
Michael A. Plovovich	Retired	78	March 20, 2025

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 Retired Members

January 2025

Name	Rank	Unit	Years
Terry Abbate	Officer	050	29

February 2025

Name	Rank	Unit	Years
Jeffrey S. Adamik	Detective	650	30
Luis F. Alejo	Officer	121	30
Michael A. Baker	Officer	018	30
Daniel S. Borchers	Officer	016	34
Laura M. Bragiel	Officer	017	24
David L. Calle	Detective	610	30
Veronica L. Castillo	Officer	167	20
Alejandro Chavarria	Detective	640	34
Michael J. Dahill	Officer	701	33
Daniel Diaz	Officer	050	32
William L. Feliciano	Officer	025	26
Tracy Graffeo	Officer	020	24
Tracy L. Hampton	Officer	116	26
Barbara Hill	Officer	001	26

David J. Hoffenkamp	Officer	009	31
Barbara D. Kinsella	Officer	022	20
Ignatius L. Kumiega	Detective	610	34
Noel C. Liboy	Officer	016	24
Charlene B. Lyles	Officer	012	30
Abraham W. Mora	Officer	193	22
Douglas E. Nichols	Detective	640	22
Benjamin Olvera	Detective	610	31
Robert J. Palenik	Officer	196	34
James P. Price	Officer	006	25
Brian A. Schwarck	Officer	020	25
Nelson E. Segarra	Officer	050	26
Michael Selke	Officer	003	29
Reggie Smith	Officer	005	30
Andrew M. Thomas	Officer	116	21
Herbert J. Walberg	Officer	019	20
Darryl D. Young	Officer	005	22
Anne E. Zamzow	Officer	050	22
Roberto D. Zavala	Officer	011	12

THE 4-1-1

Information about education, training, fundraisers, fun and more...

Announcing the 50th Reunion for CPD Recruit Class of 1975-1 Friday, May 16, 2025

Join us as we gather and reminisce with laughter, tears, and stories and remember those who are no longer with us.

For more detailed information and tickets, email cpd50threunion@gmail.com

Reunion Committee: Ann (Martin) Shaw, Larry Pike, Roberta Bartik, and Helen (Rusinkas) Kliner (479-651-0927)

18th District Retiree's Lunch

1 May 2025 1100 hrs

European Chalet

5445 S Harlem

\$45.00 Lunch and open bar

Contact: John Wotring

520 631-0910

johnnywo1@aol.com

YOU'RE INVITED!

First Responders Mass

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity
6040 W. Ardmore | Chicago, IL

Sunday, April 27th 2025

9:00 am Mass
* Reception in Auditorium to Follow

Pray and Believe



**RABBI
MOSHE WOLF**

We all go through daily challenges. Some at home, some at work, some physical, some emotional. We are always told, "Say a prayer, keep your faith and plough forward." So, the question is always asked, "Does G-d really listen to all our prayers?" The answer is yes, but sometimes he answers the prayer with what is good for us, even though to us it might not seem so, we might not understand the answer, or the answer is beyond our comprehension. Let me explain with the following story.

"Pray and Believe."

During World War II, a U.S. Marine was separated from his unit on a Pacific island. The fighting had been intense, and in the smoke and the crossfire he had lost touch with his comrades.

Alone in the jungle, he could hear enemy soldiers coming in his direction. Scrambling for cover, he found his way up a high ridge to several small caves in the rock. Quickly he crawled inside one of the caves. Although safe for the moment, he realized that once the enemy soldiers looking for him swept up the ridge, they would quickly search all the caves, and he would be killed.

As he waited, he prayed, "Lord, if it be your will, please protect me. Whatever your will though, I love you and trust you. Amen."

After praying, he lay quietly listening to the enemy begin to draw close. He thought, "Well, I guess the Lord is not going to help me out of this one."

Then he saw a spider begin to build a web over the front of his cave. As he watched, listening to the enemy searching for him all the while, the spider layered strand after strand of web across the opening of the cave. He thought, "What I need is a brick wall and what the Lord has

sent me is a spider web. G-d does have a sense of humor."

As the enemy drew closer, he watched from the darkness of his hideout and could see them searching for one cave after another. As they came to his, he got ready to make his last stand. To his amazement, however, after glancing in the direction of his cave, they moved on. Suddenly, he realized that with the spider web over the entrance, his cave looked as if no one had entered for quite a while.

"Lord, forgive me," prayed the young man. "I had forgotten that in You a spider's web is stronger than a brick wall."

We all face times of great trouble and challenges that look insurmountable. When we do, it is so easy to forget the victories that G-d has worked and works in our lives, sometimes in the most surprising ways.

Remember: Whatever is happening in your life, with G-d, a mere spider's web can become a brick wall of protection. Believe He is with you always and He loves his children.

Let's take a moment to reflect.

We woke up early today, excited over all the things we get to do before the day ends. We have responsibilities to fulfill today. We are important. Our job is to choose what kind of day we are going to have.

Today we can complain because the weather is rainy or:

We can be thankful that the grass is getting watered and greener.

Today we can feel sad that money is tight or:

We can be glad that our finances encourage us to plan our spending and purchases wisely

Today we can grumble about our health or:

We can rejoice that we are alive.

Today we can lament over all what our parents didn't give us when we were growing up or:

HEY BLUE!

WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK

(AND NECK, AND SHOULDERS, ELBOWS, KNEES AND FEET)

IF YOU'VE GOT ACHES AND PAINS, WE'VE GOT SOLUTIONS



Call or TXT - 773-725-5835

www.DrTaylorRehab.com

Taylor Rehab and Disc Injury Center

5550 W Touhy Ave, Suite 103

Skokie, IL 60077



Proud Sponsor
CHICAGO POLICE
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

Se Habla Español



BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois
PPO Provider

We can feel grateful that they allowed us to be born.
 Today we can cry because roses have thorns or:
 We can celebrate that thorns have roses.
 Today we can whine because we have to go to work or:
 We can shout for joy because we have a job.
 Today we can murmur dejectedly because we must do work around the house or:

We can feel honored because life has provided shelter for our mind, body and soul.

Today stretches ahead of us, waiting to be shaped. And here we are, the sculptor who gets to do the shaping. So, we pause to thank G-d for what we have and pray for guidance as we look forward to a new bright day.

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

BRAINS vs. BRAWL

The strong young man at the construction site was bragging that he could outdo anyone in a feat of strength. He made a special case of making fun of one of the older workmen. After several minutes, the older man had finally had enough.

"Why don't you put your money where your mouth is?" the older man said. "I will bet a week's wages that I can haul something in a wheelbarrow over to that outbuilding that you won't be able to wheel back?"

"You're on, old man," the braggart replied. "Let's see what you've got."

The old man reached out and grabbed the wheelbarrow by the handles. Then, nodding to the young man, he said with a smile,

"All right. Get in." Moral of the Story: Don't mess with an old timer.

One more short one:

"The Speeding Driver": A man is speeding down a highway at 1 a.m. when he gets pulled over by a cop. The officer comes up to the car and says, "Do you have any idea how fast you were going?"

The man replies, "I'm sorry officer, I was rushing to a lecture about the negative impacts of alcohol abuse and the importance of staying within the law."

Intrigued, the officer asks, "Really? Who's giving that lecture at this time of night?"

The man smirks and says, "My wife."

On behalf of all your Chaplains, May G-d bless you, keep you safe and always help you in His loving care. Amen.

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

Chaplains Website: www.chicagopcm.org

Compliments of your Police Chaplain, Rabbi Moshe Wolf

773-463-4780 24/7 leave message or e-mail: moshewolf@hotmail.com

com

Snail mail: 3008 W. Pratt Blvd, Chicago, 60645

GreenState Mortgage



GreenState
MORTGAGE

A Division of GreenState Credit Union

- Purchase or Refinance
- Debt Consolidation
- First-Time Homebuyer Programs
- Down Payment Assistance Available
- Lending in all 50 states



Founded in 1938, GreenState Mortgage offers low rates, low fees, and a variety of loan programs (including fixed-rate and adjustable loans) to meet your needs.

For friendly service, low rates and fees call Mike

Mike Coyne VP/Mortgage Lending
 1300 W. Higgins, Suite 201, Park Ridge, IL
 o: 773-250-6492 • c: 847-494-9731
MikeCoyne@GreenState.org
 NMLS#222935



28 YEARS OF SERVING LODGE 7 MEMBERS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS



FATHER DAN BRANDT

On Feb. 21, Chicago Police Officer Efrain Chavez received a handmade quilt presented by Rabbi Moshe Wolf, Chaplain Hysni Selenica, and I on behalf of Quilts for Cops.

Last year, Officer Chavez and his partners were injured as they responded to a disturbance at a gang funeral, where an enormous fight broke out. I happened to be on scene because I heard multiple 10-1s on the citywide zone, so I was able to visit with Efrain and another badly-injured PO in the back of an ambulance. Thank God the good guys are all OK.

In recent months, Chaplain Selenica and our Chaplains Unit colleagues have been busy presenting quilts to deserving officers. To see all of them and read the related narratives, please visit our website's "Photo Album" page.

If you have a suggestion for a worthy quilt recipient, please contact Chaplain Selenica at Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org.



On March 5, Chicago police chaplains and St. Jude chaplains fanned out throughout the city to administer blessed ashes to thousands of CPD members in the districts, areas, specialized units and other civic locations. A highlight of our year, this is a wonderful opportunity to visit with so many of our brothers and sisters in a very positive setting.

Here you'll see St. Jude Chaplain Darrin Bourret (retired CPD) praying with and administering blessed ashes to a 26-year CPD retiree, and Deacon Rafael Yanez (CPD) administering ashes to an 008th district officer. We pray all will enjoy a fruitful and holy Lenten season.

This Lent has been tough on me so far. I gave up three of my favor-



ite things: chocolate ice cream, marshmallows, and nuts. It hasn't been easy, in fact, it has been a ROCKY ROAD! (Sorry. That was really bad.)

Thank you to all who attended the Upper Room Club at Pizano's on March 13. And THANK YOU to our generous hosts at Pizano's for their constant kindness and support. If you're ever in the mood for some great pizza or pasta, check them out! They LOVE the police!

If you'd like to be added to the invitation list for Upper Room Club gatherings, please email me.

On April 4, a charity comedy night was held at the FOP hall to raise raising funds for Light the Line, a police wellness charity founded by Ella French's mother, Elizabeth. I had the honor of serving as emcee. Thanks to all who supported the event, and thanks to our very funny officers who competed for bragging rights that evening.

Easter is on Sunday, April 20. We'll celebrate the police Mass at 10 a.m. at Mercy Home. No matter your faith tradition, ALL are welcome! More information on the police Mass can be found on our website.

Coming up on Friday, April 25, we have the "Battle of the Badges" boxing match between members of CPD and CFD, hosted by DeLaSalle High School. My friend and colleague Chaplain Hysni Selenica has been training for many months to compete in this event. Please join me in cheering him on!

I look forward to seeing some of you at the Illinois State Police Memorial in early May. What a great opportunity to pay honor to our local brothers and sisters who went to work and didn't return home. May they rest in peace!

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 Katharine 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.

Keep up with all of the above and LOTS more at www.ChicagoPCM.org.

No matter your faith tradition, thank you for doing God's work!

God bless you and keep you safe!

Fr. Dan Brandt, Directing CPD Chaplain
773/550-2369 (cell/text)

dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org | www.ChicagoPCM.org

SHATTERPROOF

FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AT



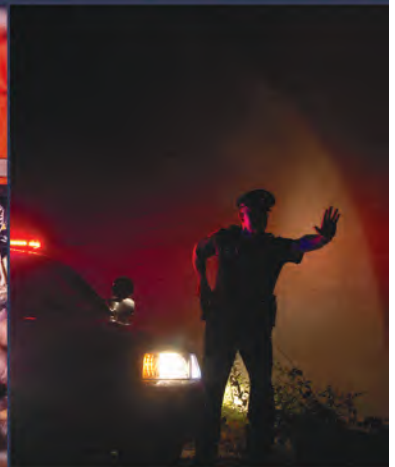
Same Great Program, New Look



An FOP Preferred Partner



SOMETIMES *HELPERS* NEED HELP



Have Drugs, Alcohol or Gambling Become the Solution to Your Problems?

Since 2001, the Florida House Experience has provided the highest quality of care to our First Responders. From medical detox through clinical outpatient support, we provide the opportunity for a better life.

*Substance Abuse, Addiction,
Gambling, Mental Health
and PTSD Care*

CALL **24/7** • **100% CONFIDENTIAL**
855.547.1303 FHREHAB.COM

CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS



Nominator: Sergeant Joseph Hallihan #2211

In the months of January and February 2022, a joint task force consisting of CPD members, Illinois State Police, and multiple north suburban agencies joined together in response to burglary patterns which consisted of multiple smash and grabs, auto dealership and attempted ATM burglaries. The Chicago police branch of the task force investigated the crime patterns of the burglary crew that occurred in Chicago and shared the information they obtained with their state and suburban counterparts.

On 01 February 2022, a Lincolnshire police officer viewed a smash and grab burglary of a gas station in his town. The offenders were observed as they fled the scene in a stolen Jeep Grand Cherokee that was taken a day earlier from an auto dealership in Schaumburg. Detective Babicz and Officer Varney spotted the offenders driving on Interstate 294. They monitored and followed the pursuit of the offenders by the ISP and suburban agencies along with the Chicago Police Helicopter PH2.

While monitoring the pursuit, Detectives Eberle and Corral notified the pursuing units that the offenders may be headed to the 4700 block of N. Troy where they located a stolen Mercedes-Benz believed to have been left by the same burglary crew. The detectives blocked the parked stolen Mercedes to prevent access and escape. The astute detectives' hunch proved to be right. The offenders' hopes of escape were dashed when they pulled up to their parked getaway car only to find it being blocked in by Chicago's Finest. Two offenders bailed from their stolen Jeep and fled on foot in different directions only to be caught by the patiently waiting detectives. The third offender was caught by detective Babicz and Officer Varney still inside the stolen Jeep.

All of the offenders were turned over to the North Region Burglary Task Force (NORTAF). Further investigation revealed one of the offenders was out on bond for attempted murder and PSMV. Another offender was under investigation and finally charged with a first-degree murder. All the offenders were charged in Cook and Lake counties with multiple burglaries, PSMV and weapons violations. Several burglary patterns were cleared as a result of their arrests.

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

CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS

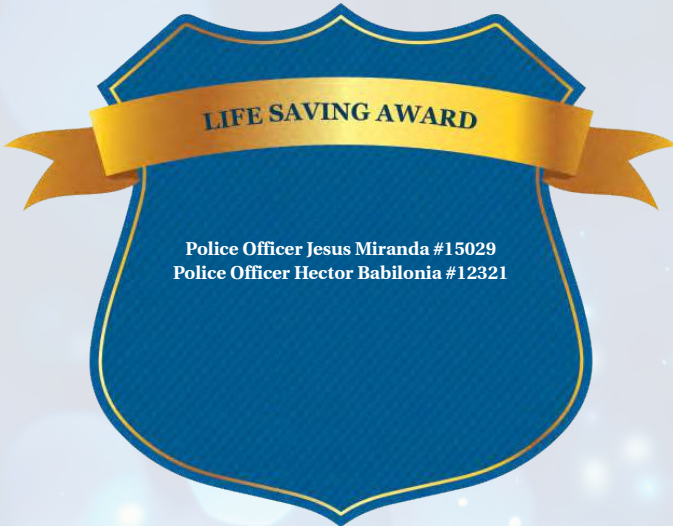


Nominator: Sergeant Thomas Palma #1421
Police Officer Michael J. Kearns #19068

From 29 July 2024, to 16 August 2024, the weeks prior to the Democratic National Convention, the officers assigned to 715 worked tirelessly throughout all shifts and outside of their normal tours of duty to fully assemble 300 Trek bicycles. These bikes had to be outfitted with bag racks, police light assemblies, and sirens so that they could be utilized during the DNC for the bike support units to corral protestors and marchers. The officers' actions greatly contributed to the successful management and assistance of a complex and high-profile event with the whole world watching the Chicago Police Department and its officers. These officers put the needs of their colleagues and the safety of the public first by exemplifying the high standard of excellence and service.

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

CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS



Nominator: Sergeant Robert Gomez #1576



On 19 June 2024, A/4 Priority Response Team officers responded to a call of a person shot at the location of 1123 N. Ridgeway Ave. The dispatcher advised that callers reported approximately 30 rounds being fired at that location. Upon arrival, the officers began touring the area and located a victim lying in a large pool of blood. The officers triaged the victim and observed bright red blood flowing from a gun shot wound on the victim's leg, this being indicative of an arterial bleed. The officers immediately notified EMS and utilized their LEMART training by applying a tourniquet to stop the bleeding. CFD EMS finally arrived on scene and transported the victim to the hospital where ER staff attributed the officers' actions with saving the victim's life. The officers should be commended for their dedication to the department's mission of sanctity of life by entering an unsafe scene to save a victim from the senseless violence that is all too common in this great city.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents these officers with the Lifesaving Award.

CHICAGO LODGE 7 AWARDS



Nominator: Sergeant Artur Tomkow #2287



On 01 Apr 2023, at the location of 2704 N. Sawyer Ave Officers Mazariegos & Pham were dispatched to a call of a "person shot." Upon arrival, the Officers located a male victim lying on the ground completely covered in blood. The Officers assessed the victim's injuries and located a severe gunshot wound to the upper left leg. The Officers' LEMART training allowed them to know that this wound was possibly arterial, and they would need to control the bleeding to save the victim's life. Officer Mazariegos applied a tourniquet and continued to assess the victim as he awaited EMS' arrival. Officer Pham applied gauze to the victim's neck wound. The victim was transported to Illinois Masonic Hospital where doctors attributed the Officers' actions with saving the victim's life. Thanks to the Officers' quick thinking and utilization of their LEMART training they upheld the department's highest priority, the sanctity of life.

It is with great appreciation that Chicago John Dineen Lodge #7 presents the Lifesaving Award to the Officers.



FIRST IMPRESSION

What do you make of Yolanda Talley becoming the first deputy superintendent?

■ BY MITCHELL KRUGEL

Let's start with the incident, because since March 17, when Superintendent Larry Snelling named Yolanda Talley as Chicago Police Department First Deputy, it's all members have been hearing about. The February 2022 incident, when Talley served as BIA chief, involved hero-in and her personal car and made for quite the scandal.

Talley's niece had been driving her Lexus when officers caught a man tossing a large ziplock bag containing 84 baggies of suspected heroin from the passenger-side window. Body camera footage showed Talley's niece announcing to officers what has become one of the most infamous lines in Department lore.

"My auntie is probably your boss," she charged.

According to reports, the man, Kenneth Miles, was also the informant who provided incorrect information to the Department that resulted in the infamous mistaken raid on Anjanette Young's home in 2019.

The officers who arrested Miles were placed on desk duty without explanation. The Lexus was taken to Homan Square after the arrest but was never impounded and was eventually returned to Talley.

An investigation by Inspector General Deborah Witzburg's office didn't find that Talley had broken any rules. Witzburg's office also pushed to bar then-Superintendent David Brown from being rehired because he failed to cooperate with the probe.

Now, paint this against Talley's message to the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA), an example of how she tried to hold COPA accountable in her BIA leadership role.

"One of the key issues BIA and COPA face is finding common ground," Talley was quoted as saying. "Both entities are tasked with overseeing police conduct, yet there have been instances where we don't see eye-to-eye, and we acknowledge these challenges."

According to a source who deals regularly with the Department and Chicago Police Officers, there is some consternation about Talley's credibility, especially when she will be called on to rule on any kind of discipline, as is part of the first deputy's duties. But there is also a groundswell of those in the Department who say otherwise.

"I've met her in passing only, and although there was some criticism, people who have worked with her and for her like her," submitted Lodge 7 Financial Secretary Jim Jakstavich. "She was being attacked a little bit, and people were defending her, basically saying, 'You don't know her, and if you've worked for her, that incident is their only argument [against her]'. I guess the one thing was that she took care of her people when she was able to as a supervisor."

The jury out for now, past practice from the FOP and beyond would suggest allowing people at least to prove or disprove to members that they're capable.

A first

Following Talley's ascension, headlines in Chicago news media referenced her being the first female to become first deputy. And the first Black female to be so named. (Although older members and retired members might point out that in 1998, then-Superintendent Terry Hillard promoted Jeanne Clark to be the first female deputy superintendent when there was no such thing as a "first deputy.")

It might not be so newsworthy that there is a woman in the job or even one of color. Lodge 7 President John Catanzara recalls several women of color in his 1995 academy class. One of those was Talley.

Jakstavich references his own academy class, citing two female officers from the group who have risen to the commander level. And from the sergeant level on up, he adds that he has worked for "tons of female bosses in my career."

No doubt, the majority of the Department can share that perspective, which is more evidence for the jury to come in for Talley.

"If they have experience and individual expertise, they're chosen. And as long as they don't forget where they come from and they are good leaders," Jakstavich added.

If these are not enough reasons for Talley to feel all eyes are on her, here's another: The rank and file will say that leaders in the Department are not able to make a lot of their own decisions. Not without backseat driving from City Hall, City Council and City civic organizations. Way too much input from outside the public safety headquarters building that is constantly political.

Catanzara says out loud what many have already thought: that Talley's hire was promoted by City Treasurer Melissa Conyears-Ervin and her husband, 28th Ward Alderman Jason Ervin. Check out what the Second City Cop blog has to say about this.

lissa Conyears-Ervin and her husband, 28th Ward Alderman Jason Ervin. Check out what the Second City Cop blog has to say about this.

And then, of course, there is the talk about whether Talley was Snelling's choice, or first choice, after the first deputy position had stayed open since he became superintendent in September 2023. But nobody might have had as up close a view of her work than Snelling has had with Talley in BIA.

"Overseeing investigations, allegations of misconduct, it comes in with the accountability of officers and supervisors," Jakstavich commented. "I'm sure they were in direct contact while she was in that position."

Also, as part of her last assignment, Talley was in charge of recruitment and retention. Presumably, she knows how hard it is to get prospective candidates to become Chicago Police Officers. And then keep them.

So with her hire, Lodge 7 has some input about how Talley can use that experience to have an immediate impact as first deputy.

"Work with scheduling and try to limit cancellations of regular days off, especially with the summer coming," Jakstavich noted. "Realize people want life outside of this job. That's been conveyed to me in my time here at the Lodge. A lot of these officers value their family time, and that leads to wellness and a healthier home life."

First glance

So before the jury comes in, let's get to know First Deputy Talley a little better.

She started her 30-year career working in 013 and then served as an undercover narcotics officer and member of a DEA task

force working in high-intensity drug trafficking areas. Talley became a sergeant in the 7th District on the West Side and worked similar supervisory positions in the narcotics section of what used to be the Bureau of Organized Crime and then in the Human Resources Division.

Working her way up included doing time as a watch operations lieutenant, deputy chief of Area 1 when it was the 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 8th and 9th districts, and commander in 015. That's where she began participating in Chicago Police Board monthly meetings.

In the press release announcing Talley's promotion to first deputy, Snelling cited her overseeing all internal investigations within CPD and consent decree compliance efforts related to accountability and transparency, as well as the Department's recruitment initiatives.

Talley is also academically accomplished, with a master's degree in forensic psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. And she is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff & Command.

What also stands out on her resume is that she currently serves as president of the St. Jude Police League. Could running the organization that provides support and assistance to the families of police officers in times of bereavement and is available to members for comfort and support in times of crisis and sadness be a sign to members that deep down, she is one of them?

"I think that means something, that she's committed to still serving and keeping a traditional life," Jakstavich said.

And will the jury ultimately come in favoring Talley because of her roots growing up on the West Side and spending a chunk

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32



Secure Your Dream Home with a Team Who Understands Your Service

Your job is to protect and serve, and ours is to help you find a place to call home. We're here to offer expert guidance and exclusive resources to make the process of buying or selling your home as smooth as possible. **Ask us about our special offer for First Responders.**

Proud supporters and family member of CPD and First Responders



Kiki Calumet

VP of Lending | NMLS ID: 185931
312.909.9372
k.calumet@selectlendingservices.com



Nicole Hajdu

773.727.2199
nhajdu@dreamtown.com
hbresidentialgroup.com



Select Lending Services™ is an equal opportunity lender, NMLS#2027853. Licensed by the Washington Department of Financial Institutions under the Consumer Loan Act No. CL-2027853. CO Mortgage Company Registration License No. 2027583 Texas - SML Mortgage Company License, state issues no license number. To verify our complete list of state licenses, please visit <https://selectlendingservices.com/corporate/licensing> and www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. 425 W North Ave Chicago, IL 60610 Branch | NMLS ID# 2617584



Dream Town Real Estate
7280 W Devon, Chicago IL

And then, of course, there is the talk about whether Talley was Snelling's choice, or first choice, after the first deputy position had stayed open since he became superintendent in September 2023. But nobody might have had as up close a view of her work than Snelling has had with Talley in BIA.

"Overseeing investigations, allegations of misconduct, it comes in with the accountability of officers and supervisors," Jakstavich commented. "I'm sure they were in direct contact while she was in that position."

Also, as part of her last assignment, Talley was in charge of recruitment and retention. Presumably, she knows how hard it is to get prospective candidates to become Chicago Police Officers. And then keep them.

So with her hire, Lodge 7 has some input about how Talley can use that experience to have an immediate impact as first deputy.

"Work with scheduling and try to limit cancellations of regular days off, especially with the summer coming," Jakstavich noted. "Realize people want life outside of this job. That's been conveyed to me in my time here at the Lodge. A lot of these officers value their family time, and that leads to wellness and a healthier home life."

First glance

So before the jury comes in, let's get to know First Deputy Talley a little better.

She started her 30-year career working in 013 and then served as an undercover narcotics officer and member of a DEA task force working in high-intensity drug trafficking areas. Talley became a sergeant in the 7th District on the West Side and worked similar supervisory positions in the narcotics section of what used to be the Bureau of Organized Crime and then in the Human Resources Division.

Working her way up included doing time as a watch operations lieutenant, deputy chief of Area 1 when it was the 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 8th and 9th districts, and commander in 015. That's where she began participating in Chicago Police Board monthly meetings.



In the press release announcing Talley's promotion to first deputy, Snelling cited her overseeing all internal investigations within CPD and consent decree compliance efforts related to accountability and transparency, as well as the Department's recruitment initiatives.

Talley is also academically accomplished, with a master's degree in forensic psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. And she is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff & Command.

What also stands out on her resume is that she currently serves as president of the St. Jude Police League. Could running the organization that provides support and assistance to the families of police officers in times of bereavement and is available to members for comfort and support in times of crisis and sadness be a sign to members that deep down, she is one of them?

"I think that means something, that she's committed to still serving and keeping a traditional life," Jakstavich said.

And will the jury ultimately come in favoring Talley because of her



BERNSTEIN TEST PREP

UPCOMING EXAMS

- Police Lieutenant
- Police Detective

Why choose Dr. Bernstein?

- BEST RESULTS & THE HIGHEST SCORES!
- Get access to our online learning center 24/7
- Supplement your learning with Dr. Bernstein's audio and video lectures
- Best test preparation training!
- Test topics made easy to understand!

Don't compete with a Bernstein student, BE ONE!!!

954-252-0010

BERNSTEINTESTPREP.COM

roots growing up on the West Side and spending a chunk of her career working in one of the Department's busiest areas?

"She was born here and raised here. So to me, it's better than an outsider," Jakstavich reasoned. "I think she's been given an opportunity, a clean slate, to come in and embrace the officers. And I always use the term, 'Don't forget where you came from.'"

Lodge 7 attorney Tim Grace might be one of the first people to work directly with Talley, as he represents members in discipline matters. That's a vantage point that will be able to tell whether she is somebody the Lodge and officers can work with, talk to and interact with.

"It's a good thing when there's something that's going on that is a clear injustice, and to be able to pick up the phone or knock on the door and say, 'Hey, can we talk about this?'" Grace shared. "Hopefully, she will be approachable in ways to allow us to have an open communication about urgent issues. My gut is, she will be."

First take

So the verdict is still out, and will be probably for a while, on how Talley will fare as first deputy. But members can only hope what she won't be:

- A notorious micromanager who famously rearranged the assigned parking spaces at CPD Headquarters to favor his friends.
- Creating personnel details and making assignments that led to more than 1,000 officers who could have been performing vital functions sent to ineffective and inefficient citywide teams.
- Overseeing the creation of paperwork for meaningless positive community interactions, as alleged by at least one supervisor in a lawsuit, to maintain illegal quotas for police actions.
- Consistently canceling days off in an arbitrary manner, then retracting the cancellation after thousands of officers had already made arrangements for childcare.

These are just a few of the greatest hits reportedly recorded by the last first deputy. An observer from outside the Department contends that none of the above will happen because of Snelling's affinity for the working copper, his understanding of use of force and other problems officers face, and that Talley is in line with that or will fall in line.

That source also submitted that having a first deputy might help things move more quickly through the Department and enable quicker decisions. If City Hall doesn't get in the way or she does not have her own batphone to certain offices at City Hall.

When going to BIA and encountering Talley, Grace saw somebody who will not remind anybody of the previous first deputy.

"She doesn't think she's better than anybody, which I thought is good," he said. "She's not like one of those type of people where you can't talk to her."

The Lodge is hoping to have that open line of communication. As Jakstavich reminds, they are accountable to the rank-and-file members, and the FOP has to try to be the bridge to the command staff.

"Again, I do not know First Deputy Talley, but this is who we have to work with," he continued. "I think we need to work together. In this job, people get cynical, they get judgmental, they're critical, but her job is important. It is that chain of command that has to be followed."

What's for sure is that nobody in the rank and file envies Talley. She has given up her anonymity for political pressure. Maybe some of her own making.

But whereas commanders with maybe three or four wards in their district are dealing with three or four aldermen, Talley joins the superintendent in dealing with all of them. That could be any one of the 50 calling to demand solving problems, addressing a community issue or community policing issue, and crime, of course. As well as those doing the mayor's bidding.

In responding to the question of what advice he would offer Talley, Jakstavich made a reference to Snelling "having earned that uniform." For Talley to earn hers...

"I give everyone a chance, and this is the ability to help our officers," Jakstavich challenged. "I hope she can do everything to enhance their jobs through leadership and input, have open-minded communication where we don't have to reach out to the supe and where we can get some sharing, so to speak, between us and command staff."

For First Responders, The Vanna Group is the only choice!

The Vanna Group has proudly given over **\$118K** in cashback to **34 First Responders** as a thank you for your service and dedication to our City.

The Vanna Group proudly gives back to First Responders with these exclusive savings:

**20% Commission
Cash Rebate when
buying or selling**

**15% Title Premium
Discount with
Baird & Warner Title**

**Waiver appraisal
fee with
Key Mortgage**

The Vanna Group is here to make your real estate journey seamless and rewarding. Call Diane at 312.545.5280 to learn more.



DIANE VANNA | BAIRD & WARNER EDGEBROOK | 5430 W DEVON AVE, CHICAGO IL 60646
312.545.5280 | THEVANNAGROUP.COM | #THEVANNAGROUPSELLS

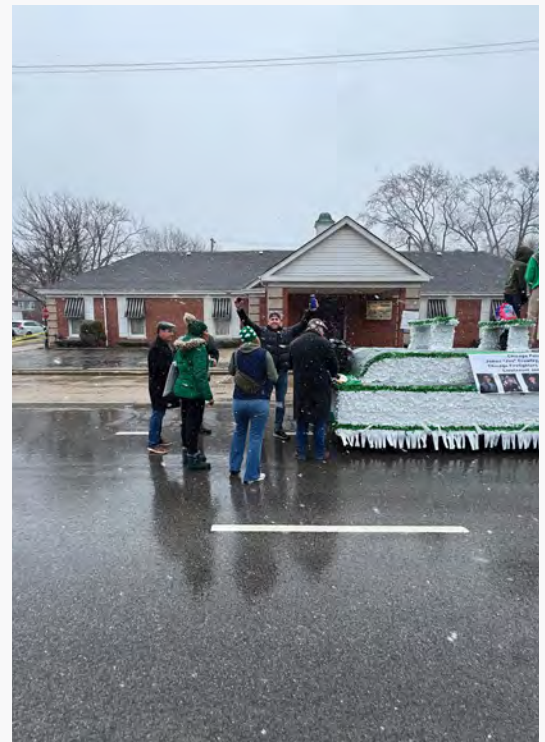
The rebate does not apply if your home is currently listed or if you are currently working with one of our agents. Registration is required before contacting any Baird & Warner sales associate. Baird & Warner's First Responder Program cannot be used in conjunction with other rebates, relocation benefits, broker referrals, and/or affinity programs. The Vanna Group First Responder Program requires a minimum broker commission (buyside or listing) in order for First Responder Benefits to apply.





SouthSide Irish Parade

PHOTOS BY DAVID DISANTI



Training Academy Family Day

PHOTOS BY GEORGE GILL





Archer Avenue Irish Parade

PHOTOS BY DAVID DISANTI







FOP GIFT SHOP

SALES GOOD APRIL 16TH TO MAY 15TH, 2025



GET READY FOR POLICE WEEK!
CPD Sholder patches
For a low price of
\$1.95



Thin blue line knife and lighter set
Only \$12.95



"BACK IN STOCK"
CPD power banks compatible
with androids and I phone
Now \$29.95



"NEW"
Par 3 polo soft material great for golf
In Navy Heather or Light Blue Heather
M-L-XL-2X-3X **\$36.95 to \$38.95**



20% OFF
Drill Long sleeve performance tee with
Chicago's Finest blue line flag
Available in L-XL-2X
Was \$33.95
Now \$27.16



20% OFF
Ladies Chicago PD shamrock sweatshirt
with hood in Navy or Green Not all
colors in all sizes S-M-L-XL-2X
Was \$45.95 - \$47.95
Now \$34.38 - \$36.88



"BACK IN STOCK"
Baby romper Chicago's Finest and cutest
Available in Pink or Royal
6mo - 12mo- 18mo- 24mo
\$14.95



20 % OFF Gray Harbor
hood long sleeve tee
Chicago's finest
Available in S-M-L-XL
Was \$36.95 **Now \$ 29.56**



20 % OFF Vintage long
sleeve walnut tee
Was \$35.95 **Now \$28.76**



"NEW"
FOP Chicago John Dineen
lodge # 7 blue line ribbon
lapel pin **\$3.00**

1412 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago IL 60607 • 312-733-2344
Monday - Thursday 9-5, Friday 9-4, Saturday 9-1

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM! @FOPLODGE7GIFTSTORE

Calumet College

OF ST. JOSEPH

PUBLIC SAFETY INSTITUTE



Now Enrolling

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT

Our accelerated programs and unique mirrored format empower you to complete your degree while attending to your demanding schedule.

Classes Meet Virtually Once Per Week

Daytime classes: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Evening classes: 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

EARN YOUR DEGREE FASTER WITH CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT



Master of Public Administration

- Earn up to 9 credit hours with Northwestern Police Staff & Command, FBI National Academy and Chicago PD Lieutenant School. Other executive and/or administrative trainings may also qualify
- Up to 6 credit hours for Chicago PD Sergeant School

Public Safety Management

- Earn up to 18 credit hours for Basic Academy completion
- Earn up to 66 credit hours for additional in-service training
- 5 of 7 general education requirements will be met; the remaining requirements are offered online

Grants and scholarships available! For VA benefits, please contact Marlena Avalos at (219) 473-4212.

Calumet College of St. Joseph has been developing public safety professionals for over 60 years. Join over 3,000 graduates who use their knowledge and abilities to create a positive impact.



Apply Today!

ccsj.edu/cpd

CONTACT

Keith Alexander

(219) 473-4394

publicsafety@ccsj.edu



0% APR
FINANCING AVAILABLE! [^]



NO PAYMENTS TIL JULY! [†]



PROUD RECIPIENT OF THE 2025 NATIONAL JEEP DEALER OF THE YEAR AWARD

BONUS SAVINGS!

- Spend \$100 . Save \$10
- Spend \$200 . Save \$20
- Spend \$300 . Save \$30
- Spend \$400 . Save \$40
- Spend \$500 . Save \$50
- Spend \$600 . Save \$60

See dealer for details. Expires 04/30/25

BUY 3 TIRES GET 1 FOR A \$1



Available on select tires at participating dealerships. OHTSU, Kelly, Laufenn, Toyo medium truck and Mickey Thompson specialty, truck, street & drag tires are excluded. Not compatible with the Tire Price Match Guarantee. Offer good 3/1/25-4/30/25. Expires: 04/30/2025

OIL CHANGE & TIRE ROTATION



ONLY \$170

3 FULL SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGES & 3 TIRE ROTATIONS

Restrictions may apply. Offer not able to be combined with other offers. See dealer for details. Expires 04/30/25

5133 W. IRVING PARK RD. CHICAGO, IL 60641
MARINOCJD.COM • 773-777-2000

[^]With approved credit. On select models. In lieu of manufacturer rebates & incentives. [†]With approved credit. On select models. *Savings off MSRP. MSRP may not be price at which vehicle is sold in trade area. Includes applicable manufacturer rebates & incentives. In lieu of special financing. Dealer will not honor any pricing errors in this advertisement. Prices are good thru 04/30/25. Pictures are for illustration purposes only. See dealer for details.