



Volume 89, Issue 2

# TUEBOR

44

Official publication of the Detroit Police Officers Association

Spring 2025

## NOTICES

**Friday, May 2** — Fortieth annual District Officers of the Year Banquet, 6 p.m., Motor City Sound Board.

**Tuesday, May 6** — Executive Board meeting at 9 a.m. at the DPOA office.

**Tuesday, May 20** — Board of Directors meeting, 3 p.m., followed by a General Membership Meeting at 5 p.m., Sacred Heart Catholic Church Activities Building, 3451 Rivard St.

**Tuesday, June 3** — Executive Board meeting at 9 a.m. at the DPOA office.

**Tuesday, June 10** — Board of Directors meeting, 5 p.m., at the Gaelic League Hall, 2068 Michigan Ave.

**Friday, June 13** — Fortieth annual DPOA Charitable Fund Golf Outing, Oak Ridge Golf Course, 35035 26 Mile Road, New Haven. Golfers needed! See Page 10 for details.

**Tuesday, July 1** — Executive Board meeting at 9 a.m. at the DPOA office.

**Tuesday, July 8** — Board of Directors meeting, 5 p.m., at the Gaelic League Hall, 2068 Michigan Ave.

POSTAL SERVICE: BUNDLED PAPERS MUST BE SEPARATED

## Congratulations to our 2024



*Latifa Alasad-Craig*

*John Allen*

*Devonte Brooks*

*Michael Choukourian*

*Robert Dale*

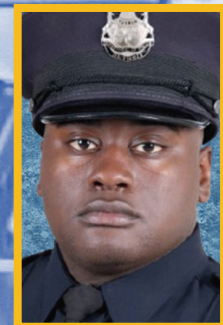


*Joshua Dennard*

*Joseph Eason*

*Raekwon Edwards*

*Diego Fragoso*



*Quentin Glover*

*Eric Hill*

*Raylan Hill*

*Darren King*



*Maverick Longuski*

*Felicia Manning-Peoples*

*Brian Nelson*

*Justin Tabron*

## District Officers of the Year

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

**The next General Membership Meeting is May 20**

PLEASE JOIN US! 5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church activities center, 3451 Rivard

Get important updates from your union leadership and a chance to meet with various financial services vendors who can help you plan for your future.

Dinner • prize drawings • comradery

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

**OFFICERS' REPORTS** — Pages 2, 4 and 5

**REMEMBERING THE FALLEN** — Page 23

**IN MEMORIAM** — Page 24

**RETIRES & ASSOCIATES NEWS** — Page 26

**TRADING POST** — Page 27

**Plus, officer articles, more news inside!**

Tuebor is online! Find the digital edition on the DPOA website!

[www.detroitpoa.com](http://www.detroitpoa.com)



# Pension enhancements delayed by lawsuit

Congratulations to all of the officers who have been selected as the Detroit Police Officers Association's 2024 District Officers of the Year. Your hard work and heroism are being appropriately recognized inside this issue of Tuebor and you will also be the guests of honor at our 40th annual District Officers of the Year Banquet May 2 at Sound Board inside Motor City Casino.

Enjoy this special attention because you deserve it. Special thanks as well to the stewards for your efforts to submit nominations and gather the information needed to write the articles that appear in this issue and also the banquet program. It is much appreciated.

Thanks also to our Tuebor writers for attending the annual Writers Workshop in March and for the articles you provide to help keep our members informed about the activities in your command areas.

Here are some updates on important ongoing DPOA matters:

**The pension improvements that all members voted on in November of 2024 have been delayed due to a lawsuit against the City of Detroit.** Bankruptcy Court had scheduled a court date for March 19, 2025, at 11 a.m. We will keep you updated.

**Lawsuit with the City of Detroit over the medical numbers** is over after a settlement conference on Feb. 11, 2025. The city has 30 days to produce the numbers after the City Council approves the agreement. Once we receive them, then we can shop for open enrollment insurance.

If at any time an officer is involved in a shooting, injured, arrested, or detained within the City of Detroit, call dispatch for a union steward first, then contact the Detroit Police Officers Association office at (313) 567-8770. There is an executive board member on call after hours.

**Members, it is very important you know your beneficiaries on your life insurance policies.** We



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Craig Miller

have found that our members have not updated their beneficiaries in years and are surprised to find out who they have listed as beneficiaries. To manage, change, or check on your benefits, come into the DPOA office located at 1938 E. Jefferson Ave. with a copy of your current check stub.

**Members, it is very important we have your current address and cell phone number with the DPOA.** You can also change it on the DPOA website, detroitpoa.com. To access your username, the department email address password is: Badge. If you do not have four numbers add zeros to the front.

**Members are not required to do phone interviews, interviews with supervision or use their cell phones for Zoom interviews. Notify the DPOA office if you are advised or ordered.**

**When an officer is served a notice of Garrity from the Supervisor,** please contact the office so information can be recorded in the Garrity Book. In addition, take a clear picture of the Garrity request and email it to legal@detroitpoa.com; include a cell phone number as well.

**At no time should you ever think you are not the focus of an investigation.** You should always request a union steward either by radio or call the DPOA

office. There is an Executive Board Member on call. Also, we do not do interviews with our supervisors, internal or anyone else. They can provide you with written statements "Questions" on a 568 and the officers will schedule an appointment with the DPOA office to have questions answered. Do not answer them yourself.

**If you are not yet aware,** please note that the DPOA has a new text messaging system in place so we can quickly notify the membership of important information.

One important thing to note is that you must "opt-in" to receive these notifications. Please be sure to do this, otherwise you may not receive crucial information you may need.

The text will be coming from the DPOA office number, (313) 567-8770. If you have any questions, contact Executive Board Member Keith Baker.

*Continued on Page 6*

## TUEBOR

(USPS-643-560)



Official Voice of the Detroit Police Officers Association. DPOA Office Hours: Weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays. After hours, weekends and holidays, a designated on-call Executive Board member or Chief Steward is available by calling (313) 567-8770.

The DPOA is the sole certified bargaining agent for all members of the Detroit Police Department with the rank of Police Officer. The DPOA is a founding member of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO). The views expressed in Precinct/Section articles are not necessarily those of the DPOA or its officers.

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# 'Public safety statements' should only be made if you are ordered

Condolences to the friends, family and the Ninth Precinct on the passing of active Lt. Kerry Byars; Corporal Melissa Adams on the passing of her mother; friends and family on the passing of retired Officer Willie Watkins; friends, family and the Ninth Precinct on the loss of active Officer Cameron Richardson; Sgt. Shemka Page on the loss of her grandmother; Corporal Deborah Gaines on the loss of her father; friends and family on the passing of retired Lt. Edward Williams; Commander Rebecca McKay on the loss of her mother; friends and family of retired Sgt. Joe Howard; Officer Antonio Williams on the loss of his father retired Detective Carl Chuney; Corporal Darryl Lightfoot on the loss of his mother in law; friends and family on the loss of retired Officer Lamarr Brown; Sgt. Travis Kostanko on the loss of his brother; Captain Derrick Griffin on the loss of his father in law; Corporal Alecia Fullilove on the loss of her mother; Officer Emery Treece on the loss of his mother; and friends and family on the loss of retired Chief Stanley Knox.

Also: Corporal Steven Schmekel on the loss of his mother; friends and family on the loss of retired Lt. Robert Carroll; Officer Joshua Henning on the loss of his brother; friends and family on the loss of retired Officer Marsha Sterrett; Corporal Ramon Garcia on the loss of his mother, retired Officer Shirley Capalungan; Corporal Jay Dantzler on the loss of his brother; Sgt. Carrie Fairfax-Moore on the loss of her grandmother; friends and family of retired Lt. Gloria Clayton on her passing; friends and family on the passing of retired Officer Mark



## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ron Thomas

Erickson; Officer Christopher Young on the passing of his mother; friends and family on the passing of retired Officer Belinda Bouyer; Sgt. Tawaina Snipes on the loss of her mother in law; Sgt. Michael Richardson on the loss of his mother; friends and family on the loss of retired Lt. Gerald Robinson; Detective Jonathan Hall on the loss of his mother; and friends and family on the loss of retired Commander Gerry Johnson Sr.

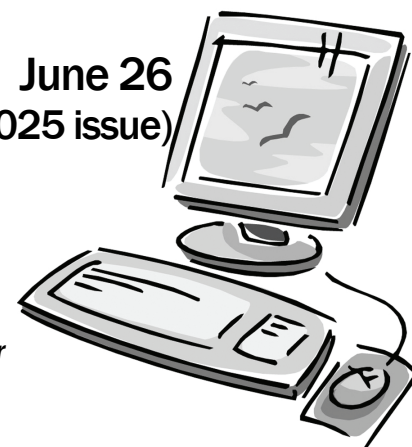
Members should be reminded at Officer involved shootings (if you have fired shots) "public safety statements" should only be made if ordered to do so. There is NO case law which supports your reservations of Miranda regarding these statements. Officers involved in shootings shall DEMAND that they are ordered to give these statements so they can preserve their rights under Garrity v. New Jersey. Officers should be mindful that any statement made when not ordered can be used

*Continued on Page 7*

## Writers' deadline for the next issue:

Thursday, June 26  
(Summer 2025 issue)

**Writers needed!**  
Check with your chief steward if you would like to represent your command area with an article in Tuebor.





# Annual event reaches a major milestone

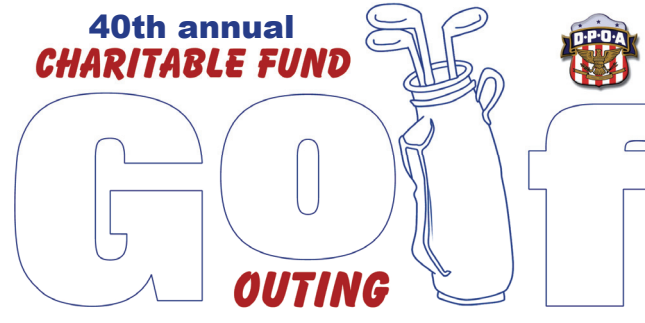
The Detroit Police Officers Association Charitable Fund Golf Outing is a mainstay in the union's list of annual events for a full four decades now.

Members as well as DPOA supporters and friends can all be a part of the action on Friday, June 13, when the 40<sup>th</sup> annual installment is held at Oak Ridge Golf Course in New Haven.

Individual tickets for the day-long event are

\$125 — or \$500 per four-some — and include a continental breakfast, open driving range, 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch at the turn and a full buffet dinner. Each golfer also will receive a shirt to commemorate the event and a ticket for a door prize drawing.

Tickets also will be sold during the day for a post-dinner drawing for a wide range of great prizes, as well as a 50-50



cash drawing.

Registration starts at 7 a.m. and breakfast will be available beginning at

that time. The range will be open from 7 to 8 a.m., and a shotgun start for the four-man scramble is

set for 8 a.m. Lunch will be available on the course. Dinner will run from about 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and there will be an open bar from 3-6 p.m.

The event is organized by the DPOA Entertainment Committee and is the key annual fundraiser for the Charitable Fund, which supports numerous local charitable causes and events throughout the course of the year.

Along with golfers,

the committee also is seeking sponsors to help support the event. Sponsorship and co-sponsorship opportunities are available for \$500 and \$250, respectively.

For further information, see the ad on Page 10 or contact Mary Moss at the DPOA office, (313) 567-8770.

Oak Ridge, which has two 18-hole courses, is located at 35035 26 Mile Road, near the I-94 exit.



Photo: Ken Eppenbrock

## Service honors



Five members of Academy Class 2000I gathered for a mini-reunion of sorts at the Detroit Police Officers Association office in March to receive their rings commemorating 25 years with the Detroit Police Department and the DPOA. They included Michael Carson (left), Christine Lewis, Carrie Livingston, Ericka Jones and Deandre Robinson. Also, in the photo at left, Carlton Williams receives some special recognition from President Craig Miller at the March Board of Directors meeting with the presentation of his plaque honoring his five years of service as a union steward.

## DPOA Committee Members

The following Detroit Police Officers Association Committee membership lists have been updated for the 2025-2027 elected term for the four union officers, Executive Board and Board of Directors. Would you like to be part of a committee and learn more about the various roles throughout the organization? If so, please contact DPOA President Craig Miller.

### Blood Bank Committee

Chair: Calvin Adkins  
Co-Chair: Charles Roland  
Keith Baker  
Leon Newell  
Lashun O'Rear  
Todd Push  
Sean Wayrynen

### Constitution & By-Laws Committee

Chair: Keith Baker  
Co-Chair: Karen Maxey  
Leon Newell  
Lashun O'Rear

### Editorial Committee

Chair: Karen Maxey  
Co-Chair: Lashun O'Rear  
Keith Baker  
Michael Fountain  
Leon Newell  
Charles Roland  
Stephanie Wilson

### Election Committee

Chair: LaShun O'Rear  
Co-Chair: Keith Baker  
Calvin Adkins  
Constance Maycock  
Karen Maxey  
Leon Newell  
Todd Push  
Charles Roland  
Christine Rozier  
Sean Wayrynen

### Entertainment Committee

Chair: Royce Hill  
Co-Chair: Doug Nichols  
Keisha Beasley-Dorsey  
Takesha Clark  
Ciara Helms-Hill  
Joanna Jenkins  
Eric Johnson

### Entertainment (Continued)

Malcolm Jones  
Brandi Lindsay  
Leon Newell  
Deanna Merriweather  
Angel Munoz  
Charles Roland  
Christine Rozier  
Saeed Thomas  
Tommy Tinsley  
Mark Wallace  
Michael Wilson  
Stephanie Wilson-Harrington

### Finance Committee

Chair: Lashun O'Rear  
Co-Chair: Keith Baker  
Todd Push

### Grievance Committee

Chair: Keith Baker  
Co-Chair: Lashun O'Rear  
Todd Push

### Membership Services

Chair: Lashun O'Rear  
Co-Chair: Mike Fountain  
Keith Baker  
Kenneth Eppenbrock  
Craig Miller  
Todd Push  
Ron Thomas

### Political Action Committee (PAC)

Chair: Craig Miller  
Co-Chair: Ronald Thomas  
Linda Broden  
Kenneth Eppenbrock  
Calvin Adkins  
Keith Baker  
Mike Fountain  
Ernie Gamble  
Karen Maxey  
Leon Newell  
Lashun O'Rear  
Todd Push  
Charles Roland  
Christine Rozier  
Sean Wayrynen

### Website

Chair: Lashun O'Rear  
Keith Baker  
Craig Miller



# Be aware that overtime availability is decreasing

The days are getting brighter and longer and we have moved our clocks forward, which means spring has arrived. I hope everyone did their best to enjoy some winter activities to help them through a long winter season.

I encourage everyone to go out and find exciting spring activities to clear their minds from the daily grind of police work. At the end of the day your mental health depends on it.

As many of you know, or soon will know, the amount of overtime opportunities are going down. The city has told us that overtime funding is drying up. Many of you have grown accustomed to working as much overtime as you want, and for a lot of the younger members, it's all you've ever known.

What many of you don't know is overtime hours, prior to recent years, were few and far between. I hope everyone has kept their lifestyle and expenses at the point where overtime money is for extra cash or expendable income.

If you need more money for your monthly bills than you make on a regular check you may put yourself in a position that will cause major stress and leave you unable to afford your lifestyle.



## SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Kenneth  
Eppenbrock

Try to get your monthly expenses under the take-home pay of a regular paycheck. If you currently don't think you can do that, try to use the overtime that is available now and pay off debts before you find yourself financially insolvent.

The stock market has been taking a wild roller coaster ride in 2025, most likely causing your investments to also rise and fall quite dramatically. If you're in the earlier or middle point of your career I would say it's best to hang on for the ride and not make a lot of changes.

In the long term it will balance out and you'll be fine. If you're nearing retirement age and plan on using your savings soon, you may want to move toward a more conservative investment strategy.

Make the best of every day and stay safe out there.

### Manpower as of March 7, 2025

RANK	BUDGETED	FTEs FILLED THIS MONTH	OVER/UNDER BUDGET
Chief of Police	1	1	0
Assistant Chief	2	2	0
Deputy Chief	7	7	0
Commander	19	19	0
Captains	27	25	-2
Captains - Transit	1	0	-1
Lieutenant	120	116	-4
Lieutenant - Transit	2	1	-1
Sergeant	380	365	-15
Sergeant - Transit	4	5	1
Investigator	8	8	0
Detective	186	180	-6
Corporal	89	69	-20
N.P.O.	60	55	-5
Mental Health NPO	14	12	-2
Mental Health PO	11	11	0
Police Officer	1704	1715	11
Police Officer - Transit	38	33	-5
Sub Total:	2673	2624	-49
Police Assistants	32	29	-3
Grand Total	2705	2653	-52

## Upcoming or recent separations from the Department are as follows:

Name	Command area	Status	Last Duty Date
SPO Martisha Ross	Academy	Resigned	1/1
SPO Justin Alcala	Academy	Resigned	1/7
SPO Brooke Snyder	Academy	Resigned	1/21
SPO Gianluca Torella	Academy	Resigned	2/20
PO Susan Barbalas	Internal Controls	Retired	1/3
PO David Smith	11th Pct.	Resigned	1/3
PO Cameron Richardson	9th Pct.	Died Active	1/5
PO Kristine Zimmerman	Court	Retired	1/8
PO Omar Nahshal	8th Pct.	Resigned	1/10
PO Austin Downer	10th Pct.	Resigned	1/12
PO Sheron Johnson	2nd Pct.	Retired	1/15
PO Stephen Jackson	11th Pct.	Retired	1/21
PO Noah Triplett	7th Pct.	Resigned	1/21
PO Dayvion Bowen	2nd Pct.	Resigned	1/21
PO Nicholas Crysler	7th Pct.	Resigned	1/29
PO James Woodside	Major Crimes	Retired	1/31
PO John Hall	Records	Retired	1/31
PO Keith Buckman	12th Pct.	Retired	2/5
PO Sumon Williams	OWCR	Resigned	2/5
PO Benjamin Peterson	7th Pct.	Resigned	2/7
PO Nicholas Hunt	8th Pct.	Resigned	2/7
PO Mark Hickman	9th Pct.	Resigned	2/13
PO Alexander Brochue	AVTF	Resigned	2/17
PO Marcus Sheffield	10th Pct.	Resigned	2/21
PO Nicholas Allen	9th Pct.	Resigned	2/24
PO Hassan El-Hallani	3rd Pct.	Resigned	2/25
PO Rorey Hampton	12th Pct.	Retired	2/28
PO Williams Henderson	3rd Pct.	Resigned	2/28
PO Donovan Donehue	12th Pct.	Resigned	3/5
PO Bryan Kondratko	2nd Pct.	Retired	3/7
PO Michael Leason	12th Pct.	Resigned	3/10
PO Daniel Brockmann	9th Pct.	Resigned	3/10
PO Domonique Bell	11th Pct.	Resigned	3/14
PO Talia Bell	12th Pct.	Resigned	3/14
PO Charles Porter	7th Pct.	Resigned	3/14
PO Muntathar Altamimi	9th Pct.	Resigned	3/14
PO Malcolm Berry	8th Pct.	Resigned	3/27
Det. Patrick Lane	Homicide	Retired	1/1
Det. Viera Brownlee	Sex Crimes	Retired	1/20
Det. Steven Triner	9th Pct.	Retired	1/24
Inv. Richard Seagram	Data Quality	Retired	2/3
Sgt. Shawn Schultz	5th Pct.	Resigned	1/3
Sgt. Ramon Childs	Crime Data	Retired	1/8
Sgt. Alan Quinn	Central Photo	Retired	1/9
Sgt. Terence Sims	2nd Pct.	Retired	1/11
Sgt. Mark Busch	Tech Support	Retired	1/17
Sgt. Ahmed Haidar	VICE	Retired	1/22
Sgt. Steven Peil	DDC	Retired	1/31
Sgt. Robert Harris	Narcotics	Retired	2/13
Sgt. Elena Chavez	Planning	Retired	2/17
Sgt. David Wasmund	Task Force Admin	Retired	2/20
Sgt. Mark Henning	Police Personnel	Retired	3/10
Sgt. James Kraszewski	Training	Retired	3/31
Lt. Tereasa Duncan	Communications	Retired	1/3
Lt. Todd Svenkesen	5th Pct.	Retired	2/14
Cpt. Derrick Maye	Crime Strategies	Retired	1/7
Cpt. Jamar Rickett	Communications	Retired	2/1

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Officers' Rights under Miranda & Garrity — Page 5
- Meet your Executive Board members — Page 6
- Grievance Committee Update — Page 9
- Charitable Fund Golf Outing registration details — Page 10
- District Officers of the Year profiles — Page 13
- Be aware of coverage changes at age 65 — Page 26



# Do you know when you qualify for FLSA?

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) requires payment of all hours earned in excess of 480 hours after April 15, 1986. Do you know if you qualify? The request for comp time is found on page 48, article 30 of the collective bargaining agreement.

The first thing we need to determine is, "What is Comp Time? It is an accumulation of all hours worked either by going to court and/or for overtime worked. The overtime hours will only get to your comp time bank if you sign that you want comp time as opposed to pay. Your timekeeper should contact you to sign up for pay or No Pay before July 1 of each year. Once you decide on pay or no pay, you are subject to that decision for the entire fiscal year.

Also included in your comp time are any excused time hours earned for working Christmas Eve, New Years Eve, Good Friday, Easter, Martin Luther King's birthday and Juneteenth. Excuse time is found in Article 31., Page 49, of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

## Always be aware of your Miranda and Garrity rights

Regarding your rights under Garrity and Miranda, please refer to Section 16 page 41, of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, entitled "Members' Rights - Investigative Procedures."

This section details your rights in any and all investigative procedures. I would also like to emphasize that it is each individual Officer's responsibility to be aware of these rights and to fully exercise them. These rights apply whether the interview is conducted at the Offices of the Internal Affairs Section, Office of the Chief Investigator or any other location.

In addition to this information, be aware that members have a right to 72 hours notice of a Garrity interview and the right to have an attorney present at that interview. In order to ensure the presence of an attorney, it is each officer's responsibility to notify their union steward and/or the

DPOA of the date, time and place of the interview. In turn, it is the DPOA's or the steward's responsibility to notify this office of same. It should not be "assumed" that an attorney will be present if this office is not notified.

It has recently become the practice of some Investigators and Sergeants to attempt to convince officers that they should waive their right to an attorney, telling them that they are not the focus and "do not need an attorney."

The Collective Bargaining Agreement in Article 16 addresses this issue. It specifically states that members have a right to have both legal counsel and a representative of the union present during an interview. Officers should never waive their constitutional or contractual right to an attorney or any other right that the DPOA has fought hard to obtain for you.



### SERGEANT AT ARMS REPORT

Linda Broden

The only hours subject to FLSA are those hours earned for going to court or working overtime. Excused time hours are not subject to the FLSA, as they are not hours you worked.

Your total comp time is recorded on your check stub under comp time FLSA. Under this caption is comp time earned prior to April 15, 1986, (not subject to FLSA), comp time earned since April 15, 1986, and all excused hours.

The other caption concerning comp time is titled comp time DPD, or prior comp time. In your DPD or prior comp time would be time earned prior to April 15, 1986, and all excused time.

An example as to how your comp bank totals will change: On April 15, 1986, Officer Push has zero hours of comp time. Prior to July 1, 1990, Officer Push signed for no pay for overtime worked. Between July 1, 1993, and Dec. 1, 1993, he works both overtime and court time. On Dec. 1, his banks would be: comp time 25 (hours) prior (DPD) comp time 0 (hours). Officer Push then works both Christmas Eve and New Years Eve

and is credited with 16 hours of comp time. His banks would then be comp time 41 hours and prior (DPD) comp time 16 hours.

Now Officer Push has a total of 41 hours of which 16 hours is not subject to FLSA To find out how many hours are subject to FLSA you would subtract the prior comp (DPD) time from the comp time and the result is 25 hours. Do not add the two banks together. Should you have questions regarding the above, you may contact me at the Association office.

Condolences to the families of Retired Officer Sharon Bouyer. Sharon and I worked together at the Fourth Precinct.



The Rev. Barbara Woodson

Special condolences to the families of The Rev. Barbara Woodson. Rev. Woodson has participated in the DPOA annual District Officers of the Year Awards Dinner for several years. Her prayers to the honorees were amazing.

Please continue to keep Corporal Sheron Johnson and Corporal Rhonda Morris in prayers.

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:** "Success is not final; failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts." — Winston Churchill.

## Joining the ranks



The April Detroit Police Officers Association Board of Directors meeting included the addition of two new steward alternates. The alternates, who will fill in as necessary when the steward from their command area is unavailable to attend the meeting, are Raymond Wright (left), of the 10th Precinct and Daryl Lever, who is assigned to CIT. Performing the swearing-in honors is DPOA Sergeant-at-Arms Linda Broden. The Board of Directors meets monthly.

Visit the Detroit Police Officers Association online at [www.detroitpoa.com](http://www.detroitpoa.com)



## YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS



**Craig Miller**  
President



**Ron Thomas**  
Vice President



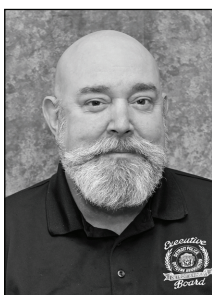
**Linda Broden**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**Ken Eppenbrock**  
Secretary-Treasurer



Calvin Adkins



Keith Baker



Michael Fountain



Royce Hill



Karen Maxey



Lashun O'Rear



Charles Roland



Christine Rozier



Sean Wayrynen

### ABOUT TUEBOR:

The official publication of the Detroit Police Officers Association, Tuebor is published quarterly. Our next issue will be published in July both in the print edition and a PDF version posted to the union's website, [www.detroitpoa.com](http://www.detroitpoa.com). Recent back issues also are available on the website. Several writer positions are currently open. If you see that your command area doesn't have a writer and you are interested in serving in that role, please see your steward. Do you have DPOA-related news you'd like to share? Letters, photos and other information pertinent to the DPOA membership can be emailed to [tuebordetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:tuebordetroit@yahoo.com). Items may be submitted anytime between now and June 26 to be considered for publication in the next issue.

**Contact Tuebor Editor Joe Hoshaw Jr. at (734) 558-6955**

## Craig Miller: Here are details on participating in the HRA

*Continued from Page 2*

### Coalition of Detroit Public Safety Unions Trust HRA Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) Plan

The CDPSU HRA Plan provides eligible retired City of Detroit police and fire fighter employees with reimbursement of covered out-of-pocket medical care expenses on a non-taxable basis.

Eligible participants include city public safety employees who have retired **after Jan. 1, 2015**, while covered under a collective bargaining agreement between the city and the following unions: DPOA, DPLSA, DPCOA and DFFA.

The current HRA monthly stipend for DPOA is **\$250 per month**.

To apply for your monthly benefits,

contact CDPSU's claims administrator, Automated Benefit Services, Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at (877) 456-4306; or, for more information about the CDPSU HRA Plan, visit [CDPSUTrust.com](http://CDPSUTrust.com).

**The DPOA's 40th annual Charitable Fund Golf Outing** will be held June 13, 2025 at Oak Ridge Golf Course, 35035 26 Mile Road, New Haven, MI 48048 (at I-94). Get your clubs ready. More information is available on the DPOA website and at the DPOA office.

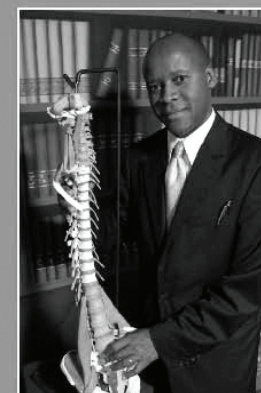
Members, with the arrival of the busier spring and summer seasons, remember to be extra vigilant and stay safe and back each other up. Don't be afraid to ask for assistance. We are all we have.

## Chiropractic Works

\*2015-2016 VOTED 1 OF THE TOP CHIROPRACTORS IN MICHIGAN BY WORLDWIDE LEADERS IN HEALTHCARE

\*2015 VOTED ONE OF THE BEST CHIROPRACTORS IN AMERICA

\*2015 NOMINATED AS A SPECIAL RESERVIST OF THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT



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# Protecting and serving

## The seasons change, but mission remains the same

By The Rev. Peter Latouf

Not long ago, the streets of Detroit were frozen as some pretty brutal winter weather hit the city. There were some terribly windy days, most days the roads were slick, and I know that every call and every shift meant stepping out into the cold again. Winter has a way of slowing things down, making people huddle closer — sometimes for warmth, and others, just for survival.

But now that the snow and the ice have gone away, it feels a little like the city is waking up again. The sun is definitely hanging around longer, and pretty soon summer will be in full swing. With summer, of course, comes a different kind of

challenge. The cold months bring their own difficulties, but summer? Summer speeds things up. More crowds, more movement, more unpredictability. Downtown will be more and more alive, which means the calls change, the pace picks up, and some days it can feel like the whole city is out and about at once. But no matter the season, one thing stays the same: the reason you do this job!

The uniform may feel a little lighter in the heat, but the weight of the badge is the same. Whether you're answering a call in the dead of winter or stepping into a heated situation under the sun, the job

### THE BIGGER PICTURE

is still about the same core mission: protecting the people of the city.

Some days are smooth. And others will test your patience, your endurance, and your ability to shake things off. That's the reality of this work. It isn't predictable, and it isn't easy. But that's exactly why not everyone can do it. There's a unique weight that comes with being the person people call when things go wrong. I've certainly been there in my role as a minister. The moments you step into aren't always pretty. But you show up anyway ... not because it's simple or convenient, but because it's what you signed up for. This commitment to the job, the people, and to each other doesn't change, no matter the season.

I remind you of this often, but please continue to remember: the job can be demanding, and if you're not careful, it can feel like something you have to carry alone. But that's not how this was meant to work.

There's a reason law enforcement has always relied on sticking together. You back each other up not just on calls, but in the quiet moments in between. It's in the way you look out for each other, in the way you know when someone's had a rough shift without them having to say a word. That kind of support is what keeps people going.

It's easy to get caught up in the idea

that strength means keeping everything to yourself. But actual, lasting strength is found in knowing when to lean on the people around you. Sometimes we need to talk through a tough call or to share a funny moment to shake off the stress. These little things matter more than you might think.

When we spend our days answering calls for others, it starts to become somewhat routine. But when it comes to asking for help ourselves? That can be a little harder.

It's no secret that this job comes with stress. You see things most people don't. You handle situations that the average person would struggle to even think about. And while you're trained to keep moving, to stay focused, that doesn't mean the weight just disappears.

Ignoring it doesn't make it go away. Too many officers wait too long before speaking up. No matter if it's stress, exhaustion, or something heavier, there's no shame in admitting when you need to talk to someone. It doesn't

make you weak — it makes you smart. It makes you human.

If you need to reach out, do it. Whether it's a fellow officer, a supervisor, a chaplain, or someone completely outside the job, there are people who care. People who will listen.

This work takes enough out of you already. Don't let silence take even more!

The heat is coming. The city will get louder, the calls will keep coming, and the long days will stretch even longer. But I know and trust that the

officers can handle it, as you always have done. Some days will be frustrating. Some will remind you exactly why you signed up for this in the first place. Just please remember: You're not in it alone. The uniform may have your name on it, but you're part of something bigger than just yourself.

So, as Detroit shifts from one season to the next, keep looking out for each other. Keep showing up, doing the job, and making a difference in the lives of the people who need you.

Because when the heat rises, so do you.

Father Peter Latouf recently completed his missionary assignment in Taiwan and Hong Kong and is now assigned to serve as parochial vicar at Holy Family Catholic Church in Orlando, Fla. The Detroit-area native is the son of retired Police Officer Donna Latouf, the former secretary-treasurer for the Detroit Police Officers Association, and also the brother of Police Officer Lisa Latouf of Internal Affairs.

## Ron Thomas: Making voluntary statements is not recommended

Continued from Page 2

against you criminally. Members should take extra caution on statements made picked up by BWC during these incidents.

Members should be reminded that we are under no obligation to give voluntary statements to Internal Affairs or for any departmental investigation. Garrity rights were put in place to protect you and the Detroit Police Officers Association encourages you to follow your rights. When in doubt, request a steward.

Reminder to members injured in the line of duty: When being admitted or treated at a hospital give the hospital the below listed information for the billing party. It is imperative that you do this to avoid being billed by the hospitals directly. Any officers receiving bills from a duty-related injury are encouraged to contact the association immediately.

City of Detroit Police Department  
1301 Third/6th floor  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Attention: Medical Section

Information regarding Tuition reimbursement and when it can be applied, the member is not eligible to request Tuition reimbursement until one (1) year after successful completion of the academy.

The Detroit Police and Fire Pension System continues to move forward to bring the DROP in house to be managed. Until then the return rate for the DROP will be recalculated quarterly through VOYA. The rate for the upcoming quarter from April 2025 to July 2025 will be 2.75 percent.

The return rate for the voluntary hybrid annuity and the legacy annuity for the year is set at the maximum which is 5.25 percent and is on track to be set at the ceiling of 5.25 percent for the following year also. The annuity rate is set by the Detroit Police and Fire Retirement Board off of the previous year's returns.

Remember to trust your instincts. If something does not seem right — it is because it isn't. Back each other up always and stay safe.

### Retirement Getting Close? Annuity Rollovers Deferred Compensation DROP Plan



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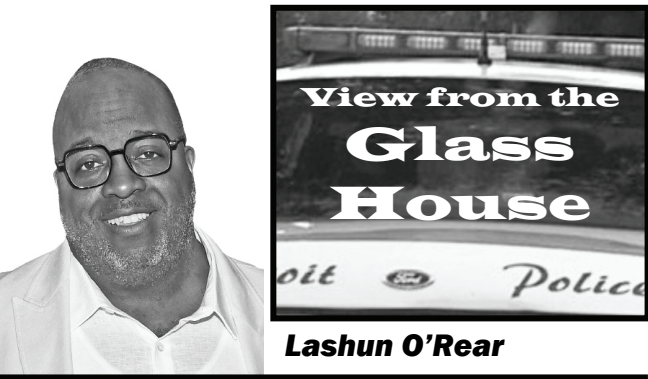
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# Out with the old; in with the new

Hello to all my brothers and sisters in blue. I hope this article finds you in good health and good spirits. It's time for spring cleaning — out with the old, in with the new. So shake off the wintertime blues and let in that positive energy.

The Detroit Police Department has decided the way precinct investigations were handled wasn't good enough and needed some fine tuning. In the past, when your command wanted to investigate you they had to serve the questions in writing on a DPD568. You would then bring the questions to the Detroit Police Officers Association office to be answered and then returned to the command.

You now will be given 72 hours notice that you will be answering questions in an investigation, and you must notify the union so we can have representation there for you. Whether you are the focus of the investigation or not, at no time should you agree to answer any questions without your attorney or union representation present! Please protect yourself and your rights!

# Welcome, new Honor Guards

By Chontel Jones  
DETROIT POLICE  
HONOR GUARD

Greetings from the Detroit Police Honor Guard. Our mission is to honor the families of fallen officers. Hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season.

As always, we'd like to keep our brothers and sisters in blue in our prayers as they go out each and every day to serve the citizens of Detroit.

We would like to welcome the new members of the Detroit Police Honor Guard. We are delighted to know that you chose to extend your support to the families in need during their time of crisis.

Our hearts are extended to Johnny Bouyer (an Honor Guard retiree), who lost his wife, Sharon Bouyer (who was also a retired police officer). We would also like to recognize the passing of retirees Gerald Robinson and Mark Erickson.

We know that the summer is fast approaching, so I ask that everyone please remember self-care. The Honor Guard is looking for dedicated members who are interested in joining the most prestigious team in the department.

Interested members should submit a 568 to Corporal Jeremy Rozycki at rozyckij670@detroitmi.gov. We honor our blue family with dignity and respect.



Congratulations Officer Diego Fragoso and all of our Ninth Precinct superstars.



Let's give Police Officer Diego Fragoso a round of applause and congratulations on his Officer of the Year selection for the Ninth Precinct. Officer Fragoso accomplished this in the hardest working precinct on the east side of Detroit. Officer Fragoso working 9-39 stood out in a special ops full of superstars as the best and the brightest of 2024. Great job!

I'll say — and I'm sure that Officer Fragoso will

agree— although the Officer of the Year is an individual accomplishment, you need a great group of fellow officers to accomplish it. No one can do this job alone. So thank you to all the hardworking officers in 9 Special Ops, who helped Officer Fragoso achieve this award.

To all the officers in the Ninth Precinct and citywide, if you haven't heard it in a while, thank you and I love you all. Stay safe and healthy. God bless.

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# Meeting date set on Juneteenth's status

Hello everyone. Here is what's been going on since the last article.

## Arbitration Decisions

Juneteenth-Paid Holiday vs. Excused Day. This grievance was filed in 2023 with the belief that city employees other than Detroit Police Officers Association members were receiving holiday pay for Juneteenth. Additionally, the city never came to the association before deciding what the Juneteenth holiday would be: a paid holiday or an excused day. Juneteenth was declared an excused day by the city. We went to arbitration and the arbitrator ruled that, "the parties should comply with the requirements of Article 29 to meet and confer regarding the implication(s) of the holiday and excused day ordinance change for the bargaining unit." A meeting date has been set.

The DPOA was successful in winning a grievance that forbids the department from forcing you to work overtime on your leave days, essentially canceling your leave days. Less than a week after the decision, the department stated they are changing several 5 and 2 commands to a seven-day work week schedule. It just so happens that the grievant that won this decision works in one of the commands having their work schedule changed.

## Other important information

### DROP Extension

• Participating DROP members who are reaching the end of their 10th year and would like to continue doing so for another year, must send a request to the



**Keith Baker**

chief of police.

• This request must be delivered to the chief's office no less than **two months prior** to your DROP end date.

• If you are uncertain of your DROP date, call and speak to a member of the Grievance Committee. We have that info and a template of the request to extend.

## DPOA Texting System (Active DPOA Members)

• The Association has a texting system in place to distribute Union information.

• There are still active members that have not opted into the texting system.

• If you wish to opt in, text your name to (313) 567-8770 to be added.

## Remember:

- To prevent most complaints, be kind.
- When nothing goes right, go left.
- A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
- Drink more water!
- Just because you can, doesn't mean you should.
- Be who you needed when you were younger.

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- Age 16-50: \$25,000
- Age 51-75: \$10,000

**Critical illness insurance\*\*** is being offered to all employees up to a \$20,000 benefit.

**Hospital indemnity insurance\*\*** is being offered to all employees up to a \$1,000 Hospital Confinement benefit.

## ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO CITY OF DETROIT EMPLOYEES:

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- Coverage is available for your spouse and eligible dependent children.
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\*\*Post-enrollment guaranteed-issue means that health questions must be answered at point of enrollment for the policy to be issued as guaranteed-issue. Benefits may be subject to a pre-existing condition provision.

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**Leon Newell**

# Congratulation to our retirees

Hello, everybody. I've been absent from writing a little bit, but am back into the spirit now. Many retirements have happened, including here at Communications: Corporal Morris Syfax and Captain Jamar Rickett. I wish all that we know who have retired and those that we did not know about who have left quietly congratulations. It's the end of one chapter and the beginning of another.

Congratulations to the four elected officers: President Craig Miller, Vice President Ron Thomas, Secretary Treasurer Kenneth Eppenbrock and Sergeant at Arms Linda Broden, on another swearing-in for three years. Additional congratulations go out to the Executive Board and Board of Directors, who were also sworn in for a three-year term.

Exciting events are just around the corner, including the DPOA 40th Annual District Officer of the Year Banquet on May 2 at 6 p.m. at Motor City Sound Board, 2901 Grand River, Detroit, MI 48201. The DPOA General Membership meeting will take place on May 20 at 5 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church Activity Center. The DPOA Charitable Fund Golf Outing will be held on Friday, June 13 at Oak Ridge Golf Course, 35035 26 Mile Road, New Haven, MI 48048. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Back each other up and stay safe!



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# Don't miss the 40th annual DPOA Charitable Fund Golf Outing

**Friday, June 13**

*Registration opens at 7 a.m.  
Shotgun start for 4-man  
scramble at 8 a.m.*

## Oak Ridge Golf Course



*35035 26 Mile Road, New Haven*

**Same great day of fun and camaraderie on the links  
— all to help benefit DPOA Charitable Fund giving**

### \$125 ticket

**includes driving range,**

**18 holes w/cart,**

**continental breakfast, lunch, beverages,**

**cocktail hour, dinner, gift**

**CONTESTS**  
**Closest to the Pin**  
**Longest Drive**  
**Skins**  
**4-man team**  
**scramble**

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contact Mary Moss at the DPOA, 313-567-8770**

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# Woman's Walk is a success

Spring has sprung! That means the downtown summer surge is here, as well as the block parties. The warm weather brings busy times so get ready, hold on, and let us be safe.

I have noticed over the course of my career in being a police officer that we want to get in there, get the bad guy (or girl), and move on to the next run. Keep in mind, there is no rush, and there is nothing wrong with assessing the situation, waiting for backup, or even retreating. I know the adrenaline is flowing and you want to be the police, but you also need to be safe and go home at the end of the day. The crime will always be there, so if you do not get them today, there is always tomorrow. Be smart and safe!

I would like to say congratulations and happy retirement to Lt. T. Svenkesen "Swank." I know it was a long time coming and I hope you enjoy your new career. You have had a lot of training, experience, and time on this job; I hope it all comes in handy.

The Women's Walk, held on March 7, 2025, was a success for all. Thank you for those that



**Brett Letwin**

participated and represented the Fifth Precinct. Thank you also to Commander Purifoy and Captain Pellerito for supplying the women of the Fifth Precinct shirts for the walk.

Good job to Officers Sorrell and White, who responded to a ShotSpotter call and with the help of crime Intel were able to figure out where the offenders traveled. Upon making the Citgo gas station, the officers made contact with a subject who fit the description. During their investigation, they were able to get the subject in custody and recover a stolen firearm that was out of Madison Heights. Officer Sorrell and Officer White showcased exemplary work by continuing their investigation to get a dangerous individual off the street.

Excellent job to Officer Goins and Officer Crawford for saving the

life of a 42-year-old female who was stabbed in the chest. The officers, dispatched to a stabbing run, discovered the victim lying in the front yard with a stab wound to her chest.

With the help of Officer Sharp, Officer Goins was able to apply a chest seal to the victim. The victim, who was turned over to the care of medic 13, was then transported to St. John Hospital. Later that day, the captain informed me that a doctor had called the precinct and informed him that if the officers had not applied the chest seal, the individual would not have made it. I could be wrong, but I do not recall being issued a chest seal, so Officer Goins took it upon himself to provide himself with one, therefore saving a life. Keep up the good work.

Keep in mind the summer events that are coming up: Tigers home opener (April 4) and the Cinco



**Thanks to all who came out to represent the 5th Precinct at the Women's Walk, held March 7.**

de Mayo Parade (May 4), in addition to the Grand Prix and Fireworks, which are restricted department wide. Also, in July you should receive your annual uniform allowance on July 1 if you were hired on or be-

fore April 1 of that year.

If you have questions or concerns, remember that you have union stewards assigned to each shift at each precinct as well as an alternate steward. Familiarize yourself with who they are, just in case. If

you are not sure or need additional help, you can always contact the union, as there is a steward on call at all times.

Try to enjoy the summer, especially if you are on furlough. It will all be here when you get back.

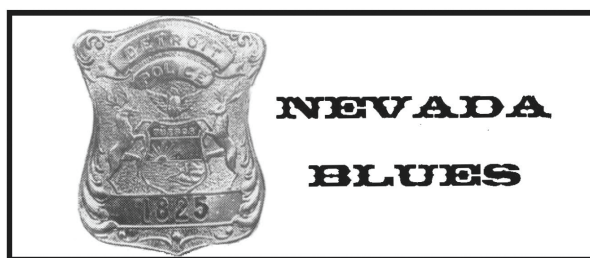
# One of our longest-serving officers retires

One of Detroit's Finest has retired! The long journey for one of the longest serving officers in the history of the department has come to an end. Lt. David Tadajewski joined the Detroit Police Department in 1976 to serve and protect the City and citizens of Detroit. He embraced that journey with all his might, zeal, enthusiasm, dedication and commitment.

Along his future journey, nothing could have made him change his mind or stop him. Despite an early layoff at the beginning of his career, our legendary lieutenant was determined to reach an unforeseeable destination that took two scores and a decade (50 years) to reach.

As he was commonly known or called, "Tad or Lt. Tad" was fearless in executing his duties as a police officer. Though he encountered some hurdles, by transferring from one precinct to another or from changing shifts, they did not stand in his way as a deterrent. Studying hard led to promotions: sergeant to lieutenant. Once he got to where he wanted to be, he got suited and stabled.

Working with the man for over a quarter of a century, I know this man! Lt. Tad was a consummate officer who was dedicated and committed to duty. His attend-



**Kromanix**



ance was beyond approach. He was always busy at the desk, interacting with officers, showing them ways to augment their potential, making sure the scout cars were washed and full of gas and having his own car jumpers (booster) and gallons of windshield washer fluid under his desk to make sure there is enough fluid in the vehicles during winter.

My views on the lieutenant coincide with Commander Chambers' summation: "Known for his unwavering commitment to policy, Lt. Tadajewski set the standard by always being by the book and ensuring officers were well-versed in laws and real-world situations. Whether he was testing officers on procedures or reinforcing the importance of doing things the right way, his leadership left a lasting impact."

We bid farewell to our legendary lieutenant and wish him good luck in the next chapter of his life journey. He will be greatly missed.

In our Nevada Blues Inn, we welcome our new additions: Lt. Monica Verduco, who hails from the Detroit Detention Center. She is no stranger; she has worked here before as a PO. We also want to welcome our new graduates from the Training Center. POs Colin Deskins, Isaiah Hernandez, Vincent Zanaroelli, Dustin

Hillman and Alexis Montgomery. Unfortunately, PO Bell and PPO Gabrielle Searcy both resigned. Good luck to them!

On a personal note, I want to thank Tuebor's chief editor Joe Hoshaw Jr. and the entire executive team for our annual Writers' Workshop and treat at Sinbad's. It was a nice meeting full of spirit and camaraderie. Thank you, Joe.

Last, but not least, I want to extend personal kudos to Platoon 3 Sgt. E. Kress, who is making a difference on his shift. He is hard working, dedicated to duty and leading the way, showing new officers the right things to do. Thank you, sarge.

Until next time, be safe and back each other up.



# Opening Day marks start of motorcycle season

Eid Mubarak!

I would first like to extend my heartfelt greetings to all of us who fasted during this past month of Ramadan! As usual I attended an annual appreciation dinner for law enforcement at the Islamic Center of Detroit honoring officers during Ramadan. Sadly, that was the last time I spoke with retired Lt. Gerald Robinson, who unexpectedly passed away several days later. He normally appeared at the function and I always teased him about how he enjoyed the food there and when at one time I pulled him over off duty for speeding. We had a laugh about that. We worked together on the same shift at the Second Precinct and he will be missed. My sincere condolences to his family.

Peace and blessings to TEU's own, honoring the loved ones of Officer Antonio Williams, whose father, retired Detective Carl Chune Jr., passed away, and retired TEU motorman Johnny Bouyer, whose wife,



**Abdul Shabazz**

retired Sgt. Sharon Bouyer, passed away. Kudos to Officer Charo Turner leading Officer Bouyer's funeral on a motorcycle even though the weather was not ideal (cold!) But hey, that was the tradition that at one time Traffic Enforcement displayed.

At press time the Detroit Tigers opening day is once again upon us and that usually marks the beginning of our motorcycle riding season. We have to brush the dust off those bikes and "get our seats back" and remain vigilant watching out for these crazy drivers out here on the city streets, especially since the weather is getting warm and maybe (just maybe) we can put our

snow shovels up for good until winter time, but this is Michigan so keep your fingers crossed.

The month of May is going to be the time to reflect on the ultimate sacrifice that many of our comrades made during National Police Week. If you haven't been yet, you're missing out on something special. A split second can change all our lives and we need police officers to be together, not only tactically and physically, but spiritually as well.

There are officers on the memorial from all colors, creeds, and religions and when you see all those buses loaded with families, especially the children whose father or mother died in the line of duty, I'll guarantee you that you'll feel it.

We've had a few personnel changes in our unit. Bon voyage to our union steward Leronzo Jones, who decided to leave us for bigger and better ventures beyond the police department. Welcome once again to our "thundercats," Officers Green, Vanalstine, and Dalzochio, who all are motivated to become true motormen and earn the blue stripe, which as some already know is not easily earned. Lt. Coleman has moved on from us and Lt. Shortridge is now here from the 12th Precinct.

Let's stay safe out there.

# Don't overlook importance of mental health

With all that we are called to do as police officers, I think we should take a little time out to make sure we are OK. Everything from answering police runs and executing search warrants takes a toll on us mentally. So, I'm going to take some time to talk a little about mental health.

Why is mental health important? Being in good mental health can enhance your self-image, improve relationships, and even help combat physical health issues. Now I know what you're thinking, "This has nothing to do with me, I'm super cool." This may be the case, and I'm happy you feel that way, but still hear me out.

We often exhibit signs of depression, anxiety and PTSD without even knowing it. This is because the mass cultural perception of mental illness is distorted. Mental illness is usually perceived as delusions, false beliefs that are not based in reality. Hallucinations, seeing or hearing things that don't exist. Disorganized speech, abnormal motor behavior, hostility or suspiciousness.

Here are some symptoms we dismiss in our normal lives and don't



**Chris Smith**

recognize as mental illness:

Feelings of sadness, tearfulness, emptiness or hopelessness. Angry outbursts, irritability, or frustration over small matters. Loss of interest or pleasure in most normal activities, such as hobbies, sports, or sex. Sleep disturbances, insomnia, or sleeping too much. Finding it difficult to make decisions. Feeling the need to "escape."

Being around people over time, you begin to learn what normal behavior is for them. If they are acting differently, speak up. Let them know you're there to help and act as a judgement free safe space. Refer them to the professionals. Crisis Text Line: text "HOME" to 741741. Crisis hotline 844-446-4225.

Now I can't give you

problems without solutions. By now you may be wondering, "How do I reduce my risk for depression or anxiety?" There's this really cool thing called self-care. By definition, self-care is a multidimensional, multifaceted process of purposeful engagement in strategies that promote healthy functioning and well-being. A conscious act people take in order to promote their own physical, mental, and emotional health. Or in other words, doing things that make you happy.

There are several types of self-care, so let's get into it.

**Physical self-care.** We need to take care of our bodies if we want them to run efficiently. Some examples are exercise, yoga, meditation, proper diet, personal hy-

giene (not like a shower, but getting your hair done, getting a fresh haircut, or getting a new outfit...but also taking a shower), and prioritizing sleep.

## **Social self-care.**

Some examples are chatting with neighbors (the ones you like), calling someone you care about, making plans with a friend, joining a book club and date nights with your significant other.

## **Mental self-care.**

The way you think directly influences your psycho-

logical well-being. Some examples are doing a relaxing activity, setting future goals, practicing gratitude, or even redecorating a room in your home.

## **Spiritual self-care.**

Some examples are going to church, connecting with nature, reading your religious book of choice, listening to religious music, and speaking with a spiritual advisor.

## **Emotional self-care.**

It's important to have healthy coping skills when dealing with uncomforta-

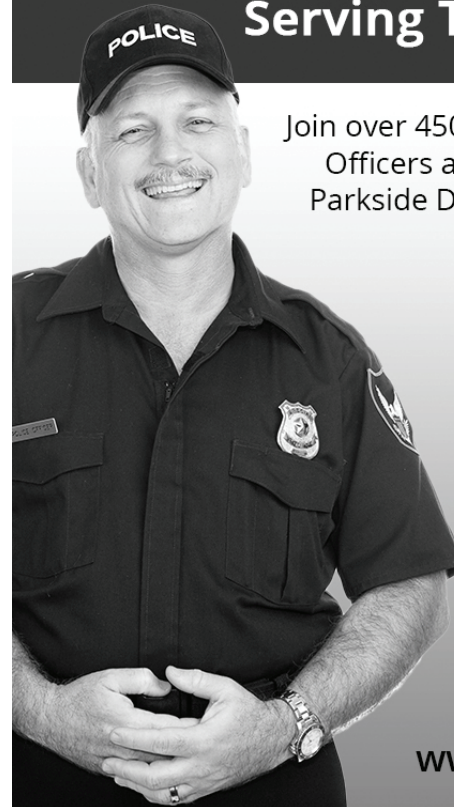
ble emotions. Some examples are setting boundaries with others, allowing yourself to feel all of your feelings, choosing yourself, forgiving yourself, journaling, embracing all of your emotions and character traits, and accepting you are who you are and loving that person, flaws and all.

These are all examples of self-care, and by all means not the only things you can do to start feeling better and living a better lifestyle. I'm just giving

*Continued on Page 25*

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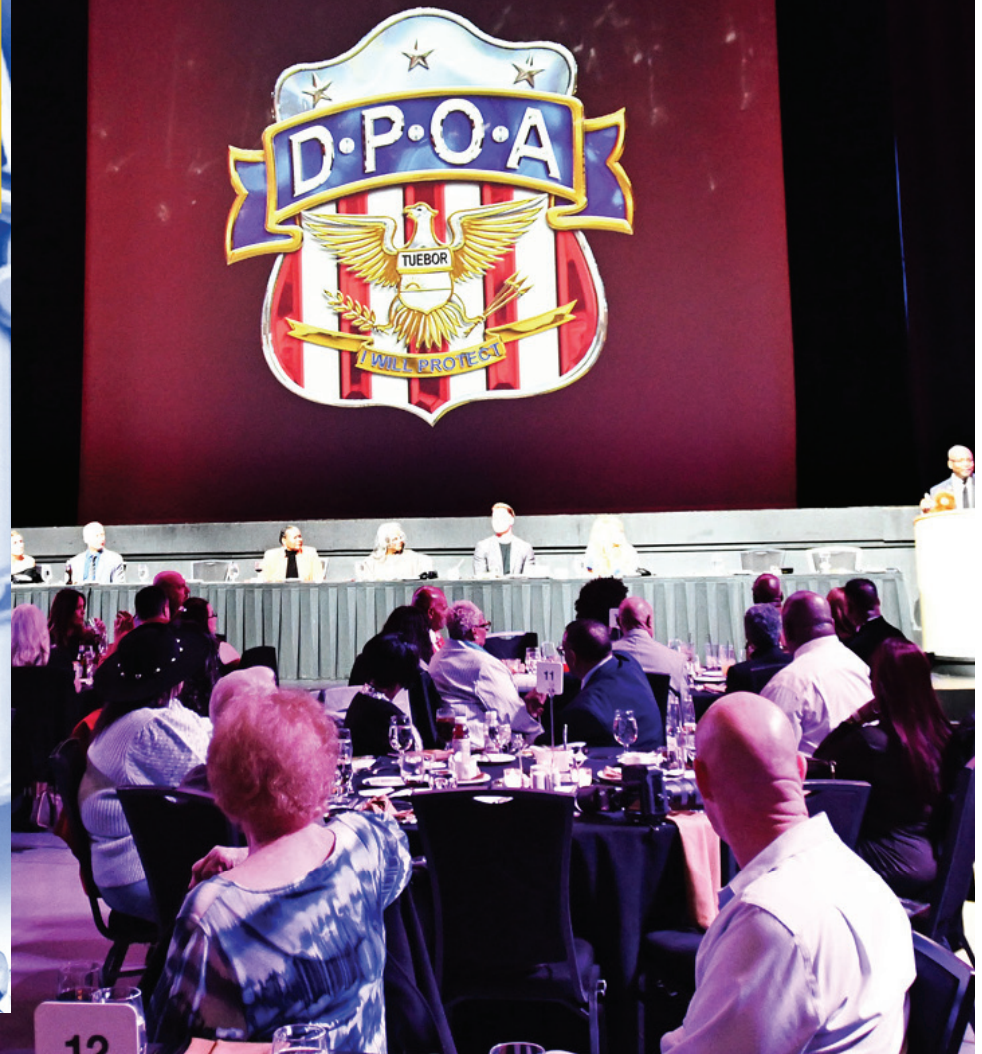
Digital copies of event photos are available to members by emailing me at [tuebordetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:tuebordetroit@yahoo.com). Be sure to include the page number and a description of the photo you would like — JH



# SOUND BOARD

## 2024

### District Officers of the Year



Seventeen of Detroit's Finest will be subjected to the star treatment in early May when the Detroit Police Officers Association convenes the 40th installment of its annual District Officers of the Year Banquet at Motor City Sound Board. This year's honorees include Felicia Manning-Peoples (District 1); Maverick Longuski (District 1); Brian Nelson (District 2); John Allen (District 2); Joshua Dennard (District 3); Darren King (District 4); Joseph Eason (District 4); Latifa Alasad-Craig (District 5); Diego Fragoso (District 5); Raekwon Edwards, Raylan Hill and Justin Tabron (District 6); Eric Hill (District 6); Michael Choukourian (District 6); Devonte Brooks and Quentin Glover (District 7); and Robert Dale (District 9). For all the details on the events that led to the selection of these officers, please read the profiles that appear on the following pages. Special thanks to the DPOA stewards for submitting the nominations and write-ups, and to Mary Moss for working her magic to organize it all. Congratulations recipients, and enjoy your special evening.





2024

# District Officers of the Year

## Cpl. Manning-Peoples quickly and efficiently helps save lives

**District 1**


*Felicia Manning Peoples*

Veteran Detroit Police Officer Corporal Felicia Manning-Peoples has been with the department for 28 years. Upon graduating from the academy, she was assigned to patrol at the First Precinct, then Central District, and then to her current assignment in the Third Precinct, where she works the Q-Line transit detail.

Corporal Manning-Peoples has received meritorious awards and commendations throughout her career as a Detroit officer. She has written many ordinance complaints, including more than 100 parking violations throughout 2024. Her assignment on the Q-Line is to make sure that residents and visitors to Detroit are safe as they travel the Q-Line in the New Center and Downtown areas. She also responds to police runs in the Third Precinct and Downtown area.

The officer, who enjoys such activities as basketball and skating in her free time, has good knowledge of effective policing skills, is versatile in police work and demonstrates good report writing skills, and can perform inside desk and outside patrol duties very well. Corporal Manning-Peoples and her partner, Officer Andrews, assigned to scout car 3-Q7, were flagged down in the early morning hours of Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024, by someone who informed them of a man who had just jumped from a fourth-floor window at Woodward and John R. When Corporal Manning-Peoples and her partner arrived at the location they witnessed a man lying on the ground, who had apparently just jumped from his apartment building window committing suicide. She and her partner secured the crime scene, along with other responding Detroit scout-car police units from the Downtown Services Area and Transit units.

Corporal Manning-Peoples and her partner, along with 3-Q8, TC-01 and supervisor TC-71, had to enter the suicide victim's apartment, where they encountered a female who stated that she was the girlfriend of the victim. She also stated the suicide victim (her boyfriend) had been consuming marijuana products in the form of gummies for hours before he jumped out the window.

The victim's girlfriend explained that she did not call 911 and went to bed after her boyfriend's incident because she was impaired by the drugs and unable to move. Corporal Manning-Peoples and all other units at the scene, along with Medic-1, moved her out of the bed to the stretcher and Medic-1 conveyed her to Detroit Receiving Hospital for treatment, where she was temporarily listed in serious condition due to the drug use.

Corporal Manning-Peoples' quick response after receiving information from citizens on a suicide in progress helped save the life of a second victim in this situation.

In another instance, Corporal Manning-Peoples was at the Third Precinct passing through the lobby to the cafeteria to have her lunch on Tuesday, Sept. 3, when she noticed that former Detroit Police Chief Ella Bully-Cummings was having some trouble at the Third Precinct's desk trying to turn in two guns. She then stepped in to assist the former chief with the processing of her guns. The former chief acknowledged how grateful she was and that Corporal Manning-Peoples recognized who she was and assisted her with the reports and processing of guns.

Corporal Manning-Peoples' complete dedication and willingness to go above and beyond to help her fellow citizens and peers has earned her selection as District One Officer of the Year.

## Longuski uses deft investigative skills to excel

Police Officer Maverick Longuski, a seven-year veteran of the Detroit Police Department, started his career working in the Eighth Precinct and now is assigned to Downtown Services. Officer Longuski is an outstanding police officer. In 2024 he wrote more than 3,500 ordinance citations downtown. He has recovered six stolen vehicles, conducted more than 1,700 traffic stops and responded to 234 police runs. He had nine felony arrests and four misdemeanor arrests.

Officer Longuski, who enjoys motorcycle riding, video games and reading in his free time, has received a Life Saving Award and a Perfect Attendance Award. He comes to work to make sure Detroit's residents, visitors, and businesses are safe in the downtown area. Officer Longuski is respected by his co-workers and superior officers.

Officer Longuski was dispatched to 45 Monroe St. in the late morning hours Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024. Upon his arrival he aided a male subject on the ground who had been attacked by another male subject.

The incident occurred at One Campus Martius. The injured male and his wife were visiting from Germany. The wife said that a man had hit her husband. Officer Longuski was able to identify the suspect through video footage provided by Bedrock Security Services and upon further investigation was able to apprehend the suspect.

With help from scout cars 03-05A, and 4198, the subject was arrested for aggravated assault and conveyed to Detroit Detention Center without incident for processing.

The victim was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital, where he was temporarily in serious condition but later that day upgraded to critical. He died several days later, and the subject now stands charged with second-degree murder.

While on patrol the afternoon of Oct. 23, 2024, Officer Longuski was flagged down by security at Jimmy Johns, 615 Griswold, about a male subject who had just stolen a tip jar. Officer Longuski scoured the area and saw a man matching the description he had received from the security officer.

Upon Officer Longuski's investigation of the suspect, with help from Michigan State Trooper who was also in the area, he was able to arrest the male suspect for larceny and retrieve the tip jar containing \$19.28 from the suspect's backpack.

The suspect was arrested and conveyed to Detroit Detention Center without incident.

Officer Longuski's investigative skill and passion for protecting Detroit residents and visitors make him a stellar candidate for the honor of Officer of the Year for District 1.

**District 1**


*Maverick Longuski*





*Brian Nelson*

## Cpl. Nelson is a 'lead-by-example' officer who makes a difference in community

### District 2

Corporal Brian Nelson joined the Detroit Police Department on Sept. 30, 1996. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to the 1st Precinct where he started his career working patrol. In 2001, he transferred to the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) and assisted in protecting the users of public transportation.

In late 2005, the Southwestern District was created, and Nelson was assigned to the new district. In 2012, the Southwestern District was split into the Second Precinct and the Fourth Precinct.

All the officers there had to make a choice, Precinct 2 or Precinct 4. Brian chose the Second Precinct, and he has been there ever since. His hard work allowed him to

become a Motorman when it became available. Corporal Nelson secured the spot in 2014, where he is still working today.

Corporal Nelson, who enjoys golf and playing hockey in his free time, led the department in citations issued for the year 2024. With more than 1,000 tickets issued, he exceeded the next on the list by more than 200.

He made more than 20 arrests and handled dozens of accident scenes. Corporal Nelson is always backing up his brothers and sisters in blue.

Additionally, his attendance was nearly perfect in 2024. He is a "lead by example" officer, and an asset to the department.

Corporal Nelson's dedication, loyalty and commitment to serving the city's residents and visitors are key reasons why he is the District 2, Precinct 2, Officer of the Year.

## Officer Allen proudly continues long family tradition in dutifully serving the department

Police Officer John Allen has been on the force for three years, working out of the Fourth Precinct. Over the course of his commitment as an officer, Allen has done phenomenal work while serving in the line of duty.

Officer Allen comes from a family with a long background in the Detroit Police Department. His father, both grandfathers and great-great-grandfather have served in the Department, providing him with valuable and appreciated role models throughout his life. With that said, he now has become a role model himself and an invaluable asset to the department.

A graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School and Central Michigan University, Officer Allen has taken home awards such as Top Shot (Academy) and Officer

### District 2

of the Quarter, and enjoys hanging out with friends and family and watching sports in his free time.

Officer John Allen's commitment, loyalty and dedication to serving and protecting the City of Detroit and its citizens have earned him the honor of being named District 2 Officer of the Year.

*John Allen*



## Ofc. Dennard moves city forward and sets positive example



### District 3

Detroit Police Officer Joshua Dennard has been working with the Detroit Police Department since 2020. Officer Dennard was assigned to the Sixth Precinct, where he was recognized for his leadership, commitment to service and professionalism. Officer Dennard was then selected by his peers to be assigned to Platoon Four, Special Operations/Cease Fire to join the crew and expand his legal and street knowledge. On that crew, Officer Dennard was tasked with searching for and arresting violent felons, in addition to street crime enforcement.

During Officer Dennard's time with the Special Operations/Cease Fire crew, he has received two positive Administrative Counseling Registers for outstanding police work and two Medal of Valor awards. Officer Dennard's hobbies include training, reading and maintaining mental and physical fitness.

*Joshua Dennard*

In January of 2024, Officer Dennard was wounded in the line of duty by gunfire. Officer Dennard focused on his healing and fought to return in a relatively quick fashion to his

crewmates. During the final eight months of the 2024 calendar year after returning to full duty, Officer Dennard led his peers in proactive enforcement with 137 Felony and 35 misdemeanor arrests.

Officer Dennard successfully intercepted 70 firearms, 2,818 narcotic pills, recovered just under a half pound of cocaine, heroin and meth (7.12 oz.) and seized/forfeited \$15,380 in U.S. currency recovered from drug and fraud organizations.

Officer Dennard's dedication to service, high drive to apprehend dangerous criminals, positive attitude and determination to return to service with his crew has made him a driving force amongst his peers.

Therefore, the Sixth Precinct proudly presents Officer Joshua Dennard as District 3 Officer of the Year for 2024.



# Officer King invests his time and efforts in the future of the city and its youth

## District 4



*Darren King*

Officer Darren King stands as a shining example of dedication, leadership and heart in our community. An eight-year veteran who is part of the 10th Precinct Cease Fire Unit, he is not just an officer — he is a mentor, a protector and a neighbor. Born and raised in the city of Detroit, King's roots run deep, shaping his unwavering commitment to the residents of Detroit. As a husband and father, he understands the importance of building a safe and thriving community for future generations.

Officer King, who enjoys coaching basketball, pool and volunteering at church in his free time, has achieved remarkable milestones. His efforts led to the execution of 56 felony warrants, including 16 arrests of individuals wanted for nonfatal shootings. He also took 25 illegally carried firearms off the streets, making neighborhoods safer for everyone — especially the youth who deserve a secure environment to grow and dream.

King's impact goes far beyond statistics. He has become a vital bridge between law enforcement and the community, investing his time in outreach programs, mentoring at-risk youth and fostering trust where it matters most. His leadership among his peers is equally profound, as he inspires others to approach their work with the same passion and dedication.

Darren King is more than an exceptional officer; he is a beacon of hope for the next generation and a true embodiment of service. For his tireless efforts, steadfast leadership and heartfelt commitment to both the present and future of our city, we proudly recognize Darren King as our District 4 Officer of the Year.

# Officer Eason showcases impressive stats and work ethic in 12th Precinct

## District 4



*Joseph Eason*

Police Officer Joseph Eason, in his four-year career, has set the standard for policing in the 12th Precinct. Officer Eason's leadership skills and hard work are appreciated by veteran officers and emulated by newer officers.

Supervisors at the 12th Precinct speak highly of Officer Eason and his work ethic and dedication not only to the Detroit Police Department, but to the citizens of the City of Detroit. This is evident by his three Officer of the Quarter awards.

In 2024, Officer Eason answered 2,490 police runs and assisted his fellow officers with another 150 runs. He completed 270 police reports, conducted 721 traffic stops, wrote more than 1,000 citations, investigated 1,843 people, had 63 felony arrests and took 12 illegal firearms off the street.

Officer Eason, who enjoys working out, reading and cooking in his free time, graduated from Grand Blanc High School and attended Eastern Michigan University.

You would think with all the work he puts in, Officer Eason wouldn't have time to reach out to the community in the 12th Precinct, but you would be mistaken. Officer Eason had 267 special attention and numerous thank yous from the community. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that Police Officer Joseph Eason was chosen by his peers as the 12th Precinct, District Four Officer of the Year.

## District 5



*Latifa Alasad-Craig*

# Officer Alasad-Craig is making City safer through her proactive policing efforts

Police Officer Latifa Alasad-Craig was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on March 25, 2019. Upon graduation, Officer Alasad-Craig was assigned to the Fifth Precinct, where she has spent most of her career working in the Special Operations Unit. Officer Alasad-Craig has received and been recognized for numerous positive administrative counseling registers, meritorious awards, Officer of the Quarter awards and the Medal of Valor for her outstanding police work.

Officer Alasad-Craig works countless overtime hours and is very self-motivated. She was continuously engaged in street enforcement throughout 2024, and it shows in her statistics. Officer Alasad-Craig made 127 felony arrests, recovered 74 weapons, along with multiple possession of stolen vehicle arrests, and narcotic seizure arrests. During her career she has executed numerous search warrants with the Fifth Precinct Special Operations Unit, making a copious number of arrests, multiple narcotic seizures and recovering many firearms.

Officer Alasad-Craig has a plethora of knowledge and experience regarding encountering and investigating the known and repeat offenders who reside in and continue to frequent the Fifth Precinct.

While on proactive patrol working scout 5-39 in the area of Cadieux Road and Chandler Park Drive on March 3, 2024, Officer Alasad-Craig observed a white Chevrolet Impala traveling on Cadieux with a defective headlight. While conducting the traffic stop, she discovered the driver was in possession of an illegal handgun equipped with an auto sear (Glock switch) with a drum magazine, and a large amount of narcotics.

While taking the offender into custody, he resisted

*Continued on Page 19*



# Ofc. Fragoso shows courage and unrelenting work ethic

## District 5

Police Officer Diego Fragoso was appointed to the Detroit Police Department March 26, 2018, and works in the Ninth Precinct Special Operations Unit. A graduate of Lincoln Park High School, he attends Cleary University and enjoys family time, weightlifting and Jiu Jitsu in his free time.

Officer Fragoso has received the Chiefs Unit Award (2019), Chiefs Unit Award (2024) and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's "Operation Legend" Recognition Award (2020).

During 2024, Officer Fragoso made 134 felony arrests, for crimes such as carrying a concealed weapon, possession of a stolen motor vehicle, violation of the Controlled Substances Act, non-fatal shooting, armed robbery, fleeing and eluding and homicide.

Officer Fragoso's courage was notably displayed on July 18, 2024, when he and his partners investigated a male carrying a firearm in his back pocket. As the officers made contact, the man fled on foot. Officers pursued him and a physical struggle ensued. During the struggle, Officer Fragoso's left index finger was cut by a knife, resulting in a severed tendon.

The offender was ultimately placed in custody and the weapon was recovered. Officer Fragoso was transported to St. John's Hospital, where he received 12 stitches. He underwent two operations and completed 12 weeks of physical therapy and regained 98 percent function in the finger. The offender later pled guilty to "carrying a concealed weapon."

Officer Fragoso routinely moves toward danger and faces whatever challenge he must to protect the community. He trains and mentors younger officers, ensuring this mindset is developed and persists among a new generation of police officers. He does this while loving and serving his wife and two children faithfully, despite the stress and mental strain of the job.

Officer Diego Fragoso is the proud and well-deserving recipient of the District 5 Officer of the Year Award.

# Officer Hill continually displays professionalism, determination

Neighborhood Police Officer Eric Hill has been a resident of Detroit for 58 years and a Detroit Police Officer for 26 years, beginning his career in the spring of 1999. During his tour of duty, Hill has had an opportunity to train with some of the best in his profession. He started his career in the 11th Precinct in the winter of 1999.

Officer Hill became a Neighborhood Police Officer under the command of Former Chief James Craig. As an NPO, Hill serves as a liaison between the Police Department and the community within his precinct. He addresses quality of life and crime issues and keeps the community abreast of emerging crime trends and concerns.

Officer Hill assisted in coordinating the first 11th Precinct Gun Buy Back Program, gun safety programs and evacuation plans for schools, Project Safe Neighborhood (Teen Jail Prevention program), coordinated Crime Walks for the Northeastern district communities, drug education for youth (Department of

Continued on Page 19



Diego Fragoso

## District 6



Eric Hill

# Tireless work by Officers helps make streets safer for residents

Detroit Police Department officers Raekwon Edwards, Raylan Hill and Justin Tabron are assigned to Seventh Precinct Special Operations Unit. Officers Edwards and Tabron were appointed in 2019 and Hill in 2018.

In late July of 2024, the three officers responded to a 911 call about a rape that was in progress or had just occurred on the 2000 block of E. Larned Street. Upon arrival, they immediately received information on who the offender was.

They discovered on scene that the offender and victim knew each other, as the victim's child's father and the offender were related. They also learned that the offender was, at the time, on an ankle tether.

After contacting the agency that ordered the tether, it was discovered that the offender was at the Comfort Inn, located at 1999 E. Jefferson Ave., across the street from the location of the incident.

When they arrived at the Comfort Inn, the officers went into the hotel and discovered the offender sleeping in a chair in the main floor common area by the front desk. They made contact with the suspect and began ordering him to stand up and place his hands behind his back. After several requests, the offender finally complied and was detained without incident and then placed under arrest and taken into custody.

These three officers worked quickly and efficiently to bring a dangerous person off the streets and prevent the suspect from initiating any future crimes against the citizens of the city.

Dangerous situations such as this show that the power of teamwork and dedication to the task at hand are ever present within the department, and these officers proved this by their heroic actions, earning them the distinction of being selected as District 6 Officers of the Year.



Raekwon Edwards



Raylan Hill



Justin Tabron



# Officer Choukourian provides lifeline to resident in distress

Police Officer Michael Choukourian started his career with the Detroit Police Department in August 1994. A graduate of Southfield High School and a Wayne State University alumnus, his hobbies include motorcycles, cars and the gym. He has received numerous awards, including Lifesaving, Conclusion of Consent Judgment, Citation, 2014 Ford Fireworks, Confinement Judgment, Super Bowl XL and Rosa Parks Funeral.

Officer Choukourian was on his way to work at Harbormaster Unit Belle Isle on Oct. 22, 2024, and while traveling southbound on the MacArthur Bridge (Belle Isle Bridge) observed a four-door, gray 2014 Honda Fit parked facing northbound on the east shoulder of the northbound traffic lanes near the center of the bridge. The vehicle appeared to be unoccupied, and no one was visible on the Belle Isle Bridge.

Officer Choukourian, fearing a suicide attempt in progress, completed a U-turn and at once returned to the vehicle to confirm that it was unoccupied. He exited his personal vehicle and began looking for a person in the water with negative results.

Officer Choukourian then turned eastbound and started walking back to the abandoned vehicle, when he saw a young woman seated on the outside of the east guard rail crying.

Officer Choukourian approached the woman very carefully and said, "Whatever you're going through, it will be okay. I am here to help you."

"You don't know what I'm going through," the woman replied. "I should have jumped before you got here."

At this point, Choukourian was approximately 3 feet from the woman and didn't want to move any closer, fearing that she would jump into the water. Officer Choukourian pleaded with the woman to come back over the guardrail by saying, "Please let me help you." The woman momentarily paused and then responded by standing up, turning westbound and climbing over the guardrail onto the walkway.

Officer Choukourian then gently took her arm in preparation for her to potentially pull away and asked her to sit on the walkway. He stood close enough to be able to prevent her from potentially jumping over the guardrail again. He then called 911, identifying himself and requesting assistance. He consoled the victim until the assisting unit made the location and escorted the victim to DRH.

Officer Michael Choukourian helped save a life that day and continues to play a vital role as a member of the department. His heroic actions and dedication to the task at hand are what earned him the Officer of the Year Award, District 6.

## District 6



*Michael Choukourian*

# Officers prevent carjacking as well as future violent crimes

## District 7

Police Officer Devonte Brooks was appointed to the Detroit Police Department June 30, 2014, and has received numerous awards, including the Perfect Attendance Award, Officer of the Quarter and Award Citation. He enjoys basketball, bowling and watching sports in his free time.

Police Officer Quentin Glover was appointed to the department on Oct. 31, 2016, and has received the Perfect Attendance Award, three Meritorious Awards, Perfect Driving, Officer of the Quarter and Officer of the Year 2019. He enjoys drag racing and basketball in his free time.

The mission of Commercial Auto Theft Section (CATS) is to investigate organized vehicle theft rings, chop shops, arrests of subjects for violation and possession of stolen motor vehicles and carjackings. A specific focus is placed on the investigation of carjackings and apprehension of suspects in carjacking cases as soon as possible.

Multiple suspects carjacked a male victim for his vehicle at gunpoint while he was delivering for DoorDash the evening of Dec. 6, 2024. In the early morning hours of Dec. 7, multiple suspects carjacked another male victim at his home on the east side of Detroit, taking his vehicle at gunpoint. Members from CATS came to both scenes and canvassed the area for the vehicles, without success.

Later that same day, at 6:15 p.m., multiple suspects tried to carjack a female victim of her vehicle at her home on the east side of Detroit, but she refused to give it to them and the suspects fled. At 6:55 p.m., multiple suspects carjacked a female victim at her home on the east side of Detroit for her vehicle at gunpoint. Members from CATS were able to find the carjacked vehicle and set up rolling surveillance on the vehicle.

CATS members continued surveillance on the carjacked vehicle until it arrived at a Mobil gas station at 1555 East Outer Drive. The carjacked vehicle pulled up next to an unoccupied Dodge Durango. As the driver of the Dodge Durango returned to his vehicle, two suspects exited the carjacked vehicle and approached the Dodge Durango, one of them armed with an AR style



*Quentin Glover*

pistol. One suspect entered the Durango, while the suspect with the pistol pointed the firearm at the victim.

Fearing for the safety of the victim, officers Brooks and Glover, who were in plain clothes, exited their unmarked police vehicles and approached the armed suspect. As they approached, the suspect turned toward the victim pointing the firearm at him. Officer Brooks and Officer Glover announced they were police and fired several rounds at the armed suspect. The suspects re-entered the carjacked vehicle and fled the location.

Several members of CATS stayed at the scene and arrested one male suspect. Additional members followed the fleeing carjacked vehicle until it was involved in an accident at the intersection of East Seven Mile Road



*Devonte Brooks*

and Chrysler Service Drive. At the scene of the accident, they detained three male and two female suspects.

As a result of the diligent investigative work of the officers at Commercial Auto Theft, the three male juveniles caught in the act of committing a violent carjacking were detained and charged by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.

Officer Devonte Brooks and Officer Quentin Glover risked their lives and engaged a suspect armed with an AR style pistol who was actively carjacking a victim. These members exposed themselves to peril above and beyond the call of duty and displayed extraordinary and conspicuous bravery and this is why they are receiving the Officer of the Year award for District 7.



## Cpl. Dale efficiently instructs and guides brothers and sisters in blue

In 2024 alone, the Detroit Police Department graduated 10 classes of 25-40 recruits apiece. Aside from having three of the large recruit classes assigned to him specifically, Corporal Robert Dale taught all the 300-plus recruits daily. As their primary tactics instructor, Corporal Dale can routinely be found up and down the hallways and stairwells of the Academy with recruit classes, safely guiding them through room entries and tactical patterns.

Corporal Dale, who was appointed to the Detroit Police Department in 2002, has never stopped training and taking on new roles. In 2024, he became a newly certified Tactical Medical Instructor to further his recruits to even higher levels of training, including everything from tourniquet application, wound packing, stop the bleed and on-scene trauma assessment.

As the police recruit's lead instructor in Tactical training, Corporal Dale shows proper and safe weapon handling, legal frisk/pat down techniques, arrest procedures, field surveillance and

### District 9



*Robert Dale*

active shooter response. Dale is also a primary instructor to Department members on the new T10 Taser.

To elevate his instruction to even greater levels in 2024, Corporal Dale graduated from Cleary University with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

In his off time, Corporal Dale is an extreme-

ly dedicated family man. His favorite hobbies are camping and boating, and he can regularly be found helping his family and friends with any work around the house, as he is extremely handy.

Reliable, loyal, dedicated, intelligent and trustworthy, Corporal Robert Dale is the ideal recipient of the District 9 Officer of the Year Award.

## Officer Latifa Alasad-Craig, cont'd

*Continued from Page 16*

arrest and tried to flee on foot from Officer Alasad-Craig. It was discovered during the investigation that the offender was also wanted in conjunction with an armed robbery in the Ninth Precinct that occurred two days prior. The offender was also identified and later charged for a non-fatal shooting that he had committed the day prior to Officer Alasad-Craig's investigation.

In another incident on June 11, 2024, while walking into a Project Green Light gas station in the area of Harper Avenue and Cadieux Road, Officer Alasad-Craig saw a male who was carrying a concealed firearm. When questioned if he

had a concealed pistol license, he replied that he did not. As Officer Alasad-Craig attempted to take the offender into custody, he resisted arrest and a struggle ensued inside of the gas station. The offender attempted to flee on foot and was taken into custody by Officer Alasad-Craig in the rear of the gas station.

A handgun was recovered from the offender's pants that was equipped with a "Glock switch." The firearm also was traced back to an officer-involved shooting that occurred weeks prior in

the Eighth Precinct. This incident resulted in federal charges and a parolee going back to prison.

These are just two of many instances that show Officer Alasad-Craig's passion, determination and perseverance, while consistently demonstrating her leadership qualities. Her drive to excel is driving violent crime down and has made her a model of excellence among her peers and superiors, therefore making her a well-deserving recipient of the District 5 Officer of the Year award.

**Be sure to "opt-in" for union news via DPOA text messaging. Contact Keith Baker for details.**

## Officer Eric Hill, cont'd

*Continued from Page 17*

Justice/U.S. Attorney's office) at Selfridge Air Force Base, Historical Black College tours (Pershing High School and others), coordinated the Johnny Wilson Leadership Hockey Program from 2001 to 2004, coordinated locations for the Goodfellows distribution for the 11th Precinct, specialized training for Crime Prevention, Crime Prevention through environmental design (CPTED), ShotSpotter, Alert (Active Shooter Training), Blight (Environmental), Human Trafficking awareness, Opioid crime scene investigation, Sexual Deviance in the new millennium, Active Assailant/Damage Control, HIDTA, a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration heroin initiative, Mental Health and Emotional Survival, verbal judo/interpersonal skills, Executive Protec-

tion Training, Wayne County Health Department (Safe Sleep) and Autism Safety training.

During his accomplished career, Officer Hill has diffused many hostile situations without major incidents. He believes in serving with respect, integrity and dignity.

In just one of several instances showcasing his dedication to his role in the Department, Officer Hill was dispatched on July 4, 2021, on a 2-year-old child missing. Upon his arrival at the residence, Hill was initially told by the mother she did not know the wherea-

bouts of the child and he then conducted a thorough investigation and immediately discovered the biological father had the child.

NPO Hill talked to the father via phone and convinced him to return the child to the mother and pursue the custody matter in court. The child was returned and the issue resolved without incident.

Officer Eric Hill has given his all throughout his lengthy tenure with the department and continues to do so, therefore rightfully earning the honor of District 6 Officer of the Year.

### SAVE THE DATE!

**The DPOA Family Cookout**  
**Friday, Aug. 1, in the lot behind**  
**the union office**

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Steve Schmekel (left, in photo above), Mark Wills and Ken Regnerus catch up; Baron Coleman (at right) and Derrick Wilson (below) load up on tickets for the raffle.

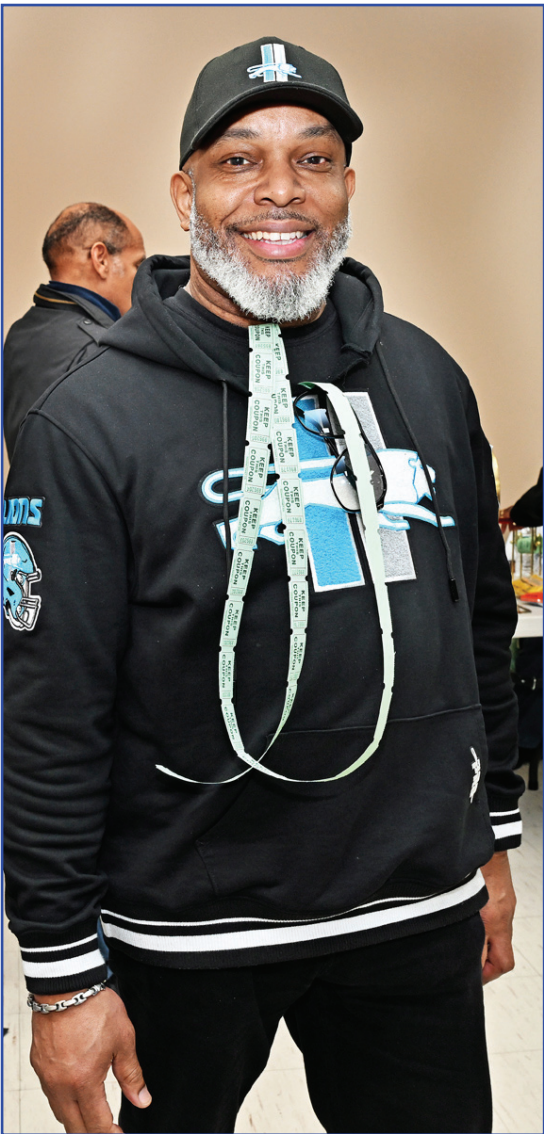


# Time to reconnect

The General Membership meetings are a chance to catch up with union news as well as reconnect with current and former coworkers. The March meeting was no exception, as members gathered to hear updates from the leadership as well as numerous vendors in attendance. The meetings are held four times a year. The next one is scheduled for 5 p.m. May 20 at the same location, the Sacred Heart Activities Center.



Doug Bartell (above, left) stops to visit with Sergeant-at-Arms Linda Broden; Above, members of the Entertainment Committee get ready for raffle ticket sales; at left, Vice President Ron Thomas and President Craig Miller get ready to start the meeting.



Above: Joanna Jenkins, Michael Wilson, Keisha Beasley-Dorsey and Mark Wallace; Right: Linda Bonnett with Secretary-Treasurer Ken Eppenbrock; Below, left: Doug Nichols and Yolanda Miree; Below, right: Malachi Bernier with retired officer Tom Zuchowski, who also happens to be his grandfather.



Photos: David L. Chapman





Members work their way through the buffet lineup following the formal portion of the meeting; Entertainment Committee Chairman Royce Hill calls out numbers during the raffle that concludes the evening.



Below: Entertainment Committee members Joanna Jenkins is congratulated by fellow Entertainment Committee member Eric Johnson after winning a fire pit; Below, right: Top prize winners Queen Lyles with her new rechargeable battery-powered lawn mower, and Steven Thompson, winner of a Pitt Boss smoker.



Photos:  
David L.  
Chapman





# Ride with the right coverage



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# REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

Captain Kenneth Steil died Sept. 17, 2016, due to gunshot wounds sustained five days earlier while chasing a subject who had just attempted to carjack a vehicle.

As officers arrived on scene at the carjacking at a gas station at Seven Mile East and Hayes Street, the main suspect fled on foot. As Captain Steil pursued him, the subject turned and fired a sawed-off shotgun, striking Steil in the shoulder. Two other officers were able to subdue the man and take him into custody.

It was later determined that the subject had shot his own father in the foot the previous night. He was charged with two counts of attempted murder and several other felonies.

Steil, 46, was transported to St. John Hospital where it was initially believed he would recover; however, he experienced complications that proved fatal.

The subject who shot him was subsequently charged with the murder of a peace officer, first-degree murder, resisting an officer causing death, and multiple other felony charges. He would eventually be convicted and sentenced to 40-75 years in prison.

on.

Steil — known to his friends as “Shark” but more generally referred to as a superhero by all who knew him — received a true hero’s sendoff during his funeral at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in St. Clair Shores. While eulogizing Steil, then-Chief James Craig said that one of the things he admired most about him was that he saw the good in most people and looked for the best in everyone.

“He was the kind of person that when, after making an arrest, he would have a conversation with the individual about turning their life around,” Craig said. “And in dealing with his team, whether serving as a supervisor in 9th Precinct special operations, or underwater as a dive-team leader, Kenny took every opportunity to embrace them, share his knowledge, motivate and encourage them to do their very best.

“He was truly a shining example of what a leader should be, and the kind of leader that this department and other departments would want to have: competent, courageous, tenacious, dedicated, understanding and compassionate of others.

Mayor Mike Duggan, who also eulogized Steil during the service, said he too was very touched by some things that he said during a visit with him in the hospital.

“We’re in a world and a city where the violence is almost indescribable,” the mayor said. “People are shot for looking at each other the wrong way or talking to the other the wrong way or if they are wearing the wrong clothing in the wrong neighborhood. This guy had a remarkable ability, no matter who you are or what the circumstances, to make you feel comfortable. It was a true gift.”

“As you talked to him you could see that every single life in this community was important to him. He said, ‘This is my calling. This is what I do.’”

Steil, who received a promotion to captain posthumously, served with the Detroit Police Department for 20 years.

He was survived by his wife, JoAnn, sons William and Alexander, and numerous other relatives.

**Capt. Kenneth Steil**  
*END OF WATCH: Sept. 17, 2016*



**Police Officer Kenneth Lee Daniels**  
*END OF WATCH: Sept. 1, 2004*

Detroit Police Officer Kenneth Daniels, 28, was shot and killed Sept. 1, 2004, while moonlighting at a local nightclub at 6609 Michigan Ave.

Officer Daniels had broken up a fight and ejected several men from the club. Later in the evening, as he walked to his car, he was ambushed and shot by one of the men.

The suspect was convicted of second-degree murder and felony firearms possession in March of 2005. He was sentenced to a minimum of 47 years in prison.

Officer Daniels had served with the department for eight years and was a member of the Tactical Services Section. He was survived by his wife and two sons.

Probationary Detroit Police Officer Clarence Cummings, 25, was shot and killed March 25, 1904, while investigating a domestic disturbance at a home on Saint Joseph Street near Grandy Street.

Earlier in the evening, the subject reportedly had threatened to kill his wife and chased her out of the house by locking her out of their home. The subject’s wife went to the local police station with a friend on Chene Street for help and was turned down after being told to secure a warrant at Police Circuit Court.

On their way home, they approached Officer Cummings and informed him that her husband had threatened her life and locked her out of her house and he agreed to accompany her home. As they entered the home through a back porch door the subject emerged from a room and pointed a gun in the direction of his wife.

As Officer Cummings drew his service revolver he was shot by the subject. Immediately after the shooting, the friend of the subject’s wife summoned a patrol wagon and an ambulance from Harper Hospital. Officer Cummings died shortly after arrival at the hospital.

The subject was found guilty of second-degree murder and sentenced to 11-18 years in prison and claimed the shooting was accidental.

Cummings was a U.S. Army veteran of the Spanish-American war and had served with the department for just six months. He had only one week left in his probationary period when the incident occurred. He was survived by his parents.

**Probationary Officer Clarence Roscoe Cummings**  
*END OF WATCH: March 5, 1904*



**Police Officer Richard P. Woysner**  
*END OF WATCH: Jan. 24, 1970*



Officer Richard Woysner, a 22-year Detroit Police Department veteran, was shot and killed and his partner was critically wounded Jan. 24, 1970, as they attempted to retrieve a stolen motorcycle.

Officer Woysner and his partner went to a home on 15th Street near Antoinette to confiscate the Honda motorcycle when the suspect opened fire. Both officers attempted to take cover in their patrol car but collapsed before making it. Woysner’s partner was able to radio for assistance. When help arrived both officers were taken to Henry Ford Hospital. Woysner died from his wounds several hours later.

The suspect, 25, an ex-convict, was captured a short time later. In 1971 he was acquitted of Officer Woysner’s murder. Afterwards he was charged with assault with intent to kill Officer Woysner’s partner. The case never went to trial. In 1978 he shot and killed a man after the man’s wife paid him \$20,000 so she could get money from his life insurance. In 1988 he received a new trial and was acquitted. A few weeks later he

was found dead in his Detroit apartment. He had been shot three times; twice in the chest and once in the head.

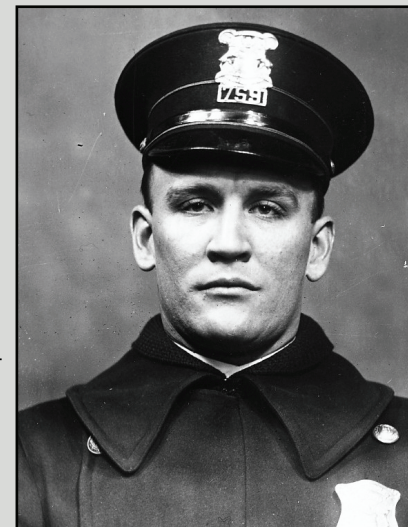
Woysner, 47, was survived by his wife and three children.

**Det. David E. Coy**  
*END OF WATCH: Oct. 17, 1929*

Detective David Coy succumbed Oct. 17, 1929, to gunshot wounds sustained five days earlier when he interrupted a robbery at 9322 Michigan Ave. He and his partner had gone to a business to investigate a bad check when two suspects entered and attempted to rob it.

Detective Coy was mortally wounded in an exchange of gunfire. Detective Coy and his partner shot and killed both suspects.

Detective Coy, whose age at the time of his death is unknown, had served with the Detroit Police Department for 11 years and was survived by his wife and two children.





## In Memoriam



**BOHLINGER** — Retired Sergeant Eleanor Bohlinger, 75, died Feb. 7, 2025. Sergeant Bohlinger was appointed to the Department on Oct. 8, 1973, and retired May 19, 2007.

**BOUYER** — Retired Police Officer Sharon Bouyer, 71, died March 12, 2025. Officer Bouyer was appointed to the Department on Oct. 24, 1977, and retired Oct. 26, 2002.

**BROWN** — Retired Police Officer Lamarr Brown, 66, died Jan. 30, 2025. Officer Brown was appointed to the Department on Oct. 6, 1986, and retired Feb. 28, 2012.

**CARROLL** — Retired Lieutenant Robert Carroll, 81, died Feb. 17, 2025. Lieutenant Carroll was appointed to the Department on Jan. 6, 1969, and retired Jan. 30, 1999.

**CHUNEY** — Retired Detective Carl Chune Jr., 60, died Jan. 23, 2025. Detective Chune Jr. was appointed to the Department on Nov. 20, 1995, and retired Dec. 1, 2023.

**CLAYTON** — Retired Lieutenant Gloria Clayton, 73, died March 4, 2025. Lieutenant Clayton was appointed to the Department on Dec. 12, 1974, and retired July 3, 2004.

**ERICKSON** — Retired Police Officer Mark Erickson, 66, died March 7, 2024. Officer Erickson was appointed to the Department on Sept. 30, 1996, and retired Oct. 28, 2016.

**FERLAND** — Retired Police Officer Daniel Ferland, 74, died Feb. 17, 2025. Officer Ferland was appointed to the Department on Sept. 20, 1971, and retired June 5, 1985.

**GUNDERSON** — Retired Sergeant Elwood Gunderson, 85, died March 9, 2025. Sergeant Gunderson was appointed to the Department on Jan. 25, 1965, and retired Jan. 25, 1990.

**HOWARD** — Retired Sergeant Joe Howard, 70, died Jan. 23, 2025. Sergeant Howard was appointed to the Department on Jan. 27, 1986, and retired Nov. 2, 2019.

**HOWELL** — Retired Sergeant James Howell, 95, died Jan. 17, 2025. Sergeant Howell was appointed to the Department on Jan. 3, 1955, and retired Jan. 3, 1980.

**KNOX** — Retired Police Chief Stanley Knox, 85, died Feb. 14, 2025. Chief Knox was appointed to the Department on May 16, 1966, and retired Jan. 1, 1994.

**MACDONALD** — Retired Police Officer Joseph MacDonald, 78, died Jan. 31, 2025. Officer MacDonald was appointed to the Department on Nov. 18, 1968, and retired July 13, 1995.

**MCCLANAGHAN** — Retired Police Officer James McClanaghan, 76, died Feb. 18, 2025. Officer McClanaghan was appointed to the Department on Nov. 9, 1970, and retired Jan. 3, 1996.

**MULL** — Retired Sergeant Bert Mull, 82, died March 12, 2025. Sergeant Mull was appointed to the Department on March 21, 1966, and retired March 21, 1988.

**NUBER** — Retired Police Officer William Nuber, 100, died March 3, 2025. Officer Nuber was appointed to the Department on Aug. 25, 1947, and retired Aug. 25, 1972.

**PATRICK** — Retired Police Officer Kelvin Patrick, 68, died Feb. 6, 2025. Officer Patrick was appointed to the Department on Oct. 24, 1977, and retired Aug. 18, 2006.

**RADCLIFFE** — Retired Police Officer James Radcliffe, 86, died Feb. 1, 2025. Officer Radcliffe was appointed to the Department on June 26, 1967, and retired Jan. 30, 1993.

**SAMUELS** — Retired Sergeant John Samuels, 83, died Feb. 23, 2025. Sergeant Samuels was appointed to the Department on May 25, 1970, and retired Sept. 4, 1996.

**SCULLY** — Retired Police Officer Robert Scully, 79, died Jan. 20, 2025. Officer Scully was appointed to the Department on Oct. 2, 1967, and retired Jan. 5, 1993.

**SINNAMON** — Retired Police Officer James Sinnamon, 96, died Feb. 9, 2025. Officer Sinnamon was appointed to the Department on March 7, 1955, and retired April 1, 1982.

**SMITH** — Retired Sergeant Donald Smith, 78, died Jan. 6, 2025. Sergeant Smith was appointed to the Department on May 5, 1969, and retired Jan. 21, 1994.

**STEPHENS** — Retired Inspector Ronald Stephens, 89, died Jan. 29, 2025. Inspector Stephens was appointed to the Department on March 13, 1961, and retired Aug. 8, 1987.

**STERRETT** — Retired Police Officer Marsha Sterrett, 80, died Feb. 23, 2025. Officer Sterrett was appointed to the Department on Feb. 20, 1978, and retired Jan. 1, 2009.

**TAYLOR** — Retired Police Officer Herbert Taylor, 81, died March 12, 2025. Officer Taylor was appointed to the Department on Sept. 16, 1968, and retired July 25, 1987.

**WATKINS** — Retired Police Officer Willie Watkins, 75, died Dec. 28, 2024. Officer Watkins was appointed to the Department on May 26, 1977, and retired Nov. 1, 2017.

**WILLIAMS** — Retired Lieutenant Edward Williams, 77, died Jan. 13, 2025. Lieutenant Williams was appointed to the Department on July 3, 1970, and retired July 20, 2004.

*Special Thanks to Cindy Kallapure and the Detroit Police Benefit and Protective Association for providing the information used to compile these notices.*



# Emotional awareness is a key to success on the job

It's been a long winter and although some tough times were experienced, let me encourage you by announcing to you: **THE TIDE IS TURNING!**



**Yolanda Stinson**

As we excitedly look forward to the changing of the seasons, let's make sure we remain emotionally intelligent and aware and take care of ourselves to help keep us at our best as we serve others.

We celebrated Women's History Month, during which time, we honored and encouraged women throughout the department, sworn and civilian because we are our sister's keeper, we are one. We encouraged each other to take care of ourselves.

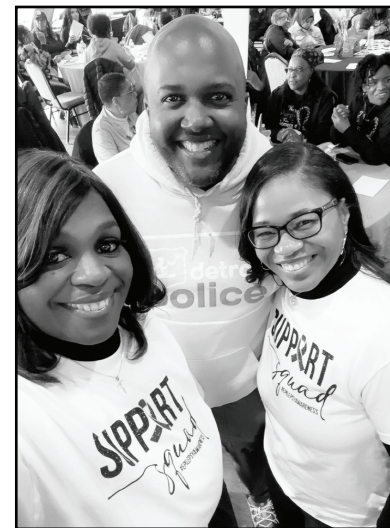
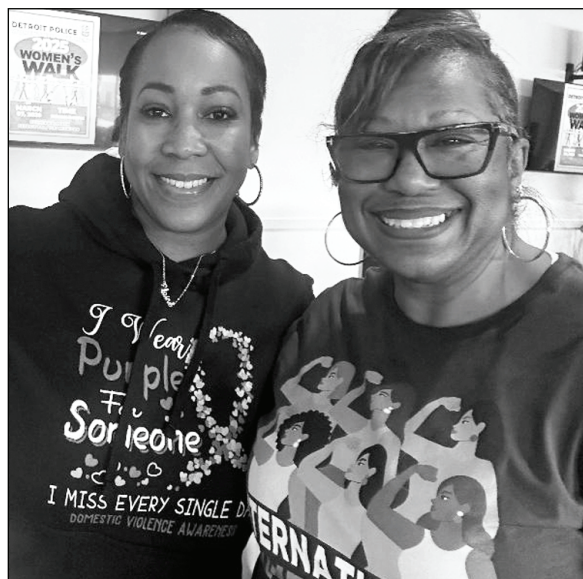
What is emotional awareness? In the

workplace, it is key for emotional intelligence, which involves understanding and managing our own emotions and being attuned to the emotions of others. This helps foster better and stronger communication, relationships, and teamwork. It helps increase our sense of empathy, which helps us recognize the perspectives of others that we may be able to respond with compassion.

Here are a few simple ways to help take care of yourself and maintain emotional awareness:

- Turn off or separate yourself from your cell phone or devices you maybe contacted on for at least 10 minutes a day
- Take a walk, listen to some mindful music and just enjoy the view
- Have a sit-down meal in a peaceful place, without rushing, take your time; enjoy the seasonings
- Get some rest and sleep
- Schedule time at the spa or gym, regularly
- Meditation and prayer

*Contributing Writer Yolanda Stinson is a civilian Detroit Police Department employee and a past deputy chief chaplain.*



**Photos provided courtesy of Yolanda Stinson**



**Above, with AC Hayes and Socha Taylor; Above, left, captains Leonard and Frederick; at left, Sgt. Fairfax-Moore, Capt. Leonard, Capt. Frederick, David Greenwood of PAL, and Cinceré Al'Talet, Ceasefire.**

# Don't overlook importance of your mental health

*Continued from Page 12*

you a foundation to start with. Having an effective self-care routine has been shown to have a number of health benefits.

According to the World Health Organization — better known as WHO... let the dogs out — exercise, finding a sense of purpose in life, and proper sleep have been connected to an increased lifespan. Proper self-care can improve your ability to communicate and build relationships with others, as well as better your ability to handle certain social situations.

As you start to take care of yourself you'll notice improvements in your active listening, in your teamwork, you'll have better patience, and you'll be able to be more empathetic with the people you care about who are going through situations.

It all starts with a self-care plan. Your self-care plan needs to be created by you, for you. Tailor your plan to your life and needs. Not everyone is the same, so what works for one person may not be

the best course of action for you.

You can start by making a list of the major activities that you engage in every day — work, school, relationships, and family time. Think about the aspects of these areas that cause stress and consider ways to address the stress in a healthy way. You don't have to tackle it all at once, take small steps if you need to. Even if you just start with one thing. Always make time for yourself. Make self-care a priority!

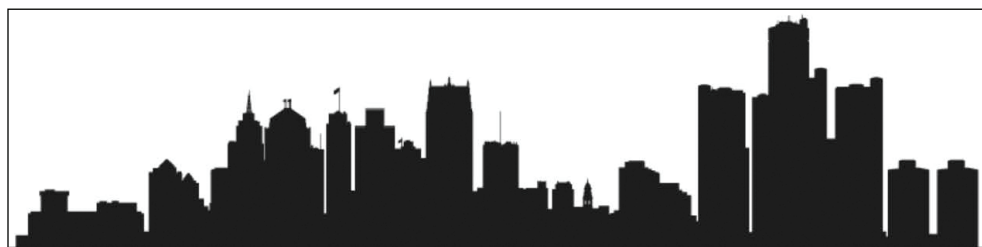
As the saying goes, "You can't pour from an empty cup." You can't properly take care of your family, friends, and loved ones if you are drained yourself. Put yourself first. Don't wait until you've reached your breaking point. The goal is to take steps each day to make sure you are getting what you need to deal with the stress and challenges you face in your daily life.

I hope this helps you start your journey to a healthier and happier lifestyle. As always, take care of yourself, and each other. Peace.

## SAVE THE DATE!

*Our next General Membership Meeting is May 20. Please join us!*

Looking for a recent past issue of Tuebor? Did you know the last three years are available on the DPOA website? Check them out by visiting [www.detroitpoa.com](http://www.detroitpoa.com) and click the "Tuebor Editions" tab.



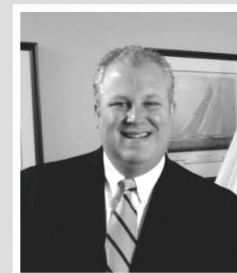
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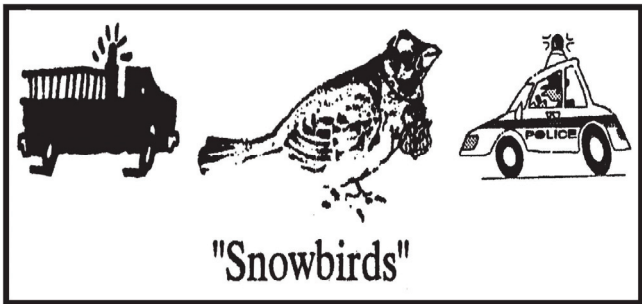
[mmonette@michiganfinancial.com](mailto:mmonette@michiganfinancial.com)

\*The financial analysis and recommendations are not intended to replace the need for independent tax, accounting, or legal review. Individuals are advised to seek the counsel of such licensed professionals.

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## RETIREE & ASSOCIATE NEWS



# First Up-North meeting in May in Roscommon

By Dan Zemaitis

Greetings from sunny Florida! There is still cleanup, rebuilding and refurbishing of the beaches.

We lost two longtime members: Charles (Dusty) Rhodes and Ed Krajewski. We send our sincere condolences to their families.

In February we met at Piccola Family Restaurant in Zephyrhills, Fla., and had lunch together. Those attending were: John and Carolyn Wood, Don and Cindy Rem, Mike and Suze Kniaz, Georgette Gekiere, Bill and Cathy Jasper and Dan Zemaitis. Good company, good food.

In March, we met at the Russell Stover store in Wildwood, Fla., and stocked up on our chocolates. We then met at Cody's Restaurant in

The Villages and had lunch together. John and Carolyn Wood, Don and Cindy Rem, Joann Cherry and Tony Fontana, Louis and Kathy Francis and Dan Zemaitis attended. Good company, good food and good chocolates.

**May birthdays:** Marsha Dreslinski, Jerry Henningsent, Sue Kniaz.

**June birthdays:** Dan Marcrum.

**July birthdays:** Murial Corsiglia, Evelyn Brehm, Claudia Sevald, Joanne Nichols, Robin Mueller, Don Rem and Michelle Pauch.

Our first meeting of 2025 is on May 18 at Fred's of Roscommon at 1 p.m.

"Family — where life begins and love never ends."

Take care and God bless.

## Be aware of insurance coverage changes if you are approaching 65

If you are approaching your 65th birthday and paying for life insurance, this information is for you.

If you are retired, your pension check shows deductions for Code 40610, 40620, 40640 or 40650.

If you are active, your pay stub shows deductions for Code 40650 or 40652.

According to the

terms of the plan, your benefits and premiums will be reduced by 50 percent when you reach age 65. However, the benefits are not reduced for your spouse or dependents.

To make the change in your deduction, contact Benefits Coordinator Katie Fuquay Murphy at the DPOA office at least 30 days prior to your 65th birthday.

Have your pay stub

handy so you can tell her what deduction code you're referring to. Call her at (313) 567-8770 or write her at the DPOA office, 1938 E. Jefferson, Detroit MI 48207.

You must also contact the pension board. Write them at Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Room 908, Detroit MI 48226 or call (313) 224-3362.

# What's Cooking?

## With Mary Moss

Happy Spring to all!

I love this time of year. The trees are starting to bloom, perennials will begin to emerge from the ground, and longer days to spend time outdoors.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Easter and Bon Appetit.



## Ham and Mashed Potato Casserole

### Ingredients

2 cups diced ham  
2 tablespoons butter  
¼ cup onion  
½ tablespoon Worcestershire Sauce  
1 can mushroom soup  
1 cup melting cheese such as Velveeta  
½ cup milk  
2 quarts mashed potatoes  
½ cup bacon bits, optional

### Directions

Combine ham, butter, onions, and Worcestershire sauce and sauté till onions are soft.  
Put in a baking dish and spread evenly.  
Heat soups, cheese, and milk.  
Pour over ham.  
Bake at 350 for 45 minutes to 1 hour. Put potatoes on top of ham mixture.



## Lemon Icebox Pie

### Ingredients

1 (12 ounce) can frozen lemonade  
1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk  
1 (12 ounce) container Cool Whip  
1 pie shell, baked and cooled

### Directions

Mix all ingredients together (reserve some Cool Whip for garnish) and pour into the pie shell.  
Refrigerate before serving.  
Garnish with Cool Whip.



Send your retiree news items to [tuebordetroit@yahoo.com](mailto:tuebordetroit@yahoo.com)

Planning a move? Don't forget to update your address at the DPOA office.



# THE TRADING POST

## MISCELLANEOUS

**AMERICAN RIFLEMAN** magazines wanted for the following years: 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1979, 1965 and 1998. Contact ret. Lt. Ralph Palmer at email address Palmerlas@aol.com.

**DETROIT POLICE PATCHES** wanted. Will trade or buy. Call PO at 313-995-0966.

**WANTED WWII stuff** — Retired DPD officer buying headgear, weapons, uniforms, insignia, photos. **DON'T THROW IT AWAY. SELL IT TO ME.** Call Mark at 313-319-1604.

**WANTED** — Police call boxes, parts, phones, locks and street posts; Detroit Police memorabilia. Email roccoc@juno.com or call 313-839-9042.

**WANTED** — Old coins, post-cards, photographs, comic books. Call 313-580-2393.

**DETROIT POLICE FIRE-ARMS** wanted. Any make, model or caliber firearms or long guns marked DPD or Detroit Police. Please contact Sgt. Corsetti at roccoc5255@g-mail.com or call 313-410-3197.

**CHALLENGE COINS** — 2 inch Detroit Police Mobile Field Force Challenge Coin for sale; \$15.00 per coin plus \$3.50 shipping per coin unless picked up in person; see Maureen Whitten at DDC Platoon 2 or call 313-445-3593.

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## The next TRADING POST ad Deadline is June 26!

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