

NOTICES

Friday, May 1— District Officers of the Year Banquet, 6-10 p.m. at Motor City Sound Board, 2901 Grand River Ave.

Tuesday, May 5— Executive Board meeting at 9 a.m. at the DPOA office.

Tuesday, May 19— Board of Directors meeting, 3 p.m. (note time /location change), Sacred Heart Catholic Church Activities Building, 3451 Rivard St.

Tuesday, May 19— General Membership Meeting, 5 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church Activities Building, 3451 Rivard St.

Tuesday, June 2— Executive Board meeting at 9 a.m. at the DPOA office.

Tuesday, June 9— Board of Directors meeting, 5 p.m., at the Gaelic League Hall, 2068 Michigan Ave.

Friday, June 12— 41st annual DPOA Charitable Fund Golf Outing, Oak Ridge Golf Course, 35035 26 Mile Road, New Haven.

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

Tuesday, April 13— Board of Directors meeting, 5 p.m., at the Gaelic League Hall, 2068 Michigan Ave.

Friday, Aug. 14— 2026-2027 Winter Furlough Draw.

Friday, Aug. 14— Annual DPOA Family Cookout, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. SAVE THE DATE!

www.detroitpoa.com

POSTAL SERVICE: BUNDLED PAPERS MUST BE SEPARATED



TUEBOR

Volume 90, Issue 2

Official publication of the Detroit Police Officers Association

Spring 2026



2025 District Officers of the Year



Ryan Jaberoo
Zazearra Carter
Romeo Kue
Haley Hebner
Marcos Cervantes



Willie Harvey
Eddie Dunn V
Robert Mackey
Joel Dobis
Demyra Farley



Brian Bayles
Robert Barber Jr.
Marcus Trueheart
Andres Torres-Lopez
John Wyatt



Angelina Tius
Dan Robinson Sr.
Alecia Fullilove
Lamont Nelson

Congratulations!

General Membership Meeting schedule for 2026:

- **Tuesday, May 19**
- **Tuesday, Sept. 22** • **Tuesday, Nov. 10**

TIME AND LOCATION: 5 p.m., Sacred Heart Church Activities Center, 3451 Rivard

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!

Video release ruling expected by early June

Here are a few quick updates on ongoing lawsuits and other legal matters with the City of Detroit.

Tuesday Jan. 6, 2026, there was a hearing with Arbitrator Ashford on our members currently being put off on their own sick time by the Medical Section when injured or on restricted-duty status. The Detroit Police Officers Association is working on an agreement with the Detroit Police Department.

A Michigan Employment Relations Commission (MERC) hearing was held Friday, April 3, 2026, with Judge Calderwood, who will be ruling on the new ordinance requiring body-worn camera footage of any officer-involved shooting and use of force to be released within 30 days. The temporary injunction to block its implementation will stay in effect until a decision is reached. The decision is expected to take 60 days.

We are still waiting on a court date for the 2.5 percent increase and backpay owed to the 25 seniority corporals who have attained 15 years of service.

We will do our best to keep you updated on these issues as the legal processes continue.

Members, it is very important you know your beneficiaries on your life insurance policies. We have found that our members have not updated their beneficiaries in years and are often surprised when they find who their beneficiaries are. To manage, change, or check on your benefits, come into the DPOA office located at 1938 East Jefferson Ave. with a copy of your current check stub.

It is also very important we have your current address and cell phone number on file at the office. You can also change it on our website, detroitpoa.com. To access the members-only area of the website, your username is your Department email address and your password is your badge number. If you do not have four numbers in your badge number add zeros to the front. Members are not required to do phone interviews, inter-



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Craig Miller

views with supervision or use their cell phones for zoom interviews; notify the DPOA office, (313) 567-8770, if you are advised or ordered.

When an officer is served a notice of Garrity from their supervisor, please contact the office at (313) 567-8770 so information can be recorded in the Garrity book. In addition, please take a clear picture of the Garrity request and email it to legal@detroitpoa.com; include 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 by calling the DPOA office at (313) 567-8770. There is an Executive Board member on call. We also do not do interviews with our supervisors, internal or anyone else. They can provide you with written "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 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.

Coalition of Detroit Public Safety Unions Trust HRA, Health Reimbursement Arrangement 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-

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Officers need to know their rights and take all interview requests seriously

Condolences to Officer Andra Fairley on the loss of her mother; friends and family of retired Lt. Richard "Cookie" Baker on his passing; friends and family on the loss of retired Police Officer Tilman Blair; friends and family on the loss of retired Sgt. Alma Hughes; Police Officer Kenneth Morant-Brown on the loss of his aunt; friends and family on the passing of retired Assistant Chief Lawrence Meyer; friends and family on the loss of retired Sgt. David Babcock; and Police Officer John Pinchum III on the loss of his father.

Also: Friends and family on the loss of retired Sgt. William Shine; Corporal Eric Brown on the loss of his father; friends and family on the loss of retired Officer Cheree White; Corporal Christopher Meredyk on the loss of his mother; Police Officer Tyler Welch on the loss of his grandfather; friends and family on the loss of retired Commander Daniel Hart; friends and family on the loss of retired Lt. John Campbell; Police Officer Kara Pietila on the loss of her sister; Sgt. Ebony Jackson on the loss of her grandmother.

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 against you criminally. Notify a steward immediately.



VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ron Thomas

Members also need to be mindful that you have to be served Garrity notices 72 hours in advance. They cannot serve you within 72 hours and if they do, contact your union steward immediately. Supervisors are aware of this and should never attempt to serve you in violation of the Collect Bargaining Agreement. Once served properly, immediately notify the Association to schedule an attorney to be present at your interview.

Every interview should be taken seriously whether you are the focus or are not the focus. Officers are attending these interviews where they are not the "focus" without any representation, then during the interview they begin to ask questions pertaining to procedure and the officers then become the "focus." This can be curtailed by having appropriate representation. The Association strongly discourages officers from doing phone

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TUEBOR

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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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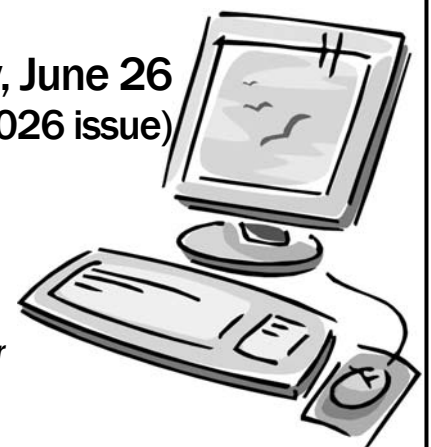
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Send label from Page 1 or old address plus new address to: DPOA, 1938 E. Jefferson, Detroit, MI 48207

POSTMASTER: Return forms to
Detroit Police Officers Association
1938 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, MI 48207

Writers' deadline for the next issue:

Friday, June 26
(Summer 2026 issue)

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



Added voice

DPOA now has second seat on Pension Board

By Joe Hoshaw Jr.
TUEBOR EDITOR

Lashun O'Rear, a member of the Detroit Police Officers Association's Executive Committee since 2017, has been overwhelmingly elected to a seat on the City of Detroit's Police and Fire Retirement System.

O'Rear will now complete the term of retired Sergeant Matt Gnatek, which will expire in July 2028. The election gives DPOA a second seat on the 17-member Pension Board for the first time in several years.

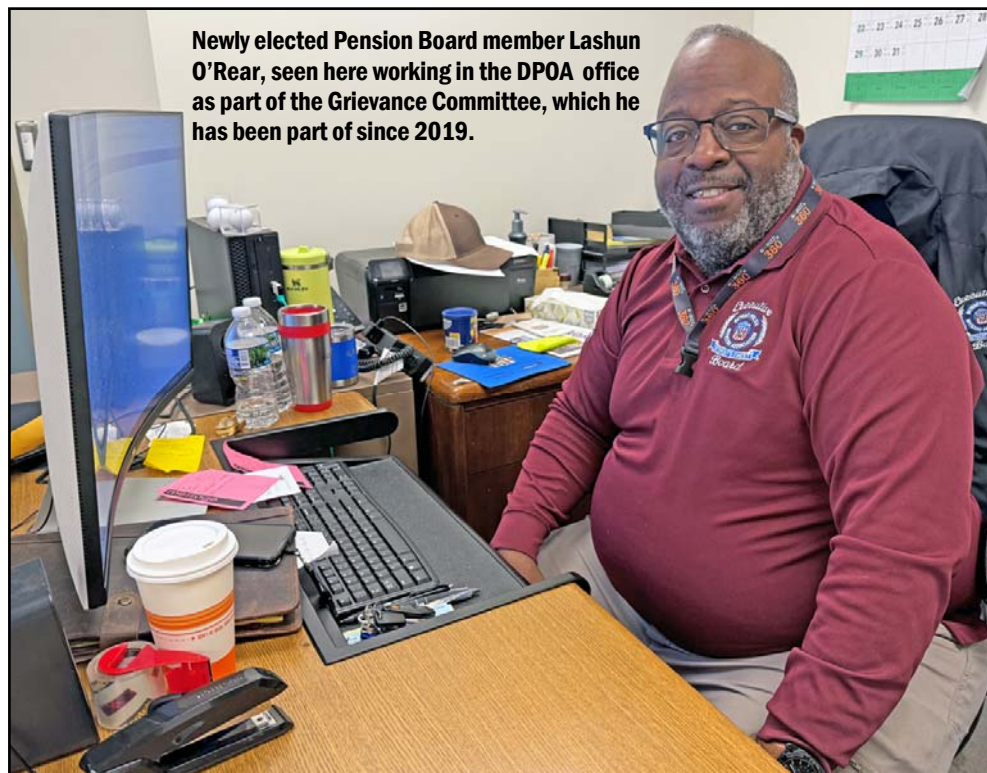
Also serving on the panel is Ron Thomas, the officers' union vice president, who has held a po-

sition since 2019. His current term runs until July 2027.

"DPOA benefits having two people on the Board securing and maintaining the benefit for all the members of the pension system," Thomas said.

DPD also is represented by a command officer on the board, and the remainder of the elected members include three active Fire Department members and two people representing retirees.

Most of the remainder of the board is comprised of ex-officio, or non-elected members representing the mayor, council and key city depart-



Newly elected Pension Board member Lashun O'Rear, seen here working in the DPOA office as part of the Grievance Committee, which he has been part of since 2019.

ments.

O'Rear, a 29-year department member, said he sought the post to help look out for the interests of DPOA members. He also shared his thanks to the membership for their strong show of support.

For the past several years he has been an active participant in numerous DPOA leadership roles. Since becoming a union steward in 2013,

O'Rear added roles on the Grievance and Finance committees in 2019. He also has served as Finance Committee Trustee for the Detroit Police Benefit and Protection Association since 2016.

O'Rear also has been a trustee of the city's Deferred Compensation Plan since 2023 and is an active member of both the National Conference Public Employee Retire-

ment Systems and National Association of Government Defined Contributions Administrators.

The Board of Trustees for the PFRS was created in 1941; and "is vested with responsibility for the general administration, management, and operation of PFRS; and with the trust and investment powers conferred in the PFRS Plan Document."

Think summer. Think golf outing

Despite the rocky start to our spring warmup, the annual Charitable Fund Golf Outing is now visible on the not-to-distant horizon as a beacon of better days ahead.

This year marks the 41st anniversary for the outing, a fundraiser that seeds the good deeds that the DPOA's charitable foundation does each year.

All those interested in being part of what inevitably will be an enjoyable day in support of a good cause should consider signing up sooner rather than later to help Royce Hill and his dedicated Entertainment Committee members with their advance planning efforts.

Members as well as DPOA supporters and friends can all be a part of the action on Friday, June 12, at the traditional location, Oak Ridge Golf

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Mayor lauds city's 'historic' crime reduction



Mayor Mary Sheffield, seen here making remarks at the police chief's annual crime report press conference earlier this year, delivered her first State of the City address March 31, where she reiterated crime statistics showing historic reductions through most categories. "Public safety remains a top priority of this administration," she said.

Perhaps it's a tribute to the good work of the men and women of the Detroit Police Department that Mayor Mary Sheffield only briefly referenced the DPD during her nearly-hour-long State of the City speech.

Her first major speech since taking office at the beginning of the year was held on March 31 at Mumford High School. In delivering her State of the City speech, Detroit's first female mayor highlighted her initial efforts to move Detroit's resurgence into the neighborhoods.

She also touted plans to expand funding for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, provide free DDOT rides for K-12 students, implement a 120 percent increase in paid after-school programs, bring the Rx Kids cash assistance program for mothers to the city, reduce red tape, and improve talent attraction to the city.

In decades past public safety efforts might have

received top billing in state of the city speeches. This year, however, with crime rates continuing a years-long drop in Detroit and elsewhere, Sheffield only briefly mentioned the efforts of the DPD and its officers.

"While we have seen a historic 60-year reduction in crime in Detroit, public safety remains a top priority of this administration," Sheffield said. "Over the last several years we have seen a decrease in every major category of violent crime.

"I want to thank the men and women of the Police Department, Chief Betison, as well as our county, state and federal partners for your work in this effort. Also included in these partnerships are the community violence intervention groups who continue to play a critical role in our public safety strategy.

Sheffield also announced a new effort toward "prioritizing mental health and wellness, by adding a third shift to the

mental health co-response team. For the first time, this blended unit of police officers and mental health professionals will be operating 24 hours, 7 days a week."

She continued: "I look forward to partnering with our county, state and other community stakeholders to ensure the Detroiters have greater access to the mental health resources that they need and deserve."

The mayor, along with new squads at the DPD, is also going to take a swing at reducing property crime in Detroit. "One of the things I've heard from residents is that they are also concerned with property crime, so I have directed DPD to create a property crime squad in all 12 precincts," Sheffield said.

"In addition to this new focus, our police officers will be more visible and present in every neighborhood to build trust and enhance the overall quality of life for Detroiters."

The new mayor also lauded the lower-than-national-average response times by the Detroit Fire Department. And while the city has made enormous strides in improving public lighting — a huge factor in public safety — Sheffield promised that more focus on better-lit streets is on the way.

"We also know that well-lit neighborhoods are safe neighborhoods," Sheffield said. "And while we have made tremendous strides in putting up streetlights in recent years, a number of residents and block clubs continue to express the need for additional lighting.

"Well, Detroit, two weeks ago, I signed an executive order paving the way for the 'Brighten Up the Block Plan.' This will utilize Public Lighting Authority bond savings to add 3,000 new mid-block street lights in our neighborhoods. The goal is to begin installing these streetlights this summer."

Committee finalizing new recordkeeper contract

After a rather long and cold winter, we have finally reached spring, and hopefully we will have wonderful weather during this spring and summer.

The Deferred Compensation Committee finalized our portion of the contract with the new recordkeeper at the Feb. 28 committee meeting. The process took much longer than expected but we were able to get great benefits for our participants. It has been forwarded to the Law Department for their approval, and it will then go to City Council for final approval.

Once the City Council approves the contract, an official announcement will be made with the name of the new company. The transition should be completed by Aug. 1, 2026. All participants will be switched from their current recordkeeper to the new one. It will be done automatically, and the participants will not have to do anything.

Updates will be provided to all participants throughout the transition process with detailed information about what is happening. All current investment funds



SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Kenneth
Eppenbrock

will be brought forward initially. Later this fall, after careful review with our consultants, the committee will consolidate the number of available investment funds. Any changes made will be to better-performing funds with lower fees. Members will also be able to make changes to their payroll deduction through the Ulti-Pro payroll system. Hopefully by the time this article goes to print the new provider will be announced.

The 41st Annual DPOA Charitable Golf Outing will be held on Friday, June 12, 2026, at Oak Ridge Golf Course, located at 35035 26 Mile Road, New Haven MI 48048. Brochures are available at the DPOA office, so stop by to pick one

Continued below

Upcoming or recent separations from the Department are as follows:

Name	Command Area	Status	Last Duty Date
PO Mustafa Daher	10th Pct.	Resigned	1/2
PO Yolanda Gann	12th Pct	Resigned	1/5
PO Rayman Patras	Gang Intel	Resigned	1/7
PO Brandon Halstead	8th Pct.	Resigned	1/8
PO Patti Graves	Civil Rights	Retired	1/9
PO Austin Delargey	9th Pct.	Resigned	1/14
PO Roberto Maldonado	EPU	Retired	1/15
PO Christian Sharpe	9th Pct.	Resigned	1/16
PO Deonte Wade	3rd Pct.	Resigned	1/16
PO Brian Boykin	4th Pct.	Retired	1/16
PO Julia Otero	11th Pct.	Resigned	1/23
PO Curtis Goode	TSS	Retired	2/1
PO Dietrich Lever II	Transit Unit	Resigned	2/4
PO Lisa Ray	Court Liaison	Retired	2/4
PO Carlton Mack	7th Pct.	Resigned	2/5
PO Theodore Eising	3rd Pct.	Resigned	2/6
PO Antonio Ray	12th Pct.	Resigned	2/7
PO Eugene Fitzhugh	Crime Scene Services	Retired	2/9
PO Charles Brotzke	9th Pct.	Dismissed	2/10
PO Khamisi Johnson	2nd Pct.	Resigned	2/12
PO Abdul Shabazz	Traffic Enforcement	Retired	2/14
PO Douglas Bartell	Community Outreach	Retired	2/16
PO London Peoples	7th Pct.	Resigned	2/17
PO Ali Dakhallah	7th Pct.	Dismissed	2/25
PO Gerald Beckem	DDC	Retired	3/2
PO Ali Dakhallah	7th Pct.	Dismissed	3/2
PO Isaiah Voik	5th Pct.	Resigned	3/5
PO Lorreal McDowell	6th Pct.	Medical Sep.	3/6
PO Marquise Lake	8th Pct.	Resigned	3/9
PO Kaleb Ruffin	11th Pct.	Resigned	3/9
PO Joshua Struski	Academy	Resigned	3/13
PO Derond Crawford	5th Pct.	Resigned	3/18
PO Jalen Stokes	Academy	Medical Sep.	3/18
PO Mark Zajac	9th Pct.	Retired	3/25
PA Carlos Griffin	DDC	Resigned	3/13
PA Eldon Parham	Resource Mgmt.	Resigned	3/18
Det. Jency Payne	11th Pct	Resigned	1/9
Det. John Mitchell	Homicide	Retired	2/2
Det. Ben Biddle	Child Abuse	Retired	2/2
Det. Don Dent	Child Abuse	Retired	2/2
Det. Renee Forte	8th Pct.	Resigned	2/23
Det. Earl Monroe	7th Pct.	Retired	2/24
Det. Cheryl Peoples	Internal Controls	Retired	3/2
Det. Tyrone Bates	2nd Pct.	Retired	3/6
Inv. Latunya Moses	DQC	Retired	1/4
Inv. Glenda Fisher	8th Pct.	Retired	2/2
Sgt. Raymond Buford	EPU	Retired	1/2
Sgt. Carrie Fairfax-Moore	Public Info	Retired	1/26
Sgt. Bradley Tobel	Major Violators	Resigned	1/30
Sgt. Ladwan Russell	Communications	Retired	3/2
Sgt. Lestine Gilbert	3rd Pct.	Retired	3/31
Lt. James Cashion	3rd Pct.	Retired	1/24
Lt. Candace Matschikowski	2nd Pct.	Retired	1/30
Lt. Ray Gilmore	DDC	Retired	2/6
Lt. Stephanie Smith	Communication	Retired	2/27
Lt. Terri Kennedy	Labor	Retired	3/31
Cdr. William Sims	DDC	Retired	3/2

up and get your foursome out on the links. There are also various sponsorships available, so be sure to notify any businesses that may be interested in getting their name out to the participants. All sponsorships are tax deductible, as the Charitable Fund is a 501(c)3 organization.

Congratulations to all DPOA District Officers of the Year award recipients. The 41st annual Officer of the Year banquet will be held May 1 at the Motor City Casino Sound Board.

Take time to enjoy life beyond the workday with family and friends. As always, stay safe and be careful out there.

Manpower as of April 5, 2026

RANK	BUDGETED	FTEs FILLED THIS MONTH	OVER/UNDER BUDGET
Chief of Police	1	1	0
1st Assistant Chief	1	1	0
Assistant Chief	2	2	0
Deputy Chief	7	7	0
Commander	19	19	0
Commander - DDC	1	1	0
Captains	28	29	1
Lieutenant	119	111	-8
Lieutenant - Transit	2	1	-1
Lieutenant - ATPA Grant	1	1	0
Sergeant	333	319	-14
Sergeant - Transit	5	5	0
Master Sergeant	40	43	3
Sergeant - DDC	15	14	-1
Investigator	5	3	-2
Detective	184	173	-11
FTO	85	61	-24
FTO - Transit	3	1	-2
N.P.O.	60	50	-10
Mental Health NPO	14	12	-2
Mental Health PO	11	11	0
Police Officer	1705	1684	-21
Police Officer - Transit	35	30	-5
Sub Total:	2676	2579	-97
Police Assistants	21	19	-2
Police Assistants (Funded)	1	1	0
Grand Total	2698	2599	-99

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

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- Grievance Committee Update — Page 8
- Be aware of coverage changes at age 65 — Page 26

Here are the rules for two-year assignments

TWO YEAR JOB ASSIGNMENTS:

With the Department hiring hundreds of new police officers within the past years, the Permanent Shift Program as it pertains to Detroit Police Officers Association members would be beneficial to Association members with less than two years.

The contract language can be found in Article 41, page 62 of the 2022-2027 CBA.

When a member reaches two years, the position that the member is to fill on a permanent basis must be posted. Example: Officer Push has been working Scout 2-5, Platoon 2, he reaches his two years, the opening to be posted is the assignment that is now going to be permanently filled. It could be a member reaching his two years on Platoon 3 or Platoon 1.

Article 41, B 3., states, in part, "Whenever the Department chooses to fill vacancies created as a result of officers completing two years of service the positions to be filled shall be posted at least 10 days before they are permanently filled."

BLUE SLIPS (568)

Who can submit a blue slip? Everyone, almost. The contract is clear. A request for assignments within a precinct, section or unit once an employee is assigned there, can be made by submitting a blue slip.

You may submit a blue slip the day you are transferred into a precinct, section or unit. However, you must remember that if seniority becomes an issue in



SERGEANT AT ARMS REPORT

Linda Broden

filling that job assignment, a member may not be able to use that seniority until he has 6 months in the transfer entity, if it was an involuntary transfer, and 12 months if it was a voluntary transfer.

Members with less than 18 months service shall not be entitled to use the form 568 (blue slip) procedure to bid on a permanent job assignment. Members with at least 18 months and less than 24 months service shall be entitled to use the blue slip procedure to bid on a permanent job assignment, other than a scout car. You may also submit a 568 (blue slip) indicating a preference for a shift change. When vacancies occur the most senior qualified will have his blue slip request honored.

The blue slip of an officer requesting a particular assignment on a shift shall be honored before the blue

slip of an officer requesting the shift only. You may have 2 blue slips on file, one for an assignment and another for a shift. Example: Officer Push has 10 years of seniority: he is requesting the job assignment of Scout 2-10 on Platoon 3. Officer Baker is requesting Platoon 3 and has 25 years of seniority. When the position becomes vacant, Officer Push would receive the position as it is the job assignment that is to be filled.

You may also submit a blue slip for any job assignment other than a scout car assignment. This would include any job assignment within your command, station security, motorman, VMO, some commands may have a report clerk. Job assignments can be found in Article 10 g, 1. of the CBA.

Remember transfer requests shall be valid for a period until Oct. 1 each year. Continuation requests may be submitted on or after Aug. 15. Article 10 F.1a.

QUOTE of THE MONTH: "A good compromise is one where everyone makes a contribution." – Angela Merkel

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.

Duly Sworn

Several new stewards and alternates took the oath of office from Sergeant-at-Arms Linda Broden over the past few months. Stewards are effectively members of the DPOA Board of Directors and the alternates serve as their backups when they can not attend. Being sworn in at the February board meeting at right are Sterlene Jones, now a 10th Precinct alternate, and Amir Ali, a new steward for No. 12. Two separate swearings-in occurred at the March meeting. Below are Decker Noonan (left), a Third Precinct alternate and Israel Rodriguez, Third Precinct, steward. Far right are Jill Wrobel, Seventh Precinct, alternate; Ryan Harris, Seventh Precinct, steward; and Kevon Webb, Seventh Precinct, alternate.



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. 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. 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

YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Craig Miller
President

Ron Thomas
Vice President

Ken Eppenbrock
Secretary-Treasurer

Linda Broden
Sergeant-at-Arms

Calvin Adkins
Keith Baker
Michael Fountain
Royce Hill
Karen Maxey
Lashun O'Rear
Charles Roland
Christine Rozier
Sean Wayrynen

Ron Thomas: You are under no obligation to do a phone interview

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interviews, you are under no obligation to do a phone interview and that practice needs to stop.

Members also need to know and remember 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 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 in order 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
Members leaving the department under a vested pension should be reminded to fill out the sick/pay out sheets

prior to separation. The sick/pay out sheets to redeem 85 percent of your unused sick time upon separation are located at the Association Office. This only applies to members leaving under a vested pension. Members leaving under a Duty Disability Retirement must wait until their 25th Year and send a letter to the chief to be paid out from their sick banks. Vesting occurs after 10 years of completed service.

Officers are reminded to contact the Association as soon as possible with questions and complaints regarding contractual issues. All grievances have a timeline that must be followed and that is twenty-eight (28) Days following the violation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. This timeline has changed under the new 2022-2027 CBA. Anything outside that time limit can be closed by the Department due to timeliness. Contact the Association and be guided by Sergeant-at-Arms Linda Broden and the Grievance Committee.

Members leaving the department under a vested pension should be reminded to fill out the sick/pay out sheets prior to separation at the DPOA office.

The sick/pay out sheets are to redeem 85 percent of your unused sick time. This only applies to members leaving under a vested pension. Members separating under a DDR must wait until their 25th year and send a letter to the chief of police to be paid from their sick banks. Vesting occurs after 10 years of completed service.

The rate of return for the DROP for the next quarter is 3.20 percent. The

pension system anticipates that the DROP will begin to be managed by the Detroit Police Fire Retirement System starting July 1, 2026, as outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Plan Document. That has been proceeding as planned to date.

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.

Better weather and golf lie ahead

Continued from Page 3

Course in New Haven. Individual tickets for the day-long event are \$125 — or \$500 per foursome — 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.

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 22 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.



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Giving the benefit of the doubt

It's hard to always know what goes on in the lives of others

By The Rev. Peter Latouf

During the church season of Lent this year, I spent more time than usual hearing people's confessions. People constantly come to me and confess their biggest secrets (it's part of the job of being a priest), and it's a beautiful thing when someone opens up their heart to you. One thing, however, kept coming up in different ways. Most of the people weren't describing huge problems; they were talking about everyday situations that slowly became huge problems. Most of



these problems came down to misunderstandings. For example, someone said something the wrong way, or didn't say anything at all, and it got taken personally. Or maybe someone didn't respond, or seemed short, or handled something differently than expected, and it turned into long-lasting frustration and anxiety.

After hearing these enough times, I saw some patterns. Most of those situations didn't begin with someone trying to cause a problem; they started from assumptions. Maybe one person assumed the other meant something negative, and from there everything else got filtered through that assumption. Once that happens, it's hard to walk it back because every new interaction just reinforces the

THE BIGGER PICTURE

original conclusion, whether it's correct or not. We know what happens when you assume!

This same kind of dynamic happens a lot in police work, too. You spend long hours with the same people, often under stress, and it doesn't take much for small things to get interpreted the wrong way. For example, maybe someone is quieter than usual, or doesn't jump in the way you expected, or says something that comes out wrong. It's very easy in those moments to just think right away, "Yikes, that person has an attitude." Or maybe you get angry because someone isn't pulling their weight or doesn't seem to care as much as they should.

The problem is that most of the time you don't actually know what's behind that behavior. The officer next to you might be dealing with something at home. Maybe they're running on very little sleep, or maybe still carrying something from a call earlier in the week. It might not even be anything major. Sometimes people are just "off" some days. But once you negatively assume, it can change the way people work together without anyone really addressing it directly.

This really matters in a job where people rely on each other as much as you do. You don't develop trust only in the big moments.

It's built in the day-to-day interactions that don't stand out at the time. When the kind of "default approach" is to assume the worst about each other, even quietly, it wears that trust down; we start second-guessing, getting frustrated, and less willing to give someone else the benefit of the doubt.

On the other hand, when people make a habit of stepping back for a second before jumping to a conclusion, it changes the way they work together a little. Of course this doesn't mean that ignoring problems is the right way to handle a situation. It just means not immediately assuming bad intent when there are plenty of other explanations that are just as likely (or maybe even more likely). In a lot of cases, asking your partner a quick question or giving them a little space can prevent something small from turning into an ongoing issue.

As the weather starts to warm up and we move into the summer months, things tend to pick up a little (more events happen around the city, more people are out, more situations develop, etc). That environment naturally brings more stress. Stress makes it easier to misread people and react quickly without thinking things through. These same kinds of small misunderstandings that might pass during a

slower time of year can all of a sudden turn into bigger problems when everyone is already stretched thin.

So I think this is worth keeping in mind over the next few months. When something doesn't sit right with a fellow officer, it helps to pause and ask whether you actually know what's going on. That moment of thinking about it first can keep situations from escalating unnecessarily. And it makes it easier to work through issues when they do come up.

Most people you work with are trying to do the job well, even if it doesn't always come across that way. Keeping this in mind doesn't make you naive, it just keeps you from carrying around frustration (which might not even be worth it in the first place). Over time, that kind of thinking makes working together a little more straightforward, which goes a long way in a job that already has enough built-in stress.

I pray you all continue to work together well, and may God bless all men and women of the DPOA.

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.

Craig Miller: You must apply to be able to receive an HRA stipend

Continued from Page 2

4306; or, for more information about the CDPSU HRA Plan, visit CDPSUTrust.com.

Congratulations to all our members who have been named recipients of 2025 District Officers of the Year honors. We are looking forward to honoring you at our 41st annual banquet May 1 at Motor City Sound Board.

Please stay safe and back each other up. We are all we have.

Writers wanted!

Don't see your command area represented with an article in Tuebor? You are welcome to help us change that. If you are interested in being the writer and are willing and able to provide a quarterly article, please contact your chief steward or email tuebordetroit@yahoo.com



TUEBOR

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First quarter of '26 brings 50 new filings

Hello again! Here is some of what has been going on since the last article.

Total Grievances Filed to date in 2026 = 50

Arbitration Decision(s):

In late January, the Association received the arbitration decision concerning the termination of a member of the 2nd Precinct. The member was charged with eleven (11) specifications. The penalty for five (5) of the specifications was termination. Arbitrator Linda D. Ashford did dismiss two (2) of the specifications that were termination offences and one (1) three (3) day suspension but upheld the remaining charges. The termination stands.

In early February, the Association received the decision for a Fourth Precinct member who was assigned out unjustly. The grievance was heard by Arbitrator Ashford. The arbitrator listed every excuse the Department (4th Precinct Command Staff) had for assigning the grievant as unconvincing and stated, The Detroit Police Department's temporary transfer of the grievant from the Fourth Precinct to the Eighth Precinct on June 25, 2025, was unreasonable and in violation of Article 10 F. 2. An investigation has been started at the request of the DPOA for untruthfulness.

This grievance was concerning a member working Secondary Employment while off on comp time. His



THE GRIEVANCE FILES



Keith Baker

supervisor informed him that the comp time was cancelled and he was to report to his command. Once he arrived, he was told he was not needed and could leave. The grievant lost more than \$400 leaving the secondary job to report to his command. The grievance requested he be paid the money he lost out on. The grievance was granted in June of 2024 at the Step 3 Meeting. The City was given a generous amount of time to make the payment and never complied so the grievance was scheduled for arbitration. On Feb. 18, 2026, our Labor Attorney was contacted by the City. This contact supplied a copy of the Feb. 20, 2026, paystub of the grievant. This paystub included the money owed to the grievant. Case

closed, finally.

The Association received the decision on Feb. 23, 2026 for a Seventh Precinct member who was charged with three (3) specifications, all related to failure to provide a truthful statement. Termination was listed as the presumptive penalty for each charge. Arbitrator Gail Wilson heard this case and decided that the employer had just cause to discipline the officer and found no reason to mitigate the presumptive penalty for the charges assessed. The termination stands.

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 Chief of Police.

This request must be submitted to the Chief of Police 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.

Remember:

Today's a good day to have a great day.

No matter how bad you are, you're not useless. You can still be used as a bad example.

Everyone has a photographic memory, some just don't have film.

Drink more water.

Tuebor writers hold annual get-together

By Joe Hoshaw Jr.
TUEBOR EDITOR

The Writers Workshop held in March provided a great opportunity to "communicate" in person with many of the Detroit Police Officers Association leaders and members from throughout the department who supply articles and other information that appear on the pages of Tuebor, the longstanding official publication of the DPOA.

Tuebor has a storied tradition that goes back to the union's earliest days. The very first "official" issue was published in 1944, with the intent of providing officers throughout the vast and growing department with a regular and reliable means of communication.

Though much has changed since then, that remains our central mission. The true level of success we attain though depends heavily on the officers who write the articles for each issue.

And, fortunately, we have a growing core group of contributors who recog-

nize the importance of that mission and are interested and willing to help us accomplish it.

The Writers Workshop is another great tradition that goes back many years. Typically, we gather at least once a year at a Detroit restaurant to talk about writing and share ideas for the future. In March we gathered at Sinbad's. In a world where life seems to move so fast and electronic communication has taken precedence over sitting down and meeting in person, those rare in-person get-togethers can help slow things down a bit and shift and enhance perspectives and add to the value of the service we try to provide to the membership at large.

Our most recent Writers Workshop was exactly that. The primary role of each writer is to share information about events, accomplishments, challenges and milestones from their specific corner of the department with Tuebor's readership, which is all members of DPOA spread through every precinct and special command



DPOA leadership members and Tuebor writers on hand for the Writers Workshop held in March included Sergeant-at-Arms Linda Broden (left), Secretary-Treasurer Ken Eppenbrock, Katherine Price (FAMLE), Colette Burks-Weathers (Second Precinct), Yolanda Stinson (civilian DPD), DPOA President Craig Miller, Chontel Jones (Honor Guard), Lashun O'Rear (Grievance Committee/Ninth Precinct writer), Lamont Williams (Downtown Services), Keith Baker (Grievance Committee/writer), Tuebor Editor Joe Hoshaw and senior writing staff member Manix Kroma (11th Precinct).

throughout the city.

Every command area is welcome to contribute a regular article. If you don't see your unit or precinct represented and are interested in being part of Tuebor's writing team, either talk to your steward or contact President Craig Miller, or call or email me. I can be reached at 734-558-6955 or via the Tuebor email address, tuebor@detroit@yahoo.com.

Among some of our new writers who just joined us recently are Katherine Price of FAM-

LE, Charo Turner Sr. of TEU and Lindita Merditaj from the Third Precinct. Also, Christopher Smith, our previous writer for No. 6, moved over to Major Crimes this past year and has agreed to continue as a Tuebor writer on behalf of his newly assigned area.

At this time, we are still looking for representation from Precincts 4, 6, 7, 10 and 12, as well as Training, Canine, Harbor-master and possibly a few others.

I'd also like to offer a

special shoutout to two of our longtime contributors:

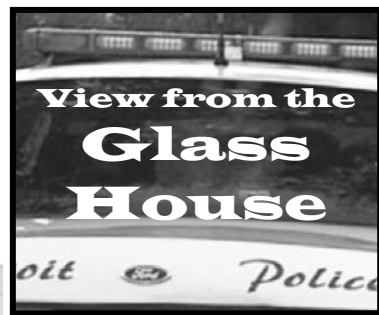
Abdul Shabazz, who for the last several years has been the outstanding representative for TEU, retired at the end of last year. Thank you for your service and best wishes for great things post-DPD! Charo Turner Sr.'s first article as Shabazz's successor appears in this issue.

Also, special thanks to our "senior" writer, Manix Kroma. Kromanix is still going strong as writer for No. 9 after nearly 30 years.

Tuebor is published both electronically and in print format four times a year (January, April, July and October). We are always looking to improve it and value your input.

The bottom line is we just want to provide a consistently better, more informative publication that the members can rely on for important information and news about your union, or to simply learn some new and interesting things about their fellow officers.

Think carefully about how you use sick time



Lashun O'Rear

Hello from the Glass House!

As we go into spring, I hope that everyone is happy, healthy, prosperous, and safe.

We need to talk about sick time, and why it's important to have it.

One: your health. While you're healthy now and feeling invincible, life happens and you never know when you might need to take some time for health reasons.

Two: family members, spouses, kids and parents can get sick unexpectedly, so you need to be prepared.

Three: your sick time usage will be used for

transfers and job assignments and if you abuse it, you will lose that opportunity.

Finally, and most importantly, when you run out of sick time, if you need to call off sick you will be Absent No Pay (ANP) and every day that you are Absent No Pay, you must make up at the end of your career.

We all get sick and must use sick time, that's part of our contract — you get 40 hours every July and eight hours every month. Use them wisely.

I would like to say congratulations to Police Officer Austin Hunter

and his girlfriend, Halle Grayer, on the birth of their beautiful daughter, Amilah Hunter. Amilah was born on March 19, 2026, at 5:20 p.m., weighing 6 pounds, 9 ounces. Welcome to the DPOA family, Amilah.

Stay safe. Love you all!



Congratulations to Officer Austin Hunter and his girlfriend, Halle Grayer, on the recent birth of their daughter, Amilah.



Three Triple Three

Lindita Merditaj

Remain vigilant as summer approaches

Welcome to spring — opening day is right around the corner, and brighter, warmer days are ahead. I hope everyone had a great holiday season. A lot is new in the Third Precinct.

To start, congratulations to Officer Ryan Jaberero on being named the Third Precinct's Officer of the Year. As one of our Field Training Officers, Officer Jaberero consistently demonstrates dedication, fairness, and a strong commitment to developing our newest officers. You can see the full story of why he was selected for the honor on Page 14. Congratulations as well to all recipients of the 2026 Officer of the Year awards.

As we move into the spring months — when activity tends to ramp up ahead of summer — let's remain vigilant, stay aware of our surroundings, and most im-

Continued on Page 12

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

New Critical Illness insurance with Optional Cancer bene it* is being offered to all employees up to a \$20,000 benefit.

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

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- Dental Insurance*

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*Offered with guaranteed-issue underwriting, which means no medical underwriting to qualify for coverage. Benefits may be subject to a pre-existing condition provision.

**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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There is a story of sacrifice behind every officer

By Chontel Jones
DETROIT POLICE HONOR GUARD

Greetings from the Detroit Police Honor Guard. When I think about the Detroit Police Department, I don't just think about uniforms, patrol cars, or badges. I think about people. Real people who made a choice every day to show up for a city that depends on them, even when it wasn't easy. Writing this made me realize that behind every officer, whether fallen or retired, there is a story of sacrifice, commitment, and purpose.

For the fallen officers, their stories are the hardest to reflect on. These were individuals who went to work not knowing if they would return home but still chose to serve anyway. That kind of

courage is something most people can't fully understand unless they've lived it. They didn't just protect the city of Detroit, they gave everything they had to it. Their absence is felt not only by their families, but also by their fellow officers and the communities they served. Even though they are no longer here physically, their impact continues in the way officers carry themselves today.

We should also remember the retirees who have passed away after years, sometimes decades of dedication. They've seen the city at its best and worst, and they stayed committed to it all. Their service helped shape the department and guide the next



We Honor the Fallen Heroes

generation of officers. Even after leaving the job, their impact continued through the lives they touched and the examples they set.

What stands out to me the most is the shared bond between fallen officers and retirees. One group gave everything in the line of duty, while the other gave a lifetime of service. Both deserve recognition, respect, and remembrance. It's not just about honoring them during ceremonies or special events — it's about continuing their legacy through the work that is done every day.

In the end, honoring
Continued on Page 12

Mother Nature definitely made her presence felt

My, my, my, what a winter season! The atmospheric seasonal changes this year are no joke! Hence no one has control of what mother nature can deliver — we accept what is given or poured on our planet earth: the winds and tornadoes, the rain and snows, the good and bad weather. This year, nature surely delivered a horrific winter season to our western hemisphere. The nation has been bombarded with unrelenting snowfall across its length and breadth. States that never experienced snow had their share of mother nature.

In Michigan, we had our share too: schools were closed, offices were emptied and businesses were craving customers. The load of work for snow removal in municipalities reached an all-time high. Storages that



Kromanix



once had a stockpile of snow were in scarcity and some cities were even mixing sand with salt to maximize quantity to avoid shortages. The break in winter snow fall for the past years in Michigan was replenished by this year's abundance. Climate change? What nature!

I personally want to applaud and command our hardworking Department members who were in the frigid weather, day in and day out, responding to these runs and serving this great City.

Thank you!

Nevada Blues wishes to welcome Capt. Shannon Hampton, Sgt. Eugene Bomber and the new PPOs to our manpower. The Probationary Police Officers consist of Thalha Ahmed, Valentino Sinamati, Justin Zirwes, Raven Cooper, Giuseppe Galati, Valentino Sinamati and Donald Townsend. Welcome guys and hope you will listen to your FTOs and enjoy your assignments.

Until then stay tuned and be safe.

M. Mustapha Kroma



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Unit focused on helping in difficult times

Now that spring has officially started, it offers hope, warmth, and growth following some of the coldest months Michigan has experienced in quite some time. Focus on resilience and comforting the return of brighter days.

“Happiness is a choice we get to make over and over again. From starting your day with a fresh cup of coffee and catching up with friends to taking time to watch the sunset. May Spring be the season you fill yourself up on all the things that make you smile.” — Helen Keller

FAMLE (Family Advocate and Management Liaison for Engagement) is unwavering in its commitment to serve as the essential liaison for fallen, critically injured and retired officers, along with our civilian professionals, particularly in times of loss. Every officer signs up for benefits upon entering the job, yet this critical information often remains unshared with family members. When tragedy strikes, families are left in the dark about the resources available to them.

That’s where FAMLE comes in. We deliver decisive administrative assistance to families, ensuring they identify the right contacts and complete the necessary paperwork to claim the benefits they have rightfully earned, all while upholding strict confidentiality standards. We ensure that your sacrifice is recognized and that your family receives the full range of benefits they are entitled to. Our mission is clear: to empower families during difficult times and to ensure that their loved ones’ service is honored and celebrated. Family members can contact us for assistance by calling (313) 596-1838 or by scanning this QR code.



FAMLE is currently distributing the Detroit Police Department’s Fallen and Critically Injured Officers Resource Guide to the roll call rooms of all precincts. We encourage you to share this booklet with a designated family member. It serves as an excellent resource for you and your family in the event that something should happen to you. Additionally, it provides detailed information about the support and services we offer at FAMLE.

We would like to take a moment to remember the officers who have departed from the department due to critical injury, disease, or life-changing events. These individuals have faced significant challenges that have impacted their ability to serve. Their dedication and service, along with the struggles they have endured, deserve our respect and acknowledgment. Let’s keep them in our thoughts and reach out to see how they’re doing; they may need our support.

National Police Week is approaching, and we’re proud to share that Police Officer Kelvin Patrick, Corporal Rhonda Morris, and Sergeant Shannon Wright have been selected for inclusion in the



National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOM) in Washington, D.C., this year. FAMLE will assist Peer Support by accompanying the families from May 11 to May 17, 2026. Please keep the officers and their families in your thoughts and prayers during this time, and remember the sacrifices made by officers for all of us. MI Cops plays an essential role in this process, so consider offering your support to them as well.

It is important to remember our Student Police Officers. They have taken their oath with hopes and dreams of becoming Detroit Police Officers, just like us. We share in their aspirations and understand the dedication they have in pursuing this meaningful path.

Student Police Officer Connor Donahue joined the Detroit Police Department on Jan. 27, 2020, excelling as class president and a top performer in training. After COVID-19 halted training, he was reassigned to the call center. On April 19, 2020, Connor exemplified the Code of Ethics through his actions by making a heroic decision to rescue an animal, resulting in a hit-and-run accident that left him non-verbal, non-ambulatory, and in a wheelchair. FAMLE has announced that he and his family will receive a SMART home from a generous donor, which will greatly improve his mobility and support their care needs. Let’s continue to sup-



Patrick



Morris



Wright



Each month, FAMLE honors a fallen or deceased officer at the Detroit Public Safety Headquarters on the third floor near the memorial wall. This is part of our commitment to ensuring that no officer is forgotten.

port Connor and his family!

Student Police Officer Micaela Raine Johnson joined the Detroit Police Department on Jan. 29, 2024, and was assigned to the Detroit Metropolitan Training Center as part of Academy Class 2024-F. Tragically, on June 3, 2024, while traveling southbound on M-10, her vehicle lost control, resulting in a fatal accident. In her memory, a nonprofit organization, The Raine Effect Community Foundation, and the Grit & Heart Scholarship Fund were established. Let’s keep Micaela and her family close to our hearts. Your thoughts would mean so much.

Each month, FAMLE honors a fallen or deceased officer at the Detroit Public Safety Headquarters (DPSH) on the third floor near the memorial wall. This is part of our commitment to ensuring

that no officer is forgotten. There is no specific criterion for this recognition; however, we aim to acknowledge officers who are not represented on the DPSH memorial wall or the NLEOM wall in Washington, D.C. The NLEOM has specific criteria, and our DPSH memorial wall closely mirrors those standards.

If you would like to see an officer honored, email us at FAMLE@detroitmi.gov with their rank, name, command, and date of death. Additionally, you can donate to FAMLE using this QR code to help support the families of our fallen and critically injured officers.



Upcoming Events:

- May 1, 2026: Interfaith Memorial, Detroit, Mich.
- May 4, 2026: MI Cops Memorial, Lansing, Mich.
- May 6, 2026: DPSH Memorial Wall Presentation, Detroit, Mich.
- May 7, 2026: National Day of Prayer, Detroit, Mich.
- May 11-17, 2026: National Police Week, Washington, D.C.

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Officers pay tribute to ‘the Great Shabazz’

I have a lot to cover here so please bear with me. THE GREAT ABDUL SHABAZZ (3742) has informed, updated, and inspired those who wondered about Traffic Enforcement for years. He recently retired with honor – meaning healthy, alive and ready to enjoy life with 36 years of service to the DPD, leaving the rest of us to “figure it out!” You will be missed my friend and “SHABAZZ YOU WAS RIGHT!”

I am Charo Turner Sr., or (3730 on the radio) at Traffic Enforcement, blessed with this honor now. I pray that I will do as well of a job as those before me have historically done with articles in the Tuebor. Just a little about me — I was born at TEU! Yes, born! I’m a part of a legacy which spans over 78 years of service to the DPD and still growing. Proud of you, son, for contributing to our legacy!

With all of that said, Traffic Enforcement is



another strategic piece of the DPD’s Metropolitan Davison. I relate us to Cause and Effect. Let me explain. Cause — if there are accidents fatal/non-fatal, intentional/opportunity crimes or traffic related violations/issues. Effect – the officers at Traffic Enforcement get deployed to the area and EVERYTHING sees the results. The area gets saturated with grey trucks with blue lights and white Harley Davidson motorcycles operated by officers wearing a blue stripe, boots below the knee, above the calf and a bow tie, as it is earned and never just given. Those who have earned that right to wear that uniform wear it with calculated presence and a historical honor since the DPD

started it (Harley Davidson Motorcycles Since 1908).

Recently officers at the Traffic Enforcement Unit were recognized and issued the Chiefs Unit Award for our enforcement as a response to the public’s outcry due to numerous unnecessary fatal accidents by unchecked speeding violations. Shout out to the “Wolf Pack”! We are a family at TEU. It’s not all perfect but there’s a familiar old/new energy happening here. We all recognize EVERYONE’S CONTRIBUTION to keeping each other safe, serving the community and upholding the law.

Traffic Enforcement, we do our part just as everyone in the DPD does, whether it’s at a Precinct, Bureau or any



Now-retired Officer Abdul Shabazz (center) is flanked by his TEU coworkers Eugene Williams (left), Eric Croxton, Charo Turner Sr. and Gregory Robson, as they gathered for one final team photo. Shabazz was also the long-time Tuebor writer for TEU. Officer Turner has stepped up to serve as chief scribe for his unit.

specialized unit, so if you have any questions or need guidance when it comes to traffic violations, motorcycle accidents or commercial vehicle enforcement, there’s a wealth of knowledge over here. Our senior officer has over 57 years with DPD, and yes he is still a motor officer! And if Gene yells at you, then you know you better get your act right asap! The TEU

has also grown with two new officers as we said goodbye to retiring members; welcome home to Burley and Ross!

I would also like to pay honor to all the past command staff, lieutenants, sergeants and officers who have been able to wear the blue stripe, because this place wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for their sacrifice. We are still trying to keep the MO-

TORHOOD together through all the obstacles seen and hidden (MAY 16). With that being said, I echo what has been told to me and we use it to remember the order, “Is there anyone hurt or injured? If not, are there any questions for any of us? If not, remember there is only RO/ST/and MFMM!”

Be safe out there all till the next article!

Summer is coming! Are we ready?

Happy spring to the men and women in blue.

This winter had brought us some daily snow in January that we hadn’t experienced in quite a few years. First off, I would like to welcome DTS’ new captain Damion Manning, a good prodigy from the old 13th Precinct.

Congratulations to District One 2025 Officer of the Year Zazearra Carter. Welcome Mary Sheffield on making history in being Detroit’s first female mayor.

Summer is coming! The question now is, will Downtown Services be ready? With many new restaurants and stores opening, downtown Detroit continues to be that Midwest destination spot, believe it or not. General Motors headquarters has moved to the new Hudson Tower, as it already has hosted some entertaining events.

We are hoping for a parade as our Pistons have been one of the best teams in the NBA this season. The Tigers are



Lamont Williams

back from a winning season last year. We welcome the officers assigned in from the baseball detail as they have already made an impact with giving DTS more than one response car to answer the police runs within downtown.

We will experience the new Ralph C. Wilson park behind the main post office, which will bring out big crowds during the warm weather. So, to answer, will downtown be ready — I would say yes, with the return of the summer surge. Detail, excluding that double time we miss.

Personally I’m looking forward to this spring and summer. The COSM De-

troit Entertainment venue, University of Michigan Center for Innovation, the JW Marriott Hotel, and eventually to be finished, the Monroe and Greektown streetscape.

These inner developments will bring scenic change as the Gordie Howe and Hudson Tower have brought a bright change to Detroit’s skyline. Are you against the demolishing of the two

south Renaissance Center towers? I hope whatever development is in place would be great. I would hate to see the towers be abandoned and decay as the Michigan train station did for years.

If anyone has anything they would like to contribute or acknowledge for the next article, please let me know.

Until then, be safe and back each other up.

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 and click the “Tuebor Editions” tab.

Three Triple Three

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portantly, look out for one another. Safety and teamwork are paramount.

I strongly encourage all DPOA members to attend general membership meetings and stay engaged, especially with new contract negotiations underway. Your involvement matters.

Officer Keion Randall and I have recently joined the Department’s uniform committee, and we welcome your input. Let’s work together to make coming to work more comfortable and enjoyable by staying involved and engaged.

I also want to thank Commander Fulgenzi and Captain Dunning for hosting advisory board meetings and for genuinely listening to the concerns of 3rd Precinct officers. Their efforts to address issues promptly are appreciated, and collaboration remains key to improving our workplace.

Finally, congratulations to the graduating classes of 2026 A, B, C, and D. Your hard work has paid off. Stay safe, stay motivated, and continue to learn — be a sponge and absorb as much knowledge as you can. We look forward to working alongside you.”

DPD Honor Guard

Continued from Page 10

fallen officers and retirees isn’t just about looking back, it’s about moving forward with the same level of dedication, respect, and heart that they showed. Their legacy lives on in every officer who continues to serve and in every life that is protected because of their sacrifice.

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.

Introducing the 2025 District Officers of the Year!



On the following pages Tuebor is profiling the stories behind all the Detroit Police Department officers who will be getting much-deserved special attention as recipients of this year's Detroit Police Officers Association District Officers of the Year Award. They are heroic stories of hard work, dedication and personal sacrifice that made a difference making the City of Detroit safer during 2025. Please join us in saluting the efforts of these 19 officers, who will be honored Friday, May 1, when the 41st annual banquet is held at Motor City Sound Board. Congratulations and thank you to all!

2025 DPOA District Officers of the Year!

Corporal Jaberoo's efforts protect city from violent offenders



Ryan Jaberoo

Corporal Ryan Jaberoo, an 11-year Detroit Police Department veteran, is assigned to the Third Precinct. Jaberoo began his career with DPD in 2016, assigned to the Academy. From there, he went to the 11th Precinct, and after that the Fourth Precinct and Commercial Auto Theft Unit. He also was appointed field training officer in 2024. He is well respected by his peers, ranking members/commanding officers for his good attitude and cool demeanor.

Corporal Jaberoo and his partner, working scout car 3-94, were dispatched Dec. 23 to 666 West Bethune for a domestic violence/felony assault. Jaberoo and his partner talked to a female complainant who stated an altercation occurred with her and her daughter's father, and that he was dangerous. While investigating the male subject, Jaberoo discovered he had numerous warrants. One was a felony, Third Circuit probation violation. Jaberoo and his partner arrested a male subject after a brief struggle with him and assistance from backup unit scout 3-94. A handgun was recovered from the subject's left side jacket, and a .38-caliber revolver from his pocket. He was taken to the Detroit Detention Center for warrants and possession of firearms without incident.

In the early afternoon Dec. 23, scout 3-92 was dispatched to 3910 Grand River for a felony assault, and upon their arrival unit 3-92 broadcast a description of a male subject over radio who fled the location. Down the street of the location, Jaberoo and his partner, working scout car 3-94 in full uniform, investigated a male subject matching the description that scout 3-92 gave over the radio air; also, scout 3-95 was on scene.

The subject did not obey verbal commands given by Corporal Jaberoo and officers at the scene, then became combative. He was spitting at officers and acting hysterically, biting an officer. Medic 54 had to treat an of-

District 1

icer for a bite. The subject was arrested for felony assault and conveyed to Detroit Detention Center. The subject was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital, where Jaberoo and his partner stood by for a psychological evaluation.

Corporal Jaberoo was working in the downtown area April 25 in the Clifford and Fisher Service Drive vicinity and a lieutenant radioed giving a description of a person who was breaking into cars in the area. Scout DTS34, manned by Corporal Jaberoo and two other officers, spotted a vehicle matching the description. At Cass and Elizabeth, Scout DTS34 conducted a traffic stop and recovered tools and evidence of property from vehicles that had been vandalized and damaged in the area. A male subject was arrested for warrants and conveyed to the Detroit Detention Center without incident. Recovered property and tools were placed in evidence and the subject's vehicle was impounded.

When Corporal Jaberoo patrols the streets in the Third Precinct and downtown area, he believes he is backing up his fellow officers, and in teamwork. He believes in his community. His efforts make him the ideal contender to receive the District 1 Officer of the Year Award.

Officer Kue a reliable, decisive officer during critical incidents

Police Officer Romeo Kue is currently assigned to the Gaming Unit and has put in more than six years with the Detroit Police Department. After completing the Academy he was assigned to the Eighth Precinct, and from there he transitioned to Gaming. Officer Kue demonstrates professionalism and top-notch investigative skills while serving all three casinos in the downtown area, where he patrols. Officer Kue is well respected by his peers, rank and file and commanding officers.

Officer Kue made 25 felony/misdemeanor arrests throughout 2025, including criminal sexual conduct, aggravated assault, felony probation violations, fleeing and eluding, resisting and obstructing police, felony retail fraud, felony larceny and other Third Circuit Court felony warrants. Officer Kue works tirelessly to make the areas he patrols in the downtown area safe for its patrons and the citizens of Detroit and

the metropolitan area.

Kue was part of a task force that helped break up an organized auto theft vehicle breaking and entering and stealing of property at MGM, Motor City and Hollywood Casino parking structures. Officer Kue and the team made several warrant arrests, including suspects wanted for violent crimes that were involved in the burglaries.

In 2025, Officer Kue responded to officer-needs-assistance calls and incidents involving physical resistance to arrest. His actions ensured safe resolutions of volatile encounters and successful arrests of offenders without injuries to officers or civilians.

He has won numerous awards, including Officer of the Quarter in both 2023 and 2024. Kue enjoys traveling, cars, exercise and video games in his spare time.

Officer Kue's constant productivity, investigative diligence and professional conduct reflect the highest standards of the Detroit Police Department. During 2025, his duty performance has had a measurable impact on public safety and crime suppression within his command, making the downtown casinos safe. He is a well-deserving recipient of the District Officer of the Year Award, District One.



Romeo Kue



Zazearra Carter

Officer Carter works tirelessly to keep the streets safe

Officer Zazearra Carter, assigned to the Downtown Services Traffic Enforcement Unit, is an eight-year veteran of the Detroit Police Department. Throughout her career, she has served in multiple roles, beginning with Downtown Services Special Operations (Bravo). She has also worked with the Chief's Neighborhood Liaison, helping coordinate Green Light operations while engaging in community events and youth mentorship.

Officer Carter completed a one-year assignment with the Third Precinct De-

tectives Unit and has worked closely with Tactical Operations, assisting with event coordination and escort details — duties she continues to support today.

Officer Carter is being honored as Officer of the Year for her bravery, dedication and proactive initiative to improve quality of life and reduce crime in the downtown area. She is being recognized in particular for a felony concealed weapon arrest she made. Due to her keen instincts, vigilant patrol and swift actions, three felons were arrested, including one suspect armed with two

firearms.

Subsequent investigation revealed both weapons were stolen, and one 9mm was linked through NIBIN to both a non-fatal shooting and a homicide. Officer Carter's extraordinary actions played a critical role in removing a breaking-and-entering crew that had been plaguing downtown Detroit.

Officer Carter is attending Cleary University, working toward her bachelor's degree in cyber security, and in her free time enjoys spending time with her daughter, reading, writing and shopping. She joined the Department to become a homicide detective and is actively pursuing that goal.

Through her professionalism, courage and unwavering service, District One Officer of the Year award winner Zazearra Carter has made a lasting impact on the safety of the Downtown area.

Officer Hebner guides her peers with expertise and compassion

Following in the footsteps of her brother Jacob, also an Officer of the Year recipient, Officer Haley Hebner joined the Detroit Police Department Nov. 30, 2020. After completing the Academy, she was assigned to the Second Precinct where she began making a name for herself. Working hard and absorbing knowledge like a sponge, she proved that she could follow directions and had a good head on her shoulders. This was noticed by supervision, and her request to attend field training officer training was approved, and on April 16, 2025, Hebner was appointed an FTO. This appointment allowed her to share her knowledge with the junior officers and guide them on the same path she took to be entrusted with the training and safety of her junior partners — a path of good decisions, fair-mindedness and treating everyone she encounters with kindness and respect.

Officer Hebner interacted with more 1,300 citizens and arrested dozens of people in 2025. She did not receive one citizen complaint throughout that year. This was due to her positive attitude and compassion toward everyone she encountered.

In late September 2025, Officer Hebner and her

District 2

partner responded to a verify alarm run on Appoline. Upon arrival, the victim advised officers that her grandson came to the residence where she was babysitting his child. The victim stated that the grandson punched her in the face, forcibly removed the child from her arms and fled the location. Hebner proceeded to a residence where the offender was known to live. Although no one answered the front door, she believed the offender was inside and remained in the area in anticipation of his exit.

While Officer Hebner and her partner were waiting, multiple family members arrived at the location and began arguing outside the residence. Hebner and her partner intervened, gained control of the scene and were able to arrest the offender amid the chaos. This was done without incident due to Hebner's professional conduct and treating all with respect.

This is just one of many examples of a job well done by Officer Haley Hebner. Keeping calm in the face of danger, using common sense and relying on her training is how she has excelled in furthering herself in her career.



Haley Hebner

For this and so much more excellence and integrity that she brings to the department, she was chosen as District Two Officer of the Year.

Officers Cervantes and Harvey apprehend dangerous offenders



Willie Harvey



Marcos Cervantes

Officer Marcos Cervantes and Officer Willie Harvey, of the Fourth Precinct Special Operations Unit, proved just how dedicated and vital they are to the Department and to removing violent offenders from the streets when, on Oct. 1, 2025, scout car 4-37, staffed by Cervantes and Harvey, was able to successfully apprehend a known offender, John Nunez, a suspect in a homicide that occurred Sept. 26, 2025, at 9030 Keller, where a male victim was found shot in the back.

The day after the shooting, the Homicide Division had attempted to speak with Nunez, who refused to open his door or answer any questions. On Monday, Sept. 29, detectives from the Homicide were searching for potential witnesses and observed Nunez walking toward a gas station at 9126 Dearborn.

Shortly thereafter, a scout car from the Fourth Precinct Special Operations responded to a police run for an "armed robbery in progress" at 210 South Harbaugh, which is next to the Citgo Gas Station. Once they located the victim, he advised the officers that a male with tattoos on his face, armed with a gun and a machete, carjacked his silver 2007 Dodge Caravan. The victim gave a description of the suspect, which matched John Nunez.

Master Sergeant Stankiewicz observed the vehicle near West Fort and Springwells streets, traveling eastbound, and attempted to initiate a traffic stop. The vehicle fled and a pursuit continued for some time, and at

one point while traveling north on I-75, on the Rouge Bridge a gun was observed being tossed out of the vehicle; the gun was quickly recovered. After the pursuit, Master Sergeant Stankiewicz and Sergeant Rios determined that it was Nunez driving the carjacked vehicle due to their multiple previous encounters with him. The carjacked vehicle was recovered 30 minutes later. On Sept. 30, it was determined that the 40-caliber Smith and Wesson M&P that was recovered positively matched the firearm used in the homicide.

Officers from the Fourth Precinct Special Operations were then notified and briefed with Headquarter Surveillance that they would be handling the surveillance and apprehension of Nunez.

On Oct. 1, Officers Cervantes and Harvey were canvassing for Nunez in areas he is known to frequent and observed a person matching his description. The officers notified dispatch and Officer Cervantes was able to positively identify Nunez based on previous contacts. The officers exited the scout car with weapons drawn and Officer Harvey gave numerous verbal commands to Nunez to show his hands and stop walking. Nunez failed to comply and with Officer Cervantes as cover, Officer Harvey holstered his firearm and deployed his taser. Officer Harvey warned Nunez that he would be tased, yet he continued walking. Officer Harvey discharged his taser, which incapacitated Nunez, and he fell to the ground. Officer Harvey holstered his taser and approached Nun-

ez, who had a knife in his right hand. The officers safely handcuffed Nunez without further incident.

The actions of these officers epitomize what true police work is all about. These officers demonstrated what knowledge of the known offenders in your area can lead to and with minimal knowledge besides location were able to narrow down a possible suspect for a homicide just by previous contacts and arrests. These officers knew where this suspect would be and located him almost immediately after he committed a carjacking; this led to the recovery of the firearm used in a homicide just days prior. The officers conducted a vehicular pursuit that traveled through multiple precincts, in a manner which did not endanger the public. The officers also managed to apprehend this dangerous criminal without injury to him, themselves or to the public.

If it were not for their dedication to the residents of Detroit and to each other as police officers, this subject would still be on the streets continuing with his dangerous crime spree, which had already resulted in one death.

They are a model of what policing and true dedication is. Officer Cervantes' and Officer Harvey's relentless efforts to protect and serve the great citizens of the City of Detroit and the Police Department, as well as their coworkers, is the reason they are the District 2, Fourth Precinct Officers of the Year.

Special thanks to Mary Moss and Lashun O'Rear for their help planning and organizing the office photo shoot and gathering the information used in these articles. Thanks also to our DPOA stewards for their efforts to nominate the recipients who appear on these pages.

Photography by David L. Chapman, with help from DPD Central Photo, providing photos of officers unable to attend the shoot.

Officers Mackey and Dunn consistently step forward to meet the needs of their unit

Officers Robert Mackey and Eddie Dunn V have exemplified the highest standards of law enforcement professionalism, teamwork and dedication throughout 2025. As partners assigned to the Sixth Precinct Special Operations/Cease Fire Unit, they constantly demonstrated exceptional initiative, leadership and an unwavering commitment to public safety and the focus areas of the Detroit Police Department. Their performance this year not only elevated the effectiveness of their unit but also directly contributed to safer streets and stronger community trust.

Together, Officers Mackey and Dunn amassed more than 100 felony arrests, four kilos (bricks) of cocaine and 80 illegal firearms seized/recovered from the street. These arrests/seizures were completed mainly under the categories of armed robberies, attempted murder, narcotics investigations and stolen cars/chop shops.

This is a remarkable achievement that reflects both their relentless work ethic and their ability to identify, investigate and apprehend some of the most dangerous offenders in the region. Their efforts extended beyond routine enforcement; they successfully initiated and completed two federal-level investigations, one resulting in the dismantling of an active chop shop and the seizure of an illegal firearm switch, and another culminating in the recovery of a suppressor tied to ongoing violent criminal activity where a male would recklessly and heedlessly shoot off his gun to invoke great fear in his neighbors. These cases required patience, technical skill and a

District 3

deep understanding of criminal networks, all of which they displayed with professionalism and precision. Their contributions, however, extend far beyond statistics. Officers Mackey and Dunn volunteered countless hours of overtime, often adjusting personal schedules to ensure critical details were staffed and community safety was never diminished or compromised. Their selflessness and reliability made them pillars within the Sixth Precinct Special Operations Unit and their leadership, both formal and informal, set a standard for their teammates to follow.

The defining moment of their year came with one of the most significant arrests of 2025. While on duty, Mackey and Dunn pursued and apprehended an armed suspect who fled from them on foot. Through determination, courage and tactical discipline, they safely captured the individual after a brief fight.

During the investigation, the offender would later admit to being the shooter responsible for wounding a 12-year-old girl. Their gallant and swift actions removed a violent offender from the community and ultimately contributed to his conviction. This case stands as a testament to their bravery, their refusal to back down in the face of danger and their deep commitment to justice for the most vulnerable.

Officers Mackey and Dunn embody the values of integrity, professionalism and community, the very ethos of the Detroit Police Department. Their achievements this year



Eddie Dunn V



Robert Mackey

reflect not only their individual strengths but also the power of their partnership. Their leadership, tireless work ethic and unwavering dedication to protecting the community make them outstanding candidates for Officer of the Year for District 3.



Robert Barber Jr.

Officer Barber serves citizens with a calm, professional demeanor

Neighborhood Police Officer Robert Barber, assigned to the 10th Precinct, was nominated for the Detroit Police Officers Association District Officers of the Year award for his outstanding performance and service to the community and department.

District 4

Barber is a textbook example of excellence in community policing and deserves this distinctive recognition. Barber has demonstrated exceptional skills in de-escalating chaotic and emotionally charged neighborhood-related incidents. On numerous occasions, he has gone above and beyond expected duties to accommodate citizens in need, strengthening trust and confidence between the police and the community.

Through his proactive patrol and street investigations, Barber has increased overall productivity within the NPO unit and has become a trusted resource for his peers. Over the course of the year, he responded to 477 citizen complaints and issued more than 40 environmental citations and over 90 parking citations. His ef-

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Corporal Dobis and Officer Farley show compassion and grace for those in need

In October 2025, Detroit Police Department Corporal Joel Dobis and Officer Demyra Farley made a traffic stop

District 3

for expired plates, no insurance and suspended license on a grey Dodge Charger. When the officers walked up to the vehicle to introduce themselves, they met the driver, a black female who was crying and irate. The officers noticed the driver/mother writing her personal information on paper and telling her two children in the backseat not to lose her information. When asked why she was doing that she stated she was unable to care for her children any longer and she wanted police to take the kids from her. One of the boys, 8 years old, was only wearing underwear and the other boy, 14 years old, was severely autistic. Per policy, the vehicle was impounded. The mother then explained that she was living in the vehicle with the two boys. Dobis and Farley contacted Child Protective Services and supervision. They then found a female friend to pick up the mother and her two sons.

Out of their continued concern for the children, Corporal Dobis and Officer Farley talked with Dobis' wife, who helped raise money for this family. With the funds raised, they were able to secure a two-year lease on a newer home, and then fully furnished it with washers/dryers and beds for both boys. The fund-raising effort also provided a thousand dollars apiece for each boy to go toward clothes and pay off all the mother's past due DTE and water bills, and to get her vehicle out of impound. It was taken to a repair shop to get engine work done so she could have transportation for the boys. The mother was also able to pay off all past court fees to be able to obtain her driver's license.

The funds raised also helped fund her autistic son's urgently needed medication that he was behind on. The estimated amount raised for the family was around \$35,000. They had the Detroit Police Safety Foundation



Joel Dobis

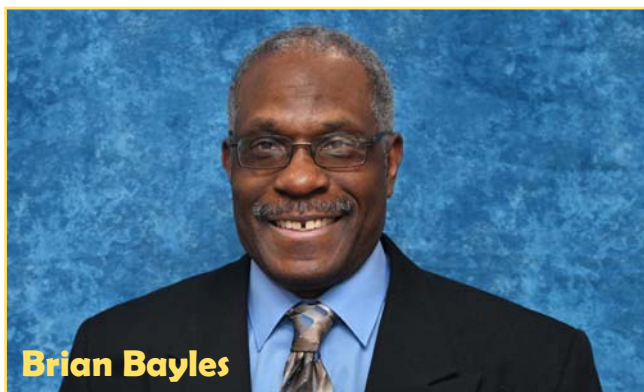


Demyra Farley

get involved to help set up an account for all the money spent. All funds were given over to the foundation. The officers were directly involved with making sure this family had housing for the next few years and a totally fresh start in life.

Dobis and Farley are a true shining example of inspiration for the city of Detroit and their peers, and through their selfless, caring actions and dedication to helping those in distress, they represent the Detroit Police Department with great pride and therefore are prime candidates to receive the District Officer of the Year Award.

Corporal Bayles has legacy of dedication, service



Brian Bayles

Corporal Brian Bayles has had unwavering dedication to the Detroit Police Department, its members and the 12th Precinct. Corporal Bayles, appointed to the department Aug. 11, 1997, works station security primarily for the 12th Precinct. Being station security, Bayles is the first “officer” the public encounters when they enter the police precinct. He is always polite and treats everyone who walks through the doors with respect and handles every situation with professionalism.

While working station security, Corporal Bayles handles accident reports,

District 4

speaks with citizens and handles mental health related incidents that walk through the precinct. On many occasions, Corporal Bayles goes above and beyond by assisting citizens who walk into the 12th Precinct and need assistance with finding shelter and transportation. Bayles never fails to help anyone and everyone that needs assistance. He is highly respected by all of his peers and supervisors and he always goes that extra mile to help younger officers and share his

wealth of knowledge.

Corporal Bayles has many years of dedicated service to the Detroit Police Department. During those years, he is always on time for his shifts and displays a positive attitude. He never complains and rarely calls off.

He has also received numerous awards previously, including Officer of the Month and Perfect Attendance awards.

Corporal Bayles’ attitude, work ethic, quality of work, experience and dedication are truly unparalleled, making him a truly exemplary choice for District 4 Officer of the Year.

Officer Trueheart uses sharp skills to help those in crisis

Police Officer Marcus Trueheart is a dedicated law enforcement professional, serving more than three years with the Detroit Police Department. Officer Trueheart has demonstrated a strong commitment to public safety, proactive policing and community protection.

In 2025 alone, Officer Trueheart compiled an impressive record of enforcement and investigative work. His efforts resulted in 331 citations, 126 felony arrests, 79 firearm confiscations, the execution of 21 search warrants and the confiscation of 2,430 grams of narcotics from the streets of Detroit.

One notable incident occurred on Dec. 27, 2025, when Officer Trueheart encountered a dangerous situation involving an armed gunman who pointed a loaded firearm direct-



Marcus Trueheart

District 5

ly at him. Demonstrating composure and exceptional restraint, Officer Trueheart, along with his partners Officer Morris and Officer Rogers, worked to safely resolve the encounter. Officer Trueheart, recognizing that the individual was experiencing a mental health crisis, was able to successfully de-escalate the situation and

disarmed the suspect without the use of force, ensuring the safety of both the officers and the individual involved.

Officer Trueheart reflects a balance of proactive law enforcement, professionalism and thoughtful de-escalation, making him a respected member of DPD and a committed protector of the community. He is the well-deserving recipient of the District 5 Officer of the Year award.

Officers Torres-Lopez and Wyatt take quick action

Police Officer Andres Torres-Lopez and Police Officer John Wyatt were exceptional amongst the elite officers of the Ninth Precinct Special Operation Unit in 2025. Officer Torres-Lopez executed more than 200 search warrants and had 61 violent felony lockups. Officer Wyatt executed more than 200 search warrants, 413 traffic stops, 46 CCW arrests and 55 felony lockups. The following incident is an example of the exceptional work that these two officers did in 2025.



Andres Torres-Lopez



John Wyatt

District 5

On July 3, while they were working Special Operations scout 9-39 along with Corporal Dante Borum near Morang and Harper, the officers observed three people wearing a face covering walking out of the alley at the location, carrying a large backpack. While investigating the three males, Officer Torres-Lopez observed that one of them was wearing gloves and had a large bulge in his waist band. He asked the male what was in his waist band several times, and when he went to search him, he fled on foot.

Officer Wyatt was able to catch up to the subject and tackle him to the ground on Neff Street. While Officers Wyatt and Torres-Lopez were trying to gain compliance and control, the subject was resisting and trying to reach into his waist band. The officers gave him several orders to comply and to stop reaching. Officer Wyatt was able to gain control of the subject’s right hand but while Torres-Lopez was trying to gain control of the subject’s left hand, the subject fired a shot, striking Torres-Lopez in his left hand.

Officer Torres-Lopez was able to disengage from the subject and fire several shots, fatally striking him. Officer Wyatt and Officer Torres-Lopez stayed professional and immediately requested EMS for the subject, who just moments earlier had tried to take their lives. They secured the scene, recovering a Glock 23 with an extended magazine. Officer Torres-Lopez was transported to St. John Hospital for treatment of his wound. He has made a full recovery and is now a candidate for the department’s Special Response Team.

The actions of officers Torres-Lopez and Wyatt showed exceptional courage, professionalism and restraint while engaged in an extremely violent encounter — with a subject whose intent was to cause them great bodily harm, to evade arrest and escape justice. This is why they are the District 5 Ninth Precinct District Officers of the Year!



Dan Robinson Sr.

Officer Robinson displays leadership, innovation, dedication

Neighborhood Police Officer Dan Robinson Sr. (aka “D-Rob”) is a highly respected 30-year veteran of the Detroit Police Department, appointed on Jan. 8, 1996.

Throughout the past year, Robinson has demonstrated extraordinary initiative and measurable impact across the precinct, most notably through the continued growth, structure and national-level prestige of the Detroit Police Law Enforcement Explorers Program under his leadership. As director and primary instructor, he oversees all training and development, expanding programming, strengthening strategic partnerships and creating meaningful experiential opportunities that prepare youth for careers in law enforcement while fostering discipline, accountability and civic responsibility.

Recognized throughout the department as a trusted

District 6

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Angelina Tius

Officer Tius's keen observation skills remove offenders from the streets

Detroit Police Department Police Officer Angelina Tius, working with Sergeant Donald Clark, were on their

District 6

way to back up another patrol unit when they observed a white Jeep with specific details that met the description of a vehicle that was wanted in a non-fatal shooting that occurred on April 29, 2025. Officer Tius was able to confirm the vehicle with the Seventh Precinct Detective Unit, as well as the desk Lieutenant.

Officer Tius observed the vehicle initially on Gratiot Avenue, turning northbound onto Helen Street. At this time, they initiated overhead lights and sirens, attempting to conduct a traffic stop. The vehicle then took off at a high rate of speed. Tius and her Sergeant began to chase the vehicle through the north end of the precinct, where inevitably the driver entered the freeway heading onto I-94 East, then onto the southbound I-75 ramp.

Tius continued calling out the direction of travel until the driver of the vehicle crashed into the wall of the I-75 ramp. At this time, Tius, along with her Sergeant, exited their scout car and ordered the offender out of the vehicle. The offender was successfully apprehended and received medical attention from responding medics.

Officer Tius was able to positively identify the driver as the wanted suspect that was involved in the non-fatal shooting that occurred on April 29, 2025. The offender was transported and listed in stable condition. During the duration of this vehicle chase, there were no injuries or property damage to innocent civilians or other involved officers.

Police Officer Angelina Tius, who was appointed to the department on Aug. 31, 2020, and has received awards such as the Purple Heart and Chief's Merit Award, displays a level of professionalism, focus and dedication to her role in the Department that makes her a well deserving recipient of the District 6 Officer of the Year award.

Officer Nelson uses years of experience, expertise to remove drugs from streets

Police Officer Lamont Nelson became a member of the Detroit Police Department Jan. 19, 2016. Officer

District 7

Nelson began his career at the 12th Precinct as a patrol officer. During his time there, he developed a strong foundation in the principles of protecting and serving the citizens of Detroit. Due to his outstanding work and dedication as a patrol officer, Officer Nelson was transferred to the Vice Enforcement Unit in 2018.

While assigned to vice, Officer Nelson developed valuable investigative skills. He was trained to operate as an undercover officer, develop operational plans and prepare and execute search warrants. He also participated in numerous operations related to human trafficking, offer-to-engage investigations and business inspections.

In 2020, Nelson was recruited to the Narcotics/Major Violators Unit. While assigned to Narcotics, Nelson excelled in conducting complex narcotics investigations and developing sources of information. These investigations often required long hours of both fixed and mobile surveillance, carefully documenting activity at targeted drug locations, coordinating source or undercover purchases, and authoring detailed search warrants.

Officer Nelson's ability to effectively communicate, along with his strong self-motivation, has made him a valuable asset to the unit. His experience has provided him with extensive training in interviewing witnesses, preparing investigative reports and collaborating with attorneys, further strengthening his investigative capabilities.

Nelson has also demonstrated exceptional versatility, allowing him to effectively adapt and operate in a variety



Lamont Nelson

of environments and investigative roles. This ability has enabled him to successfully develop sources of information and gather critical intelligence from citizens. Additionally, he has contributed to the development of fellow officers by mentoring and assisting narcotics investigators, providing guidance on investigative techniques, compliance standards and proper documentation practices.

Due to Nelson's resilience, dedication and diligence, he has demonstrated exemplary service throughout 2025. He authored 21 search warrants, which resulted in the following recoveries: 14 felony arrests, 30 misdemeanor arrests, 23 guns recovered, \$27,176 forfeited, cocaine (1,830.3 grams; street value \$146,424), Fentanyl (3,685.3 grams; street value \$368,530), marijuana (3,480.4 grams; street value \$34,804), and methamphetamine (5.2 grams; street value \$208). Officer Nelson's tireless work in wiping the streets of dangerous weapons and narcotics has earned him the recognition of District 7 Officer of the Year.

Corporal Fullilove a caring, dedicated asset to the DPD Training Academy

Corporal Alecia Fullilove has been proudly serving the Detroit Police Department since 1998. She is currently assigned to the DPD Training Academy and widely known as the glue that keeps the entire unit together. Her day-to-day includes an extremely diverse set of assignments. She teaches recruits, handles all building resources and assignments, along with teaching in-service training to members.

In 2025 alone, she aided the Academy in graduating nine classes of 25-plus recruits, totaling 227 new police officers in the community. Without her, this would not have been possible. Affectionately known as "Graduation Sis," she is on stage at every graduation ceremony handing out the new badges to the graduates, managing the script and coordinating all executive member activity on stage. She is the last smiling face of the Academy staff that a recruit sees as they approach the chief, and surely a lasting image for all those out there now.

Additionally in 2025, in honor of how gracious and giving Alecia is with her time, the Fullilove Pantry was created. A room at the Academy is now dedicated to supplies and food for incoming recruits who are having a tough time getting started. All members can remember the early days of the Police Academy. Having left their old lives to take on this new challenge, then navigating through delays or gaps in income. They are faced with purchasing their own shoes, uniforms and fitness gear before their first paycheck even arrives. The Fullilove Pantry helps bridge that gap. Supplied by staff and recruits alike, it also creates new bonds because the nature of giving is also cultivated — all marks of a well-rounded Detroit police officer, like Corporal Fullilove.

Corporal Fullilove is routinely approached by mem-



Alecia Fullilove

District 9

bers who stop by the Academy to have their Law Enforcement Information Network credentials reset. This is a tedious process and she greets them with warmth, patience and care every time. This process is timely and requires her to stop her daily activities to service them. Never a complaint, always a smile, always "I got it." A smiling officer saying "I got it" is a departmental dream. Corporal Fullilove does this every day and the Detroit Police Academy would truly not function like the well-oiled machine it does without her hard work and dedication.

Fullilove, who enjoys reading, cooking, traveling and spending time with her family in her spare time, and who has also been the recipient of numerous other awards, including the Chiefs Merit Award and Perfect Attendance, is a vital and dedicated member of the Detroit Police Department. Corporal Alecia "Full of Love" Fullilove is the District 9 Officer of the Year.

Focus shifts toward summer



Romeo Kue



As the temperatures rise and Detroit's casinos prepare for a surge in seasonal foot traffic, the Gaming Operations Unit is shifting its focus toward the unique challenges that come with the warmer months.

While we welcome the energy and tourism that spring brings to MGM Grand, Motor City, and Hollywood Casino at Greektown, we are seeing a corresponding uptick in physical altercations, individuals refusing to leave the premises, and breaking and entering incidents involving motor vehicles in our parking structures on all three shifts.

To maintain the high standard of safety our visitors expect, our officers are intensifying proactive patrols and working in lockstep with casino security to swiftly address disorderly conduct and de-escalate tensions on the casino gaming floor.

We urge all guests to remain vigilant by securing their vehicles and reporting any suspicious behavior immediately, as our unit remains dedicated to preserving a secure environment where the focus stays on entertainment rather than criminal activity.

If used properly new cell phones will be a benefit

First, let's welcome Captain Scott Pellerito to Communications. Let's also wish Sergeant Ladawn Russell and Corporal Lester Lee happy retirement, and to the others throughout the Department within the last six months that have retired.

By the time this article comes out, all sworn should have their department-issued cell phones. If used in the proper way, they can be a useful tool to have. It is also another piece of equipment we must turn in when we leave or retire from this department.

Congratulations to all who were promoted in the last six months. Also, we need all officers to monitor their radios. It



Leon Newell

is the most important equipment on your belt, besides your weapon, and the only way you can get help or help your fellow officers.

The summer details are upon us — it's going to be busy. Until the next article, stay safe.

Dan Robinson Sr.

Continued from Page 17

leader and problem solver, many department members — including executive leadership and the chief's office — routinely rely on Robinson when critical tasks must be completed with professionalism, efficiency and precision. His reputation as a dependable resource reflects both his operational expertise and his unwavering commitment to the mission of DPD.

Robinson's leadership has produced significant community impact. He spearheaded comprehensive public safety initiatives in collaboration with local businesses, churches, neighborhood associations and schools, focusing on crime prevention, conflict resolution and strengthening police-community relationships. His proactive engagement strategies improved communication between residents and law enforcement while addressing community concerns in real time through targeted outreach and problem-solving.

A strong advocate for youth safety and education, Robinson provides direct

training to young people on gun safety, responsible decision-making and violence prevention. Through structured instruction and hands-on learning, he equips youth with lifesaving knowledge that promotes safe behaviors and reduces risk within the community. Additionally, he partnered with the Detroit Health Department, The Youth Connection and other community stakeholders to address critical issues involving drug, alcohol and tobacco awareness among minors. He organized and led youth tobacco compliance inspections utilizing trained Explorers, resulting in multiple retailers being cited, closed or losing their licenses for illegally selling to minors. These enforcement efforts directly enhanced neighborhood safety while demonstrating innovative, prevention-focused policing.

Robinson is equally committed to serving those who have served our nation. A U.S. Army/Reserve veteran, he proudly serves on the board of the Michigan Veterans Foundation and acts as a liaison between the department and veteran service organizations to ensure veterans in need

receive housing, resources and supportive services. His advocacy has strengthened the department's relationship with the veteran community while delivering tangible assistance to those facing hardship.

Recognizing the importance of collaborative service, Robinson mobilized businesses, nonprofit partners and community leaders to support families throughout the year. His leadership helped provide meals to families in need, toys for children, coats and clothing during the winter months and essential resources to underserved residents. He also implemented community safety surveys to identify neighborhood concerns and develop strategic policing responses.

Robinson's ability to unite communi-

ty partners is matched by his tireless work ethic and servant leadership philosophy. Whether mentoring youth, supporting veterans, resolving neighborhood conflicts, or coordinating large-scale outreach initiatives, he consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty to improve quality of life within the community.

Guided by his personal motto, "Be The Change You Want To See," NPO Robinson exemplifies professionalism, compassion and leadership. His sustained contributions, innovative approach to community policing and profound impact on both residents and fellow officers make him exceptionally deserving of recognition as District Officer of the Year in District 6.

Robert Barber

Continued from Page 16

forts also included investigating 112 vehicles and impounding 12, while simultaneously providing support for 65 community events and special details.

Barber spearheads numerous events within the 10th Precinct, working closely with community partners to ensure each initiative is safe, productive and impactful. His efforts include organizing the Life Remodeled Detroit Senior Prom, coordinating the distribution of more than 7,500 packages for the Detroit Goodfellows, serving as the primary public safety and operations planner for the annual Boston Edison 5K Race, and overseeing multiple food distribution events from the 10th Precinct's mini-station.

While maintaining a high level of proactive enforcement and community engagement, Barber also earned his Master of Business Administration, demonstrating excellence both professionally and academically without interruption to his duties. Over the course of his 28-year career, he has received seven departmental awards, reflecting a consistent commitment to the highest standards of service.

NPO Barber's professionalism, mentorship and unwavering dedication to community policing makes him exceptionally deserving of this recognition. For his outstanding service and continued impact, he is the District 4 Officer of the Year.

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Dinner with friends

Dinner and camaraderie were on the menu March 10 when the Detroit Police Officers Association held its first General Membership Meeting of 2026 at the Sacred Heart Church Activities Center. Along with updates on union business from DPOA leadership and short presentations by several vendors, the evening also included a raffle featuring many great prizes. Photos of the winners of the evening's top prizes appear on Page 22.



Photos: David L. Chapman



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The 2nd Precinct

Colette Burks-Weathers

Precinct has strong focus on community

Hello everyone! I have been busy serving our citizens in the Second Precinct in the Community. I just want to recap some of the events our Second Precinct Neighborhood Policing Unit did with the community.

In the month of October our unit teamed up with Adams Butzel Recreation Center Staff and Demolition Department staff for "Halloween in the D" and gave out candy to the trick or treaters of all ages. We had the help of our Second Precinct faithful volunteers (Ms. Pannell, Ms. Camille, Belinda, Daphane Lee (Moor Block Club), and Ms. Dixon (Manor Block Club). We served more than 1500 trick or treaters at Adams Butzel Recreation Center.

The month of November was very busy. Our Second Precinct Neighborhood Policing Unit gave out turkeys with all the trimming to families in the Second Precinct community. We had several business sponsors who donated turkeys and trimming, so no families would go without a meal on Thanksgiving Day.

Our unit adopted two well-deserving families in the Second Precinct community for Christmas for the month of December. It was sheer joy to see these families smiling with joy and being thankful for their Christmas gifts. Seeing the children jumping around saying thank you!

As I fast forward to the month of January and the New Year of 2026, we welcome our newly elected first African American female mayor, the Honorable Mary Sheffield. Took with boots on the ground.

Retaining our current Chief Todd E. Bettison on her team. The crime is down in the City of Detroit and Detroit urban population is increasing.

Our Neighborhood Policing Unit hosted a "BE MINE BUNCH" on Feb. 12 for our Sweethearts (Senior Citizens) of the Second Precinct Community. Our captain, Darchelle Brown, thought of the name for this event. We had several business sponsors who helped with this event at Adams Butzel Recreation Center.

Our senior citizens had a good time fellowshiping with each other, dancing and hustling. We gave out 100 roses to our senior citizens Sweethearts and took pictures at our photo wall. The roses were donated by one of our businesses in the Second Precinct. I would like to give a shout out to Officer Ebony Powell and MJ, our DJ, for our event. The Infamous Fast Freddy was in attendance, with his lovely wife getting the Hustle started with our senior citizens. I want to thank our upper echelon in the Detroit Police Department for attending our "BE MINE BRUNCH" Valentine's Day event.

Last but not least, our unit hosted a skating party for Coleman A. Young Elementary School honor roll students in grades first through fifth, "SKATING WITH A COP," rewarding the students for their achievement in school. The event took place at Detroit Roller Wheels Skating Rink at 16611 Schoolcraft.

Thanks to our faithful businesses in the Second Precinct who help with sponsorship and transportation to and from the

skating rink. The Coleman A. Young Elementary School honor roll students had a good time. March is reading month, so our unit is

Continued on Page 25

Winning ways



Officer Barry Hayward and Krystal Woods of Colonial Life were the big prize winners in the raffle held during the March General Membership Meeting. Hayward, pictured with Entertainment Committee volunteer Tommy Tinsley, won a Masterbuilt smoker. Woods won the Tiki fire pit. Come join fellow members at the next meeting, May 19, for more chances to win.



Don't miss the 41st annual DPOA Charitable Fund Golf Outing

Friday, June 12

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

For more info and a registration form, contact Mary Moss at the DPOA, 313-567-8770

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Closest to the Pin
Longest Drive
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4-man team scramble

Sponsorship and co-sponsorship opportunities available

PRIZES WORTH THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS!



REMEMBERING THE FALLEN



Police Officer James E. Meeks Jr.
END OF WATCH: May 20, 1960

Detroit Police Officer James Meeks was shot and killed while responding to a robbery in progress at a food market on Bagley Avenue the evening of May 20, 1960. He and his partner were pulling into their precinct when they were dispatched to the call.

When the officers arrived at the scene, Meeks exited the car and was immediately confronted by the armed suspect. Meeks was able to shoot the suspect several times but was fatally shot in the chest. The suspect, a convicted felon, was then shot and killed by the other officer as he reached for his weapon. The female accomplice was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.

Officer Meeks was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Korean War and served with the Detroit Police Department for nine years, assigned to the Youth Bureau. He was awarded the Detroit Police Department Distinguished Medal of Valor posthumously. He was survived by his wife and two sons.

"My father didn't die as he lives on in my heart," his elder son wrote in a reflection on the Officer Down Memorial Page website. "He's a heroic ideal who excelled in all his undertakings. We're servants of our good and honorable fellows. I endeavor to emulate him as best as I'm able."

Police Officer William Frahm
END OF WATCH: Sept. 30, 1927



Detroit Police Officer William Frahm, 45, was shot and killed Sept. 30, 1927, during an escape attempt while leading a prisoner through a tunnel connecting the jail and court building.

The 34-year-old suspect was convicted of murder and sentenced to 40 years.

Officer Frahm had served with DPD for 21 years. He was survived by his wife and daughter.

Police Officer Carter Lee Wells
END OF WATCH: May 23, 1969



Police Officer Carter Wells, a 13-year Detroit Police Department veteran, was shot and killed with his own service weapon May 23, 1969, while making a traffic stop at East Jefferson Avenue and Walker Street. During the traffic stop, he was leaning into the patrol car when the suspect grabbed his service weapon and shot him.

The subject fled the scene but was apprehended following a pursuit. The man was convicted of Officer Wells' murder and sentenced to life in prison but was paroled after serving only 13 years.

"Time may have passed but you are not forgotten," a Texas detention officer posted in Wells' ODMP reflections. "I believe as long as someone remembers you or speaks your name, you are still with us. Thank you for your heroism."

Wells, 35, was survived by his wife and two daughters.

Police Officer Reed Howard
END OF WATCH: March 25, 1932



Officer Reed Howard was the first black officer to be killed in the line of duty while serving with the Detroit Police Department. He was shot and killed March 25, 1932, while working an undercover operation to purchase illegal liquor at an after-hours gambling and drinking establishment on the 1400 block of Macomb Street.

Officer Howard entered the speakeasy, or "blind pig", with an informant and then became involved in an argument while inside. Officer Howard was shot by the speakeasy's owner but was able to return fire, killing the suspect. Officer Howard was taken to Receiving Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Howard was 32 years old and had only been with the department for two years.

Police Lieutenant Samuel C. Marquardt
END OF WATCH: May 15, 1917



Lieutenant Samuel Marquardt was struck and killed by a train while conducting a training exercise May 15, 1917, on Seven Mile Road near Mount Elliott Street.

He and 10 other officers were conducting training exercises with new Department motorcycles when the accident occurred.

Marquardt, 33, had served with the Detroit Police Department for less than eight years. He was the nephew of then-Police Superintendent Ernest Marquardt.

Police Officer Joseph M. Soulliere
END OF WATCH: Dec. 3, 1970

Detroit Police Officer Joseph Soulliere, 33, was shot and killed, and his partner was seriously wounded Dec. 3, 1970, when they interrupted a service station holdup at the corner of Conner and Charlevoix streets.

The officers were initially dispatched to the station to meet a woman and three children who had fled there following a family dispute. Before meeting her, the station was invaded by a man who announced a robbery with his hand in his pocket though it was later discovered he had no weapon.

The suspect was secured and placed in the officers' police car when a witness alerted the officers to another separate robbery attempt at the other side of the station.

Officer Soulliere went to approach the other suspects when one of them opened fire, killing him. The other officer returned fire and killed one of the suspects. Another suspect was captured minutes later and charged with murder and attempted robbery.

Officer Soulliere had served the Department for two years. He was survived by his wife, two children, and siblings.



In Memoriam

BABCOCK — Retired Sergeant David Babcock, 77, died Jan. 21, 2026. Sergeant Babcock was appointed to the Department on Aug. 18, 1969, and retired Sept. 9, 2022.

BAKER — Retired Lieutenant Richard Baker, 81, died Dec. 25, 2025. Lieutenant Baker was appointed to the Department on Aug. 19, 1968, and retired July 10, 2004.

BELCASTRO — Retired Police Officer David Belcastro, 72, died March 8, 2026. Officer Belcastro was appointed to the Department on June 16, 1977, and retired Aug. 20, 1993.

BLACKMAN — Retired Sergeant Roy Blackman, 85, died Dec. 7, 2025. Sergeant Blackman was appointed to the Department on Jan. 26, 1970, and retired March 6, 1998.

BLAIR — Retired Police Officer Tilman Blair, 82, died Jan. 8, 2026. Officer Blair was appointed to the Department on Aug. 14, 1967, and retired Dec. 1, 2025.

BRAND — Retired Police Officer Ronald Brand, 77, died Jan. 20, 2026. Officer Brand was appointed to the Department on Feb. 8, 1971, and retired March 6, 1982.

BRUSSEAU — Retired Police Officer Norman Brusseau, 80, died Jan. 17, 2026. Officer Brusseau was appointed to the Department on Feb. 8, 1971, and retired July 6, 1996.

CAMPBELL — Retired Lieutenant John Campbell Jr., 70, died March 20, 2026. Lieutenant Campbell was appointed to the Department on Sept. 12, 1974, and retired June 1, 2002.

CHEATOM — Retired Police Officer Cynthia Cheatom, 72, died Feb. 25, 2026. Officer Cheatom was appointed to the Department on March 27, 1978, and retired July 7, 2008.

CURRY — Retired Police Officer Mary Curry, 82, died March 23, 2026. Officer Curry was appointed to the Department on June 2, 1977, and retired Feb. 5, 1988.

DANNER — Retired Police Officer Kenneth Danner, 79, died Jan. 3, 2026. Officer Danner was appointed to the Department on Feb. 17, 1969, and retired Feb. 17, 2004.

FARRELL — Retired Police Officer John Farrell, 83, died Feb. 21, 2026. Officer Farrell was appointed to the Department on Aug. 5, 1968, and retired July 7, 2004.

FERENCY — Retired Lieutenant Philip Ferency, 79, died Feb. 6, 2026. Lieutenant Ferency was appointed to the Department on Aug. 21, 1972, and retired July 7, 2003.

FILAR — Retired Sergeant Robert Filar, 94, died March 9, 2026. Sergeant Filar was appointed to the Department on March 8, 1954, and retired Dec. 21, 1991.

FINN — Retired Sergeant Vincent Finn II, 75, died Jan. 4, 2026. Sergeant Finn was appointed to the Department on June 14, 1971, and retired Sept. 16, 1996.

GARDNER — Retired Investigator Pleze Gardner Jr., 80, died Feb. 7, 2026. Investigator Gardner was appointed to the Department on March 6, 1972, and retired July 5, 2000.

GLOVER — Retired Police Officer George Glover, 79, died Dec. 19, 2025. Officer Glover was appointed to the Department on May 5, 1969, and retired April 14, 1984.

GOODWIN — Retired Police Officer Yvonne Goodwin, 69, died Jan. 27, 2026. Officer Goodwin was appointed to the Department on July 21, 1986, and retired Dec. 31, 1996.

GREENE — Retired Sergeant Michael Greene, 61, died Feb. 27, 2026. Sergeant Greene was appointed to the Department on Jan. 26, 1987, and retired Feb. 3, 2012.

GUTHRIE — Retired Police Officer John Guthrie, 99, died Feb. 14, 2026. Officer Guthrie was appointed to the Department on Jan. 17, 1949, and retired Feb. 21, 1974.

HANNAH — Retired Investigator Stephen Hannah, 75, died March 13, 2026. Investigator Hannah was appointed to the Department on April 21, 1986, and retired March 28, 2013.

HART — Retired Commander Harrison Hart, 82, died March 14, 2026. Commander Hart was appointed to the Department on March 10, 1969, and retired March 24, 1995.

HERDERICH — Retired Lieutenant Richard Herderich, 88, died Jan. 18, 2026. Lieutenant Herderich was appointed to the Department on Feb. 15, 1960, and retired April 3, 1987.

HUGHES-GRUBBS — Retired Sergeant Alma Hughes-Grubbs, 69, died Jan. 7, 2026. Sergeant Hughes-Grubbs was appointed to the Department on Dec. 19, 1977, and retired June 30, 2006.

HUIZAR — Retired Police Officer Gregory Huizar, 73, died Jan. 15, 2026. Officer Huizar was appointed to the Department on Dec. 30, 1974, and retired July 12, 2000.

HURWITZ — Retired Sergeant Larry Hurwitz, 91, died Feb. 19, 2026. Sergeant Hurwitz was appointed to the Department on Jan. 3, 1961, and retired Feb. 1, 1986.

JACKSON — Retired Sergeant Robert Jackson, 68, died Dec. 19, 2025. Sergeant Jackson was appointed to the Department on Jan. 6, 1986, and retired June 3, 2011.

KUKLOCK — Retired Sergeant Andrew Kuklock, 83, died Dec. 26, 2025. Sergeant Kuklock was appointed to the Department on Sept. 7, 1971, and retired Sept. 7, 1996.

MARTIN — Retired Police Officer Ronald Martin, 91, died Feb. 23, 2026. Officer Martin was appointed to the Department on Oct. 21, 1968, and retired Jan. 2, 2001.

MCCARTHA — Retired Police Officer Michael McCartha, 74, died March 9, 2026. Officer McCartha was appointed to the Department on May 26, 1977, and retired Feb. 16, 2004.

MEHLHOSE — Retired Sergeant James Mehlhose, 87, died Feb. 13, 2026. Sergeant Mehlhose was appointed to the Department on Aug. 1, 1962, and retired April 4, 1998.

NISBET — Retired Police Officer Gerald Nisbet, 81, died Feb. 8, 2026. Officer Nisbet was appointed to the Department on Feb. 26, 1968, and retired Dec. 3, 1993.

QUELLETTE — Retired Police Officer Roland Ouellette, 91, died Feb. 24, 2026. Officer Ouellette was appointed to the Department on May 5, 1969, and retired Oct 4, 1979.

PERRY — Retired Police Officer George Perry Jr., 90, died March 25, 2026. Officer Perry was appointed to the Department on July 18, 1966, and retired Jan. 21, 1992.

POWELL — Retired Police Officer Samuel Powell, 76, died Dec. 9, 2025. Officer Powell was appointed to the Department on July 8, 1985, and retired Sept. 15, 2001.

PROBY — Retired Police Officer Doris Proby, 70, died Jan. 31, 2026. Officer Proby was appointed to the Department on April 21, 1986, and retired May 1, 1992.

PURDO — Retired Police Officer David Purdo, 84, died Dec. 22, 2025. Officer Purdo was appointed to the Department on Nov. 26, 1962, and retired Dec. 30, 1977.

SANGMEISTER — Retired Police Officer Glenn Sangmeister, 82, died Feb. 10, 2026. Officer Sangmeister was appointed to the Department on June 26, 1967, and retired May 26, 1989.



Continued on Page 25

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

In Memoriam

Continued from Page 24

RUCKER — Retired Sergeant Nathaniel Rucker, 89, died Jan. 3, 2026. Sergeant Rucker was appointed to the Department on July 14, 1969, and retired July 31, 1999.

SCOTT — Retired Inspector Harold Scott, 79, died Feb. 12, 2026. Inspector Scott was appointed to the Department on July 14, 1969, and retired Feb. 1, 1994.

SHINE — Retired Sergeant William Shine, 89, died Jan. 29, 2026. Sergeant Shine was appointed to the Department on July 13, 1959, and retired Aug. 1, 1984.

ST. CLAIR — Retired Investigator Maureen St. Clair, 62, died Dec. 26, 2025. Investigator St. Clair was appointed to the Department on Jan. 6, 1986, and retired Dec. 9, 1994.

STIRLING — Retired Police Officer Angus Stirling, 86, died March 12, 2026. Officer Stirling was appointed to the Department on Sept. 17, 1962, and retired July 2, 1991.

STRINGFELLOW — Retired Police Officer Russell Stringfellow, 75, died Jan. 24, 2026. Officer Stringfellow was appointed to the Department on Jan. 3, 1972, and retired Oct. 20, 2005.

SWINFORD — Retired Police Officer Gerald Swinford, 81, died Feb. 5, 2026. Officer Swinford was appointed to the Department on April 18, 1974, and retired May 30, 1987.

ULLIN — Retired Police Officer Donald Ullin Jr., 80, died Jan. 26, 2026. Officer Ullin was appointed to the Department on July 26, 1971, and retired July 29, 1997.

WHITE — Retired Police Officer Cheree White, 55, died Feb. 22, 2026. Officer White was appointed to the Department on May 12, 1997, and retired June 8, 2007.

WIECEK — Retired Police Officer Michael Wiecek, 90, died Jan. 22, 2026. Officer Wiecek was appointed to the Department on Feb. 14, 1960, and retired April 11, 1986.

WILLIAMS — Retired Police Officer Rube Williams Jr., 80, died Jan. 1, 2026. Officer Williams was appointed to the Department on Aug. 2, 1971, and retired Jan. 6, 2001.

WILSON — Retired Sergeant Alford Wilson, 79, died Feb. 20, 2026. Sergeant Wilson was appointed to the Department on April 24, 1972, and retired May 17, 1997.

WOODCUM — Retired Police Officer Oscar Woodcum, 54, died Dec. 8, 2025. Officer Woodcum was appointed to the Department on Nov. 26, 2001, and retired April 23, 2018.

Congress eyes action on WEP, GPO benefits

Now comes the tax man.

On Jan. 5, 2025, law enforcement officers nationwide celebrated the success of decades of advocacy by the National Association of Police Organizations and other groups to repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO).

The efforts culminated with President Biden signing into law of the Social Security Fairness Act, one of the final pieces of major legislation he signed before leaving office.

For nearly 40 years, the WEP and GPO had been harming the retirement security of public safety officers by taking away hard-earned and much-needed benefits simply because they chose a public service profession that mandates early retirement.

In 2025, public safety retirees saw their Social Security benefits fully restored and received a refund payment for a year's worth of deserved backpay for the benefits that were taken from them in 2024.

Unfortunately, NAPO reports, public safety retirees are now facing a large tax bill on the same benefits Congress acted to restore. NAPO said it has worked closely with Congressman Lance Gooden (R-Texas) on the No Tax

on Restored Benefits Act, which would exclude from federal taxes the 2024 lump sum payment public safety retirees received last year due to the passage of the Social Security Fairness Act.

This bill to eliminate the tax "honors Congress's intent in repealing the GPO and WEP and would ensure no public servant continues to be penalized simply because they chose a life of public service," NAPO said. "NAPO stands with Congressman Gooden in support of this important legislation and thanks him for his continued support for the public safety community," NAPO added.

A Feb. 5 letter from NAPO Executive Director William J. Johnson to Gooden explained the situation: "On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations,

representing approximately 250,000 sworn law enforcement officers across the United States, I am writing to you to advise you of our support for the No Tax on Restored Benefits Act.

"For over 40 years, the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) had been harming the retirement security of public safety officers. In 2024, Congress proved that it understood the detrimental impact the WEP and GPO had on public servants' Social Security retirement benefits when it permanently repealed these harmful provisions as part of the Social Security Fairness Act.

"Now, these same retirees are facing a large tax bill on those same benefits Congress worked to restore. The No Tax on Restored Benefits Act honors Congress's intent

in repealing the GPO and WEP and will ensure no public servant will continue to be penalized simply because they chose public service. We thank you for your leadership on this issue and we look forward to working with you to pass this important legislation."

The Fraternal Order of Police are also doing their share of lobbying Congress to repeal the tax.

"After the law was enacted," said Fraternal Order of Police President Patrick Yoes in a March 6 letter to the bill's Congressional bipartisan cosponsors, "many beneficiaries received lump-sum payments resulting from the legislation's retroactive application. These payments, which could be several thousands of dollars, are currently subject to signifi-

Continued on Page 26

The Deuce

Continued from Page 22

reading to students at Barton Elementary School.

This is what your community policing looks like, being actively involved with building relationships with the businesses and community partners.

I did not want to forget my hardworking brothers and sisters in blue. You guys also do an amazing job servicing our citizens in the Second Precinct. Let's be safe and always back each other up.

Love you guys!



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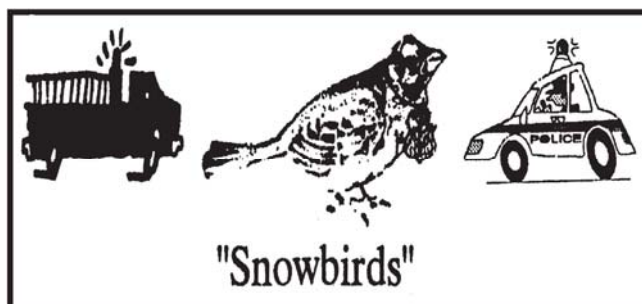
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*The financial analysis and recommendations are not intended to replace the need for independent tax, accounting, or legal review. Individuals are advised to seek the counsel of such licensed professionals.

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RETIREE & ASSOCIATE NEWS



Group sets dates for upcoming gatherings

By Dan Zemaitis

Greetings from sunny Florida!

On Jan. 30, some of us met in Wildwood, Fla. at the Russell Stover store to stock up on our chocolate supply. Afterwards we met at Cody's Restaurant for lunch. John and Carolyn Wood, Bill and Cathy Jasper, Don and Cindy Rem, Joann Cherry and Tony Fontana and Dan Zemaitis — good people and good food.

All are welcome to join us — just give us a call so we can give the restaurant a head count.

On Feb. 21, we met at Picola Italian Restaurant in Zepherhills. On hand were Mike and Sue Kniaz, Georgette Gekiere, Dan Zemaitis, Dan and Chris Osinski, Don and Cindy Rem, John and Carolyn Wood, Joann Cherry and Tony Fontana.

March birthdays: Jerry Rozanski, Evelyn Brehm, Violet Prather and George Perry.

April birthdays: Georgette Gekiere, Maryann Ponik, Mike Kniaz, Karen Haderer, Cindy Rem, Cathy Jasper and Sue Kniaz.

May birthdays: Marsha Dreslinski, Jerry Henningsen.

July birthdays: Muriel Corsiglia, Claudia Sevald, Joann Nichols, Robin Mueller, Melanie Pauch and Don Rem.

Note! Our first meeting of 2026 will be May 17, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Fred's of Roscommon All are welcome!

Our June 14 meeting is cancelled because of the annual Retired Detroit Police and Fire Fighters Association (RDPFFA) gathering in Frankenmuth, starting June 14 (rooms), June 15 (picnic) and June 16 (meeting and breakfast).

The "Snowbird" meetings will resume July 12 at Fred's.

Take care and God bless. (989) 305-1035

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.

Congress eyes action on benefits

Continued from Page 25

cant federal taxes. "Your bill would exclude this income from federal taxes. This would not be a permanent change to Social Security law, simply a temporary exclusion.

These public servants, who for decades had their Social Security benefits unjustly withheld, should not have to face large and unexpected tax bills after finally being made whole." If the bill, H.R. 7631

What's Cooking?

With Mary Moss



Happy Spring everyone. It finally arrived, I think. The days are getting longer, along with spending more time outside, enjoying the fresh air and the ever-rising temperatures. The best season with family and friends.

Enjoy these recipes, and Bon Appetit!

Mary

Roast Chicken

Ingredients

1 (4- to 5-lb.) whole chicken
1 ½ tsp. kosher salt, divided
1 lemon half
1 tsp. seasoned pepper
1 tsp. dried rosemary
1 tbsp. olive oil
1 tbsp. butter, melted

Directions

Preheat the oven to 450°F. If applicable, remove neck and giblets from chicken, and reserve for another use. Pat dry with paper towels. Sprinkle 1/2 tsp. salt inside cavity. Place the lemon half inside cavity.



Stir together pepper, rosemary, and remaining 1 tsp. salt. Brush outside of chicken with oil.

Rub 2 ½ tsp. pepper mixture into skin. Sprinkle remaining pepper mixture over both sides of breast. Place chicken, breast side up, on a lightly greased wire rack in a lightly greased shallow roasting pan. Add ¾ cup water to pan.

Bake at 450°F for 20 minutes. Reduce heat to 375°F, and bake 30 minutes. Baste chicken with pan juices; drizzle with melted butter. Bake 15 to 25 minutes or until a meat thermometer inserted in thigh registers 165°F, shielding with aluminum foil to prevent excessive browning, if necessary. Remove chicken from oven, and baste with pan juices. Let stand 10 minutes before slicing.

Pineapple Casserole

2 (20-oz.) cans pineapple chunks in juice, drained (reserve 6 tbsp. juice)
½ cup sugar
5 tbsp. flour
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
¼ cup butter
1 sleeve Ritz crackers, crushed

Directions

Preheat oven to 350°F. In a medium size bowl, combine sugar, flour, and reserved pineapple juice. Add pineapple chunks and toss well to combine. Spoon pineapple mixture into 8x8-inch casserole dish, and top with shredded cheese.



Combine crushed Ritz crackers and melted butter. Spread Ritz cracker topping evenly on top of pineapple mixture.

Bake at 350°F for 30 minutes, or until bubbly.

passes, it would prevent the lump sum from being taxed. It has been referred to as an unforeseen and unfair "tax bomb" on its taxpaying victims.

"First, the federal government shortchanged

public servants by withholding the Social Security benefits. Now, Washington is trying to tax those benefits," Gooden told FOX Business. "It's a slap in the face to teachers, firefighters, law en-

forcement officers and more who devoted their careers to serving our communities. The No Tax on Restored Benefits Act finally ends the mistreatment of our public-sector retirees."

THE TRADING POST

MISCELLANEOUS

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.

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.

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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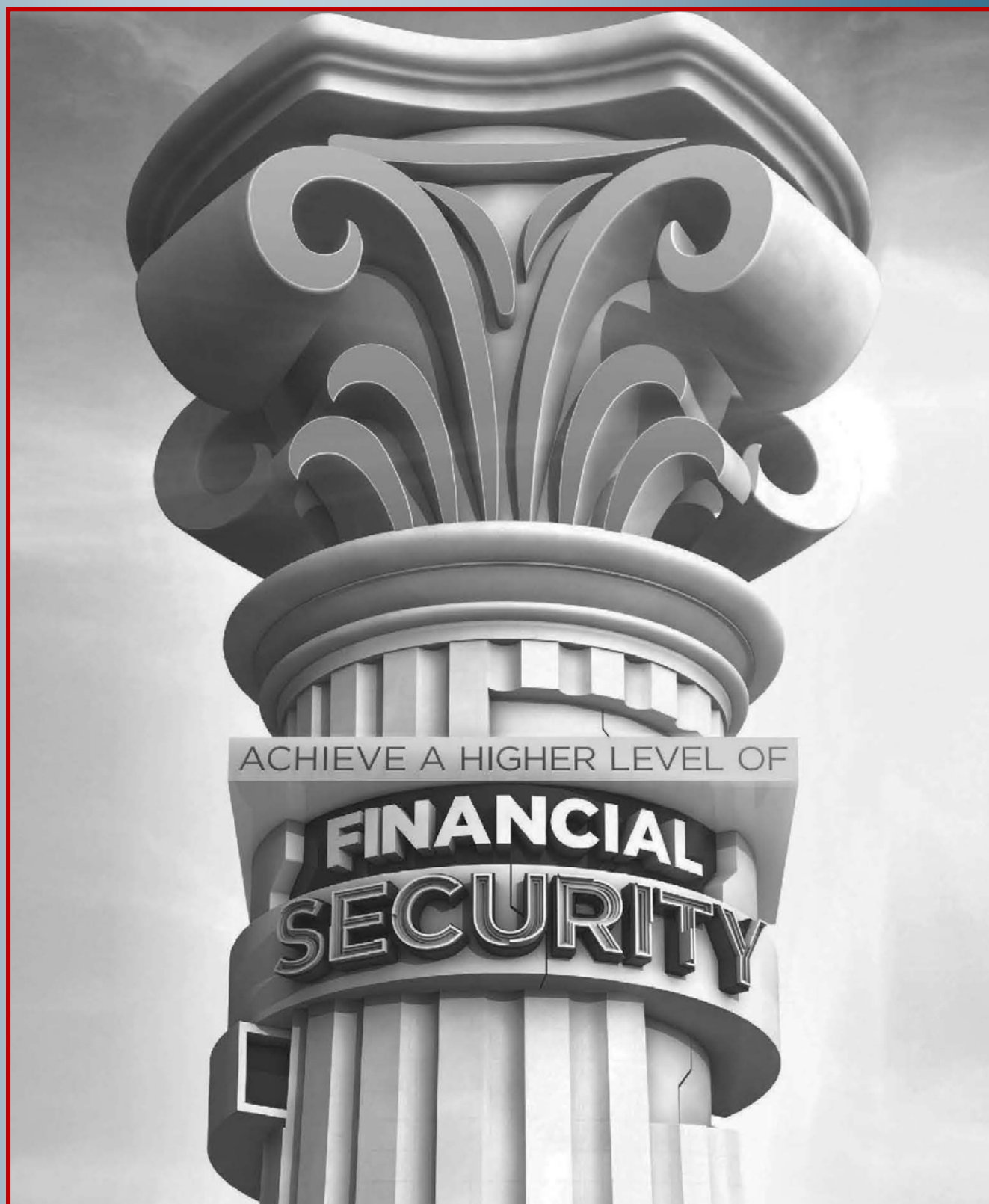
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