



# THE POLICE MAGAZINE BLUES

JANUARY 2020 • VOL. 36 NO. 1



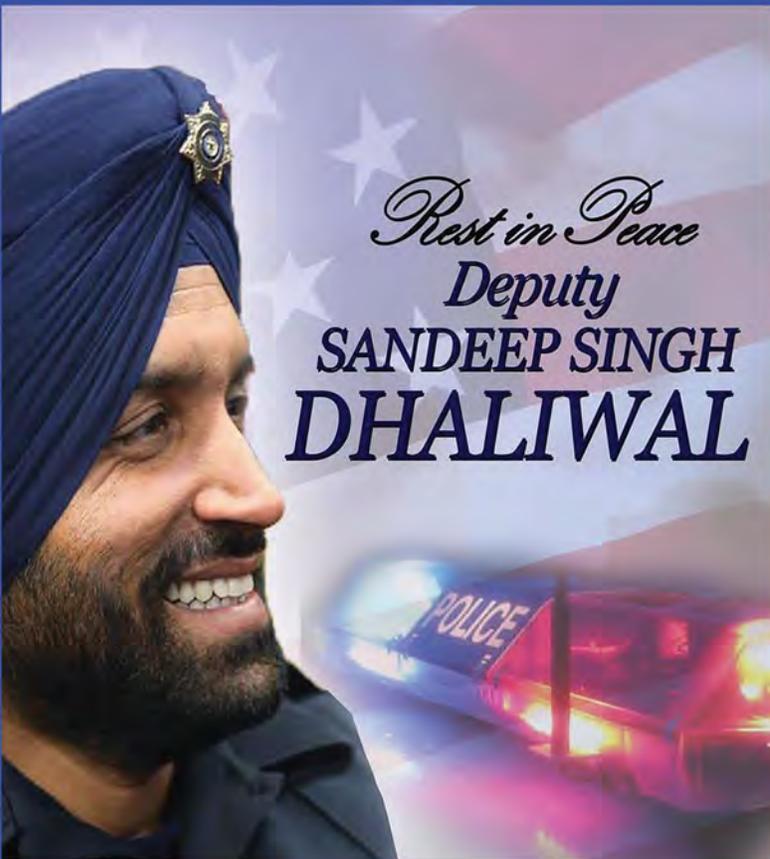
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*Rest in Peace*  
Deputy  
**SANDEEP SINGH  
DHALIWAL**



END OF WATCH • DEC. 10, 2019



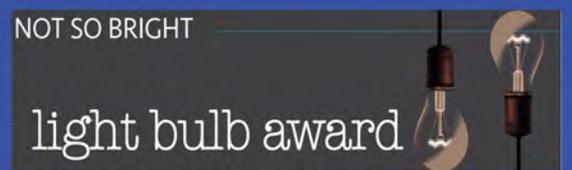
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THE POLICE MAGAZINE  
**BLUES**

JANUARY 2020 • VOL. 36 NO. 1



**On the Cover**  
It's with great sadness that we launch the 35th Anniversary Edition of the THE BLUES Police Magazine with the loss of so many brothers and sisters in Blue. Sandeep & Abigail please welcome Billy, Stephen, Christopher, Joesph, Kaila, and Raye into Heaven.

12



In This Issue

- 6 **Publisher's Thoughts**  
Mike Barron takes us back 35 years
- 8 **Editor's Thoughts**  
Rex Evans; What \$150,000 Won't Get YOU
- 10 **Our Readers Thoughts**  
A Powerful Letter from a Brother Officer
- 21 **News Around the State**
- 29 **Final Role Call: Who's Retiring**
- 30 **FOP News**
- 34 **History Lesson**
- 36 **Blue Mental Health**
- 37 **HPOU Editorial by Joe Gamaldi**
- 38 **End of Watch – Honoring our Fallen Heroes**
- 54 **Now Hiring – LEO Job Opportunities**
- 56 **Outdoors with Rusty Barron**
- 58 **Breaking News**
- 60 **Parting Shots – Police Humor**

18



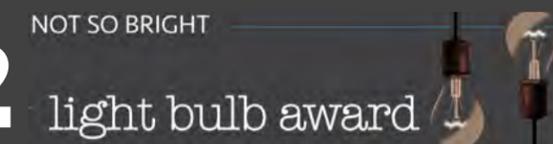
20



21



32



my thoughts !!



# BACK TO THE FUTURE

Let's go back. Way back! Some 35 years in fact. It was just before Thanksgiving in 1984 that a few Harris County deputies at District 2 started talking about the recently formed Sheriff's Union and their lack of a monthly newsletter. The competition at the time was the Harris County Deputies Association, which was pretty much a rubber stamp of what the current administration wanted it to be.

Somehow, the conversation led to, "Hey Barron, you have a big mouth and no filter. You should write the newsletter for the Union." After a few conversations with the Union, I decided if I was going to put my job on the line, I'd better make some money doing it. I had no publishing experience, but the idea of the County Blues came to me watching the popular TV show "Hill Street Blues." As they say, the rest is history.

The first issue was printed on plain old letter size paper and looked absolutely horrible. Sheriff Jack Heard had nothing but praises for it, but as it turned out, he liked it because incoming Sheriff Johnny Klevenhagen hated it. Not only did Klevenhagen hate it, he called me into his office a couple of years after we started and demanded I stop printing it or else! My union attorney advised ole Johnny that my constitutional rights gave me every reason in the world to ignore his demands and keep right on poking the bear. Score a win for the Blues, not so much for Barron. I was immediately transferred to nights with, wait for it, Mondays and Wednesdays off. As far as I know, I was the only employee in the history of the HCSO to ever have non-consecutive days off. Again, my attorney pled my case and I eventually was given Mondays and Tuesdays off - for LIFE.

As the newspaper's circulation expanded to law enforcement offices all over the State, we eventually changed the name to just, The Blues. It was

about that time that I left Harris County and went to work for one of the greatest Sheriffs in all of Texas, Sheriff Joe Max Taylor in Galveston. As my publishing and law enforcement careers expanded, I turned The Blues over to G.L "Buddy" Williams, a Houston cop who had been editor of both The Blues and HPD's Badge & Gun. For the next 30 something years, Buddy did a magnificent job of keeping the tradition alive.

In August of 2018, Buddy wrote a parting editorial and pulled the pin on



a tradition that had continued for some 34 years, setting a record for the largest and longest running independently operated Police Newspaper in the State of Texas, and that was that. The Blues had closed and gone peacefully into the night.

Until September of 2019, that is. A local TV station contacted me about running a story on the 35th Anniversary of The Blues. "Hey great" I said let me reach out to Buddy and let him know. It was then that I had discovered The Blues had closed, and Buddy had retired for good. Never wanting to let a good thing go, I decided, what the hell, let's



do a modern version of what The Blues was famous for - entertaining Texas cops. That, my friends, is how the "rest of the story" begins.

Introducing, The Blues Police Magazine, a digital magazine that will be published monthly and distributed FREE of CHARGE to over 30,000 law enforcement officers around the Great State of Texas. (To join simply click on this link.)

The great thing about digital publishing is the sky is the limit on what we can offer our readers each month. Interactive stories with videos, hot links added to the content, not to mention incredible photography throughout the publication.

Of course, in order to produce a great magazine, you must have a great team. Our editorial staff is led by the incredible talents of Rex Evans, former Police Chief and now head of Emergency Management for Klein ISD. Our features writer, Michelle Hatmaker, will be covering some pretty cool stories, including a behind the scenes look at LIVE PD.

The lifeblood of any publication is its advertisers, and Rebecca Cesari is the one to contact if you and your business would like to reach over 30,000 law enforcement officers each and every month.

If you would like to make some extra cash and write for The Blues, please email us at: [bluespdmag@gmail.com](mailto:bluespdmag@gmail.com)



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his thoughts !



## \$150,000 ..what it won't get you.

There's some things, you cannot put a price on. For example, \$150,000 won't buy my integrity. \$150,000 won't buy my honor. \$150,000 won't buy my dedication to Duty. \$150,000 won't buy commitment to the Oath I raised my right hand and swore to all those years ago.

Last Week, a Judge in Harris County set the indignant bond amount of \$150,000 for a multi-time offender (who's name I will not repeat), who was currently out on multiple bonds for criminal offenses AND had a current warrant out for his arrest.

Sgt. Kaila Sullivan attempted to bring this offender into custody, but he chose otherwise. Instead of complying, instead of stepping up and being a man and answering for the crimes he's committed, he fought with Sgt. Sullivan and then ran over her, and left her laid upon the ground, killing her.

My message to the Judge, the Harris County District Attorney, and anyone else who had a part in this indignant abomination of Justice, you should be absolutely ashamed of yourselves. Though, I know you are not. My years in this profession have enlightened me to many a cruel truth. You care not about those of us out here who stand between you and the wolves, who wish nothing more than to tear apart what few decent parts of society remain. Yet, when the wolves reach your courtroom, I and those like me shall step between you and the wolves, even if it costs us our lives. Something, which I am quite sure this Judge and those responsible for this indignant travesty, could never truly

comprehend or even appreciate.

My message to every Peace Officer out there who reads this post, do not let the indignant, repugnant, cruel, and ruthless lack of support from someone wearing a robe, sitting in a courtroom playing "Judge", dissuade you from doing your job and doing it well. Do not let such atrocities preclude you from going out and doing what we always do. Stand in the darkness and bring the light. That's what we do. We always have and, I've no doubt, we always will.

My message to the family, friends, loved ones of Sgt. Kaila Sullivan, first and foremost, I am sorry. I am sorry for the terrible and tragic loss of such a bright, beautiful soul. Secondly, I am so sorry our Judicial System (or lack thereof) has failed you. Not only has it failed you, not only has the Judge and District Attorney failed you, but they've placed an undue, unfair, and cruel form of torture upon you all without cause. For all of these things, I am eternally heartbroken.

If that's not enough for you, please understand this;

I can't even remember every single Law Enforcement Officer's Funeral I have attended over the last nearly 30 years. I can't. There have been too many. That being said, I do remember and know this fact...Every single one of them was a better cop, better husband, wife, mother, father, son, daughter, relative, friend, and human being than I have ever been in my entire life. Now they are gone and for whatever the reason, even after being shot in the line of duty myself, I am still here. Some nights, the guilt tears



me apart. Who am I to survive and they did not?

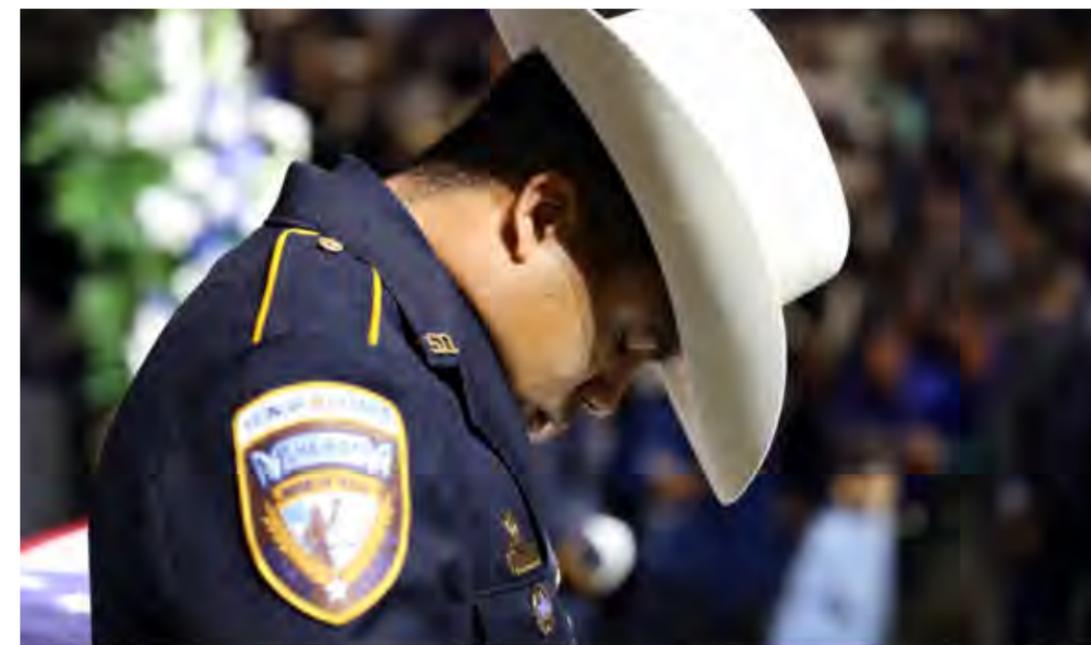
So with that pain, I decide I will go out on my next shift and do the absolute best I can do. I will help all those I can help, save all those I can save, and I will do whatever else I have to do, not for me but, for them, for those who we've lost and their loved ones. If they can give their life for the same thing you and I (we) stand for, then who am I not to continue taking that same stand until I fall or cannot do this job anymore.

While my mind and my heart are fueled with much disappointment, grief, sorrow, and anger...I temper those emotions with respect, humility, grace, love and admiration for men like Sgt. Brewster with the Houston Police Department, and for women like Sgt. Kaila Sullivan of the Nassau Bay Police Department. Thus, what choice are you and I left with?

None. We lace up our boots, put on our gear, and we go right back out there where we continue to perform with stellar tenacity for those whom we serve.

I for one, cannot think of, and know of no better way to show and pay my respect to those whom we've lost...

And that my friends, no \$150,000 bond can ever take away from me... It's called Integrity.



### Message from Sheriff Ed Gonzalez:

My heart breaks for the families and friends of Houston Police Department Sgt. Christopher Brewster and Nassau Bay Police Sgt. Kaila Sullivan. I pray that everyone affected by their passing finds peace. I thank all of their brothers in sisters in blue involved in apprehending the suspected killers so the families may feel justice has been served.

Sgt. Christopher Brewster, E.O.W. 12-07-19 | Sgt. Kaila Sullivan, E.O.W. 12-10-19

To our community, two local officers killed in the line of duty in one week is unfathomable. Our law enforcement community is hurting right now, but know that we will continue to serve and protect our communities. We will conduct ourselves with honor and courage. We will not let evil win. Below, you will see that no matter the circumstances, our job is never done, and we will always press forward to reach out to our community, and address other systemic issues that plague our county.

God bless all of you, and God bless the Harris County Sheriff's Office

your thoughts !!!



## BACK TO THE FUTURE

# GET OUT BEFORE YOU GET TOO DAMN DEEP

This editorial was published in the August 1989 issue of the Blues. An officer found the following letter in his locker after a fellow officer had committed suicide earlier in the day.

Dear Ed:

Please don't be pissed at me. I know you're upset, probably mad as hell at me right now. But you and I go way back. We started together.

We hit the streets as rookies, took all the bullshit from our training officers, and finally rode by ourselves. The dumbass sergeant we had on nights was just so frigging stupid. But we kicked his ass back in the day. And we put a lot of bad guys away, took a lot of drugs off the street and made a difference. We were bad asses, and everyone knew it.

Until the night you got shot. I raced to the scene and held you in my arms until the EMTs showed up. Those first few hours in the hospital was a living hell for all of us. Both our wives and kids were all there. Waiting on news that you would be ok. You were lucky. I was lucky. But over the years, we lost a lot of brothers and sisters in Blue. Every funeral the hurt became more and more painful. Each time it took longer and longer to get over the pain and get back to work.

As the years passed, you and Janie grew closer and closer. You had the best marriage and the best kids. You promoted up the chain to Asst. Chief and I was so proud of you.

But while you were soaring, I was on a deep dive. Debbie left me and I barely saw the kids any more. I was stuck on nights, working patrol in the same district you and I grew up in. But it's not the same anymore. Times have changed. The cops are different. The people are different. And the job I used to love, has just really turned to

shit. The days of trying to make a difference are over. I'm just happy I can end the shift without me or someone I know getting shot. It's a whole new world out there Ed, a whole new world.

But unlike you, I feel stuck in the job. I have too many bills to retire. And I've done this my entire adult life. Being a cop is all I know. I have no idea what I would do if I did quit. But staying on has become impossible. My sergeant doesn't want an old man riding around in HIS district. He wants younger cops who don't ask questions. There is no more proactive police work. It's all about clearing the calls and staying out of trouble. And he sure as hell doesn't have my back. If I screw up, I'm done.

So here I am. Everyone I know has either retired, died or moved on. There is no one left. No wife. No girlfriend (she left me for a younger guy now that's ironic huh). Kids hardly ever call or come by. I feel lost and abandoned. No one to turn too, or anyone that can help. I'm sure no one will understand why I took this way out. But I'm not as strong as you. Not as successful as you. Not as ambitious. Not Anything. So please forgive me for leaving without saying good-bye. Give my love to my kids and my nieces. Hug your wife and tell her I love her.

And finally, for all my brothers and sisters I leave behind, I leave you with this. Do the best job you can do. Make your mark on this world. Make a difference in your community and your department. Be the best cop you can be. And then for God's sake, get the hell out and enjoy your life before it's too late. Spend time with your wife, your family and your kids. Get out before you get too damn deep and

lose everything.

I used to think that being a cop was everything – It was my entire life. But I was wrong. It took my life instead. My marriage, my kids, my sanity, my everything.

Learn from me brother. Get out while you still can. Make a life for yourself outside of law enforcement.

Love always, your brother Pete.

When I first noted the year this powerful letter was written (1989), I immediately thought that not much has changed in the law enforcement field over the years. In fact, we have sadly seen an increase in law enforcement suicide. However, this is often a complicated issue and must be examined as such. It takes time to verify and gather valid statistics on law enforcement suicide. I encourage you to follow the organization 1 is Too Many as they are examining law enforcement suicide from multiple perspectives. Simply relying on numbers is dangerous as they do not tell the whole story of an individual's life and decisions. Fortunately, more agencies are now embracing the need to offer counseling, peer support services, and suicide prevention and education programs to reduce stigma. When an officer dies by suicide, we often play the blame game and look to command staff and the agency culture as a whole for answers. Although this is an important retrospective step, there is often a fine balance between individual responsibility for taking care of ourselves and our own mental health needs versus relying solely on agencies to solve these complicated issues. Pete's words ring true. This career can take a great deal from you if you let it. Recognize this early, make healthy life choices, and reach out for help if needed. We need you. To report a law enforcement suicide please call toll-free 1-833-784-2133. For immediate assistance and suicide prevention resources, please contact Safe Call Now at 206-459-3020.

TINA JAECKLE

10 The BLUES POLICE MAGAZINE



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# ENOUGH

**5 Officers in 5 days !**  
*The heartbreak is overwhelming*

"The past few days have been devastating for the law enforcement community with the death of so many officers, and most in such violent ways," she said. "But it's not just the law enforcement community that is affected by these deaths; it's every person in America that is ready to put an end hard with tragedy after tragedy. A total of five officers have been killed in the line of duty in just eight days. Four of them were shot and killed by armed suspects. Four of them left children and families behind. One was incredibly young, just out of the academy and onto the streets. All of them were heroes.

Sound like these past few weeks? Actually, this was a paragraph from a story written this past June in Illinois. Heroes are dying every week in America. Enough is Enough can be seen in hundreds, if not thousands of Facebook posts by friends and co-workers of these fine men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their communities.

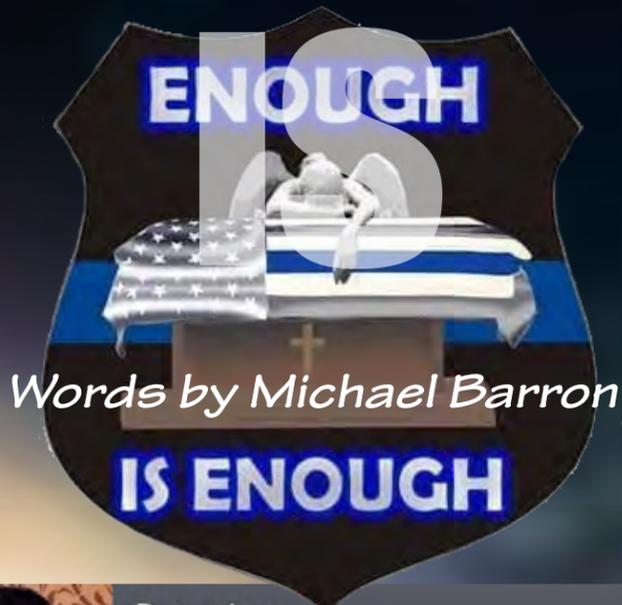
As we go to press, SEVEN law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty by criminals who committed felony acts (5 by gunfire, 1 by vehicular assault, and 1 in an accident involving a chase). These recent deaths began on December 6, 2019 when Agent Billy Fred Clardy, III of the Huntsville Alabama Police Dept. was shot

and killed while participating in a narcotics operation with the HIDTA Gulf Coast Task Force. The following day, Officer Stephen Carr of the Fayetteville Police Department was ambushed and shot ten times while sitting in his patrol car outside his station waiting on his partner.

That same night here in Houston, HPD Sgt. Christopher Brewster was backing up his troops on a family disturbance when a suspect shot him as he exited his patrol vehicle. On December 10, in Jersey City NJ, Detective Joseph Seals was shot and killed at 12:30 pm after encountering two subjects in a van linked to a homicide. That night, back in here in Nassau Bay, Sgt. Kaila Sullivan was trying to handcuff a suspect when he broke free, got back into a vehicle and ran over her. She died shortly thereafter at a local hospital. And finally, while thousands of friends, family, and officers were laying Christopher Brewster to rest here in Houston, Constable Raye Hawkins of the Panola County Constable in Mississippi was struck and killed when his vehicle was struck by a stolen pickup being pursued by other officers.

Sadly, thus far in 2019, 118 officers have lost their lives in the line of duty. Twenty more died while on duty or in work related duties. Being a cop obviously is dangerous work.

*Continued on Page 14*



*Words by Michael Barron*



Detective  
**JOSEPH SEALS**

[Jersey City Police Department, New Jersey](#)

EOW: Tuesday, December 10, 2019



Sergeant  
**KAILA SULLIVAN**

[Nassau Bay Police Department, Texas](#)

EOW: Tuesday, December 10, 2019



Sergeant  
**CHRISTOPHER BREWSTER**

[Houston Police Department, Texas](#)

EOW: Saturday, December 7, 2019



Police Officer  
**STEPHEN CARR**

[Fayetteville Police Department, Arkansas](#)

EOW: Saturday, December 7, 2019



Agent  
**BILLY FRED CLARDY, III**

[Huntsville Police Department, Alabama](#)

EOW: Friday, December 6, 2019

# ENOUGH

**Disrespectful Chief & Low Life Judge**  
**Both Need to go !**

Before I write the first word about the actions of HPD Chief Art Acevedo, PC Court Magistrate Colin Amann and the Harris County District Attorney, I want to apologize to the families of Sgt. Brewster and Sgt. Sullivan. Dealing with the loss of a loved one, especially police officers in the line of duty, is hard enough without having to deal with a bunch of political BS. On behalf of all of Chris and Kaila's brothers and sisters in BLUE, I want you to know how truly sorry we are.

We begin with Acevedo and his 5-minute rant on gun control outside the funeral home where our beloved brother Christopher Brewster was taken. While the focus should have been 100% on comforting Chris' family, Acevedo seized the opportunity to grandstand in front of the media gathered to cover the funeral. Being the radical anti-gun fanatic he is, Acevedo began blaming everyone from Trump, to Ted Cruz to the NRA for Chris' death. How about blaming the thug POS that shot him because he didn't want to go back to jail? Damn Acevedo, did you really think Solis went to his local gun store and purchased a gun legally? Well no, because with his criminal past he wouldn't have been sold one. So, while you are ranting and raving about boyfriend loopholes which had absolutely nothing to do with

the death of this fine officer, who you should be directing your anger to is the court system. Time and time again this punk was arrested and let go. Courts, judges and the entire criminal justice program is broken. That's where your anger should be. Even so, venting mere feet away from the funeral home where your fallen officer's body lay, is just uncalled for.

Joe Gamaldi, President of the HPOU, wrote to his members: "We are all grieving for Chris, and the focus should be on him and his family, not on the Chief's agenda. If the Chief would like to make political statements, there are plenty of opportunities to run for office. But running the 5th largest department in the country should be his focus, instead of his misplaced activism. By the way, if the Chief wants to have a discussion on guns and crime, maybe he should share the facts that we have provided him that over 1600 people are on deferred for aggravated assault, 1100 people on deferred for robbery/aggravated robbery, and over 300 people on deferred for felon in possession of a firearm. It was very clear to anyone watching, the Chief owes the entire Houston Police Department an apology for hijacking this somber moment. Chief Acevedo needs to understand, this is about Sgt. Chris Brewster and his

*Continued on Page 16*

# 5 Officers in 5 days !

## The heartbreak is overwhelming

Continued from Page 12

It always has been and always will be. Darius Quimby was the first known police officer to be killed in the line of duty on January 3, 1791. Quimby was an unpaid officer for the Albany County Constables Office. The first Harris County deputy killed in the line of duty was Deputy Carl F. Court on November 30, 1895, and the first HPD officer killed in the line of duty was C. Edward Foley on March 10, 1860.

Here are some alarming facts you may or may not know:

- There are more than 900,000 sworn law enforcement officers now serving in the United States, which is the highest figure ever. About 12 percent of those are female.

- Crime fighting has taken its toll. Since the first recorded police death in 1786, there have been over 21,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Currently, there are 21,910 names engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

- A total of 1,582 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty during the past 10 years, an average of one death every 55 hours or 158 per year. There were 158 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in 2018.

- According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Report 2017 LEOKA report:

- There have been 60,211 assaults against law enforcement officers in 2017, resulting in 17,476 injuries.

- The 1920s were the deadliest decade in law enforcement history, when a total of 2,480 officers died, or an average of almost 248 each year. The deadliest year in law enforcement history was 1930, when 310 officers were killed. That figure dropped dramatically in the 1990s, to an average of 162 per year.

14 The BLUES POLICE MAGAZINE

- The deadliest day in law enforcement history was September 11, 2001, when 72 officers were killed while responding to the terrorist attacks on America.

- New York City Police Department has lost more officers in the line of duty than any other department, with 899 deaths. Texas has lost 1,751 officers, more than any other state. The state with the fewest deaths is Vermont, with 24.

- There are 1,166 federal officers listed on the Memorial, as well as 713 correctional officers, and 43 military law enforcement officers.

- There are 348 female officers listed on the Memorial; eleven female officers were killed in 2018.

- While we certainly aren't having the "worst" year for officer deaths, one death is too many. So why any deaths at all? Respect or the lack thereof, is at an all-time low for law enforcement. In the "old days" when a police officer told you to get out of the car, you got your butt out of the car. It was yes sir or no sir. If you even looked crossways at a cop, you got your ass kicked. It was a different time and place for sure. And for the most part, people abided by the law because they didn't want to go to jail. Jails sucked back in the day. The first time I set foot in the old Harris County Jail at 301 San Jacinto, it was a hell hole. I hated working at that place. I couldn't imagine living there. Going to jail was a deterrent. "Respect the cops. Don't mouth off. Do what they tell you to do when they tell you to do it. If you stay out of trouble, you'll stay out of jail." That was my dad's advice from the minute I got my first driver's license, and it must have been good advice, because outside of working in the jail, I would have never seen the inside of one.



But your average street punk, turd, crook, POS, or whatever you want to call them could care less if they go to jail. Because they know what it's like. They got friends inside. You get fed, watch TV, workout and before you know it, you get out early for time served, if they even make it to jail. Most bond out, wait months to go to trial, plead out for some stupid amount of jail time and/or get probation. Those that get paroled, that's a joke as well, because even when they do violate their terms, the courts don't do shit.

On the other hand, you have dirtbags that will do anything to keep from going back to jail. They will shoot you, run from you, run over you, run over other innocent people that get in their way, or whatever it takes to get the hell away from the Police.

The crazy thing is that even if they did get arrested for whatever violation they committed; they would probably bond out before you finish the paperwork. So, why in the hell would you kill a cop? That guarantees you a place on death row or life. It doesn't make sense, but then again, I'm not a dirtbag, so I have no idea what motivates them to make stupid decisions.

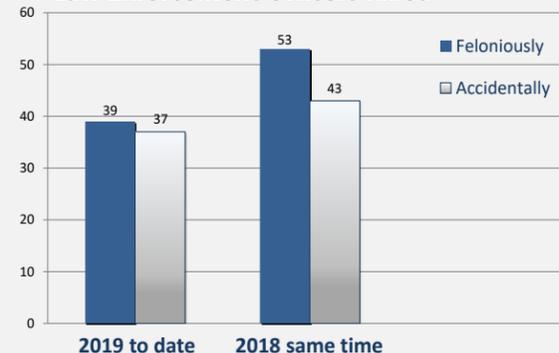
All I know is  
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.  
STOP KILLING MY  
BLUE FAMILY!



## 2019 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED

This is a graphic presentation of data regarding line-of-duty deaths, both felonious and accidental, collected from law enforcement agencies across the United States and U.S. territories by the FBI's Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted Program. This preliminary information is provided for officer safety studies, training, and other initiatives. The data are also published annually in the *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* publication.

### Law Enforcement Officers Killed



Law Enforcement Officers Killed	2019 to date	2018 same time
Feloniously	39	53
Accidentally	37	43

### Officers Accidentally Killed: Type of Accident/Call for Service or Reason for Involvement

- 17 Motor vehicle crash
  - 6 Patrol
  - 2 Assist another officer
  - 2 Crime in progress
  - 1 Administrative assignment
  - 1 Escort dignitary or funeral
  - 1 Investigative/enforcement
  - 1 Rescue/recovery
  - 1 Report of crime
  - 1 Serve/attempt to serve court order
  - 1 Other
- 15 Pedestrian officer struck by vehicle
  - 5 Traffic enforcement
  - 3 Assist motorist
  - 2 Assist another officer
  - 2 Traffic control
  - 1 Administrative assignment
  - 1 Investigative/enforcement
  - 1 Other
- 3 Firearm-related incident
  - 1 Drowning
  - 1 Other accidental

### Officers Feloniously Killed: Weapons Used by Offenders

- 39 Officers were killed with firearms
  - 24 Handguns
  - 5 Rifles
  - 1 Shotgun
  - 8 Not reported
  - 1 Unknown
- 0 Officers were killed with vehicles

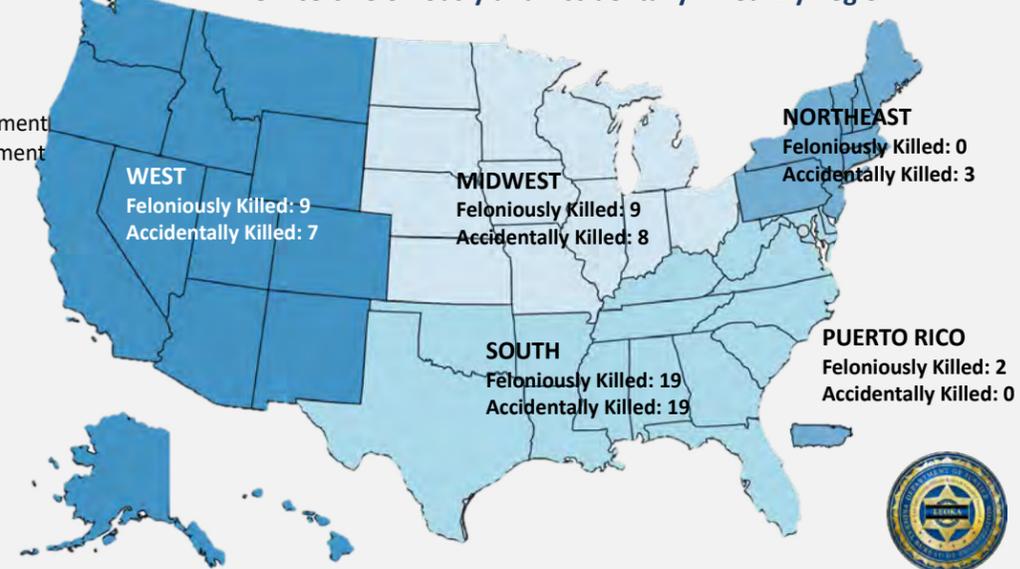
### Officers Feloniously Killed: Circumstance Encountered Upon Arrival at Scene of Incident

- 6 Pursuit
- 6 Tactical situation
- 5 Traffic violation stop
- 5 Unprovoked attack
- 4 Arrest situation
- 3 Investigative activity
- 2 Ambush (entrapment/premeditation)
- 2 Domestic disturbance
- 2 Drug-related matter
- 2 Robbery
- 1 Disturbance
- 1 Serving/attempting to serve court order

### Officers Feloniously Killed: Location of Firearm Wounds

- 6 Front head
- 4 Neck/throat
- 4 Front upper torso/chest
- 3 Front lower torso/abdomen
- 3 Rear head
- 2 Rear upper torso/back
- 1 Front below waist/groin area
- 1 Shoulder (upper torso) area
- 1 Side head
- 1 Unable to determine
- 13 Not reported

### Officers Feloniously and Accidentally Killed: By Region



As of December 2, 2019



# Disrespectful Chief & Low Life Judge Both Need to go !



Continued from Page 13

family...not him!" (Couldn't said it any better Joe.)

What I don't understand is how the chief of the 5th largest police department in the country, with one of the finest SWAT departments in the country that has enough firepower to take down a small country, can be so anti-gun. It's your job to protect us and carry a gun. By the way Chief, I do not belong to the NRA, but I do carry a gun to back your ass up if you need it, and to protect myself and the citizens around me. If you have a problem with that, then QUIT, RESIGN and RUN FOR OFFICE in CALIFORNIA, because you sure as hell don't belong here.

...

Speaking of Judges and DA's. The events leading up to and after the arrest of Tavoires Henderson for the unspeakable death of Sgt. Kaila Sullivan of Nassau Bay were nothing more than a true cluster. To the family of Sgt. Sullivan, I apologize for the despicable way the courts and the District Attorney handled the case of the man responsible for taking the life of your loved one.

Huge congrats to the Harris County Sheriff's Department for hunting down this slime ball and locking him up. Even more for the symbolism of dragging him to court wearing Kaila's handcuffs. Great, great Job HCSO.

Unfortunately, the case went downhill from there. It started when the District Attorney elected to only file "murder" charges against Henderson rather than Capital Murder. They claimed they needed to collect all the evidence. WTH! The asshole ran over her and left the scene wearing her handcuffs. What more evidence do you need? Then, a lowlife PC Court Magistrate named Colin Amann, had the absolute gall to set Henderson's bond at \$150,000. WTH! Are you serious? When the info was released to the public, the cause hearing went viral and lynch mobs began forming around Amann. (I'm surprised

that no one was charged with 'Making terroristic threats' after thousands took to social media threatening Amann.) People were pissed including this writer.

Union representatives released the following statement:

We Demand Action! Today, Texas Municipal Police Association (TMPA) leadership, the Houston Police Officers' Union (FOP Lodge 110), Harris County Deputies Organization (FOP Lodge 39), and Texas State Fraternal Order of Police, representing over 40,000+ police officers (including the Nassau Bay Police Department), come together to formally and loudly condemn the handling of Sgt. Kaila Sullivan's killer, Tavoires Henderson.

The lengthy time it took to file capital murder charges against Henderson by the District Attorney and the fact that he has been given an option for bail are an insult to every member of law enforcement and the good citizens we are charged with protecting.

Henderson has multiple violent arrests spanning multiple counties, including arrests for weapons charges and domestic violence. He is no stranger to the criminal justice system and now stands accused of killing Sgt. Sullivan and attempting to flee before being apprehended.

"For the judge to allow any sort of bond, especially one this low, is imbecilic. He is an accused cop killer already out on multiple bonds, who went on the run after he murdered Sgt. Sullivan. The decision to even consider giving him a bond is beyond illogical and idiotic," said Joe Gamaldi, President of HPOU and Vice-President of National FOP.

David Cuevas, President of HCDO, went on to say "The criminal justice system only works when all people,

including members of the criminal justice system itself, have faith in its processes and those in charge of making decisions. These series of decisions strike deep at the heart of our shared faith in our prosecution and judicial arms of that system. Texans, especially those in law enforcement, deserve better."

Kevin Lawrence, the Executive Director of TMPA added, "What this judge has done is unconscionable – it is not only an affront to Sgt. Sullivan's family, it is a slap in the face to every law enforcement officer who is out there today trying to keep our communities safe. The good, decent, law-abiding citizens of Harris County need to be alarmed. If this pattern is not reversed, Houston is going to become Baltimore or Chicago or Washington D.C."

TMPA, HPOU, and HCDO demand action by the Harris County District Attorney and vow to pursue this issue for as long as it takes in whatever form necessary to see justice for Sgt. Sullivan and the community in which she served.

Just before we went to press, Henderson's bond was revoked when he was charged with Capital Murder. This is what should have happened to begin with.

Once again, we are slapped in the face by a justice system that is more protective of the slime balls that terrorize and kill our citizens, than the proud men and women who lay down their lives to keep us safe.

**To Commissioners Court:  
FIRE AMANN Immediately.  
To the voters of Harris County:  
Vote out these liberal Judges and  
the District Attorney who want to  
turn our town into a bleeding heart  
liberal stronghold.**



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# AFTERMATH

MY WORST DAY started on my 5th day in the academy. It wasn't unusual to see the Captain walk into the classroom as he had made an appearance each day that week to offer his insight into what lay ahead for the 79 cadets in my class. But this day would be anything but normal as he walked up behind me, put his hand on my shoulder and said, "Jones, I need to see you a minute outside please." Well hell, I didn't even make it a week and already I'm getting kicked out. As I made my way to the door, I could tell every eye in the room was on me. I'm sure I was white as a ghost.

Once in the hallway, the captain once again put his hand on my shoulder and said in a comforting voice, "Jones this is Detective Miller, you'll need to go with him. He'll explain once you get outside, and I'll be here when you return." Return? Where the hell was I going? My mind was racing trying to figure out what was going on.

Miller shook my hand, opened the front door and escorted me out to the parking lot. "I'm sorry to have to drag you out like that. I know it's your first week and all, but my Lt. asked me to bring you to him ASAP."

"Uh, Ok what's this about? Where are we going exactly? I asked.

Miller shrugged his shoulders and said "12000 block of West Main. That's all I know"

"Unit 610 I'll be back in from the academy and enroute to the scene with Cadet Jones. Advise Unit 60 our ETA is 30 minutes."

UNIT 610 THAT'S AFFIRMATIVE I'LL ADVISE THE LT.

For the next 30 minutes or so, the detective didn't say much. Asked me if I liked the academy so far and the obligatory "why do you want to be a cop" stuff.

As we turned onto Richmond, there were several units parked outside a nightclub along with a crime scene unit and the ME's van. "Unit 610 show us out with Unit 60" SHOW YOU OUT.

As I got out, I could see Lt. Smith walking towards us with a blank look on his face as well. What is it with everyone today? "Jones I'm Lt. Smith from Homicide. Thanks for coming down and I apologize for breaking you out of class"

"I wish it was under better circumstances, but we'll walk you through this as best we can," said Smith.

"Lt. what the hell is going on?"

"I need you to come with me." I followed him through the side door of this club and could barely see anything it was so dark. We walked towards the back of the building, down a hallway to the restrooms. Once we got outside the women's restroom, they were several uniformed cops, a couple of detectives and the crime scene guys Everyone

seemed to be waiting on something, and once we turned the corner it became obvious they were waiting on me. They all stopped talking, seemed to bow their heads, and all backed away from the tiny hallway.

The Lt turned around, looked me straight in the eye and said "Jones, as a cop you'll be faced with the unfortunate task of telling families their loved ones have been victims of crimes, accident victims, and God knows what else. The bottom line, it's the worst damn part of the job. For me it's even worse that I have to share this with you."

"Early this morning a cleaning crew found a young lady in one of the stalls. Somehow the night shift that closed the bar didn't know she was in here. They called 911, and the paramedics found no pulse and declared her DOA. Son, the woman's ID says she is your wife. I'm so so sorry, but I need to take you inside to ID her and verify that she is in fact your wife."

"There has to be some mistake, sir. I'm sure someone stole her ID. There's just no way it can be..." As we stepped inside, there laying on the floor was the love of my life. I fell down to my knees and the tears flowed like rivers. I wanted to be strong. I wanted to be the brave cop I signed up to be. I didn't want to break down in front of all these cops. But I looked up and they were all weeping and crying too. How?

Why? So Many questions.

"Yes ...yes sir ...yes that's her " The Lt. wrapped his arms around me and lifted me off the floor and held on to me as he escorted me out the door. "Jones, we have no idea how she got here but we're pretty sure its an OD"

As we sat down in a booth near the dance floor, I looked at the Lt. and said, "I'm 99% sure I know how she got here and I'm pretty damn sure you are right, it was drugs.

Laura and I had met back when I was in high school. She was two years younger than me but looked much older than she was. Those blue eyes and blonde hair swept me off my feet the minute I first laid eyes on her. I knew from that minute on she was the one, and I would spend the rest of my life with her. We dated for two years before we got married at the JP's office. My family never approved of the mar-

riage, and the only family she had in Texas was her older sister. That sister unfortunately was a drug dealing piece of crap. When she found out I was going to be a cop, she immediately tried to convince my wife to divorce me and leave town with her.

Unlike her sister, my wife wasn't into drugs. Oh, she might have smoked weed a few times and occasionally got drunk, but nothing like the shit head her sister was. A week before I started the academy, I came home from work and found my sister-in-law snorting a line of coke on our coffee table. I went fucking nuts. I drug her ass literally out of the apartment and kicked the shit out of her. My wife, who had been in the bathroom, and came screaming into the courtyard. "What the hell are you doing?"

I told her to get her fucked up piece of shit sister out of my sight and for both of them to get the hell out of my house. She packed a bag and left with her sister.

"That's the last time I saw her Lt." That was last Monday. That was the last time I saw her alive.

I had called her multiple times since then and begged her to come home and break off any relationship with her sister. "I'm a cop now Laura. I'll get fired if they find out she's doing drugs inside our house."

I should have tried harder. I should not have thrown her out. What the hell did I do Lt? What the hell have I done?

We drove to the detective's office downtown and I had to write down everything that had happened the previous week. They pulled video from the club and saw my wife and her sister in the club just before 1am. They issued a warrant for her

"present arms" and everyone stood there at full attention saluting me. I broke down again. Here was my new family. My Blue Family. My brothers and sisters in Blue.

There I was, only 22 years of age and a widower. I had no idea how to plan a funeral, or what to do. Surely, I was about to be thrown out of the class, but that was hardly what happened. Every single person that day helped in some way. They raised money for the funeral and helped me with all the arrangements. We held the service on Saturday, so no one would miss class. After the funeral, the Captain took me aside and said, "No one will ever speak of this week again unless you mention it first. No one should start their career with such a burden on their back, but no one ever said police work was easy. There will be hundreds of ups and downs, but I'm sure you'll be just fine. We are all

## POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

sister and arrested her a few days later. (Of course, she was in possession of all kinds of drugs. The DA threw the book at her and she got 14 years. At her first parole hearing I showed up in uniform and told the parole board my story. They all cried. I also told them that if she walked out that door, I would take her ass out. Luckily, that never happened. She served nearly all of her 14 year sentence.)

After we finished all the paperwork, the Lt. drove me back to the academy. It was late when we got back, and I was surprised to see the parking lot still full of cars. As we walked inside, every member of the academy staff along with every cadet from my class were lined up along the hallway and standing at attention. As I approached them, I heard the Sgt. give the command

here for you."

This was NO DOUBT THE WORST DAY I have ever had on the job. I had lost the love of my life, but I found a new love. The love of a new family that would always be there for me no matter how bad things got. It's been over 40 years since I lost my Laura, but not a day goes by that I don't think about her. I retired many years ago. During my career, I lost many of my friends. Some of them killed in the line of duty, many for medical reasons or just old age. One thing I'm sure of, they are all together with my Laura waiting for me just like they did that horrible day back at the academy. All standing at attention waiting to salute me when I walk through those pearly gates.

Author's Name Withheld By Request  
Thanks for Sharing Your Story. ED



# WAR STORIES

FACTS LEFT OUT OF THE REPORT

## BACK TO THE FUTURE KARMA IS A BITCH in 1985

I was assigned to Accident Investigations and was riding alone on a Saturday morning on the Northwest side of Houston when I got a call from dispatch of an unknown major/minor on the East Loop at the Mc-Carty exit. The dispatcher advised a man was trapped in the car.

If there was one thing I didn't want to happen, it was make a major that far away and arrive only to find the victims transported to Ben Taub and have to drive all the way downtown, running hot, weaving in and out of cars all across the loop. I raced to the scene hoping to beat the ambulance and who knows, maybe save a guy's life in the process.

Well, no such luck. When I exited the freeway, I noticed a small crowd had gathered around a convertible that had slammed into a metal building some 500 feet from the edge of the pavement. When I got out, one of the wrecker drivers walked up and said, "It's no use officer, they're all gone."

Immediately I thought, well, hell, I guess I'm headed to Ben Taub or Herman anyways. I asked the driver, "what do you mean they are all gone? Who transported them? What hospital?"

He said, "there's no hospital, they are all dead!" "AND they ain't got no

heads no more." What the hell! As I approached the vehicle, I discovered this wasn't a convertible, at least not from the factory anyways. It was in fact a former sedan that had been deroofed by not one, but two 18-wheel trailers.

Two males in the front seat and one female in the back. All three had been decapitated. I jumped on the radio and advised dispatch to send the troops as I had three DOAs at my location. Not long after, I had a dozen or more patrol units show up with rookies on board to see all the blood and guts. Stupid rookies!

While waiting on the ME, I started the investigation to what in the world caused this car to leave the road and travel 500 feet to their unfortunate demise. On the concrete there were no less than 250 feet of skid marks, a chunk of curb missing, and a clear trail of grass and mud leading up to the edge of the first semi-trailer. According to my calculations, the car had struck the trailer in excess of 70 mph which no doubt ripped the roof clear off the car, which is not that unusual considering the angle of attack and the speed.

What I wasn't expecting to find

was a second trailer parked parallel to the first, with marks clearly showing the impact. Not the cars impact mind you, but the victim's heads impact leaving blood and brains all over the side and underside of that trailer.

When the ME finished her investigation, and the body wagon guys began removing the victims, it was then that I observed a gun and a bag of money in a paper bag on the rear floorboard.

When I ran the tag, it popped up as the suspect vehicle used in an armed robbery of a Stop n Go earlier that morning. Now I know that they were in a hurry, lost control running from the police, ran up the curve, under not one, but two 18 wheelers and into a building, losing their heads in the process.

I cleared the robbery and took credit for 3 ducks. (arrests for the rookies and millennials.) When I got back to the station, the desk Sgt said, "Well, I wonder what the hell went through their minds when they poked their heads up after the roof came off, said holy shit that was close, glad we ducked, only to hit the second trailer."

Yeah Sarge, You know what they say, "Karma is Bitch and these guys met Karma Head On...or I guess I should say Head Off."

Written by former Blues Editor & Publisher  
G.L. Buddy Williams back in 90's



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| <i>Custom Badges</i>    | Blue Line Firearm           | Flashlights   |
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*and much more...*





## Gangs & Cartels Join Forces

With as many as 100,000 gang members operating in Texas and multiple cartels using the border as smuggling points, the Lone Star State has no shortage of gang-related violence and drug trafficking.

A new report released by the Drug Enforcement Administration listed 11 street gangs in Texas that have working relationships with two cartels — more gangs than any other state on the — albeit not all-inclusive — list.

The street gangs typically act as drug-dealing retailers for the Mexican cartels, who focus more on smuggling narcotics and distributing to various hubs around the country. Though the partnerships vary by gang and cartel, they are typically somewhat casual agreements between individuals rather than binding contracts between entire gangs and whole cartels.

“The street gangs generally remain opportunistic and will work

with any organization that provides them the greatest profit,” the report said.

The gangs don't limit themselves to drug trafficking, but tend toward it since it typically proves to be the most profitable business move, and violence often erupts when other gangs attempt to hijack their territories.

In recent years, “federal, state, and local law enforcement reported increases in large-scale drug trafficking,” according to the report, possibly indicating an attempt by gangs to boost drug trafficking activities beyond the street level.

Only two Mexican Transnational Criminal Organizations, the Gulf Cartel and Los Zetas Cartel, have listed presences in Texas, according to the report, but others use Texas' proximity to Mexico to transport drugs and other items.

The Gulf and Los Zetas cartels



have hubs in Dallas, Houston, and Laredo.

The Sinaloa Cartel, which has the largest international reach, uses crossing points near west Texas as smuggling routes. The Juarez Cartel, a rival of Sinaloa, targets drug consumer markets primarily in El Paso, according to the report. Though both use the border to smuggle drugs, neither has a presence in Texas.

Texas' most dangerous gangs are Tango Blast and associated Tango cliques, with an estimated 19,000 members, Texas Mexican Mafia, with about 4,100 members, Latin Kings, with 1,300 members, and Mara Salvatrucha, commonly known as MS-13 with 500 members in Texas. The DEA targets those four for their presences across the state, relationships with Mexican cartels, consistent criminal activities across country borders and violent dispositions. Reprinted from mysanantonio.com. Written by S. M. Chavey, a breaking news and general assignment writer.

## Mary Nan Huffman: Tough on Crime



*I want to fight a broken criminal justice system in Harris County where a career criminal and documented gang member can walk free and murder. Victims deserve better. Criminals need tougher sentences. And Harris County needs a tougher DA. I'll be that DA for you! Show your support...endorse Mary Nan Huffman today!*

## Denholm fired from Harris County ADA job

HOUSTON—Assistant DA John Denholm was fired November 8, 2019 by the Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg, after he asked the arresting officer if the victim of the crime was a legal resident. Ogg told FOX26 News “it is wrong to ask about a victim's immigration status; it is against our policy and it won't be tolerated.”

Ask any cop in Harris County about their dealings with Denholm and 99% will have nothing positive to say about him. “He treats us like idiots, berates us, talks down to us and is generally all around rude” said a Detective with a local PD.

Joe Gamaldi, president of the Houston Police Officer's Union, said on Halloween night an HPD officer witnessed DWI suspect Karl Bonner expose himself and pull another inmate toward him. The victim yelled out for help. When officers call the DA's office seeking charges, Denholm was more interested in whether the victim was in the US legally then accepting charges of sexual assault.

Gamaldi told local news media that “other officers were able to follow up on the case and get charges filed on the suspect.”

Ogg originally reassigned Denholm pending an internal investigation but then fired him on November 8th.

News of Denholm's firing spread across the country with articles and editorials in the Washington Post, New York Times, CNN, and Fox News.

The Washington Post wrote: Denholm's firing comes after two law enforcement unions, at least one state lawmaker and the League of United Latin American Citizens, a national Latino advocacy group, insisted that disciplining or reassigning Denholm was not enough and that he needed to be terminated. Houston and other cities have taken steps in recent years to assure undocumented immigrants that it is safe to report crimes, Gamaldi said. Their immigration status, he said, is never supposed to matter.

The officer who witnessed the incident never asked the alleged victim's immigration status, Gamaldi said, and yet Denholm refused to accept the charges after learning that the victim



had a Mexican Consulate identification. Denholm then suspected the victim was in the country illegally and that he would not come to court, Gamaldi said.

“Obviously, as police officers, we're completely disgusted with this because we've worked so hard to bridge the gap with the Hispanic community, whether documented or undocumented,” Gamaldi said. “If the Hispanic community or any other type of community doesn't feel comfortable coming to us, it's going to make them prey for predators who know the district attorney's office isn't going to do anything with these charges.”

On Friday November 8, in an email to The Washington Post, Denholm said he was “aware of who made the inflammatory allegations” and appeared to suggest the police's narrative was untrustworthy.

In the wake of President Trump's promises to deport unauthorized immigrants en masse, liberal jurisdictions across the country have sought to cut ties with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and strengthen relationships with immigrant communities so they are less likely to be deterred from reporting crime.

In 2017, Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez terminated a controversial

program called 287(g), which allowed deputies to cooperate with ICE from jail. And Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo was an outspoken critic of the state's “anti-sanctuary cities” law passed that same year, promising immigrants that his officers would never indiscriminately demand that people “show me your papers.”

That's why Acevedo said he found Denholm's actions “beyond disappointing.”

“When the criminal justice system fails to protect an undocumented immigrant from criminals, or administers justice in a discriminatory way,” he said in a statement to The Post on Thursday night, “we place all segments of our community” at risk.

When she took office in 2017, Ogg had handpicked Denholm to join her administration in a high-ranking position in the intake bureau, where prosecutors decide whether to file charges. Before that, Denholm spent more than 20 years in the Harris County Sheriff's Office — but even his former colleagues called for his firing.

The president of the Harris County Deputies Organization told the Houston Chronicle that law enforcement has

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

The BLUES POLICE MAGAZINE 23

# Atascosa Sheriff's Office Scores Large Meth Bust

One of the largest Methamphetamine busts in this county's history took place this morning on U.S. Highway 281 just south of Pleasanton. The Atascosa County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit conducted an investigation which led to a 2009 Chrysler SUV being stopped by Sheriff's Deputies and Texas Highway Patrol troopers. Sheriff's investigators and Troopers discovered four plastic containers each filled with Methamphetamine weighing 9 1/2 pounds. The drug has a street value of \$320,775. Two alleged gang members from Houston were arrested and charged with Possession with intent to deliver over 400 grams of a Controlled Substance,

Methamphetamine, a first degree felony. A 17 year old female reported "Missing" out of the Houston area was taken into custody and being interviewed by investigators as to the possibility of her being a human trafficking victim. Sheriff's Office Lieutenant M. Peralta, Sgt. Investigator J. Martinez and Deputy Sheriff R. Sanchez, Jr., participated in the arrest. DPS narcotic investigators and Pleasanton Police



Lieutenant D. Harrell also assisted. -Sheriff David Soward

## ...Denholm continued

generally had problems with Denholm, claiming he sometimes "refuses to accept solid charges."

State Rep. Gene Wu (D) said Thursday that "Denholm must go," calling the situation "intolerable," while the League of United Latin American Citi-

zens said it feared Denholm's actions would have a chilling effect within the Hispanic community. "The actions of the DA's office has sent a clear message to our local Hispanic community: 'don't report crimes because you don't count,'" Alfonso Maldonado, a regional director for the organization, said in a statement Thursday.

Gamaldi applauded Ogg's decision to

fire Denholm on Friday but said more work lies ahead to undo any damage Denholm's actions may have caused.

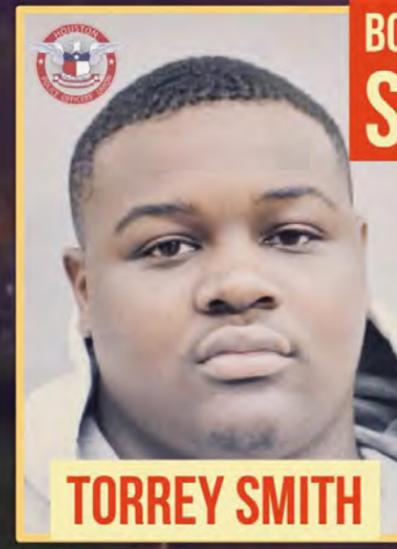
"Finally DA Kim Ogg did something to address this abhorrent act by one of her hand picked, top appointments," he said on Twitter. "Now the real work [begins] of re-building the trust between the criminal justice system and our Hispanic community."

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# GANG MEMBERS CHARGED WITH MURDER IN 2017



TORREY SMITH

BOND CONDITIONS VIOLATED & ARRESTS  
**STILL FREE ON BOND**



EDRICK COLE

SMITH IS STILL ON PROBATION (2016 FELONY CASE) & COLE WAS ARRESTED WITH PICTURED FIREARMS (OCT 2019).

The justice system in Harris County is in a freefall. These asshats you see above are documented gang members and are already out on bond for MURDER. How do you get out on Bond for MURDER. WTF Harris County?

Our community deserves better than being victimized over and over again by those who should not be free in the first place.

Harris County deserves better. These two gang members are free on bond on a "Murder" case, but should be locked up. Torrey Smith and Edrick Cole are a threat to the citizens of Harris County, yet Judge Herb Ritchie does not seem to care.

Torrey Smith was given four years Deferred Adjudication in 2016 for possession of PCP, Crack Cocaine, and a loaded 9mm handgun. Barely a year later, Torrey was charged with "Murder", after shooting a man to death, at a party in east Harris County. For some reason, Torrey's Deferred Adjudication has still not been revoked. Torrey has had more than eight reported bond

violations on his Murder case and has been arrested for violating his bond conditions, has violated his GPS ankle monitor rules, and failed drug testing - yet he is still free on bond today. Apparently bond conditions mean nothing to Judge Ritchie.

Edrick Cole, fellow gang member and co defendant to Torrey Smith, was recently arrested, in October, with two other men. They were in possession of numerous firearms (one of which was stolen) and a large quantity of narcotics (see photo). Edrick Cole was charged with possession of one of the firearms, yet he is still free on bond for the Murder case. One of his co defendants from that weapons' arrest, was caught after the recent aggravated robbery of Delton Hayes Jewelers in Atascosita, where one man was shot

- while he was also on bond for the weapons' arrest.

Harris County Judges are allowing more victims to be targeted, injured, and killed when they allow these violent criminal street gang members to post bond - while already on bond for murder and other violent felony offenses. Then, when it gets time to punish them, the criminals receive little to no penalty for their offenses.

Something has to change. The victims of violent crime in Harris County deserve to have an advocate looking out for them. Harris County needs change.

THE BLUES reached to Judge Ritchie for his comment and at the time of publication, we have received no response. But then again we didn't expect him to.

we saved you a spot

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# Police Mourning Loss after Krispy Kreme Truck Crashes

Tragedy struck Brookhaven, Ga. late last month when a Krispy Kreme truck crashed and spilled its load of tasty donuts.

Local police are still mourning the tragic loss after dozens of doughnuts fell from the Krispy Kreme delivery truck along Peachtree Road in downtown Brookhaven.

Brookhaven police officers immediately rushed to the “scene” and were devastated to find doughnuts

scattered along the curb. Some of the sweet treats had even fallen into a gutter.

“The response time was stellar, but we couldn’t beat the 5 second rule,” Brookhaven police joked on Facebook, sharing several photos of the scene.

Brookhaven police said the doughnuts were a “total loss.”

“As you can imagine, this is a very difficult time, and the senseless loss of these delicious pastries has



deeply affected all of our officers,” Brookhaven police said. “We ask that you keep our department in your thoughts and prayers as we mourn this tragedy, and with the holidays just around the corner, pray that another senseless accident doesn’t occur.”

The BLUES Staff has started a GoFundMe account to send emergency aide to the Brookhaven Police Department to assist the officers in replacing the fallen confectionary products. Our prayers are with the families and officers in these trying times.

# Deputies Arrested For Looting Damaged Home Depot In Aftermath Of Tornado

DALLAS (CBSDFW.COM) – Two Dallas County Sheriff’s Deputies were arrested in November for allegedly looting during the aftermath of the October 20 tornadoes in the Dallas area.

Sergeant Rebecca Evans, 41, was Joseph Bobadilla’s supervisor and allegedly assisted him in removing items from the tornado-damaged Home Depot on Forest Lane.

Rebecca Evans (Dallas County Sheriff’s Dept.) was charged with theft of property and booked into the Dallas County Jail around 3:00 p.m.. She later posted a \$500 bond and was released.

Sergeant Evans has been employed by the Dallas County Sheriff’s Office for 16 years. She was promoted to Deputy in 2007 after having worked in the jail as a Detention Service Officer.

This Home Depot on Forest Lane hired off duty deputies to protect this store’s merchandise because of the extensive damage caused by last month’s tornado.

The Dallas County Sheriff’s Department said two of those working there used it as an opportunity to steal.

Bobadilla, 25, was booked on November 15 into the Dallas County jail charged with felony theft. He posted a \$500 bond as well.

Joseph Bobadilla (Credit: Dallas County Sheriff’s Office)

He’s been with the department since 2016.

On Thursday morning his fellow deputies raided Bobadilla’s Garland home where they removed a washer, dryer and a microwave.

The sheriff’s department says the appliances were purchased with store

credit.

That store credit was issued for items he’s accused of stealing from the Home Depot on Forest Lane which he was hired to watch over while it’s rebuilt after being hit by last months tornado.

“The department core values and what are core values are in our department are integrity, professionalism and accountability so it definitely is a slap in the face on those core values,” said Raul Reyna, a spokesperson for the Dallas County Sheriff’s Department.

According to an arrest warrant, Bobadilla took “new and unopened merchandise containing moisture” to Home Depot locations in South Dallas and Balch Springs, returning them for more than \$1,900 in store credit.

Bobadillo is accused of using that credit to buy new appliances.

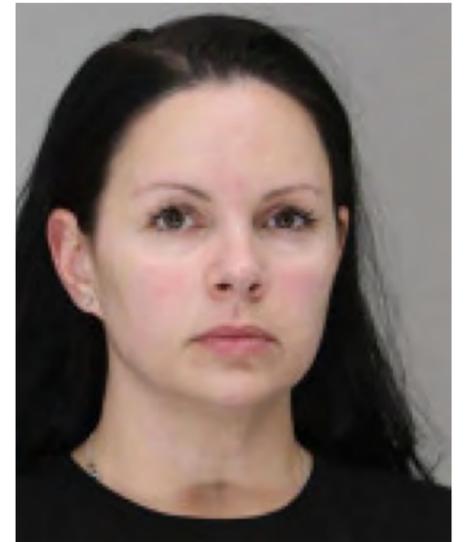
The Sheriff’s Department said Sgt. Evans received cash from Bobadillo in exchange for items she stole from the store.

During her arraignment, she openly sobbed telling the magistrate, “I’ve never even had a traffic ticket.

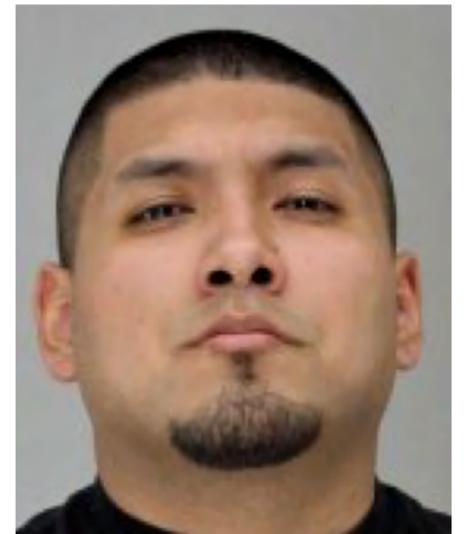
Sheriff’s records mention a third person, a woman who tried returning some of the stolen items at a Home Depot.

She is identified as a current or former Dallas County employee and as of December 15, 2019 she has not been charged.

*Reprinted from CBSDFW.com. Story written by J.D. Miles and Andrea Lucia from CBS Media. Photos by Dallas County Sheriff.*



Sergeant Rebecca Evans



Deputy Joseph Bobadilla

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## Oklahoma Lieutenant Indicted for Stopping an Active Shooter

"It's a sad day for law enforcement and society," the lieutenant's attorney, Gary James, told *The Oklahoman*.

Oklahoma City, OK – A Blackwell police lieutenant who stopped an active shooter during a rolling gunfight has been indicted for second-degree murder.

"It's a sad day for law enforcement and society," the lieutenant's attorney, Gary James, told *The Oklahoman*.

According to local news reports, the incident began at approximately 3 a.m. on May 20, when Blackwell police received reports that someone was firing a gun in the 1300-block of South Main. At least one of the rounds had struck a vehicle.

While officers responded to the scene, the dispatch center received additional calls that someone in a white pickup was firing rounds at several locations around Blackwell.

The suspect, later identified as 34-year-old Micheal Ann Godsey, ultimately opened fire on police as they pursued her through the town. "She shot at the police twice. She has shot at her mother twice. She has shot at a private citizen. We know she fired other rounds around town," James told the paper.

Blackwell Police Lieutenant John Mitchell managed to pull in behind the active shooter's vehicle.

"He took his AR-15 and he started



shooting through the front windshield at her," James said, according to *The Oklahoman*.

Godsey jerked the wheel and abruptly turned and stopped near Doolin Avenue and 13th Avenue.

Lt. Mitchell and another officer fired additional rounds at the suspect's pickup.

They discovered the shooter dead in the driver's seat a short while later.

One of the officers suffered a minor injury during the shootout, according to the *Associated Press*.

James said that Lt. Mitchell did what he had to do to stop a "violent, fleeing felon," *The Oklahoman* reported.

He noted that the lieutenant had completed active shooter response training shortly before the fatal altercation, and that an independent internal affairs committee had cleared him of any wrongdoing.

Photos from *The Oklahoman*.

*we saved you a spot*

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## who's retiring this month



### State Trooper Takes One Last Ride After 25-Year Career

Sgt. Robbie Barrera has served as the public information officer (PIO) for DPS for a number of years. As the PIO, it has been her job to communicate with the public and provide information to media outlets.

You may recognize her name from Spectrum News stories like this one about the son of a fallen DPS trooper graduating high school, or this one asking the public to stay safe when taking photos of bluebonnets.

"Being the spokesperson for the department in this region, I covered 10 counties, so it takes me about an hour either way to get to the furthest part of my counties," explained Barrera.

During her time with DPS, Barrera has seen a lot. She responded to the West Fertilizer Plant explosion, and went to Houston during Hurricane Harvey floods.

Despite all she's seen and experienced during her long career, DPS wasn't the end goal when she graduated college with a degree in criminal justice.

"I actually had no idea what DPS was. I handed them my application and said 'Here, DPS is hiring.' And here I am after 25 years later with one of the most amazing careers I could ever ask for," she said.

Despite not knowing what DPS was,

Barrera was able to find a home with the department. And it ultimately allowed her to do the one thing she knew she needed in her career.

"I've been on my own since I was 16 years old and I knew that, growing up, I wanted to do something with my life to make a difference in other people's lives," she said.

In addition to seeing Texas history unfold firsthand, Barrera has also had several personal accomplishments during her time with the department, including becoming a mother.

"It's very challenging. Being PIO for the department requires a lot of my time, so does as a mom." She said. "I was able to balance it, but it could be done."

In 2016, only about 5 percent of Texas troopers were women.

"What I say to every female out there who wants to go into law enforcement, especially to become a state trooper, is you can do whatever you want to as long as you put your mind into it," said Barrera.

And she herself is the perfect exam-



ple of someone that put their mind to it.

Some of the things she's looking forward to once retired are spending more time with her daughter and having Christmas off. The Texas Department of Public Safety will hold a retirement party for Barrera on December 11.

### Harris County Sheriff Office Retirees

Deputy James Henry	2016	District 11 patrol.
Deputy Charles A. Lee	June 29, 2018	
Deputy Samuel Cerda	March, 2019	Auto Theft Unit
Deputy Ronald Charleston	February, 2019	Patrol
Deputy Larry Stover	November, 2017	Auto Theft Unit
Deputy L.V. Smith	January, 2018	
Deputy James P. Kershaw, Jr.	March, 2017	District 1 - 4
Deputy J.B. Ellis	March, 2016	Homeland Security
Sergeant Ralph Stanley	June, 2019	Patrol Bureau
Ermil Dale Alvarez	July, 2011	Dist I Patrol
Martin Dear	2006	Criminal Intelligence Gang Unit
Senior Deputy Roger L. Trinkle	December, 2012	Courts

Deputy Tracy K. White	June, 2017	Dist I Patrol
Patricia Glenn	January, 2005	
Major Virginia Cavazos-Russell	December, 2016	
Deputy Jimmy W Washington	March, 2012.	1200 Operations
Deputy Nelda Kortz,	September, 2018	Courts
Al. Wilson	June, 2016	
Sergeant Horace Burdette	April, 2018	
Deputy Jerry Suntych	April, 2011	Courts
Deputy Franklin Joe	August, 2010	Dist 1, Central
Deputy Doug Lewis,	August, 2017	Auto Theft Division
Sergeant Danny Ryan	July, 2015,	Outlying Jails
Senior Deputy J. Johnson	March, 2019	Joint Processing Center

To list your name here, email us your name, rank, agency, date of retirement and your last assignment to: [bluespdmag@gmail.com](mailto:bluespdmag@gmail.com) or just click on this link.



# union meets with President!



Law enforcement officials from across the country met with President Trump at the White House on Friday. Members of the Fraternal Order of Police said the president has taken initiative, giving them the support law enforcement officials need.

Officers said the biggest issue they are concerned with is the increase in violent crimes in big cities. They said they believe district attor-

neys are not following the rule of law.

The officials said police officers around the country are doing their jobs and urged district attorneys to do theirs. They thanked President Trump for his time and for "having the backs of the brave men and women of law enforcement."

"We are very proud to have been asked to participate in this important discussion," the group said in a statement.

*"It's because we have activist DAs in cities like Houston, Dallas, Philadelphia, Chicago, Baltimore, who are letting these dirt bags out, who are repeat violent offenders, who are doing gun crimes. They're letting them out with sweetheart deals. They're getting back out on the streets and they're victimizing the hardworking men and women of our community."*

- Officer Joe Gamaldi, National VP of the Fraternal Order of Police

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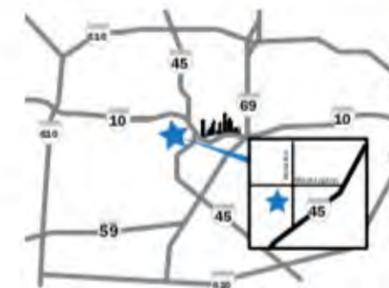


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# light bulb award

## BACK TO THE FUTURE

### 1985: AWARD GOES TO "MIKIE BARRON"

Many years ago, The Blues (formerly the County Blues) featured a Monthly Column called "the Light Bulb Award. Each month we awarded some poor soul the award for doing the dumbest things a cop could do. While some found it hilarious, others felt we were degrading fellow cops. So as the creator of the famous LB Award, I awarded it to myself in the March 1985 issue of The Blues.

And the award goes to Michael "Mikie" Barron, HCSO District 2. In his words are the qualifications for this award:

My first major screw up came shortly after I began working at Harris County at the Rehab Jail in Humble. I was assigned to the booking desk and was working the 11-7 shift. Upon my arrival for work, the evening shift advised they had booked a "Mr. Wong" out, and he was in the holding cell waiting to go ATW. (that's "all the way for the uninformed") I said ok, signed off on the pass in sheet and sent the evening shift deputy on his way. When the ATW paperwork arrived, I confirmed the fingerprints and processed his exit from the building.

Later that night, we discovered the evening shift had pulled the wrong "Wong" inmate records and the wrong "Wong" had walked. And Mike Barron was the guy who let him go. The next day, the headlines in the paper read, "Two Wong's don't make a right" Wrong inmate re-

## ARE YOU LEGAL?

### 2019: AWARD GOES TO "DENHOLM"

In our local news stories, we reported that Harris County Assistant, DA John Denholm, was fired November 8, 2019 by the Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg, after he asked an arresting officer if the victim of a crime was a legal resident.

Uhh...JohnBoy what difference does that make. If you haven't heard we arrest people who commit crimes, and whether the victim is in the US legally

32 The BLUES POLICE MAGAZINE

leased by county deputy. Yes, I was the deputy who was 'wonged'

Somehow, I made it to patrol and the very first weekend I rode by myself, I got into a chase on the Eastex Freeway that started at Lauder Rd. and ended up north of Cleveland Texas. It took three DPS units to force the driver off the road and take him into custody. When I questioned the young man as to why he didn't stop, he replied "I'm in a funeral on the way to bury my daddy." My reply was "dude I don't see any hearse, cars with high beams on or any signs of a funeral."

The trooper on the scene agreed to wait on the wrecker while I carried the young man off to the Humble Jail. But, since we had crossed county lines, at that time you had to bring him before a magistrate. So, I called Judge Wilson in Humble and he agreed to meet me at the courthouse. Now, this was before cell phones mind you. So shortly after I departed the scene, the Trooper advised me on a citywide channel that the mother of the young man had arrived and wanted to know where her son was. Oh, and Barron, she's in a funeral car with a hearse behind her. WHAT?

So, the Trooper, the wrecker towing said man's car, the mother, the hearse and some 50 cars in the funeral drove to the Humble courthouse. When the

here or not makes no difference.

His former boss said, "It is wrong to ask about a victim's immigration status; it is against our policy and it won't be tolerated."

By 'not tolerated' she meant YOU'RE FIRED !!

Denholm's popularity with local cops ran the gamut. Some liked him, others not so much. Most of the officers that The Blues talked to said "He treats us

judge arrived, he walked down to the jail and drug me into the hallway and wanted to know what the hell was going on and why HIS courtroom was packed with a hundred people all crying. Well, judge it's like this....!!!!

A few months later I came upon a burglary in progress at a house in Spring. My backup and I stopped the guy at gunpoint at the rear of the house and I immediately began yelling commands to him. While he complied, he never took his eyes off the other officer. Once he was cuffed, I asked him why he was looking at the other officer when I was talking to him. He replied, "because he has bullets in his gun, and you don't" WTF. I looked and sure enough no bullets. My soon to be ex-girlfriend had unloaded it while cleaning her apartment while I was taking a nap prior to the shift. That's OK, because two weeks later I arrested her mother for DWI.

There were several fleets, one involving a new patrol car and a deer, a car fire and a reverse ride through a ditch on West Hardy. Oh yeah. Finally, I was featured on the front page of the local paper after I tried to tow over 100 cars away from the Mexican flea market on Airline.

So, if I can laugh at myself, get over it and enjoy the monthly LIGHT BULB AWARD.

like idiots, berates us, talks down to us and is generally all around rude."

While others said he was a stand up guy and always accepted their charges.

Whether you liked him or not, the fact remains that he screwed up and got fired for it.

So the first LIGHT BULB AWARD for 2019 goes to John John Denholm. Know any candidates for the next month? Email us: bluespdmag@gmail.com

**The NORTH FREEWAY Leader**  
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 VOLUME 13 SEPTEMBER 13, 1984 NUMBER 23

**'From now on, no more tickets'**  
**Parking violators on Airline targeted for towing**

By Anita Aleman Minda  
 Leader Editor

Customers who frequent the weekend flea markets in the 9000 and 10000 block of Airline had better watch where they park from now on in light of the Harris County Sheriff Department's new get-tough policy with those illegally parked.

For the last two weekends, law enforcement officers have showed up in force with a flock of tow trucks ready to haul off any and all parking offenders.

This follows more than two years of resident and business complaints that flea market crowds and their vehicles have all but stopped traffic flow on Airline and Gulf Bank Road on the weekends.

Says Covington Nursery president Bob West, whose business is located across the street from the flea markets, "This has been going on for 10 years! We have to have uniformed officers to keep them out of our parking lot. The officers also stop traffic to our customers get in and out."

West has posted warning signs to those who might park in his business lot that non-customers will be towed we will do it if necessary."

The sergeant also pointed out that those parked in front of "No Parking" signs would not be the only ones towed away. "It is illegal to park anywhere on a shoulder. They are for emergencies. We may start up one side of Airline and go down the other."

Beyond constant weekend surveillance by sheriff deputies, the County Attorney's office is looking into the possible use of a public nuisance injunction against the owners or operators of the flea markets.

Vince Ryan, first assistant to County Attorney Mike Driscoll, said The Leader, "There is no direct law on it so the county is limited on that. We're still looking for a solution to help them out. The problem is finding in the law the support to tie the owner or the operator of the flea market directly to the parking problem, although there's an obvious correlation between the two."

Ryan added they are researching the traffic laws and looking at case law from other jurisdictions to see how they've applied the law in such cases.

**Acres Homes**

## BACK TO THE FUTURE

What happens when you're a 20 yr. old rookie who doesn't know any better, tows dozens of cars from a Mexican Flea Market on Airline Road, and then gets accosted by a mob of angry flea market patrons? You get your picture on the front page of the local newspaper and later earn yourself "The Lightbulb Award" in your own newspaper. That's what !!



..and then there is this. LOL

*we screwed you a spot to run your ad*

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# THE FIRST TEXAS RANGERS



*A small militia force protecting settlers in the then Mexican province of Tejas.*

*Though photos from back in 1823 are rare and hard to find, this classic photo was taken either before or after the famous 1892 shoot-out in Shafter, Texas, where the Texas Rangers had been sent to protect a silver mine. (Standing, from left) Robert "Bob" Speaks and Jim Putman. (Seated, from left) Alonzo Van "Lon" Oden and John R. Hughes. Ira Aten had recommended Hughes to the Texas Rangers after Hughes ably assisted him in the 1886 pursuit of murderer Wes Colliers.*



*The Texas Ranger on the left is Thomas Byrd (buried in Quanah, Texas): on the right is Texas Ranger Haynes (given names believed to be John James- buried in the Confederate Cemetery in City Cemetery #4 in San Antonio.*

## CORPUS CHRISTI POLICE HISTORY MUSEUM

*Patrolman Eric "Joker" Harlan , retired in 1959 after 33 years of service with Corpus Christi PD and passed away a month later.*

Patrolman Eric "Joker" Harlan's thirty-year career was the longest continuing service in the Corpus Christi Police Department at the time of his death in 1959. In honor of his service, the department posted a two-man honor guard near his coffin around the clock from his death on Monday until his burial on the following Saturday.

Harlan was a barber from Alabama. His poor eyesight and a deficient arm kept him from military service, but he patrolled downtown Corpus Christi on the overnight shift from 1929 until heart surgery forced his retirement in January 1959. He said there were seventeen officers in the force when he joined. Harlan claimed he never lost a fight and

that he would be happy as long as he had a plug of tobacco. Once Harlan and other officers helped a baby and his stranded family by feeding them and providing clothing, food, and transportation home. The first car alarm he encountered scared Harlan "to death," he said, and he didn't think to disconnect the car's battery, leaving the alarm sounding in the silence of an early morning until the tow truck arrived.

Harlan died on March 30, 1959, one month after retiring from the Corpus Christi Police Department. We thank him for his long service.



## FIRST JAILS IN TEXAS



*The first jailhouse in Port Arthur, Texas, as seen in 1930. It was built in 1897. I can imagine that day after day in this place ---- no air conditioning but approximately 6-7 billion mosquitoes (give or take a billion) ---- was no fun. Probably make a body think twice about breaking the law and going back! --Traces of Texas Facebook--*



It is timely that the January 2020 edition of The Blues Police Magazine has chosen to honor the service, and sacrifice of Harris County, Texas Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal (EOW 9-27-19). Although I never had the privilege to meet Deputy Dhaliwal, I remember the video that circulated on social media of his gentle interactions with a young boy who was fascinated with his handcuffs. Deputy Dhaliwal was not only a hero, he was also an agent of positive social change as the first Sikh deputy hired by the HCSO. Deputy Dhaliwal represented the importance of embracing multiple cultures and faiths to enrich community and police relations. His tragic death allowed me to also reflect back on other line of duty losses this year and the essential need to mourn and remember.

I closed my eyes and waited for the sound of the gun salute. I instinctively knew this would be followed by the final radio call, taps, folding of the flag, and the playing of the bagpipes. As a crisis and trauma counselor, consultant, and instructor with first responders for the last 20 years, I have had the honor and sadness to attend numerous memorial services for fallen law enforcement officers. With each one of these ritualistic ceremonies, I am always struck by their powerful impact for those who experience them. Ritual can be defined as an act or series of acts regularly repeated in a precise manner and have a special purpose. I have witnessed countless officers let down their guard long enough to shed a tear. I understand these demonstrations of grief and respect the need to be given a safe time and place to feel this pain and loss. It strangely allows us to attend to our

emotional wounds before moving forward. It is also through this process that we give meaning to our own lives through the lens of these tragic events.

As a part of this process, survivors (whether colleagues or family) of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty often must engage in the sharing of their story as they work toward healing and implications for their own purpose in the world. As they recount the details often time and time again, the meaning of their loss evolves and often gives them direction to then positively impact the lives of others. Although difficult to hear, we have the ability to learn valuable life lessons from their grief, share in their journey, and can help them embrace the positive influence of the memories. It thus becomes a ritual. These losses often bond us in a way nothing else can.

But grief and loss can be exhausting and reminds us of the need for self-care and an examination of our priorities. It can impact not only us as individuals, but also our relationships with others. I have counseled countless law enforcement families over the years and offer you the following, invest positive emotional and physical energy in your marriage and/or personal relationships much earlier than waiting until divorce has been discussed and NOW you want to work on it. I get it, police work is reactionary and addressing these issues early is somewhat counterintuitive. However, it is often very difficult to rebuild once the "house" is burnt to the ground. The negativity of this job/career will creep into your life and steal the positive aspects of your soul if you let it. Practice gratitude



and appreciation with your family and others EVERY SINGLE DAY, even on a small scale. Make a choice on your priorities in your life. Your investment in your relationships and/or role as a parent is priceless. You need them both during your career and after retirement. They also deserve to see the good in you and you deserve their love and support. Simply put, don't be a jerk when you get home. Your family is not the dirtbag at the domestic you just left. Take the time to mentally shift from police mode to spouse, partner, and/or parent. Discuss with your family the need for a little "downtime" when you get home so you can bring them the best of you. Exercise regularly and eat well. Lastly, please make an appointment to chat with a professional before things are potentially beyond repair. Prevention and early intervention are key. Make these your new rituals. I promise you will see a positive difference.

*Dr. Tina Jaeckle specializes in counseling, consulting, and training in crisis, trauma, and mental health with law enforcement throughout the nation.*

## Our Suicide Rate is Reaching Alarming Height; Please Reach Out! There is Help for You !

By now you have heard that we lost one of our own to suicide just a few weeks ago. I knew Tommy Phillips; he was a great man and he always greeted you with a smile on his face. His contributions to the department were numerous. Whether it was truly connecting with the community he served or helping young fresh rookies develop into amazing police officers, he represented the best of us. His presence around the Houston Police Department will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him.

There have been 180 law enforcement suicides nationwide this year. For the entirety of 2016 there were only 143. It is very likely that we will have more than 200 law enforcement suicides this year and almost certainly this number will outpace line of duty deaths for the fourth year in a row. Although I have written about this topic previously, I found it extremely important to once again address the silent killer known as: law enforcement suicide.

For those that are reading this article and going through a rough time, please know that there is help available. We have our own stand-alone non-profit, the Houston Officers Peer Assistance (HOPA), which provides 24/7, confidential, peer support. The number is 832-200-3499 and upon calling you will be connected to a highly trained HPD retiree who can assist you.

If you don't feel comfortable calling a local number you can contact the national peer support hotline, COPLINE. COPLINE is also 24/7, confidential, with highly trained retired

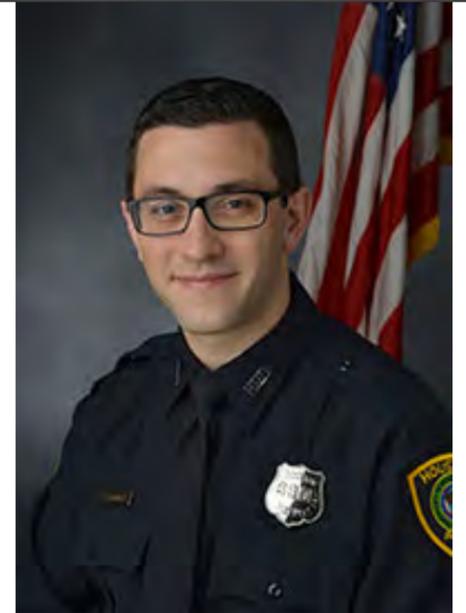
police officers serving as counselors. That number is 1-800-COPLINE (1-800-267-5463).

You can also visit a mental health professional of your choosing, the Department's Psychological Services (832-394-1440) or the newly formed HPD peer support assistance unit.

I can speak for the entire HPOU board when I say you can call anyone of us as well if you need to talk. There are no shortage of resources available to assist you, so please reach out if you need help. But it's not just enough to have the resources available. We must work to ensure that officers feel comfortable coming forward without having the fear of losing the career for which they worked so hard.

We are currently in discussions with the Department to change how we handle officers who wish to self-report mental health issues. We are confident that a new program will be rolled out shortly that will foster an environment of seeking treatment and getting back to full strength as opposed to worrying about any liability the Department may have.

As a Department and a Union, we all have a moral obligation to help our officers and assist them in getting back to work and in a healthy state of mind. Working together with the Department, we can create this environment in hopes that no one is fearful to come forward when going through a crisis. We are all in this together, let's be our brother and sister's keeper and look out for one another.



JOE GAMALDI, PRESIDENT HPOU

As always, be safe out there and if you need anything I am only a phone call or text away, or you can also reach me at the following email: [jgamaldi@hpou.org](mailto:jgamaldi@hpou.org).

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honoring our fallen heroes

# HARRIS COUNTY DEPUTY SANDEEP DHALIWAL

By now, I am sure most of you have seen the many images, watched all the videos and listened to all the words, spoken yesterday.

By now, I am sure most of you have watched the Missing Man formation, with the loud roar of the helicopter rotors. Or, maybe it was the thunderous sound of the 21 Gun Salute which still echoes in your ears.

By now, I am sure most of you heard Amazing Grace on the bagpipes or the lonesome sound of TAPS being echoed by the Buglers. Maybe the last call over the radio of "45A14" which touched your heart.

So much noise can be heard at stoic and somber events, such as yesterday's Memorial Service for HCSO Deputy Sheriff, Sandeep Dhaliwal. Rightfully so, for there were thousands of people in attendance to show their respects to this amazing man.

From as far away as Scotland Yard, over to Canada and, every state or every major city in the United States, Chicago, L.A., NYPD, and Miami-Metro. You name the major city, they were in attendance, paying their respects and honoring a man who was to most of us, an absolute hero. A man of integrity and certainly the kind of human being we should all aspire to be.

And yet for me, I wish to con-

vey to you all, in one final post, none of those things were or are ever what really finds its way to my broken heart...

For me, it is the quietest of moments which grip me. Those moments where one can actually hear the warm breeze that softly touches your face. You can actually hear the flags moving about as that same breeze gently moves them from side to side.

While inside the service itself, when everyone is seated and the room is completely silent, I could hear each and every step of the Honor Guard as they marched down the aisle. Like always, the HCSO Honor Guard performed flawlessly. Sharp. Squared away. Respectful...and above all, demonstrating that their Honor Guard is known as one of the finest in the nation for a reason.

Every turn of every page by Chaplain Shannon W. Bowdoin, I could clearly hear his words resonating throughout the room. Yet, I will tell you all, what most could not hear, was how much his heart was breaking too. I was close enough, I certainly could.

I could hear the tears streaming down the faces of the HCSO Chaplaincy and Community Outreach units in what few moments of stillness they had, as they embraced each other for comfort during such a difficult time. Self evident proof, such



of these amazing men and women close ranks through the stillness and quiet of the moment, I hoped and I prayed, Sandi was somehow watching. For he would have been immensely humbled by yesterday's Memorial Service, no doubt.

Finally, speaking from the personal experience of performing such a Duty several times, the moment Sheriff Ed Gonzalez stood up, immediately following his delivery of the American Flag to Deputy Dhaliwal's Widow, his final salute to her, to the family... that moment of silence, for me....still hurts my heart. As I am sure it does his and every other Commanding Officer who has had to do the same.

You see, all the loudest of moments, they can be powerful. This is true enough. However, if you're listening, the quietest, the stillest, the most unassuming, yet humbling of moments, remind me of the heart of the man himself. For Sandi was truly a man whose heart beat with a calm stillness and with an abundance of respect, love, and peace for all those whom he met...

THOUGHTS BY REX EVANS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, BLUES

profound loss deeply affects so many.

Many of us in uniform at times never even spoke. We simply looked at one another,

and without a word being spoken, we spoke volumes to one another. We comforted and supported each other. As I watched each group



honoring our fallen heroes

# FREERPORT OFFICER #758 ABIGAIL ARIAS

As I sit here alone, in the quiet night, the gentle breeze from the spinning ceiling fan flows around me. The small fire in the fireplace quietly dwindling down for the night. My mind races at the speed of light and any semblance of peace, escapes me.

For so many of us, we prayed for her, pulled for her, and we all collectively hoped she'd won her tumultuous fight with the bad guys.

Her sharp looking uniform, pretty pink boots, and shiny Freerport Police Chief's badge were ever present, giving her a sense of pride, honor, and dedication to continue her life, to continue her fight.

How amazing, how profound is it, that one very special little girl could touch the lives and the hearts of hundreds of thousands of people from all walks of life? From all across this country, this continent, and the world, she reminded us all that life may be fragile, fractured, and tempered. Yet, she clearly demonstrated for us that life is beautiful, captivating, and rich with laughter and love.

I honestly, can still hear her tiny boots clip clopping across the floor, and her simple, captivating, giggling, and beautiful bright smile. She brought life and light into every room she

ever entered.

Equally, I recall the last day, very recently, I was able to see and spend time with her. Very little laughter. No running about. And yet, through her tired eyes, while gently holding her hand, we spoke of silly things like cookies and the Cookie Monster.

She was truly the absolute bravest, most honest, and sincere human being I have ever met. She was, in my belief, an Angel who graced us all with a fleeting moment in time. Much like a shooting star across the night sky, she filled our eyes and our hearts with bewilderment at her light.

Though she may not be physically right here now, I have no doubt that forevermore her light shall remain here among us all. A testament to a life lived with absolute meaning.

Though I'm grieving, I am grateful. I'm grateful for my time with Abigail, her family and friends. I am grateful, no more



pain, shall she ever feel.

And, I am grateful the bad guys she so valiantly fought against, have finally lost. For their fight was never one for them to win. How could they have ever won, really?

Nothing so vile and evil as cancer can ever truly win a fight against someone so special, so graceful, and so amazing as Abigail. She's free from the fight now. Having won, she's right back where she came to us

from, in Heaven above with our Father and Son.

I can only pray that one day I too can be there with her, and one more time hear her boots running across the floor, her silly little giggle, and of course,

continue our great debate over our favorite cookie and just how many cookies can the Cookie Monster really eat at one time, anyways?!

THOUGHTS BY REX EVANS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, BLUES



honoring our fallen heroes

# HOUSTON POLICE SGT. CHRISTOPHER BREWSTER

I was fortunate enough to call Chris one of my best friends for 9 and 1/2 years. We met on the first day of the Academy, and it was just one of those things where our sense of humor, interests, goals within the department...they all just clicked. We formed lifelong bonds, along with a couple others from Class 209 – Ben Rothberg, Tyler Salina, and Steven Maciel.

After graduation, we both chose assignments to Southeast Patrol. We were partners on night shift, riding 14D30N. We got into more stuff than two rookies had any business even thinking about doing, and there are a couple of 14 District Sgt's that we probably still owe apologies to. Chris balanced me out as a police officer—especially as rookies. Where I was often impatient, Chris slowed me down. When I got complacent, he pushed me into developing new skills. Where I was quick tempered, Chris was calm and diffused situations with his goofy sense of humor.

I remember one particularly busy night, we had been getting hammered with Code 1's and 2's all shift, and come 3 o'clock in the morning, we were still trying to catch up and clear out calls holding in the beat. We took a Burglary report call that had been holding for like 6 hours and the homeowner was understandably upset by the time we got there. We let the homeowner vent for a little while, and after a minute or so, I noticed Chris walking away. He had spotted a mango tree in the guy's front yard, and in the middle of us getting yelled at, Chris walked over to inspect its leaves. Appar-

ently he'd spotted some leaf disease on the tree, because the next thing I know, the homeowner is standing next to him and they're both talking about tropical tree diseases and remedies to fix it. By the end of the call, Chris was making plans to return to check on the tree. That was Chris.

Another night, we on-viewed a burglary of a church in Sunnyside, right at the corner of McLean and Rosemont in 14D20's beat. We caught the guy as he was running off with speakers he had taken from inside and got him into custody. While we're waiting for the owner to come to the scene, we start clearing the rest of the building. I remember being all the way in the back when I hear what sounds like piano music. More than a little confused, I walk out and find Chris, singing and playing the church piano – 2 o'clock in the morning, no power on in this old, dark church, we're supposed to be clearing and checking rooms, and there he is... playing the piano in the dark. My initial reaction was something like, "What in the world is wrong with you?" But I learned over time, it was exactly that kind of stuff that was so right about him. That was Chris. After our time in patrol, we both

transferred into the Crime Reduction Unit, where I had a front row seat to see Chris develop into an even more phenomenal proactive police officer and investigator.

We then spent all of last summer studying for the Sergeant Promotional Exam together—hours spent holed up at my house, along with Tyler Salina, the three of us creating and working



for Sergeant training. Chris was

through mock scenarios and practice questions. He pushed us just as hard as he pushed himself. He had a driving force to be one of the very best, but he took the time to make sure we succeeded right alongside him. That was Chris.

We promoted together in February of this year and were both able to return to Southeast

beyond excited to be a street Sergeant. We had countless conversations on the kind of supervisors we thought we needed to be, and he must have told me a hundred times how much he looked forward to developing young officers. He was a leader to the end—on the street with his officers every day, working closely and offering guidance and assistance whenever, and wherever possible.

But Chris was so much more than a police officer. His interests and hobbies went far beyond what he did for a living, and he was constantly seeking out new curiosities and challenges.

He was my gardening buddy. We had frequent conversations on vegetable plants and fruit trees, soil nutrients, composting... One of the first things he did when he and Bethany bought their house was turn a large section of the backyard into a fruit tree orchard. I have a blackberry bush in my backyard that's a cutting from one of his. It's my son's favorite and the one that gave out the most fruit last spring.

Chris was hilarious, with a goofy, awkward sense of humor for which

he made zero apologies. He loved Christmas music, and Christmas time in general. My wife and I throw an annual Christmas party at our house, and one of my favorite parts was waiting to see what kind of crazy Christmas sweater he'd show up in. He loved good coffee and even better bourbon. He did great impressions. My personal favorite was his Kevin McAllister from "Home Alone." At this point of each December, he would have acted out every scene from the movie.

But all of his interests paled in comparison to his love for his wife. His devotion to Bethany was inspiring to everyone around them. There was nothing he wouldn't have done for her—he spoke of her constantly; she was his rock, and the most important thing in this world to him.

The last time I talked to Chris was last Wednesday. He called me up as he was driving around his neighborhood picking up bags of leaves that his neighbors had raked up and left out for him. He was planning to turn the leaves into compost tea for his fruit trees and gardens, and he was super excited. I'm sure that seems more than a little strange to most—a phone conversation between two guys about making compost tea out of recycled, raked up leaves. But as I'm writing this, still not quite accepting and believing what's happened, I am so extremely happy that something like that was the last thing we talked about. That was Chris, and it's things like that I'll miss and remember him for the most. I love you brother.

WRITTEN BY CHRIS' BEST FRIEND SGT. JUSTIN HAYES

honoring our fallen heroes

# NASSAU BAY SGT. KAILA SULLIVAN

There's so much I want to say. So much I want to tell you. Both of you. But, my time to talk, is short. For that, I am so eternally sorry.

When I went to work last night, as I put on my uniform, vest and gear, I swear I had every intention of being there for you this morning. I was going to stop on the way home and bring those breakfast things you like so much.

Putting my vest on, I never dreamed in a million years, that would be the last time I would ever have to wrestle with that damn thing. Just a woman, trying to get that thing to fit just right. If I had known, maybe I wouldn't have complained so much about it. OK...maybe, I would have.

My love, you and our son have put up with so much from me. The Academy. Training. Crazy shifts. Always gone on the holidays and those last minute call outs. Looking back, in many ways, this life I chose was very unfair. And yet, you both always supported me, loved me, and encouraged me to be the best cop I could be. Y'all always said "You're already the best wife, best mom ever so now, just go be the best cop ever!"

There were many times I hid the tears from you both. All the crazy, awful, hurtful, hateful things I have seen, endured and been exposed to. Everyone second guessing if I was "good enough" to be a cop or not, just because I was a girl. I hope y'all know that I worked very hard to show them all that I was worth their faith in

me in this career. I worked twice as hard, so that no one could ever second guess my work ethic or my decisions out on the street.

We had a good run, didn't we? I am so saddened it ended so soon. Especially the way it did. To go into work, just trying to do my job last night and try to make it through my next shift, all to get back home to you both. My whole world. I love you both so much.

Please try not to be angry. Please. We three know, I loved this career. I loved being a cop. I did this job in part for me. That's true. I wanted to prove to myself, to the both of you, to the whole world, I could do this job and I could do this job well. But, more importantly, I wanted to make this world a better place for us.

Oh, I wasn't out here to "save the world". But, if I could save one person, if I could do one thing to help another, if I could just be that something or someone special who helped another and made our community just a little bit safer, a little bit better, then I figured I had done something really special for us all.

I am sure you all have a million questions, and I have no real answers, I'm afraid. I did my best. I promise you. I fought as hard as I could. It just didn't go our way this time.

I need you two to know something though, because I gotta go...

With all of my heart, with my very soul I loved and will always love you both so much. I adored every moment with you. You were

my whole world, and you both gave me hope when sometimes it seemed I had no hope left. You both gave me a reason to get up and get going every single day of my life with you.

Son, you gotta take care of the house now, ok. You gotta help get and keep everything going. I won't be there to pester or bother you. But, I know how I was raising my son. My beautiful, amazing son. You keep being the kind of young man we were raising you to be. Don't you dare let anything that's happened lead you down any other path other than they ones we've raised you to take.

And finally, my love. Sweetheart, I am so sorry. Please forgive me. I did my best. I fought with all I had. I promise. You were the best thing that could have ever happened to me. Though there are some in this crazy old world who would dispute that fact, you and I know the truth. Love knows no limits, no boundaries, and it doesn't care who or what you are. Love only



knows one thing; When you find the one you're supposed to be with, you'll know. And babe, I was so blessed to have found you, the one I was supposed to be with, the one I loved with all of my heart.

Look, I gotta go...for now. Please be safe. Don't let hate, anger, or any of that other BS tear you two down. You both are such beautiful people and I love you both forever and ever. I promise. One day, we'll see each other again. Until then, I am always watching over the both

of you, so don't try anything stupid! Cause you two know, I'll call you out on it!

Love you guys...I really am, so sorry.

Humbly and respectfully written with Sgt. Kaila Sullivan, of the Nassau Bay Police Department, in mind and in my heart...

Of all the moments I have written, this one was one of the hardest. I wish to thank those Officers, Deputies and Troopers who helped me write this by

opening your hearts up to me and telling me, quite candidly, what being a female, a mom, a wife, a daughter, a mother, a sister is like...all the while, standing behind a badge pinned upon your chest. Each of you know who you are. Thank you.

THOUGHTS BY REX EVANS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, BLUES

## honoring our fallen heroes


**Supervisory Deputy US Marshal  
Norman D. Merkel**

End of Watch: Wednesday, January 16, 2019  
Age :45 Tour: 21 yrs Badge: 3019 Military Veteran

Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Norm Merkel suffered a fatal heart attack while participating in his agency's wellness program inside the United States Courthouse in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Deputy Marshal Merkel was a U.S. Army veteran. He had served with the United States Marshals Service for 18 years and was the commander of the Gulf Coast Violent Offenders Task Force. He had previously served with the McIntosh County Sheriff's Office, North Dakota, for three years. He is survived by his mother and two sisters.


**Deputy Sheriff - Comal County  
Ray Elwin Horn, III**

End of Watch: Thursday, January 17, 2019  
Age :44 Tour: 11 yrs. Badge: 471 Military Veteran

Deputy Sheriff Ray Horn suffered a fatal heart attack shortly after participating in his agency's mandatory physical fitness testing. He had completed the testing and left the facility when he suffered the heart attack while driving his patrol car near the intersection of FM 3009 and Dimrock, in Schertz, at 5:15 pm. His patrol car then collided with two other vehicles at the intersection. He was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Deputy Horn was a U.S. Air Force veteran and had served with the Comal County Sheriff's Office for 11-1/2 years. He is survived by his wife.


**Border Patrol Agent  
Donna Doss**

End of Watch: Saturday, February 2, 2019  
Age :49 Tour: 16 yrs. Badge: A200

Border Patrol Agent Donna Doss was struck and killed by a vehicle on the south service road of I-20 near mile marker 276, between Tye and Merkel, Texas. She had responded to the location to assist a Texas Department of Public Safety trooper determine the status of a subject believed to be in the country illegally.

Agent Doss had served with the United States Border Patrol for 16 years and was assigned to the Del Rio Sector. She is survived by her husband, two stepsons, parents, brother, and sister.


**Police Officer - Midland Police  
Nathan Hayden Heidelberg**

End of Watch: Tuesday, March 5, 2019  
Age :28 Tour: 5 yrs Badge: 180

Police Officer Nathan Heidelberg was shot and killed while responding a burglary alarm at a residence at 3306 Eagle Cove in Midland.

Officer Heidelberg, a probationary officer he was training, and two other officers had responded to the alarm call at 2:30 am. They were at the open front door making loud announcements identifying themselves when the homeowner opened fire toward the flashlight Officer Heidelberg was holding. Officer Heidelberg was struck by a round above his vest. He was transported to a local hospital where he succumbed to his wounds at 8:30 am.


**Deputy Sheriff - El Paso County S.O.  
Peter Herrera**

End of Watch: Sunday, March 24, 2019  
Age :35 Tour: 11 yrs. Badge: 4928

Deputy Sheriff Peter Herrera succumbed to wounds sustained when he was shot after pulling over a vehicle in San Elizario at 1:50 am.

He had stopped the vehicle for a registration violation near the corner of Chicken Ranch Road and Socorro Road. He approached the car and asked the driver to step out. As the driver exited the vehicle he fired 15 rounds, striking Deputy Herrera multiple times. Deputy Herrera did not have an opportunity to draw his own weapon. The driver and the passenger then fled the scene in the vehicle, but it stalled out several blocks away. The two then fled on foot but were located and apprehended a short time later by responding deputies. The driver was charged with capital murder and the passenger was also charged with other crimes in connection with Deputy Herrera's murder.

A civilian and members of the U.S. Border Patrol and El Paso County Sheriff's Office provided aid to Deputy Herrera. He was transported to a local hospital in critical condition where he succumbed to his wounds two days later.


**Police Officer - Grand Prairie  
Albert Ramirez Castaneda, Jr.**

End of Watch: Friday, June 7, 2019  
Age :38 Tour: 11 yrs. Badge: 472

Police Officer A.J. Castaneda was struck and killed by a vehicle while running radar on the President George Bush Turnpike, near Dickey Road, at 10:30 am.

A 17-year-old driver lost control of his vehicle and struck Officer Castaneda, throwing him off the elevated roadway. Officer Castaneda was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. Officer Castaneda was a U.S. Coast Guard veteran. He had served with the Grand Prairie Police Department for five years and had previously served with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office for six years. He is survived by two children.

# honoring our fallen heroes



**Police Sergeant - The Colony Police**

**David Jones Fitzpatrick**

End of Watch: Monday, June 10, 2019  
Age :59 Tour: 34 yrs Badge: 171 Military Veteran

Sergeant David Fitzpatrick suffered a fatal heart attack after participating in the department's wellness program on June 7th, 2019. He collapsed after returning to his office after working out. He was transported to a local hospital where he passed away on June 10th, 2019, without having regained consciousness.

Sergeant Fitzpatrick was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and had served with The Colony Police Department for over 34 years. He is survived by his wife.



**Corporal - Misson Police**

**Jose Luis "Speedy" Espericueta, Jr.**

End of Watch: Thursday, June 20, 2019  
Age :44 Tour: 18 yrs. Badge: 350

Corporal Jose Espericueta was shot and killed as he and other officers attempted to apprehend a subject who had threatened family members. A woman flagged down officers in the area of Stewart Road and Business Highway 83 and told them that her son had just shot at her car with a handgun. Corporal Espericueta and other officers responded to the scene and located the subject, who then fled on foot. As the man ran he turned and opened fire, striking Corporal Espericueta multiple times. Other officers returned fire and killed the man.

Corporal Espericueta had served with the Mission Police Department for 13 years and had previously served with the San Benito Police Department for five years. He is survived by his wife and two children.



**Deputy Sheriff - Kendall County SO**  
**Carlos A. Ramirez**

End of Watch: Saturday, February 2, 2019  
Age :32 Tour: 3 yrs. Badge: Unknown

Deputy Sheriff Carlos Ramirez was struck and killed by a vehicle while he and another deputy were conducting a traffic stop on I-10 near mile marker 533 at 7:30 am. Another vehicle struck Deputy Ramirez and the other deputy before striking the vehicle that had been stopped. Deputy Ramirez succumbed to his injuries while the other deputy was seriously injured.

Deputy Ramirez was a U.S. Army Reserve veteran and had served with the Kendall County Sheriff's Office for three years. He is survived by his wife and two young children.



**Deputy - Harris County SO**

**Omar Diaz**

End of Watch: Saturday, July 6, 2019  
Age :39 Tour: 10 yrs Badge: Not Available

Deputy Sheriff Omar Diaz died after collapsing at the scene of a stabbing call in the 7500 block of Stone Pine Lane. He and other deputies had responded to the scene where a woman had been stabbed several times. Deputy Diaz was securing the crime scene with police line tape when he collapsed. He was transported to a local hospital where he passed away a short time later.

Deputy Diaz had served with the Harris County Sheriff's Office for 10 years. He is survived by his wife and young daughter.



**Deputy Sheriff - Kinney County SO**

**Jose Luis Blancarte**

End of Watch: Sunday, March 24, 2019  
Age :47 Tour: 20 yrs. Badge: 4

Deputy Sheriff Jose Blancarte suffered a fatal heart attack at the scene of a vehicle fire on Highway 90 four miles west of Brackettville. He began directing traffic after assisting at the fire scene. A short time later he began feeling ill and requested EMS to his location. Medics began to perform CPR when he became unresponsive while being transported to a local hospital. He passed away shortly after arriving at the hospital.

Deputy Blancarte had served with the Kinney County Sheriff's Office for 20 years. He is survived by his wife, four children, mother, and six siblings.



**Trooper - Texas DPS**

**Moises Sanchez**

End of Watch: Saturday, August 24, 2019  
Age :49 Tour: 4 yrs. Badge: Not Available

Trooper Moises Sanchez succumbed to complications of gunshot wounds sustained on April 6th, 2019, in McAllen, Texas. He had responded to a hit-and-run vehicle crash at the intersection of N 10th Street and W Freddy Gonzalez Drive. He located the suspect approximately one block away, in the 1500 block of South Maltese Street, and attempted to take him into custody. The subject shot him in the shoulder and head during the arrest. Trooper Sanchez was transported to a local hospital with serious injuries. He succumbed to complications of his wounds on August 24th, 2019, following surgery. The man was arrested following a manhunt. He was charged with capital murder after Trooper Sanchez passed away.

Trooper Sanchez had served with the Texas Highway Patrol for four years. He is survived by his wife and three children.

# honoring our fallen hereos

## Deputy - Harris County SO

### Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal

End of Watch: Friday, September 27, 2019

Age :42 Tour: 10 yrs Badge: 1498

Deputy Sheriff Sandeep Dhaliwal was shot and killed while conducting a traffic stop in the 14800 block of Willancy Court at approximately 12:45 pm. As Deputy Dhaliwal was returning to his patrol car one of the passengers exited the vehicle and ran toward him while opening fire. Deputy Dhaliwal was struck multiple times. He was flown to a local hospital where he succumbed to his wounds several hours later. The man who shot him fled to a nearby business where he was arrested by a responding deputy. The man had been wanted since 2017 for absconding from parole.

Deputy Dhaliwal had served with the Harris County Sheriff's Office for 10 years and leaves behind a wife and three children.



## Deputy - Falls County SO

### Matthew Ryan Jones

End of Watch: Friday, October 11, 2019

Age :30 Tour: 4 yrs. Badge: 3112

Deputy Sheriff Matt Jones was struck and killed by a vehicle as he and the chief of the Riesel Police Department assisted a disabled motorist on Texas 6 near County Road 190. Another vehicle approaching the scene hydroplaned on the wet road surface and struck both officers. Deputy Jones was killed and the police chief was seriously injured. Deputy Jones' canine partner was in their patrol car and was not injured.

Deputy Jones had served with the Falls County Sheriff's Office for four years. He is survived by his wife, parents, and siblings.



## Officer- Freeport Police

### Abigail Arias

End of Watch: Tuesday, November 5, 2019

Age :7 Tour: 1 yrs. Badge: 758

Abigail Arias was sworn in last February as a honorary police officer of the Freeport Police Department by Chief Raymond Garivey and given badge 758. That number will forever live in the hearts and minds of police officers around the world.

Officer Arias was diagnosed with Wilms tumor, a rare kidney cancer that primarily affects children. She went through 90 rounds of chemotherapy to remove it. Sadley, the cancer returned in April 2018, and this time, it was incurable. That's when her guardian angels on earth came in. She befriended Freeport Police Chief Raymond Garivey at the department's "Pancakes with Santa" event in December 2018. She told him her dream of becoming a police officer. The chief made her dream come true in February when she became Officer Arias Badge # 758. Her story quickly spread from Freeport to police departments across the US, who honored her by rocking her merchandise (usually covered in llamas, her favorite) and sending prayers. Fans have dressed up as Abigail for Halloween. Others wrote songs for her. In October, Abigail's family and Garivey shared that her condition had worsened, and doctors were considering hospice care, reported local TV Station KTRK. But even as she was dying, she managed to have fun and do good.

On Tuesday November 5, 2019 Abigail passed away surrounded by her family and her Blue Family.

Garivey wrote in a Facebook post:

*"To live life to the fullest, to never give up hope no matter the odds, to fight 'the bad guys' passionately, and most important, to love one another — and always stay relentless!"*

## Sergeant - Houston Police Department

### Christopher Charles Lewis Brewster

End of Watch: Saturday, December 7, 2019

Age :32 Tour: 9 yrs Badge: NA

Sergeant Christopher Brewster was shot and killed while responding to a domestic assault at about 6:00 pm. A woman had called 911 and reported that she had been assaulted by her boyfriend and that he was armed with two firearms. When officers arrived at the scene both subjects had already left. Sergeant Brewster was checking the area when he saw the couple walking in the 7400 block of Avenue L.

Sergeant Brewster attempted to contact them but was fired upon as he exited his patrol car. Despite being struck in the chest above his vest, he was able to give dispatchers and other officers a description of his wounds and the subject's direction of travel.

Sergeant Brewster was transported to Memorial Hermann Hospital where he succumbed to his wounds. Sergeant Brewster had served with the Houston Police Department for nine years. He is survived by his wife, parents, and three sisters.



## Sergeant - Nassau Bay Police Dept.

### Kaila Sullivan

End of Watch: Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Age :43 Tour: 16 yrs Badge: NA

Sergeant Kaila Sullivan was killed when she was intentionally struck by a vehicle driven while attempting to arrest a wanted subject in the 2000 block of San Sebastian Court at 8:30 pm.

Officers had conducted a traffic stop on the man who was wanted on a warrant for domestic assault. When they attempted to place him in custody he began to resist and was able to re-enter his vehicle. He struck fatally Sergeant Sullivan as he fled the area in the vehicle.

Sergeant Sullivan was transported to HCA Clear Lake Hospital where she succumbed to her injuries. The vehicle was found abandoned a short distance away. The man was arrested on December 12th, 2019 and charged with Capital Murder. Sergeant Sullivan had served with the Nassau Bay Police Department for 16 years.



*Almighty God and Father in heaven as we enter this Holiday Season we ask a special blessing for all those who serve as our Keepers of Peace; those who walk the Thin Blue Line every day. Please watch over them and protect them. Please hold them firmly in your care should danger come their way. And each day as they begin their tour of duty, we ask that You to grant them wisdom, strength and courage to deal every situation in the right way, and at the end of their tour of duty, please bring them home safe to their family. Through Your Son's name we offer this prayer. Amen."*

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## In 1987 The "County" was dropped from "THE BLUES"

PAGE 2 / THE BLUES / JANUARY 1987

### From the Editor

#### We're Dropping the "County"

In case you haven't noticed we've dropped the "County" from our COUNTY BLUES name. As of January 1, 1987 COUNTY BLUES officially changed its name to "THE BLUES".

The reason for this change was due in part to the fact that officers from outside agencies were associating our newspaper with the "Harris County Deputy Sheriff's Association", the "Harris County Sheriff's Deputies Union", and some even believing we were the official newsletter of the Harris County Sheriff's Department. While we have stated on numerous occasions that we are an INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER, the name "County" was apparently confusing or misleading to some. So to eliminate any further misunderstandings we decided to simply change our name.

As we enter 1987, the BLUES will begin expanding our circulation to include the entire State of Texas. We began by dividing the State into six (6) regions: Southeast-Houston, Galveston; Southwest-Austin, San Antonio, Corpus Christi; West-El Paso, Midland, Odessa, San Angelo; East-Nacogdoches, Tyler, Texarkana; Central-Dallas/Ft. Worth, Wichita Falls, Waco; and the Panhandle-Amarillo, Dalhart, Lubbock.

Our first area of expansion will be in the Southwest Region. We'll start in Austin, then move on to San Antonio, Corpus and then Brownsville. As we go we'll include all the smaller agencies in and around the larger cities. As we expand our circulation we'll also be adding new sections to our paper. Each region will have a section that will include local news and events. If you know someone who works for a police agency in Texas and think they might be interested in being a correspondent for their area, please call or write us soon.

The coming year is going to be one of monumental changes for THE BLUES. We hope you'll enjoy the coming issues and welcome any suggestions you might have.

## The 10 Deadly Errors

1. Failure to watch suspect's hands
2. Apathy towards suspect
3. Lack of rest
4. Tombstone courage
5. Preoccupation
6. Missing pre-attack indicators
7. Taking a bad position
8. Relaxing too soon
9. Improper searching and/or cuffing
10. Failure to maintain gear



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# LE job positions

## Statewide Vacancies Peace Officer

Department	Info	Description	Closing Date
Wheeler County Sheriff's Office	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Deputy Sheriff	12/20/2019 - 5pm
Austin County Sheriff's Office	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Patrol Deputy	12/15/2019 - 5pm
Navarro College Department of Public Safety	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Officer (full time)	12/02/2019 - 5pm
Woodway Public Safety Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Public Safety Officer	12/15/2019 - 5pm
Florence Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Full-Time Police Officer	12/15/2019 - 5pm
Loving County Sheriff's Office	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	School Resource Deputy	12/31/2019 - 5pm
City of Crowell	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Peace Officer	12/15/2019 - 5pm
Pearsall Police Dept.	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Officer	12/31/2019 - 5pm
League City Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Officer	01/10/2020 - 3pm
Bruceville-Eddy Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Officer	01/09/2020 - 5pm
City of Selma	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Officer	12/31/2019 - 5pm
Austin County Sheriff's Office	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Narcotics Investigator	12/15/2019 - 5pm
Austin County Sheriff's Office	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Fraud Investigator	12/15/2019 - 5pm
Angelina College Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Training Manager I.S.	12/15/2019 - 5pm
City of Bryan	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Deputy City Marshal	01/15/2020 - 5pm
Cisco Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Patrol Officer	12/23/2019 - 5pm
Williamson County Sheriff's Office	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Patrol Deputy	01/16/2020 - 5pm
Katy Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Officer	12/30/2019 - 5pm
Oakwood Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Officer	12/20/2019 - 5pm
Canyon Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Chief	12/20/2019 - 5pm
Itasca Police Department	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Police Officer	01/20/2020 - 5pm
City of Ore City	<a href="#">Get Info</a>	Patrol Officer	12/26/2019 - 11am

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# fishing with Jimmy Houston “America’s Favorite Fisherman”



When THE BLUES started 35-years ago, I had just started my own publication for the outdoorsmen of Texas, called Barron’s Outdoor Update. Since my brother was Editor and Publisher of The Blues, he also asked me to create an outdoor column to talk about hunting, fishing, camping and all types of outdoor activities that so many law enforcement families enjoy. Well that was an easy assignment because that is what I love to do. At that time, there were a few people

in the outdoor entertainment world that I really admired and as I look back now, they were true pioneers. One of these was outdoor television celebrity and fishing legend, Jimmy Houston. Watching Jimmy was definitely “entertainment”, as his shows not only taught you how to catch more fish, but his style of story-telling and humor made you feel like you knew him...and you certainly wanted to go fishing with him. Well, it is funny how things work out in life because about a



year after starting Barron’s Outdoor Update, I received an offer from Shell Oil Company to join their Sales and Marketing team. So, I parked my dream of making a career associated with the outdoors and joined one of the largest oil and gas enterprises in the world. Some 20+ years later I found myself running the marketing for Shell Lubricants for North America and was looking to connect with outdoor enthusiasts to tell them about one of Shell’s big lubricants brands, Rotella. Guess who was still top of the list of celebrities that have a strong connection to people who love the outdoors? Yes, Jimmy Houston. Well over the last

10 years, I have come to know Jimmy Houston quite well and would consider him one of my friends and fishing buddies.

Now that is pretty cool to say that Jimmy Houston is one of your fishing buddies and even more cool to be able to say that you have your own fishing show with him. Look it up on Jimmy Houston Outdoors library or click on this link to watch the episode “Rusty Bass.” [CLICK HERE](#) The place was Grosse Savanne in Louisiana and it is a special place, probably better known for its great duck hunting and saltwater fishing, but Jimmy wanted to go there and bass fish in one of their freshwater lakes. The day we filmed the show, the weather was perfect and I had fished the lake the day before with guide Dennis “TJ” Tietje so I know what to expect from the fishing. However, I must admit, I was a little nervous having a camera on board recording every cast and every conversation.

It didn’t help either that Jimmy started catching fish right away

and he had four or five to the boat before I caught my first one. But once I landed that first bass, the skunk was off, it was game on. If you watch the show I will let you be the judge, but I think I held my own against this fishing legend, and actually think I did pretty good. As a matter of fact, the highlight of the show happened when Jimmy was uploading a picture to his Facebook page of a really nice bass I had just landed. While he was busy doing this, I saw a great spot off the front of the boat and had to cast there.

As you might guess, I hooked probably the biggest bass of the day and had to work my way from the back of the boat past the camera man and past Jimmy to get to the front of the boat so I could land it. Jimmy then proceeds to give me a hard time because I decided to cast over his head to “his” spots off the front of the boat while he was posting my picture on his Facebook page. Well the fish never made it in

the boat because as Jimmy was trying to lip my big bass, it got away from him. Now it sounds like a fishing story, but I am going to say that it was surely bigger than anything we brought in the boat that day. So that is my claim to fame, Jimmy Houston let the biggest bass of my life get away and I’ve got the whole thing memorialized in an episode of fishing with Jimmy Houston, America’s Favorite Fisherman.

Jimmy is a person I would encourage you to get to know. He is in his 54th year fishing professional bass tournaments and his 43rd year on National Television with Jimmy Houston Outdoors. He has won two BASS Angler of the Year titles and fished 15 BASS Classics and one FLW Championship. He is a member of the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, the Professional Bass Fishing Hall of Fame, the IGFA Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, and the Legends of the Outdoors Hall of Fame. He is a

devote Christian, a family man, and one heck of a hunter and fisherman, who is more than happy to talk to you about any one of these.

As a matter of fact, you should join his Jimmy Houston Outdoors YouTube channel. It’s new, it’s growing, and it’s free to join [JUST CLICK HERE](#). He puts some great content out there and my personal favorites are his Sunday afternoon chats. But beyond just watching his TV shows and connecting with him online, Jimmy still fishes tournaments, does personal appearances for his many sponsors and loves his Oklahoma Sooners and LA Dodgers. So there are many places you might run into him and if you see that trademark blonde hair or hear that one-of-kind laugh, track him down and tell him Rusty sent you over to ask why he let my big fish go at Grosse Savanne.

WORDS & PHOTOS BY  
RUSTY BARRON



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...last minute additions.



## OFFICERS DOWN

### Another Officer Tragically Killed in San Antonio

A 28-year veteran with the San Antonio Independent School District Police Department was killed early ON December 21, 2019 as he attempted to break up a fight between two men while working security for a South-east Side restaurant, according to San Antonio police.

At about 3:43 a.m., officers responded to the IHOP on the 700 block of Hot Wells Boulevard over reports of a fight. When they arrived they discovered an off-duty SAISD officer, Detective Cliff Martinez, 50, lying in the parking lot, having been run over by a vehicle, according to said Sgt. Michelle Ramos.

Witnesses told police a fight broke out inside the restaurant that spilled out into the parking lot. Ramos explained that the officer and another unidentified "Good Samaritan" intervened and attempted to end the fight.

"We believe that the SAISD officer was assaulted while he was outside in the parking lot," Ramos said. "At which time a vehicle ran over the SAISD offi-

cer." She said Martinez was pinned beneath the vehicle when officers arrived and that police believe he was intentionally targeted by the vehicle's occupants, who then fled on foot and are currently on the loose.

The officer died at the scene, Ramos said.

Police say two other people were detained in connection to the incident and are being questioned by homicide detectives. The suspects who fled were in their mid-to-late 20s. One was wearing a red hoodie with black jeans, according to police.

In a news release, officials with the school district are mourning the death of Martinez who they say was a highly respected member of the force and who will be greatly missed.

According to Martinez's father, Albert J. Martinez, his son would have turned 51 on Dec. 31.

UPDATE: Jorge Lopez, 23, has been arrested in connection with the death



of a San Antonio ISD police officer and is being charged with capital murder. Officer Doug Greene, a spokesman for SAPD, said Lopez was arrested shortly after the incident without difficulty.

Greene said police believe Lopez was driving the vehicle that ran over Detective Cliff Martinez while he was off duty working security at the IHOP. REPRINTED FROM MYSANANTONIO.COM

### Pierce County, WA. Deputy Killed in Vehicle Crash

A Pierce County sheriff's deputy was killed December 21, when his patrol car crashed early Saturday while rushing to help other deputies who were fighting with a domestic-violence suspect at a home south of Tacoma, the sheriff's department reported.

"In great sadness we report that Deputy Cooper Dyson was killed in a collision while on duty, as he rushed to aid fellow deputies who were being assaulted by a domestic violence suspect," the department announced in a tweet.

Around 3 a.m., deputies responded to a 911 call that a 6-year-old disabled child had been assaulted by a 22-year-old man inside a home on 113th Street South in Parkland, according to Sgt. Ed Troyer, the department's spokesman. The 911 caller also reported multiple weapons in the home, Troyer said.

One minute after the two deputies arrived, they radioed for "priority backup,"

saying the suspect was attacking them, according to a post on the department's Facebook page.

"Deputy Dyson was the first deputy to respond to assist," the Facebook post said. As Dyson was racing to the scene, the other deputies "continued to report that the suspect was actively fighting them and they believed he was trying to access a shotgun in the house."

Dyson, 25, was headed west on 112th Street East "at a high rate of speed" when his car left the road, Troyer said. The car rolled multiple times and burst into flames, Troyer said.

At 3:10 a.m., a passerby called 911 to report that a sheriff's vehicle had crashed into a commercial building. Deputies responded and found Dyson dead, Troyer said. No one else was hurt.

"He was on a straightaway and there were no other cars on the road," Troyer said. "But it was really pouring down



rain and there was a lot of water on the roadway. It's very possible that (water) was a contributing factor."

Dyson joined the Pierce County Sheriff's Department last year, the department said. He was married with a 2-year-old son. His wife is expecting a girl in two to three weeks,

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\* Officer Luke Brown, Save Date 12.10.16

Photo: Amanda Trebley Photography

# Others Depend on You

...parting shots.



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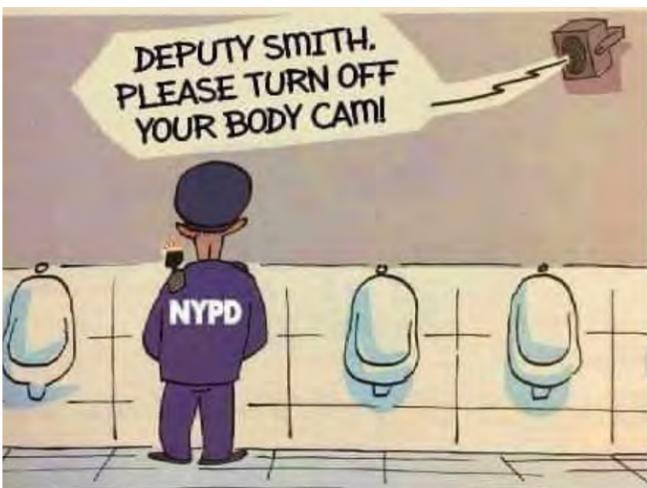


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