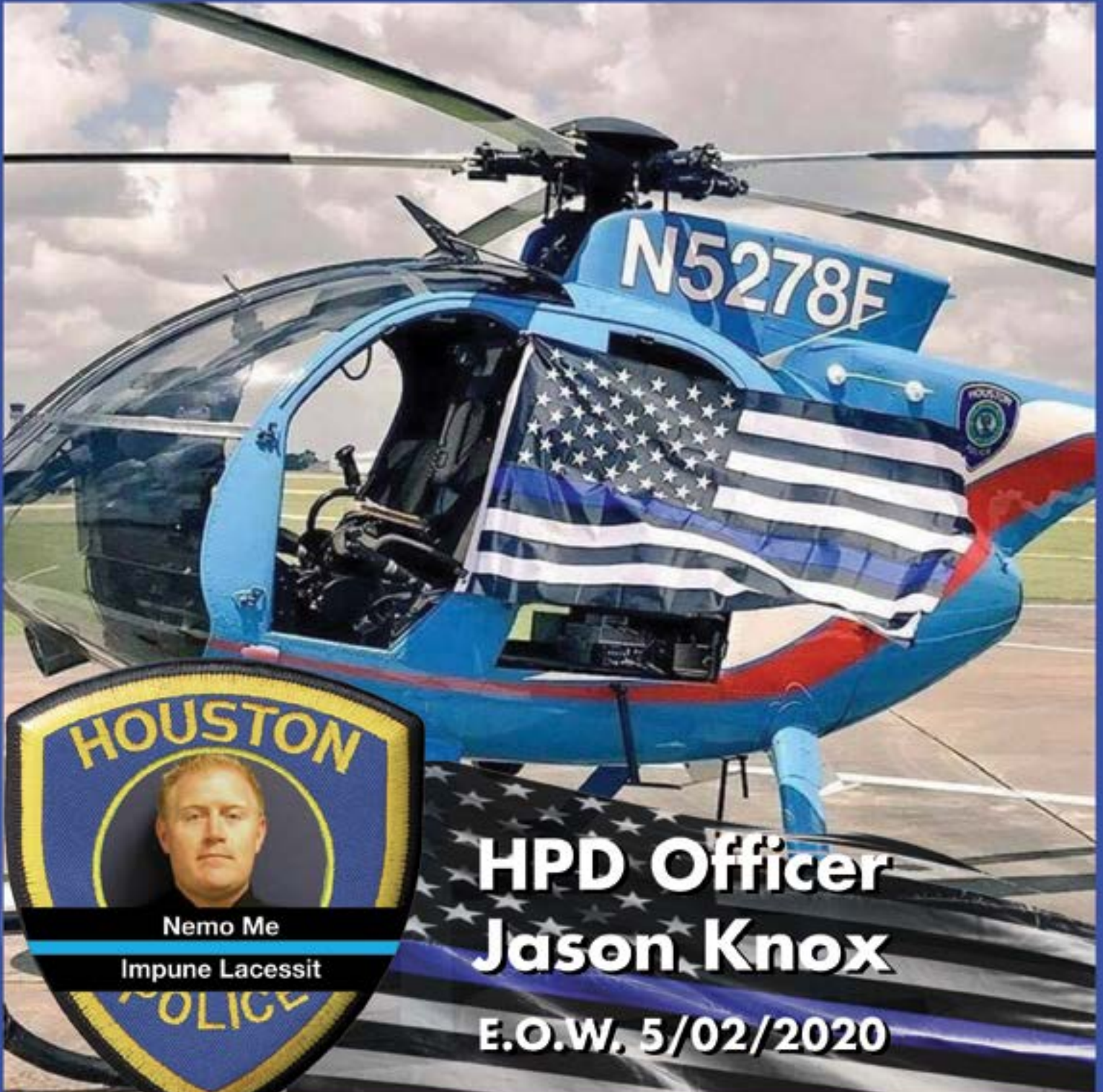


CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TEXAS LAW ENFORCEMENT



THE POLICE MAGAZINE
BLUES

MAY 2020 • VOL. 36 NO. 5



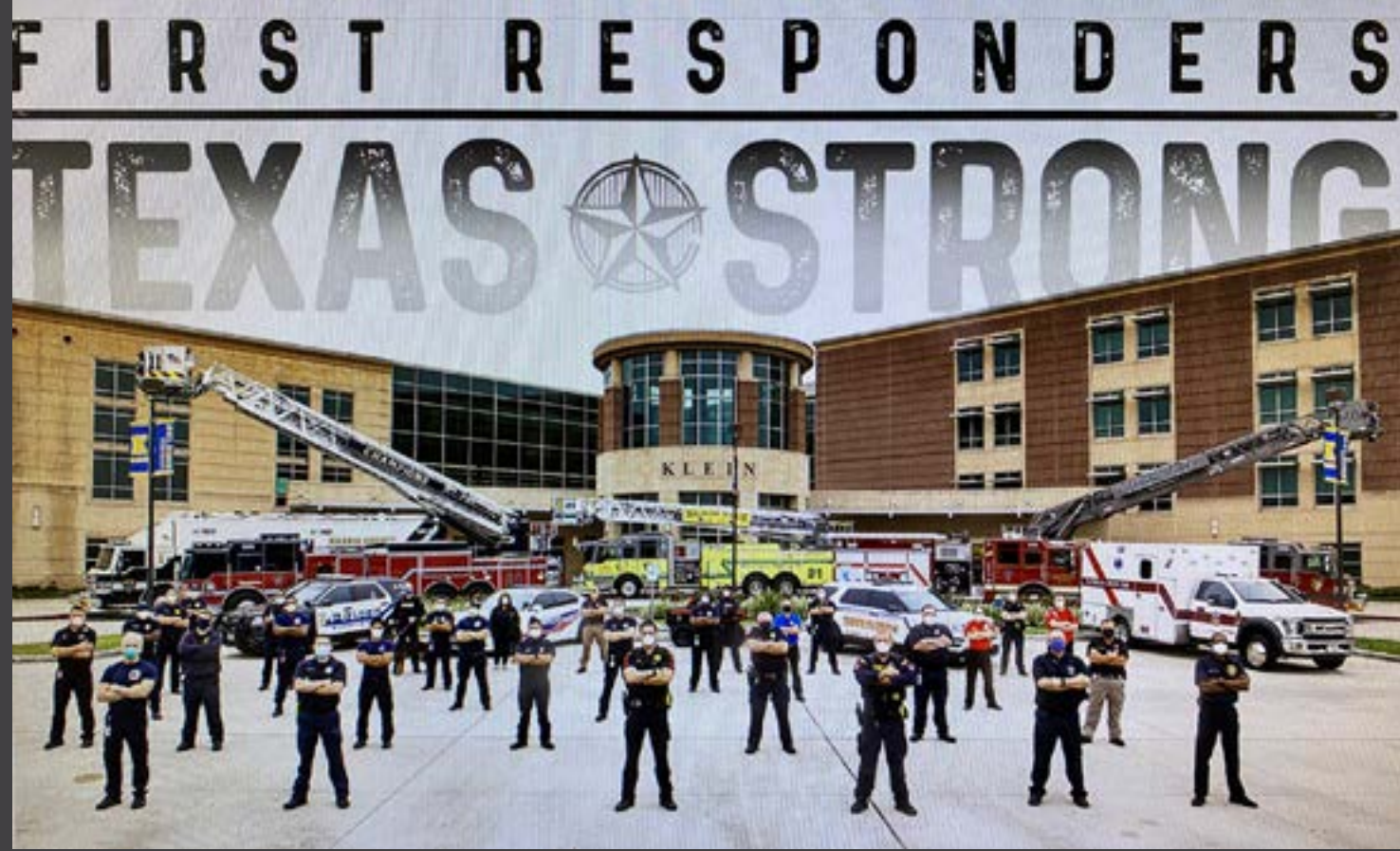
Nemo Me

Impune Lacesit

**HPD Officer
Jason Knox**

E.O.W. 5/02/2020

FIRST RESPONDERS
TEXAS STRONG



TRUSTED RELIABILITY

On & Off Duty

When you depend on a sidearm to help protect your community, GLOCK pistols provide the proven reliability, durability and accuracy you need.

For more information about the G45 MOS, G43X, G48 and other pistols perfect for law enforcement, visit us.glock.com

GLOCK
Proudly serving law enforcement agencies across the country.



Our purpose at Highpoint is to give more than we take, having a servants' heart for our clients, co-workers and community.

We provide our clients a diagnostic and consultative approach for uncovering and mitigating risk.

COMMERCIAL • EMPLOYEE BENEFITS • HIGH NET-WORTH

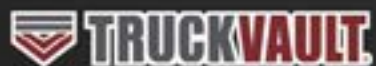
"Our clients are better off with us than without us!"

hpigrp.com • 4300 FM 2351 • 281.204.8770
Friendswood, TX



ALL NEW 2020 FORD EXPLORER OPTIONS

The long awaited line of TruckVault products for the 2020 Ford Explorer is here! We had to make some changes for our 2020 Explorer drawer systems due to the design of this new generation and now have a wide variety of designs ready for securing your firearms. If your department is looking to upgrade its fleet, consider adding secure storage to your vehicles to keep your duty gear safe.



800.967.8107
TRUCKVAULT.COM



THE POLICE MAGAZINE BLUES

MAY, 2020 • VOL. 36 NO. 5

THE TEAM

MICHAEL BARRON
publisher

REX EVANS
editor-in-chief

MISTY ROBERTS
editor

RUSTY BARRON
outdoor editor

TINA JAECKLE
blue mental health

REBECCA CESARI
sales manager

JOE GAMALDI
president, HPOU

T. EDISON
light bulb award

JANET GARNER
financial planner

JON ADLER
contributing writer

DAVE SMITH
contributing writer

JOHN KING
contributing writer

The BLUES Police Magazine is published monthly by Kress-Barr, LLC, PO Box 2733, League City Texas 77574. The opinions expressed in some articles, op-eds, and editorials are those of the author and do not reflect the opinion of The BLUES or its parent company. Rebuttals or submission of news articles and editorials may be submitted to: The BLUES Police Magazine @ thebluespdmag@gmail.com. The entire contents of The BLUES™ are copyrighted© and may not be reprinted without the express permission of the publisher.

The BLUES logo is a Trademark of Kress-Barr, LLC, MAY, 2020

CONTRIBUTORS

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TEXAS LAW ENFORCEMENT



THE POLICE MAGAZINE BLUES

MAY 2020 • VOL. 36 NO. 5



On the Cover / Feature Story

HPD's Aviation Unit lost a true hero and put another hero in the hospital. This month we honor Jason Knox and pray for the quick recovery of HPD Senior Officer Chase Cormier. Page 18, Tribute Pages 26-31

In This Issue

SURVIVING COVID-19

- 32 Protect Yourself / Document Exposures
- 35 What You Need to Know
- 36 Something Wicked
- 38 COVID-19 LODD Deaths

DEPARTMENTS

- 6 Publisher's Thoughts
- 8 Editor's Thoughts
- 9 HCSO Insider
- 10 Your Thoughts
- 16 News Around the State
- 42 Blue Mental Health
- 47 Joe Gamaldi - Harris County's Dirty Secret
- 54 Honor Fallen Heroes
- 68 Now Hiring
- 72 Parting Shots
- 74 Breaking News

16 NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

20 AFTERMATH

24 WAR STORIES

40 NOT SO BRIGHT light bulb award

70 OUTDOORS WITH RUSTY BARRON

my thoughts !!

Michael
Barron

“We lost another officer”

“We lost another officer.” Sadly, I’ve had to hear this nearly every day since the re-launch of the Blues last November. First it was just an angry public killing my brothers in blue for no reason at all. Then Corona comes along, and even more brothers and sisters are dying, but when the call comes at 4am and it’s a fellow pilot, it’s different. The pain is so much worse.

This tragic story rings close to my heart and my career in law enforcement and aviation. The first time I climbed into a tiny Hughes 300 helicopter with my lifetime friend John King, who was then a pilot at HPD, I knew this is what I wanted to do. Although I was not impressed with the sound as it started – like a VW bus cranking up. I’m like dude, “are you serious?” But once it turned over and those blades started turning, I was hooked. I tried to transfer to helicopters at Harris County, but Harris County Commissioners had other ideas and that one and only helicopter the Sheriff owned is now hanging in the HPD Police Museum.

Years later, I somehow convinced Joe Max Taylor, the Sheriff of Galveston County, that we really could use an airborne division. He said, “awe Barron you have a pilots license?” uh well not yet, but I’ll get one. Needless to say, I left the room due to the loud laughing and banging noise coming from he and the Chief laughing so hard, but never underestimate a cop on a mission.

The next day, I signed for flight lessons and within 4 months I had

a fixed-wing license. The ink on my license wasn’t even dry when I showed up at HPD helicopters at Hobby and looked up my old buddy King who was now the Lieutenant over the division. “John, I need to learn all about airborne aviation, and by the way, can you train me to be an observer”.... damn if that same laughing didn’t travel all the way from Galveston to Hobby. I really didn’t see what was so funny.

Long story short, HPD Helicopters, John King, and all the men and women that have worked there all these years became a second family to me. Most are all gone now, but nevertheless when you hear that one of your family has died in a tragic accident it’s overwhelming. I called John the next day and he had already called the hangar. This was truly his family, his men, and for as long as I can remember, his passion in life. So, I’ll shut up and let him carry on.

On the morning of Saturday, May 2nd, when I learned that an HPD helicopter had gone down, and that one of the officers on-board had lost his life, it felt as if I had been told about the death of a family member. You might say, sure, we all feel that way when we hear about the line-of-duty death of a police officer anywhere, and I would agree, but for me this was like the death of an immediate family member. At the time, I did not know the identity of the deceased officer, and even after learning later in the day that it was Officer Jason Knox, I was cer-



Lt. John King (Ret. HPD)

Sgt. Michael Barron (Ret. GCSO)

tain that he and I had never met. However, Officers Knox, Cormier, and indeed all the officers and civilian employees of the HPD Air Support, past, present, and future are like family to me. Please allow me to explain.

Of the nearly thirty-two and a half years I spent at HPD almost twenty of those years were in Helicopter Patrol (now known as Air Support). The first seven of those twenty years I was a Police Officer in Air Support, serving four years as an Observer (now known as a Tactical Flight Officer,) and three years as a Pilot. I left Air Support for six years working as Sergeant, and then Lieutenant in other assignments. Ultimately, I was granted the opportunity to return to Air Support, and as the only lieutenant, had oversight for all aspects of the operation including

Continued on PAGE 12



*Lift Kits
Wheels
Bed Covers
Step Boards
Bumpers
Lights
Winches*

**10% OFF FOR ALL
FIRST RESPONDERS**

12722 Hwy. 3 Webster, Texas • 281-486-9739 • boggycreekoftoad.com

his thoughts !



HARRIS COUNTY
HCSO
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF ED GONZALEZ



Do you remember when you filled out your original application? How about when you turned it in?

Did you maybe say a little prayer? Were you grinning from ear to ear? Or maybe you were nervous. Maybe you weren't.

How about when you received your start date packet? What was your first thought? How about the day you showed up? How long did it take for you to get yelled at? Do you even remember? What did you do?

C'mon. You remember, don't you?

What about all those miles you ran? Push ups? Sit ups? And all

the late night into early morning study groups? Those moments after submitting your latest test? How'd you feel when your first "friend" in the class was "Failed/Dropped"??

Think about Graduation Day. Your uniform was

pressed and creased; razor sharp. Boots shined up so much, why you could look down, while standing up. There you could see your reflection to a "T". All your gear was shiny and new. And in fact, so were you.

Then came the long nights, crazy weekends, and helping

out on the local bar fights. Holidays came and went. Much time on the Highways and Byways of Texas, you've certainly spent. Missed anniversaries and birthdays you sacrificed in the hopes of somehow, creating a better life.

Do you remember that first drunk? How about that first crash you arrived on, only to have someone "Demand an accident report" for a rock chip in their window.

Can you remember your first fatal? How about your first child fatal? The tiny face or maybe the exact little outfit that poor child



human being. You remember that moment, don't you? Were your hands shaking? How about that lump in your throat? That moment whereby you knew in your mind and in your heart, you

were about to have no other choice. You were going to have to pull the trigger...

What was that Trooper, Deputy or Officer's name? You know the one. You were the first to arrive only to find they had already passed. No longer were

they here with us well and alive. You remember how much your heart hurt seeing someone in a uniform just like yours, but they were gone, and there you were left behind and now all alone?

Years traveled by and the



had on. Maybe a car seat. Maybe not. How'd you handle that first notification? Did you have to go it alone or did someone stand right there beside you? When you left, how many tears from your tired eyes surely did fall?

That first time you pulled your pistol and pointed at another

Continued on PAGE 12

HCSO says goodbye to Lt. Thomas Morgan Texas' Oldest certified lawman dies at 99

The Harris County Sheriff's Office Reserve Command honored Morgan last year, thanking him for his service.

He retired as Texas' oldest certified lawman at the age of 98.

"He's a Marine. He has a long tradition of serving his country, serving the citizens of Harris County," said Chief de Leon.

He lived quite an extraordinary life.

"He got out of the Marines, he went to college, he became an engineer and he traveled the world," said his daughter.

However, at the age of 70, he was not ready to retire. Instead, he decided to join the academy, graduating in 1992 and the rest is history.

"He's always been sharp. Even with his weapon, that man can shoot," said the chief.

He worked for the Reserves Marine Division, patrolling the lakes and rivers, looking for drowning victims and helping to catch sex offenders.

"We've always been proud to have Tom on our staff," said de Leon.

His family is also very proud of everything he has accomplished in his life, and as for Lt. Morgan, this is bittersweet for him.



Harris County Sheriff Lt. Tom Morgan

"I'm a little saddened, because it's been a long time," he said. "It's so amazing to see him at his

age continue to move, continue to keep it up. He never quit," said de Leon. "He's living life his way."

your thoughts !!!



She's my hero and she doesn't wear a cape

Men and women in blue face unfathomable situations every day. They put their lives on the line to protect everyone else. They see things that would haunt your darkest nightmares, things that they sometimes can't get past. Officers bravely chase after criminals and bust down doors to rescue abused children immersed in a home full of drugs. And sometimes find themselves staring down the barrel of a gun pointed directly at them. They rush into burning homes, pull bodies out of wreckage, and they enter schools trying to find an active shooter. Their job is one of the most harrowing and unimaginably frightening things you could ever do as an adult, but they put on their uniform day after day and return to the trenches just to try and keep others safe.

However, law enforcement officers can't keep it together every second. Sometimes they need to let go of what they've seen and experienced. This is the behind the scenes of law enforcement that nobody knows about. You see my

wife is a cop. You may see her writing a ticket or serving warrants, but that's not it. She comes home and this is what I see. These are the pieces we are left with at the end of every shift. It's my wife puking when she's gotten home from the smell of a burning body because she couldn't get inside to save someone. The first to respond and being completely helpless in any attempts of rescue.

It's more than just this day, and this fire. It's delivering a death call to a family. Holding a grieving mother after delivering the news her son was found dead. It's having your entire body covered in fire ant bites from fighting a drug addict on the side of the interstate, so he doesn't get hit. Just remember they are more than that uniform. They are real. They are people. They have feelings. They have family. And



you know what they do? They go to sleep, wake up, and do it again, because they want to serve you and keep your community safe. If this right here isn't considered heroic, then I just don't know what is. My wife is my hero, and she should be yours too.

What I do isn't pretty

I have pulled dead, mangled bodies from cars. I have lied to people as they were dying. I have said you are going to be fine as I held their hand and watched the life fade out.

I have held dying babies. Bought lunch for people who were mentally ill and haven't eaten in a while.

I have had people try to stab me. Fought with men trying to shoot me. Been attacked by women who have had the shit kicked out of them

by their husband as I was arresting him.

I have held towels on bullet wounds. Done CPR when I knew it wouldn't help just to make family members feel better.

I have torn down doors, fought in drug houses. Chased fugitives though the woods.

I have been in high speed car chases. Foot chases across an interstate during rush hour traffic.

I have been in crashes. I've squeezed the trigger about to kill a man when they came to their senses and stopped. Waded through large angry crowds by myself. Drove like a mad man to help a fellow officer. Let little kids who don't have much sit in my patrol car and pretend they are a cop for their birthday.

I have taken a lot of people to

Continued on Page 12

LARGEST TRAMPOLINE
PARK IN TEXAS



ALTITUDE
TRAMPOLINE PARK®



TEXAS CITY



**50% OFF
JUMP**

**25% OFF
BIRTHDAY
PACKAGES**

Re-Opening End of May

10000 EMMETT LOWRY F. EXPRESSWAY

FM1765 @ I-45

409.316.9335 - altitudetexascity.com

** SPECIAL PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE ALTITUDE SOCKS WHICH ARE MANDATORY.

your thoughts !!!



Continued from Page 10

jail. Given many breaks. Prayed for people I don't even know. Yes, and at times I have been violent when I had to be. I have been kind when I could...

What I fear more than COVID-19

As I've struggled to sort out my feelings about covid-19, I've come to the conclusion that there are so many things that I fear more than covid-19.

* I fear living in a country where statistics and fear are used to control masses of people because both can be easily manipulated.

* I fear living in a country where a city can ban even drive-in church services that are following the recommended social distancing recommendations set by the government.

* I fear living in country where the people are so anxious to get \$1200 that they will let the government

I admit I have driven to some dark place and cried by myself when I was overwhelmed.

I have missed Christmas and other holidays more than I wanted to.

Every cop I know has done all

pass a \$2,000,000,000,000 stimulus package loaded with money for their favorite projects and not even think twice about it.

* I fear living in a country where hospitals will lie about the cause of death of a patient so they can get more funding from the government.

* I fear living in a country where the government chooses which businesses will survive and which will not.

* I fear living in a country where we as citizens hand over God given rights on the basis of "scientific models" that are proving to be wrong.

* I fear living in a country where

these things and more for lousy pay, sucky hours and a short life expectancy. We don't want your pity; I don't care for your respect. Just let us do our jobs without killing us... please.

we use the rhetoric if we save one life it is worth it, but don't care about those that will commit suicide because of the economic destruction that is happening.

* I fear living in a country where life is valued more than freedom.

620,000 people died in the civil war. That would be comparable to 6 million people today. I'm sure it would have been safer for them to quarantine themselves at home. However, they understood this one truth, freedom is more important than life itself. And I fear once given up, the government will not relinquish those freedoms without a fight.

If you think this Pandemic is bad, imagine what our grandparents endured

"Imagine you were born in 1900. On your 14th birthday, World War I starts, and ends on your 18th birthday. 22 million people perish in that war. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it in those two years. Yes, 50 million. On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins. Unemployment hits 25%, the World GDP drops 27%. That runs until you are 33. The country nearly collapses along with the world economy. When you turn 39, World War II starts. You aren't even over the hill yet. And don't try to catch

your breath. On your 41st birthday, the United States is fully pulled into WWII. Between your 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people perish in the war. At 50, the Korean War starts. 5 million perish. At 55 the Vietnam War begins and doesn't end for 20 years. 4 million people perish in that conflict. On your 62nd birthday you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, should have ended. Great leaders prevented that from happening. When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends. Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How

do you survive all of that? When you were a kid in 1985 and didn't think your 85 year old grandparent understood how hard school was. And how mean that kid in your class was. Yet they survived through everything listed above. Perspective is an amazing art, refined as time goes on, and enlightening like you wouldn't believe. Let's try and keep things in perspective."

I am in no way minimizing what is happening now. But this helps put it in perspective. We will get through this. Praying for all of you, my Facebook friends!

Copied from a Facebook Post.

his thoughts !



Continued from Page 8

crashes, reports, citations, and arrests they seemed to push you further and further from ever asking anymore, the question as to why?

Promoting up, wasn't your first thought. You were just grateful to be here. But as time went by, and experience showed you promotions are a means to making things better. You did it for yourself and your career, of course.

But your heart was in the right place. You wanted to make things better your Troops, the Department and your community. And, what do ya know? That's exactly what you did. That gold badge on your chest, it wasn't just for show.

From your Academy Class alone, how many of you are left? Do you even know? What are some of the stories of those who may be gone? Where did they go? How far did they roam?

On the backside of time and your career, here you stand. Grateful you're still here. Yet, somber for all the heartache and

loss you've seen and ultimately endured.

From the first time your name was called to the last name sent in for your pension and all you probably still feel pretty young inside. But your eyes tell the story of a life lived that no one could ever hide.

You started out with a "wheel gun" and ended with a semi-auto and a light, of all things, attached to it. Who'd of ever thought?

Truth be told, probably you. Because you never forgot who you were or where you came from. Yet, you always had the knack to keep an eye on the horizon. Learning and yearning to make this place we all call home just a little better than the way you found it.

And that my friend, is the absolute most anyone could've ever asked of you. Resoundingly and without fail, you answered the call. Time and time again, your voice can forevermore be heard echoing through the halls; "Send me and, I will go".

Veteran Owned BATTLE RIFLE COMPANY



Combat Grade Rifles For Law Enforcement



- * Individual sales/
- * Department Sales
- * Repair/ Upgrades
- * 1033 Modifications
- * Gunsmithing



- * Ammunition
- * Optics
- * Electronics
- * Carriers/Plates



17313 El Camino Real
Houston TX 77058
281-777-0316

www.battleriflecompany.com

Veteran Owned BATTLE RIFLE



Combat Grade Rifles For Law Enforcement



- * Individual sales/
- * Department Sales
- * Repair/ Upgrades
- * 1033 Modifications

* Gunsmithing



* Ammunition

* Optics

* Electronics

* Carriers/Plates



17313 El Camino Real
Houston TX 77058
281-777-0316

www.battleriflecompany.com

MICHAEL BARRON, PUBLISHER

my thoughts !!



Continued from Page 6

daily flight operations, maintenance, and administration & budget. Between serving in Air Support in different roles at different times and having had the opportunity to oversee all facets of the operation, I gained a deep respect for all the ingredients needed to provide airborne support for our fellow officers on the ground and the citizens of Houston. One of the main lessons I learned is that the men and women in Air Support truly have "feet" in two distinct worlds: law enforcement and aviation. In my role as lieutenant, it was common for me to do public speaking engagements about Air Support at venues such as at civic clubs, schools, and churches, etc. It was not uncommon to hear the question, "Aren't you glad to be up in a helicopter where it's safe and not on the ground putting up with all the mess that officers on the ground contend with?" I always used a two prong answer to that question: First, I would acknowledge that duty in Air Support was very rewarding and did have some advantages over being on the street. However, I also made sure to say that everyone MUST REMEMBER that no one enters into powered flight without assuming risk! It does not matter if you are in a police helicopter over a bayou at night, or boarding your preferred commercial carrier headed on vacation; there is always risk involved in powered flight. I am sure that Officers Cormier and Knox were well aware of that risk, but they were willing to accept it in order to provide a vital service to their fellow officers and

the citizens of Houston. HPD Air Support has an exemplary safety record, even considering the horrific tragedy of May 2nd. One of the other questions I would hear from the public was, "To what do you owe your safety record?" I always answered that question by saying, "We have good training, good maintenance, and a good God, and in reality, we should thank Him first!"

I fully understand and agree with the decision to suspend Air Support flight operations until the various investigations into what caused the crash can be completed. I hope and pray that the investigations will be expedited because I believe that the best tribute to Officer Knox, and show of support for Officer Cormier, will be for HPD Air Support to return to flight status as soon as it is safe and permissible to do so. My thoughts and prayers will remain with Officer Knox's widow and children, Officer Cormier and his family, all the men and women of Air Support, and the investigators and HPD Command Staff.

Respectfully

John M. King, Lieutenant
(Retired)
Houston Police Department

Michael Barron, Sergeant
(Retired)
Galveston County Sheriff Dept.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Matthew 5:9

MAKE HISTORY WITH YOUR NEXT EVENT

GALVESTON'S MOST UNIQUE WEDDING AND EVENT CENTER

Events @ The Tasting Room - Galveston Island's newest event venue! Formerly the Falstaff Brewery, 3316 Church St. has been lovingly restored and is complete with two romantic and tranquil dining halls, indoor and outdoor bars, breathtaking roof top patio, spacious conference room, and a beautiful and serene private bridal suite.

15%
Off Bookings
for
First Responders

Events @
THE TASTING ROOM

3316 Church Street, Galveston, TX 77550
(409) 763-6805

info@thetastingroomevents.com
www.thetastingroomevents.com

- 82" Smart TV
- Bridal Room
- Floor to ceiling glass ballroom
- Rooftop patio with 360° view
- Beautifully restored terrazzo flooring



- Professionally Appointed Decor
- Commercial Kitchen
- Valet Parking
- Turn-key event planning available
- Site tours are welcomed





NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

Hero Down: San Marcos Police Officer Justin Putnam Murdered In Ambush Attack

San Marcos Police Officer Justin Putnam was murdered in the line of duty on Saturday night.

San Marcos, TX – San Marcos Police Department (SMPD) Officer Justin Putnam was murdered in the line of duty as he was responding to a report of a domestic disturbance on Saturday night.

Officers were responding to a 911 call regarding a man who had allegedly hit his wife and was threatening other family members, WITI reported.

San Marcos Police Chief Bob Klett said that the gunman, 46-year-old Alfredo Perez Delacruz, opened fire on the officers with a rifle as they arrived at the Twin Lakes Villas Apartments at approximately 6 p.m., KEYE reported.

“As they entered, he ambushed them,” Chief Klett said as he held back tears during a press conference on Sunday. “He was prepared, ready for them to come in and started shoot-

ing immediately, and there was nothing they could do to escape the gunfire.”

SMPD Officer Franco Stewart and Officer Justin Mueller were also wounded during the vicious attack, KEYE reported.

They were rushed to Ascension Seton Hays in Kyle, where they

self, according to the chief.

None of the gunman’s family members were injured during the incident, WITI reported.

Officer Putnam, 31, died of his wounds at the scene, KXAN reported.

“We lost a fine young man, a faithful officer and friend last night,”

Chief Klett said in a press release. “He understood what it took to police a wonderfully diverse community like San Marcos.”

Officer

Putnam served the SMPD for over five years, KEYE reported.

“I never imagined this could happen. He was so strong,” his sister, Kelsea, told the news outlet.

Officer Putnam, the son of an Austin firefighter, was planning to marry his fiancé in November, KXAN reported.

“Words can never adequately express our profound sorrow for Officer Putnam’s family and loved ones. To say he will be missed is an understatement,”

both underwent surgery, the SMPD said in a Facebook update on Saturday night.

Officer Mueller and Officer Stewart are now stable, but remain in critical condition, KEYE reported.

“The officers had their body armor that they normally wear,” Chief Klett said. “I’d like to mention that part of his preparation for the officers coming in, the suspect did as well.”

After shooting the three officers, Delacruz fatally shot him-



the SMPD said in a Facebook post on Sunday.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott said that Officer Putnam’s murder serves as a “sobering reminder of the service and sacrifice our brave men and women

in law enforcement make every day to keep us safe,” ABC News reported.

“I am grateful for the swift action of the San Marcos Police Department in containing the threat and minimizing the loss of life,”

Abbott said. “I ask all Texans to join Cecilia and me in praying for the officer killed and for those injured, and for the continued safety of all law enforcement officers who protect our communities.”




TBL
Real Estate Inspection Services

20% GY6 Discount for First Responders/Military/Texas Educators

Buyers Inspection / Sellers Inspection / IR Inspection / Complete Pool&Spa Inspection / Phased Inspections (New Construction)

Call today for complete explanation of our services

Bryan Rice TRECH#23667 281-845-3878 www.tblinspectionsservices.com bryan@tblinspectionsservices.com



NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

HPD FOX Helicopter Crashes into Apartment Complex near Greens Bayou in North Houston

HPD Tactical Officer Jason Knox is Killed, HPD Pilot Chase Cormier is critically injured

HOUSTON — A Houston police helicopter crashed early in the morning of Saturday May 2, killing one of the two officers on board and critically injuring the other, while assisting a call to search for bodies in a nearby Greens bayou.

A pilot and tactical flight officer were aboard a police helicopter when it crashed at an apartment complex around 2 a.m. They were both flown to Hermann Hospital on Life Flight where the tactical flight officer died, police Chief Art Acevedo said hours after the crash during a news conference where he was joined by the city's mayor, Sylvester Turner.

The department identified the officer who died as Tactical Flight Officer Jason Knox. He is survived by a wife and two young children, who were at the hospital along with his parents and in-laws, Acevedo said.

"We're going to miss him," Acevedo said. "He had a heart of gold, integrity second to none."

No cause for the crash was given and Acevedo said the National Transportation Board and the Federal Aviation Administration would investigate while Houston police conduct a separate homicide investigation. Eyewitnesses posted a video on social media, that shows the helicopter suddenly enter a spin and

continued to spin until it struck a building inside the apartment complex.

Acevedo noted that shots rang out across the street from the scene at around 3 a.m. and six people were taken

into custody. Investigators are looking into whether gunfire had any part in the crash of the MD Helicopter.

The pilot, Senior Police Officer Chase Cormier, was in critical condition upon arrival at Memorial Herman and underwent surgery. On Sunday, Cormier told fellow officers that he had broken his back in several places and had broken ribs and other injuries. "The good news is he is alert and talking but obviously in a lot of pain" said one of the Doctors treating the officer.

Acevedo told reporters, there



were no injuries to anyone on the ground at the apartment complex. Cormier did an extraordinary job of keeping the helicopter away from nearby apartments, although it did clip the Biscayne at Cityview apartment complex's clubhouse.

The officers were trapped in the "mangled" wreckage and it took firefighters about an hour to cut them out, Acevedo said. The helicopter did not catch fire and HFD did an amazing job of extricating the officers even though they were surrounded by flammable Jet fuel.



The helicopter had been dispatched to the area to assist with a search for bodies in a nearby Greens bayou, said the police chief. "But no evidence to date of any bodies has been found in the bayou," Acevedo said.

HPD has grounded its fleet of MD 500E helicopters until it can determine the possible cause of the crash and ensure that no problems exist with its helicopters. The department will be relying on the Texas Department of Public Safety and Harris County Sheriff's Office for flight support in the interim.

Acevedo identified the helicopter as "75 Fox."

"It's pretty ironic that yesterday we graduated a class and we had Fox fly out because we had COVID, so we couldn't do your traditional graduation, so we wanted to do something special," Acevedo said. "And if somebody had told me that a few hours later that we had an



aircraft down and we'd lose a really good man, I would have said 'No way.'"

Jason Knox was 35, married and had two young children. Many car enthusiasts around Houston knew Jason from his passion of rebuilding old police

cars. He would buy salvage cars and completely rebuild them including the original Oilers blue paint scheme from the 1980s and 90s. Jason is also the son of former HPD Officer Mike Knox, who is a current Houston City Councilman.

AFTERMATH

WORDS BY AN ANONYMOUS AUTHOR

Some days you just never forget

They say there are days in your life you never forget. The day you graduate High School and College. The day you get married and the day your first born arrives in this world. For me, while I remember all of those days, the day I recall with the upmost clarity is the day I got shot. Now that day is forever etched in my memory, and I have a long ass scare on the inside of my thigh to prove it.

My shift started like any other. Boring roll call. Write more tickets. Make more stops. Make more felony arrests. Here are today's BOLOS. Yada. Yada. And while I occasionally looked over BOLO print outs (yes, they actually printed them on paper back in the day) for some odd reason, I choose this day to read ALL of them. Seems someone was hitting all the construction sites stealing dozers and the like, loading them onto 18-wheelers, and just acting like they were transferring equipment on any other day. It wasn't unusual to see equipment being delivered

to job sites in the middle of the night, so it was the perfect crime.

No sooner than I hit the streets, dispatch started dropping all the calls the evening shift either didn't get to, or just didn't feel like taking. Nevertheless, the first four hours of the night were nothing but report after report after report. Around 3am it started to slow down, and I realized I hadn't eaten since noon the day before. I was starving. I called my buddy that worked the district next to mine, and we picked a nearby Whataburger to meet up. Since it was just up the highway, I jumped on the next entrance and headed north. The minute I entered the freeway, I immediately noticed a large tractor trailer to my left. As he slowly passed me, low and behold there was a CAT bulldozer sitting all pretty on that trailer.

Now when you're hungry sometimes you just overlook the obvious because you know full well that if you don't eat when it's slow or when there is

an opportunity, you most likely won't. But shit, for whatever reason I choose to read those damn BOLOS it seemed only natural to at least stop and talk to this guy and run the VIN. So, I dropped in behind him and lit him up. I went out on traffic, and he immediately pulled over. Hmmm. Well if it's stolen, surely he'd run. Right? Easy peasy. I'll be at Whataburger eating a Breakfast on a Bun before you know it.

Now I was like the state troopers. I always approached large trucks on the passenger side. As I walked past the trailer the dozer looked brand spanking new, and I thought well this isn't coming from a construction site. This most likely is just an overnight delivery. Never assume anything they say, teach you to never let down your guard. Uh Huh. If I wasn't so damn hungry, I'm sure I would have paid more attention. But I didn't. Did I mention I was hungry?

As I approached the

truck, I had my pistol in one hand and a flashlight in the other. I tapped on the door of the truck and stepped back so the driver could see and hopefully hear me. I noticed that his window was already down, and he motioned that he understood and had his hands in the air. I opened the door and stood on the top step so I could see inside and better communicate with the him. Now in hindsight I would probably never do that again, but I had stopped dozens of 18-wheelers in the past and never had a problem controlling the driver or a passenger for that matter.

I asked the driver for his paperwork, the manifest, his license and insurance. I also ordered him to exit the truck on the passenger side and step down to ground. I watched his hands as he slid over to the passenger seat while he reached for a clipboard that was sitting in a section of the dash. I assume the guy was left handed because for a brief second his left hand dropped down beside the passenger seat. It was at that moment I dropped my flashlight from my left hand, pointed my gun towards him, and yelled let me see your hand. A split second later, I saw

outside the passenger side of the truck when his round hit the lower side of my vest, struck my duty belt buckle, and then traveled down the inside of my thigh, striking the bottom step of the truck. I immediately fell backwards and landed on the edge of the concrete. I don't know if it was adrenaline or just instinct, but I managed to pick myself up and run towards the back of the trailer. I had no idea if I had hit the guy or even where he was, but I knew I had to get to cover and get help. I'm pretty sure I screamed in the radio, "shots fired, shots fired, I've been hit." I remember the dispatcher saying officer down, assist the officer. Then she asked for my location to confirm where I was.

It seemed like an hour went by before the first unit arrived. I could hear sirens coming from all over as a state trooper ran over to me. By this time, I was behind my patrol car sitting in a large pool of blood. But the first thing I said was "go find that motherfucker and make sure I hit him."

Within

seconds there were cops everywhere. I remember someone putting a tourniquet on my leg and asking where the hell the ambulance was. Whatever the response was, this big ass Trooper bent over me and looked me straight in the face and said, "fuck this brother you're coming with me." He

picked me up and loaded me in the back of his car and drove me to the hospital which was only 3 miles away. I barely remember the ride, but I do remember being in the ER and all the ER docs calling for blood. I had lost so much blood that was I was fading in and out. The good news was the bullet had just grazed an artery in my leg and took all the flesh along with it. Had it been a fraction of an inch I would have bled out right there on the highway.

While they were working on me, I looked over to see what all the yelling was in the bay over from me, and it was the truck driver. My rounds had struck him in the hand and the shoulder, and they were wheeling him off to surgery. Afterwards, I remember someone telling me had I not shot his hand, he could have just as well fired another round and hit me

square in the face. Either way God was surely looking out for me that night, because for all practical purposes I really shouldn't be alive today. And if it wasn't for those troopers who loaded me in their nasty ass back seat and drove me three miles to the hospital I wouldn't be.

The asshole truck driver got 45 years for attempted capital murder of a police officer, and the CAT bulldozer wasn't stolen after all. It seems this asshole

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

AFTERMATH

Continued from Previous Page

had an open warrant for burglary and just didn't want to go back to jail. So instead of a couple of years he got 45. What a dumbass. And by the way, I got a Whataburger Breakfast on a Bun several times before I was discharged. The Whataburger was just across the street.

Now normally that would be the end of my story, but less than a year after my shooting another deputy stopped an 18-wheel-

er. While he was climbing up the steps the driver shot him in almost the exact same spot as me...inside his upper thigh, but he wasn't as lucky as I was. The bullet severed an artery, and he bled out before the ambulance could arrive. I ran up to the scene as soon as I heard he'd been shot. I wasn't going to wait for some damn ambulance. I was going to save his life just like they saved mine and drive him to the hospital, but I was too late. He died right

there on the highway less than a mile from where I had been shot. I couldn't believe it. I was literally just seconds too late. Why didn't these officers apply a tourniquet? Why hadn't they just loaded him in a car and drove him to the hospital? Why? I couldn't believe one of my best friends was laying there dead. I dropped to my knees and cried right there in front of all those cops. Why was I spared and yet he died? Why? I ask myself that at least once a day. Why indeed?

WORLD GYM
TEXAS CITY

FIRST RESPONDERS ONLY PAY \$34.99 MO

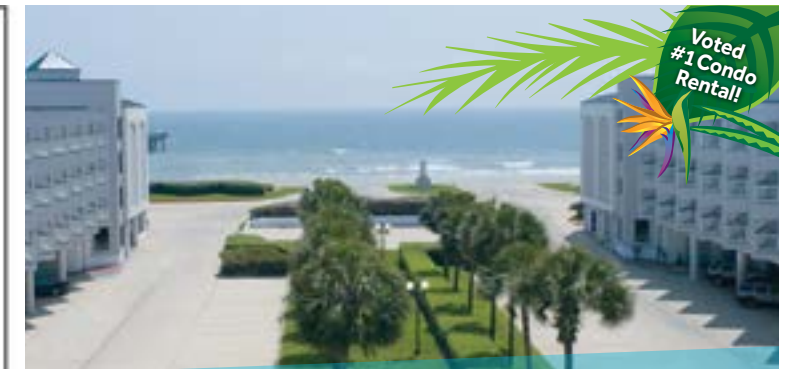
10000 EMMETT F. LOWRY EXPRESSWAY • FM1765 & I-45
WORLDGYM.COM/TEXAS-CITY • 409.986.9675

Re-Opening in Late May



Alan Helfman

Proud Supporter of THE BLUES for 35 years
Helfman's River Oaks Chrysler
Jeep • Dodge • Ford • Chrysler • Fiat



Voted #1 Condo Rental!

Thank You Texas First Responders and Law Enforcement

Be the Hero of Your Family's Vacation!

- Mention The Blues for 10% off Daily Rates Sunday – Friday through 2020
- All suites with full kitchen amenities
- Fun Packages With Popular Attractions
- Private Gulf View Balconies
- Two Sparkling Pools (one seasonally heated)
- Centrally Located to Restaurants & Attractions
- On the Beachfront Across from Popular Babe's Beach
- Friendliest Staff on the Island
- Bar-B-que Park
- Maid Service and 24 hour Front Desk
- Courtyard Meeting Facilities Perfect for Business and Church Retreats and Family Reunions

Book Direct with our Onsite Galveston Team for Best Rates and Packages
CASADELMARTX.COM
409-572-0371

CASA del MAR
BEACHFRONT SUITES

TOP BRASS
Military & Tactical

BOOTS * BAGS * APPAREL
KNIVES * GEAR * OPTICS

3 Texas locations to serve you

Houston: 2500 North Freeway, Houston, TX 77009, 713-695-9517
Stafford: 11941 Southwest Freeway, Stafford, TX 77477, 281-879-8824
San Antonio: 11500 I-10 West, San Antonio, TX 78230, 210-641-2521

SAFARILAND, PROPPER, BLACKHAWK!, STREAMLIGHT, SUREFIRE, MERRELL, BENCHLIFE, CAMELBAK, BIANCHI, GERBER, BATES, VORTEX, MAGPUL, Reebok, High Speed Gear, OAKLEY, 5.11, ASP, CONDOR, UNDER ARMOUR, MECHANIX WEAR, GATORZ, QALO, BROG LUNAR

TOPBRASSMILITARY.COM



So, turning the pages back a few chapters, I was once a much younger cop. I worked nights, weekends, and holidays. Mostly because I loved what I was doing. I loved the area I worked and the majority of the people I worked with. They were all damn good cops. I never felt like I was alone. I knew if I needed them, they'd be there.

Many a call on nights led to some difficult struggles and times. Murders, fatal DWI's, drugs, prostitution, burglars, car chases, foot chases and the list goes on and on.

There were times we had to be hard. Some folks at three in the morning on the streets of Cloverleaf and Channelview are not so easily inclined to "listen to reason," shall we say. More than several times "stop" and "don't move" turned into a fight for your life. Literally.

I never gave much thought to when I had to be hard on someone back then. I always figured, "Hey, they put themselves in that position. I just resolved the problem for them!" Whether by hands, asp baton, taser, flashlight, radio, butt of a shotgun

even, we met force with force because we had to, to survive.

As time progressed, in a way I guess, so did I. I mean, life and work just became more centered on the good people who needed help. The victims of all those predators I had been fighting took a front row seat right in front of my heart, and they seemingly thawed it out. Over the last ten years or so, I have begun to realize just how cold the streets really had made me.

This isn't so much about my shootings, wild car chases, and such. It's not so much a "War Story" about some specific call or scene. It is, however, a "War Story" of sorts about the "War" I had to ultimately come face to face with within myself, and I like to think I have finally started to win.

We all come to terms with the things we have to do. Especially when it's dealing with what we are called upon to face. To deal with a drunk who just killed an entire family, and while you're trying to complete a FST he just stands there laughing. Or, maybe, it was some fatal child abuse case, and you track down the

person responsible for all those burns, cuts and bruises, only to hear them say, while looking you in the eye, "F**k that kid! I couldn't take it crying anymore!" (The disassociation many had in these cases was unbelievable)

Could be, you were chasing a felon and it all got really bad, real fast. You pulled your gun, and fired before you even knew you had cleared your holster. The end result was the truth revealed. You got to go home. They did not.

I transitioned over to School Oriented Law Enforcement back in 2012. It was a bit of a culture shock to me, at first. Dealing with kids, parents, teachers, school administrators was well, challenging. You see, out on the streets, there's always an immediate solution. "You can go to jail or you can go home". Well, something like that, and in School Oriented Law Enforcement, the goal was to help as many as possible and not have to resort to jail.

As the years passed, I was fortunate enough...no, scratch that. I was blessed enough to meet classrooms full of Life

Skills Students. I would make it a point to stop into such rooms and kneel, sit, stand or whatever way the student(s) were comfortable and just visit. To look into their eyes, it was like a light I had never seen before. It was as if I never saw that kind of light because I was always fighting in the midst of darkness.

In my "War," I had become so engulfed in the fighting, I had lost sight of just how innocent, beautiful, and brilliant of a light those whom I was fighting for really were. I mean, sure I was a worker, a fighter, and an overall "shit magnet". That was my job, after all. It was my calling. Hell, I can't even remember all the arrests and cases anymore. There were thousands, truth be told.

This "War Story" though about my own war, isn't me wanting to talk or tell so much about me. It is rather a humble, sincere, and very heart felt acknowledgement to those beautiful kids, who far too often, this world simply ignores or forgets about. And yet, I would respectfully submit, if we aren't fighting for the good people like them, who in the hell are we fighting for then?

Stay safe, my friends.



Roadway Lube Plus, LLC

OIL CHANGE

STATE INSPECTION

OFFICIAL VEHICLE INSPECTION STATION

U-HAUL AUTHORIZED DEALER

A O C A AUTOMOTIVE OIL CHANGE ASSOCIATION MEMBER

SERVICE PRO

14677 Fm 1485
Conroe, TX 77306
281 / 689 - 5355

**JESUS SAID “I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.
ANYONE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL LIVE, EVEN IF HE DIES.
AND THOSE WHO LIVE AND BELIEVE IN ME WILL NEVER DIE”
JOHN 11:25-26**



ON SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020 WE LOST A BROTHER IN BLUE, HPD OFFICER JASON KNOX. HERE ARE JUST SOME OF THE MEMORIES YOUR BLUE FAMILY HAS SHARED.



My wife, Helen, and I and Jason's wife, Keira, are deeply grateful for the outpouring of love and support from our Houston community. We celebrate all Jason embodied as a committed HPD officer and pilot who fully embraced his job and we celebrate Jason as he was outside of his work - a devoted husband, a loving father and our only son whom we cherished every day. Where there is great love, there is great loss. We love Jason with all of our hearts, as we always have, and we will keep all that he is alive for his children. As believers, we know Jason is in the loving arms of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. We appreciate the privacy you have given us and continue to provide as we walk this road we would never wish for anyone, but that we now accept as ours.

JASON'S DAD MIKE KNOX



If you ever saw Jason driving around in one of his restored Houston PD cruisers, you could see his pride in being an HPD officer. Officer Jason Knox is the best of who we are and we will miss him dearly. As a Tactical Flight Officer, Jason watched over us from above. We have comfort in knowing that he will continue to do so. Rest In Peace brother. We love you.

HPOU



When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near; still loved and still missed. There's no other love like the love for a brother. Friendship isn't about who you've known the longest, it's about who walked in to your life, said "I'm here for you." True friendship is when two friends can walk in opposite directions, yet remain side by side. Rest well Jason.

Get well soon Chase.

BK KLEV

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HPD BROTHER CHASE CORMIER & HIS WIFE BROOKE.



Please continue to keep Officer Chase Cormier and his family in your thoughts and prayers. He is out of surgery but still has a long road ahead. Chase is a combat veteran and is as tough as they come, but he needs your support now more than ever. Joe Gamaldi, HPOU



CORONAVIRUS / COVID 19

Protect Yourself by Documenting COVID Exposures

BY Jon Adler

Does anyone know what the long-term impact on your health will be if you're exposed to someone manifesting the coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms? On behalf of 9/11 First Responders who were exposed to lethal toxins, I can tell you the resounding answer is no. While the experts are preaching about the need to use soap and water, gloves, hand sanitizers, and social distancing to protect yourself, it is equally important for you to document your exposure to this potentially fatal virus.

I understand that documenting is as inspiring as moving a kidney stone, but all active law enforcement must record their exposure and save copies of their reports.

My concern lies in how officers who are symptomatic of the coronavirus now will be able to substantiate its impact on their health in the future. Current data indicates that a low percentage of those who get COVID-19 will die. However, as a 9/11 First Responder, I learned the hard way how important it is for a law enforcement officer to document their exposure to something that could impact their health later. To validate this concern, please

consider a recent statement made by renowned forensic pathologist Dr. Michael Baden regarding those who may get the coronavirus: "We don't know how many people will have scarring in the lungs that will be present five, 10, 15 years from now and cause shortness of breath and illness then" (Fox News 3/22/20). Please heed this caution: document your exposure now so you will have proof later if needed.

This recommendation has been reinforced strongly by Ed Mullins who is the NYPD Sergeants Benevolent Association president. Ed has done a great job disseminating officer safety information to his members at the onset of this pandemic. In a March 22, 2020 membership email, Ed reinforced the need to document virus exposure by stating, "As we have learned from our experience during 9/11, department records may become difficult to locate. You should not rely on the Department to maintain your reports." As a fellow 9/11 First Responder, Ed understands that officers need more than soap and gloves to protect their future health.

How else can documentation

come into play in an officer's future? As the former director of the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), I oversaw the Public Safety Officer Benefits (PSOB) program. This federal program administers one-time payments to the survivors of a fallen public safety officer killed in the line of duty, and to an officer who is permanently and totally disabled as the result of a catastrophic injury (www.psob.gov). As of October 1, 2019, that amount is \$365,670. The Public Safety Officers Benefits Act of 1976, along with its subsequent amendments, states that the cause of death or disability must be "the direct and proximate result of an injury sustained in the line of duty." In my former position, I agonized over reviewing director appeals where there was no documentation to support the assertion that the death or disability was caused by an undocumented past incident or sequence of prior toxin exposure. I pray none of you suffer in the future from your coronavirus exposure today, but I urge you to be prepared by preserving documentation that substantiates this.

In addition to serving as the

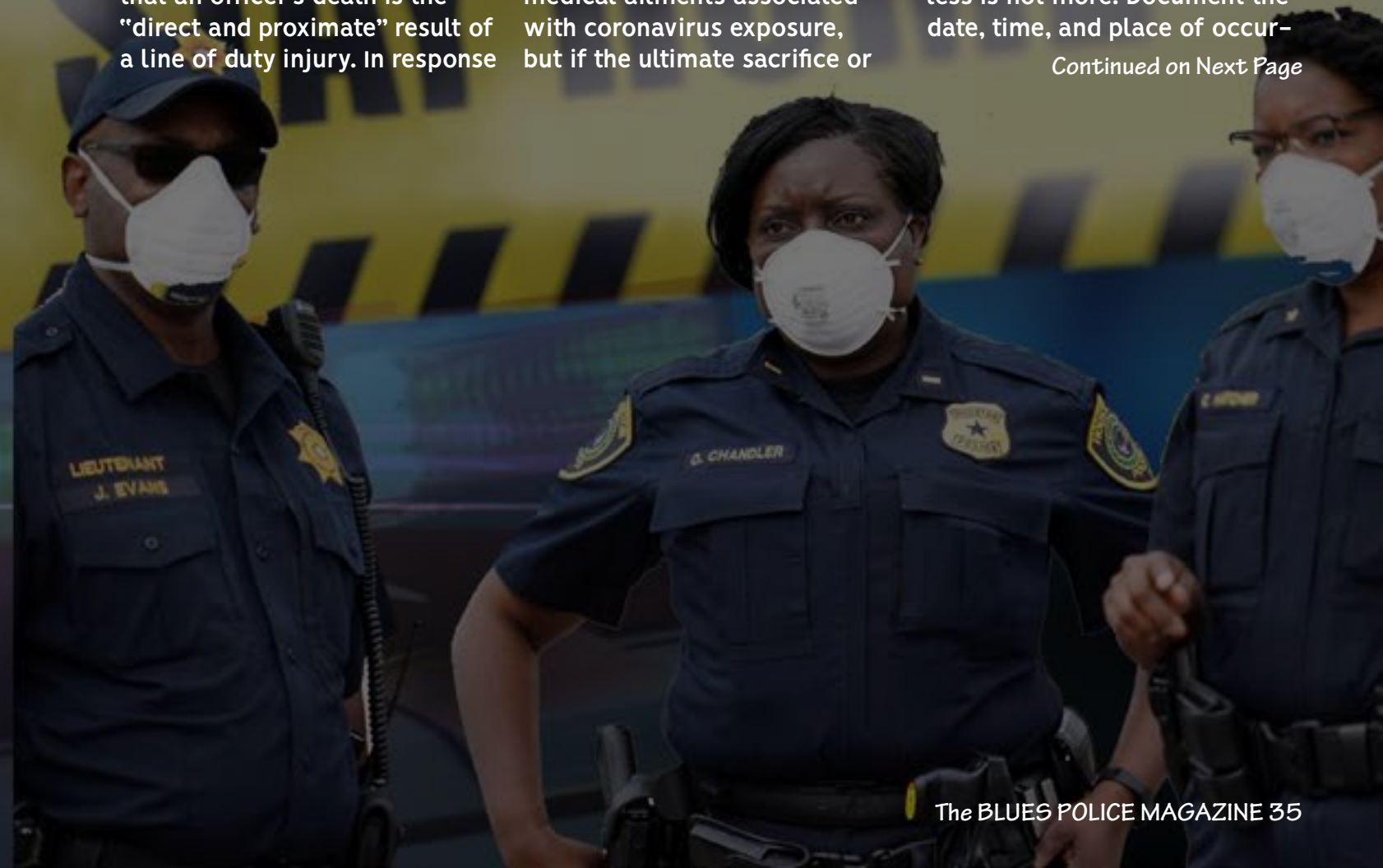
BJA Director, I also served on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) Names Committee. This is the group that reviews and determines requests to have a fallen officer's name engraved on the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. Similar in substance to the PSOB criteria, the NLEOMF requires that an officer's death is the "direct and proximate" result of a line of duty injury. In response

to the growing number of 9/11 death claims, the NLEOMF has honored over 100 first responders by engraving their names on the sacred wall. Unfortunately, for cases where there is no documentation to substantiate an officer's exposure to 9/11 toxins, those officer's names remain under review. I don't want any law enforcement officer to die or become disabled from medical ailments associated with coronavirus exposure, but if the ultimate sacrifice or

disability were to occur in the future, I want to ensure those officers receive the honors they deserve.

Whether you are on patrol, working in a correctional facility or functioning in an investigative capacity, you need to document your exposure to anyone who is symptomatic of COVID-19. When it comes to documenting your exposure, less is not more. Document the date, time, and place of occur-

Continued on Next Page



rence, as well as your proximity to the alleged contaminated subject, what you observed in terms of their symptoms, and any witnesses. Sadly, this is going to be a daily occurrence for many officers. If you document this in your memo books, preserve them or make copies. If you complete a daily action report, save a copy for your personal file. This should include the signature of your supervisor. For those of you, like me who are not super tech savvy, get a large folder and label it COVID-19 Exposure. The goal is to keep copies of your documentation in one place. Truthfully, this folder may wind up in your storage, but it will be easy to retrieve in the event you or your family needs it.

As a result of the increasing number of state shelter-in-place orders, civilian tensions will likely escalate. This will increase the chances of your possibly intervening in a matter while off-duty. While functioning in your off-duty capacity, you will likely not be carrying a memo book or interview notebook. Please use whatever means you have to document your exposure to anyone demonstrating symptoms associated with the coronavirus. For the purposes of documentation, please treat it the same as an on-duty incident. Make sure you share your documentation with your department or agency so that it is official. Documentation is the best insurance policy you and your family can have to ensure you are protected in the

future.

Irrespective of how much longer the coronavirus lasts, its wrath will be felt for years to come. Please keep a loaded pen and charged phone in reach so you can document your exposure timely and thoroughly. As you continue to keep the citizenry safe, I will pray for your safety and your wellness. Every

government's primary responsibility is to keep its citizen's safe, and this is accomplished only through the risks you take and your sacrifice. Please protect your future and document your exposure today.

Jon Adler is the president of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association Foundation.

WHY YOU SHOULD WEAR FACEMASKS

LET ME TRY AND MAKE IT SIMPLE FOR YOU...

THE URINE TEST



IF WE ALL RUN AROUND NAKED AND SOMEONE PEEES ON YOU, YOU GET WET RIGHT AWAY



IF YOU ARE WEARING PANTS, SOME PEE WILL GET THROUGH - BUT NOT AS MUCH, SO YOU ARE BETTER PROTECTED



IF THE GUY WHO PEEES ALSO IS WEARING PANTS, THE PEE STAYS WITH HIM AND YOU DO NOT GET WET.

What Law Enforcement Personnel need to know about Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) from the CDC

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The outbreak first started in China, but cases have been identified in a growing number of other areas, including the United States.

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness.

- Data suggests that symptoms may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Symptoms can include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, and shortness of breath.
- The virus causing COVID-19 is called SARS-CoV-2. It is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person via respiratory droplets among close contacts. Respiratory droplets are produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes and can land in the mouths or noses, or possibly be inhaled into the lungs, of people who are nearby.
 - Close contact increases your risk for COVID-19, including:
 - Being within approximately 6 feet of an individual with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time.
 - Having direct contact with body fluids (such as blood, phlegm, and respiratory droplets) from an individual with COVID-19.

To protect yourself from exposure

- **If possible, maintain a distance of at least 6 feet.**
- **Practice proper hand hygiene.** Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available and illicit drugs are NOT suspected to be present, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
- Have a trained Emergency Medical Service/Emergency Medical Technician (EMS/EMT) assess and transport anyone you think might have COVID-19 to a healthcare facility.
- Ensure only trained personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) have contact with individuals who have or may have COVID-19.
- Learn your employer's plan for exposure control and participate in all-hands training on the use of PPE for respiratory protection, if available.

Recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Law enforcement who must make contact with individuals confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should follow CDC's Interim Guidance for EMS. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-for-ems.html>.

Different styles of PPE may be necessary to perform operational duties. These alternative styles (i.e., coveralls) must provide protection that is at least as great as that provided by the minimum amount of PPE recommended.

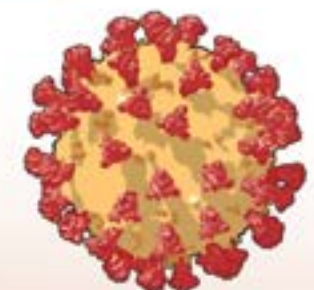
The minimum PPE recommended is:

- A single pair of disposable examination gloves,
 - Disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls*,
 - Any NIOSH-approved particulate respirator (i.e., N-95 or higher-level respirator); facemasks are an acceptable alternative until the supply chain is restored, and
 - Eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face).
- *If unable to wear a disposable gown or coveralls because it limits access to duty belt and gear, ensure duty belt and gear are disinfected after contact with individual.

If close contact occurred during apprehension

- Clean and disinfect duty belt and gear prior to reuse using a household cleaning spray or wipe, according to the product label.
- Follow standard operating procedures for the containment and disposal of used PPE.
- Follow standard operating procedures for containing and laundering clothes. Avoid shaking the clothes.

For law enforcement personnel performing daily routine activities, the immediate health risk is considered low. Law enforcement leadership and personnel should follow CDC's Interim General Business Guidance. Search "Interim Guidance for Businesses" on www.cdc.gov.



cdc.gov/COVID-19



Coronavirus: Something Wicked This Way Comes

By Dave Smith

The witch in Hamlet wasn't talking about a virus when she warned, "Something wicked this way comes," but these words were what came to mind when I heard about the growing coronavirus epidemic emerging from the Far East. Disease has always followed mankind and often affected history, though it is nearly unmentioned in our history books.

From approximately 1349 to 1354 around half of everyone on Earth died from the black plague and that, no doubt, had remarkable sociological ramifications for everything from child rearing to religion. One art historian remarked that for the next 200 years, infants were never painted in their mother's arms; even religious paintings showed the baby Jesus held at arm's length, if held at all, by Mary. In fact, until five, a child wasn't expected to live, which tells us a lot about the trauma humanity suffered, and the emotional impact the plague created for the next couple centuries.

Traditionally, smallpox and other microbial horrors have spared no group or nation, and it has always fascinated me how little modern man thinks or even knows about the suffering of generations prior to our modern times. I guess this is because medicine has exterminated or mitigated so much of the suffering in our immediate life spaces,

even while malaria alone still kills around 3,000 children every day, or about 1 million a year according to UNICEF. The fact that this happens mostly on the continent of Africa, and nowhere near the United States, allows us to literally ignore this horrible mosquito carried plague. However, the arrival of West Nile virus in the U.S. made us all eager to see that insect killing spraying vehicle driving through our neighborhoods.

Bloodborne viruses like HIV/AIDS and hepatitis make any human fluid presence a real matter of concern. Sports, sex, accidents, biological waste, emergency rooms, and even physical confrontations become possible transmission points, and early on first responders, medical personnel, and hemophiliacs were infected before the true nature of the virus was understood.

Horrors like Ebola and other hemorrhagic fevers are the stuff of nightmares and are often featured in apocalyptic movies like "Outbreak" (1995), which showed the military getting ready to nuke a town suffering from a horrible disease. Not just movies but a plethora of scary novels began to proliferate, and if you think the horror genre of viruses had diminished, I challenge you to just look at all of the recent zombie productions and remember the real villain here...Mr. Virus!

The media itself only seems to aggravate all these problems, and when politicians jump on the bandwagon things get weird. It seems the public loses perspective and an odd type of panic ensues, loosely based on whatever the threat is. Costco is suddenly seeing people buy out all the toilet paper and bottled water, which makes you wonder just what happens if you catch this or that virus. It would seem buying Kleenex might make more sense than toilet paper but, then, who am I to judge a good panic?

I grew up knowing that my great grandfather Ulrich brought his family from Germany to Louisiana only to die almost immediately from Yellow Fever, yet my grandmother told the story as part of the family's struggle to escape a rigid class society and find freedom in the United States. Sad, successful, heroic, long-suffering, and joyful, he sacrificed his own life to ultimately bring his family to a society that he knew carried no class distinctions, but one which contained a plethora of new diseases they would face.

I guess that is the point I'm trying to make. We live in a world where we decide what risks we are willing to take, and we must compensate for those risks; just like body armor hardens us against armed assailants, our "universal precautions"



developed after the rise of the HIV threat should still be a basic part of our inventory. First responders are selfless warriors precisely because, regardless of the threat, viral or mechanical, we don't "self-quarantine" to protect ourselves. We still rush to help where we are called. Blood, fluids, breath, and physical contact are part of the life of the law enforcement officer, a life that we proudly understand and embrace. And that is part of what makes us the spiritual comrades of firefighters, paramedics, nurses, doctors, and all who face risks to help others. Sadly, even as new viruses arise, the old ones never completely go

away; so refreshing your knowledge of the various steps you need to take to protect yourself AND your family is critical.

While the public merely needs to wash their hands regularly, you may need to change your duty boots before going home or disinfect not only your vehicle but your cuffs, your clothing, and anything else that may be contaminated. Wear your gloves, practice using your CPR mask, and if you don't have one, get one and learn how to use it. One of my friends gave CPR to a suicide years and years ago only to discover the fellow killed himself because he was in the final stages of a fatal virus. Six months of

testing and terror followed for this hero, and his suffering is a powerful lesson to protect yourself. Just so you know, it turned out he was OK. But you don't want to go through what he did, so take every precaution that you can as you take risks to protect and serve.

Finally, I celebrate all you first responders for your courageous service and beg you to do your best to stay safe and healthy.

Dave Smith is an internationally recognized law enforcement trainer and is the creator of "JD Buck Savage." You can follow Buck on Twitter at @thebucksavage.

COVID-19: Are police, correctional officer deaths considered LODDs?

PSOB releases statement underscoring the need to prove on-the-job exposure

On Tuesday, March 31, City of Passaic (New Jersey) Firefighter Israel "Nudge" Tolentino, 33, died of COVID-19 complications.

A firefighter since December 2018, Tolentino was originally hired for the department as a full-time EMT and continued to serve some shifts in that role as well as volunteer for the community emergency response team. Tolentino is survived by his wife, Maria, a daughter, 9, and a son, 7.

There have been several first responder deaths as a result of COVID-19 in the past few weeks, and there will be more.

But are these deaths considered line-of-duty deaths (LODDs)? That's the question that's on everyone's mind these days.

I spoke with National Fallen Firefighter Foundation (NFFF) Executive Director Chief Ron Siarnicki, as the NFFF has been working to ensure we get the facts. The Foundation had a meeting recently with the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) representatives at the Department of Justice and were successful in getting the answers.

The short answer is YES – but you MUST have documentation. A great way to track your exposures is to use the International Public Safety Data Institute's Exposure Tracker app, along

with any and all documentation required by your department, association, or union. Leave no stone unturned related to your needed documentation!

The following is the DOJ PSOB statement on COVID-19 LODDs, (downloadable here): Administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program provides death benefits to the eligible survivors of public safety officers who are fatally injured in the line of duty, disability benefits to public safety officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty, and education benefits to the eligible spouses and children of fallen and catastrophically injured officers. BJA's PSOB Office is honored to review the more than 1,000 claims submitted each year on behalf of America's fallen and injured public safety heroes and their loved ones.

With the recent outbreak of the coronavirus or COVID-19, America's law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders face a new health risk as they continue to selflessly serve their communities.

Under the current PSOB Act and its implementing regulations, conditions caused by infectious diseases, viruses, and bacteria may be found to be an injury

sustained in the line of duty.

To establish eligibility for a public safety officer's death or disability due to COVID-19, the PSOB Act and regulations require that the evidence show that it is more likely than not that the virus resulted from the public safety officer's exposure while performing a line of duty activity or action. While some states have laws that presume a public safety officer's infectious disease resulted from their employment, eliminating the need for evidence of when the transmission of a disease or infection occurred, the PSOB Program has no such presumption. (The PSOB Program does cover certain conditions resulting from September 11 exposure, as coverage is based on the laws and regulations establishing the World Trade Center Health Program and its scientific and medical analysis.)

As the PSOB office receives claims based on COVID-19 exposure, it will work closely with survivors, officers, and agencies to seek evidence of the exposure and causation through all available evidence, including incident reports and related documents.

For questions regarding the PSOB Program or filing a claim, visit PSOB's online portal at www.psob.gov, or email the PSOB Director at hope.d.janke@usdoj.gov.




HELFMAN FAMILY OF DEALERSHIPS





Call
Alan Helfman
Blake Helfman

4807 Kirby Dr • 713-524-3801
RiverOaksChrysler.com

7720 Katy Frwy @ Silber Rd Next to IKEA
713-533-6100 • HelfmanDodge.com





12220 Southwest Frwy
281-240-3673 • HelfmanFord.com
Call Alan Helfman or Blake Helfman
Open Mon - Sat






7720 Katy Frwy Next to IKEA
Helfmanimports.com
713-533-6100




Sugar Land
11819 Southwest Frwy 281-530-3673
Helfmanmaseratiofsugarland.com
Open Mon - Sat

PROUD SUPPORTER OF TEXAS LAW ENFORCEMENT

light bulb award

Two County Commissioners One Gets an A+, The Other One F-

I said from the very start of COVID 19 that some of the orders issued by Harris County Judge Hidalgo were unconstitutional. Government hardly has the right to order private businesses to close their doors. I suppose by declaring a disaster, the local governments feel they can issue executive orders and the public has to obey them or else.

But just because you have the "right" to do something doesn't mean you can trample all over our constitutional rights. That is what sets these two judges apart. Galveston County Mark Henry, from the very outset of this pandemic, proceeded cautiously before issuing any orders that violated the constitutional rights of the citizens in his county. Every decision was vetted with the County Attorney to ensure just that. Henry went a step further by holding numerous zoom meetings with the Mayors and City Managers of EVERY city in Galveston County and left it up to them to create guidelines for business closures and stay at home quarantines.

No orders to wear masks, no directives to the Sheriff to empty the jails, just common-sense solutions to the problem at hand. Mark Henry is also a businessman and realized from day one what a tremendous blow this was going to be business own-
42 The BLUES POLICE MAGAZINE



Galveston County Judge
Mark Henry

ers in the county. He felt their pain and knew first-hand what the outcome was going to be. Mind you, that Galveston County receives NO SALES TAX so businesses being closed didn't really impact the finances of his county. Mark Henry truly cared about the business owners and the thousands of employees and their families that had no idea where the next dollar was coming from.

To be one hundred percent transparent, Mark Henry and I have been friends for over 20 years. He is the sole reason that I got into aviation and became a pilot, but that is not the reason I support him in the way he has



Harris County Judge
Lina Hidalgo

handled COVID-19 and this pandemic. I give him and the Galveston County Commissions an A+ for truly putting the interests of its citizens and businesses of first and foremost. Just an outstanding job.

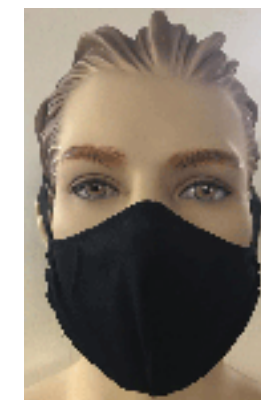
All the while, 45 minutes north, absolute idiots are in charge. When a young Hispanic woman was elected to Harris County Judge in 2018, social media went crazy. Not because she is young, not because she is Hispanic, and certainly not because she is a woman. Rather it was the fact she had ZERO experience to hold such a high-profile position in

Continued on Page 46

C&G has your Personal Protection

Needs Covered

- ★ Flashlights
- ★ Pepper spray
- ★ Ammunition
- ★ Handguns
- ★ Cotton Masks
- ★ Gloves
- ★ Portable disinfectant
- ★ Knives



DALLAS

10345 Brockwood Rd
DALLAS, TX 75238

214.343.3900



C & G
Wholesale

Serving the Public Safety Sector since 1982!

HOUSTON

4930-D Dacoma Rd
HOUSTON, TX 77092

713.681.2120



Cantina Survival Kit

Available Tuesday & Wednesday – all day
 Online Purchase Only – Visit www.RedRiverCantina.com



- ~ Beef & Chicken Fajitas for TWO \$26.95 ~
- + ~ Chile con Queso – reg \$7.25 ~
- + ~ ½ Gallon Margarita Kit – rocks \$20.75 ~

Includes Mexican rice, charro beans, guacamole, pico de gallo, salsa, chips & tortillas.
 NO SUBSTITUTIONS

Only \$54.95
 ~ Online Purchase Only ~
 ~ Curbside Pick-up ~





Chicken Tender Family Pack

- ~ 24 Fresh Fried Chicken Tenders ~
 - ~ 4 Pints of Sides ~
 - ~ Cream Gravy & 6 Yeast Rolls ~
- Feeds 4-6 people

Online Ordering Available!

Redriverbbq.com

Only **\$39.99**



Curbside Pickup

AVAILABLE WITH ONLINE ORDERING





Fallen LEOs, Paying Tribute in the Wake of a Pandemic

I watched with deep sadness as, yet another Texas law enforcement officer died in the line of duty on May 2, 2020 in a helicopter crash. There have been eight law enforcement officers in the state lost in the line of duty to date (www.ODMP.org). This time Houston Police Department's Tactical Flight Officer Jason Knox was killed, and Pilot Chase Cormier was critically injured. I prayed for the heartbroken and then I wondered how the next steps of the grieving process would proceed in a time of continued social distancing, fear, and uncertainty.

The introduction of the coronavirus has literally changed every aspect of our lives and the question remains as to what our new "normal" will become. Scientific experts continue to argue the importance of time and caution against opening the country to regular business practices too soon. Countless Americans are weary and angry. Our officers, already stretched to their limits, must now adjust to an even more unpredictable society. Simply put, our ways of interacting with other human beings has been unquestionably changed along with how we practice rituals we rely on for comfort in times

of loss. It has impacted officer mental health in ways we did not think were possible.

One of the oldest rituals practiced by the law enforcement community is the honoring of a fallen officer through a large-scale and often public service. Perhaps you've witnessed one of these powerful occasions, when an entire city can come to a standstill as a lengthy funeral procession, with full police escort, winds its way to the cemetery. Often such a funeral, especially for a line of duty death, will draw hundreds of uniformed officers from across the country. Their demonstration of honor, unity, and brotherhood is a sight never to be forgotten.

These circumstances are clearly not limited to Texas. Numerous U.S. law enforcement agencies have also experienced the tragic deaths of an officer since the new guidelines and stay at home orders were implemented in early March. When Hot Springs (Arkansas) Police Department lost Officer Brent Scrimshire to gunfire on March 10, 2020 I reached out to ask how they were approaching the planning and implementation of funeral services. I was also concerned about the



DR. TINA JAECKLE

mental health of Officer Scrimshire's family, colleagues, and administration as stress levels were particularly high. Losing a loved one in a sudden and violent way is one of the hardest life events to grieve. Requiring the need to modify the rituals that bring comfort can add insult to injury. Their leaders were met with unprecedented obstacles with settings, social distancing requirements, and difficult decisions to limit who could attend the service for safety purposes. In a time of already crushing grief, officers were hurting and needed the normalness of the rituals and service for closure. It truly was a no-win situation.

Managing the coronavirus protocols has now required creativity by law enforcement leaders to meet the needs of all

Continued on Page 45



HOUSTON POLICE OFFICERS' UNION

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE 110

1600 STATE STREET - HOUSTON, TEXAS 77007 - 832.200.3410



Forty-Five Second Video Does Not Tell the **15 Minute** Story

It has been brought to our attention that there is a short, citizen's video being shared on social media portraying a portion of an officer involved shooting on the northeast side of Houston 2 weeks ago. This call started as a suspicious person with a weapon, who was threatening citizens, and attempting to be hit by passing cars. The short clip that is being circulated does not give the proper context or vantage point, for individuals to make a balanced assessment of our officers' use of force. Very similar to those who are attempting to commit suicide. We are confident the body camera video will show the entire incident and we are asking for it to be released.

The incident portrayed in the short video actually lasted **15 minutes**, and when the body camera footage is released, you will see Mr. Chavez's actions are a clear example of "suicide by cop". Obviously, it is very unfortunate that the individual backed these officers into a corner, but it is clear from the totality of the circumstances that our officers followed their training and gave this individual every opportunity to comply peacefully and safely. During the **15 minutes** the officers were dealing with Mr. Chavez they gave him dozens of verbal commands, they attempted to de-escalate, they retreated away from him to give him space, but he kept coming after them with a piece of sharp rebar, which he had already used to cut himself several times.

When Mr. Chavez closed distance on them they tried using a bean bag shotgun, it had no effect. They tried using a taser, it had no effect. They continually used verbal commands pleading/ordering him to stop, following Houston Police Department training to a "T", to no avail. When Mr. Chavez finally got close enough, despite our officers' best efforts to give him space, he then attempted to stab one of our officers and the officer fired. Even after that initial shooting, the officers continue to keep distance and give verbal commands to Mr. Chavez, but he still refused to comply. None of this is captured on the citizen's video.

Mr. Chavez then throws the piece of rebar at the officers and picks up the wires from a taser on the ground. He begins pulling the wires toward him, along with the taser itself. The officers continue to give verbal commands for him to stop, following their training, but he refuses. Mr. Chavez then picks the taser up and points it at our officer. At that point the shooting takes place and that is what you see on the circulated video. It is clear when looking at the totality of the circumstances of the entire **15 minute** interaction that these officers showed tremendous restraint. They followed the law, they followed their training, and did exactly what is expected of them as Houston Police Officers. Sadly, it was clear that Mr. Chavez's goal that night was for our officers to shoot him. They did everything they could to try to avoid that, but ultimately Mr. Chavez's determination to back them into a corner and threaten them with serious bodily injury/death (twice) forced them to take necessary action. His mother would later report he was having emotional issues following his release from prison.

I want to remind every member of our community that none of our officers ever want to be involved in a shooting and particularly a "suicide by cop". Their actions that night were in response to Mr. Chavez and his unwillingness to comply with any of their lawful commands. As this investigation plays out, it will be clear that our officers not only acted lawfully, but acted within department policy, and did exactly as their training dictates. Again, in the spirit of transparency, and to keep any false narratives from developing, we ask the Houston Police Department to release the video in its entirety.

Joe Gamaldi

HPOU FOP Lodge 110 President

Continued from Page 38

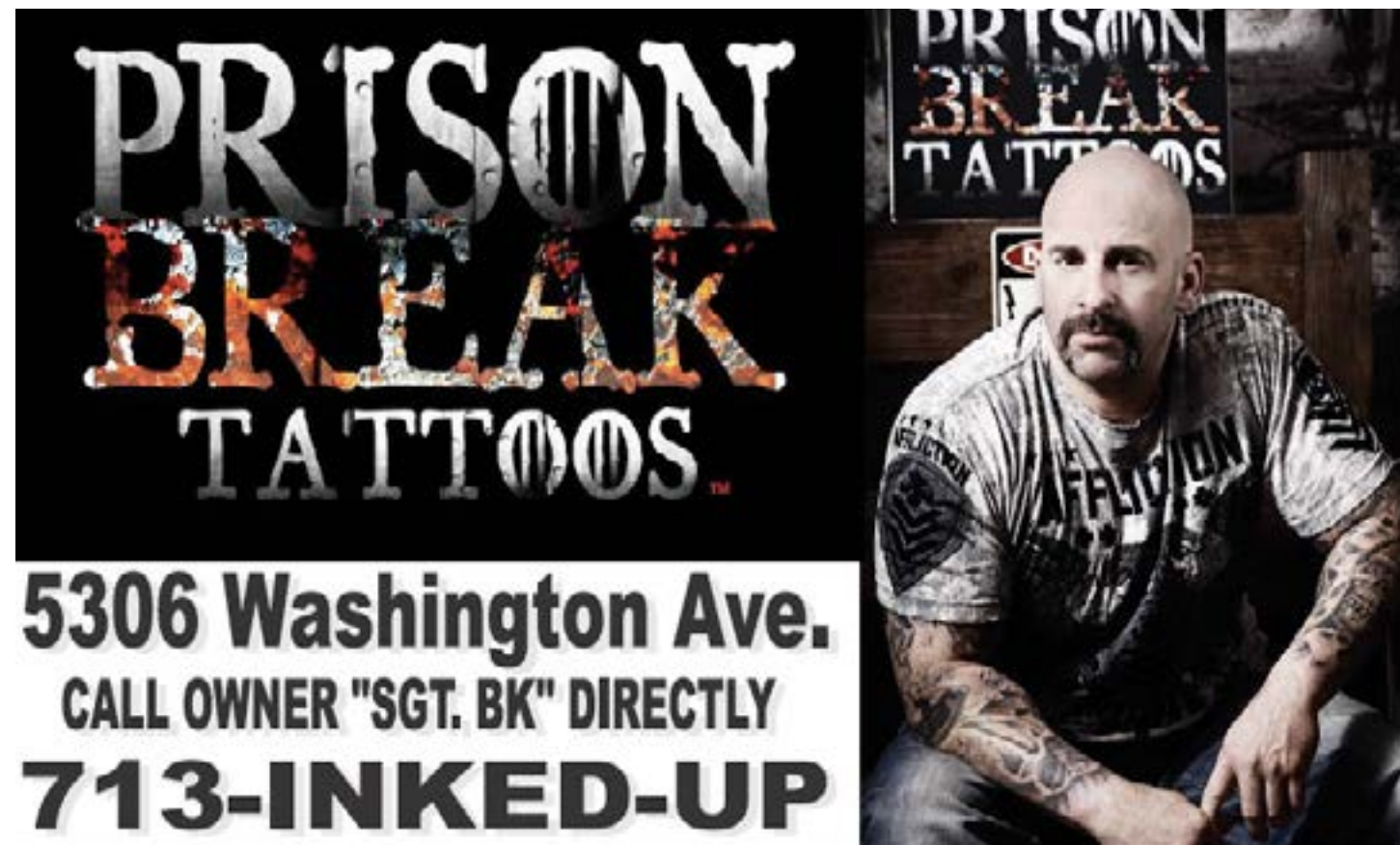
impacted. While some services, with only family present, have been streamed live, it does not necessarily allow for the human connection we need to heal. Funerals are so much more than simply rituals, they allow officers to feel safe enough to let down their guard, shed tears, and share a collective sense of loss. It is now essential for agencies to modify these rituals as needed but not cancel these rites of passage.

One of the most powerful ways we can honor the fallen

is through taking the time to get to know the actual person behind the badge. It allows a sense of connection we truly need. I reached out to Joe Gamaldi, FOP National Vice President and Houston Police Officers' Union FOP Lodge 110 President, for some insight on HPD Officer Knox and Officer Cormier, Gamaldi shared "Jason was funny, smart, kind, a great officer and an even better man. His passion for restoring old police cars, was only exceeded by the love of his assignment at helicopters, which was his dream job. We are all

better for having known him, and he will be missed by all. Please continue to keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. Chase Cormier had extensive surgery, and he is still critical but stable. We ask that you keep Chase and his family in your thoughts and prayers as well. Chase is a combat veteran and veteran of the Houston Police Department, he is as tough as they come, and we are hopeful for his recovery".

A grateful state and nation thanks you both for your incredible service and sacrifice.



PRISON BREAK TATTOOS

5306 Washington Ave.
CALL OWNER "SGT. BK" DIRECTLY
713-INKED-UP

PRISON BREAK TATTOOS

Give Until it Hurts

BK Klev is one incredible dude. Not only is a he an HPD officer, but the owner of a CLOSED Tattoo Shop. That's correct he has NO revenue coming in and yes he still has to pay rent. So what does he do? Works his regular job and then gets businesses to donate food and supplies to First Responders. Superheros do not always wear capes....they wear masks. BK Glod Bless You Brother !



we saved you a spot to run your ad

PLACE YOUR AD
HERE ONLY \$336

CLICK HERE TO RESERVE

NOT SO BRIGHT

light bulb award

the third largest county in the United States. She isn't an attorney, no legal experience, no business experience, no civil or municipal experience. NOTHING! She was elected because she was the Democratic candidate. She soon earned the nickname 'Dora' and everyone said, "just wait until there is an emergency."

Well several have come along since she was elected, but this pandemic is her true test of leadership, and she has failed miserably. First, she 'ordered' the Sheriff to release 1000 prisoners from the Harris County Jail because it was the compassionate thing to do. Forget the fact she had no authority to order the Sheriff to release anyone. Thank God District Judge Herb Ritchie stepped in and voided Hildago's order to release inmates. Each and every day she stood in front of a microphone on live TV, she made a complete ass out of herself. The pictures of her and the mayor with face masks that didn't cover her noses showed how clueless this woman truly was. THEN...she orders every citizen over the age of 10 to wear a face covering while in public. Oh yeah, her staff proudly displayed a TV monitor that included scarfs and bananas are also allowed. BANANAS.

This kindergarten show has become the laughing stock of the world. You can just hear them saying, "who elected this idiot?" She is an embarrassment on the worldwide stage.

You have to imagine that even the Democrats that elected her are saying, "what the hell have we done?" Please Dora, make up some excuse and resign. Admit you are in over your head and just walk away and save the citizens of Harris County from further embarrassment.

Oh, and her order to wear Bananas and Face Coverings. Well the mayor, police chief, and every police agency located in Harris County laughed at her and said, "we ain't enforcing that."

Instead The mayor says his officers will hand out face masks to anyone who needs one.

In the end, the Governor overruled her and said there will be NO FINES or PENALTIES.

Now personally, I don't think it's a terrible idea for everyone to wear one if it would save just one life. But to threaten fines and jail time for a 15-year-old that doesn't have the means to buy one? Come on Dora. Let's get real.

**So there you have it.
Galveston County Judge
Mark Henry gets an A+**

**Harris County Judge
Lina "Dora" Hildago
gets a F-**

**SEND US YOUR
NOMINATION
FOR OUR NEXT
LB AWARD**

bluespdmag@gmail.com

Assist the Officer's 3rd Annual
HEROES' GALA
June 20, 2020

Please, join us for an exciting evening honoring the heroes of the
Houston Police Department!

Hors d'oeuvres, Dinner, & Dessert Bar
Live Music by Infinite Groove
Dancing Fun
Delicious Cocktails
Ladies & Men's Raffle
Cigar Lounge
Silent Auction

Purchase tickets online at bidpal.net/2020heroesgala
Follow us on Facebook for announcements and sneak peaks! @AssistTheOfficer

THE Ballroom AT BAYOU PLACE
AT&T
LANCASTER HOTEL



Janet Garner, Financial Advisor
MassMutal Financial Group



World Crises and the Stock Market: Learn From History

The coronavirus has wreaked havoc with financial markets across the globe, ushering in the first U.S. bear market in over 10 years. But crises and bear markets are nothing new. For investors, it helps to put current events in historical perspective.

Not that long ago, the idea of a bear market seemed almost unimaginable. The economy was firing on all cylinders. Employment was at a record high. The stock market, which was in its eleventh year of a bull run, was on the path for another strong year in 2020.

Then came COVID-19. Between February 19 and March 23, the S&P 500 tumbled 34%, putting it well into bear market territory (defined as a drop of 20% or more). The index recovered some ground towards the end of the month, but volatility has been extreme, with the major benchmark indices swinging wildly from day to day. Where markets go from here will largely depend on how successful governments are in containing the outbreak and mitigating its effects on the economy.

For investors, it's been a very trying time. Weathering a down market such as this requires patience, a long-term perspective, and the use of different strategies to help minimize the impact of falling stock prices on your portfolio. It also helps to look at history.

Putting Market Returns in Perspective

Bear markets are nothing new. Between 1950 and 2020, the S&P 500 underwent 10 bear markets. The average bear market lasted about 14 months, with an average market decline of 34%. In contrast, the Should You Sell?

Not surprisingly, the first reaction to a falling market is to bail out. But that kind of short-term thinking may not be in your best interest -- especially if you sell at a loss. Before selling, you should consider several factors. First, look at your time horizon, i.e., when you will need to use the invested funds. If you are investing for the long term -- for retirement, for instance -- then there's a good likelihood that the market will rebound before you need to use the funds. Second, consider your alternatives. If you take your money out of equities, where will you invest it? Remember that in the long term, stocks have outperformed the other asset classes -- bonds and money market securities -- by a significant margin, although past performance is no guarantee of future returns.

Maintain a Portfolio That's Right for You

If you haven't already done so, take a good look at your investments as a whole. What is your portfolio's asset allocation -- your mix of stocks, bonds, and cash equivalents? If you use your risk tolerance -- your emotional and practical ability to handle risk -- to guide the asset allocation process, you'll be better prepared to cope with market volatility.

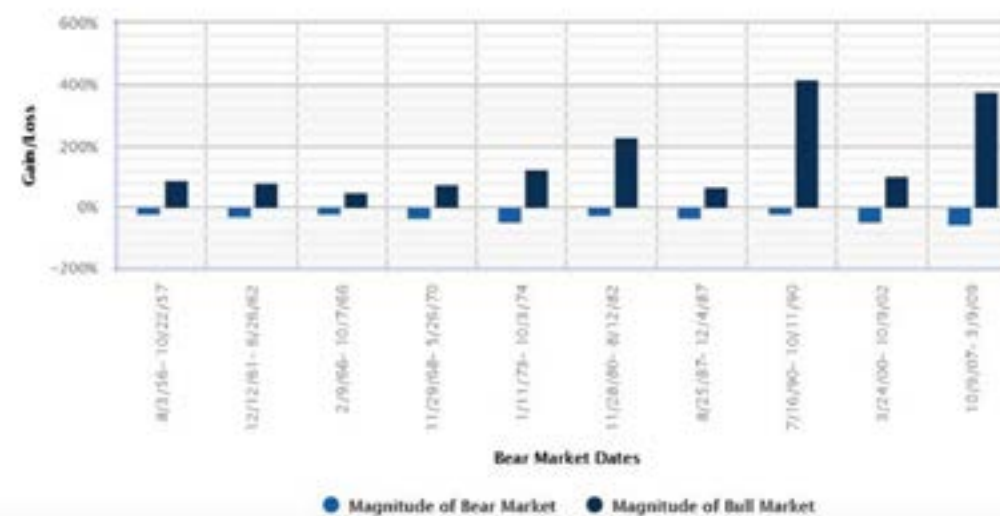
Reviewing your asset allocation can help you answer another question about your portfolio: Is it adequately diversified? In other words, have you spread your money among different investments to potentially help reduce risk? Different securities do better at different times. Therefore, holding a variety of investments creates the potential for those that perform well to compensate for those that do not over a period of time. Neither asset allocation nor diversification guarantees against investment loss.

Finally, when assembling or maintaining a portfolio, consider tapping the experience of a seasoned financial professional. He or she can make suggestions regarding your portfolio mix, explain current market trends, and help you stay focused on your long-term financial goals.

Four Tips for Surviving Bear Markets

- Implement a well-thought-out investment plan and then stick with it. You may increase your chances of being around when the bull takes its next run.
- Do not make investment decisions based on short-term market drops or gains. Instead, evaluate how an investment fits into your overall financial strategy.
- Look at a bear market as a buying opportunity. Some stocks may be undervalued following a broad market decline, allowing you to invest more in high-quality companies.
- Talk with a financial professional. He or she may have been through volatile periods before.

Magnitudes of Bear and Bull Markets²



JANET L. GARNER, LUTCF, RICP • 281-204-1221 • janetgarner@financialguide.com

Janet Garner is a true Texan, and has been in business in the Houston/Clear Lake area for over 20 years. Janet has conducted retirement workshops for a number of local firms including NASA and has been a trusted advisor for AT&T for over 15 years. She specializes in retirement income planning hence the RICP designation: Retirement Income Certified Professional. If you would like Janet to prepare a complimentary analysis for you and your family, just mention you are a first responder and read Janet's article in The BLUES.

honoring our fallen heroes

Detective
Marylou Armer
Santa Rosa Police Dept.



End of Watch Tuesday, March 31, 2020

Age 43 Tour 20 Years Badge 442

Detective Marylou Armer died after contracting COVID-19 while on duty. It is presumed she contracted the illness during her duties as a domestic violence detective which required her to visit local hospitals, the county jail, confined interview rooms, and other high-risk locations.

Detective Armer had served with the Santa Rosa Police Department for 20 years. She is survived by her husband and daughter.

Deputy Sheriff
Sypraseuth "Bud" Phouangphrachanh
Montgomery County Sheriff Office, North Carolina



End of Watch Tuesday, March 31, 2020

Age 43 Tour 14 years Badge #853

Deputy Sheriff Sypraseuth Phouangphrachanh died as the result of contracting COVID-19 while on duty as a school resource officer. Deputy Phouangphrachanh contracted the virus at the beginning of a small outbreak of the virus affecting school employees.

Deputy Phouangphrachanh had served with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office for 14 years and was assigned as the school resource officer for the county's middle schools and high schools. He had previously served with the Candor Police Department. He is survived by his wife, five children, parents, and two brothers.

Deputy Sheriff
Jeff Hopkins
El Paso County Office, Colorado



End of Watch Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Age 41 Tour 20 years Badge # N/A

Deputy Sheriff Jeff Hopkins died after contracting COVID-19 while on duty at the El Paso County Criminal Justice Center. He was serving at the jail's intake when he had confirmed exposure to other employees who were symptomatic and later confirmed to have COVID-19.

Deputy Hopkins had served with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office for 20 years. He is survived by his wife and parents.

Deputy Sheriff
Terrell Young
Riverside County Sheriff's Department, California



End of Watch Thursday, April 1, 2020

Age N/A Tour 15 years Badge # N/A

Deputy Sheriff Terrell Young died after contracting COVID-19 from an infected inmate at the Byrd Detention Center.

Deputy Young had served with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department for 15 years. He is survived by his wife and four children.

honoring our fallen heroes

Police Officer

Marco DiFranco

Chicago Police Department, Illinois

End of Watch Thursday, April 2, 2020

Age 50 Tour 21 years Badge 19312

Police Officer Marco DiFranco died after contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Officer DiFranco had served with the Chicago Police Department for 21 years. He is survived by his wife, two children, and a brother who also serves with the agency.



Deputy Sheriff

Shannon Bennett

Broward County Sheriff's Office, Florida

End of Watch Friday, April 3, 2020

Age 39 Tour 12 years Badge # N/A

Deputy Sheriff Shannon Bennett died after contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Deputy Bennett had served with the Broward County Sheriff's Office for 12 years and served as an SRO at Deerfield Beach Elementary School. He is survived by his fiancée, mother, and brother.



Police Officer

Breann Leath

Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Dept., Indiana

End of Watch Thursday, April 9, 2020

Age 24 Tour 3 Years Badge #2951

Military Veteran

Officer Breann Leath was shot and killed while responding to a domestic disturbance call at 1803 Edinburg Square shortly before 3:00 pm.

A subject inside opened fire through the apartment's closed front, striking Officer Leath and a female resident of the apartment who was standing in the outside hallway. Both were taken to a local hospital where Officer Leath succumbed to her wounds. The subject was taken into custody and subsequently charged with murder and attempted murder.

Officer Leath was a veteran of the National Guard and had served with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department for three years. She is survived by her 3-year-old son, her parents, who both serve with the Marion County Sheriff's Office, and two sisters who have worked in corrections.



Sergeant

Clifford W. Martin, Sr.

Chicago Police Dept. Illinois

End of Watch Friday, April 10, 2020

Age 50 Tour 25 years Badge # 1456

Sergeant Clifford Martin died as the result of contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Sergeant Martin had served with the Chicago Police Department for 25 years and was assigned to Unit 610 - Bureau of Detectives - Area Central. He is survived by his wife and three children.



honoring our fallen heroes

Chief of Police

Terry Engle

Hampton Police Dept. Illinois



End of Watch Saturday, April 11, 2020

Age 57 Tour 37 years Badge N/A

Chief of Police Terry Engle was killed in a single-vehicle crash while responding to a 911 call at 6:45 pm.

He was traveling on northbound on Illinois Route 84 when his vehicle left the roadway and struck a tree at 180th Street North.

Chief Engle had served with the Hampton Police Department for more than two years after having served with the Black Hawk College Police Department for 35 years.

Deputy Sheriff

Jeremy Ladue

Charleston County Sheriff's Office, South Carolina

End of Watch Monday, April 13, 2020



Age 29 Tour 1 year 2 mos. Badge N/A

Deputy Sheriff Jeremy Ladue was killed in a vehicle crash near the intersection of Savannah Highway and Dobbin Road at approximately 1:40 am.

He was on patrol when another vehicle collided with his patrol car. Deputy Ladue, who was not wearing a seatbelt, suffered fatal injuries. The other driver was also killed in the crash.

Deputy Ladue had served with the Charleston County Sheriff's Office for

Chief of Police

Robert William Sealock

Aliquippa City Police Dept., Pennsylvania



End of Watch Saturday, April 11, 2020

Age 49 Tour 23 years Badge # N/A
Military Veteran

Chief of Police Robert Sealock died from complications of a major asthma attack following a foot pursuit on March 26th, 2020.

He had joined other officers who were involved in a foot pursuit of a wanted subject. Shortly after arriving back to the police station, he suffered a severe asthma attack. He was unable to catch his breath and collapsed after his emergency inhaler was ineffective. A fellow officer immediately radioed for help and he was transported to a local hospital. He remained under intensive care until passing away on April 11th, 2020.

Chief Sealock was a U.S Navy veteran and served with the Aliquippa Police Department for 23 years. He was scheduled to retire later in the year.

Police Officer

Jose Fontanez

Boston Police Dept., Massachusetts



End of Watch Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Age 53 Tour 29 years Badge # 10711

Police Officer Jose Fontanez died as the result of contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Officer Fontanez had served with the Boston Police Department for 29 years and was assigned to District E-13 (Jamaica Plain). He is survived by his wife, four children, and one grandchild.

honoring our fallen heroes

Sergeant
Joseph Spinosa
 Sands Point Police Dept., New York

End of Watch Wednesday, April 15, 2020
 Age 52 Tour 19 years Badge 119

Sergeant Joseph Spinosa died as the result of contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Sergeant Spinosa had served with the Sands Point Police Department for 19 years. He is survived by his mother.



Detective
Alex Ruperto
 Union City Police Dept., New Jersey

End of Watch Thursday, April 16, 2020
 Age 52 Tour 21 years Badge #335

Detective Alex Ruperto died after contracting COVID-19 while performing patrol duties.

Detective Ruperto had served with the Union City Police Department for 21 years. He is survived by his two adult children.



Police Officer
Ronald Newman
 Chicago Police Dept., Illinois
 End of Watch Friday, April 17, 2020

Age 59 Tour 19 yrs. Badge 6622

Police Officer Ronald Newman died as the result of contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Officer Newman had served with the Chicago Police Department for 19 years and was assigned to the 4th District. He is survived by his wife and two children.



Police Officer
Justin Putnam
 San Marcos Police Dept., Texas

End of Watch Saturday, April 18, 2020
 Age 31 Tour 5 years 6 mos. Badge # N/A

Police Officer Justin Putnam was shot and killed when he and other officers responded to a domestic assault incident at an apartment complex in the 2900 block of Hunter Road at about 7:00 pm.

As the officers entered the apartment they were ambushed by a male subject with a rifle. Officer Putnam was killed and two other officers were critically wounded. The subject committed suicide after shooting the officers.

Officer Putnam had served with the San Marcos Police Department for 5-1/2 years.



honoring our fallen heroes

Probation & Parole Agent
Kaitlin Marie Cowley
Louisiana Dept. Of Public Safety, La.

End of Watch Monday, April 20, 2020
Age 33 Tour 5 years Badge 2260

Probation and Parole Agent Kaitlin Cowley was killed in a single vehicle crash at the I-12 and Millerville Road interchange in Baton Rouge at about 6:30 pm. The crash occurred after she left an assignment assisting the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women with inmate security at the Our Lady of the Lake Hospital. Her vehicle left the roadway and struck a tree, causing her to suffer fatal injuries.

Agent Cowley had served with the Louisiana Department of Corrections for three years and had previously served with the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission for two years. She is survived by her husband, parents, and brother.

Corporal
Lawrence Onley
United States Dept. of Defense
End of Watch Tuesday, April 21, 2020

Age 63 Tour 23yrs. Badge # 120

Corporal Lawrence Onley died after having a confirmed exposure to a COVID-19 patient while on duty.

Corporal Onley had served with the Naval District Washington Police Department for 23 years and was assigned to the Naval Research Lab. He is survived by his daughter and fiancée.

Warden
Wilmot Sandlin "Sandy" McCain
Louisiana Dept. Of Corrections

End of Watch Monday, April 20, 2020
Age 67 Tour 24 years Badge #N/A

Warden Sandy McCain died after contracting COVID-19 through a confirmed exposure while on duty at the Raymond Laborde Correctional Center.

Warden McCain had served with the Louisiana Department of Corrections for 24 years. He is survived by his wife, two sons, and several grandchildren.

Police Officer
Dan Walters
San Diego Police Dept., California

End of Watch Thursday, April 23, 2020
Age 53 Tour 5 years Badge # 5523

Police Officer Dan Walters succumbed to complications of a gunshot wound sustained on November 12, 2003. A passing vehicle inadvertently struck Officer Walters, causing additional injuries. He was transported to a local hospital where it was determined that he had become paralyzed from the neck down.

It was later determined that the man who shot Officer Walters was involved in a violent domestic incident when the first officer encountered him. Officer Walters remained paralyzed and died from complications from the original injuries on April 23, 2020. Officer Walters had served with the San Diego Police Department for five years at the time he was shot.

honoring our fallen heroes



Police Officer
Christopher Eric Ewing
Smyrna Police Dept., Georgia

End of Watch Monday, April 20, 2020

Age 34 Tour 2 years Badge 1392
Military Veteran

Police Officer Christopher Ewing was killed when his patrol car collided with a drunk driver at the intersection of South Cobb Drive and Oak Drive at about 11:00 pm. The collision occurred when the other driver turned left in front of Officer Ewing's patrol car. The drunk driver was arrested and charged with homicide by vehicle, driving under the influence, and tampering with evidence.

Officer Ewing was a U.S. Air Force Reserves veteran. He had served with the Smyrna Police Department for two years and had recently applied to be part of the agency's DUI Task Force. He is survived by his wife and three children.



Patrolman
Gary Walker
Bloomingdale Police Dept., New Jersey

End of Watch Friday, April 24, 2020

Age 53 Tour 20 years Badge #1

Patrolman Gary Walker died as the result of contracting COVID-19 while on duty.

Patrolman Walker had served with the Bloomingdale Police Department for 20 years. He is survived by his wife and one child.

In early 2020, thousands of law enforcement officers and other first responders throughout the country contracted COVID-19 during the worldwide pandemic due to requirements of their job. Many of these first responders died as a result of COVID-19.

“When a police officer dies, it’s not an agency that loses an officer, it’s an entire nation.”

-Chris Cosgriff, ODMP Founder

honoring our fallen heroes

Lieutenant
Glenn Dale Hutto, Jr.
Baton Rouge Police Dept., Louisiana

End of Watch Sunday, April 26, 2020
Age 45 Tour 24 years Badge# N/A

Lieutenant Glenn Hutto was shot and killed as he and other officers attempted to locate a murder suspect at a home on the 3150 block of Conrad Drive at about 12:30 pm. As Lieutenant Hutto and a second officer positioned themselves in the backyard prior to making contact the man opened fire on them with a semi-automatic rifle, striking both officers. The man then shot Lieutenant Hutto several more times at close range as he lay on the ground. Lieutenant Hutto succumbed to his wounds at the scene. The second officer was gravely wounded and transported to a local hospital.

Lieutenant Hutto had served with the Baton Rouge Police Department for 21 years and had served in law enforcement for 24 years.

Police Officer
Jason M. Knox
Houston Police Department, Texas

End of Watch Saturday, May 2, 2020
Age 35 Tour 8 years Badge# N/A

Police Officer Jason Knox was killed in a helicopter crash in the 17050 block of Imperial Valley Drive at about 2:00 am. He was aboard the MD 369E helicopter as the tactical flight officer. The helicopter had been requested to search the nearby Greens Bayou after police had received unconfirmed reports that two bodies were in the area. The helicopter experienced an issue during the search and crashed into an apartment complex clubhouse. Responding fire department units extricated Officer Knox and the pilot from the wreckage. Officer Knox suffered fatal injuries in the crash and the pilot suffered severe injuries.

Officer Knox had served with the Houston Police Department for eight years. He is survived by his wife, two children, and his parents.

Deputy Sheriff
John Andrew Rhoden
Bell County Sheriff's Office, Texas

End of Watch Sunday, April 26, 2020
Age 31 Tour 10 years Badge #N/A

Deputy Sheriff John Rhoden was struck and killed by a vehicle while attempting to deploy spike strips during a vehicle pursuit of a stolen car.

The pursuit had started in Williamson County and proceeded into Bell County along I-35 at about 1:40 am. Deputy Rhoden was preparing to deploy the spike strips near Exit 294 when he was struck by a tractor trailer.

Deputy Rhoden had served with the Bell County Sheriff's Office for 10 years.

Police Officer
Michael S. Mosher
Overland Park Police Dept., Kansas

End of Watch Sunday, May 3, 2020
Age 37 Tour 14 years 6 Mos. Badge# N/A

Police Officer Mike Mosher was shot and killed while attempting to arrest a hit-and-run suspect. Officer Mosher was off duty, but in his uniform while en route to work, when he witnessed the hit-and-run at West 143rd Street and Antioch Road. He called dispatchers as he followed the vehicle until it stopped near the intersection of West 123rd Street and Mackey Street. The driver confronted Officer Mosher with a firearm, leading to a shootout. Officer Mosher and the subject were both killed in the shooting.

Officer Mosher had served with the Overland Park Police Department for 14-1/2 years. He is survived by his wife and child.



LE job positions



University of Houston central campus	Get Info	Police Officer	05/11/2020 - 5pm
City of Friendswood	Get Info	Peace Officer	05/21/2020 - 5pm
Tarrant County Hospital District PD	Get Info	Police Officer	07/07/2020 - 5pm
Tarrant County Sheriff's Office (we currently don't have a closing date for this position. We have 12 openings at this time)	Get Info	Deputy Sheriff	See note below
Mesquite City P.D.	Get Info	Police Officer	05/06/2020 - 5pm
Montgomery Police Dept.	Get Info	Police officer	06/14/2020 - 5pm
Lexington Police Dept.	Get Info	Police officer	05/24/2020 - 1pm
Baytown Municiple Court	Get Info	City Marshall	05/24/2020 - 5pm

"Honoring Heroes one badge at a time."

Custom Made
Badges, Rings, Pendants & More

HOUSTON BADGE COMPANY

Toll Free (866) 892-2343
www.houstonbadge.com

IT'S NOT JUST A JOB...
IT'S A CAREER!!

Join the La Porte POLICE Department



**Police Officer
Salary Range**
\$57,928 - \$82,388

Benefits

- Take Home Car Program
- Incentive Pay
- Compensation Time
- Specialized Divisions
- Education Reimbursement
- TMRS 2 to1 Match
- Excellent Health Benefits and much more!

APPLY TODAY
LAPORTEPDCAREERS.COM
Recruiting Officer Ron Digby
281-842-3123

PLACE YOUR DEPARTMENTS'
JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE BLUES
FOR ONLY \$250

email us today: bluespdmag@gmail.com





Summer = Beach + Beachfront Fishing

The month of May marks the beginning of summer and the start of long weekends and family vacations. Well, this summer will undoubtedly be different as we learn to do almost everything with social distancing. But there is no better form of social distancing that I can think of than wade fishing off the beachfront in the Gulf of Mexico while your family is hanging out on the beach. If you live in Texas, we have a lot of great coastline to fish. However, my new favorite beach and fishing grounds are the beaches of the Florida Panhandle, specifically an area between Destin and Panama City called 30a. It is referred to as 30a after the two-lane beach road that

runs 26 miles along the beach through twelve unique beach towns like, Rosemary Beach, Seaside, Watercolor, and my personal favorite, Blue Mountain Beach. If you do an

internet search of 30a Florida, you will find all kinds of information on this place. This area is a very popular vacation spot for families with kids as the beaches are wide open and clean with exceptionally white sand and the water is warm & crystal clear. Trust me, if you haven't been there, you will think you have arrived in the Caribbean and if your family seeks out beach vacation spots, you must visit this area.

If you are going to fish, recognize that you will either need to find some of the more remote beaches like Topsail Hill Preserve State Park, or just plan on fishing early or late when the swimmers are not out there. Another option



is fishing one of the many rare dune lakes that run to the ocean, but that will be a story for another issue. Like anywhere, beachfront wade fishing can be hit or miss depending on tides

and the presence of bait fish in the water. However, with the water being so clear, you will not have a problem seeing baitfish or schooling fish. There is a second sandbar that runs the entire beach and can easily be seen. Although that bar is too

deep to wade fish from, I usually have pretty good luck fishing the deep-water gut and the water on top of the second bar. Both of which are within lure casting range when standing in waist deep water just off the beachfront. On one of my last trips I was casting red/white mullet plugs and having the best time catching and releasing lady fish. I would watch for the schools to work the bait fish just on top of the second bar and with every well-placed cast, I connected with a ladyfish which ran and danced out of the water like a small tarpon. Not good for the table, but certainly an awesome fighting fish on light tackle. I have also seen guys fishing for Pompano, Mackerel, Redfish, and have even heard of guys catch-

ing small sailfish during certain times of year using Kayaks just offshore. I don't think you can find cleaner water, prettier white sand beaches, and a better place to take the family, all just a ten-hour drive from Houston. You should make plans now because you will not be the only one looking to escape your house lock-down to enjoy some social distancing with a fishing rod just off the beach.

If you are going there: While there are some small hotels, most of the people rent homes off Airbnb or VRBO. I recommend finding a home in Old Seagrove or Watercolor or if you want to splurge and get beachfront, I found Grayton Beach, Blue Mountain Beach and Dune Allen Beach to be a better

value. If you are not the house or condo rental type, you can look at staying in Sandestin at the Marriott Courtyard, or there is a nice small hotel called 30a Suites I recommend. For all your fishing needs, go see the guys at Bay Baits near the Hwy 331 Bay Bridge, or Old Florida Outfitters off 30a.

For all of your kayak or bike rental needs, or even to have a private beach bonfire set up for you, Rent Gear Here is an easy, full-service company that delivers everything right to you. Favorite restaurants are Cowgirl Kitchen or Perfect Pig for Breakfast, the Great Southern Cafe or the Shrimp Shack in Seaside for lunch, and The Bay Restaurant or Amici Italian Kitchen for dinner.

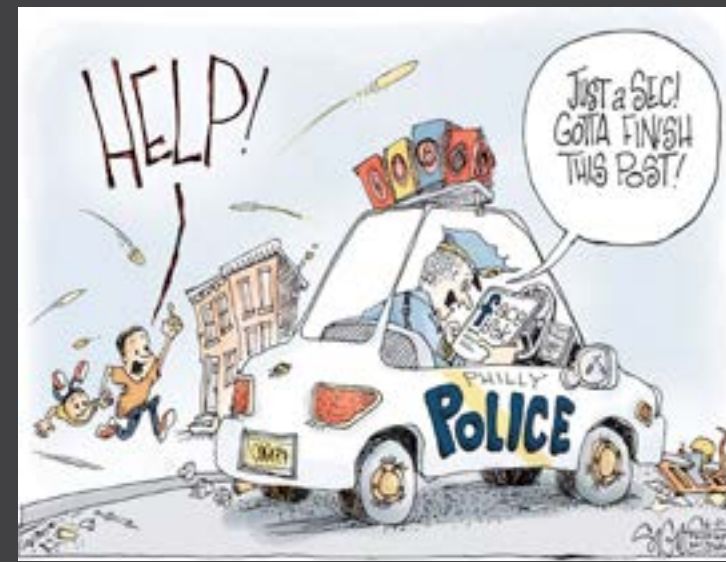
RUSTY BARRON



...parting shots.



...parting shots.



...last minute additions.



DPS Clocks 300+ on Radar

A Texas Highway Patrol Officer was conducting speeding enforcement on Hwy 77, just south of Kingsville, TX.

The officer was using a hand-held radar device to check speeding vehicles approaching the town of Kingsville and was suddenly surprised when the radar gun began reading 300 miles per hour and climbing.

The officer attempted to reset the radar gun, but it would not reset and then... It suddenly went dead.

Immediately a deafening roar over the Mesquite treetops on Hwy 77 revealed that the radar had in fact locked on to a USMC F/A-18 Hornet which was engaged in a low-flying exercise near its Naval Air home base location in Kingsville.

Back at the Texas Highway Patrol Headquarters in Corpus Christi, the Patrol Captain fired off a complaint to the US Naval Base Commander in Kingsville for shutting down his officer's equipment. The reply came back in true USMC style:

"Thank you for your letter....

You may be interested to know that the tactical computer in the Hornet had detected the presence of, and subsequently locked on to, your hostile radar equipment and automatically sent a jamming signal back to it, which is why it shut down.

Furthermore, an Air-to-Ground missile aboard the fully armed aircraft had also automatically locked on to your equipment's location.

76 The BLUES POLICE MAGAZINE



Fortunately, the Marine Pilot flying the Hornet recognized the situation for what it was, quickly responded to the missile system alert status and was able to override the automated defense system before the missile was launched to destroy the hostile radar position on the side of Hwy 77, south of Kingsville.

The pilot suggests your officer

covers his mouth when cursing since the video systems on these jets are extremely high-tech.

Sergeant Johnson, the officer holding the radar gun, should get his dentist to check his left rear molar. It appears the filling is loose. Also, the snap is broken on his holster and his boots could use a spit polish."

Semper Fi

...last minute additions.



Sgt. Raymond Scholwinski

E.O.W. 05/06/20

It is with heavy hearts that the Harris County Sheriff's Office announces the passing of Sgt. Raymond Scholwinski.

Sgt. Scholwinski, 70, passed away May 6, 2020 after a courageous battle against the COVID-19 virus.

Sgt. Scholwinski began his service with the Harris County Sheriff's Office as a reserve deputy in 1979 and then went on to serve with distinction as a full-time officer for 26 years.

His most recent assignment was as the day watch Contract Sergeant in District 2 where he was entrusted with serving as the district representative in most public speaking engagements.

Sgt. Scholwinski consistently served the resident of Harris County with honor, charm and distinction. He will be missed by his many friends and colleagues, all of whom were positively influenced by his commitment to service.

"Sgt. Scholwinski represented the best of the Harris County Sheriff's Office family," said Sheriff Ed Gonzalez. "Whether he was on patrol, making a neighborhood association presentation, or in the field during hurricanes, tropical storms, and other disasters, Ray consistently delivered for the people of Harris County. We will miss our brother and we will honor his legacy of service."

Funeral arrangements are pending. Updates will be provided on Blues Magazine Facebook Page.



VIP DELIVERY

GAY
FAMILY AUTO

SIGN THE PAPERWORK
FROM HOME
& WE WILL DELIVER THE VEHICLE TO YOUR DRIVEWAY



BUICK

GMC



**WE'RE HERE
& READY TO HELP**

SERVICE & SALES OPEN

SANITIZED LOANER VEHICLES

COLLISION REPAIR OPEN

EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS FOR ALL
FIRST RESPONDERS & FAMILY

HOME TEST DRIVES AVAILABLE

0% FOR 84 MONTHS
NO PAYMENTS FOR 120 DAYS.

GAYFAMILYAUTO.COM

3033 GULF FREEWAY DICKINSON, TX 77539
281-337-2521