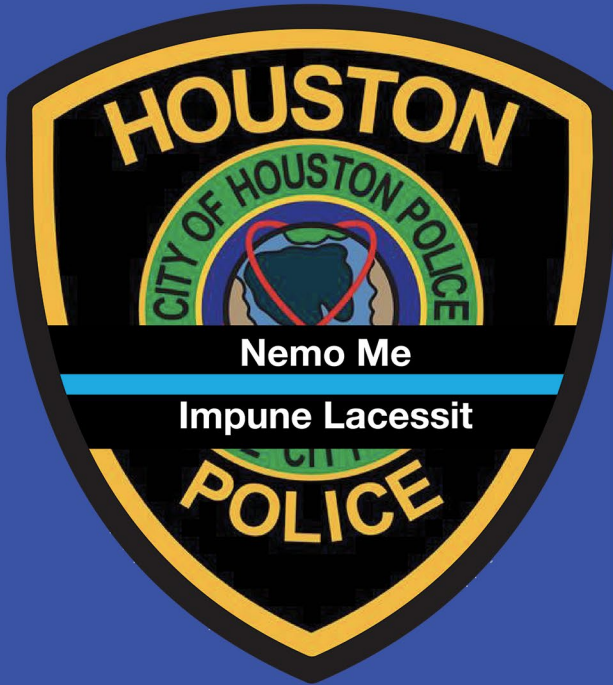




# THE *BLUES* POLICE MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2020 • VOL. 36 NO. 11



SGT. HAROLD PRESTON • E.O.W. 10/20/2020



INVESTIGATOR LEMUEL BRUCE • E.O.W. 10/20/2020





# CONSTABLE

# ★ MARK ★ HERMAN



**Harris County Constable Mark Herman**

## THANK YOU FOR (4) MORE YEARS!

*To all of the citizens of Precinct 4 and those who volunteered and supported my campaign for my re-election election. I want to Thank You for your confidence and the support you have given me during my time as Constable.*

*The Precinct 4 Constable's Office has the BEST Employees that a Constable could ask for. Thank you to each of you for the support and encouragement you have given me since I have been Constable! I could not have been Re-Elected or be successful without each of you. The Precinct 4 Constable's Office will continue to provide exceptional services to the communities we serve and public safety will remain one of our main objectives. The Precinct 4 Constable's Office belongs to the Citizens we serve and the Employees on my team. It is an Extreme Honor to work for our citizens and work beside each employee.*

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NATION'S LARGEST ALL DIGITAL POLICE MAGAZINE



## THE POLICE MAGAZINE BLUES

NOVEMBER 2020 • VOL. 36 NO. 11



### On the Cover / Feature Story

In less than two weeks,  
Houston lost two of its finest-  
HPD Sgt. Harold Preston and  
HFD Arson Investigator Lemuel  
Bruce. The BLUES pays tribute  
to these two fine officers and  
offers prayers and condolences  
to both their families.

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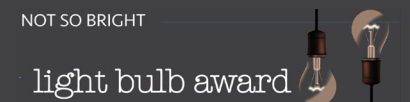
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my thoughts !!

Michael  
Barron

## 2020 Election BLUES

It's 11am on November 3, 2020. The polls close in 8 hours. The future of our country and the lives of our First Responders is literally at stake. Not only on a national level, but local governments as well. If the liberal, radical, left wing democrats take office, more violence will occur in our cities. District attorneys like Kim Ogg in Harris County will have even more blood on their hands. And OMG if Biden takes over the White House, we'll be back to the Obama days when they could care less if a police officer is killed. President Trump has literally called every family that has lost a loved one in the line of duty, both military and police, to offer his personal condolences. He has personally paid for the funeral expenses of several first responders. No other president has ever done that. So. I'm going to stop here. I'm hoping and praying that everyone goes to the polls and votes. I'm hoping and praying that the outcome is what we need for our country to become united once again. Regardless of the outcome, I pray that all first responders remain safe and that there is no violence on our streets. ....to be continued.

...

WELL ! It's now 12 hours since the polls closed in Texas. No winner in the president's race and I didn't expect that there

would be at this point. But I am truly disappointed, but I guess not surprised, that once again Harris County voters choose to keep Kim Ogg as their District Attorney. Rather than waste words on this poor excuse of an elected official, I want to thank Mary Nan Huffman for her tireless efforts in this race. She is a remarkable woman, who if elected, would have been a truly great district attorney. It's unfortunate that Harris County has become a liberal stronghold for the Democrats. The political machine that pumped millions into these local races can only mean one thing – the criminal justice system in Harris County will continue to favor those who break the law, rather than those who uphold it. With the majority of the criminal court judges remaining with the Democrats and Ogg continuing in her lackluster role in the D.A.'s office, Harris County's crime rate will continue to soar, and the bodies will continue to drop. For those of you on the streets of Harris County, please watch your backs and watch over each other.

There are some bright spots in 2020 though. We wish to congratulate Constable Mark Herman in his victory in Harris County Pct. 4; Constable Ted Heap in his victory in Harris County Pct. 5; Harris County

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez for retaining his position as Sheriff of Harris County; Rand Henderson as Sheriff of Montgomery County; and Henry Trocheset for retaining his position as Sheriff of Galveston County.

As we go to press, Biden has been declared the winner. Trump claims the election was stolen and maybe it was. But unlike Biden's supporters, we don't riot in the streets and destroy property and lives because our guy didn't win.

And rather than sit here and tell you a million reasons why this is bad, I'll tell you what the BLUES is going to do. We are going to start our 37th year as the largest digital police magazine in the United States. We are going to be the rally point for the greatest Back the Blue campaign in the history of this country. We are going to find a way to protect our brothers and sisters in Blue and in 2024, we'll take back the White House.

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# his thoughts !



When you hear the words, "Harris County Sheriff's Office" multiple images, moments and people come to mind. Some good. Some funny. Some are probably serious and maybe even sad.

John Moore was sworn in as the first sheriff of what was then Harrisburg County (later renamed Harris County) in February 1837. Among the oldest law enforcement agencies in Texas, the department has grown from a single man on horseback to a modern agency with over 3500 employees and over 2500 sworn officers.

Times have certainly changed. I'm sure, Sheriff Moore couldn't have possibly imagined the rough, rowdy and very much rural Harris County would one day become a thriving, multi-cultural, world economy impacting metropolitan area. Thoroughly diverse in race, religious beliefs, cultures, food and various kinds of colleges and universities.

I'm sure many of the "Old Sheriffs" could never have imagined a Department equally so diverse and reflective of its community. Thousands of employees. Dozens of buildings and jails. Whole "Bureaus" consisting of hundreds of men and women.

Such men could have never imagined five Patrol Districts. An Aviation Division, Marine Division, Special Operations Division, or a multi million dollar state of the art, Communications Division. There's no way they could've

seen multiple Command Trucks with satellite up-links and multiple operating stations within each truck to command and control large scale events and emergencies.

Over the very rich, sometimes turbulent, history of the Harris County Sheriff's Office there has however been one steadfast constant. Men and women who put service before self. They have always stood together and faced imminent danger and crisis.

More like "Family" than just a "Department". Like brothers and sisters of any family, we'd fight among ourselves but let someone tangle with one of us and they'd surely find themselves entangled with all of us.

In recent months, specifically this year, the Harris County Sheriff's Office along with many of their fellow Harris County Law Enforcement counterparts, have lost members of their respective agencies.

Tragically the Sheriff's Office has seen a staggering number of its active and recently retired Deputies pass away from this life, unto the next. Friends, people we've known and worked with, fought with, froze in the cold and burned in the heat with, they've all been called Home. Never more to answer their radio when called.

My heart is truly heavy this morning. I've learned of two more recently retired Deputies whom I personally known and served with have passed away.



If my count is correct, nearly ten active and recently retired Harris County Sheriff's Department Deputies have passed in as many weeks.

Tempering my sorrow in this difficult time is the fact that such men and women would never wish for us to stand still in grief and sorrow for them. Quite the opposite. I can literally hear their voices saying "Don't you have work to do?!" Or "Are you caught up on all your reports?!" Maybe even, "You do know we have calls holding, right?"

Though these amazing people are gone, like the chapters within the Department's History, opening and closing, I cannot help but take pause this morning and reflect.

I've been very privileged in my lifetime to work with some of the finest men and women in Law Enforcement, right here in Harris County. They stood by me whether I deserved it or not. They helped me, taught me, even saved me, when near death.

No matter what image or

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#### HOUSTON CHRON. EDITORIAL

Deaths of Houston peace officers deserve more than political sound bites

Senseless. That's the only way to describe the violence that took the lives of two dedicated Houston peace officers in recent weeks, one in the middle of his career and one only weeks from retirement.

Lemuel "DJ" Bruce, a 44-year-old arson investigator with the Houston Fire Department, was memorialized Thursday for his servant's heart and unique sense of humor after he was gunned down nearly a week earlier while investigating a string of fires in northwest Houston.

Police Sgt. Harold Preston, 65, an unflappable veteran who became a mentor to many in his 41 years with the Houston Police Department, was shot and killed Tuesday morning, authorities said, by the estranged husband of a woman he was trying to protect.

We honor their service and their memories. We pray for their families. We remember, even amid ongoing debates over much-needed changes to policing, how complex, how challenging, how inherently dangerous are the tasks we ask law enforcement to perform each day. And how necessary.

Yet, such tragedies can never be a given. We must always ask why they happened. And what, if anything, we can do to keep them from happening again.

The details surrounding Bruce's

death are still emerging.

The circumstances of Preston's killing are clearer, if still incomprehensible. He and fellow HPD officer Courtney Waller were at a southwest Houston apartment complex on Tuesday morning as peace-keepers, protecting a woman who said she was being threatened by her estranged husband, Elmer Manzano.

The officers were hoping to keep the situation calm as they escorted the woman to gather her belongings from the apartment. Preston was well aware of the dangers that come with domestic disturbance calls. In this case, violence erupted within seconds.

The officers were barely inside the door when the couple's 14-year-old son shouted that his father had a gun and the shooting started, authorities said. Preston was hit in the head while Waller and the teen were struck in the arm. Manzano was also wounded and eventually taken into custody when more police arrived on the scene.

Preston was pronounced dead at Memorial Hermann Hospital.

"I pray that he rests in heaven, because if it were not for him, I know I would have been killed," the estranged wife told KHOU-TV. "He saved my life. He is a hero. He died protecting me and my family."

The elements of this tragedy could easily be pulled apart for campaign sound bites on domestic violence, criminal justice reform, gun control, Houston's

rise in violent crime, illegal immigration and more. Indeed, some couldn't help but seize the moment.

The public was barely aware of the details of the shooting when Mary Nan Huffman, the Republican candidate for district attorney and currently a lawyer for the Houston Police Officers' Union, sought to blame Democratic incumbent DA Kim Ogg for Preston's death, inferring that her office had refused to accept charges against Manzano after earlier complaints about a domestic dispute.

"His death was 100% preventable," Huffman wrote in a news release. "Had charges been accepted, Mr. Manzano might be back on the street, but his gun and ammunition would have been seized and held as evidence. No gun would have meant no dead officer."

Reporting by the Houston Chronicle found a more complicated story.

Waller had investigated a complaint on Sunday that Manzano had threatened her with a gun and to have her deported. After consulting with a prosecutor, Waller determined that "no crime occurred," according to records.

Police were called again on Monday, the details of which were not immediately available.

Waller called prosecutors again just before the Tuesday shooting to talk about what had happened the day before and was told a terrorist threat charge



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## your thoughts !!!



could be accepted against Manzano. But Waller eventually decided again that a crime had not occurred, according to the records.

Waller's background check on Manzano found that he had been convicted in 2002 of a felony evading arrest with a motor vehicle and was sentenced and probated for two misdemeanor assault charges in Dallas County from 2000. Waller said in his report that the check came back "clear."

More information and investigation are clearly needed to determine whether the system failed in this case. Police and prosecutors must be honest and open about the details, but it is much too soon to be pointing fingers.

The fact that Manzano, a 51-year-old from El Salvador, was in the United States illegally, will also inflame those who want to blame illegal immigration for any rise in crime, even though research has consistently found that immigrants — regardless of status — are less likely to commit crimes than native-born residents.

Given Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo's opposition to using local law enforcement to question the immigration status of people detained, critics will no doubt try to use this case as an argument for more aggressive enforcement.

Acevedo has made a reasonable case that such a policy only pushes victims and potential

witnesses "into the shadows," endangering public safety much more than it helps.

Attacks on "sanctuary cities" to push a political agenda are a misguided and cynical response to the death of Sgt. Preston.

After growing up in Third Ward, graduating from Jack Yates High School and Texas Southern University, Preston spent four decades patrolling the streets of Houston. He was remembered by colleagues as "a calm, steadying supervisor, who never lost his enjoyment for the job and loved mentoring new patrol officers."

Bruce, who spent 17 years with HFD, was a husband, father and former Marine who colleagues said was dedicated to learning, always up for a challenge and in constant pursuit of bettering himself.

We could learn a lot from these men, and from the tragic circumstances in which they died. Let us look for answers in a spirit befitting of their lives: with dignity, sincerity and pursuit of something better.

#### **HPD SERGEANT HAROLD PRESTON WOULD BE ALIVE TODAY IF NOT FOR INEPT POLITICIANS**

Around 9:30 on Tuesday morning, HPD Sgt. Harold Preston was shot, along with another police officer, and later succumbed to his wounds. Sgt. Preston was set to retire this year after over 41 years of service to our city.

Sgt. Preston leaves behind a 23-year-old daughter, his fiancé,

and his parents, whom he lived with and took care of.

The shooting suspect was identified as Elmer Rolando Manzano-Martinez, an illegal immigrant from El Salvador. ICE officials identified him as a "convicted criminal alien who is unlawfully present in the U.S."

Police officers responded to calls twice over the weekend for domestic violence issues, Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo said. Harris County DA Kim Ogg—Democrat, who is up for reelection this year, refused to file charges or detain him for ICE and released him back into the community.

Mary Nan Huffman, who is running against Kim Ogg this election cycle, released a statement that read:

"Houston Police Department Sergeant Harold Preston was killed in the line of duty today. As tragic as that is, his death was 100% preventable. His partner also was shot and will survive his injuries.

The suspect, Elmer Manzano, a convicted felon with multiple prior assaults on his record, was in custody just a day before this tragedy occurred.

On October 18, HPD Officers responded to a call from Mrs. Santos, stating that her ex-husband, Mr. Manzano, was at the location brandishing a gun, threatening Mrs. Santos and her children.

HPD Officers took Mr. Manzano into custody that day but Kim Ogg declined to take charges, instructing the Officers to release

him, leaving the gun at the scene. Had charges been accepted, Mr. Manzano might be back on the street, but his gun and ammunition would have been seized and held as evidence.

No gun would have meant no dead officer.

Today, Officers responded to another call from Mrs. Santos. Mr. Manzano answered the door, firing gun shots at point blank range. The two officers were hit. 100% preventable.

The actions of Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg are inexcusable. While Mr. Manzano pulled the trigger, Kim Ogg put the gun in his hands. Her actions are directly responsible for the death of HPD Sergeant Preston.

The good people of Harris County mourn the tragic and senseless loss of HPD Sergeant Preston. They have an opportunity to ensure this does not happen again.

DA Ogg's fate is in their hands. She is on the ballot today.

Vote to keep your streets, your neighborhoods, your homes, and family safe. Vote to keep the men and women of law enforcement from preventable perils. Vote to hold Kim Ogg responsible for HPD Sergeant Preston's death."

The problem runs much deeper than merely Kim Ogg's refusal to file charges. We live in a "sanctuary city" where illegals are shielded from deportation by ICE. They simply refuse to tell ICE when violent offenders are arrested and then released, often with no charges filed, as was the case with Mr. Manzano.

Until we have a city government that acts to protect their community over party politics,

tragic events like Sgt. Preston's unnecessary death will continue to happen until we, the citizens of Harris county, elect officials who will protect the community over the party.

**JOSEPH MENSLAGE**

***EDITORS NOTE: This was written before the election and unfortunately more innocent people will loose their lives because voters in Harris County re-elected Kim Ogg to the District Attorneys office. I guess they aren't interested in saving lives.***

#### **YES, BIDEN WON—BUT IT'S STILL TRUMP'S AMERICA**

Many thought 2016 was a fluke. That's impossible to argue now.

After days of seesawing vote counts and gut-churning uncertainty, the answer is finally in—sort of. Joe Biden has won enough electoral votes to make him America's next president.

Chaotic as this week has been—with its Mad Max-style rolling caravans, major polling failures, and multiple unsubstantiated claims of victory from President Donald Trump—it would be a mistake to let all the bedlam and the legal battles likely to come obscure one of the most important takeaways from the race: just how close Trump got. Far from the landslide many experts predicted, the vote was a tight one.

Which raises the question of what the results actually mean for the country, beyond who becomes its next president. Pun-dits have tried to explain away Trump's unexpected strong finish by pointing to lock-down fatigue or voters' appreciation for his perceived success on the econo-

my—at least until the pandemic cratered it.

But these rationalizations don't tell the whole story. Most important, they don't account for the fact that, after four years of scandal, corruption, and failure after failure, nearly half of all U.S. voters still endorsed an authoritarian, white nationalist serial liar who has spectacularly botched the most serious health crisis in a century. They also knowingly ignored, or willingly embraced, Trump's cruelty, racism, and sexism; his lack of curiosity or knowledge about the government and the world; his disdain for traditional U.S. values such as fair play, rule of law, and freedom of the press; and his eagerness to tear down the institutions of governance at home and abroad—institutions that, while flawed, have provided so much peace and prosperity over the years. Back in 2016, some Republicans voted for Trump because they didn't know much about him or because they hoped that the responsibilities of the office would transform him into a statesman.

No one can make that argument today. We all now know exactly who Trump is.

When you factor in the facts that Trump has now won some 7 million more votes than he did in 2016, that he improved his standing among Latino and Black voters, and that the Republican Party may well hold the Senate, you're left with one conclusion: 2016 was no fluke. Biden may have won the election, but we're all living in Trump's America now.

Why do I say that? For starters, Trump and the Republican



## your thoughts !!!



Party's show of strength means that despite his defeat, Trump isn't going away and Republicans won't reject him. Before the election, Trump's stranglehold on the party seemed to be slipping fast. More and more Republicans were arguing, quietly, that their party needed reform and that four more years of Trump would doom them at the ballots. Even stalwart supporters such as Sen. John Cornyn were starting to edge away from the president. Now that Trump's supporters have done so well—especially those, like Sen. Lindsey Graham, who glued themselves to their leader's side—it's hard to imagine many Republicans giving up on Trump or Trumpism anytime soon.

With his party and a large chunk of the public behind him, an empowered Trump—as de facto opposition leader, free-lance tweeter, talk show star, or media baron—will continue to draw huge levels of attention and support, which he'll use to hector and undermine Democrats, publicly shame Republicans into fighting Biden on everything, and to push the same peevish, counter-factual, us-versus-the-experts-and-everybody-else message that he has for the past four years. Thursday night's speech, with its baseless claims of voter fraud and endless lies, shows what tone Trump will continue to set. As Brad Parscale, the president's first campaign manager in this election, told the New York Times, "It isn't

like his Twitter account or his ability to control a news cycle will stop."

Meanwhile, the "Never Trumpers"—former Republican officials dedicated to process, competent governance, the importance of institutions, and at least some basic form of national unity and who are desperate to reform the party—will remain marginalized or will leave the party altogether.

The results for the country will be dire. In the likely event that Republicans manage to hold on to the Senate, the policy paralysis of the past four years will continue. Even presidents who control Congress rarely get more than one or two big things done before their first midterm election, when they often lose legislative support. It's hard to imagine that a President Biden, lacking full congressional support, will get even that far—no matter how good a deal maker he proves to be.

That's a recipe for big trouble ahead. While Biden may seek to change the tone in Washington, the years of Barack Obama's presidency showed that despite Biden's lifelong dedication to bipartisanship and his still cozy relationships in the Senate, so long as Republicans remain the party of no, the chances of achieving compromise are close to zero. Under a divided government, we're likely to see more inaction on huge problems such as the pandemic (though Biden could make some improvements using his executive authority)

and the economy (where he can't do much without Congress). Should Biden fail to pass major pandemic relief and other government spending, markets will flounder, and financial instability will increase. Without coordinated action by all branches of the U.S. government, the pandemic will get much worse.

Thus Trump's America—a country that has just spurned its best chance to resoundingly repudiate him—will mean more self-perpetuating dysfunction. Rage at the failure of the government to help, or Republicans' rage at the government's attempts to help, will only intensify the country's already vicious polarization, further reducing the chances for cooperation and possibly leading to violence.

Biden's goal of healing the nation's divisions and governing in a way that brings everyone together seems like a very tall order now. Obama's attempts to do the same only fueled Republicans' obstreperousness and drove a large share of the public into the dangerous fantasy land of birtherism and other conspiracy theories (some of which ultimately morphed into QAnon). Now that Trump's approach, for all its futility and ugliness, has been embraced by a large portion of the country, it's hard to imagine a President Biden managing to do heal the country.

But it was impossible to imagine a President Trump even trying.

**FOREIGN POLICY MAGAZINE**

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\* Officer Luke Brown, Save Date 12.10.16

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my thoughts !!

MICHAEL BARRON, PUBLISHER

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lots. Change the way we vote  
to prevent any fraudulent votes  
in the future. Go to the poles in  
2022 and wipe out these low life  
representatives that hate law and

order. And finally demand term  
limits.

This what we CAN DO. Maybe  
by the time December's issue  
comes around, Trump may have  
found a TRUMP CARD. 🇺🇸

his thoughts !

REX EVANS, EDITOR n CHIEF

Rex Evans



thoughts come to mind when  
you think of the Harris County  
Sheriff's Office, one must con-  
cede some of the finest people  
in history once proudly wore the  
silver star of a Harris County  
Deputy Sheriff.

For all those Harris County Law  
Enforcement Agencies who've  
either lost a Deputy or are cur-  
rently tending to the health of  
one of their own, my sincerest  
and most heartfelt thoughts and

prayers are with you all.

One can only hope, 2020 and  
all the tragedy it brought with it,  
will soon fade away much like  
time itself fades from us all.

For all the rest of us who  
remain, remember who we are  
and where we come from. We've  
had a very rich and powerful  
past.

Keep fighting the good fight,  
always, always remember, "let's  
be careful out there." 🇺🇸

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# Three Great Books

WRITTEN BY FORMER HPD SGT. DAVID COLE aka Deacon Blue

## The Battle of Houston-Hezbollah Attacks

What would happen if a terrorist force numbering almost one thousand attacked a major American city and conducted a series of coordinated terror attacks that lasted nearly a month? This book will show the reader what could happen in the event of a major terror attack on a large U.S. city and the effects of the terror on the population and the men and women of the police departments who must fight them to the death. Veteran fighters from the wars in the Middle East are sent to Houston by a malevolent country to strike terror into the citizens by killing and maiming as many as possible with small arms, explosives, poison gas and finally an atomic bomb. The Houston Police Department, the Harris County Sheriff's Department and other local law enforcement must battle on their own until the National Guard and the Texas Rangers arrive to join the fight

[READ TODAY, CLICK HERE](#)

## The Battle of Houston-Mouton's Revenge

The Battle of Houston continues as the Houston Police Department is joined by the Harris County Sheriff's Department, the National Guard and the Texas Rangers to fight the hundreds of terrorists unleashed on the city by a malevolent country. Outgunned in every fight, the men and women of law enforcement must overcome the forces sent to destroy their city. As each terrorist attack is fought to the death, another attack explodes in another part of Houston. City buildings and critical infrastructure are demolished with explosives and heavy ordnance used by the veteran fighters from the middle eastern wars. Maurice Mouton, retired HPD SWAT marksman continues his mission to avenge the death of his fellow marines from a truck bomb in Beirut, Lebanon in 1983. Sgt. Mark Conway leads his small group of intrepid officers as they find themselves in fight after fight with veteran terrorists. HPD Chief of Police Marcus McDonald must make critical decisions when he discovers an impending poison gas attack. With heavy losses, his Department is losing the battle of attrition. With the help of Sheriff Mark Holloway and his deputies, they hope to stop the attacks and save their city. Texas Ranger Thomas Metcalf and Ranger Major Fuentes must stop a nuclear attack on NASA. The National Guard, commanded by Lt. Colonel Nichols, use their Bradley Fighting Vehicles and Apache helicopters to bring superior firepower to the fight. Even with their help, the outcome of the battle is in doubt.

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## The Battle of Houston-The Evil That Men Do

The Battle of Houston continues to its final devastating end when a malevolent country sends its best fighters to Texas to cripple the petrochemical industry in the United States. Three oil tankers bearing not crude oil but Quds Force fighters, attack helicopters and combat drones are sent against the Texas gulf coast oil refineries and chemical plants for a knock out blow. With the help of the Israeli Mossad, the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Navy must find and destroy those ships before they can launch their attacks. When they do, sea battles, the likes not seen before off the coast of Texas ensue. Meanwhile, the remnants of the thousand strong Hezbollah terrorists continue their attacks on the civilians and police in the city of Houston. HPD Chief Marcus McDonald, Sgt. Mark Conway and his intrepid group of officers, the Texas Rangers and the National Guard fight the terrorists to the death as they blow up trains, police stations, power plants, fire stations and murder any civilian that gets in their way. The Battle of Houston ends at the historic San Jacinto battlefield when officers, sheriff's deputies, Texas Rangers, National Guard Apache AH-64 helicopters and the U.S. Coast Guard attempt to sink the last remaining enemy ship that has an atom bomb deep in its cargo hold.

[READ TODAY, CLICK HERE](#)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Deacon Blue is the pen name of retired Sgt. David Cole. He was a Houston Police officer from 1981 to 2018. He started in Southwest Patrol and then transferred to Homicide Division where he worked the desk for three years. He was then assigned to the Homicide Sex Crimes Unit where he investigated sexual assaults and other cases. He finally promoted to sergeant in 2007 and went back to patrol. After six months as a patrol sergeant, he was assigned to the HPD Jail division. He escaped from the jail two years later and spent the last nine years of his career in the Office of Planning. Now that he's retired, he cuts the grass, drives his wife to the store and sometimes writes books.

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## HFD Arson Investigator Lemuel “DJ” Bruce laid to rest

HOUSTON – A memorial service was held Thursday for Houston Fire Department arson investigator Lemuel ‘DJ’ Bruce, who was killed in the line of duty.

Hundreds of people spread out to fill Lakewood Church near COVID-19 capacity limits.

“For the 6th time in 14 months, we’re here to honor a fallen brother,” said HFD firefighter Marty Lancton.

Several firefighters spoke at the memorial service in Bruce’s honor. The father of two joined HFD in 2003.

“Bruce developed into a fantastic investigator,” said HFD Senior Investigator Chris Simon-ton. “The type that I would want to have working a case if it was my home or my car that was burned.”

“Our fire family is hurting,” said HFD Senior Captain Bob-by Delgado. “Our police family is hurting. Our city right now is hurting.”

Bruce spent the last five years with HFD as an arson investigator. Last week, Bruce was senselessly shot and killed last by a man believed to be connected to recent fires in Northwest Houston. Ultimately, the suspect turned the gun on himself and also died.

 [NEXT PAGE](#)



“Bruce was murdered in cold blood,” said Delgado. “It was tragic. It is heart-wrenching. We are reminded day in and day out that evil does exist.”

According to HFD Chief Samuel Pena, becoming an arson investigator is an impressive promotion for Houston firefighters. The position combines firefighter and police skills.

“He was a talented over-achiever,” said Chief Pena.


“He was a Marine. He was a crew chief. He was a firefighter. He was an EMT.”

Firefighters saluted their fallen friend Thursday who sacrificed his life during an investigation.

“I hope there is some comfort in knowing that all of us are here with you,” said Chief Pena. “To support you and your family. To lift you up as we honor his life and his memory.”

Investigator Bruce was shot

Friday morning in Houston’s Tim-bergrove neighborhood while conducting surveillance in an arson investigation.

He began his career with the Houston Fire Department in 2003 and was an investigator for five years. He previously served out of HFD Fire Stations 77, 96, 46, 42, 64, 6 and 12. Investigator Bruce is survived by his wife, his 12-year-old daughter and his 8-year-old son. 





# HPD Sergeant Harold Preston, 41 Years of service to Houston

ATHENS – It was a somber afternoon in Athens as community members lined the streets, their hands raised in salute and the American flags they carried billowing in the wind, to pay respects for Houston Police Sgt. Harold Preston while a procession of first responders and loved ones escorted him home.

Preston, 65, was responding to a domestic violence call with officer Courtney Waller on Tuesday, Oct. 20 when a man who wouldn't let his wife in an apartment to get her belongings opened fire on the police. The man shot Waller in the arm, and Waller continues to recover in the hospital. But the gunshots to Preston's head and neck proved fatal.

Preston, a 41-year veteran of the force, was planning to retire in just two weeks.

Born Harold Lloyd Preston on June 28, 1955 in Athens, Preston attended Bishop Heights Elementary school before moving to Houston. He joined the police force in 1979.

The funeral procession began Saturday morning in Houston and ended, hours later, at the North Athens Cemetery, where Preston was laid to rest during a private ceremony.



The Kilgore Police Department was part of the procession from Trinity Valley Community College in Athens to the burial site for the final ceremony.

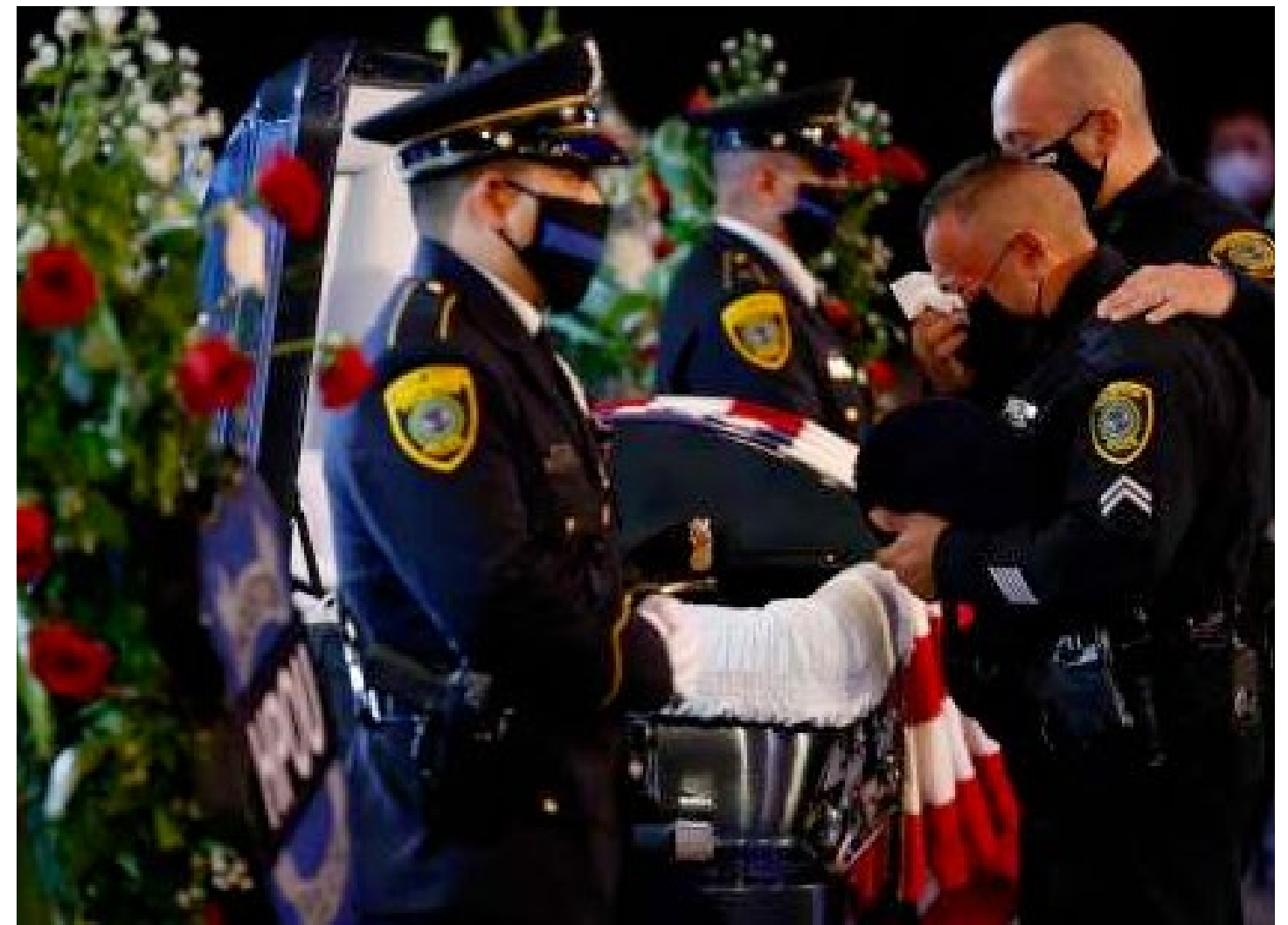
Along the lengthy route, dozens gathered to pay their respects. Some had tears in their eyes, and had to wipe them away. "It's just so sad," they said.

During a final staging just a mile away from Preston's final resting place, Houston Lt. Michael Collins said Preston made an impact on all officers when it came to treating people the right way.

"I personally knew Sgt. Preston for 15 years. He is one of the most humble, down-to-earth public servants you will ever

meet. He taught me a lot on how to deal with people and treat people on a human level and other interactions. He treated people as individuals," Collins said. "He truly cared about the community and serving the community and he epitomized what defines law enforcement today and moving forward in the future."

"I truly believe he is responsible for much of the training that occurred for new officers and sergeants coming in, so people take his teachings and philosophies and pass it on to future generations of law enforcement," Collins continued. "I believe that not only in his inter-



actions with citizens did he make a difference, but in each one of his interactions with officers as well."

Collins said the death of his colleague and friend does not seem real.

"It doesn't feel real because Sgt. Preston had 41 years of service to the police department and he was an institution in the division," Collins said. "You saw him every day when you came to work. You saw him when you left, you just expected him to be here forever."

As for the day-long procession, Collins said, "This means a lot and even more the solidarity as we drove up here from Houston



and see how many people turned out to support Sgt. Preston's family and law enforcement as a whole."

The family asked for donations

to the Domestic Violence Organization Allen Chapel AME Church in Athens in honor of Preston's memory. 🙏





# NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

Houston lost two officers within a week

## HFD Arson Investigator Lemuel Bruce, shot & killed on October 16, 2020

HOUSTON – Houston Fire Department Chief Samuel Peña sadly announced on Friday, October 16, 2020 that Lemuel Bruce, an 44-year-old arson investigator with his department, had been shot and killed in the line of duty.

He's the first HFD arson investigator to be killed by gunfire in the line of duty.

The shooting occurred around 3:30 a.m. in the 2100 block of 18th Street in Houston's Timbergrove neighborhood.

Chief Peña says the investigator was part of a team looking into recent arson fires in Houston's Timbergrove and Heights neighborhoods.

During the investigation, officials say Investigator Bruce spotted a vehicle that met the description of a suspect they were interested in.

HFD says he was following the suspect while waiting for his other team members to get into the area.

At some point, detectives say there was an exchange of gunfire. Investigator Bruce was shot multiple times. He was taken to Hermann hospital, where he died

from his injuries.

HPD says the suspect, 30-year-old Joshua De La Cerda, also died at the scene. Authorities said he was found inside a gray Hyundai with what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Just blocks away in the Heights, Charla Allen, heard noises outside her home and said her Ring doorbell captured an arsonist leaving her driveway after lighting her car on fire.

She said it happened minutes before the shootout between Bruce and the suspect. She believes the two incidents involved the same arsonist.

"I don't think we were targeted. They've been doing this for two weeks all over the Heights. It just happened our car was parked out here. You've got a tree to hide you. It's a little infuriating, but a car can be replaced, unlike the officer that was killed, and we feel terrible about that—such a waste. The car's not worth it."

The Houston Police Department is investigating the shooting as an officer-involved shooting.

Investigator Bruce began his

career with HFD in 2003 and has been an investigator for five years. He has previously served out of HFD Fire Stations 77, 96, 46, 42, 64, 6 and 12.

"Investigator Bruce was married. He had a wife and two children, 12 and eight. They are hurting right now. The department is hurting. And I want to give my condolences to them. I want to ask the community to keep the fire department and the Bruce family in their prayers," Chief Peña said.

Chief Peña said that this is the first time in the department's history that an arson investigator was killed in the line of duty.

The family of Lemuel Bruce sent out a statement on Friday afternoon saying, "We are grateful for the outpouring of love and support from the HFD Family, the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association, and the public. We are mourning the tragic, untimely passing of our husband, father, son, firefighter and fire investigator, former Marine crew chief, and friend. As we begin to reflect on his life and what he meant to all of us, please know that he was forever dedicated




to his family and to his profession. We appreciate your respect of our privacy for now. Thanks again for your support."

Houston Professional Fire

Fighters Association President Patrick M. Lancton said in an interview with a local TV station, "This is truly a tragic and sad day in the history of the Houston Fire

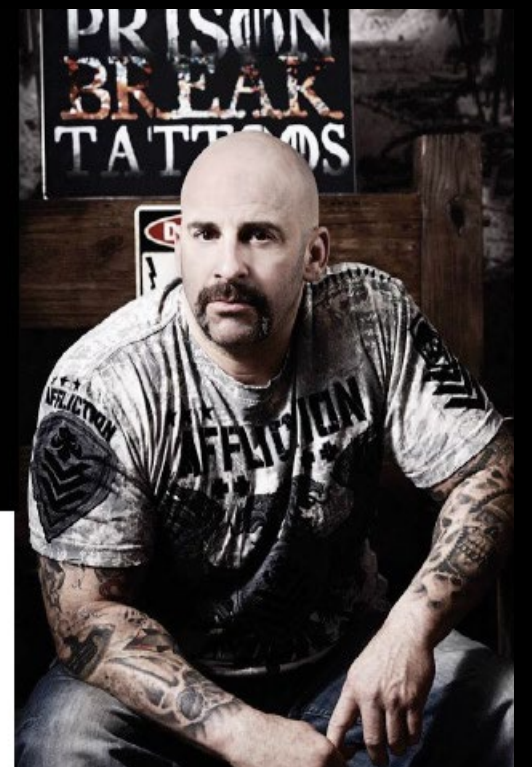
Department. This job we have has changed so much over the past 30-40 years.

Today we lost a truly great firefighter." 

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## HPD Sgt. Harold Preston killed & Officer Courtney Waller wounded

HOUSTON — Houston Police Sgt. Harold Preston died after he was wounded in a shooting at an Houston apartment complex on the morning of Tuesday, October 20, 2020. He was one of two officers shot during a domestic disturbance call. Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo said Sgt. Preston, 65, suffered multiple head wounds during the shooting and he was also shot in the spine.

The chief said Sgt. Preston was surrounded by family before he succumbed to his injuries. He served the Houston Police Department for 41 years and was two weeks away from retirement.

“We have lost a wonderful human being,” the police chief said.

HPD Officer Courtney Waller has been identified as the other officer who was injured in the shooting. He was shot in the arm. The chief said Officer Waller is a twin.

“In the last week, we have lost two very good men. There’s some real evil in this world,” the police chief said. This is just days after the Houston Fire Department lost one of their own, Arson Investigator Lemuel Bruce.

The suspect has been identified as Elmer Manzano, 51. Acevedo said Manzano has a long criminal history, but did not elaborate on the prior calls with Manzano, his illegal alien status or the failure



SGT. HAROLD PRESTON

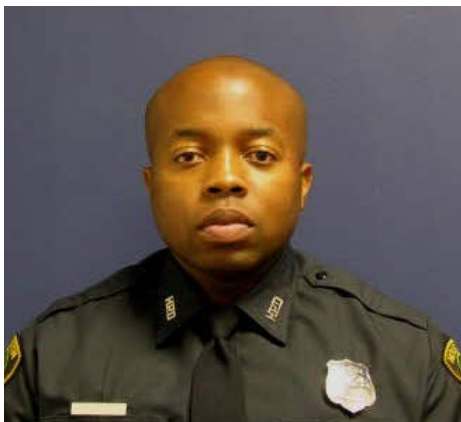
by the Harris County DA’s office to accept charges during those prior calls.

Manzano was shot in the abdomen and was transported to Ben Taub Hospital. He was later released and charged with capital murder and attempted capital murder.

The 14-year-old son of the suspect was also shot in the arm during the incident and was transported to Texas Children’s Hospital. He too has been released from the hospital.

The police chief said it all started when HPD received a call just before 8 a.m. of a domestic disturbance with an unknown weapon in the 2600 block of Holly Hall.

Officer Waller and Sgt. Preston -- as well as another officer -- responded to the scene. The officers met with complainant,



OFFICER COURTNEY WALLER

who was the estranged wife of suspect.

The officers talked with her in the parking lot for about an hour. Acevedo said the woman wanted to get her belongings and move out.

Acevedo said that just before 9:30 a.m. the suspects son opened the door with his keys to the apartment and told officers the suspect had a gun.

The suspect then shot multiple rounds at the officers.

Bryant said he heard his fiancée asking someone if they were okay. When he saw it was Officer Waller, he ran downstairs to help.

He saw Waller bleeding from his arm and came to his aid. When most people would just be standing around filming with their phones, Bryant jumped into action and applied a tourniquet



and then escorted him away from the scene to the front of the apartment complex.

As the pair were walking, Waller told Bryant that he had dropped his service weapon back at the scene.

He went back and retrieved the gun and had the foresight to wrap it in a towel and calmly walked back so as to not alarm officers arriving on the scene..

“He had the presence of mind to realize we just had two officers shot; I’m African-American. I’m sitting here with all these tattoos, no shirt,” Acevedo said. “I don’t want officers to see me coming up with a gun.”

Seconds later an assist the officer was broadcast with shots fired and an officer down.

The responding officers were able to remove Sgt. Preston from

the scene and he and Officer Waller were transported by ambulance to Hermann Hospital.

Houston Police Officers Union President Joe Gamaldi tweeted that the wounded officers were taken to the hospital:

“Two of our officers have been shot and being transported to the hospital, please keep them and all of our officers in your thoughts and prayers, we need them right now.”

From her balcony, Risha Johnson watched as Houston police surrounded her neighbor’s apartment.

“They told us actually to go back inside because it was escalating,” Johnson said.

The suspect then surrendered just before 10:30 a.m., the chief said. An elderly female also came out of the apartment at that time.

The Harris County District Attorney’s Office says charges on Manzano are “imminent.”

Sgt. Preston was two weeks away from retirement, according to the police officers’ union.

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## Philly PD finds van loaded with explosives

### Officers recovered propane tanks & dynamite

**BY JESSICA SCHLADEBECK,  
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS**

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia police uncovered a van packed with explosives and other suspicious cargo following several nights of unrest over the death of Walter Wallace Jr., a Black man with a history of mental health problems, who was fatally shot during a confrontation with police on Monday October 26th.

Officers recovered propane tanks, torches and what appeared to be dynamite sticks from the vehicle Wednesday October 28th.

The driver, identified as 41-year-old Brian Larue, had a Delaware license, but investigators traced him to a home in the 1500 block of Lindley Avenue in the city's Logan section.

"We executed a search warrant and found 26 additional explosive devices and a number of guns as well," said Attorney General Josh Shapiro.

The passenger was identified as Philadelphia resident Eric Murray, 27. Shapiro said the men will face felony charges for risking a catastrophe and possessing weapons of mass destruction.

The city remained on high alert as authorities continued to investigate. A bomb squad also responded to the scene.

After two nights of protests



and unrest, Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney during a virtual press conference on Wednesday declared a curfew from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. citywide. He also announced an undetermined number of National Guard soldiers would begin arriving in the city on Friday to assist officers over the weekend.

Gov. Tom Wolf just hours before the curfew was scheduled begin, also signed an emergency proclamation in a bid to curb looting and violence.

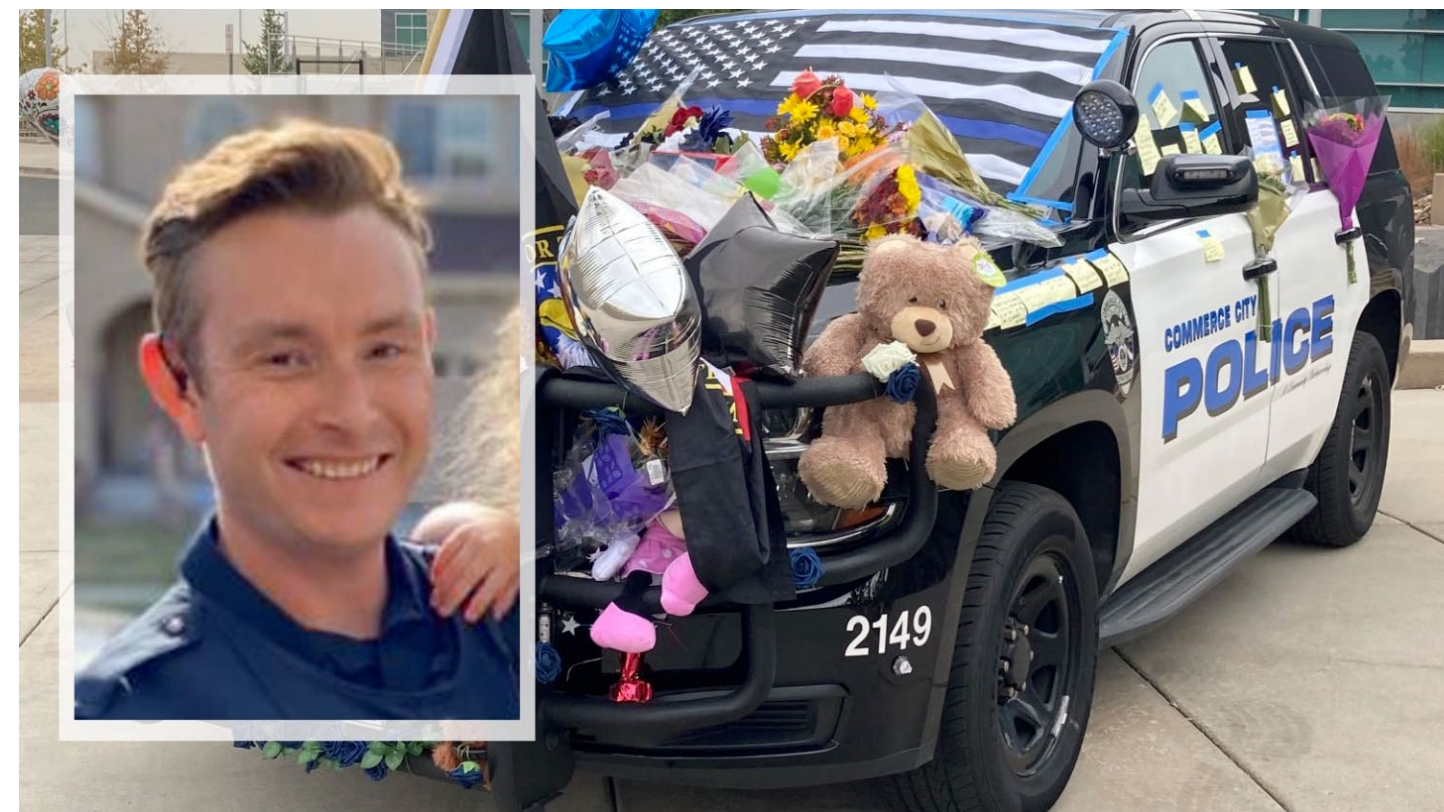
"Hundreds have gathered peacefully to speak out against social injustices. But their voices are being drowned out by others taking advantage of this time to

sow mayhem," he said.

"I signed this proclamation so commonwealth resources can be provided quickly to protect lives and property."

While scattered reports of looting were reported overnight, Philadelphia was otherwise without the violent confrontations and chaos it faced in the days after Wallace was killed by police.

The deadly incident sparked outrage in city residents, more than 1,000 of who gathered at Malcolm X Park for a demonstration on Tuesday. The protest eventually turned violent, with more than 23 officers injured by the end of the night. 🚔



## Colorado officer killed in crash

The Commerce City Police Department is honoring the career and service of CCPD Detective Curt Holland, 37, who was killed in a double-fatal traffic crash on Highway 2 on Friday, Oct. 16. CCPD also recognizes the loss of local resident Francesca Dominguez, 31, a civilian and Commerce City native who also perished in the crash.

The incident occurred just after 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 16, when a southbound F-350 pickup truck crossed into the northbound lanes of Highway 2 and collided head-on with Det. Holland's unmarked Commerce City Police Department Ford Explorer and a Kia Soul driven by Ms. Dominguez. The Colorado State Patrol is actively investigating the incident and there is no new information to be released regarding the crash at this time.

### Statement from Commerce City Chief of Police Clint Nichols

On Friday, October 16, Commerce City lost one of our dedicated police officers, Detective Curt Holland, who was killed in a traffic crash on Highway 2. For 4 years, Detective Holland served and protected the residents of this community, serving as a patrol officer and a member of the traffic unit before being promoted to detective earlier this year. He previously worked with the Denver Sheriff's Department.

Detective Holland was an exceptional police officer, a devoted husband and father, and a great man. He was an exceedingly bright person with a great attitude. He was one of our most enthusiastic employees and always seemed to have a smile on his face. He was always eager to take on any task handed to him.

He brought his "A-Game" every day.

Curt leaves behind his wife, Amanda, and two young children. While our entire community shares in this loss, we especially offer our heartfelt condolences to them, all his family and friends, our CCPD family, and all those who were touched by his service.

We have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from Commerce City residents, from surrounding communities, and law enforcement agencies near and far. We are especially grateful to the Colorado State Patrol and the Colorado Fallen Heroes Foundation.

On behalf of the Commerce City Police Department, we ask that you all keep the families in your thoughts and prayers. 🚔





## NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

# Los Angeles to test unarmed response to non-violent 911 calls

Who is dumb enough to volunteer for that position? Apparently they don't know that people who have mental issues and strung out on drugs can be a handful and of course deadly.

The Los Angeles City Council has voted unanimously to approve a plan to form an unarmed crisis response team that would respond to non-violent 911 calls.

The council approved the motion 14-0, saying that a different response is needed for people who may be suffering from mental health or substance abuse issues, ABC7 reports.

The city is looking to partner



with a nonprofit to develop the team of specially trained, unarmed responders for nonviolent

calls. Los Angeles will become the first big city to develop such a pilot program. 🚔



## One way to tick off your HOA Dallas man's gory Halloween display prompts multiple calls on 911

BY THERESA BRAINE

DALLAS — It's a horrific scene: Bodies strewn across the front lawn, impaled with various objects. A corpse draped off the edge of the roof. A wheelbarrow filled with body parts. Blood everywhere.

Although the gory spectacle has sent more than one resident of East Dallas running to summon police, artist Steven Novak said it's all in good fun — and Halloween hyperbole.

"I've always been up to hijinks like flying ghosts or 7-foot tall snow sculptures of myself, so

if I was gonna do Halloween, it was obvious that it should be hyper-real," the displays mastermind told the Dallas Observer. "No lights, fog machine, or camp ... something that would really freak people out walking by in the dark. So I whipped up some dummies and slung 20 gallons of blood all over."

In his M Street yard, one dummy lies with his head pulverized, one lies with a scale where his or her head used to be, and a few more lie in bloodied trash bags fallen off a wheelbarrow. All the while, in the window of

the house, a zombie horde attempts to break out.

So realistic is the macabre display that neighbors keep calling the cops — who obligingly show up.

"Neighbors told me cop cars were in front of my house a lot during the day. I was only home twice to receive them. They told me they thought it was cool and that they were only there because they were required to reply to complaints."

Dallas PD had no comments but did ask neighbors, please stop calling. 🚔

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# WHY THE TERRY STOP IS STILL A LIFE SAVING TOOL

The investigative or Terry stop is the bread and butter of the patrol officer who wants to make an impact on crime in their community

BY LT. DAN MARCOU

There always will be officers who aspire to make a difference in their community by being proactive in their policing rather than just reactive. They come to appreciate that palpable feeling of accomplishment knowing their personal vigilance prevented a homicide, rape or robbery. Outstanding police work is the result of proper utilization of the valuable crime-fighting tool known as the Terry stop.

The public often confuses the Terry stop with “stop and frisk.” It behooves law enforcement to be ready to answer the question “What is a Terry stop?” and explain to their communities it originated from the landmark United States Supreme Court Case Terry v. Ohio in which SCOTUS laid out the guidelines to be followed by police officers for making a legal investigative stop.

## **PATROL DONE WITH KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND PURPOSE**

Many officers have become masters at developing criminal cases that start with a traffic violation.

When you patrol with knowledge, experience and purpose, you are in search of bad people who would victimize the good people who live and work on your beat. You can often clear and even prevent crimes by arresting people after making a successful investigative stop.

The talent of making successful

investigative stops develops after you truly get to know the good and bad people on your beat over time by experiencing and remembering who people are and what they are about.

By knowing the good people you serve on your beat, you will be more likely to avoid the stopping of innocent people on the street just going about their business. This not only wastes your time, but it also creates resentment. However, this will occasionally happen and, when it does, sincerely thanking them for their cooperation and apologizing for their inconvenience goes a long way with many toward making amends.

## **REASONABLE SUSPICION**

It is important to remember that you can't make an investigative stop on merely a gut feeling, no matter how accurate your gut is.

Clearly, you can make a stop on sight if you have probable cause for an arrest. However, you do not need probable cause to make a legal investigative stop.

The Supreme Court has ruled that a reasonable officer can make a legal investigative stop when the officer can articulate a reasonable suspicion that the person about to be stopped is committing, or has committed a crime. You must not only pay particular attention

to what is happening before and during a contact for your personal physical survival, but also for your legal survival as well. After an arrest, you must possess the ability to articulate the legal justification for the stop.

## **PARTS OF THE TOTALITY PUZZLE**

You must look at the case that you are trying to solve from your patrol car by making an investigative stop as a puzzle with many pieces. The more pieces of the puzzle you construct before deciding to make the stop, the clearer the picture you will have as you approach the contact. You will not only know that the stop you are making is legal, but it will also help an officer to decide on what tactics to use to keep them safe during the stop and ultimate arrest.

Here are some pieces of the puzzle that when observed bring an officer ever closer to reasonable suspicion to make that stop:

- You are patrolling in a business district, or residential area that has recently been experiencing many burglaries, car entries, thefts, rapes or whatever is the crime you suspect the individual of being involved in.
- You are patrolling in that area during the general time of the occurrences.
- You see a man coming out of an



alley in this area who you know from prior experiences has committed that crime or those crimes.

- The man matches descriptions of the suspect.
- The man resembles security footage of the suspect that you have seen.
- The man is seen in close proximity to the scene of the crime just committed.
- That man is wearing bulky clothes and gloves even though the weather is warm.
- The vehicle closely matches the description of the vehicle driven by the suspect in a crime.
- The man sees your squad and turns back into the alley sharply as if he is going to run, then stops and exits the alley continuing to walk in what appears to be a feigned nonchalance, or makes

some other clearly suspicious yet describable movement.

- The man is carrying an item that is a commonly stolen item in the current crime spree.
- The man, after seeing you, tosses an item into some nearby bushes.
- The man sees you and instantly bolts and runs!

## **ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES INCLUDE:**

- In drug cases, you note when you have observed multiple short-term contacts with an exchange.
- You see what appears to be a crime in progress, like a subject prying on a window, or a man roughing up another person.
- Someone looks in need of serious help or endangered such as a drunk man staggering through the snow with no shirt on.

None of these observations rise to a level of probable cause, but when

you can articulate seeing a number of them, they can add up to reasonable suspicion for an investigative stop.

## **“THE FRISK”**

One major mistake made by some officers conducting Terry stops is the mis-perception that where there exist grounds for the stop, there is automatically grounds for a “frisk.” This is a legally fatal error.

The court in Terry specifically identified the frisk as a separate issue from the stop, stating, “a reasonably prudent officer is warranted in the circumstances of a given case in believing that his safety or that of others is endangered, he may make a reasonable search for weapons of the person believed by him to be armed and dangerous.”



Here are some pieces to go with this separate frisk puzzle to help justify a pat-down search:

- The suspect is historically known to go armed often.
- There are bulges in the area of his belt line that appear to be the outline of a firearm or edged weapon.
- The suspect made a furtive motion, which the experienced officer identified as a movement commonly used by suspects to reach for, check, reposition, or prepare to take advantage of, a concealed weapon.
- The movement of the suspect has revealed what appears to be a portion of a weapon concealed on his person.
- A named witness said he was armed.
- The crime, which you have reasonable suspicion to believe the suspect is involved in, is commonly committed with a weapon.

When an officer can articulate a number of these observations, it will most likely be deemed reasonable for that officer to conduct a pat-down search of an individual for their own safety.

However, few judges in a contested case will rule in favor of an officer whose only justification for the pat-down search is, "My personal policy is when I stop, I frisk."

#### THE INVESTIGATIVE STOP DURING A LEGAL TRAFFIC STOP

Many officers have become masters at developing criminal cases

that start with a traffic violation by:

- Utilizing plain view to look hard and see contraband or readily identifiable fruits of a crime in plain view to develop probable cause for an arrest of the driver and the eventual search of the vehicle.

- Becoming adept at identifying indicators of deception.
- Legally obtaining permission to search the vehicle.
- Calling a K-9 over, during the right circumstances, to conduct a walk around.

When the investigative stop is attached to a legal traffic stop and a K-9 is called to the scene for a walk around, it's important to note that in *Rodriguez v. United States* the court clearly ruled that the length of the business of such a stop can't be extended to await the arrival of the K-9. Such an extension would be considered a separate seizure from the initial stop.

#### CONCLUSION

The investigative or Terry stop is the bread and butter of the patrol officer who wants to make an impact on crime in their community. Crimes will be solved, and lives will be saved.

For these officers, being at the right place at the right time is owed less to luck and more to an acquired skill in the use of the valuable tool that is the Terry stop.

#### REFERENCE

Cornell Law School Legal Infor-

mation Institute. [Terry Stop/Stop and Frisk.](#)

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

*Lt. Dan Marcou is an internationally-recognized police trainer who was a highly-decorated police officer with 33 years of full-time law enforcement experience. Marcou's awards include Police Officer of the Year, SWAT Officer of the Year, Humanitarian of the Year and Domestic Violence Officer of the Year. Upon retiring, Lt. Marcou began writing. He is a co-author of "Street Survival II, Tactics for Deadly Encounters," which is now available. His novels, "The Calling, the Making of a Veteran Cop," "SWAT, Blue Knights in Black Armor," "Nobody's Heroes" and "Destiny of Heroes," as well as his latest non-fiction offering, "Law Dogs, Great Cops in American History," are all available at Amazon. Dan is a member*



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## *When you realize de-funding the police was a mistake*

I live and work in a city that just defunded their police. I won't mention the name because it will result in my immediate termination. See, we are not allowed to comment on our "transition to a non-violent police force." This "transition" was what everyone said it would be. The city officials behind the move thought they could cut our budget, cancel academy classes and hire civilians to come in and do police work. Well it didn't quite work out that way.

When the announcement was made, 152 officers submitted their paperwork and took early retirement. Another hundred or so started burning overtime and accumulated vacation time. I work evenings and, in my district, we normally have 45 officers on duty at any given time. Today, at roll call, there were 10 of us. I thought I made a mistake when I walked in. Like a lot of departments, we don't have roll call every day. So, did I miss the notice today was one of those days?

The Sgt. walked in and looked like he just lost his best friend.

Rather than stand behind his podium he just grabbed a chair, turned it around and sat next to me.

"Guys I don't know what to say. This is all we have to work with tonight. Everyone is riding one man units and we all need to back each other up. Priority calls only, we're leaving the reports for tomorrow's day shift."

Sarge, are you saying that the ten of us are going to cover the entire district? With protesters in the streets?

"Unfortunately, that's exactly what I'm saying. The good news is that the State has sent troopers in to cover the protesters, hell call it what it is, RIOTS. So at least we don't have to go downtown. Besides I hear city council is making some kind of appearance down there and I don't need you guys mouthing off to them. We all know they are assholes, but I can't afford to lose any more people due to mandatory days off for cussing out council members."

Yes, our city council is com-

prised of a bunch of left wing radical morons who have no idea what they've done. Bunch of rich assholes living uptown in their big ass mansions with private security guards and K9's. Nothing bad ever happens to them, and they figure they don't need us when they have their own private army protecting their stupid butts.

I just shook my head, fist bumped the sarge and got the hell out of there. This was going to one bullshit night; I just knew it. I loaded all my stuff into a spare Shop, as my regular ride has been in the shop waiting on parts for over a week. Hmmm. New explorer and it actually still had that new car smell. I'm pretty sure I'm not going like this over my Charger, but it's better than one of the 200,000+ mile Crown Vics out back.

I logged in, told the dispatcher I was in service, and asked what she was holding. Obviously the Sarge had already called 911 to advise them we weren't taking any report calls, cause she started rattling off all the alarms



calls that had gone unanswered from day shift. So, for the next couple of hours, I ran call after call clearing most unfounded or GOA as they had been holding for hours. Only 15 people had showed up for day shift.

I kept monitoring the states channel and District 1's traffic to see how bad it was downtown. It was almost nonstop with one incident after another. There were times I almost wanted to say fuck it and go help them. But I couldn't leave 9 guys to fend for themselves. I do remember around 2200hrs hearing the van carrying the city council members had departed downtown and was headed north. Nothing like having a limo service to take you home after your protest appearance.

At 2245, dispatch put out a ma-

jor accident up on the interstate that involved a head-on collision and one vehicle off the bridge with entrapment. Well what the hell. I made a U-turn and headed that way, hoping to God that Fire & Rescue beat me there. Less than five minutes later, I pulled up to pure carnage in the middle of the highway and not a single rescue truck in sight. I could not even identify what type of car this was. I was met by a young woman dressed in scrubs and obviously a doctor or nurse.

She said "the driver was DOA when I got here, there was nothing I could do. I think the other vehicle ran off the highway and down the embankment," pointing to the broken guardrail.

I advised dispatch I needed the ME and began looking for the

second vehicle. As the two of us looked over what was left of the guardrail, I saw the second vehicle, upside down at the bottom of the hill, and on fire. As I ran back to my unit to grab a fire extinguisher, I yelled for the nurse to send the Fire Dept. down to me as soon as they arrived. I could hear sirens and fire trucks in the distance, and I hoped they were seconds, not minutes away.

As I ran down the hill screaming at the dispatcher to get me help. I had what looked like a transport van with multiple victims inside. The first person I came upon was covered in blood and grabbed my arm and said, "officer there are six more in the van, please get them out." When he looked up at me, I was shocked to see it was the Mayor.



Sir, who's in that van.

"The entire city council and my aide. He was driving"

Well fuck me. I used up the fire extinguisher within about 30 seconds and knocked some of the engine fire out, but I knew I had mere seconds to get these people out before the van would be totally engulfed. I pulled the driver out first and one by one, I pulled the others out. I drug them 25-30 feet up the hill side. The flames were already past the driver's seat when I went back in for the final passenger. She looked at me with the most frightened look and said, 'please don't let me die' But her leg was pinned under the seat in front of her and there was no way I could move it by myself. At that very second, I felt a hand on my shoulder and turn to see my sergeant standing over me. Without saying a word, he pulled on the bottom of the broken seat and I pulled as hard as I could on the councilwoman and got her leg free. We both drug her up the hill as the van exploded behind us. I could feel the heat and smell my vest melting from the flames that were less than a foot way.

When I picked myself up, I saw dozens of firemen and EMTs running towards us. Within minutes, the fire was out and rescue workers, EMTs, firemen, troopers and all nine district cars were on the scene helping. I heard the helicopter overhead as dozens of ambulances began arriving. It was about that time that I guess the adrenaline was starting to fade when I felt my neck burning and realized that the explosion has sent pieces of burning

plastic flying through the air, of which a small piece had landed on the back of my neck and upper back.

As I walked over to the ambulance that was treating the mayor, I jumped inside and asked how he was doing. He was an older man and I thought for sure he was having a heart attack. He turned his head away from the constant questions of the EMTs and looked at me, held his hand up to me. I grabbed his hand and said, "are you alright Mr. Mayor?"

With tears in his eyes, he said "I'm so sorry, I'm just so sorry. We made a terrible mistake. I made a terrible mistake."

What mistake sir, this was an accident. It wasn't your fault. The driver of the car that hit you was going the wrong way. He didn't make it sir, I'm sorry. But you're going to be ok.

"No officer, I'm not. I'm just so sorry. Please forgive me."

What are you saying, what are you sorry for? What mistake?

"I thought we could get by without you, without the police. I thought it was the right thing to do, but I was wrong. You saved my life tonight. You saved the entire city council. You could have just left us inside that van. You didn't have to risk your life to save the very people that said you didn't matter. I'm just so very sorry. Please, please forgive us."

"Officer, we have to go," said the EMT, "and you need to come to the hospital and let us look at that burn on your neck."

Okay. I'll see you up there. And take care of him, he's our mayor. I slammed the door and tapped the back to let them know they were good to go. I walked back

to the scene where the deceased driver was still sitting behind what was left of his car just as they were placing a plastic sheet across the top. My sergeant was talking to the trooper and turned to say something, but no words were spoken. He didn't have to say anything. The look on his face said it all.

Only by the grace of GOD were we able to save these people. GOD decided that the wrong way driver didn't deserve a second chance. The van driver, mayor and city council all suffered serious, but non-life threatening injuries. My neck had first and second degree burns, but I'll live.

We do what we do, regardless of what people may think of us. Our job is to protect the people we serve. It doesn't matter whether they like us, support us or even want us to be their police. We do it because it's our sworn duty. We do it because it's the right thing to do. We do it as God's servants and his children. We do it because WE ARE THE PEACEMAKERS.

EDITOR: *It's unknown what if any impact or changes this accident had on the mayor and city council of this city. It's unknown if they intend to reverse their decision on future policing needs. What is known is that this officer and his sergeant were both awarded the Medal Of Valor. It's the highest decoration for bravery a police officer can receive and is comparable to the military's Medal of Honor. Their actions saved the lives of eight people including the bus driver, the mayor and six city council men and women. The deceased driver had a BAC of .24%.* 🚒

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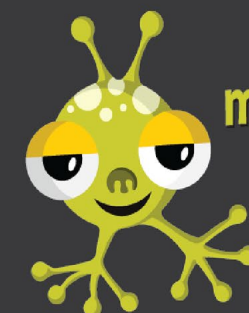
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# AFTERMATH

WORDS BY MICHAEL BARRON

THE NEW NORMAL

## Aurora SWAT walks away from standoff; We'll come back when he's in a better mood.

AURORA, Colo.— On Sept. 24, Aurora PD (APD) responded to a domestic disturbance and a possible “felony child abuse.” They said the homeowner, Eric Burns, 39, “had a valid misdemeanor no bond DV (domestic violence) warrant out of Denver.” Additionally, APD believed Burns had assaulted his son and abused his daughter.

The patrol supervisor called in a SWAT team after the subject barricaded himself in the house.

“It was scary,” said neighbor Jasmine Staats who watched the standoff unfold from her home on the next block. SWAT team members were on the scene for hours, negotiating with Burns to surrender. They believed he had guns in the house and that he was armed.

After several hours of back and forth with SWAT, Burns even-

tually released his 6-year-old daughter. Now at this point, you figure SWAT is going to storm the house and put an end to this nonsense. Flash bang, teams in the front and back, and hopefully no one gets hurt. NOPE.

After four hours, APD brass made the “decision made to vacate.” Yep, they said pack it up and move out. So, dozens of officers, SWAT negotiators and command officers packed up and left Burns in his home. Just like that they were all gone!

And why you ask?

According to a press release from APD, “Because members of the Aurora community have made it very clear that they want their police department to respond differently to some incidents, particularly when there is a possibility of using serious force against a subject.” So, we

“avoided unnecessary confrontation” with the suspect and going forward that will be the top priority for this department.”

Shut the F up! Are they serious?

And what did the so called Aurora neighbors have to say about this new policy?

“We were pretty shocked,” said the next door neighbor, “We thought for sure they would have arrested someone. It’s quite concerning they would do that. If someone’s got a warrant out for their arrest, why wouldn’t they have been arrested?”

Another neighbor walked up to the SWAT commander and said “you’re not leaving that crazy Mother f’er in that house with all those guns are you. He’s fucking crazy!”

Yes ma’am, we are. That’s what the community wants.

“Well I’m the community on

this block and if you got to shoot his ass, then do it”

It turned out that Burns also was wanted for a felony kidnapping warrant issued by Black Hawk police, although Aurora police said they did not know about that warrant on Sept. 24. So, what, no one ran the guy for warrants in the six hours they were there?

And of course, Aurora PD now says they have not been able to locate Burns since the standoff. Well no surprise there.

“Sometimes this means walking away from a situation and utilizing investigative resources to apprehend persons at a later time,” said APD.

Another neighbor told the local TV station, “after six hours and that kind of police response you kind of assume it’s ending with them taking somebody to jail.

I can’t believe they just left and left the bad guy behind.”

“You’ve got all these situations where force has ended deadly. And you know, I don’t want to see that. I don’t want that to happen ever again. Part of me was expecting them to just knock down the door and go in, but who knows how that could have ended? It could have ended with him being hurt, the police officers being hurt, a little girl being hurt.”

Yeah. People do get hurt and sometimes killed. But the cops didn’t just pick this house at random and say, “hey let’s go kick this guys’ door in and take him to jail and if he shoots at us, we’ll shoot back.”

This guy was a bad guy. He needed to go to jail that day. Now because of this BS from citizens in Colorado, he’s still

running the streets and may end up hurting or even killing someone. And then who’s to blame? Damn sure not the cops.

In the old days, SWAT would have stayed there until he was in custody or deceased. In 2020, “it’s OK let’s just leave and come back when he’s in a better mood. There’s no need for any unnecessary violence.” 🤖

Have a unique story you’d like to share with the BLUES readers?

Send it to: [bluespdmag@gmail.com](mailto:bluespdmag@gmail.com). Please change all the names to protect the innocent and to avoid prosecution in the event that the statute of limitations hasn’t expired.







## Sgt. Harold Preston: Latest Victim of Salvadoran Violence

In the United States we can normally stay above the fray when it comes to violence in war torn countries. We are thankful that we don't live where combat troops kick down our doors and then execute us. Generally speaking, we are able to lead our lives in a safe and secure manner. However, every once in a while, death visits us in a sudden shocking event that drives a stake through the heart of our imagined invulnerability.

In 1979 a civil war began in El Salvador. As usual, keeping above the fray was our strategy when the war broke out. Out of sight, out of mind. Unfortunately, war was no stranger to the people of El Salvador.

A decade earlier, El Salvador fought Honduras in what was known as the "football war." This was a little known four day war that didn't really accomplish anything except killing about 3000 people. Additionally, 300,000 Salvadorans who had been living peacefully in Honduras were forced to leave as enemies. They were not welcome in El Salvador either.

El Salvador was ruled by a right wing military regime and almost all the arable land was used for coffee production and owned by military officers and their wealthy friends. Everybody else was a peasant. In America, they would have been called "sharecroppers."

The Communists and Socialists started a movement that aimed

for regular people to raise their economic profile and outlook. The Carter Administration followed by the Reagan Administration poured money into the military government to fight Communism in our hemisphere. The left wing movement was making serious headway and in 1979 the unrest boiled over and the Salvadoran Civil War began in earnest. Government death squads roamed the country killing and displacing thousands of people. People rightfully feared for their safety. They fled. They got out anyway they could. The environment of violence was producing ruthless combat veterans who took millions of dollars worth of American supplied arms and fled their homeland. El Salvadorans, good and bad, literally walked away.

One of the places they walked to was Houston, Texas. They joined other illegal immigrants from Mexico and Colombia and made their way to Los Angeles and Houston. The former Salvadoran soldiers and guerrillas formed their own organization to protect Salvadorans from Mexican and Colombian outlaws. The name of the organization was Mara Salvatrucha, translated roughly as "street smart Salvadoran gang" in English. It is known as MS-13 today. Regardless of what you might hear, it is still a callous gang of cruel mobsters without pity or compassion.

In 1979, HPD Chief Harry Caldwell was overwhelmed by people from Latin America, primarily from



El Salvador, Mexico, and Colombia, murdering each other on the streets of Houston. Chief Caldwell requested ten new detective positions for the Homicide Division to aid in investigating these murders. I was promoted as a result.

Additionally, the world renowned "Chicano Squad" was started under the command of Detective Jim Montero to use Spanish language skills to investigate these murders. We all investigated more murders in those record breaking years than current officers can imagine. We all made multiple scenes in one shift.

It was quite incredible that a brutal civil war in El Salvador would make its way to our city, but it most certainly did. The death squads and battles in El Salvador would ultimately cost 75,000 lives before the war ended in 1992. That number doesn't include Salvadorans killed here in Houston. Neither

does it include those who were killed by Salvadorans here.

More importantly, that number doesn't include our friend, Sergeant Harold Preston. He is the latest victim of Salvadoran violence. His death cannot be viewed outside the historical context of illegal immigration connected to a guerrilla war that was literally within walking distance of our city. I wish I knew what the answer to this multifaceted problem is. Yes, it's complicated. Yes, it's far beyond a criminal justice problem. Yes, it has sociological and economic factors. Yes, the most challenging facet of all may be political issues: domestic and international. Could the problem be beyond solution? Maybe. Probably. I don't know.

I did know Sergeant Preston. He never asked for any of this – none of us did. As I look at the photos of Sergeant Preston taken throughout his career, I am well aware that I am gazing in the human face of "police reform." Sergeant Preston's hiring and subsequent promotion is something we can all be proud of as it shows that police reform is a process. It is not a single event. To say that any police department is the same now as it was in 1965 is a lie. We have progressed and are continuing to do so. Progress is incremental. It always has been and will continue on its inexorable march to the future. To deny the police reforms of this and prior decades is to deny the hard work of police officers and community activists of previous generations. It is to produce a false narrative that undercuts the sacrifice of Sergeant Preston and other officers of color across our nation. It's outrageous.


Sergeant Preston's forty-one year career is exemplary and shows that one man, or woman, can make a difference. His efforts to better his community added up to real



progress. The lives he touched, including my own, were all made the better because of his endeavors. I cannot imagine the number of positive contacts he made with our citizens over that time span. His dedication to duty was extraordinary and reflected the highest ideals of our profession.

Sergeant Preston leaves behind a loving family and bewildered friends. His fellow officers, active and retired, feel the agonizing pain of his murder and look at the uncertainty that now pervades all of our lives. What we once perceived as the solid rock of American soil, now seems more like the quicksand we viewed in the B western movies of our youth. Our shell of invulnerability has been shattered by an aberration that we call "2020." It is a perfect storm of uncertainty that most people alive have never experienced. We have now lost another anchor that

kept us from the dangerous shoals of uncertainty that pervade every avenue of our lives.

I am saddened and grieved that our friend has been taken from us before he could enjoy the fruits and fellowship of his well earned retirement. His retired friends and classmates longed to include him in travels and companionship in a circle of buddies that share a past experience that most people could never imagine. How cruel the world can be sometimes! But as the Apostle wrote, "We do not grieve as those who have no hope." I hope and believe that Sergeant Preston is in the Kingdom of God, reunited with old comrades and loved ones. He is more alive now than he ever was. I have faith that he is in the everlasting loving embrace of the Savior, or as our Spanish speaking brothers and sisters say, "El Salvador." 





# MAKE a DIFFERENCE

## M.A.D. Radio / A Badge of Honor



Last month I had the pleasure to see first-hand how two great Americans are changing and SAVING the lives of First Responders and Veterans all across our country. (Ret) NYPD Detective John Salerno and (Fmr) U.S. Secret Service Agent Samantha Horwitz host a weekly radio program based in Dallas called Make-a-Difference (M.A.D.) Radio. Each week they welcome various first responders and nonprofit organizations who provide valuable insight and resources in dealing with the stress of police work and other

frontline heroes. While I was in the studio, Raul Rivas, a retired Orlando SWAT officer, recounted his healing process after the Pulse Nightclub shooting.

John Salerno, one half of the team and co-host, is a retired NYC Detective turned Comedian (aka- The Comedy Cop) who grew up on Long Island. He has spent most of his life as a first responder working first as a Fire Fighter/EMT and then retiring from the NYC Police Department as a Detective. Working the rough streets of Brooklyn, John has seen

his fair share of how bad things can get. But he has also seen and recognized the good. Since he was suffering from PTS, he decided not to allow his condition to stop him from making a difference in other people's lives. John was working on 9/11 and lost a lot of brothers and sisters in blue. He worked the 'pile' for days and those images of death and destruction haunt him until this day. John will tell you he tried to end his life a couple of times, before he decided he needed to make a change and save his life



for himself and his family. So, the New Yorker became a Texan with a new passion in life – helping other first responders through the worst times of their lives. John is now dedicated to bringing awareness to the suicide epidemic plaguing our first responder community and is the recipient of the New York City Medal of Valor.

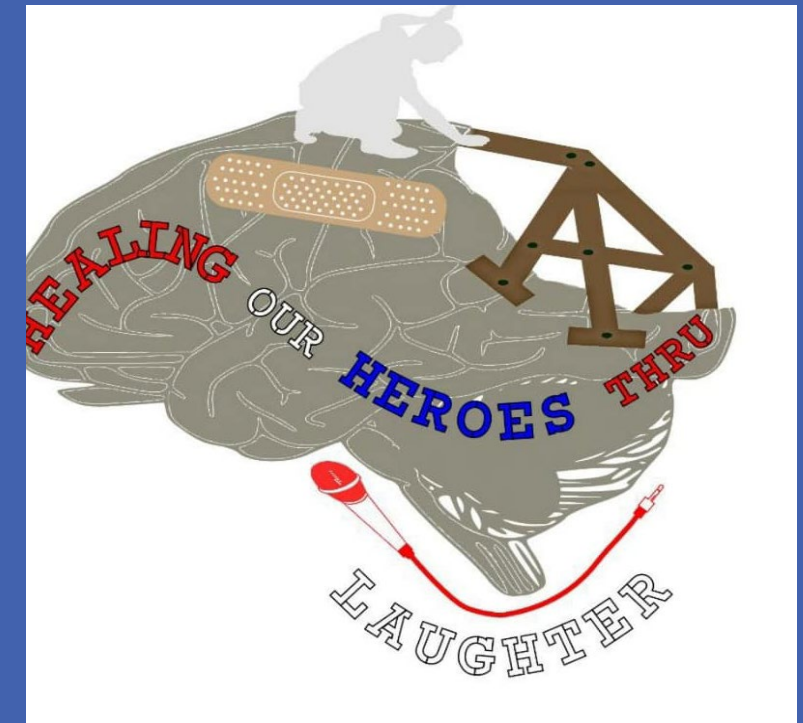
His partner and co-host Samantha "Sam" Horwitz is also a 9/11 first responder. She was front and center during the worst attack on U.S. soil. She was in World Trade

Center's Tower 1 when American Airlines flight 11 struck it. And the weeks, months and years later she suffered from the most debilitating stress which plagues many in the first responder community – Post Traumatic Stress. She received therapy and learned many things both on and off the couch. It's the things she learned off the couch which have given her the ability to combat stress daily and made her an expert in stress management. Her story has been featured in People magazine, ABC, CBS, and in other local

and national media. Her book, The Silent Fall: A Secret Service Agent's Story of Tragedy and Triumph After 9/11 has been a guide for many suffering from PTSD. Sam serves on the board of Frontline Crisis Response Solutions, providing confidential support through wellness and resiliency for first responders and their families. Her service and work has been recognized by the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate.

In 2019 John and Sam formed 'A

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# MAKE a DIFFERENCE

Badge of Honor' and began holding workshops for Police Departments and other agencies to teach their officers how to deal with the stress of their jobs. According to John, the single greatest cause of death for first responders is suicide.

"The single greatest cause of death for law enforcement officers each year is suicide," Jeff McGill, vice president of Blue H.E.L.P.

"They've seen and experienced things you sometimes wish you didn't. You've always known things could get bad, but you always found a way to push it aside, to bury it and move on. You tell yourself, 'Another drink will make me feel okay.' For the third straight year, police suicides outnumbered line of duty deaths. Lohr, David (January 2019). Huff Post. Nearly 400,000 first responders in the United States are suffering from PTSI symptoms.

It is possible to heal from PTS(I), because it's an injury and not a permanent disorder. John and Samantha, have both been there. They understand the STIGMA that goes along with asking for help. They've experienced the FREEDOM from "breaking through" the STIGMA and finding the help needed to survive. Whether you are the Chief of Police or a new cadet, you've likely experienced and or identified PTS within your departments. John and Samantha say they help first responders identify PTS and offer

REAL solutions that first responders can use whenever stress and anxiety rears its ugly head, which means: Better resilience against stress, increased morale, better job performance, and more effective communication within the department and at home.

According to studies cited by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), between seven percent and 19 percent of police officers experience symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, compared to 3.5 percent of the general population. And 75% to 90% of all doctor's office visits are for stress-related ailments and complaints. If you struggle with any of these things: Headaches, High blood pressure, Heart problems, Diabetes, Skin conditions, Asthma, Arthritis, Depression or Anxiety, then there is a chance that stress may be the cause.

If you try to ignore it, stress can compound and lead to catastrophic results. An Associated Press analysis of government CDC records indicates that American suicides are now at their highest point in 50 years. It's now the second-leading cause of death for Americans under the age of 35. Whether the stress you are experiencing is from Post-Traumatic Stress or from the general feeling of overwhelm, you deserve a life free from stress and a life full of confidence and freedom.

As 9/11 first responders and Law

Enforcement Officers John and Sam have been there. Post-Traumatic Stress robbed them of what should have been some of the best years of their lives. They believed that no one could understand them and thought they could figure it by themselves.

"We isolated ourselves from everyone, including our own families. We let the stress build up to a breaking point where it cost us our freedom. We felt trapped and convinced that no one could understand what we were going through. We were tied up in everything that came with Post Traumatic Stress," said Sam. "I thought the only way out was for me to take my own life." John also suffered suicidal ideations. And then they both had a breakthrough.

John says "it takes the same amount of courage to ask for help as it takes to run into a burning building or take a bullet. We knew how to do the two former things from our training. We realized that we had to make the choice to be courageous enough to ask for help when we found ourselves feeling anxious and stressed. We discovered that there were strategies that helped us feel less stressed and decided we needed to put it all in a workshop to help our fellow service men & women. We call it A Badge of Honor: Healing Our Heroes."

"It starts with a choice. The choice

to be your own hero and start making the changes you need to in order to get back to being "You." The best you. The you that you were before all this stress started in your life."

Today is the day you'll finally start to feel free! Free from the daily grind and struggle with feeling overwhelmed and burnt out. Free from anxiety and depression. Free from feeling exhausted. So be your own hero today. Find your courage, change your life. You'll learn strategies that will help you prevent the stress and burnout that's been plaguing you. We've been there and because of that we can deliver tried and true tactics which you will be able to put into practice immediately. There's nothing to figure out, all the work has been done for you. The workshops were created for first responders who experience stress on a daily basis, either from a pre-existing condition like Post-Traumatic Stress, or from working in a demanding environment in which stress causes feelings of being overwhelmed, exhaustion, and burnout.

If you are challenged with stress every day, then you should attend one of their workshops. They know what it's like to wake up and feel like life is passing you by, going from one task to another like a robot. No time or ability to process that last call, to talk out what you just witnessed, to frankly say what's on your mind, because you've got



a job to do. And all the "stuff" you choose to push down builds over time to where you find yourself feeling overwhelmed and unable to find enjoyment in the things that used to light you up. Your sleep is affected, you rarely find time to exercise, and sometimes you simply don't want to get out of bed. So today is your day to change all of it. All you have to do is attend one of their workshops or contact them and they can bring the workshop to

your department.

You can listen to the M.A.D. Radio show each Wednesday, from 6pm-7pm central by clicking on this link on their Facebook page" @MakingADifferenceTX

***If your department would like to host a workshop or you would like dates and times of a workshop in your area, please visit their website [ABadgeofHonor.com](http://ABadgeofHonor.com) or email them at: [abadgeofhonor911@gmail.com](mailto:abadgeofhonor911@gmail.com)***





# BLEEDING BLUE

## Behind the Badge. Under the Gun.

In 2018, Kevin Sorbo, Kenny Latimer and Kevin Jackson wanted to create something to bridge the gap between police and the minority community. Their idea was to create a film that would educate the public about policing and begin healing the relationship between police and the black community. Bleeding Blue was born from that idea and those goals.

Bleeding Blue investigates the ongoing narrative that police are blood-thirsty villains patrolling communities with the purpose of exacting an almost vigilante justice against minorities. According to FBI statistics, police make roughly 10-13 million arrests each year in America. Nearly 1 million of those arrests are for violent crimes. In an exceptionally bloody year, about 1,000 of those violent crimes require the use of deadly force, but the media paints a very different narrative.

The mainstream media continues to push the "dangerous cop" narrative and hide the truth. But the truth is, in 2014

ten unarmed blacks were killed by police; that same year 51 police officers were killed by the criminals they attempted to apprehend. In 2015 nine unarmed blacks were killed by police, while 42 police officers were killed by criminals; and in 2016, six unarmed blacks were killed by police, while 64 police officers were killed by criminals.

Bleeding Blue is a compelling and emotional documentary that offers an opportunity to bridge the gap between sensationalism and the truth. It looks at the REAL stories of police encounters and showcases first-hand stories from law enforcement and their families. Bleeding Blue relives their experiences and desire to work with the communities they serve.

*Here's what the critics had to say about the film:*

BLEEDING BLUE, a documentary by Writer/Director Kenny Latimer, explores potential bias against police in American politics, news media, entertainment, and culture. As retired

police chief Mike Dugan says, police officers "intervene in the most complicated, imperfect and sometimes violent situations, and it's unfair to expect that [they] would have a perfect result every time." Police officers put their lives on the line every day for the public, so that we can live happy, safe lives. Their sacrifice is rarely celebrated by a culture which often seems very ungrateful.

BLEEDING BLUE is a moving tribute to the sacrifice police officers make on our behalf. It explores potential bias against police in American politics, news media, entertainment, and culture. Latimer uses stories and viewpoints of real police officers to combat the negative portrayal of police in popular culture. Audiences should expect to hear firsthand accounts of the hardest parts of policing, including violent altercations with suspects and a few gruesome crime scenes. Experts in various fields also



NEXT PAGE







weigh in on the media bias, the opportunism of politicians with an axe to grind, and the dense and dangerous work of policing.

BLEEDING BLUE is an amazing documentary. At its best, the documentary aims to make the point previously mentioned by Chief Dugan, namely that the world of police officers is unbelievably complex and to ask officers to be perfect is to ask the impossible. Latimer effectively makes this point by letting real officers tell stories of real situations they've encountered on the job. The real incidents not only include confrontations with angry people and violent offenders, but also things like dealing with suicide victims. These interviews in BLEEDING BLUE are touching and insightful, and viewers will take away a new insight into the hard, important work of police officers. Audiences will also take away a renewed sense of confidence that most police officers are good people

doing their best work. Many of the most emotionally powerful scenes in the documentary involve police officers who have lost their lives or become seriously injured during the course of their work. One example involves a family grieving the loss of their son and brother. BLEEDING BLUE is a small way to honor such tremendous sacrifices.

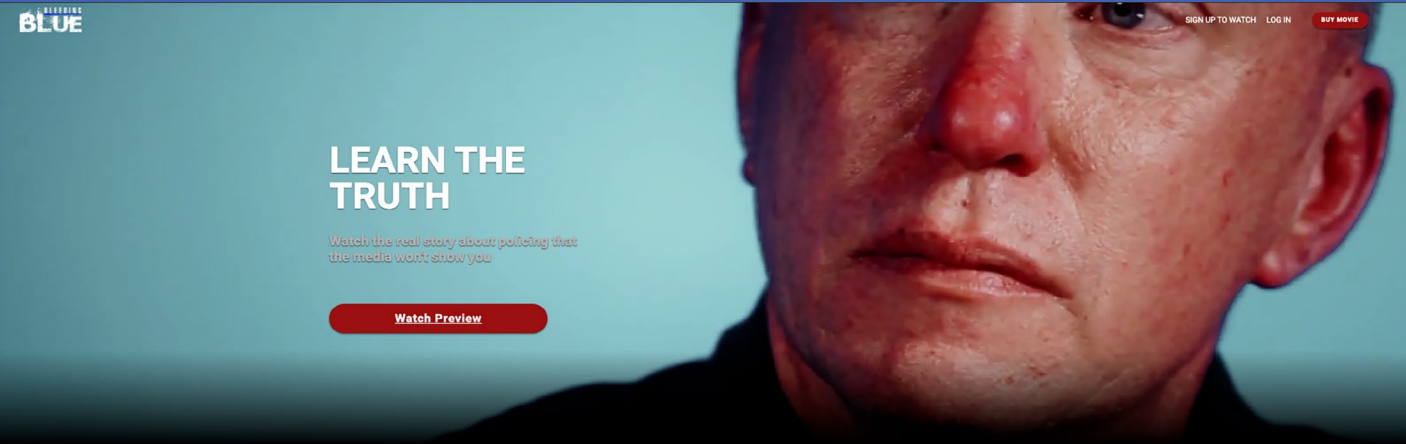
BLEEDING BLUE showcases the extreme anti-police rhetoric coming from radical leftist groups like Black Lives Matter and even politicians like President Barack Obama, who should know better. The most eye-opening sequence in these parts is a discussion of the recent riots in Ferguson, Missouri. In 2014, false reports of a deadly police-involved shooting of a petty thief who apparently assaulted a police officer and tried to grab his gun were repeatedly made by the national "news" media and by the Obama administration, leading to several nights of rioting.

As a result of the leftist lies concerning Ferguson, police officers in other cities started pulling back from working so overtly in high crime areas, leading to increases in murders, assaults and even deadly attacks on police officers.

BLEEDING BLUE is decidedly Christian and often deeply and profoundly moving. Several Bible verses are cited and there are several first-hand descriptions of an officer's faith. The movie is also quite patriotic, expressing a deep love for American freedoms and culture. However, some of the subject matter isn't suitable for younger children. For example, the movie contains vivid descriptions from officers of violent encounters and a few gruesome crime scenes. Also, there are several scenes where some "f" words are partially bleeped out by the filmmakers.

To watch the preview, CLICK HERE:

# BLEEDING BLUE



BLEEDING BLUE

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Watch the real story about policing that the media won't show you

Watch Preview


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## remembering my hero ...

Concerns of Police Survivors is an Organization whose mission is to help rebuild the shattered lives of those family members and co-workers of law enforcement officers that are killed in the line of duty. On June 23, 2009 Lucia Canales lost her son, Officer Henry Canales. This is her story.

June 23, 2009 started out as any other day would, it was my birthday and my oldest son was home from college for the summer. We celebrated my day with a nice dinner and then went home to enjoy some family time. For some reason I went to bed early that night, I didn't watch the evening news like I usually would.

I had no clue what was about to happen shortly after I fell asleep. Around 11pm I received a call from my oldest brother that changed my life forever. My brother Officer Henry Canales was shot, I was in shock but knew he would be fine, after all he was strong and invincible. Well the conversation went on my brother said "Lucia, he didn't make it, our brother is gone". I couldn't breathe, how could this be? He went on to say "you have to go notify dad and call all of our siblings before this is broadcasted on the news".

I went to my oldest son and asked him to drive me across town to tell my father, on the way I called all of my siblings to give them the bad news, I asked my younger brother to meet me at our fathers home so I wouldn't have to tell him alone. It was by far the most difficult thing I

had ever done. We arrived and our father was asleep, we woke him up and just told him that Henry had been shot. He immediately got dressed and said "let's go to the hospital", but I kept stalling. I finally built up the courage to tell him what I knew would break his heart, his son was gone, killed in the line of duty. He fell to his knees and my brother and I just held him for what felt like forever.

In the blink of an eye, the senseless act of cowards took the life of a Son, Husband, Father, Brother and Friend. An undercover operation that had gone bad, he was shot once and lost his life but not before shooting back and injuring the man who took his life.

The days that followed are a



blur, so much was happening so fast and I was still in shock for several weeks after the incident. I made it through the funeral and tried to make sense of my life without Henry. He was my sidekick, the one I went to for advice, the one I leaned on when our parents were ill, the brother

## ... Officer Henry Canales.



I grew up closest to. The night he was taken from me was one of the worst days of my life but I didn't have too much time to dwell on what I was going through, I needed to be strong and be there for his children and his wife. He left behind a fifteen year old son, I lost my brother but my nephew had lost so much more, his dad, his best friend! My niece was eighteen and was about to start college in the fall, without her dad, he was her protector and the one she leaned on for advice as well. Henry was a family man, he spent every extra minute he had with his family creating memories and guiding his children to be the strong, loving individuals that they are today. Even though they were older, he would still check on them at night before he went to

bed, they no longer wanted to be tucked in, but just knowing that dad was there for them made them feel safe. His spouse of 19 years was lost without him, how would she go on, she needed so much support but she was strong and did what she needed to do for her children. The loss we all experienced with his loss was greater than words can even describe, our family was no longer complete.

Shortly after his Henry's death I heard of Concerns of Police Survivors and decided to reach out to them. I was told about what they offered to surviving members and decided to learn as much as I could about this organization. I attended my first Siblings Retreat in 2010, at that retreat I believe my healing process started. I was surrounded

by so many that had also lost a sibling in the line of duty. These people became my family almost immediately. The love, compassion and understanding I received over those three short days was so overwhelming yet helped me find a sense of peace. When I returned home I wanted to learn all I could about this great organization and find out how I could be more involved to help others. I have since served on the Board of Directors for the Greater Houston Chapter for several years first as Secretary and currently as the Treasurer. I have also attended several retreats, training sessions, Memorials and have had the honor of meeting some of the most amazing people made up of Survivors. My brother will forever live in my heart and he will never be forgotten! 🙏



running 4 heroes



# Zechariah Cartledge: a True American Hero

## **Zechariah's 2020 Run Tracker**

**Total Miles Run in 2020: (as of 11/7/20): 322**

**Total Miles Run in 2019: 376**

**Overall Miles Run: 698**

### **2020 Run Stats:**

**Total Miles Run for 2020 fallen LEO's: 242**

**Total Miles Run for 2020 fallen Firefighters: 71**

**Total Miles Run for 2019 Fallen LEO's: 4**

**Total Miles Run for 2019 Fallen Firefighters: 0**

**Total Miles Run for 2019/2020 Fallen K9's: 0**

**Total Miles Run for 2020 Non Line of Duty Deaths: 0**

**Total Miles Run for Other Heroes: 0**

**Total Tribute Runs by State for 2020: 5**

**States Run: Florida, Georgia, South Carolina (2), Pennsylvania, Illinois (2), Texas (3), Kentucky, Arkansas, Nevada, California**

**How to Donate to the Running 4 Heroes Inc. 501(c)(3):**

**<https://secure.anedot.com/running-4-heroes/donate>**

**Running 4 Heroes Website:**

**[www.running4heroes.org](http://www.running4heroes.org)**

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## light bulb award

## Repeat Recipient: KIM OGG

Since January 1, 2017, when Kim Ogg was sworn in as Harris County District Attorney, these are the Harris County Law Enforcement Officers who've been murdered in the Line of Duty.

Four additional, highly motivated and decorated Harris County Law Enforcement Officers, also perished as a result of in their Line of Duty accidents and COVID-19 related illnesses.

Tragically what we're calling you're attention to (while absolutely not taking anything away from those Officers not murdered and of course, their families) is the fact that these Harris County Officers who lost their lives to violent repeat offenders, could have and definitively should have been avoided.

We're not talking "Politics" here. Make no mistake, we're referencing facts only. We really

don't care what Political Party the District Attorney is affiliated or aligned with.

What matters is this: Does the District Attorney truly care about and have compassion for officers murdered in the Line of Duty? And their families?

Let's raise it a even higher level. Does she truly care about or have compassion for victims of violent crimes?

At some point, as with any criminal investigation, we must look at the facts not the hype or intense outcry.

We must be resolute in the search for the truth and maintain the integrity of the investigation, while protecting the victims who have suffered immeasurably at the hands of societies most violent offenders.

Specifically repeat violent offenders, who for pennies on the



dollar, post multiple bonds for multiple violent offenses, only to be released back into our communities to prey upon you, me and our loved ones.

The "No Bond" option for violent capital crimes is there for a reason. The death penalty for violent capital crime is also there for a reason. Supposedly, implying "no-bond" or "capital case" to a crime is a deterrent, but more often than not, it isn't. The most significant reason is hidden under the cloak of "Revenge or Retaliation" which is

actually very misleading. The real existence of these serious penalties is a "Reckoning" – to right the wrong done unto or inflicted upon those whom did nothing to provoke the indignity of a violent crime being leveled against them.

Especially against those who have made the solemn commitment to stand between right and wrong. It is those men and women who are truly the bravest and most righteous among us.

How is it then that these Harris County Law Enforcement Officers who've lost their lives at the murderous hands of repeat violent offenders, lost their lives for the sake of a "Low Bond/No Bond" system?

Again, this isn't about political parties. It's about dignity and indignation. Where's the justice for the victims and their loved ones. What is it going to take to change this broken system we have in Harris County?

What more could we ask of the District Attorney, Judges and the like here in Harris County? Simply stated, how about let's start with caring enough to stop

releasing repeat violent offenders back out onto our streets and into our communities.

Maybe, just maybe we can save the life or lives of our Law Enforcement Officers who are all that stands between those who have respect for the law and those who do not.

In closing, the staff at The BLUES knew each of these beautiful human beings, you see below. They were amazing people with a zeal for life, coupled with the determination to make all our lives better by providing us with safe communities to live, laugh, love and grown in.

They did not deserve this. Their family members didn't deserve the pain and suffering that was bestowed upon them. Nor did the thousands of brothers and sisters in Blue who mourned their loss.

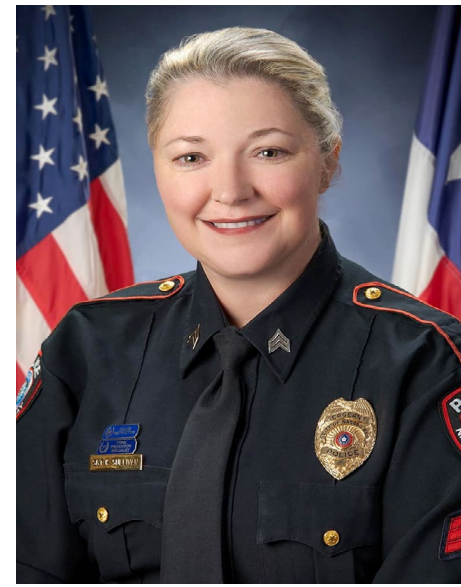
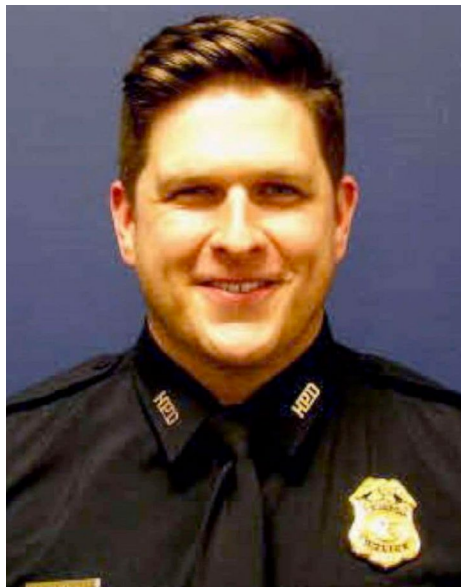
No Victim of crime or their family, should ever have to bear the pain of losing a loved one. Especially when it could have been prevented in the first place.

This shouldn't be about politics but it is. The BLUES chose to endorse Ms. Ogg's opponent in the election, not because we dislike

her, but rather for the way she has chosen to run or should we say "not run" the D.A.s office.

Had Ms. Ogg chosen a different approach, these officers would still be alive. Violent criminals would have been in jail or prison and not running the streets of Harris County looking to harm someone.

We actually feel sorry for you Kim. For you and you alone have to bear the guilt of a city and county having to bury its officers. That is a heavy burden to carry and God help you. 🚔



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## Finding joy during the 2020 Holiday Season

The 2020 holiday season is upon us. It is impossible to list all the challenging events of 2020 and sadly all the consequences for countless Americans. Our nation has been continuously battered with one thing after another and our foundation as a country has been deeply tested. Yet, through it all, our amazing law enforcement officers have continued to selflessly stand tall and effectively do their job, even in the darkest circumstances. Moreover, there are just as many family members who stand firmly behind our protectors, supporting them every single day.

It is not uncommon for depression to increase during the holiday season as this time of the year can often highlight the perception of what do not have. We have been falsely convinced of the need to put together a perfect "Norman Rockwell" holiday. But many of our law enforcement officers and families have struggled financially to make ends meet this year and the disconnect between fantasy and reality has widened. The result is often the inability to find joy during what should be a beautiful time of the year.

Finding and experiencing joy starts with our own expecta-

tions and the meaning we place on our relationships with others. We must first resist the urge to compare our lives to others and stop focusing on what we do not have but instead embrace what we do have. I recognize it is easier said than done. But joy can also be found in the smallest of moments if we allow ourselves to embrace it.

Here are a few additional suggestions with the hope you find these helpful. First, keep your expectations modest. Don't get hung up on what the holidays are supposed to be like and how you're supposed to feel. Don't worry about holiday spirit and take the holidays as they come. Second, do something different. This year, does the prospect of the usual routine fill you with holiday dread rather than holiday joy? If so, don't surrender to it. Try something different. Have Thanksgiving at a restaurant. Spend Christmas day at the movie theater. Get your family to agree to skip gifts and instead donate the money to a charity. Third, lean on your support system. If you've been depressed, you need a network of close friends and family to turn to when things get tough.

Fourth, don't assume the worst. I know I am asking a tradition-



DR. TINA JAECKLE

ally cynical group this; however, some go into the holidays with expectations so low that it makes them more depressed. If you try to take the holidays as they come and limit your expectations -- both good and bad -- you may enjoy them more. Fifth, forget the unimportant stuff. Don't run yourself ragged just to live up to holiday tradition. So, what if you don't get the lights on the roof this year? Give yourself a break. Sixth, make new family traditions. People often feel compelled to keep family holiday traditions alive long past the point that anyone's enjoying them. Start a new holiday tradition instead, create one that's more meaningful to you and your family personally.

Seventh, head off problems. Think about what people or situations trigger your holiday stress and figure out ways to avoid them. You really have more control than you think. Eighth, ask

for help -- but be specific. People may be more willing to help than you expect; they just need some guidance from you on what to do. Remember your limits. Family can test our nerves. You can't control their behavior, but you can control your own reaction to the situation. Ninth, forget about the perfect gift and stick to a budget. If you're already feeling overwhelmed,

now is not the time to fret about finding the absolute best gift ever for others. Remember: a gift certificate is a great option. The cost of holiday shopping mounts quickly and can make people feel out of control and anxious. Draw up a budget long before you start your shopping and stick to it. Finally, find positive ways to remember loved ones. Holidays can remind you of

the loved ones who aren't around anymore. But instead of just feeling glum, do something active to celebrate their memory.

Please know that there is a grateful nation who stands behind you and your family and consistently appreciate your service and sacrifice. I wish you a safe and blessed Christmas and holiday season, you truly deserve it. 🙏

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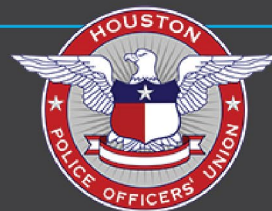
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# an editorial by Joe Gamaldi

## Watch each other's back and let us never forget our hero, Sgt. Harold Preston

*HPOU Badge & Gun Editor's note: Due to deadlines, this article was written prior to election results.*

If it seems like not a day passes without you seeing in the news that another police officer was shot in the United States, you are right.

There has been a police officer shot every 28 hours this year That's 255 as of Nov. 1.

Forty officers made the ultimate sacrifice as a result of that gunfire. While some politicians and news media pundits pontificate that there is no war on police officers, the statistics tell a very different story.

More than the last two years we have seen more than a 26 percent increase in police officers being shot. The current numbers show that it is not slowing down. In fact, it is getting worse – too far out of hand!

I will always express hope that things will get better, that violence against us will decrease. But let's face reality: until the inflammatory rhetoric against us subsides – who knows when that will be? – this trend is likely to continue, possibly at an even greater pace.

It would seem an easy thing for everyone to condemn violence against law enforcement officers, but time and again people pass the buck; they refuse to call out individuals who openly chant for our deaths in the streets in our cities and towns.

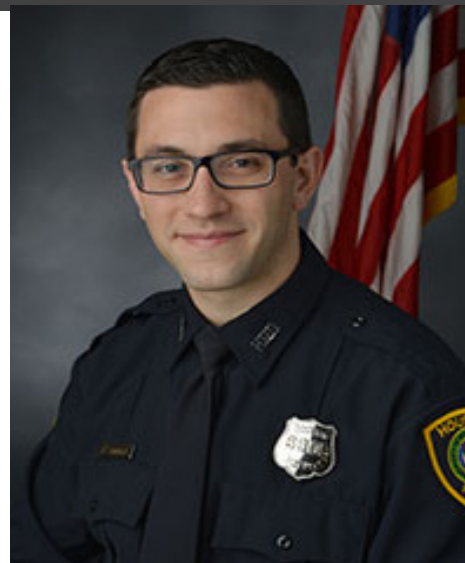
I say all of this not to discourage you, but rather to keep you informed of what is going on and remind you to watch each other's backs. Make sure to check by on calls even if it seems routine: traffic

stops, on-views, whatever it is. We need to be there for one another. Every single one of you needs to go home to the family that loves you. We must all do our part to ensure that happens.

One of our fellow 40 law enforcement personnel killed this year was one of our own, beloved 41-year Houston Police Sgt. Harold Preston. Sgt. Preston died as a hero defending a victim of domestic violence from a repeat abuser, who should have already been in prison. He wasn't even a legal resident of this country. The failures of our criminal justice system were on display and we lost a great man because of it – not the first and, sadly, not likely to be the last time this happens.

For those of you who never had the pleasure of meeting Sgt. Preston, he was an amazing man and an even better father. He was kind to everyone with whom he came into contact. In a world turning increasingly negative, positive people like Sgt. Harold Preston stick out and always make an unforgettable impression.

After learning of his death, my phone was flooded with calls from friends and officers recounting their stories about him as a great leader, example and mentor. There was the range officer who said he only met the sergeant just once but his positivity had made an eternal impression. There was the lieutenant who sat on a department committee with him to hear him tell of his love for the department And the sergeant who let me know how important a mentor Sgt. Preston was to him.

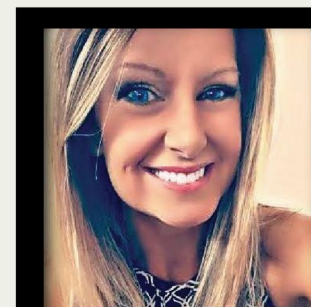


Over 41 years of service there is no doubt thousands of stories just like these as he touched and mentored thousands of officers over his lifetime of dedicated service.

We will never forget the sacrifice he made to our community. We will continue to be there for his family for whatever they need. I ask you to keep his family in your thoughts and prayers, and also for you to keep Officer Courtney Waller and his family in your thoughts and prayers, as he continues to recover at home after multiple surgeries. Officer Waller is alive because of Sgt. Preston, who received a posthumous life-saving award for the last action of his life and HPD career.

We always honor our fallen by never forgetting them. I believe yet another way we can honor Sgt. Harold Preston is to follow the example he set for all of us over the last 41 years.

Let's be kind and gentle to one another, let's spread infectious positivity, and let's mentor the future generations Houston of police officers == who are the best in the nation! They will need it now more than ever. Everyone watch each other's back and be safe out there. 🇺🇸



**Diane Trykowski**

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# honoring our fallen heroes



**Detective**  
**Kevin Dwaine Collins**  
 Pine Bluff Police Dept., Arkansas

End of Watch Monday, October 5, 2020

Age 35 Tour 5 Years Badge #N/A

Detective Kevin Collins was shot and killed at about 12:05 pm as he and other detectives were conducting an ongoing investigation at a hotel at 210 North Blake Street. He and another detective were shot as they arrived at the location. Two suspects were also wounded in the shootout and taken into custody. One of the subjects was wanted for murder in Georgia.

Detective Collins had served with the Pine Bluff Police Department for five years and was assigned to the Violent Crimes Unit.



**Investigator**  
**Lemuel Delray Bruce**  
 Houston Fire Marshal's Office, Texas

End of Watch Friday, October 16, 2020

Age 44 Tour 5 years Badge #N/A  
 Military Veteran

Investigator Lemuel Bruce was shot and killed at about 3:30 am while conducting surveillance as part of an ongoing arson investigation in the Timbergrove and Heights areas. He and six other investigators were conducting surveillance following a string of vehicle fires. Investigator Bruce noticed a car matching the description near the intersection of Seamist Drive and West 18th Street, four blocks away from where another vehicle fire had been set minutes earlier. He was in radio contact with the other investigators and was attempting to coordinate a stop of the vehicle when the man opened fire on him, striking him multiple times. Despite his wounds, Investigator Bruce was able to return fire. The subject committed suicide.

Investigator Bruce was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran. He had served with the Houston Fire Department for 16 years and had been assigned to the Houston Fire Marshal's Office as a sworn arson investigator for five years. He is survived by his wife, 12-year-old daughter, and 8-year-old son.



**Detective**  
**Curt Holland**  
 Commerce City Police Dept., Colorado

End of Watch Friday, October 16, 2020

Age 37 Tour 4 Years Badge #N/A

Detective Curt Holland was killed when his department vehicle was struck head-on by a drunk driver near the intersection of Colorado 2 and Turnberry Parkway. The drunk driver was traveling southbound on Colorado 2 at a high rate of speed when his pickup truck crossed the center line and struck Detective Holland's vehicle head-on. The pickup truck then struck another car driving behind Detective Holland. Detective Holland and the driver of the second vehicle were both killed in the crash. The drunk driver was seriously injured.

Detective Holland had served with the Commerce City Police Department for four years. He is survived by his wife and two children.



**Sergeant**  
**Harry Cohen**  
 Riverside County Sheriff's Dept., California

End of Watch Sunday, October 18, 2020

Age 48 Tour 24 years Badge # N/A

Sergeant Harry Cohen suffered a fatal heart attack while participating in training with the canine unit.

Sergeant Cohen had served with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department for 24 years. He is survived by his wife, son, and daughter.



# honoring our fallen heroes



**Sergeant  
Conley Jumper**  
Greenville County Sheriff's Office, South Carolina

**End of Watch Tuesday, October 20, 2020**

**Age 52 Tour 28 years Badge # N/A**

Sergeant Conley Jumper was killed when a suspect attempted to flee during a traffic stop on I-85 near White Horse Road. As deputies attempted to arrest the driver, the man started to struggle with them. Sergeant Jumper arrived to backup the deputies as they were struggling with the man. The subject was able to pull away and re-entered his vehicle. He accelerated into heavy interstate traffic and collided with a tractor-trailer, causing Sergeant Jumper to become trapped between the two vehicles. A third deputy who was also responding as backup unintentionally struck the vehicle after it collided with the tractor-trailer. Sergeant Jumper suffered fatal injuries in the incident. The other two deputies and both suspects sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

Sergeant Jumper had served with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office for 28 years and was assigned to the Interdiction Team. He was posthumously promoted from the rank of Master Deputy Sheriff to the rank of Sergeant. He is survived by his wife, daughter, parents, and sister.



**Corporal  
Adam McMillan**  
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Ohio

**End of Watch Friday, October 23, 2020**

**Age 42 Tour 19 years Badge 1242**

Corporal Adam McMillan succumbed to injuries sustained on October 8th, 2020, when his patrol car collided with a transit bus at the intersection of Eight Mile Road and Beechmont Avenue in Anderson Township.

Corporal McMillan had served with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for 19 years and was assigned to the Traffic Safety Section.



**Sergeant  
Harold Preston**  
Houston Police Dept., Texas

**End of Watch Tuesday, October 20, 2020**

**Age 64 Tour 41 years Badge # N/A**

Sergeant Harold Preston was shot and killed at about 9:30 am as he and other officers responded to a domestic disturbance call in an apartment complex in the 2600 block of Holly Hall Street. Police were called to the scene by a woman who had been locked out of her apartment by her estranged husband and was attempting to retrieve belongings. Other officers had been to the apartment two additional times in the preceding days for domestic disturbance calls. Sergeant Preston and the other officer spoke to the woman for approximately an hour before her 14-year-old son managed to unlock the apartment door and encountered his father holding a gun. The man then opened fire, striking Sergeant Preston numerous times in the head and upper body. The other officer and juvenile were also wounded. The man surrendered approximately one hour later.

Sergeant Preston had served with the Houston Police Department for 41 years and was scheduled to retire in the coming weeks. He is survived by his elderly parents, whom he cared for, and fiancée.



**Corporal  
Daniel R. Abramovitz**  
Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office, Kansas

**End of Watch Friday, October 30, 2020**

**Age 60 Tour 26 years Badge # 422**

Corporal Daniel Abramovitz was killed in a vehicle crash at the intersection of 211th Street and McIntyre Road at about 4:00 pm. His department vehicle collided with the side of a school bus that failed to yield at the intersection.

Corporal Abramovitz had served with the Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office for 26 years and was scheduled to retire in four months. He is survived by his wife, three adult children, and two siblings.





# Deer Season is Here

The general Texas White-tailed Deer Season Opens November 7th and stays open until January 3rd in the North Zone and until January 17th in the South Zone.

Considering that more than 1.2 million hunting licenses are sold every year in Texas, it is no wonder that November is the month you will see trucks packed with coolers, camo duffel bags pulling trailers loaded with ATVs and deer stands heading out of the cities and into the backwoods of rural Texas.

For those of you lucky enough to have grown up hunting with friends and family, you don't need a calendar to tell you when deer season is

about to open...the cool air of fall triggers those memories of opening up hunting camps like it was yesterday. Hunting is not just about going into the woods and coming back with a cooler full of meat. That is a bonus.

Hunting is about spending time around a camp-fire sharing stories, laughs, and good times with those who make you feel good about life. Any outdoors man knows exactly what I am trying to describe.

At the same time, I don't want to discount the adrenaline rush you get when months of hard work scouting your hunting area pays off when the first light of open-

ing morning reveals a monster buck feeding alongside several does. If any of the early reports are any indication, 2020 should be a great year for taking a trophy deer as the Texas herd is very healthy this year.

If you are fortunate enough to have own a small ranch or have access to a deer lease, get out and enjoy some of this cool Novem-



**RUSTY BARRON**

ber weather connecting with the outdoors. If you have never spent time in a deer camp, I am going to strongly encourage you to do it.

Find a friend or family member who loves to hunt and ask them to bring you along to see what it is all about. I promise you they will be excited you asked them to take you as we all love to share our knowledge of the sport with someone just beginning.

If you don't have any connections to someone who can take you out and teach you how to hunt safely and successfully, then book a trip with one of the many great outfitters in Texas. One of the top trophy outfitters in the state that I would recommend is The Nooner Ranch out of South Texas.

They have a great ranch with spectacular accommodations and ranch manager Gene Naquin will ensure you have a great time ([www.noonerranch.com](http://www.noonerranch.com) or 210-508-0113).



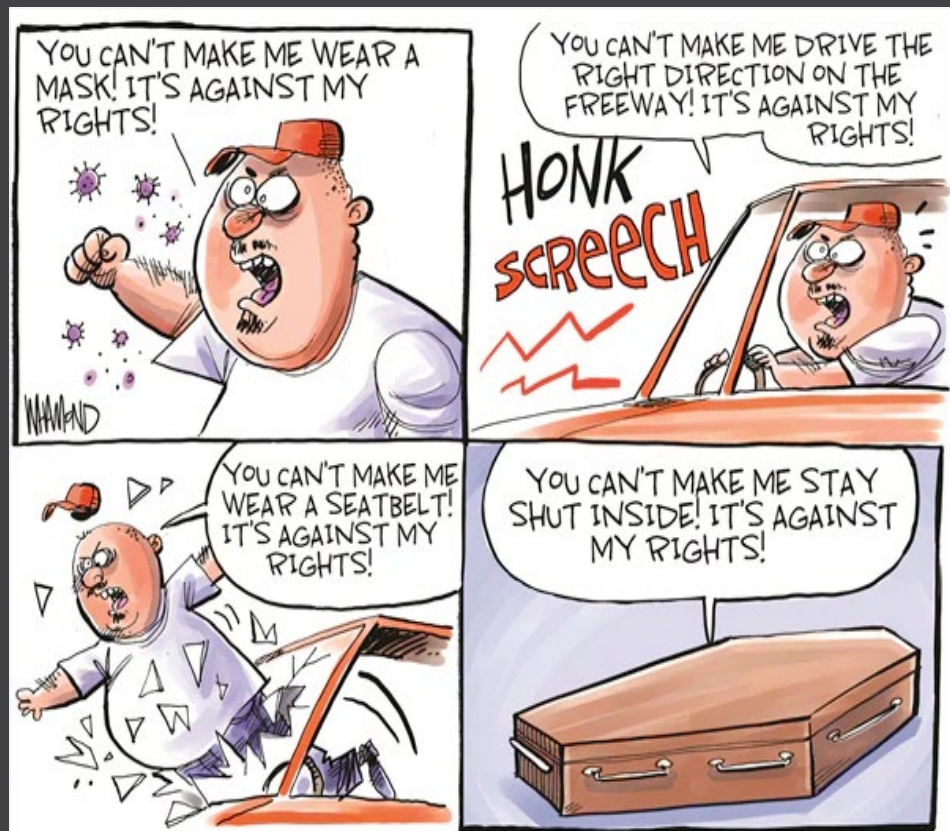
*There's nothing better than spending time outdoors with good friends.*



...parting shots.



...parting shots.





# WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Is accepting applications for

## Deputies, Jailers, EMT & Medical Assistants

The Washington County Sheriff's Office is a progressive agency located in Brenham and is currently seeking career minded men and women for these positions.

*Projected Gross Earnings: Deputy \$48,219, Jailers \$34,259  
EMT/Medical Assistant \$34,732*

***Benefits include: Employee Health Insurance, Retirement Plan, Vacation Days, Sick Pay, Holiday Pay, Longevity Pay, Certification Pay, Hazard/Recruitment Pay***

**Application and TCOLE Personal History Statement (both required)  
are available online at [washingtoncosheriff.org](http://washingtoncosheriff.org)  
(click Employment Opportunities)  
Open until positions are filled.**

Mail or deliver applications to:  
Washington County Sheriff's Office  
Office Attn: Recruiting Division  
1206 Old Independence Road  
Brenham, Texas 77833  
979.277.6251

OR  
105 W Main St, Suite 101  
Brenham, Texas 77833  
979.277.6236 fax (979.277.6210)  
[hr@wacounty.com](mailto:hr@wacounty.com)  
[www.co.washington.tx.us](http://www.co.washington.tx.us)

EOE







# JERSEY VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

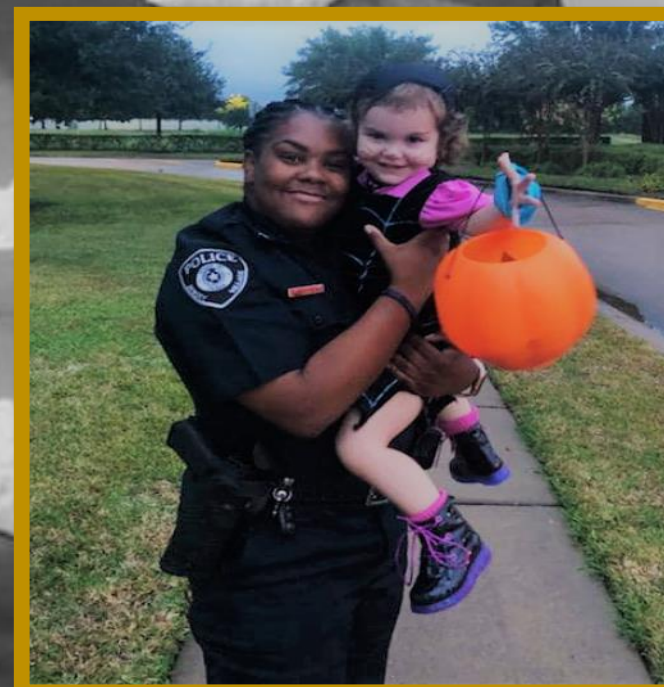
★ 16401 LAKEVIEW DRIVE ★ JERSEY VILLAGE, TX 77040 ★

*Striving for Excellence through Community Involvement One Interaction at a Time*

## ★ JOIN OUR TEAM ★

We are seeking bright, hard-working, and motivated individuals with a passion for law enforcement. In addition to a starting pay of \$25-\$30 per hour based on experience, here are a few of the additional benefits our employees receive:

- ⇒ 12 hour shifts with alternating weekends off
- ⇒ Paid vacation time
- ⇒ Excellent medical and dental insurance at a low cost for individuals and family coverage
- ⇒ Life insurance coverage paid for by the City
- ⇒ City-matched retirement benefits with Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS)
- ⇒ College Degree pay
- ⇒ Bilingual translator pay of \$600 per year
- ⇒ Night shift pay of \$2,184 per year
- ⇒ TCOLE certificate incentive pay – Intermediate \$900, Advanced \$1200, Master \$1800 per year



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- Paid vacation
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- Tuition reimbursement for college
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## Montgomery County Pct. 4 Constable's Office

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@mcconstablepct4



**ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS - SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM - HONOR GUARD - SPECIAL RESPONSE GROUP - SWIFT WATER RESCUE TEAM - K9 - MOUNTED PATROL - DRONE TEAM

**OVERTIME OPPORTUNITIES:** STEP - DWI ENFORCEMENT - SPECIAL TEAMS - EVIDENCE - JP SECURITY

**STIPEND PAY:** K9 - SPECIALIST - FTO DEPUTY

**PAID TIME OFF:** HOLIDAY - VACATION - COMP TIME -

**PERSONAL - PAID TRAINING**

**SALARY - STEP PAY SLOTTED BASED ON TCOLE FULL-TIME YEARS OF SERVICE:**

UNDER 2 YRS - \$48,755.20	9 YRS - \$59,508.80
2 YRS - \$51,188.80	12 YRS - \$61,150.40
4 YRS - \$53,726.40	15 YRS - \$65,270.40
6 YRS - \$56,368.00	16+ YRS - \$68,536.0

**LICENSE CERTIFICATION (UP TO \$3599) AND LONGEVITY PAY  
CIVIL SERVICE PROTECTED**

### MORE INFO:

1. Pickup and complete applicant questionnaire in person.
2. Firearms qualification, fitness assessment, written exam and personality assessment scheduled.
3. Successfully passing candidates will receive personal history book.
4. Oral board.





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