



THE SHIELD



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BALTIMORE RETIRED POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

SERVED WITH HONOR

LATE SUMMER 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is doing okay during this Covid-19 pandemic, although we are aware that a couple of our members did experience a tragedy in their families as a result of this virus. Our hearts truly go out to them. We have never seen anything like this in our lifetime and we can only pray that our children and grandchildren never see this again in their lifetimes. Please, everyone, stay safe.

- The Board has decided to endorse the following Brothers and Sisters for office in the FOP3 election. We cannot tell you how to vote, but we can ask you to consider those we feel will do the best job for Active and Retirees.

President: Mike Mancuso (He has been doing an excellent job).

1st VP: William McDonald. (The current 1st VP is not running and going to retire and join the BRPBA membership.)

2nd VP: Paul Blair

3rd VP: Ron Starr

Chaplain: Don Helms

State Trustee: Stan Mezewski

Commission of Trustees: Ellis (Ditty) Baldwin, Dominic Mastromatteo, and George Trainor.

Treasurer: John Nolan

Secretary: Lisa Riha

Guard: Ed Gorwell

- At this time, it looks like the BRPBA will not be able to have a meeting in September 2020. With that in mind, anyone who would like to run for office in the

BRPBA will be given credit for those meetings that had to be canceled. The election may be a little different this year because of Covid-19. Our By-Laws state that a nominating committee chairman has to be appointed at the September meeting (or the next meeting if that meeting is canceled). If necessary, we will have more on this issue via email at a later date.

These officers are up for reelection this year:

President: Daryl Buhman

1st VP: Richard Nevin

2nd VP: Patrick Youells

Treasurer: Donald Kent

Secretary: Kathleen Conrad

Sgt. At Arms: Ellis Baldwin

Trustee: Charles Brawner

Board of Governors: Michael May

I hope you have confidence to reelect us again.

(Trustees Barry Powell and Ken Dickstein, and Board of Governors Robert Haukdal and Dan Fickus are not currently up for reelection.)

- In the Baltimore City General Election, we recommend that Mr. Ryan Dorsey be replaced in the City Council. Mr. Dorsey tweeted on 11/6/18 that he "often takes a drug dealer's word over a cop". Mr. Dorsey has targeted police in regards to their Bill of Rights (LEOBR), and has pushed for defunding of police (as if crime in the City is something to brag about).

When the Christopher Columbus statue was being

**BALTIMORE RETIRED
POLICE BENEVOLENT
ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD
P.O. Box 6217
Baltimore, MD 21206**

**Daryl Buhrman, Sr.
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**Past President
Nick Caprinolo**

torn down and dumped into the harbor, Mr. Dorsey was coaching the lawbreakers to move over to the FOP Memorial and vandalize and damage our memorial to our 144 Brothers and Sisters who died protecting life and property in Baltimore City. On 7/4/2020 he tweeted, "How is it that with all the attention given to the Columbus monuments, and as consistently awful as the FOP is, how is the FOP memorial not on the list of monuments to remove?"

Let this not be mistaken for a race issue. These are clear cut attacks by Mr. Dorsey on police officers of all color and rank. I ask every Brother and Sister living in Baltimore City District 3 to vote for Mr. David Marshall Wright, who is currently running against Mr. Dorsey. Mr. Wright was a full time US Army soldier and is now in the Army National Guard. This man has respect for anyone who is now, or did, wear a uniform. Please spread this endorsement to family and friends.

It's time to send Mr. Dorsey a message that police officers want, and should receive, respect from our elected officials. Two members of the City Council actually spoke out against Mr. Dorsey's actions. The FOP3 and BRPBA did not endorse Mr. Dorsey in the Baltimore City Primary. We endorsed Ms. Rain Pryor.

- One of our members, in the early morning hours of 7/25/2020, awoke to a house fire. He and his family (wife, son, dogs and cat) were able to get out of the house in time. They will be displaced for three to four months as their house is being repaired. Within two hours of receiving this information, Don Kent and myself met with our Brother and gave him a check for \$1,000 from the Distress Fund to tide him over until his insurance money is received. When we express to you at Raffle time how important our Distress Fund is, these are the sad stories we see quite often. Tragedy hits in a heartbeat.

Again, stay safe. Wear that dreaded mask in establishments and wash your hands often. This too shall pass.

Daryl



I pledge of the United
allegiance States of America,
to the flag and to the Republic
for which it stands,
one Nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty
and justice for all.



MORE MEMORIES

By Charles Milland

I was utterly TICKLED to read Mike May's "Memories" in the Spring BRPBA Newsletter! To begin, he mentioned, approvingly, of Bob DiStefano's op-ed letter in the Sun on March 21, 2020. Then Sergeant DiStefano was my very first supervisor after I graduated the Police Academy in 1970 and was assigned to the Eastern District Operations squad. I found him to be a terrific squad leader who demanded -- and GOT -- excellence from those of us who were under his command. I think he rose to the rank of Major before he retired. I was honored to have known him personally.

I was also honored to have known Mike May personally. My recollection is that we both were working C.I.D. at the time he went airborne out of the second-story window of the old Headquarters/Central District building chasing Wendell Beard, whom he described as wearing "felony flyers" shoes. Mike was and is an inspirational guy, and he was instrumental in my decision to try for Law School.

Like Mike, I also remember the old Northern District station located at 34th & Keswick. That was where I attended the Police Academy. I remember well those exhausting runs through Wyman Park and the endless calisthenics -- and the Mace in the face.

When I returned to the Northern in the early 1990's as a Shift Commander, it was **THE OLDEST** *operating* police station in the United States! As I recall, it still had stables available on site for the police wagon horses, should they ever decide to come trotting home from their pastures in the sky. I was also writing cop stories & articles for local & national magazines; Maryland Life, Gallery, and Hustler. (The Value of a Life, Why Cops Hate You, Cop Etiquette.)

By that time, thanks to Mike's lead, I had graduated from the University of Baltimore School of Law, passed the Bar Exam, and was practicing law in Towson with Stan Hellman, the late Paul Redmon, and now, Circuit Court Judge Larry Daniels. I subsequently moved my practice to the law office of my hero, from whom I learned a great deal. (Hey Mike, do I still owe you any rent money? I probably do... let me know.)

After a stint as Legislative Committee Chairman for Lodge #3 under another great guy, Donald Helms, I was elected First Vice President of the lodge, serving under the estimable Lieutenant "Bunny" Nevin. I ran for president later on, but lost to Gary McIlhenny. Crushed, I sought comfort in the arms of a stripper I had met while assigned to the Central District, much to the delight, I'm sure, of the Internat Investigation Division, which had it "in" for me because while I was assigned to the Legal Affairs Office, I had intervened to save the jobs of *several* officers they *really* wanted to "get."

I offer the following advice to you, my brothers in arms: No matter how tempting they might be, STAY AWAY from women of "questionable reputation." They are career-wreckers!

Let me close by offering Bob Hope's theme song: Mike, thanks for the memories!

While everyone is at risk for getting COVID-19 if they're exposed to the virus, people of any age with certain medical conditions — like heart disease, diabetes, or COPD — are more likely to get severely ill from COVID-19. Visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for a list of conditions that might put you at higher risk.

WANT YOUR NEWSLETTER EMAILED INSTEAD OF MAILED?

LET US KNOW AT brpbaoffice.com.

Newsletter

July 2020

MY CLIENTS, ME AND COVID-19

For years, many of my clients have been sending all of their tax information to me through the mail, with no problems. For most of March and all of April (and May and June and July) I have been conducting all business through the mail, e-mail, fax, or front door drop off. My observations and my experiences are that all of us adapted well and made this adjustment work.



Many of my clients are over 65. My wife and I are both over 65, and we both have underlying health issues. In order to not risk giving germs to my clients, and in order to not risk getting germs from my clients, **I have decided that I will continue to avoid face-to-face meetings with my clients until such time as an effective coronavirus vaccine is available.** Right now, I expect that this policy will still be in effect for the 2021 tax filing season. We can use the mail, e-mail, fax, or front door drop off / pick-up. We can discuss things over the phone, or we could teleconference using FaceTime, if that would work for you. Hopefully I will be able to resume meeting with clients during the 2022 tax filing season. Rest assured that I have both



I am telling all of you this now (and I will remind you again in January) in case you are not comfortable with my policy and would prefer to find another tax preparer that will allow face-to-face meetings. I plan to continue serving you, but I will respect your decision and cooperate in any way I can.



Thank you for your continued cooperation.

NON-ITEMIZERS CAN REDUCE THEIR TAXABLE INCOME BY \$300



As I mentioned in my April Newsletter, the 2020 CARES Act allows you to reduce your taxable income by up to \$300 for monetary contributions to charities (\$600 for married couples) using an “above the line adjustment”. This means that you will be able to take this deduction whether you itemize or not.

REMEMBER: **These donations must be made either by check, credit card, or cash,** with receipts. Donations of clothing, furniture, etc. do not qualify.

Note: Currently, this deduction is available for 2020 only. If this provision in the tax law is extended, I will include that information, as soon as it is available, in a future newsletter.

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MARYLAND PENSION EXCLUSION

Maryland law excludes all Social Security benefits from taxable income. Additionally, Maryland law allows all taxpayers age 65 or older to subtract some of their taxable pension and retirement annuity income (up to \$31,100 in 2019) as well. That \$31,100 cap must be reduced by any Social Security benefits (already excluded from taxable income) that you received. You can subtract the amount of your pension benefits up to the remaining balance. Income from a traditional IRA, a Roth IRA, a simplified employee plan (SEP) or a Keogh plan do not qualify.



For example, if you are over 65 and your pension is \$40,000, and your Social Security income is \$10,000, your maximum potential pension exclusion is $\$31,100 - \$10,000 = \$21,100$. That means that you would not pay Maryland income tax on \$21,100 of your pension, but you would pay Maryland income tax on the remaining \$18,900 ($\$40,000 - \$21,100$).

THE MARYLAND HOMETOWN HERO TAX BREAK

In 2016 Maryland extended the pension exclusion (above) to retired Public Service Officers (law enforcement officers, fire fighters, and rescue or emergency services personnel) who are age 55 or older. (They do not need to be 65 years old.) However, their exclusion is capped at \$15,000. When eligible retirees turn 65, they stop taking the \$15,000 exclusion and begin taking the higher standard \$31,100 exclusion.



Many retired public service officers misunderstand this rule. An individual taxpayer may NOT claim BOTH the standard \$31,100 Pension Exclusion for retirees age 65 and over AND the \$15,000 Pension Exclusion for retired Public Service Officers ages 55 to 65.

You can claim one or the other, but not both.

In other words, for retired public safety officers, this means that if you are between the ages of 55 and 65, you are eligible for the \$15,000 pension exclusion. Once you reach age 65, the \$15,000 pension exclusion is replaced by the \$31,100 exclusion.

(Note: The proposed tax law change to make all Public Safety Officer's entire pension tax free on your Maryland tax return has **NOT** been passed.)

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

Many people are now getting unemployment checks. For many, it took a long time and a lot of patience just to get through to the Government Unemployment Agency, and then they had to wait even longer to start getting their checks.

After all of that, many people are learning that those unemployment benefits are taxable income both for IRS and for the state. If you are receiving unemployment benefits, you should make sure that withholding taxes are being taken out. If they aren't, be prepared to pay taxes on those benefits when you file your 2020 tax returns next year.

This quarterly newsletter provides business, financial planning, and tax information to clients and friends. None of this general information should be acted upon without first determining its application to your specific situation.

For additional copies of this newsletter or further details on any article, please contact me.

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. (William James)

THE POLICE

DEFEND OR DEFUND?

Recent events evoke extreme reactions from right and left. Disagreements catch police in the proverbial middle, unable to mollify, much less satisfy all, or even most, people. We live in troubling times.

The hatred some have for all police is not new. Nor is the effort by some on the left to excuse it. On April 24, 1970, Officers Donald Sager and Stanley Sierakowski responded to 1201 Myrtle Ave. for a routine domestic call. It was unfounded, so they went back to their cars. Almost immediately, they were attacked and repeatedly shot by militants. Officer Sager died, while Officer Sierakowski miraculously survived. The shooters ultimately got convicted, and decades later, one of them, Marshall Edward Conway, became the subject of a City Council petition to secure his release from a life sentence. One of the Council members, Robert Curran, received correspondence from me setting forth the whole story, clearly demonstrating Conway's guilt and asking him to change his position. When he ignored it, I followed up with a phone call. His primary staff member became dismissive and rude, and I thanked her and said I'd let everyone know. At that point, Curran called back and said he'd made a mistake. A repeat resolution, again urging Conway's freedom, resurfaced a year later. To avoid voting against that one, he left the chambers and hid.

When he retired, I thought his successor could not be worse. To borrow Curran's line, I made a mistake. One Ryan Dorsey got Curran's old seat. He repeatedly expresses contempt, if not outright hatred, for police. Recently, he rejoiced about the Independence Day destruction of the Christopher Columbus Monument in Little Italy, which police on the scene did nothing to stop as it was occurring. He then took to Twitter to wonder why the Memorial at the Shot Tower to police killed in the line of duty was not also on the list of monuments that should disappear, following that with an utterly disingenuous and unconvincing denial that he was encouraging the destruction of the Police Memorial. He also advocated for the Monument to Columbus at Herring Run Park to be replaced by some sort of memorial to the victims of police violence. He asserts that he prefers drug dealers over police, denigrating and expressing a visceral antipathy toward law enforcement at every opportunity.

The latest anti-law enforcement fad screams "DEFUND THE POLICE." At this point, we must decide what is more harmful: Defunding, i.e. abolition or significant diminution, of the police? Discussing the "defunding" demand as if it represents a rational response to anything? Certainly the catalyst for the movement, excessive force, is wrong, but it is not universal, as some more radical groups contend. Police worthy of the title do not gratuitously harm people because they enjoy it. Rather, most police find that having to use physical force, while an occasional, but inevitable, aspect of the profession, is something to avoid if possible. Those "police" who seek out and embrace violence rightly become pariahs within the profession.

On the other hand, those "police" who surrender control of the streets and neighborhoods they took an oath to protect, or who fail to assist another officer struggling with a miscreant, from cowardice, incompetence, or fear of criticism, justifiably experience rejection as well. Thus, real police frequently feel as if practicing their profession requires them to stand on a razor blade without falling off on either side. Few are suited to do the job.

Blindly defending all, or most, questionable or wrongful police actions leads to endorsement of improper behavior. Unyielding "loyalty" to bad police is actually disloyalty. It hurts, not helps, the law enforcement profession, its members and the citizens we swore to protect. Citizens fear and distrust us, and the agency's quality diminishes.

But, defunding the police, completely or even partially, creates a certainty that some people who desperately need protection will not receive it. Conversely, defending the police no matter what they do creates a certainty that some thugs will wear badges, and engenders practically insurmountable obstacles to true law enforcement. Both extremes achieve the same unintended consequence: rapidly spiraling crime rates.

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Supporting so-called "defunding" police without any concrete idea of what it entails, simply to placate police haters or the well-meaning naive, none of whom will be satisfied but rather will demand even more, is the epitome of craven, sycophantic political behavior. Supporting defending police, no matter the behavior, is just as wrong-headed. It actually helps criminals. Police must somehow navigate between the two extremes.

When they first graduate from the Academy, new police take a sacred oath of faithfulness and true allegiance. They must--and we must, to support them--adhere to that oath. All of us must remember that no police are promised a rose garden, that the job is difficult because it is supposed to be difficult, that simply standing by and doing the minimum is not acceptable and that, in the words generally attributed to the famous statesman, Edmund Burke, "Evil flourishes when good men do nothing."

May God bless us all, the police and the cherished citizens they protect, in these trying times.

Michael P. May
July 9, 2020

FOR THOSE ON MEDICARE: FROM MEDICARE.GOV:

Con artists may try to get your Medicare Number or personal information so they can steal your identity and commit Medicare fraud. Medicare fraud results in higher health care costs and taxes for everyone.

Protect yourself from Medicare fraud. Guard your Medicare card like it's a credit card. Remember:

- Medicare will never contact you for your Medicare Number or other personal information unless you've given them permission in advance.
- Medicare will never call you to sell you anything.
- You may get calls from people promising you things if you give them a Medicare Number. Don't do it.
- Medicare will never visit you at your home.
- Medicare can't enroll you over the phone unless you called first.

Check regularly for Medicare billing fraud. Review your Medicare claims and Medicare Summary Notices for any services billed to your Medicare Number you don't recognize.

Report anything suspicious to Medicare. If you suspect fraud, call 1-800-MEDICARE.



MEMORIES OF ARTIE

In 1976, Finbarr Murphy, a former New York Police Officer and by then the head of the Baltimore office of what is now ATF, decided that it was high time that local and federal law enforcement officers met each other socially and ultimately develop respectful and productive professional relationships. His first event took place at a Brooklyn restaurant, and the guest of honor was Art Donovan, the Hall of Fame Baltimore Colt. Outgoing and cheerful, Art expressed a genuine love and respect for police. Then, some months later, we had another joint federal/local law enforcement party at Valley Country Club, which Art owned. Like the first one, it was marvelous and helped people from the various agencies to see one another as colleagues and not competitors.

Over the years, I had the great fortune of becoming one of Art's 500,000 or so friends. On a number of occasions, I attended events at Valley Country Club, and inevitably I would find Art in the back bar, the one with all the football memorabilia, generally drinking Schlitz beer. During that time, I never saw him as anything but decent, cheerful, and humble. I also had the honor of meeting him at his liquor store on Sherwood Avenue and at various Irish events. He always had a smile and a story.

After I got hurt and went to law school, I graduated and began working with O' Doherty, Gallagher & Nead. One of our good friends, another lawyer, Ron Landsman, whose wife was Frank Gallagher's secretary, celebrated his 50th birthday party at Valley Country Club. At the time, Pat O' Doherty had some health issues that caused the doctor to tell him to stop drinking. Art got similar bad news from his doctor at about the same time. After the party had gone on for an hour or so, Art showed up at his bar. I left the party, which was in another room, to say hello to Art. Pat followed me closely. At that point, only the 3 of us were in the bar, sort of like an Irish version of the Three Stooges. Pat somehow acquired a Finlandia vodka, and amazingly, a Schlitz appeared in Art's hand.

Pat and Art decided to test my ingenuity. Pat told me that if his wife, Rose, came in, I should act as if his drink were mine because I was not drinking alcohol. Art thought that was such a good idea that he told me that if his wife, Dottie, stopped in, I should pretend his Schlitz was mine. I complimented both of them on their genius and requested suggestions as to what action I should take if both Rose

and Dottie arrived at the same time. Neither had a good response, so I told them that if that occurred, I intended, even with my bad leg, to run, not walk, to the nearest exit. Fortunately, we never encountered that dilemma.

Some years after that, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, to which I have been counsel for about 35 years, decided to honor Art Donovan for a lifetime of achievements. By then, Dottie had taken the car keys away from Art because of his health issues. He obviously, therefore, needed a ride to the luncheon at which he was to receive the award.

A couple of days before the event, I was in court on a routine matter. I got back to the office and saw that I had a phone message from Art Donovan. I asked the receptionist, who was maybe 22 or 23 years old back then, if the message referred to Art Donovan, the football player. She said, "I don't know about that, but he sounded like a really old man." Of course the caller was Art, looking for a ride, and I could not wait to relay the receptionist's response to my query. Naturally, he thought it was hilarious.

I told Art that I would have to find him a ride, which I did, because one of my guests was Gene Cassidy. I explained to Art that Gene had lost his sight as a result of having been shot in the line of duty as a Baltimore Police Agent. Art understood and thanked me at least three times for my efforts to find him a ride — which took me about five minutes.

The event itself was mobbed because people wanted to see Art, who was up in years by then, and to pay tribute. Art was positively beaming and basking in all the attention. I took Gene to meet Art. The jolly, big man demeanor changed instantaneously. Art Donovan, the Hall of Fame Baltimore Colt, storyteller extraordinaire, and national treasure of icon proportions, had to make a visible effort not to weep. He felt honored to meet Gene and said so. He also, by his reactions and by his humanity, communicated everything anyone would ever need to know about his character and his heart.

When Art got the actual award that day for the quality of his life, he once again had to make a visible effort to retain his composure. Everyone in the room got to see a truly exceptional man.

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A few years later, Art emigrated to County Heaven. No doubt he's up there drinking Schlitz, eating hot dogs and salami and regaling all the Saints with marvelous stories. He certainly enriched the lives of all he met down here. We will always treasure our memories of him.

Michael P. May

BLUE SUICIDE

Per Bluehelp.org, since 2016 there have been 1,236 police officer suicides. (Of those 1,236 suicides, 123 were retirees.) No matter which number you focus on, to us that is just too many lives lost.

By year they are:

2016 - 143

2017 - 172

2018 - 174

2019 – 228 There were more officers lost by suicide in 2019 than line of duty.

2020 – 103 (as of June 30th)

So why the surge in suicides? Well, according to Blue H.E.L.P.'s data, the state of New York had the highest number of suicides, 27, followed by California, 23, Texas, 19, and Florida, 15. Among those 27 in New York, 10 were New York City Police Department officers.

"The tempo for the New York City Police Department is unforgiving -- job demands, financial restraints and living in New York is a challenge," Jon Adler, the former Bureau of Justice Programs director at the Department of Justice and a former law enforcement officer in New York, told ABC News. Adler said being in a large city could mean many officers are exposed to more or more stressful events at "a greater frequency, and horrible scenes and scenarios, and what can knock down an officer's mental wall -- a sheer volume of negative memories can have a dire impact."

In addition, considering the current crisis in the World regarding police officers, and most especially the treatment they are receiving in the USA, it's no wonder police officers are feeling an unbearable burden. They have been attacked by protesters, fearful for their lives. They have been basically abandoned by their commanding officers and their Cities. Morale is down. Many officers are quitting, retiring or moving to more amenable cities. Departments in the larger cities seeing the most violence cannot secure new hires. Departments are being defunded in many states.

The message from the President is to dominate the streets with force, which many have agreed with, and others have denounced. The message from many of their chiefs and mayors is to tolerate, connect and empathize. The message on the streets, at times, is that they are part of the problem. The message from the news media is watch what you say and do, or they will twist it to fit their narrative. Police tactics are being analyzed, critiqued, and publicized on social media as social justice warriors brag about how the police can do their jobs better.

And still morale deteriorates. Officers in Atlanta were interviewed after the Rayshard Brooks shooting wished to remain anonymous, but had this to say:

"The morale is the lowest it's been in 18 years. This is because of the mayor and DA. The disciplinary policy is not being followed; the officers' actions are not being properly investigated. Instead the mayor terminates them," said one officer.

A veteran of the force, who is African American and works in one of the most violent areas of Atlanta, said that the actions of the officer who fired the shots that killed Rayshard Brooks were "justified." And that, "(The police officer) did exactly what he was supposed to do. Mr. Brooks escalated the situation," the officer said.

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"Until last week, I was proud to tell everyone that I met that I work for the Atlanta Police Department. Unfortunately, that changed," one longtime officer said.

"There is going to be a mass exodus. It's going to be hard to recruit with the way they're treating the officers right now. Why would anyone sign up for this job?"

"You are losing veterans, losing street-level IQ."

So when did the war on police begin? Believe it or not, it all started in the 1960's, but it reached prominence in 1999 when police use of force started to be questioned and social media came into prominence. The war has grown steadily worse ever since.

Imagine if you will that you have a job at McDonalds and every day dozens of customers holler at you, throw drinks at you, spit in your food, put razors in your food, threaten your life, or refuse to serve you altogether. Would you want to go to work? No. But you have to go to work. You have a family to feed and bills to pay, so each morning you get up, already worried about what your day will bring and whether you will come home at the end of the day.

Officers are facing this on a daily basis now and that is on top of the horrific situations they have to deal with already in an increasingly thankless job. These psychological injuries are very likely to cause problems within an officers personal or professional life

Chuck Wexler, executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum, told ABC News that "Suicide is the number one officer safety issue".

We have to try to find a way to reach these officers before they reach the point of ending their lives.

Blue H.E.L.P. hopes to help lower the number of officer deaths due to suicide with advocacy work, including increasing the availability of mental health resources for officers across the country. "Talking about mental health within the law enforcement community was taboo for many years, but that culture is slowly changing", Jeff McGill – the organization's co-founder – had previously said.

"More clinicians who understand law enforcement culture are needed, and departments should boost support systems, both within their department and within officers' families, for employees who respond to shootings, car wrecks and deaths over the length of their career", McGill said. "It builds up over time, and while it might not affect you right now," he said. "We have to be more proactive. We have to."

We aren't sure how the divide between police officers and the public is going to mend, if it ever does, so the bottom line is... we have to concentrate on the well-being of our officers.

If you are hurting. If you feel alone. If you are destitute. If you know of someone feeling this way. Contact the BRPBA. Contact a compassionate organization like the Bluehelp.org. Reach out! You are not alone.

BALTIMORE RETIRED POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION TAG PROGRAM

As of August, 2020, we have 679 sets of very professional looking tags in Maryland. Many members thank us for providing our retirees with the ability to display their pride of being a police officer. Our tags are a one time fee of \$25.00 to the MVA and a small donation of \$20.00. Don't forget to contact Daryl if you want motorcycle tags.

Contact Daryl Buhman at 410-803-2293 if you would also like to tell the world how proud you are to be a retired Baltimore City Police Officer.

Visit our website for more information at:
www.brpba.com under Member Information or call
Daryl Buhman at 410-803-2293.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Paul Abell	James McCartin
Ronald Gale	Jeffrey McKnight
Janet Greaves	Cynthia Root
Ralph Greaves	John Schindhelm
William P. Healey	Ken Stanley
Ronny Hege	Jeffrey Stelmack
Robert Himes, III	Eric N. Thess
Steven E. Histon	William Wagner
Mason Land, Jr.	

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please remember, monthly meetings may be canceled due to inclement weather when:

- Baltimore County Schools are closed because of snow or inclement weather; or,
- There is a snowfall after schools are dismissed and the Baltimore County snow emergency plan is placed in operation.

Newsletter Chairman:

Patrick Youells
(cody7762@hotmail.com).

Distress Fund Chairman:

Daryl J. Buhrman
410-803-2293

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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F&P Retirement System 410-497-7929
FOP 410-243-9141
Balto. City Life Insurance 410-396-5830
Health Care Benefits 410-396-5307
Securian Financial 1-888-658-0193
Municipal Employees Credit Union 410-752-8313
Employee/Retiree Affairs Unit 410-396-2546

AS OF JULY 27, 2020

164

**OFFICERS HAVE DIED IN THE
LINE OF DUTY DUE TO COVID-19**

Compiled From News Sources



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

[@GLFOP](https://twitter.com/GLFOP) [@GLFOP](https://www.facebook.com/GLFOP) [@FOPNATIONAL](https://www.instagram.com/FOPNATIONAL) [@GLFOP](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGLFOP)

For a state-by-state breakdown, please visit www.FOPcovid19.org

The most wasted of days is one without laughter.

E.E. Cummings

DISTRESS FUND NEWS

The 2020 raffle tickets will be mailed the first week of September and, *hopefully*, will be drawn at our Holiday Party in December. I guess it all depends on this virus whether we will be able to party or not.

Remember that this raffle will only be mailed to those who have purchased tickets in the past. This change saves us over \$500.00, which is money that could be used to help our members in need, and not thrown in the trash.

Also remember: The BRPBA is here for you. If you are feeling depressed or lonely, please reach out to us at 410-803-2293. ***YOU ARE NEVER ALONE.***

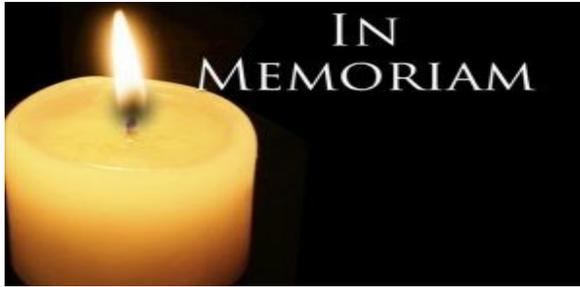
In Memoriam Donations Made to the Distress Fund

In Memory of **John C. Coleman, Sr.**,
From his children, John, Jackie, Joann, Jeff, Joey
From the Coffee Ladies, Dinah Miller, Carol Selberstein and Kathleen Sweeney, aka "Curlers".
And Ms. Carolyn Ham

In Memory of **John Lewandowski**, from Richard Bloom.

In Memory of **Paul Lamond**,
Mr. John I Barnes and Mary T. Barnes
Dr. Antonio Bertumen and Lynanne Bertumen
Sandy and Daryl Buhrman
Pete and Catherine Ingeman
Mary and Howard Goldsmith
Sharon and Tom Nash, and Marguerite and Marie Hampshire
John Fulton
Susan O'Connell
Earl and Jean Roberts
Hollis R. Brown, Jr.

In Memory of non-member, **Austin B. Callahan**, from Mrs. Marlene Callahan.



Ex Member Eunice Berry
 Retired non-member, George Christian
 Mrs. Anna Dietz
 Retired non-member Louis Hopson
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 Retired non-member Mike Winkler
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BRPBA FINAL ROLL CALL

- Frank Banahan
- Joseph Barnes
- Rollins Brown
- Jesse Chambers
- Lee Cohen
- John C. Coleman, Sr.
- William Dowdy
- Richard B. Flynn
- Richard Frazier, Sr.
- Clifton Gonce
- Rev. Andrew Griffiths
- Kenneth Hyman
- Wardell James
- Edward M. Johnston
- Paul Lamond
- Raymond Meyers
- Carter Myer
- Steven Quinter
- Allan Scheidt
- James R. Schmidt
- Charles Schubert
- Andrew Snakovsky
- George Stiemly
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**WE ARE ASKING AGAIN AND AGAIN: DO YOU HAVE A BENEFICIARY FORM ON FILE?
 IF YOU ARE NOT SURE, PLEASE CUT OUT THE ENCLOSED FORM AND MAIL IT TO THE ADDRESS ON THE FORM.
 WE STILL HAVE WAY TOO MANY PEOPLE WITH NO FORM ON FILE.
 IT'S YOUR MONEY, PROTECT IT!!!!!!!**



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***Executive Board Meetings held the second Wednesday of the month and
General Meetings on the third Tuesday at Knights of Columbus Gardens,
4301 Klosterman Avenue, Perry Hall, MD. Please join us!***