



THE SHIELD



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BALTIMORE RETIRED
POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

SERVED WITH HONOR

SPRING 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring has sprung! Grass needs mowing, trees are dropping their seed pods (or as we called them as kids - whirlybirds or helicopters), and tax season is gone for another year. This past year, like every year anymore, has been busy.

- * Two of my biggest concerns as your BRPBA President are our Pension and our Healthcare. I'd like to send out a special thanks to our brother Dan Fickus who restarted the Adhoc committee. Dan and I go to City Hall every two to three weeks to meet with various City Council members as we work towards protecting our healthcare. We want to stay on the bus, not under it. When we joined the Baltimore City Police Department, we were told we would have a pension and healthcare upon retirement. This will not be cut by some politician who can't even balance the city budget or account for missing money. They think they can fix their budgets on the backs of retiree's and widows. Not on my watch! They should know that if they lie to cops, they are on our list.
- * We have stated this before and we find that, sadly, we have to state it again. The BRPBA needs some new blood on the Executive Board. We have some Board members who have been on the Board for many, many years. Let's thank them by letting them step down.

There has to be someone among our younger retirees who is willing to step up and help protect our retirees and widows. It requires very little of your time and it is NOT a life sentence. You can step down whenever you need to. The hours involved can be as little as two hours a month up to as many hours as you want to give. The choice is entirely yours.

I cannot tell you enough how important this is. Without people to lead this organization, it will fold. That's

the bottom line... it will fold. Gone. Finito. Adios. There will not be anyone around to speak for you with the City. The FOP does NOT support retirees. The BRPBA is YOUR ONLY VOICE. If we do not get volunteers, the BRPBA will be gone within five to ten years. At the rate our Pension lawsuit is going, it will probably still be an issue in five years. Who will speak for you then?

- * Our June 19, 2018 General Membership meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be a Bull and Shrimp roast to honor Baltimore City Police Sargent Keith McNeill who was shot several times by a person with a 45-caliber hand gun on March 14, 2014. This honorable man has had countless surgeries and hundreds of hours of rehabilitation, yet he refuses to give up. His goal is to go back to work. At the time of the shooting, Sgt. McNeill had nineteen years with the department. (See page 11 for this Officers' inspirational story).

Please come out and help us show him our support.

- * Our September 18, 2018 General Membership meeting, starting at the usual time of 7:00 p.m., will feature our Brothers in Blue who have written books. We ask all who have been published to bring their books to the meeting and display them for sale. We encourage our members to come with money and support our own!

I hope to see you on June 19th, but if you can't make it, please enjoy your summer. Stay safe and as healthy as you can.

Daryl Buhrman

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**BALTIMORE RETIRED
POLICE BENEVOLENT
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Baltimore, MD 21206**

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Upcoming Events

- 2018 COPS Ride will be held on June 10th. Contact State Treasurer Earl Kratsch at 410-442-8260 for more information.
- FOP Lifeline Screening on Thursday July 19th 2018 at the Baltimore City Fraternal Order of Police. If you are interested or wish additional information please contact Chaplain Don Helms at 443-876-2330 or email fopdon@yahoo.com .
- June 19, 2018, Tuesday 6:00 p.m., 8666 Silver Lake Drive, 21128, The American Legion Post #130. Bull and Shrimp Roast. Honoring Sgt. Keith McNeill.

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FOR WHICH IT STANDS,
ONE NATION UNDER GOD,
INDIVISIBLE,
WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.**

**WE STAND AT OUR MEETINGS
FOR THIS PLEDGE!**

PRIVACY AND POLICE

All citizens, including police, have a right to privacy. People charged with crimes also have a right to due process, and that naturally includes the right to explore the truthfulness and general credibility of police officers through cross-examination. While some officers may attempt to avoid cross-examination by touting their "knowledge, training and experience" in a manner akin to the Pope's exceedingly rare invocation of the doctrine of papal infallibility, in reality that maneuver simply does not work.

The law recognizes a right to privacy. Persons whose privacy is invaded by an unreasonable intrusion upon seclusion may sue for damages. The intrusion must be intentional and must relate to a person's solitude, seclusion, private affairs or concerns in a manner which would be highly offensive to a reasonable person. *Bilney v. Evening Star Newspaper Co.*, 43 Md. App. 560, 406 A.2d 652 (1979). Indeed, the Maryland Public Information Act, which enables citizens to obtain all manner of governmental records, still protects employees' privacy by requiring denial of inspection of personnel records. Md. Gen. Prov. Code Ann. 4-31 1 (a).

The right to privacy, however, does not overcome a criminal defendant's right to due process. The Court of Special Appeals explored that issue about 45 years ago in *Mulligan v. State*, 18 Md. App. 588, 308 A.2d 418 (1973). Three separate juries convicted Mulligan of murdering his 8 month old daughter. He confessed to Lt. Charles W Goodrich. Later, a police department trial board found Lt. Goodrich guilty of making false official police reports. The Court of Special Appeals of Maryland held that the trial court abused its discretion in not allowing Mulligan's attorney to cross examine Lt. Goodrich, who testified to Mulligan's confession, about the trial board result. The appellate court reversed the conviction.

Years later, the Baltimore Police Department appealed from a circuit court's pretrial order directing that some portions of an investigating detective's confidential personnel file be disclosed to the defendant in a criminal case. The court determined that the de-

fendant was entitled to review records relating to allegations of dishonesty in an unrelated matter. In *Baltimore City Police Department v. State*, 158 Md. App. 274, 857 A.2d 148 (2004), the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland reversed the trial court because there was no indication that the judge had followed the proper procedure. In those cases, the defendant must first demonstrate a need for the confidential material, and once that occurs, the court must order an in-chambers inspection to determine whether the material is privileged, sever privilege from non-privileged material if that is feasible and weigh the government's need for confidentiality against the defendant's need for production, generally cross-examination about credibility.

Criminal defendants, whose freedom is at stake, have a much greater chance of penetrating the wall guarding police officers' privacy than do civil litigants. In 2017, the Court of Appeals of Maryland decided *Glass Anne Arundel County*, 453 Md. 201, 160 A.3d 658 (2017), in which a motorist acquitted on charges arising out of a traffic stop brought a suit against the county under the Maryland Public Information Act seeking all Police Department records regarding the officer and regarding himself. The court held, among other things, that the records contained in the officer's internal affairs file were not subject to disclosure because they were personnel records.

Two years before that, the Court of Appeals addressed particularly abhorrent and breathtakingly stupid and bigoted behavior in *Maryland Department of State Police v. Dashiell*, 443 Md. 435, 117 A.3d 1 (2015). In that case, during a search for a fugitive, a State Police sergeant left a voice-mail for Ms. Dashiell asking her to call him back. Then, erroneously thinking he had ended the call, he referred to her with what the Court termed a "racially perverse reference," the N-word. She complained and received word from the State Police that their investigation disclosed the sergeant had utilized the language and that he had received discipline. When she asked, the Department would not tell her what the discipline was. She filed suit. The court held that the "internal

Continued on Page 4

affairs records in this case are specific to Sergeant Maiello and thus are 'personnel records'"Id. at 459, 117 A.3dat 15. Thus, they were protected from disclosure although the court properly noted that "Sergeant Maiello's voicemail message is repugnant to our sensibilities." Id. at 460, 117 A.3dat 16.

In fact, in even quasi-criminal cases, at least to this point, Maryland courts have vigorously guarded officers' privacy. In *Montgomery County Maryland v. Shropshire*, 420 Md. 362, 23 A.3d 205 (2011), police officers sued to prevent the department from releasing records of a police department internal investigation of allegations that the officers had violated departmental administrative rules in connection with an automobile accident involving an assistant fire chief to a county inspector general. The Court of Appeals held that the records of the internal

investigation were personnel records under the Maryland Public Information Act and thus mandatorily exempt from disclosure, even to the county inspector general.

Of course, the positions of some citizens and interest groups create quite the paradox. On the one hand, they vigorously criticize law enforcement personnel for invading citizens' privacy, especially in the area of search and seizure. On the other, when it comes to police personnel records, they argue just as vehemently that the police themselves have no right to privacy at all. Meanwhile, at this point it appears that police have a right to privacy in the non-criminal arena, but not so much in the criminal.

Mike May
April 20, 2018 ©

WHAT ARE POLICE OFFICERS MADE OF?

By Paul Harvey

A Policeman is a composite of what all men are, mingling of a saint and sinner, dust and deity.

Gulled statistics wave the fan over the stinkers, underscore instances of dishonesty and brutality because they are "new". What they really mean is that they are exceptional, unusual, not commonplace.

Buried under the frost is the fact: Less than one-half of one percent of policemen misfit the uniform. That's a better average than you'd find among clergy!

What is a policeman made of? He, of all men, is once the most needed and the most unwanted. He's a strangely nameless creature who is "sir" to his face and "&%\$#" to his back. He must be such a diplomat that he can settle differences between individuals so that each will think he won.

But...If the policeman is neat, he's conceited; if he's careless, he's a bum. If he's pleasant, he's flirting; if not, he's a grouch. He must make an instant decision which would require months for a lawyer to make.

But...If he hurries, he's careless; if he's deliberate, he's lazy. He must be first to an accident and infallible with his

diagnosis. He must be able to start breathing, stop bleeding, tie splints and, above all, be sure the victim goes home without a limp. Or expect to be sued.

The police officer must know every gun, draw on the run, and hit where it doesn't hurt. He must be able to whip two men twice his size and half his age without damaging his uniform and without being "brutal". If you hit him, he's a coward. If he hits you, he's a bully.

A policeman must know everything-and not tell. He must know where all the sin is and not partake.

A policeman must, from a single strand of hair, be able to describe the crime, the weapon and the criminal - and tell you where the criminal is hiding.

But...If he catches the criminal, he's lucky; if he doesn't, he's a dunce. If he gets promoted, he has political pull; if he doesn't, he's a dullard. The policeman must chase a bum lead to a dead-end stake-out ten nights to tag one witness who saw it happen - but refused to remember.

The policeman must be a minister, a social worker, a diplomat, a tough guy and a gentleman.

And, of course, he'd have to be genius....For he will have to feed a family on a policeman's salary.

THE EMAIL ADVANTAGE

A long-time member dies. There is a significant development in the pension litigation. Our Association publicly recognizes superb performance. We receive short notice of a significant event and want to get the word out quickly. Even for routine events, we know we can cut costs while communicating with our retirees more efficiently.

Any change, like moving from snail mail to email, causes discomfort. It alters our routines. Look at how the way we receive news has changed just in the last decade. All of us recall multiple morning and evening papers. Many of us vividly remember delivering newspapers. All of us can recite the number on the first piece of equipment issued to us – the call box key. We recollect streetcars and trolleys. We tell our grandchildren about taking steamers across the Chesapeake Bay to Tolchester and Betterton, before there was a Bay Bridge and way before personal computers, not to mention iPhones and iPads. We long for those simpler days, often refusing to adjust.

Resistance to innovation often leaves people behind. Members read about an event to honor fallen heroes through the BRPBA email while those who don't use electronic communication get the word late and miss out altogether. At the same time, the Association takes on needless expense with unnecessary mailings because the post office is not cheap, certainly not as inexpensive as email.

Oddly enough, exchanging messages between people using electronic devices, or email, began in the 1950s. A lot of people, though, first became really aware of email communication by following the coverage of the Iran Contra controversy. Soon afterward, email use exploded. It became today's Pony Express. With sophisticated scanners, emails soon supplanted fax machines, themselves an innovation replacing the teletype common when our members got those first call box keys.

At this point, modern society, economics, and the need to impart information quickly underscores the advantage to our Association – and to our membership – of email communication. To make us as efficient as possible, the Association critically needs accurate email addresses of all our members. Our president and our board want to communicate events and to generate discussion and ideas as soon and as economically as possible. The best way to meet that goal is through email communication.

While certainly the BRPBA can, and will, use older means of communication to impart information, especially to those who don't use computers, the Board asks our members to please provide us with their email addresses if they have not previously done so. This will help us better accomplish our mission of benefitting our membership, law enforcement and the community to the very best of our ability. Please send it to our new email address, brpbaoftice@gmail.com.

Mike May
April 19, 2018 ©

**IF YOU ARE NOT INTERESTED AND WISH TO BE REMOVED FROM BEING CONTACTED BY
BRPBA (I.E. EMAILS, RAFFLE TICKETS, NEWSLETTERS, ETC.), PLEASE EMAIL US AT
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WE RESPECT YOUR WISHES AND YOUR PRIVACY!

Newsletter

April 2018

HOME EQUITY INTEREST

Originally, I said that effective Jan. 1, 2018 all home equity interest was no longer deductible.

But apparently there is one exception. Interest on home acquisition debt (debt incurred to buy or build a home or to add on to a home) is deductible. For 2018 and beyond, many tax experts say that home equity loan interest would be considered to be interest on home acquisition debt, (and therefore would still be deductible) if 2 criteria are met:

1. Homeowners must use the proceeds of the loan to make home improvements or to buy a second home
AND
2. The balance of the first mortgage plus the home equity loan does not exceed \$750,000.

Most people, I think, take out a home equity loan to pay for a car, vacation, consolidate debt, etc. Interest on those items would not be deductible. But if a home equity loan is used for home improvements (not repairs), it would be deductible. For example, replacing a roof is a repair, not an improvement, so the interest would not be deductible. Adding a deck or sun room would be an improvement, so the interest could be deducted.



The Internal Revenue Service may issue a ruling later this year to clarify the deductibility of home equity interest. If that happens, I will let you know in a subsequent newsletter.

PENALTY FOR NOT HAVING HEALTH INSURANCE

There has been considerable confusion about the status of the penalty. So to clarify:

- The penalty was repealed as part of the tax bill that was signed into law in December 2017, but the repeal doesn't take effect until 2019.
- People who were uninsured in 2017 still had to pay a penalty when they filed their tax returns in early 2018.
- People who are uninsured in 2018 will still face a penalty when they file their tax returns in early 2019.
- People who are uninsured in 2019 and beyond will not be subject to a penalty.

I am not commented on whether or not you should have health insurance. What I am saying is that if you choose not to have health insurance, starting in 2019 you will not be subject to a penalty on your income tax return.

Continued Page 7

WHEN TO FILE, WHEN TO PAY

Unless April 15th falls on a weekend, both your federal tax return and the payment of your federal taxes are due on April 15th. You can file your tax returns any time before April 15th, and you can pay your taxes any time before April 15th.

- * You do not have to file your tax return and pay any taxes due at the same time.
- * For example, you can file your tax return in February, and you can wait until April to pay anything you owe.
- * You do not have to file your tax return before you send in your payment.

Also, you can get an automatic 6-month extension to file your tax return – all you have to do is ask for it.

- * I can file the form for the federal extension electronically.
- * If you get the federal extension, you automatically get an extension for Maryland.
- * But you never can get an extension of time to pay your taxes.

If you file late, and/or pay late, you will be subject to penalty, or interest, or both.

- * **Failure-to-file (penalty)**: If you file your return after April 15th (or after October 15th, if you get the 6-month an extension) you will be charged 5% of the unpaid taxes due for each month or part of a month that the return is late. If you file more than 60 days late, that penalty jumps to the lesser of 100% of the tax due or \$210.
- * **Failure-to-pay (interest)**: The current interest is 0.5% of your balance due for each month (or part of a month) in which your taxes remain unpaid.
- * If you file late and pay late, you are subject to both penalty and interest. But if you file on-time but pay late, you are only subject to interest.
- * So you should always file on-time, even if you can't afford to pay the taxes at that time.

Note: The interest for paying state taxes late varies from state to state. The current interest rate in Maryland is 1% per month (compared to 0.5% for IRS). So if you are paying late and you have to choose whether to pay IRS or pay Maryland, pay Maryland first.

WHAT ABOUT 2018 MARYLAND INCOME TAXES?



Maryland tax law says that if you itemize deductions on your federal return, you must itemize deductions on your Maryland return. And if you take the standard deduction on your federal return, you must also take the standard deduction on your Maryland return.

When deciding whether to itemized deductions or to take the standard deduction, the obvious approach is to take whichever amount is higher. The New Jobs and Tax Act that was passed in December 2017 increased the 2018 federal standard deduction to \$24,000 (from \$12,700) for married taxpayers and to \$12,000 (from \$6,350) for single taxpayers. The Maryland General Assembly chose not to follow suit. Consequently, taking the federal standard deduction may decrease your federal taxes but may result in an increase in your Maryland taxes.

For now, I recommend that you take steps to make sure that the dollar amount of your Maryland withholding taxes stays the same. (You may have to claim a lower number of exemptions to accomplish this.) In that way, you can minimize any unpleasant surprises when you file your Maryland tax returns.

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.

QUALIFIED IMMUNITY IN POLICE SHOOTINGS

Someone in the neighborhood called to report that Amy Hughes was hacking a tree with a kitchen knife in Tucson Arizona. Police responded, and the person who called flagged them down and told them that the woman with the knife had been acting erratically, a rather obvious remark because normal people do not wander around hacking trees with kitchen utensils.

They went looking for the person. One of them saw Ms. Hughes' roommate, Sharon Chadwick, standing in a driveway. A chain link fence with a locked gate separated the police from Ms. Chadwick. Then Ms. Hughes came out of the house carrying a large knife and she stopped no more than 6 feet from Ms. Chadwick. By then a third officer had arrived on a bicycle. All three told Ms. Hughes to drop the knife. She neither acknowledged their presence nor obeyed their order, and one of the officers shot her four times. Then all three jumped the fence, handcuffed her and called the paramedics, who took her to the hospital where she was treated for non-life-threatening injuries. All three officers testified they thought Ms. Hughes was a threat to Ms. Chadwick. They found out afterwards that Ms. Hughes had a history of mental illness and was upset at Ms. Chadwick over a \$20 debt.

The Ninth Circuit United States Court of Appeals in San Francisco held that the record demonstrated that the officer who shot Ms. Hughes violated her Fourth Amendment rights and that he was not entitled to what the courts call qualified immunity. On April 2, 2018, the Supreme Court reversed the Ninth Circuit Court.

The qualified immunity doctrine arises in cases brought against state officials for civil rights violations under 42 U.S.C. §1983. As the Supreme Court said in *Harlow v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 800 (1982), the doctrine is designed to shield government officials from actions "insofar as their conduct does not violate clearly established statutory or constitutional rights of which a reasonable person would have known." In *Kisela v. Hughes*, 138 S.Ct. 1148 (2018), Officer Casella said that he shot Ms. Hughes because he thought she was a threat to Ms. Chadwick, just as then-Officer Royce Ruby thought that Korryn Gaines constituted a threat when she pointed a loaded shotgun at her son in Baltimore County recently. The Supreme Court noted, in *Kisela*, that 29 years ago in *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386, 396-97 (1989), it held that whether a police officer violates a person's Fourth Amendment rights by using excessive force "requires careful attention to the facts and circumstances of each particular case, including the severity of the crime at issue, whether the suspect poses an immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others, and whether he is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight.... The 'reasonableness' of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight....[T]he calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments – in circum-

stances that are tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving – about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation."

Slightly more than a year before the *Kisela* case, the Supreme Court decided *White v. Pauly*, 137 S.Ct. 548 (2017), in which a police officer shot the brother of a man involved in a road rage incident. The facts of that case disclosed that the decedent and his brother may have thought that the police who approached their home after the initial incident on the highway were hooligans bent on harming them, and not law-enforcement officers at all. Daniel Pauly, who was involved in the incident on the road, came out of the back door and fired two shotgun blasts while screaming loudly. Several seconds later, Samuel Pauly opened the front window and pointed a handgun in the direction of Officer White, who had arrived after the other officers. After Samuel pointed the weapon, one of the original officers fired at him and missed, but Officer White shot and killed him. The United States District Court for the District of New Mexico entered an order denying the officers' motions for summary judgment on the ground that there was no genuine dispute as to any material fact and that the officers were entitled to judgment as a matter of law because of the doctrine of qualified immunity. The United States Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit affirmed that decision. The United States Supreme Court vacated that judgment, effectively holding in favor of Officer White. The opinion stated, "This is not a case where it is obvious that there was a violation of clearly established law under *Garner* and *Graham* [to other qualified immunity cases]. Of note, the majority did not conclude that White's conduct – such as his failure to shout a warning – constituted a run-of-the-mill Fourth Amendment violation. Indeed it recognized that 'this case presents a unique set of facts and circumstances' in light of White's late arrival on the scene.... This alone should have been an important indication to the majority that White's conduct did not violate a 'clearly established' right. Clearly established federal law does not prohibit a reasonable officer who arrives late to an ongoing police action in circumstances like this from assuming the proper procedures, such as officer identification, have already been followed. No settled Fourth Amendment principle requires that officer to second-guess the earlier steps already taken by his or her fellow officers in circumstances like the one White confronted here.

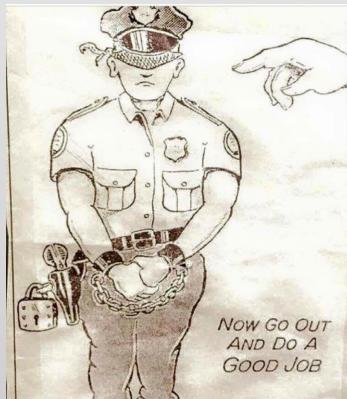
Clearly the application of the qualified immunity doctrine to cases alleging excessive force continues to evolve. While today's Supreme Court appears to recognize the extraordinary difficulty inherent in deciding whether to use force and then determining the degree of force to use, all in a split second, it is abundantly apparent that individual juries and society at large may well not be as understanding or sympathetic. Officer Kisela shot Amy Hughes in May 2010. Until the Supreme Court decision in 2018, he lived with the stigma of a judicial determination that he had used excessive force, that his split-second

Continued Page 9

decision to save Ms. Chadwick from a person standing perhaps six feet away from her, with the ability to slash her in a second, was wrong, that he was brutish. Of course, had he done nothing, only to have Ms. Hughes kill Ms. Chadwick, the same jury faulting him for shooting would have deemed him apathetic, derelict, cowardly and probably stupid. The decision confronting today's law enforcement officers, tragically, is between the devil and the deep blue sea.

Today, more than ever, in doing their jobs, frequently police proceed at their peril, physically, emotionally and legally. Most police believe that the badge is worthless without a heart underneath, or they find the notion of inflicting physical injury or, God forbid, killing someone abhorrent. Retired police, those who mentor and advise the younger generation, owe it to them and to the profession to explain the perilous conundrum associated with the use of force candidly and to congratulate them for staying the course, for not succumbing to cynicism or discouragement.

Mike May
April 19, 2018 ©



THE BADGE

I look at my badge that notes I was once a "Cop". A small shield with a perched eagle on top. I reflect on its meaning once more; to me and those who wore it before.

Just a small piece of metal, a couple of inches square. Plated with silver or gold, a small weight to bear. A symbol of authority for those in the field. The force of law it represents was at times a challenge to wield.

I wore it proudly pinned to my chest. It was there each time I was put to the test. There were times I was challenged and tried. Sadly, some who wore it, paid the ultimate price when tragically they died.

For me, it's a symbol of my life and the career that I chose. With each day's experience, my confidence rose. It represented the times I made a difference to those in despair. Their problems became mine, their worries my care.

The relief that I brought when I entered a house. To stop the abuse of a man to his spouse. The pain she had endured and could no longer bear, reflected in the eyes of the children cowering there.

There is none among us who hasn't felt their pulse race, when confronted with real or possible danger face-to-face. When I stepped into the darkness of an open door at night, and prayed if anyone was lying in wait, I would prevent or win any possible fight.

When I received my badge, I proudly claimed it. In all my years, I never defamed it. Without fanfare, no drums or fife, I will cherish the memories it brings for the rest of my life.

Author Unknown

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19th Annual C.O.P.S. Ride

**NEWMAN
SUITER
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**MARYLAND CHAPTER OF
CONCERN OF POLICE SURVIVORS**

Hosted by Maryland Fraternal Order of Police

Sunday, June 10, 2018



Catered by:



RIDE FOR ALL OUR FALLEN HEROES!!

Registration at the Following Staging Locations:

- Harley - Davidson of Frederick - Frederick, MD - 9:00 - 10:00 am
- Harley - Davidson of Washington - Ft. Washington, MD - 9:00 - 10:00 am
- Harley - Davidson of Baltimore, MD - 8:30 - 10:00 am
- Rommel Harley - Davidson Annapolis - Annapolis, MD - 9:00 - 11:00 am
- District Harley - Davidson - Gaithersburg, MD - 9:00 - 10:00 am
- Red Eye's Dock Bar - Kent Island, MD - 9:00 - 10:00 am
- Old Glory Harley - Davidson - Laurel, MD - 9:00 - 11:00 am
- All American Harley - Davidson - Hughesville, MD - 9:00 - 10:00 am
- Green Turtle Restaurant - Salisbury, MD - 8:00 - 9:00 am
- Eisenhauer's Chesapeake Harley - Davidson - Darlington, MD 8:30 - 9:30 am

**COWDERY
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ROUSSEY**

All Riders Will be Escorted to F.O.P. Lodge #89
2905 Old Largo Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
For Lunch and COPS Ride T-Shirt
Minimum Donation of \$25.00 per Person Required.

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mdcops.org/event/18th-annual-cops-ride



**WINDER
W. TAYLOR
PORTZ**

Sgt. Keith McNeill

On June 19th, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., the BRPBA will honor Sgt. Keith McNeill at our annual Bull and Shrimp Roast. For those of you that don't know why we are honoring such an inspirational man, here is just a snippet of his story. There is a lot more to be found online about this young man if you would like to learn more.



Baltimore police Sgt. Keith McNeill was sitting in his Toyota Tundra on March 14, 2014, about to leave the garage where his vehicle had been repaired when he noticed someone lurking around the East Baltimore business.

The off-duty officer called the shop's owner who had left moments earlier. The man immediately doubled back and returned to Higgs Automotive just in time to hear the gunfire that would pierce the Tundra's doors and leave Sgt. McNeill struggling for life. Bullets punched holes in Sgt. McNeill's left arm, his chest and his abdomen.

Police said in court records that the auto shop owner saw a blue Lincoln Town Car fleeing the scene near Belair Road and North Avenue. The shop owner tried to block the car from escaping, police said. He did not succeed.

Amid a citywide manhunt, Gregg Thomas, 34, turned himself in the following Sunday evening to face charges of attempted murder. He was ordered held without bail after police found the gun he used, prosecutors said. Thomas said he was innocent.

Sgt. McNeill, a 19-year veteran assigned to the Eastern District, was the first city officer shot in more than three years. He was rushed to Shock Trauma where he remained in a coma for three weeks.

Four or five of the eight bullets fired at Sgt. McNeill tore through his left arm, wrecking the system of bone, tendon, muscle, blood vessels and nerves that make his hand work.

Sgt. McNeill faced his first operation a day after the shooting and would spend the next year in and out of the hospital for patches, repairs and complications, and two more returning visits for other treatments.

In between procedures, the Sargent was relearning how to walk and talk. Though he watched hours of the Food Network to pass time, he relied on a feeding tube for nutrition. He dropped from 235 pounds to 170 pounds.

His wife, Danielle, initially queasy about bodily fluids, learned to change bandages, colostomy bags and the feeding apparatus. Sgt. McNeill used a wheelchair during his stay at the University of Maryland Rehabilitation and Orthopaedic Institute and later at the hand center.

He also wheeled himself to court to testify against his shooter. Police said Gregg Thomas had a grievance when he showed up at the auto body shop but was targeting the wrong place. After three mistrials, he was convicted in 2017 of attempted murder and gun charges and was sentenced to life in prison plus 35 years.

Sgt. McNeill's goal is to return to duty and he is working diligently towards that goal as he undergoes hours of therapy to re-strengthen his hand and arm.

Baltimore Police Commissioner Darryl De Sousa commented: "Sergeant McNeill is a courageous officer who possesses the character and attitude that the community wants in a police officer. He puts the community first. After going through the unthinkable, all he wants to do is return to doing the job he loves. Just like on that fateful night he was shot, Sgt. McNeill continues to fight. We will continue to support him, and we hope that he can soon return as a full-duty Baltimore police officer."

"It will happen," Sgt. McNeill said.

(Information for above article obtained from Baltimore Sun articles)



THE CALL BOX

In Baltimore, it is hard to talk about the Call Box without also talking about the Patrol Wagon. They are obviously two very different law enforcement tools, but when it comes to Baltimore Police History, they will forever be linked by a Deputy Marshal and a date.

Baltimore's first Call Box was part of a package deal dreamt up by Deputy Marshal Jacob Frey that was made up of both the Call Box and the Police Patrol Wagon. The date that these things went into service according to Sunpaper accounts was 18 October 1885, and it is believed to have made Baltimore the second city in the country behind Chicago to use Patrol Wagons.

Newspapers recount a story of its beginning. It all started while sitting in the gymnasium of Central's Police Station reading an illustrated magazine (most likely Harper's Weekly), where the Deputy Marshal first saw facts on the Police Patrol Wagon being used. Before the use of Patrol Wagons, when arrested, prisoners were walked back to the officer's station house. In fact, there are many accounts written of officers having to carry drunk, injured or otherwise incapacitated prisoners back to the station. In some of the cases involving impaired prisoners, they tell of patrolmen commandeering small manual wagons or wheelbarrows to transport their arrestees.

Deputy Marshal Frey took the idea for these tools before the (BOC) Board of Commissioners; they were mildly interested but left it at that. Frey didn't give up on ideas that he believed in, and he saw something special in both the Wagon and the Call Box. For that reason, he gathered more information on these tools and a few weeks later he again called the board's attention to the matter. They had forgotten about it the first time he had brought it up but promised to look into it and give it serious consideration.

Horse-drawn Police Wagon's and a Police Telegraph Box system were the future of policing in Frey's eyes and after the BOC failed to act, Frey would take matters into his own hands. He sent members of the department to Chicago to see how the "New Fangled" Patrol Wagons would fit in our agency. An old record states that the team he sent "were charmed." While there, they also looked into Chicago's new "Police Telegraph System" (the Call Box) and likewise, they found it to be everything the Deputy Marshal had touted it would be.

The result of Baltimore's trip was that both of these tools were in Baltimore by the fall of 1885. According to Baltimore's Sunpaper reports: Chicago was the first to use the Police Wagon and Baltimore quickly became the second. They were first put into use in the Central District on 18 October 1885. As for the Call Box system, just as they did with the Patrol Wagon, it too was first used in Central District and also came in the fall of 1885. Baltimore would use the Call Box for just over 100 years from 1885 until 1986 when a 1-800 number was established for police to contact their district or KGA when radio use was deemed inappropriate. All boxes were eventually removed from service by 1988.

Let's take a look at information on that first Baltimore Call Box.

As previously stated it came on 18 October 1885 the same day the Patrol Wagons went into use. The pilot program was launched in the Central District with 58 boxes. The system of Call Boxes would quickly spread to be used in all 8 Districts, and on all police posts/bailiwick. The first Call Box ever put to use via a test-call came from the stationhouse to a Patrolman at the Call Box and then back to the stationhouse from the Patrolman. The Call Box used was Box #63 which at the time was located on the corner of Franklin and Charles Streets which was at that time called the "Middle" District. The Boxes were described as having been



Continued Page 13

attached to a telegraph pole approximately 4 ft from the ground. It was made in two sections; the phone section in the top compartment, with the lower compartment housing a "Dial" system in which an officer could point a pin of the dial on whatever he wanted to call; from Back-up to a Wagon, to an Ambo.

A piece of information not previously known was that the color of these first 58 Call Boxes was "Red." Unlike the single door Gamewell Call Boxes that have come to be known by collectors as, "The Baltimore Box"; the first Baltimore Boxes, also made by Gamewell, had two doors and they were not the well know Green we see on reconditioned boxes found in our police Museum and private collections.



For more information, please take a look at the Patrol Wagon and the Recall Light pages, both on our Baltimore Police History website www.BaltimoreCityPoliceHistory.com

We are always looking for information, departmental books, manuals, documents, uniforms, equipment, anything Baltimore Police related. We also want war stories; anything you can remember from your time on the Baltimore Police Department. Write us at Info@BaltimoreCityPoliceHistory.com

Kenny and Patty Driscoll

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR WANT TO RECEIVE EMAIL UPDATES?

Are you in the process of moving? Please notify the BRPBA of your change of address so that you won't miss any important mailings. Also, if anyone would like to be included on the email updates, please send us your email address.

Name: _____

Old Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

New Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

New Phone Number: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Personal E-Mail Address: _____

Return to: BRPBA, P.O. Box 6217, Baltimore, MD 21206

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." — Martin Luther King, Jr.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Calvin Arrington
William Brown
Kenneth Dickstein
Alan Dorsey, Sr.
Terry Graham, Sr.
John Heiderman
Phillip Tabron

CONTACT INFORMATION:

President: Daryl Buhrman 410-803-2293
1st VP: Richard Nevin 410-876-1027
Distress Fund 410-803-2293

Website www.brpba.com

TAKE NOTE OF OUR NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!!!!
Email Address: brpbaoffice@gmail.com

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.

SICKNESS OR DEATH OF MEMBER

Please arrange for someone to call Ditty Baldwin at 410-666-7279 whenever a member is sick. This is the only way our Association is aware of it. Remember, upon your death, your spouse or immediate family should notify the Police Personnel Board at 410-396-2546.



**License and registration,
please.**

Newsletter Chairman:

Patrick Youells
cody7762@hotmail.com.

WITH OUR NEW STREAMLINED DISTRESS FUND APPLICATION, IT HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER TO ASK FOR HELP.

CALL DARYL BUHRMAN, 410-803-2293 WHEN YOU NEED A HELPING HAND.

THE F&P PENSION FUND - BOB HAUKDAL

Our fund reached an all time high in January 2018. At the end of the month it stood at \$2,873,008,675. However, like many of our personal portfolios, it took a hit in February and March. As of March 31, 2018, the fund stood at \$2,736,028,656, but that is still up 7.87% for the fiscal year.

On July 1, 2018, the City is scheduled to make their annual payment to the fund for FY19. This year it will be \$140,453,144. That is \$4,033,107 more than the FY18 contribution of \$136,420,037.

If you haven't done so yet, you may want to take a look at what the F&P website has to offer. Here's a few items you may find useful under the listed tabs:

About Us

Provides links to the history of the F&P, information about the board members, the board meetings schedule, board policy, the agendas of past board meetings, and links to the minutes of the board meeting. It also has links to press releases and lists the various companies that invest our money. The tab provides information about the F&P staff as well.

Services - Retiree/Beneficiaries

Addresses the retirement benefits and issues related to retirees and beneficiaries to include:
Change of address, Direct Deposit, Post Retirement Increases, Power of Attorney, Widowhood Certifications, Understanding Your 10-99R.

The following forms can be obtained from this section: Change of Address Form, Payroll Direct Deposit Request, W-4P Federal Income Tax Withholding Certificate, MW-507 Maryland Income Tax Withholding Certificate, Designation of Custodian for a Minor Child Form. Power of Attorney Form.

The Benefit Payments form includes: Pay Cycle, Check Not Received, Check Misplaced or Lost, Questions Regarding Deductions.

The Benefit Payment Dates section provides a calendar of our paydays for 2018. Please note that if the 15th of the month falls on a weekend or holiday, payment will be made the closest business day prior to the 15th.

A link to the BNY Mellon Participant Website is provided. BNY Mellon takes care of paying us each month. They have a website for us that has: Participant Profile Information, Payment History, Direct Deposit or Check Statements, Tax Withholding Elections and Tax Form and Negotiated Check Images.

The Services Section also provides information on what to do upon the Death of a Member or Beneficiary, the Designation of a Minor Child, our change from bi-weekly to monthly pay days, correspondence sent to us regarding the payroll change.

The Investments section briefly describes the fund's investment policy and the duties of our investment managers.

The Investments section describes how investment managers are used, the investment committee duties, the investment committee meeting dates, names the investment consultant, and provides links to three years of Investment Flash Report. The flash reports are particularly interesting as they provide the monthly value of our fund, each investment with information on how each investment has performed over a period of time.

Publications

Provides links going back a number of years for the following reports and information: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR), Summary Annual Financial Report, (SAFR), Board Meeting Minutes, Actuarial Reports, Actuarial Factor Tables, Public Safety Pension Study, Ordinances regarding the F&P, Social Security Issues, and the 2018 Medical Insurance Open Enrollment Information.

Resources

The following topics can be found in the Resources tab: Article 22 (the city ordinance that governs the F&P), Commonly Used Abbreviations, Frequently Asked Questions, Glossary, Health Insurance Tax Exclusion, Lawsuit Updates, Links, Other Helpful Organizations.

I believe it would be a good idea to tell our immediate family members about the website and the resources it contains in case they need information we are no longer able to provide.



OFFICERS WE HAVE LOST IN 2018 ... SO FAR. RIP

Trooper Michael J. Anson

New York State Police, NY

Lieutenant Christopher Robateau

Jersey City Police Department, NJ

Officer Chris Beaudion

Monroe Police Department, LA

Deputy Sheriff Daniel A. McCartney

Pierce County Sheriff's Department, WA

Lieutenant Jeffrey W. Francis

New York City Police Department, NY

Detective Michael R. Doty

York County Sheriff's Office, SC

Deputy U.S. Marshal Christopher David Hill

United States Department of Justice - U.S. Marshals Service, US

Deputy Sheriff Heath McDonald Gumm

Adams County Sheriff's Office, CO

Police Officer Glenn Anthony Doss, Jr.

Detroit Police Department, MI

Deputy Sheriff Micah Lee Flick

El Paso County Sheriff's Office, CO

Deputy Sheriff Steven Belanger

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, CA

Reserve Officer Jarate Dewayne Condit

Asher Police Department, OK

Police Officer David Charles Sherrard

Richardson Police Department, TX

Police Officer Chase Lee Maddox

Locust Grove Police Department, GA

K9 Officer Eric Joseph Joering

Westerville Division of Police, OH

Police Officer Anthony Pasquale Morelli

Westerville Division of Police, OH

Commander Paul R. Bauer

Chicago Police Department, IL

Police Officer Darren Maurice Weathers

Detroit Police Department, MI

Deputy Sheriff Kevin James Stanton

Brevard County Sheriff's Office, FL

Police Officer Justin Taylor Billa

Mobile Police Department, AL

Sergeant Mujahid Ramzziddin

Prince George's County Police Department, MD

Sergeant Mark J. Baserman

Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, PA

Deputy Sheriff Alexis "Thunder" Eagle Locklear

Scotland County Sheriff's Office, NC

Deputy Sheriff Jacob M. Pickett

Boone County Sheriff's Office, IN

Police Officer Rodney Scott Smith

Hickman Police Department, KY

Police Officer Christopher Ryan Morton

Clinton Police Department, MO

Police Officer Greggory Casillas

Pomona Police Department, CA

Deputy Sheriff David Lee'Sean Manning

Edgecombe County Sheriff's Office, NC

Reserve Officer Christopher Michael Lawton

Zachary Police Department, LA

Police Officer Scotty Hamilton

Pikeville Police Department, KY

Deputy Sheriff Ryan Douglas Zirkle

Marin County Sheriff's Office, CA

Police Officer Andres Laza-Caraballo

Juncos Municipal Police Department, PR

Special Agent Melissa S. Morrow

U.S. Department of Justice - Federal Bureau of Investigation, US

Trooper First Class Kevin M. Miller

Connecticut State Police, CT

Police Officer Phillip Lynn Meacham

Hopkinsville Police Department, KY

Corporal Dale Shannon Hallman

Saluda County Sheriff's Office, SC

Police Officer Keith O'Neal Earle

Huntsville Police Department, AL

Patrolman Kevin F. Crossley

Whitesboro Police Department, NY

Sergeant Sean McNamee Gannon

Yarmouth Police Department, MA

Sergeant Noel Ramirez

Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office, FL

Deputy Sheriff Taylor Lindsey

Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office, FL

Detective Sergeant Brian Scott Cuscino

New Castle Police Department, PA

Deputy Sheriff Casey L. Shoemate

Miller County Sheriff's Office, MO

Police Officer Tamby Yagan

Paterson Police Department, NJ

Corporal Eugene Cole

Somerset County Sheriff's Office, ME

Police Officer Rogelio Santander, Jr.

Dallas Police Department, TX

Police Officer Jesus "Chuy" Cordova

Nogales Police Department, AZ

Police Officer Charles Whites

Round Rock Police Department, TX

Police Officer Robert Shawn Pitts,

Terre Haute Police Department, IN

Agent Joel Alexis Pantojas-Fuente

San Juan Police Department, PR

Deputy Sheriff William J. Gentry, Jr.

Highlands County Sheriff's Office, FL

Police Officer Alex Sable

York City Police Department, PA

Deputy Inspector General Richard Hale

Texas Juvenile Justice Department, TX



DISTRESS FUND NEWS

And so it begins... we now start the work for our 2018 Raffle – printing of tickets, letters, ordering the envelopes, and then the organization of the 23,000 raffle tickets. It's a time-consuming job, but there is nothing as important or rewarding as seeing what the income from our raffle does for our members and widows.

As of this writing, we are helping one widow with financial problems and we have five other widows and one member who have requested assistance. Seven people need our help and it's possible because of you.

Give yourself a pat on the back for caring. You deserve it.

The Raffle will be mailed in early September with the drawing taking place at our Holiday Party in December. As usual, there will be twenty-five chances to win. Feeling lucky?

You will notice some differences with your raffle this time around. What could they be?

Memorial Donations:

From Bob P. Sharp in memory of Norman Hook

From Donna and Melvin Jones, III in memory of Robert MacKenzie

From Sandy and Daryl Buhrman in memory of Edward Marston, Jr.

Thank you

BALTIMORE RETIRED POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION TAG PROGRAM

As of 4/16/18, we have 637 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.

Contact Daryl Buhrman 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 Buhrman at 410-803-2293.



IN MEMORIAM

Cindy Dickson, wife of Scott Dickson (02/04/18)
Joseph Chianca, Jr. (03/15/18)
Sandra Keith, wife of Edward Keith (01/23/18)
Margaret Lawrence, wife of Col. Ed Lawrence (03/17/18)

Your face may fade away in my memory, but your love remains behind and wraps me in warmth.



*Your life was a blessing,
Your memory a treasure,
You are loved beyond words,
And missed beyond measure.*

BRPBA FINAL ROLL CALL

Each day without you brings an ache that will never heal.
Earl Boram, Jr. (03/31/18)
John Boyle (03/19/18)
Rosario Buzzuro (02/20/18)
John Creighton (03/22/18)
George Crutchfield (02/16/18)
James Fell (03/26/18)
Tyrone Francis (05/08/18)
Gerald Gall (02/03/18)
Charles Johns (05/03/18)
Ronald Kapp (03/07/18)
Edward Marston, Jr. (02/25/18)
Roger Rose (05/04/18)
Joseph Siegmund, Jr. (02/02/18)
Wayne Warner (04/19/18)
Harry VanCleaf (03/19/18)





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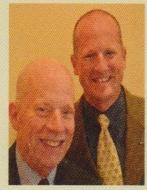


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***Executive Board Meetings held the second Wednesday of the month and
General Meetings on the third Tuesday at American Legion Post 130,
Perry Hall, MD. Please join us!***