



CALL BOX

Official Newsletter of

THE SHIELDS - LONG ISLAND, INC.

P.O. BOX 1822

MINEOLA, NY 11501

PHONE: 516-884-3490

LONGISLANDSHIELDS.COM

June 2026





PRESIDENT
Michael Villa

VICE PRESIDENT
Neil Delargy

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Luke Johnson

TREASURER
Richard H. Rottkamp

RECORDING SECRETARY
William R. Petito

CORESPONDING SECRETARY
Keith Bettinger

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Jack D'Arcy

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
Larry Lombardo
Sean Kelleher

PRESIDENT EMERITUS
Richard J. Petito

BOARD OFFICERS
Kathleen Kalt
Tammy Lestingi
Larry Oliva
Richard Thornton
Joseph H. Wolff - Web Master

CHAPLAINS
Pastor James G. Anderson
Rev. Chris Costigan
Rabbi Tzvi Berkowitz

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Peter Guggenheim

GENERAL COUNSEL
Peter Caso
516-937-5253

PHOTOGRAPHER
Dom Cammarata
516-384-4042

SHIELDS CHIROPRACTOR
Dr. Robert Goebel
516-248-3647

HOME SECURITY ADVISOR
Ken Schiotis

PAST PRESIDENTS
Stanley Perlmutter
John Ferguson
William Lombard
John F. Mahoney
Richard Hennes
Joseph Klun

NEXT MEETING

NEXT MEETING
Thursday June 11th
7:00 PM
@ The Coral House

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 21st,
Father's Day

Saturday, July 4th,
Independance Day, 250th Anniversary

Monday, September 7th,
Labor Day

Thursday, September 10th,
Meeting @ The Coral House, 7:00 PM

Saturday, September 12th,
Rosh Hashana

Monday, October 12th,
Columbus Day

Thursday, October 29th,
Meeting @ The Coral House, Noon

Sunday, November 1st,
Daylight Savings Time End

Tuesday, November 3rd,
Election Day

Wednesday, November 11th,
Veteran's Day

Thursday, November 26th,
Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, December 10th,
Meeting @ The Coral House, Noon

THE SHIELDS OF LONG ISLAND ON THE WEB:
LongIslandShields.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the Long Island Shields, As we approach our June meeting, we find ourselves at a pivotal moment for both our organization and our nation. We are standing on the doorstep of the **250th Anniversary of the United States**. This Semiquincentennial is more than just a milestone; it is a reminder of the principles of liberty and service that define our membership. As law enforcement professionals and dedicated public servants, we represent the very front lines of the American experiment, and we will continue to honor that legacy throughout the coming year. While we look toward the national celebration, we remain deeply entrenched in the fight for the dignity of those who served before us. The **NYC Organization of Public Service Retirees** continues its tireless battle against the city regarding the preservation of healthcare benefits. It is a disgrace that those who gave their careers to protect New York City are being forced to fight for the coverage they were promised. This struggle is exacerbated by the current leadership in City Hall. **Mayor Zohran Mamdani** has consistently shown a lack of regard for the practical needs of the workforce and the retired community. His administration's priorities continue to drift away from the core safety and stability that New Yorkers deserve. He refuses to have a sit down meeting with Marianne Pizzitola. Truly sickening. To help with the legal fees we will be raffling off **\$100 worth of lottery scratch-offs** at the June meeting. Please help support the fight. Similarly, at the state level, we continue to see the fallout of **Governor Hochul's** failed policies. From the persistence of congestion pricing to the constant pressure of rising taxes, the current administration in Albany is making it increasingly difficult for hardworking families and retirees to remain on Long Island.

We need a change in direction, and we must stand behind leaders who understand our values. **Bruce Blakeman** has shown the type of leadership we need for New York State Governor—someone who prioritizes law and order and economic sanity.

Upcoming Events & Service Opportunities

We have several important dates coming up that require your attention and participation:

- Grave Dressing at Long Island National Cemetery:

- **Saturday, May 23rd at 7:00 AM**

- **Location:** Section 2A

- Please join us as we honor our fallen brothers and sisters. This is a solemn tradition that reflects the heart of the Shields.

- LI Games for the Physically Challenged:

- **May 29th and 30th at Mitchell Field**

- Volunteers are needed to support these incredible athletes. Please reach out if you can give a few hours of your time.

June Meeting: Scholarship Night

Our next general meeting will be held on **June 11th at 7:00 PM at the Coral House**. This is one of our most rewarding nights of the year as we present our **Scholarship Awards** to the next generation of leaders. I hope to see you there.

Stay safe and stay vigilant.

Fraternally,

Mike Villa - President, Long Island Shields



Amy Marie Karol Ins Agency Inc
Amy Karol, Agent

205 Sunrise Highway
Lynbrook, NY 11563
Bus 516-593-8878 Fax 516-593-1621
amy@amykarol.net
www.amykarol.net



Providing Insurance and Financial Services

Telephone
(516) 221-2266

Fax
(516) 221-7272



RUSSELL D. MAURO
Attorney At Law

1400 WANTAGH AVENUE SUITE 102
WANTAGH, NEW YORK 11793
maurorussell@gmail.com www.mauro-law.com

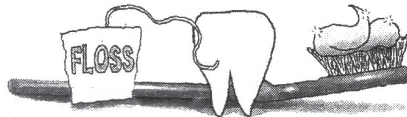
Rana N. Hassan, M.D.

Internist

71 Franklin Avenue
Franklin Square, NY 11010

516-216-1690 - Office

516-216-1689 - fax



RANA MUNEERUDDIN, DDS

73 Franklin Avenue
Franklin Square, NY 11010

516-488-8261

Answering Service: 1-800-307-0533

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Summer has a way of inviting a different pace, even for those whose vocation has always demanded vigilance. For active and retired law enforcement alike, rest is not simply a luxury—it is a necessary renewal of body, mind, and spirit. The long days and warmer evenings offer an opportunity to step back from the constant readiness that defines the profession. Whether it is time spent with family, quiet moments by the water, or simply an unhurried morning, these experiences are not distractions from duty but essential investments in well-being.

For those still serving, intentional rest can sharpen judgment, sustain resilience, and guard against the wear that accumulates over years of service. For retirees, summer can be a reminder that the rhythm of life continues to unfold with new meaning and purpose. The same dedication once given

to the job can now be directed toward relationships, hobbies, and community life. In both seasons of service, rest becomes a way to honor the sacrifices already made and to prepare the heart for what lies ahead.

As an organization that brings together active and retired members, we also use this time to encourage one another to embrace rest without guilt. Staying connected—through gatherings, shared stories, and simple fellowship—helps ensure that no one carries the burdens of the past or present alone. May this summer be a season of restoration, gratitude, and quiet strength, reminding each of us that stepping back at times is not weakness, but wisdom.

Fr. Christopher Costigan
Chaplain

A MESSAGE FROM RABBI BERKOWITZ

Do not judge your fellow until you have put yourself in his place”.

(Ethics of our Fathers Chap 4, Paragraph 2).
“Cooler Incident’ Judgement

When a criminal commits a crime, he/she hopes to escape from the crime scene as fast as possible. In the process, while trying to evade arrest, there is no thought by the criminal who gets hurt and/or killed.

The main purpose of policing is to maintain law and order. When confronted by a criminal, who has no concern for the safety of the officer and/ the public, the officer’s task is to apprehend the culprit safely and avoid additional danger to the public.

I was not privy to the testimony during the court hearings. However, based upon the various news and media articles, the culprit was **DESPERATELY** trying to escape when confronted by police. In using a moped as a vehicle to evade the police, had he

not stopped by the course house officer’s action, who knows how many innocent pedestrians who have been hurt or worse.

The fact that the moped rider did commit the crime, under these circumstances, the responding officer’s action was correct.

Had the criminal surrendered peacefully, the consequences would have been without injury, or worse to anyone.

The officer performed his task to the best of his ability.

It’s shameful that such a poor judgement against the officer was rendered.

Let’s hope all people of good will will help to reverse the court’s decision.

Rabbi Harry Berkowitz

REVEREND ANDERSON FAREWELL

Today , we gather not just to mark the passing of time, but to honor a life of service, faith and quiet strength. For over 20 years, Reverend Anderson has walked alongside the members of the Long Island Shields - not in the spotlight, but in the moments that mattered most . In meeting rooms filled with decisions, challenges and sometimes long winded speeches, your presence brought something steady and grounding. You reminded us, month after month, that beyond the shield and the duty, there is purpose, compassion and faith. Your words were never loud, but they were always powerful.

Thoughtful, sincere and deeply felt - your opening and closing prayers gave meaning to our gatherings and perspective to our work. You had a way of speaking that made people pause, reflect and carry a little more strength with them when they walked out the door.

What made your service truly special wasn't just what you said - it was who you are. Humble in spirit, insight in thought and unwavering in your commitment to others. You never sought recognition, yet you earned our deepest respect.

Today, as a small token of our immense gratitude, we present you with this statue of Saint Michael.

Saint Michael, the protector, the guardian, the symbol of courage and righteousness. It is fitting, because in many ways, you have been that steady protector for all of us - not in battle, but in spirit. A quiet guardian reminding us of what is right, what is just and what truly matters.

While you may be retiring from this role, the impact of your service does not retire. It lives on in every person you've guided, every moment you've steadied and every heart you have touched.

On behalf of the Long Island Shields, thank you for your years of dedication, your wisdom, your faith and your friendship. May the next chapter bring you peace, fulfillment, and the same grace you have so generously given to all of us.

God Bless you, and thank you.





Luke Johnson explains Scholarship Application Process



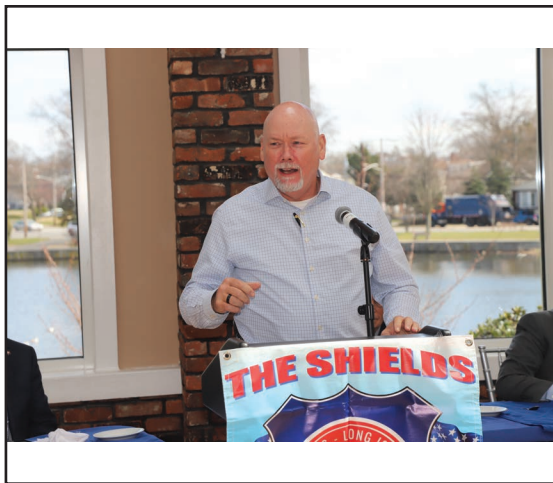
Neil D'Largy Thanks & Presents Rev. Anderson with St. Michael Statue



Bill Petito Congratulates Commissioner Jackson on his retirement



PBA Disabilities Consultant Marc Marino



Retired PBA Delegate Steve Wallace From Mt. Sinai Health Systems



Pension Guru Joe Macconi updates us on Pension & COLA

Garden City Police Commissioner Kenneth O. Jackson

We are here this afternoon to honor fellow Shields member and recently retired Village of Garden City Police Commissioner Kenneth O. Jackson on his 44 year career dedicated to law enforcement of which more than four decades were devoted to serving and protecting the residents of the Village of Garden City. A graduate of St John's University in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice his career in law enforcement began as a supervisor with the Adelphi University Public Safety Department in 1980. He was subsequently hired by the New York City Transit Police Department in 1981 where he received the President's Award for top overall average. He excelled there for four years until he was hired by the Village of Garden City Police Department. Over the course of his career he wore many hats, far too many to detail at this luncheon, but I will do my best. He was initially assigned to the patrol division where he was a recruit training officer then he was assigned to traffic enforcement and then the detective division. Upon being promoted to Sergeant in 1991 he was a supervisor in the traffic unit. In 1995 he was promoted to Lieutenant where he was desk officer, CO of the traffic division as well as CO of the detective division over the next 10 years. In 2005 he was promoted to Inspector, Deputy Commanding Officer of the department serving under then Commissioner Ernest J Cipullo. In 2012, upon the retirement of Commissioner Cipullo, he got the nod and got the big chair and served as Commissioner from 2012 through the end of January 2026. These are just some of his assignments within the Garden City Police Department. All of the other titles and accolades that this man was able to achieve are too numerous to mention, however I will mention a few. He is Executive Director of the Nassau County Municipal Police Chiefs Association where he had previously served several years as President. He is the executive director of the NYS Fraternal Order of Police. He served 20 plus years as 2nd Vice-Chairman of the Nassau County Traffic Safety Board where he is considered an expert. He is a trustee of the Antun foundation. He is part of the International Association of Police Chiefs, was on the Village of Garden City Traffic Commission, on the Garden City Community Council on Substance Abuse, was part of the Long Island College and University Consortium. I think you get the idea, the list of accomplishments and giving to the community goes on and on. Oh, but of course, 1979 he received the Suffolk County Certificate of Merit for the rescue of three children from a burning building while serving as a volunteer firefighter in the Central Islip volunteer Fired Department. There is no one more deserving than Commissioner Kenneth O. Jackson being named the April 2026 Long Island Shields Police Officer of the month.



GOOD TO KNOW

Peter J. Caso, Esq.

The summer travel season is upon us. Smart travel preparation with practical precautions can turn a stressful trip into a smooth one.

Before you go, it is wise to first organize your digital and physical travel documents. You can use mobile tools, such as digital boarding passes, identification paper and scan codes on your smartphone. Hard copies of passports, travel insurance, hotel reservations and emergency contacts are good practice.

When traveling overseas, it is wise to register with the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP), which is a free service from the U.S. Department of State that allows citizens traveling or living abroad to enroll their trip with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. STEP provides safety updates, emergency alerts, and helps officials contact you during disasters or emergencies.

Medical needs are sometimes overlooked. Document your health status by carrying a summary of medical conditions, current medications, allergies and your doctor's contact information. Keep prescriptions in original containers and bring enough for your trip plus extra days. If traveling out of the country, check if you are required to have vaccinations for your destination. Contact your health insurer to confirm coverage at your destination. Most U.S. insurance companies provide limited or no coverage abroad.

When away, stay connected. Ensure that your mobile plan has coverage in the locations you are traveling. If going out of the country, check with your mobile carrier for an international plan. This way you can stay in contact with family, use it in your travel locale or for emergency calls.

Let your bank know that you will be traveling abroad. This will prevent your credit card from being locked due to suspicious usage. Carry at least two debit or credit cards, as well as some of the local currency, because if you travel to rural areas, they may only accept cash. To be secure, place your cards in an RFID-blocking wallet to prevent unauthorized scanning, "skimming" of your card.

If vacationing by car, take certain precautions prior to your departure. Ensure that your vehicle is in proper mechanical order. Check that the tires have adequate tread depth, the air pressure is correctly set, the vehicle's brakes are in good repair and functioning accurately, and all lights are working properly. Always make sure that everyone is wearing their seatbelts. During long drives, plan breaks every two hours. If you become drowsy during the drive, safely pull over and rest. It has been shown that fatigued driving is as dangerous as impaired operation of a vehicle.

Planning ahead will remove a lot of the concerns that may arise during your trip, and if one does, you should be properly prepared if an issue arises.

Disclaimer:

This article is for education and information purposes only, and is not intended to provide legal advice. No attorney-client relationship exists or is created by the use of this article or the information provided herein. This article should not be used as a substitute for competent legal advice from a professional attorney in your state.

**STUART A. FORMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

450 7TH AVENUE, STE 1304
NEW YORK, NY 10123

YANA POLISSKY-RINCON
PARALEGAL

(212) 244-0110
FAX: (212) 244-3686
FIRELAW56@AOL.COM

JOHN F. FERRANTE
MICHAEL J. GRANT

34 Hempstead Avenue
(corner of Peninsula Boulevard)
Lynbrook, NY 11563
516.599.3600
Fax: 516.599.3602
info@flinchandbruns.com
www.flinchandbruns.com

*Flinch &
Bruns*
Funeral Home, Inc.



CUSTOM AWARDS

Custom Designs and Manufacturing
Trophies * Plaques * Medals * Bronze Works

BRIAN SCOTT

516-763-1764 * Fax 516-763-2702

Email: Brian@customawardsli.com

Web: www.customawardsli.com

Serving your Awards and Recognition needs for over fifty years



Reconstructive Surgery and
Orthopedics of the Foot

MONA KHOURY, D.P.M.

AVENUE U FOOTCARE
1407 Avenue U
Brooklyn, NY 11229

(718) 998-6684
Fax: (718) 998-0513

BALDWIN FOOTCARE
1685 B Grand Avenue
Baldwin, NY 11510

(516) 378-1280
Fax: (516) 378-0096

TOP GUN TRAINING LLC

Jason Reeves
Director

4160 Sunrise Hwy
Massapequa NY 11758

Office (516) 517-6611
Email: TopgunTrainingLi@gmail.com

PERSONAL COMPUTER MEDICAL DOCTOR
WWW.PCMDREPAIRS.COM

- Installations
- Upgrades
- Diags
- On-Site Service
- Repairs
- Training
- Custom Configuration
- Virus Removal

P.C.M.D.
(646) 734-3272



672 Central Ave Cederhurst NY

FULL RESTAURANT & BAR

*Lia's Pizzeria
Cucina Italiana*

Catering
available
for all
occasions

Monday is PASTA NIGHT

4pm - 9pm

Your choice of: Pasta, Soup or Salad,
Soft Beverage, Coffee or Tea, Mini Cannoli

\$15⁹⁵
+ tax



60 ATLANTIC AVE, OCEANSIDE

(Great Lincoln Shopping Center - next to CVS)

516 764-4971

See our menu on-line:

www.LiasPizzeriaOceanside.com



THE SHIELDS LONG ISLAND
PO Box 1822, Mineola NY 11501

Presorted
First Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Hicksville, NY
Permit #125

INCOME TAX PREPARATION

Financial Consultants



Richard H. Rottkamp, EA
L.I. Shields Treasurer

466 Ashland Avenue, Baldwin, N.Y. 11510
Ph: (516) 868-0023 • Fx: (516) 377-7712
RH1040@aol.com

*Stay Safe and
always wear your vest*