THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION – A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO SERVE AND PROTECT ITS MEMBERS

Volume 28 - Issue 4

**Holiday Issue** 

**OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2017** 

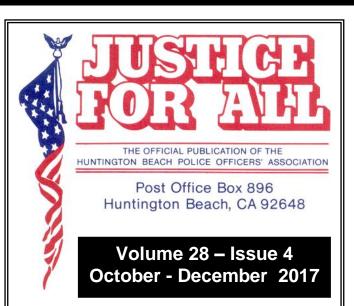
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## JUSTICE FOR ALL

Official Publication of **Huntington Beach Police Officers' Association**Published Quarterly

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HBPOA is affiliated with the following groups:
PORAC - Peace Officers' Research Association of California

California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation Member of Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce Huntington Beach Police Officers' Foundation

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Of California



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Orange County Chapter Dennis Hashin Treasurer 2017



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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

\_DAVE **HUMPHREYS** 

HBPOA President

In September, I hope everyone was able to enjoy and embrace the Labor Day holiday weekend. Several may have forgotten the meaning of the holiday but I am hopeful it was a time for you to reflect on the importance of labor unions and the labor movement in the United States. Organized labor unions fought for better wages, reasonable hours and safer working conditions for many Americans. These efforts also led to stop child labor, offer health benefits and to provide aid to workers who were injured on the job. We should all be very thankful and muse what our labor market would look like today without this movement from the past.

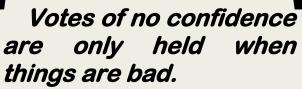
On September 1, 1980, President Ronald Reagan gave a Labor Day Speech at Liberty State Park, Jersey City, New Jersey. Reagan restored the wisdoms of all American's regarding the importance of labor unions. Reagan is America's only U.S. President who was once a Union President himself, and he said, "They remind us that where free unions and collective bargaining are forbidden, freedom is lost. They remind us that freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. You and I must protect and preserve freedom here or it will not be passed on to our children and it would disappear everywhere in the world. Today the workers in Poland are showing a new generation how high is the price of freedom but also how much it is worth that price."

Another significant labor issue had been steeping in Huntington Beach for some time. Our Police Officers' Association recently brought forth a 'vote of no confidence' (VONC) in Chief Rob Handy's ability to manage and lead the Huntington Beach Police Department. This funnel cloud began to loom soon after Handy's employment and continued to flourish over the past few years. The results landed when the vote was tallied and publicly presented on August 14, 2017. Ninety-Eight percent of our membership voted (224) and 92% (207) voted no confidence in Chief Handy's performance. These totals symbolized the voting membership excluding



five trainees who were not asked to participate.

The turnout for this vote was momentous due to our members' concern with Chief Handy's failed leadership. The participation rate of 98% with a vast 92% of our membership voting no confidence in Handy's ability to lead this agency was earth shattering. This process was done with



Rich Roberts
International Union of Police Associations

heavy heart after a great deal of consideration on the part of each and every member as well as the Board of Directors to administer the voice of the membership.

As the media coverage about the VONC unfolded, Handy commenced with feigned smear tactics occasionally joined by his social allies. Handy made misleading and deceptive statements about our membership and we have yet to see him take any responsibility for the void in his leadership or his part in the current issues we face department-wide. This type of egocentric vision, playing to the media while casting aspersions on those he purports to lead, is precisely why a disconnect exists. Taking credit for the success of the department while blaming others for poor decisions is not the type of leadership this department needs going forward.

In a recent newspaper article incited by Handy regarding the VONC, he alleged the VONC was triggered because of our memberships distaste for body worn cameras, stalled negotiations and how internal investigation matters are handled. Let me be very clear, none of this is true. On the evening of August 21, 2017, board members spoke on behalf of our membership at a city council meeting pulping

Continued on the page 4.



**Huntington Beach Police Officers' Association Huntington Beach Police Officers' Foundation** 

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Terms are from September to September

Justice For All is produced as a service of the Huntington Beach Police Officers' Association & Foundation. This newsletter is designed to keep members and friends informed of current activities and events affecting the membership.

Letters to the editor are welcome, as are suggestions for articles. Submissions to this publication are always welcomed by the membership as well as outside sources and they do not necessarily represent the approved views of the HBPOA & Foundation or its directors.

Correspondence and/or Submissions – Contact: JFAnewsletter@aol.com

HBPOA & Foundation Office Location: 18211 Enterprise Lane, Suite H Huntington Beach, CA 92648

#### **President's Message** - Continued from page 3.

these issues but shared other concerns surrounding his failed leadership. Handy had no issue with playing this parable catering to those in the public who have a negative opinion of law enforcement. This tactic was clearly a deceitful tool for his survival by attempting to further fracture the membership to fit his narrative. Handy's actions before, during and after the VONC has only solidified the memberships resolve and comfort in our decision to bring about and oversee the VONC process.

The result of this vote was an indictment of Handy's failures as a leader and his inability to bring this department together to meet the many challenges we face. Handy has fractured the department as a manager and has led himself down a path of destruction at the expense of our agency. It is troubling for our membership to have a leader that is solely focused on his own public perception and foothold in civic government and not the men and women of this police department. Many of our employees have dedicated the majority of their lives to serve and protect this community. I know our devoted members will continue to protect each other and the residents of Huntington Beach while promoting public safety as we progress with the VONC.

In early 2016, our membership showed great concern over the disorder and descending direction of the police department along with the lack of leadership and poor management by Handy since his arrival. Although a VONC was whispered at that time, the Board of Directors elected to appropriately assimilate and produce a well-organized management survey to assess their concerns. This survey was furnished to our membership with an 82% participation rate. The results of the survey were finalized in August of 2016.

The management survey evaluated Handy and three Captain positions. Handy failed in eight of nine anchor categories. The categories included items such as trustworthiness, integrity, collaboration, support for officers, communication skills, follow through and innovation. The Board of Directors purposely withheld the results of this survey in hopes of making Handy successful. We worked tirelessly with Handy in both formal and informal meetings; sadly, that proved unachievable and we could no longer remain silent on his lack of progress, problem solving and poor management. Our meetings dealt with and focused on

the genuine needs of the department while on the heels of years of neglect and with experienced officers leaving, morale spiraling and getting worse.

Please know that the VONC was not something that was taken lightly and it was difficult for our membership and I know a grueling decision for our HBPOA Board of Directors to move forward with this process. In fact, this was the first VONC in the history of the Huntington Beach Police Department. We struggled with this but realized how effortless it was to recount and narrate much of the unsatisfactory performance by Handy since his hiring in December of 2013. His poor decisions started almost immediately, but we felt it was always more prudent to attempt to solve our differences through collaboration and dialogue. Unfortunately, labor relations are a two-way street that Handy has never embraced.

The health of a police department can be determined by many factors including pay and benefits, ease of recruitment, retention, and the morale of current employees. This city has provided competitive compensation packages based on the market place. The HBPOA has always desired to

be competitive to attract and retain quality employees to serve the public and each other. The HBPOA has also agreed to concessions during the economic downturn and will continue to work to reduce the burden of our retirement costs. Our police department is no longer able to reliably recruit local lateral police officers and current employees are leaving at an alarming rate. Morale is at the lowest levels and experienced officers are leaving because they have the



Continued on the page 5.

#### **President's Message** - Continued from page 4.

ability to either retire or join another retirement system. However, make no mistake without bully tactics, poor management decisions and the confused direction by Handy, many employees would have remained in service.

As many of you know, California is a strong labor relations state and the HBPOA fully supports the rights of our members. Protecting the rights of city employees, our members, provides a level of protection and security from discriminatory treatment. This too is clearly outlined in the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act.

Alas, for the first time in the history of the Huntington Beach Police Department, we have never felt so compelled to go down this path and call for a chief to resign, step down, or be removed from office. The men and women of this department need to be supported, valued, and treated fairly. We as employees have to follow policy and procedure and we will resist being torn apart by a chief who is more interested in his image and perception of political correctness. We encourage there be a swift transition for the well-being of our police agency and the community we serve.

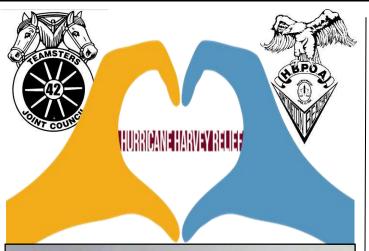
Rich Roberts, a spokesman for the International Union of Police Associations has represented more than 100,000 law enforcement officers across the country, once said, "Votes of no confidence are only held when things are bad." It means (the officers) feel leadership is not doing the right job and such votes should be taken very seriously.

Please visit our HBPOA website at <a href="https://hbpoa.org/">https://hbpoa.org/</a> along with our Facebook page at <a href="https://facebook.com/42HBPOA42/">https://facebook.com/42HBPOA42/</a> for informational updates. We inspire you to encourage family and friends in the community to take to the forums and express positive support of the HBPOA and the men and women of the Huntington Beach Police Department.

#### **Best of Orange County 2017**









LA COUNTY - HBPOA Director M. Prieto and President D. Humphreys assisted in packaging supplies that were sent to assist in Texas to aid victims of hurricane Harvey, a cooperative effort with the Teamsters Joint Council 42 and good will by many.

# Special Olympics Southern California

SAVE THE DATE Thursday, NOV 15, 2017





**Static Displays** 

**Bella Terra**Huntington Beach

I dream of a world where chickens can cross the road without having their motives questioned

fb: .com/42HBPOA42 t: @hbpoa i: @hbpoa

Retirement Supplemental Benefit NO UPDATE TO REPORT







#### **Patriot Day Memorial Tribute**

On September 11th, 2017 the community held a Patriot Day Ceremony: a memorial tribute to the fallen members of public safety who were killed in a single day.

Again, the event was hosted by the American Legion Post 133 and the City of Huntington Beach. Whom we would like to thank for honoring our selected public safety employees as recipients of the following honors:

> POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR – STEVE TENNANT FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR – TRAVIS TERICH MARINE SAFETY OFFICER OF THE YEAR – TREVOR MCDONALD





## 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY 9/11 MEMORIAL TO HONOR THE PAST, TO SERVE THE PRESENT AND SECURE THE FUTURE

BUILDINGTOREMEMBER.COM







ORANGE COUNTY POLICE CANINE ASSOCIATION | 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Police K9 Demonstration Saturday, October 14, 2017 | Glover Stadium, Anaheim, CA

VENDOR FAIR 3:00 PM - K9 DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM 6:00 PM

ARTICLE PROTECTION - TOUGHEST DOG COMPETITION - FIREWORKS - MEET & GREET THE K9 TEAMS

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO PURCHASE TICKETS – WWW.OCPCA.ORG



HBk9.org

Huntington Beach Police Canine Association

SIGNS YOU'RE IN THE WRONG JOB

Life is simpler than we make it. You probably don't need an assessment to tell you if you are good at your job. If you are honest with yourself at all, you should definitely know if it is time to move on. But many of us are unwilling to say it out loud-especially if spitting out the truth might force us to spend time and effort changing big parts of our lives.

Not everyone in the world can have his or her perfect job. But no human being should have to spend most of their only life doing something they are not good at – and which makes them unhappy.

Here are four signs that you may want to start looking for a new job.

#### You Are The Ugly Duckling

If you feel like you don't fit in, you probably don't. People that are drawn to different types of jobs usually have personality traits in common. Whether it is a police officer, politician or accountant, people that do specific jobs tend to find a connection with others that do the same type of work. Unlike the ugly duckling, they feel like they belong to the "family" and there is a piece of mind that goes along with it.



#### **Consistently Poor Feedback**

The clearest clue you can get about your choice of jobs is the consistent feedback you get from others. If your life is filled with negative comments (aka an "F" letter grade on an employee survey or Vote of No Confidence), it's probably not because the world is out to get you. You are just in the wrong job.

#### **Nothing Comes Naturally**

Even before we had to work for a living, we all had to admit our limitations. When I was a teenager, I wanted to be a rock star. After six years of struggle through private guitar lessons, I realized I would be crummy at any job that involved playing an instrument. My wife on the other hand, was born with a natural gift for music. A few Christmases ago I gave her an electric guitar. She had never played one before but in less than 20 minutes, she was banging it out like Eddie Van Halen.

Be honest with yourself and others about what you do well and what you don't and seek a job that best fits you.

#### You Can't Be You

When I hired on to HBPD, I was blessed to have a very unique and colorful FTO. I watched this man get confessions from the most hardened of criminals – all while holding a large diet coke and singing show tunes (he really liked *The Sound of Music*). Once I tried to copy him, it was a train wreck. He finally stopped me, smiled and simply said "be yourself." Pretending to be someone else while at work or anytime in your life will not make you happy.

If you find yourself victim to any of the above signs, start looking for a new job today, that will make you − and your fellow coworkers - happier tomorrow. ■

## **Law Enforcement Torch Run**

Benefiting the Southern California Special Olympics

\_SCOTT MARSH HBPOA Treasurer

Members, family, friends, and associates of the Huntington Beach Police Department made us all proud once again as participants in the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run of Orange County that took place on June 9th.

Runners took the torch from members of the Fountain Valley PD, ran with the torch for a little over





7 miles through our community, until passing the torch to members of Orange County Probation.

This year there was a challenge to all OC agencies to raise \$1,000 each was set as a goal, as it costs about \$500 to sponsor an athlete for one year. We reached out to our members and friends of the department to help us reach this goal, and I am happy to report we raised the most money out of 29 participating agencies, reaching a total of \$1,785.00. With this money we will be able to sponsor three Special Olympics athletes in Huntington Beach. The entire campaign raised over \$19,000, which doubled what was raised last year.

I want to extend a special thank you to each

and every person who participated by financially donating, physically participating in the run, or cheering for us along the path. Special thanks go out to Police Captain Dave Bunetta, Fire Chief David Segura, and Councilman Billy O'Connell for your participation in every mile the run. Additionally, thank you for a generous donation from the Huntington Beach Police Officers' Foundation which supported all of the runners by paying for our team's participation shirts. Finally, thank you to Rob Deliema and BJ's Restaurants for your continued support by donating food for all of the runners at the end of our leg!

Way to represent HBPD!



#### **Turkey Bowl Time!**

\_ANTHONY **PHAM** *HBPOA Member* 

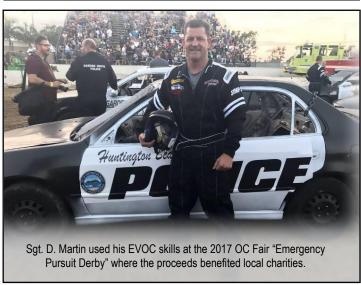
It's that time of year again. The Turkey Bowl XVI committee is looking for a few good men or women, or anyone willing to abuse their bodies and complain about it for the following week. As always, we will start bright and early on Thanksgiving Day, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8 AM at the City Gym Field.

For those that are considering playing, do not sit on the couch for the preceding three months and expect to hop out of bed on game day and expect your "A" game. We've all done it once or twice and the recovery process is lengthened exponentially. Trust me. We suggest you do 5 push-ups, 10 sit-ups and 10 burpees every other day for a week. Only then, will you be competing at our level.

If you are unwillingly to commit to the rigorous training regiment or are just too smart to play "prison rules" flag football, we welcome all that are interested in witnessing the athletic marvel on display. If you're working or off for the day, this is the perfect time to sneak away for a break before the Thanksgiving madness takes over.

We generally attempt to avoid a 20 on 20 game, so please contact me at <a href="mailto:oneighteen@aol.com">oneighteen@aol.com</a> if you are interested. You will need confirmation from me, in order to play. Thank you and start stretching.







Contact Detective Pham for further information. <a href="mailto:apham@hbpd.org">apham@hbpd.org</a>







Athlete	Event	Medal
S Mack	Trap Doubles	Silver
	Skeet Doubles	Silver
	Skeet	Bronze
	Sporting Clay	Bronze
	High Over All - 'B' Class	Bronze
A Dham	Wrostling Frontyle	Gold
A Pham	Wrestling - Freestyle	Gold
	Wrestling - Roman Greco	
	Submission Grappling	Gold
D Young	Submission Grappling	Gold
C Wright	Push Pull - 424.25 lbs*	Silver
	* Personal Record	
M Eskes	Swimming	
	50 M Breaststroke	Bronze
	100 M Breaststroke	Gold
	200 M Freestyle	Bronze
	400 M Freestyle	4th
	800 M Freestyle	Silver
	2 Mile Open Water Swim	Silver
G Hasselbach	100 M Freestyle	Silver
	50 M Butterfly	5th
	50 M Freestyle	5th
G Hasselbach	Crossfit	8th
	C. 655	0
S McCollom	Hockey (SoCal Kings)	5th
B Schrieber	Hockey (SoCal Kings)	5th
B Smiley	Hockey (SoCal Kings)	5th
G Ricci	Motorcross	14th
J Schloss	Soccer ( LASD Gold)	3rd (Pool)

HBPD ATHLETE MEDAL COUNT

GOLD - 5 | SILVER - 7 | BRONZE - 5

HONORABLE MENTIONS - 9

















## Chaplain's Corner



#### THE LANDMINE OF DISCOURAGEMENT

\_ROGER **WING**HBPD Police Chaplain

We've all had times of discouragement in our lives. Times when what we had hoped for or expected didn't get realized. We want our jobs to go well, our marriage to be perfect, our health to be in tiptop shape, or our relationships to be free from conflict. Disappointment is our emotional response to a failed expectation. When we refuse or fail to recognize and deal with the failure, that negative reaction can fester, and then we can slip into discouragement.

A number of years ago, I read a short book named "The Cleavers Don't Live Here Anymore" that dealt with reaching that point in your life when you recognize that all of those youthful ambitions and plans you had won't be fully realized. Those "life didn't turn out like I planned" moments. Disappointments are inevitable, but we don't have to be in bondage to discouragement. Now I'm not talking about the temporary ups and downs that we experience on a regular basis. I'm referring to those disappointments that cut us off at the knees and have the potential to cripple us mentally and emotionally. I know that I've had those in my life. Discouragement, however, should be like a drive through a dark tunnel, it's only temporary. When we're in the tunnel we put our headlights on so we can see our way through and then we come out on the other side. And God's Word is the light that will bring us through the tunnels in our lives.

Hebrews 12:11 tells us that "No trial seems to be joyful for the moment, but painful; nevertheless AFTERWARDS it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it." That's a great Scripture to hold on to when you're in the tunnel of despair. We just need to grasp on to that "afterwards" to realign our focus to get us through. It can almost be an adventure to wonder how the Lord will use this time to accomplish some better purpose. It's all about attitude and perspective. Discouragement can either defeat us and keep us down or it can

challenge and reinvigorate us for the next new chapter. The Patriots were 25 points down to the Atlanta Falcons in last year's Super Bowl. I imagine many of the players were pretty discouraged, but then came the second half and they rolled up 31 unanswered points to win in overtime in the greatest comeback in Super Bowl history. And there's a second half for all of us if we will just get repurposed and refocused.

In order to gain the victory over discouragement, the first thing we need to do is recognize the problem that needs to be dealt with. We need to admit that we are discouraged and then identify the root cause of why we have that discouragement. We need to look above our circumstances, beyond our disappointments, and ask God to show you what He's doing in the midst of them. God's always doing something --- but discouragement doesn't want to know what that is. When I run into those times I try to remember and focus on the reality that God must have a better plan in mind for me. I think we can also all relate to times when we were very glad that things didn't turn out like we were hoping. I'm as glad for the prayers that God didn't answer as I am for those He did. Psalm 62:5-6 relates how David dealt with discouragement when he had lost His kingdom, "My soul waits patiently for God alone, for my expectation (hope) is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation. He is my defense; I shall not be moved." And when we commit to not being moved and we remember to turn our minds and hearts to the Lord and pour out our disappointments to Him, we find that He will lighten the burden and give us a new perspective and hope. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us that God has a purpose, a future and a hope for all us.

Continued from page 19.

### MAJOR WILLIAM C. WHITE, U.S.M.C. VETERAN

\_JAMES 'JB' **HUME** HBPD Lieutenant - Retired

William 'Bill' C. White. If you've been around long enough, you may remember him as a reserve officer, a jailer and a dispatcher. For those not quite that old, he was that old man with the yellow jeep commander who worked with the explorers. Then, unfortunately, many of you readers, you never had the pleasure of knowing my quiet friend and warrior. As we volunteered our time together with the explorers, Bill's living example taught me many things. You see, Bill never made a big deal about his contributions to our freedom and service to our country and our department. Bill taught humility, honor and service by living it.

His story begins when he was about sixteen yeas old. Bill White lied about his age and took a job in the construction of Hoover Dam. As World War II broke out, Bill enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. Following World War II, he remained in the Corps and rose in rank to Sergeant Major. As the Korean War began, the Corps found that downsizing left a void in the officer ranks. A "Mustang" was born. The newly promoted Second Lieutenant

William C. White went to Korea and was actually <u>on</u> Mt. Seribachi when <u>both</u> flags were raised. He went on to serve in the Corps in peace time and rose to the rank of Major.

As his retirement approached, Major White wanted to become a Shimbu (A Korean Police Officer). With requirements that he separate from the Corps state-side, Bill didn't make it back to Korea. Instead, he met some Huntington Beach Police Officers who recruited him as a paid reserve officer to work patrol, dispatch and the jail. That wasn't enough for the Major though so he also volunteered to help Ivor Gitsham with the Police Explorer Post.

I met Bill White shortly after I joined the department in 1975. As a Cadet Intern and later a young officer, I was recruited to help out with the explorer post. As my involvement with the post increased, so did my friendship with Bill. He and his

Continued on the next page.



STOCKTON – Still one of the proud. Major William 'Bill' C. White is preparing to celebrate his 102nd birthday with friends and family at Brookdale Stockton. Bill even sang for his guests.

See the video and more photos at: <a href="http://www.recordnet.com/news/20170731/102-candle-salute-for-retired-marine">http://www.recordnet.com/news/20170731/102-candle-salute-for-retired-marine</a> | Recordnet.com/

#### Major White - Continued from page 14.

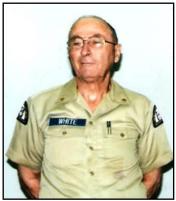
wife Jeanette would take me to the Marine Corps Birthday Ball at Camp Pendleton and El Toro. What an honor it was to be in the company of a sixty something year old man who could still fit into his dress blues.

Bill's tireless volunteer work with the explorers continued for many years. Bill was the bookkeeper, personnel officer, bus driver and meeting anchor. I simply can't imagine working with the explorers without his friendship, dedication and leadership. Among his many accomplishments are his fund-raising efforts. They were so successful that the explorer post now meets at the heliport in the "White House" which is named in his honor.

Bill's wife, Jeanette, died several years ago then later he suffered a stroke. As his health declined, he moved in with his daughter in Stockton. I would eventually loose touch with Bill, but that's another story.

This story is about the humble Marine who was far less impressed with himself than I was of him. As I contemplate my retirement, I am constantly reminded of his living example and his favorite poem that he often shared with me. I don't know the poem's author, but, I do know who committed it to memory.







#### Bill White would recite "SOMETIME"

Sometime when you're feeling important, Sometime when your ego's in bloom, Sometime when you take it for granted, You're the best qualified in the room;

Sometime when you feel that your absence Would leave an unfilled hole,
Just follow these simple instructions,
And see how they humble your sole.

Take a bucket and fill it with water, Put your hand in it, up to the wrist Pull it out; and the hole that's remaining Is a measure of how you'll be missed.

You may splash all you please when you enter, You may stir up the water galore, But stop, and you'll find in a minute That it looks quite the same as before.

Now the moral in this simple example, Is do just the best that you can, Be proud of yourself, but remember, There is no indispensable man.

God Bless you Major William C. White... and thanks for the lesson, 'JB' ■

JFA Note: This article was originally printed in the JFA Vol 18 Iss 4 2007. Recently an article appeared online that celebrated William 'Bill' C. White on his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. In honor of a marine and a gallant veteran we could not think of a more fitting person to salute for their service to country and to this city for Veteran's Day. About the author - Lieutenant James 'JB' Hume retired from HBPD in 2007 with more than 32 years of service. Thank you both for your service to country and community.

Thinking of our friend... Drop Bill a note and let him know it at **Brookdale Stockton, 6725 Inglewood Avenue, Stockton, CA 95207**.



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### 29th Annual Police K9 Demo Show

OCTOBER 14
ANAHEIM – GLOVER STADIUM
www.ocpca.org

#### **USMC 242<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Celebration**

November 10 SRC

www.marines.com

#### Veteran's Day

NOVEMBER 11
WORKING HOLIDAY

#### XVI Annual HBPD Turkey Bowl

NOVEMBER 23 CITY GYM FIELD

#### **POA Christmas Party**

DECEMBER 9
HUNTINGTON BEACH
www.hbpoa.org

#### **Chaplain's Christmas Dinner**

DECEMBER 12
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
www.fcchb.org







#### **ACTIVE, RETIRED & ALUMNI MEMBERS**

If you want to be updated on events
Make sure the POA has your current email
EMAIL: HBPOA42@gmail.com

Got Event?

JFANEWSLETTER @AOL.COM

## Did we make

Author unknown to me... but a good read.

For all you young coppers, older coppers and retired old guys!

Just before retiring, some young puppy was busting my shoes about how law enforcement has changed and the system is improving for the best. I just smiled and gave him a little laugh.

He asked what was so funny. I told him that I felt sorry for him. When asked why, I told him, "Because in about 15 years, THIS is going to be your good old days."

We all saw the change in our jobs. I came on in 1970. I used to tell the rookies that our academy lasted three months. They gave us a stick, a gun, a dime and kicked us out into the street. They told us: If you need help, use the dime. If you can't get to a phone, use the stick. If using the stick pisses him off, use the gun.

And the first order we received when we were assigned to a precinct was from our road sergeant. His order was "Don't you EVER bother me, kid."

Law enforcement then, was much different than the current mission. We delivered babies, got rough in the alley when we needed to, made "Solomon like" decisions at least once a tour and often wound up being big brother to the kid we roughed up in that alley a year or so ago. And, for some reason, none of that managed to get on a report. And the department didn't really want to know. All they wanted was numbers and no ripples in the pond.

Because of the changing times and evolution of law enforcement, the modern young officers will never see that form of policing and of course this is best. The current way is the right way... now. But it was different then (ergo, the Dinosaur Syndrome).

When it's time to go, we wonder if we're going to miss the job, after all, other than our kids and a few marriages, it was the most important thing in our lives. Actually, it was the other way around. The job was first, but only another cop could understand how I mean that.

## a difference?

But have faith brother! After a short time of feeling completely impudent, (after all, you're just John Q. now), reality hits like a lead weight.

It's not the job we miss after all. It's what we as individuals, had accomplished while in this profession, that we miss. The challenge of life and death, good and bad, right and wrong, or even simply easing the pain of some poor bastard for a while, someone we will never see again.

We know the reality of what's happening out there. We are the ones who have spent our entire adult life picking up the pieces of peoples broken lives. And the bitch of it all is that no one except us knows what we did out there.

What I missed mostly though, were the people I worked with. Most of us came on the job together at the age of 21 or 22. We grew up together. We were family. We went to each other's weddings, shared the joy of our children's births and we mourned the deaths of family members and marriages. We celebrated the good times and huddled close in the bad.

We went from rookies who couldn't take our eyes off of the tin number of the old timer we worked with, to Dinosaurs.

After all, what they gave us was just a job. What we made of it was a profession. We fulfilled our mission and did the impossible each and every day, despite the department and its regulations.

I think the thing that nags you the most when you first retire is: After you leave the job and remove your armor, the part of you that you tucked away on that shelf for all those years, comes out. It looks at all the things you've hidden away. All the terrible and all the wonderful things that happened out there and it asks you the questions that no one will ever answer.

"Do you think I did OK? Did I make a difference? Was I a good cop? You know what? Yeah, you were a good cop and you know it!"

Be well my brothers and sisters...

## PORAC & HBPOA

#### **(1)** Benefit Contact Information

#### **City of Huntington Beach**

Human Resources - Employee Benefits

Tel: 714-375-8456 Verify your benefits:

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/human resources/employee benefits/

#### **CalPERS Medical & CalPERS Retirement**

www.calpers.ca.gov

Tel: 888-225-7377 or 888-CAL-PERS

#### **PORAC Retiree Medical Trust (RMT)**

Benefit Solutions Inc. BSI

Suzan Kolb – Plan Administrative Agent

Tel: 877-808-5994 Email: porac@bsitpa.com

Dennis Hashin – PORAC Region IV Trustee

Tel: 714-842-8851 Email: <u>cfo@hbpoa.org</u>

#### **Long Term Disability & Long Term Care Plans**

Exclusive POA Providers CLEA & NPFBA

www.caladmin.com Tel: 800-832-7333

#### **AFLAC**

Jamie Amstutz - District Sales Coordinator

Cell: 858-344-4331

Email: Jamie\_amstutz@us.aflac.com

#### Adams, Ferrone & Ferrone

LDF | Workers Comp Cases www.adamsferrone.com

Westlake Village Tel: 866-373-5900

#### **PORAC Legal Defense Fund**

www.PORAC.org

Tel: 209-955-5700 Tel: 888-556-5631

California Casualty Auto | Home Robert Stiehl | Field Marketing Manager www.calcas.com/rstiehl or C: 949-244-3026

## TALK TO YOUR HBPOA REPRESENTATIVES

#### \_Bijan **Darvish**

LDF Attorney - Law Office of Bijan Darvish



There have been some issues recently where officers were not sure whether they should take a representative into an interview or not; our primary position is, if you are not sure, ask a representative. First and foremost, the responsibility to request a representative lays with you, the officer. You have to make that request, and the Department is not permitted to punish you for making that request. It is a right. If you do not make that request, you could have essentially waived your right to representation.

#### **Internal Affairs Investigations**

When you are going to be questioned on matter that may lead to punitive action, whether by Internal Affairs, Professional Standards Unit (PSU) or other supervisors, you should <u>always</u> have a representative with you. Representatives can help ensure that your rights are protected during the interrogation; make proper objections if needed; and raise mitigating, extenuating or unknown facts that can assist in a fact-finding investigation.

#### Grievances, Evaluation Meetings, and other meetings

The right to representation is not limited to investigatory or pre-disciplinary meetings. Other meetings such as grievances, unusual performance evaluations, and other types of interactive meetings that could affect your employment trigger a right to representation. However, meetings for the purpose of informing the employee of the imposition of discipline already decided, is not an interview triggering representation. Furthermore, while training meetings and on-the-spot counseling by low level managers do not constitute investigatory interviews subject to representative rights, state and federal labor boards and courts have held that counseling sessions that constitute a "preliminary step to the imposition of discipline" do trigger the right to representation.

#### **Witness Officers**

Even if you are a witness, you may still be entitled to representation. There is a misconception that you are not entitled to representation when you are a "witness" officer in an interview. This is incorrect. The standard is not whether the Department decides to label you as witness or focus for the investigation (those terms do not exist in POBRA). The standard is whether the

officer reasonably believes that the investigation may result in disciplinary action ("When any public safety officer is under investigation and subjected to interrogation by his or her commanding officer, or any other member of the employing public safety department, that could lead to punitive action."). The reasonable belief is that of the officer, not whether the Department labels you as a "witness" or "focus."

In an example, Officer-1 is under investigation for using inappropriate language. Officer-2 is being interviewed as a witness only. However, if Officer-2 heard that inappropriate language and did not report it, he could be in violation of Department policy. Even though Officer-2 was just labeled as a "witness," his statements could lead to disciplinary action. In a situation like that, Officer-2 should request for a representative, even if he is being questioned as a "witness." At the very least, you should at least speak to a representative before the interrogation to help determine if you may be subjected to discipline for any reason.

#### When Outside Agencies Want to Question You

Under certain circumstances, the Department will call an outside agency, such as the District Attorney's Office to investigate a matter involving an HBPOA member. When this occurs, the D.A. Investigator is often looking into a crime and you could be the possible suspect. You should not provide any statement until you have spoken to a representative. Just because they don't read you your *Miranda* rights, doesn't mean that they are not investigating your actions or conduct. You need to speak to a representative before making any statement and take a representative in that interview.

Continued on the next page.

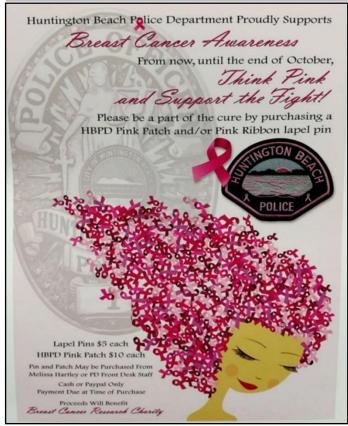
Talk to Your HBPOA... - Continued from page 18.

The bottom line is that the responsibility lays with each HBPOA member to speak to a representative before the interview and to request one prior to the interview. So long as you believe that the investigation may result in discipline, you are entitled to representation.

Finally, POBRA protects communications with POA representatives, but only in noncriminal matters. To ensure that you have privileged, confidential communications on matters that may subject you to criminal investigation, you should only consult with an attorney.

JFA NOTE: When the fireworks hit the fan it is your right to have representation. Contact a member of the Board of Directors' or an LDF attorney if you have any questions. It is your career and your families' livelihood.

#### **THINK PINK & Support the Fight!**



Purchase a HBPD Pink Patch and/or Pink Ribbon Lapel Pin

Contact Melissa Hartley: <a href="mailto:mhartley@hbpd.org">mhartley@hbpd.org</a>
Proceeds from sales benefit <a href="www.BrightPink.org">www.BrightPink.org</a>
#pinkpatchproject #thinkpink

Chaplain's Corner - Continued from page 13.

And when we do come out of the tunnel, we can now be an encourager to others who are going through discouragement in their lives. How much easier it is to deal with discouragement when someone comes alongside us for support and encouragement. Someone who can lift us up when we're down and motivate us to keep going when we feel like giving up. 1 Corinthians 10:11 tells us that the things we go through happen for a purpose and that they can be used as examples to help others in their time of need.

So I just want to encourage each of you to be alert to and open to being an encourager to those around you. Use your experiences, both the painful and pleasant ones, and the Lord's faithfulness to demonstrate to others how there is a future and a hope on the other side of the tunnel.

As we approach the Holiday Season, I pray that you will all enjoy wonderful and refreshing times with your families and friends. And that you will take time to reflect what Thanksgiving and Christmas are all about, giving thanks to God for all we've been blessed with and recognizing the birth of our Lord and Savior.

Be blessed and be safe. And we hope to see all of you and your families at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Chaplain's Dinner on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### POLICE - FIRE - MARINE SAFETY

THE HUNTINGTON BEACH POLICE CHAPLAINS

Cordially invite <u>all</u>
Huntington Beach
Public Safety Employees
and their families to the

**Annual Complimentary** 

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

Tuesday, December 12, 2017 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

## Correspondence...

COMMENTS, KUDOS, COMPLAINTS



## Email Good bye

I wanted to say my final good bye. It was an honor to work with all of you. Like I said last night [at my retirement farewell party], I joined the HBPD family BECAUSE of the culture not despite of it. I have always been proud to be a part of this department and what we stand for. Last night was a great surprise and a sendoff I will never forget – from the bottom of my heart I want to thank you all.

You will all be missed.

Mitch O'Brien

HBPD Lieutenant (Retired)





Has the JFA traveled with you recently? Submit your photo holding a recent issue of the JFA with another law enforcement officer or at a related law enforcement site. Printed submission will receive a cup of java on us.



**STURGIS** – Traveling through Sturgis, SD, G. Syfert displayed his JFA proudly where another fundraiser is under way to beautify their city. Budget crunches all over.





## POLICE - FIRE MARINE SAFETY

The community wishes to thank you for your service...

THE HUNTINGTON BEACH POLICE CHAPLAINS

Cordially invite all
Huntington Beach
Public Safety Employees
and their families to the

**Annual Complimentary** 

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

Tuesday, December 12, 2017 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

At the

First Christian Church of Huntington Beach (Corner of Main Street & Adams Avenue)
In the lower Garden Room

Door Prizes & Gifts for the children

Casual Dress
On-Duty Personnel too!



#### 2017 HBPD RETIREMENT PARTY

ERIC ZARAGOZA

HBPD Police Officer (Retired)



The annual HBPD Retirement Party, jointly sponsored by the Police Management Association and the Police Officers' Association was recently held at the Meadowlark Golf Club and was a night of nostalgic remembrance. Many current and former members of our department gathered to share stories, laughter and some tears while dining on savory foods and paying tribute to the 19 honorees. Retired members came from as far away as Oregon and North Carolina. One attendee, Sergeant Eugene Borwick, from North Carolina had joined the department in 1960 and retired in 1981.

Our Master of Ceremonies was James Barry Case who did nothing less than a fabulous job. He was assisted by the PMA president, Gaute "Bo" Svendsbo and POA president Dave Humphreys who provided a very nice overview of how the retirement party was established.

A fallen officer table was set off to the side to honor those of our department who have died and no longer able to celebrate with us, especially our line-ofduty fallen, Police Officers Leroy Darst and Les Prince. A side note regarding Barry; early in my career, I had the pleasure of working for Sergeant Case. It did not take me very long to form the opinion that the only reason Sergeant Case came to work was to watch over, support and care for his troops; he was always there when you needed him; a wonderful supervisor and leader. He was a great motivator.

The honorees were given many parting gifts for their service and the opportunity to speak; some gave heartfelt goodbyes while others took us way back and reminded us of the good ole days of policing. Many were very funny and entertaining.

We had over 400 years of experience retire last year. The event was well attended; however, it would have been nice to see more of the younger officers there. They would have gotten first-hand insight as to how this amazing department established itself as the most desired department to work for. This was due, in part by the effort and sacrifice put forth by those officers who came before us.

I was one of the officers being honored at this special annual celebration. It was a memorable night and one I will always cherish.



#### NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON OFFICER WELLNESS AND TRAUMA

#### WHY?

Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) recognizes that every law enforcement officer is subjected to crisis and tragedy as a part of their job. They see the most unthinkable acts of criminal behavior in our society. But are we doing a good job helping officers navigate these events over a course of a twenty to thirty year career?

We continue to see officers suffering from PTSD in growing numbers. Divorce rates continue to be higher for officers than the general public and tragically officers choose to end their own lives each year.

#### WHO AND WHAT

This conference offers a much needed focus on officer wellness and the need to pro-actively address the cumulative stresses that can occur over an officer's career. This conference is for all law enforcement officers (active or retired) nationwide. It is recommended for peer supporters, counselors, police chaplains and law enforcement spouses/significant others. Law enforcement survivors are also welcome to attend.

Pre-registration is mandatory for all attendees. You can register online at the following link... <a href="https://www.nationalcops.org/conferenceregistration.html">https://www.nationalcops.org/conferenceregistration.html</a>

#### REGISTRATION

Registration for the National Conference on Wellness and Trauma is now open. SPACE IS LIMITED!

The fee to attend is \$300 per person. The registration fee covers classes, three meals (two conference lunches and dinner at Law Enforcement Appreciation Night and two hospitality events. COPS believes that spouses/significant others play a major role in the overall well-being of law enforcement officer wellness. Spouses/significant others who are attending with a registered participant may attend all classes, meals and hospitality events at a reduced rate of \$125.





#### Ride stats...

Total Mileage: 1078.4 (1,735.5 km)
Total Elevation Gain: 49,316 ft. (15,032 m)
Overall Avg. Speed: 17.51 mph (28.18 kph)

Team Travis Apparel is available from – <a href="http://www.rasportinc.com/contact.html">http://www.rasportinc.com/contact.html</a>

#### A Ride to Support Fallen Police Officers



Travis Risley a 16-year old high school student bicyclist from Napa, CA and his incredible parents, Dan & Andi Risley had an amazing adventure to raise awareness of the Fallen Officers' of California and the California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation. Travis' father, Dan Risley is a Napa police officer.

Travis rode his bicycle from the Oregon/California border to the US/Mexico border in 18 days. He was joined along the way with support bicyclists and periodically a law enforcement escort. They paused along the way to accept donations for CPOMF and to meet supporters.

Travis is an amazing and honorable young man who has a heart and soul of gold. On behalf of Travis, his parents and CPOMF - THANK YOU to all of the individuals, departments and associations along the way for supporting our fallen heroes and their families through Travis' efforts. The 'Ride' has raised over \$30,000 to date.

You may still support Travis' by going online to <a href="https://www.CAmemorial.org/donate-now/">www.CAmemorial.org/donate-now/</a> to SUPPORT TRAVIS and make a donation.



#### + + IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION + +

## California's Professional Peace Officers



**You can help** the Memorial Foundation in our mission to underwrite the annual California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony, maintain the monument, and support the families of our fallen heroes through our educational grant and financial assistance programs.

California law allows taxpayers to make voluntary tax-free contributions on their personal state income tax returns to the "California Peace Officer Memorial Foundation Fund." Simply indicate the amount to be donated where instructed on the tax return form. Importantly, the law requires that all contributions be used to maintain the California Peace Officers' Memorial and for activities in support of the surviving families of our brave men and women peace officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice. We urge the more than 100,000 peace officers serving in California to help us **Take Care of Our Own**.

California Resident Income Tax Return 2017

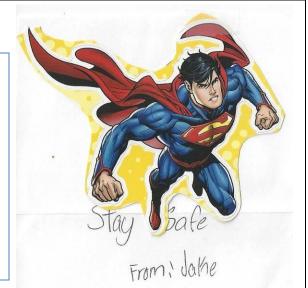
✓ California Peace Officer Memorial Foundation Fund......\$20.00

Help



#### SHARED from the Huntington Beach Police Officers' Association FB Posting:

10-year-old Jacob R. recently sent a letter and superhero sticker to the Huntington Beach Police Department addressed to Officer Kennefick. Jacob recently learned on the news Kennefick was injured in a September 7, 2017 police involved shooting in Huntington Beach. Jacob has a history of reaching out to law enforcement in time of need. Jacob feels that police officers are like superheroes; they keep people safe even if people do something bad [police officers] still help them. They go out every day and protect us. Officer Kennefick was touched by Jacob's letter. Officer Kennefick and the Huntington Beach Police Officers' Association will be putting items together to send to Jacob for his act of kindness.



I saw on the news that you were hurt and I am glad you'll be ok. I hope people start being nicer to police and Keep you safe too. I leave notes on patrol cars around las vegas and I want you to have one too. Then when you go loack to work if you're having a bad day maybe you can look at this and think of all the good you do. When I grow up I want to be a detective and hope to be as brave as you

Get Well Soon
Thank you for all you do
Stay Safe
From: Vacob



#### In Loving Memory

Police Officer Jeff Gance's parents, Jeff and Glendale Gance were taken from us in a tragic car accident in July. Besides Jeff they leave behind their other children Michael and Lauren, and many more family members and friends.

A GoFundMe page was established for the family with all proceeds going to the children. As they begin to process this, please consider donating to the family as they deal with medical expenses, funeral costs and living expenses.

If you wish to contribute please go to: <a href="https://www.gofundme.com/hopeful-healing">https://www.gofundme.com/hopeful-healing</a>

On behalf of the children thank you for your contribution and please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as the recover from this tragedy.



# In our hearts, thoughts and prayers...

Family of our Department Family Jeff Gance

**Jeff & Glendale Gance** 1968-2017 | 1969-2017

Friend of our Department Family Jennifer McGrath

> Michael McGrath 1946 - 2017



Senior Officer / Detective (Retired) Huntington Beach PD

**Robert 'Bob' Christie** 1953 - 2017

Family of our Department Family Mark Wersching

> **Dana Walter Isaacson** 1947 - 2017

#### Robert 'Bob' Christie

Dear HBPD Family:

Thirty years ago my life changed for the better when I started working for the police department. What I thought at the time, was just another job, and became a lifetime of family, friends and memories. The people of this department are more than co-workers or friends, they are our family! Your support, prayers and kindness helped Bob, Ryan, Sara and I get through one of the toughest times in our lives. We know that Bob is in a better place and smiling down at the family he entrusted to protect us. Words will never be enough to thank everyone, but please know that you have my heartfelt gratitude.

Thank you again,

Julie, Ryan and Sara Christie

# INMEMORIAM



## California's Fallen...

Source: www.camemorial.org | www.ODMP.org



#### *Line-of-Duty Deaths – 2017*

- **♥ Officer Keith Boyer** Whittier PD
- **♥ Officer Lucas Chellew** *CHP South Sacramento*
- **Deputy Michael Foley** Alameda County SD
- **Deputy Jason Garner** *Stanislaus County SD*
- **Deputy Robert Rumfelt** *Lake County SD*
- **Deputy Robert 'Bob' French**Sacramento County SD

## Our Own...

Police Officer Leo 'LeRoy' Darst

EOW: 10-13-1928 Panel 19, W-9



Police Officer
Leslie J. Prince

EOW: 12-01-1974 Panel 62, E-2





# STAND HONOR

YOUR STORIES. OUR LEGACY.

https://www.standwithhonor.us
The National Law Enforcement Museum

Nationally...

Source: www.odmp.org



100

2017 Firefighters
Source: usfa.dhs.gov

Nationally: CALIFORNIA - **70** 89

2017 Line of Duty

Deaths: CALIFORNIA - 6 2016 Line of Duty

Deaths: 146 CALIFORNIA – 11 2015 Line of Duty

Deaths: 141 CALIFORNIA – 7



PAID
HUNTINGTON BEACH
CALIFORNIA, 92647
PERMIT NO. 980

A leader leads by example, whether he intends to or not... [and] every leader needs to look back once in a while to make sure he has followers.

--- Author Unknown



"There is an average of 1 shooting a year and one of our police officers may have to use their own gun to defend himself or somebody else resulting in an average of 1 death a year." Chief Handy (HBPD) - Pacific Institute 01/20/2015



"Huntington Beach had five officer involved shootings in the first three months of this year — more than in any entire year this decade, according to department archives." LA Times 08/16/2017

JFA NOTE: At the time of this newsletter there have been seven officer involved shootings.



"We try to go out with the philosophy of not constantly arresting but what we can do to help to solve this problem" Chief Handy (HBPD) - Independent 04/13/2016



"Our people went out every single night trying to stop crime before it happened, trying to take people off the street that they believed were involved in crime. That made us a very aggressive proactive police department" Chief Daryl Gates