

PAXCENTURION

The Newsmagazine for the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association

Boston Police & EMS Honor the Fallen During Memorial Sunday Observances

See story & photos on pages 14 - 17



See page 6



Summer 2014

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The View From Here: Thomas J. Nee, BPPA President

The BPPA objects to the weighting of the 2014 BPD promotional exam



By the time this *Pax Centurion* is printed, the BPD will have already held the 2014 promotional exams. As you may have heard, the BPPA has objected to the weighting of the exam: 40% written, 40% subjective interview (for lack of a more descriptive and accurate term) and 20% training and experience.

It is our belief that the previous, civil-service administered test which was weighted at 80% written score and 20% training/experience was thoroughly appropriate and fair for all promotional candidates. We have brought this issue before the State Labor Relations Commission for a number of reasons: last summer, while embroiled in contract negotiations, the City insisted, through their legal counsel, during the interest arbitration hearings that they had no intentions of holding a promotional exam in the immediate future. Well, Shazzam, in October the BPD announces their plans to hold their promotional exam. They failed to bargain or notify the BPPA about these changes, despite promising and testifying at the hearings that they would do so prior to any exam changes. This announcement was under the auspices of **former police commissioner Ed Davis**. Then-commissioner Davis had apparently caved-in to vocal interest groups (and media editorialists) who demanded the “new exam” be structured in a way which would cause favorable outcomes for particular individuals. (*Geez, politically connected? No... not in this city...*)

Commissioner **William Evans** did not participate in the formulation or weighting of this exam, but he is stuck with moving forward with the previous Commissioner’s agenda. A company known as “E.B. Jacobs” was hired by the city and tasked with moving forward with the examination process. As many of us know, the privilege of taking the exam cost \$250.00 for the application, not to mention the thousands that many have spent on additional courses, books and related materials. And that’s also in addition to the many hours of study time spent away from doing details or overtime to benefit one’s family.

It is with trepidation that our members will await the results of this exam. We will, as a union, continue to represent the interests of **ALL** of our members, without regards to any external issues or any other extraneous concerns. We wish all of our members the best of luck in the examination process, but we look askance at an exam that is so heavily weighted in favor of a subjective interview as opposed to the certifiable written exam. When the subjective interview factor is involved, the opportunities for favoritism and discrimination are greatly magnified. (*How do you certify why one candidate did well on an interview while another candidate did poorly?*) A written mark is... what it is. Whoever scores best should be promoted, and personalities or other issues should not be factors. Police examinations should be about knowledge of the law, rules, regulations, and ordinances, combined with training, experience, and consideration of military service.

Have a great summer, and please be safe out there. The mandatory, ordered overtime is sure to hurt many an officer over this shorthanded department. Remember that your family is number one, everything else is somewhere behind...

To the men and women of the BPD and BEMS,

It was, and is, a great pleasure to raise awareness, on your behalf, of the annual scholarship by securing advertisers to offer their services to you, the members of the BPPA, in 2014 and beyond. It is most important to keep in mind that many of these advertisers are happy to support our cause just because they are appreciative of your efforts, but many, while appreciative, need to drive additional sales as well. Please try to keep this in mind as you shop for groceries, fill prescriptions, buy cars, dine in restaurants or when you might be in need of any services you see advertised within the pages of this, or past and future issues of the *Pax*.

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Dennis Simmonds

On Thursday, April 10, 2014, the Boston Police Department suffered the loss of on-duty Police Officer **Dennis Simmonds**.

Officer Simmonds was appointed to the BPD in 2008. Officer Simmonds was a highly-decorated member having received the Schroeder Brothers Memorial Medal for his actions in the Watertown shoot-out following the 2013 Boston Marathon. Dennis was scheduled to be honored nationally at the White House at a Top Cops event sponsored by NAPO (National Association of Police Officers) for his bravery. Dennis' send-off was impressive in that thousands of officers honored both Dennis and his family in celebrating his life. Dennis had done so much in such a short time as evidenced by the turnout of his peers. It is hard in retrospect not to realize that everyday going forward is a gift. Dennis will be missed, but never forgotten.

A special recognition to the 22 members of Local 589 who handled the transportation to and from the staging area(s) on their own time. Our appreciation and gratitude cannot be properly expressed in words. Thank you all.

Future bargaining possibilities?

Most of the intrigue has settled within public safety though the Detectives are scheduled for mediation in mid-June. The recent arbitrated BPPA contract wasn't a one size fits all and left younger officers based on their time on the job questioning their parity within the ranks compared with their 20 and 25 year counterparts. Getting roughly speaking ten bargaining opportunities in one's contractual lifetime one can appreciate why each result is put under the microscope. This arbitrator was tasked with shaping a prospective pattern that would be fair to all parties given a disparate landscape that needed direction.

The arbitrator's decision limited base wages in the first 36 months and enhanced those closer to retirement after 48 months (this July) so as to parallel a similarly situated firefighter approaching retirement but not hurt the City with retro monies keeping in mind the Fire averaged over 30 thousand in retro monies in the prior arbitration. In doing so, he took care of the City and veteran officers with the final piece(s) left for the next bargaining cycle.

If the Bargaining Committee is to follow the arbitrator's thought process, that was too expensive to fully reconcile in the last cycle, the 15-, 10- and 5-year officers without the education incentive would be the centerpiece of the next phase of bargaining. Advancing those officers to the \$8,000 longevity range would begin the collective parallel of similarly situated firefighters. Closing the remaining 25% gap left by the Governor's takeaway of those with the education incentive would allow future bargaining teams to deal with base wages for all. These are two large segments of our population that do not overlap assuring better range of monetary distribution. There are other smaller constituencies in the next cycle that should be considered up front that could affect the educational incentives timing for full implementation.



The Detectives and Superiors might arguably make a better bargaining fit with the City in that both have a high percentage of those with degrees and would issue-wise be easier to deal with given their demographic uniformity. There are both pros and cons for all parties in shaping the basis for what everyone will receive as we can see as this cycle endures. The Mayor is a strong proponent of an educated police force and whether this influences the vetting process or other moving parts is still unclear but it is assured that the process will be fair and reasoned as to the final outcome.

As the City weighs its options for July of 2016, there will be a collective urgency from the police groups to get a deal done with an awareness as to the last cycle's lack of retro and the first six months of wages that were eliminated entirely. There will likely be a defined window so as not to put the Fire's last year, which would be our first year, in retroactive doubt. With the JLMC (Joint Labor Management Committee) as the backdrop who the City chooses as the primary trendsetter will be interesting with a quicker rather than measured pace expected.

Replacement traffic vests

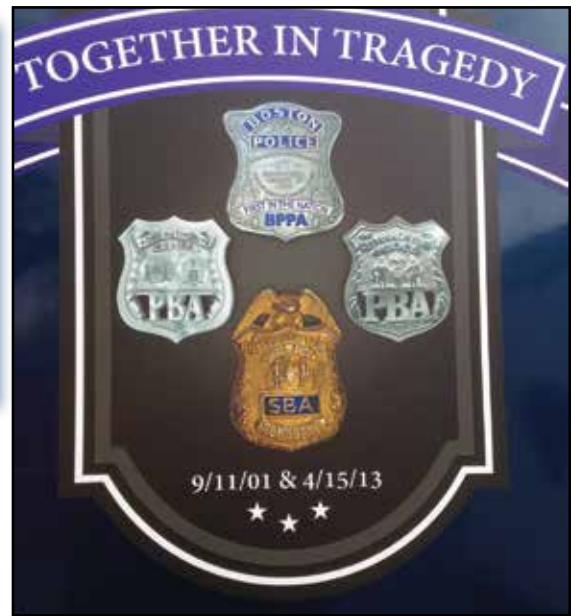
In January of 2012, the Association filed an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) with the Department of Labor Relations (DLR) alleging the City unlawfully required officers to purchase replacement traffic vests. Prior to October of 2008, the Department provided the initial traffic belts and replaced them at no cost. Since October of 2008 when the Department eliminated traffic belts in favor of traffic vests, the Department's position was that Special Order 08-035 and the revised Rule 306 was sufficient notice of the change that prospectively had officers paying to replace the vests as needed.

A timeliness argument was forwarded by the City asserting the six-month period for filing charges with the DLR begins when the party actually receives notice of the conduct alleged to be an unfair labor practice. The Association argued that it became aware in October of 2011 when Central Supply had denied an officer's request for a replacement vest. "To determine whether a binding past practice exists, the Commonwealth Employment Relations Board (CERB) analyzes the combination of facts including whether the practice clearly occurred with regularity over a period of time so that it is reasonable to expect that the practice will continue." There was no argument from the city regarding the practice of officers receiving traffic belts at no cost. They defended the change by pointing to the special notes section of revised Rule 306 contending that the Department's *exclusion* of traffic vests from the list of issued items constitutes sufficient notice.

The City's main argument of "waiver by inaction" fell short when it had to prove that the Union had "actual knowledge or notice of the proposed change; a reasonable opportunity to negotiate prior to the employer's implementation of the change and unreasonably or inexplicably failed to bargain or request bargaining." It has to be "clear and unmistakable." It was not according to the hearing officer and a W for the Union. The "make whole" portion of the Order requires a receipt or "Form 26" stating that you were ordered to purchase a vest

See **Vice President** on page 34

BPPA receives a generous gift from the NYPBA, PA of NY/NJ PBA and NYPD Sergeants BA – A new canteen trailer!



Thank you friends for this tremendous gesture!

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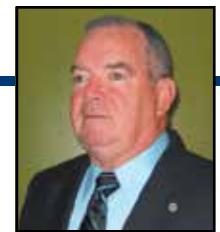
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Timing is everything – Thanks to our friends in New York and New Jersey for their generous gift of the new canteen trailer

Here we are in June, another summer approaching. Thankfully we are not tied up bargaining another contract for another two years, it'll be nice to go through a summer without that worry or heartache. In my last article I raised a few issues concerning the City and or Department's lack of action concerning several initiatives started last year, meant to improve overall readiness and performance of the Officers and this Department in conducting our mission. I am happy to report, that there is new dialog concerning some of those issues and I am hopeful that is just the beginning in fulfilling those objectives and bringing to fruition the previous work put forth.

One of the items I was concerned about and wrote about was the lack of a canteen truck or food service vehicle to support our members when working long, arduous special assignments for hours, if not days on end. Over the past few years, it appears more and more is expected, but the logistical plan to support the Officers working these events is sadly lacking. There is a saying that timing is everything. As some of you are now aware, the BPPA was gifted a 24' trailer from the NYPD PBA, NYPD Sgt's BA and the NJ Port Authority PBA. Quite a few of you are already familiar with this trailer, you were fed from it for about

five days and nights last year over on Boylston Street. Our friends and Union Brothers recognized our need and pitched in together to donate and pay to totally refurbish this trailer to include painting it and adding the BPPA Logo. This is an extremely generous gift, when presented to us, our NY and NJ Brothers stated "This gift is presented as payback. When New York and New Jersey needed help, whether after 9-11 digging through rubble or in the fight to secure a decent contract, Boston and the BPPA were there. Last year after the Marathon Bombing we came here. Whether it is a natural disaster or man-made, We are a partnership, a Brotherhood, a Union Family that have and will always respond to each other's need." They are correct, we might not agree on baseball teams, but we definitely will always have each other's back! I would be remiss if I didn't send a Special Thanks to Sgt. Detective **Mike Talbot** who coordinated with New York and New Jersey (over a six month period), to make this happen and never let it be known in those months of interaction between them. We will now join with the Boston DBS in the ability to provide some food and beverage to Officers during these long assignments.

With summer comes the extra assignments, the forced overtime and the long days and nights. We all know that there will never be enough help to cover all the assignments. The graduating class of 56 new recruits won't even put a dent into the need for more officers. So buckle down and be prepared, we all know what it's going to be like "doing more with less." However, We will endure, We will get the job done and yes, we will once again miss precious time with our families, but We, as a Patrol Force will perform and get the job done.



All I and others ask is that those within this Department that have **NO IDEA** what we do, go away, simply mind your own business, not ours. In the midst of working ridiculous hours and conducting the 'King's Business' (*so to speak*), We still have the daily battles with certain individuals or departments within the BPD that believe it is their sole function in life to screw with the uniformed force. I'll call it 'picking at scabs' for the lack of a better term. One such civilian employee assigned to Headquarters in a role or function that deals with the Unions on a daily basis, recently stated that he believed his job was to "enforce the contract the way he understood it." (He apparently doesn't understand what Collective Bargained Agreement means.) Which is his way of saying that his interpretation is the only interpretation, (even though he and the department he works for are proven wrong more than not. It appears his personal mission in life is to make every Police Officer as miserable as he is). As any reader of this publication knows, I attempted to extend an 'olive branch,' back in January through this publication aimed specifically at individuals that went nose to nose with us over the contract fight. I attempted to have us all start anew, with the new year upon us and new Leadership in the City and Department, I really believed that we could foster a new wave

or cooperation and understanding. In most corners that is happening, where there were some holdouts, some people are moving on being replaced by more common sense, pragmatic personnel. This would be a great spot to congratulate Superintendent **Kevin Buckley** in his new role as Department Chief of Staff. Anyway, there appears to be a couple more of those 'scab pickers,' or holdouts left that still believe their function in life is to screw with the uniformed force instead of working together in cooperation. Another good spot to mention thank you to the Commissioner for having the 'seeds' to pull back a ridiculous directive authored by one of these holdovers that would have wreaked havoc on your summer and what little time off you get. Forgive me I digress, I believe the City management and the leadership of this Department has to move forward and break ranks with all employed personnel, Civilian or Uniformed, that believe that their sole function or job is to screw with the Uniformed Force that make up this Department and who are the **ONLY** reason this Department exists, it's the Police Department, not the Lawyer's Department, not the Political Appointee Department, it's the Police Department, get it? Let's try and not forget that simple fact. With the aforesaid, We, the Patrol Force, will continue to get the job done, We will follow **OUR** Collective Bargaining Agreement. We will follow the lead and orders of our leaders, not be tugged by nose rings inserted by managers.

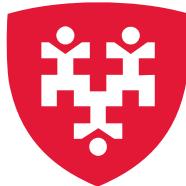
I wish you all a safe summer, when you can, please squeak out a minute or two for your family, they are and should be number one! Be safe out there, back each other up, your number one priority is to go home to your loved ones safe and sound!

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An option on deferred compensation

As I hope everyone in this association is aware, we have a benefit allowed to us known as deferred compensation. This is a policy designed to assist each of us so that we will be more than comfortable when we retire. God willing we all live to retire. The "normal way" in which this works is that you sign up to have a specified amount of money taken out of your check each week and have it invested by the company selected by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts who then invests it. It is very similar to having the health insurance deducted. It comes right out and you never see it. Easy and painless.

I used the term, "normal way," in which it works because that

is what it is. You decide how much you think you can afford to give each week and that is what the department deducts. Now of course that amount can and will range differently for each member. A married person with two or three kids cannot afford to give as much as a single member with no children. That is just an obvious fact of life. But each of us should try and decide what we can afford and set up an account.

One of the major benefits of giving to the deferred compensation is that all that money comes out – before taxes. It is like it is tax exempt monies. It may not sound like much but when you are filing your taxes next winter/spring, your tax person will most likely tell you well you did because of the deferred compensation. I know mine does every year and I am no longer maxed out.

I personally used to be maxed out and each time that the Commonwealth would increase the size of the maximum annual donations, I would increase my deduction to remain at the max. Well I have slipped off the last few increases and need to address that myself.

There is another way of making deductions to contribute to the deferred compensation plan. In the last contract that the BPPA bargained, we were able to get an option included dealing directly to this issue. That was the last contract in which I was on the bargaining committee. This included language can make participating in the **SMART PLAN**, which is what it is also called, easier for many of our members.

The language that we got included in that last bargained contract allows for members of the BPPA to have monies deducted only from their supplemental monies and go into their deferred compensation. What that means is if you believe that you cannot have any steady deduction from your check each week for 52 consecutive weeks, then you can sign up for this option. The way in which it works is you give a percentage of money that you want taken out of your detail and overtime money. That deduction will then not be taken out unless you performed some details or overtime for that pay period. In this way you will still be taking home your base check and you will be making a deduction if you performed overtime or details that week.

The maximum deduction you can make annually is \$17,000.00

if you are under the age of fifty. If you are over the age of fifty there is a catch up allowance of \$23,000.00 and if you are again over the age of fifty you can apply for an emergency catch up allowance of \$35,000.00. Now I have no idea who can afford to give that much money in a year, but it is on the books.

So someone like myself who gives a steady donation weekly regardless of how much I work my give an annual deduction of say \$15,000.00. Then there may be someone who signs up to have say 45% Of their supplemental monies go toward the smart plan and they may give the maximum of \$17,500.00, but all between the months of April and October when the details and overtime are at the peak.

Regardless of which way you choose to do this, the maximum donation by law is still \$17,000.00. So if you select the route of supplemental money withdrawal, once you reach

the \$17,500.00 your deductions will cease from those monies. This is just an option for any member who would like to be a part of the **SMART PLAN**, but doesn't feel that they can contribute during the dry months. It is just another way of giving our membership options to choose from.

In the event that someone would like to sign up to begin to start participating in the **SMART PLAN** our representative at Great Western is a gentleman by the name of **Zakeriah Nabulsi** and his telephone number is 774-239-0040 and his email is zakeriah.nabulsi@gwrs.com If you find it hard to reach Mr. Nabulsi. the main number for Great Western is 877-457-1900.

I only took the time to write all of this out is I had a few conversations with some of our newer members and when the topic of deferred compensation came up, they said that they couldn't afford to make the weekly contribution. When I informed them about this option they responded that they were not aware that they could do it this way. That got me thinking, how many other members, both new and old were unaware of this option. It was then I decided that the *Pax* would be a great vehicle to provide this information. I hope that you have found this to be both informative and hopefully helpful.

In closing, I would personally like to recommend that everyone try and contribute something to this **SMART PLAN**. I understand that we will receive our pension when we retire, but this is above and beyond that. Almost like an insurance policy for retirement. A little extra, so there will be no worrying in our golden years. I was always afraid of what retirement will be like financially. Well I received my proposed allowance that I will be getting if I continue to make my current deductions and the market remains healthy. It looks like retirement is going to be just fine.

I thank everyone for taking the time to read this article and wish you all a healthy and fun summer and remind you all, let's be careful out there.

Shorthanded patrol force prepares for long summer...

By James W. Carnell, Pax Editor

A SEVERELY SHORTHANDED PATROL FORCE, under the gun from various mandates, edicts and orders issued from on high (*read related Pax article about "Stats, Stats, Stats" on page 11*), is preparing for a summer which undoubtedly includes repeated use of mandatory overtime and violating basic rules of common decency for street cops, such as ordering officers to work 18, 20, and 22 hour shifts... in some cases even more.

Suffice it to say that it is common knowledge amongst the patrol force – the officers who perform the most basic – but most crucial functions of the police force; that we are terribly shorthanded. We have far too many specialists on the job and far too few generalists. If this were the medical profession, we would say that we have 50% primary care physicians and 50% brain surgeons. During this past winter and spring, even on Tuesdays or Sundays, officers were being ordered to work an extra shift because of minimum-manning requirements (*and they are sincerely "minimum" in their manning – unbeknownst to John Q. Public or the media*), so with vacations, parades, protests, festivals, special events, etc. etc., the patrol force will be stretched to the limit... and perhaps beyond.

We have the ridiculous situation where 45, 50 and 55-year-old patrolmen answer radio calls while 20 and 30-something, politically-

connected darlings prance around headquarters or hidden specialized units, delivering important pieces of paper from one desk to another. In many cases, these “special” officers are just a few years out of the academy. And the department scratches their heads and wonders why there is resentment and anger amongst the patrol force.

The word “consecutive” in the special order regarding how many hours an officer can be allowed to work in a 24-hour period, is being abused by the BPD to the Nth degree. For example, if an officer works a detail from 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM, and then works his regular shift from 4:00 PM - 11:45 PM, many supervisors are taking the position that the officer can be ordered *for another shift* because technically, the shifts were not “consecutive” – there was a half-hour between the detail and the regular shift. (*What the hell do you think we were able to do in 30 minutes between the two tours? Actually get some rest?*)

This untenable situation will actually cause an increase in the use of sick time, as officers realize that their days off and summer plans with their own families will be ruined at the last minute at the department’s whim. The BPD expects that officers will meekly ac-

See **Shorthanded** on page 31

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Don Green served in the United States Marine Corps from 1957 to 1961 before being honorably discharged. In 1968, he joined the Boston Police Department and retired in 1990 after serving the city for nearly 22 years, the last 15 years as a Sergeant in the Roxbury district. He is married to Annette Hill Green, a native of Dorchester, who is also an attorney and his law partner.

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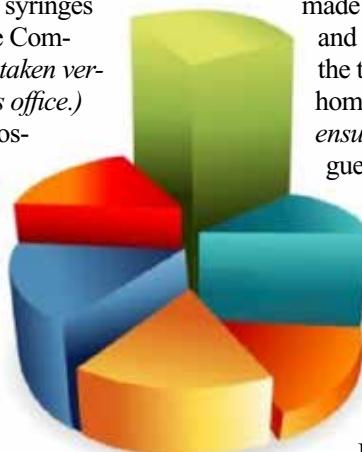
By James W. Carnell, Pax Editor

Recently, a troubling trend in the BPD has been noticed by many officers, both those who answer radio calls and the specialized units. Many of our drug, gang and detective units, who normally would be conducting in-depth investigations, have been “re-assigned” to make arrests – no matter how BS or minor the incident – to address so-called “quality of life” issues in the neighborhoods. The few remaining cops who answer radio calls have been told to “do more with less,” “write more tickets and movers,” etc., etc. Motorcycle officers have been overburdened by special events, escorts, dignitary protection, parades, etc., etc. Complainants in various locales have wailed about finding “used condoms” and syringes on their streets, “kids smoking marijuana openly on the Common” or about “bums and transients.” (*Not my terms – taken verbatim directly from a letter of complaint to the Mayor’s office.*)

Ahmm... for your information, good residents of Boston... **YOU** made all of this possible. **YOU** voted to de-criminalize the possession of marijuana less than one – ounce (*and if you think the cops carry scales to weigh what exactly constitutes an ounce, think again... we don’t know either*). So obviously, the youths gathered on the Boston Common and other locations now smoke marijuana openly and without any fear of arrest. The **MOST** the police can possibly do is issue them a civil citation for \$100.00, and let’s face it – it’s the same as issuing a ticket for jaywalking. Since nobody in the United States is required to carry an ID, the most common names given to police who actually waste their time issuing citations for marijuana possession are John Doe, Joe Smith, and Mary Murphy. If you’d like to see how many of them actually respond to a summons or pay a fine, go check out public records in your local courthouse. If nothing else, it’s good for a laugh....

And, good citizens of Boston, did you know that possession of a hypodermic needle is no longer a crime, and hasn’t been for years. Yes, many years ago, the drug community activists succeeded in decriminalizing what was then known as the criminal offense of “illegal possession of a hypodermic needle.” Today, activists openly pass out “clean” needles to junkies, and as far as the police are concerned, well.... We’re not supposed to judge whether they’re diabetics using the needles for insulin or stone-cold junkies shooting up heroin. (*Of course we know, but the law doesn’t allow us to make a logical decision anymore.*) But once again, **YOU**, the voters of Massachusetts, through your elected representatives, decided that possession of a hypodermic needle was no longer a crime. And now you complain to the police about finding them in playgrounds and around schools. Hmm... so what is it that the police are supposed to do about that?

And complaints about “bums and transients?” (*Again, not my words... verbatim from complaints forwarded to us via City Hall.*) Well, good citizens of the Commonwealth, many years ago, our vaunted judicial solons of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court decided that begging and seeking alms was a “protected form of free speech.” That is the reason why every major intersection in the City is inhabited by tag-teams of bums shaking cans and coffee cups in your face while you’re stalled at a red light. It’s not illegal to be home-



less or to hang out in City parks. Of course, you won’t find these bums where the judges live, in Wellesley or Weston or Brookline, but you’ll find them within 100 yards of the Pine Street Inn homeless shelter (*which serves thousands of meals every day*) where they carry signs saying they’re “starving and homeless.” (*Another crime that was eliminated years ago – “sauntering and loitering” – thrown out by the courts.... It was a tool the police used against vagrants and ne’er-do-wells hanging around looking to engage in nefarious activity, but that one is gone too...*). Many years ago, under the leadership of Deputy Supt. **Bob Hayden** (*a great guy!*), an effort was made to eradicate the Boston Common of the many “bums” and transients who had taken it over. The officer assigned at the time, **Paul Sullivan**, made a valiant attempt. Soon, the homeless “advocates” (*i.e: those who make their money by ensuring that the homeless never go away*) complained, and guess who got transferred? That’s right, Officer Sullivan!

And unfortunately, I often see stupid motorists handing them money, which will be used in short order to purchase alcohol or drugs, and then the police will be called to remove them from wherever they passed out, and so another unit is tied up transporting them to a shelter or medical facility so that some suburban nitwit can “feel good about themselves” handing the bum money. Thanks a lot, good citizen!

How about putting one of the poor homeless in the back of your Volvo or Saab and taking them to your home in Concord or Newton?!

You see, good citizens, elections and laws have consequences. **YOU** voted for these laws or voted for the people who enabled drug-dealers, “bums” and lawless youths to take over your streets. The police have been handcuffed, literally, by the choices that **YOU**, the voters have made. And most cops are simply not going to take the risk of being sued and having to answer to Internal Affairs complaints because they tried to clean up the mess that they’ve been handed by society. Look at Colorado: they legalized marijuana, and now they’ve been inundated by drug-dealers who can freely peddle their merchandise, even if they don’t have a state-issued license. (*“Badges! We don’t need no stinking badges...”*) And Coloradans are shocked... shocked!... to discover that thousands of out-of-state users have flocked to their state to purchase “medical” marijuana. Remember the scene from the classic movie “Casablanca,” where the local police chief says “I’m shocked, shocked to find that there’s gambling in Casablanca!” Yeah, don’t be... not when the citizens created the conditions where negative “quality of life” issues foster and grow.

So the result is that our specialized units are not investigating crime anymore, they’re devoting their time to making BS arrests of minor, misdemeanor complaints which will be dismissed as soon as they get to court. And consequently, all of the 911 cars are tied up transporting prisoners and booking them, or guarding prisoners in hospitals who all of a sudden invent fake maladies so that they can spend the night in a nice, warm hospital bed instead of a cold jail-cell. So nobody is left on the street to answer calls. But if that’s what John Q. Public wants, that’s what they’ll get: Stats, stats, stats...

May 13, 2014

Thomas Nee, President
 Ronald MacGillivray, Vice President
 Boston Police Patrolmen's Association
 9-11 Sheldan Street
 Boston, MA 02119

Re: Vacation Language

Dear President Nee and Vice President MacGillivray,

The Department has been made aware that certain practices have developed regarding vacations that are not authorized by the collective bargaining agreement. Specifically, during the summer vacation period, some officers' summer vacation is being counted as individual vacation days instead of following the contractual language that calls for a specific start and end date in a week long period, regardless of how many individual vacation days fall within the time period. Also, single vacation days are being taken during the summer vacation period and single vacation days are being taken on holidays with officers still receiving holiday pay. The Department intends to end these practices and enforce the terms of the collective bargaining agreement with respect to vacation time commencing June 1, 2014.

Article XVI section 15

With regards to the summer vacation period being counted as individual vacation days instead of having a specific start and end date the language in the BPPA contract states:

...vacations for employees under this Agreement will start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and shall run to 8:00 a.m. on the following Saturday or a subsequent Saturday, depending upon the length of vacation.

Therefore commencing with the summer vacation period of 2014 the Department will follow this language and end all summer vacations on Saturdays irrespective of how many individual vacation days an officer took during their scheduled summer vacation period.

Article XVI section 15

With regards to the practice of taking single vacation days during the summer vacation period, the contract states:

The summer vacation period shall commence the second Saturday in June of each calendar year. The summer vacation period shall run for fourteen (14) consecutive weeks (seven (7) two (2) week periods).

Upon receiving a written request signed by the requesting officer, that officer's commanding officer may allow that officer to take winter vacation on a one (1) day at a time basis. Such decision is at the sole discretion of the commanding officer. The commanding officer's discretion is paramount in such a case and his/her decision regarding any issue in this paragraph is not subject to the grievance procedure of this agreement.

The Contract allows for winter vacation to be taken in individual days with the commanding officers approval. The Department shall enforce the above language to ensure that single vacation days may only be requested and granted during the winter vacation period.

Article XI section 3

With regard to officers taking a single vacation day on a Holiday, the contract states:

...if an employee is granted permission to take an unscheduled day off on a holiday which is his scheduled workday, such employee shall receive his regular weekly compensation for the week in which such holiday falls but shall not receive additional compensation for such holiday.

The contract prohibits compensating with holiday pay when an officer uses a single vacation day to be off on a holiday. The language above states that officers that request an unscheduled discretionary day off on a holiday are not entitled to holiday pay.

The Department intends to enforce the language in the CBAs as written and end these practices not later than June 1, 2014. If you would like to meet to discuss these issues, please contact this office at 617.343.4544 and schedule a meeting no later than May 23, 2014.

Respectfully,

Deputy Superintendent Steven Whitman
 Commander, Office of Labor Relations

cc: Police Commissioner William Evans
 Superintendent-In-Chief William Gross
 Paul Curran, Director, Office of Labor Relations/COB

Comm. Evans halts

By James W. Carnell, Pax Editor

Commissioner William Evans has halted attempts on behalf of administration bureaucrats to unilaterally change long-standing rules and regulations regarding the State law governing use of SNLA (Small Necessities Leave Act) and existing practices covering vacation leave.

The Small Necessities Leave Act (SNLA) provides up to 24 hours of unpaid leave under Massachusetts General Laws for the purposes of:

1. participating in school activities related to the educational advancement of an employee's son or daughter, such as parent-teacher conferences or **interviewing for a new school**
2. to accompany a son or daughter to routine medical or dental appointments
3. to accompany an elderly relative to routine medical or dental appointments or **other services related to the elder's care**.

SNLA leave allows an employee to use accrued sick time in 2-hour time increments, or in whatever blocks of time (4 hrs.? 8 hrs.?) are needed to attend to the purpose of taking care of children or elderly family members. On Nov. 17th, 1998, the department released a special order regarding the SNLA which included a simple form for employees to use to report the use of SNLA time. The form specifically was in **both the present tense and past tense**: in other words, it specifically said "**I will take... did take...**" **hours of leave....** (see sample old/new forms) Often times, as we all know, medical conditions or situations arise which are not foreseeable: Mom, Dad, Uncle Frank or situations with the

Boston Police

DEPARTMENT

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT - Employee Certification Form - SNLA

I certify that on _____ I will take _____ hours of leave for the following purpose (check appropriate box, and complete all fields associated).

- to participate in school activities related to the educational advancement of my son/daughter.
 School Name: _____
 Event type: _____
 Time attended: _____
- to accompany my son/daughter to routine medical or dental appointments such as check-ups or vaccinations.
 Medical / Dental Location: _____
 Time of appointment: _____
 Name of person being seen: _____
 Relation to employee:
 (circle one) Self Son Daughter

to accompany my elderly relative to routine medical or dental appointments or appointments for other professional services related to the elder's care.

Type of appointment: _____
 Time of appointment: _____
 Name of person being seen: _____
 Relation to employee: _____

I attest that the information above is true and accurate.

Signature: _____

Department Title: _____

ID Number: _____

Date: _____

FOR SUPERVISOR TO COMPLETE:
 Check appropriate box: Approved Disapproved
 Supervisor's Name: _____ Title: _____
 Date approved: _____

PLEASE FORWARD THIS FORM TO HUMAN RESOURCES / ATTENTION DEPUTY DIRECTOR

attempt to change release/vacation rules - regs

kids might arise that are not foreseeable. An employee would have to use accrued sick time or personal days, but the use of SNLA time would not be held against an employee as a "regular" use of sick time as per existing rules and regs.

The "new SNLA form" (*see sample*) was both obnoxious and obtrusive. It now required information such as "Name of the person you are seeing," "time of appointment," "reason for appointment." In a few short and polite words, "None of your f...ing business!" My Mother or Father's medical issues, Uncle Frank's need for personal assistance at home, or my son or daughter's school issues are none of the BPD's business.

An attack at normal vacation time (ten days/two weeks of five days is considered normal, or always has been....) was also made by unknown bureaucrats. According to another unilaterally-issued order (not bargained, not discussed, etc., etc.) the policy (due to extreme short-staffing of the patrol force) would henceforth be that, regardless of your squad's schedule, vacations would begin on a Saturday at 8 AM and end two weeks hence at 8 AM. As we all know, many squad's schedules overlap and result in officers having only eight or nine days of *actual* vacation time. It is not the fault of the BPPA or any individual officer that the regular patrol force is severely short-staffed. When one rents a vacation home or plans time away with their family during the summer, it should be for a full ten days, not some bureaucratic nitwit's interpretation of what constitutes our vacation. (Rest assured, said bureaucrats are getting their full complement of

vacation time, and undoubtedly, with the use of an unmarked city vehicle. I've seen them passing by me on the way to Lake Winnipesaukee and Cape Cod... wink-wink, nod-nod... we're not all stupid....)

But Commissioner Evans, once notified by the BPPA leadership, halted unilateral changes to long-standing practices and ordered a review. It is indeed refreshing to see and know that Commissioner Evans and Superintendent Gross have respect for the patrol force and labor agreements. Having come from the patrol force, they seem to recognize that patrol officers are not chattel, but valued resources, who deserve personal time with their families. We are both thankful and hopeful that this form of labor relations will continue.

Enjoy your summer vacations with your family.

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Small Necessities Leave Act (SNLA) Employee Certification Form

I certify that on _____ I will / did take _____ hours of leave for the following purpose (check appropriate box below):

- to participate in school activities related to the educational advancement of my son / daughter.
- to accompany my son / daughter to routine medical or dental appointments such as check-ups or vaccinations.
- to accompany my elderly relative to routine medical or dental appointments or appointments for other professional services related to the elder's care.

Signature: _____ ID: _____

Department / Title: _____

Date: _____

FOR SUPERVISOR TO COMPLETE:

Check appropriate box: Approved Disapproved

Supervisor's Name: _____

Department / Title: _____

Date: _____

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UNIT OF THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES, ROOM 3127N

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JENNIFER N. SMITH
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OF COUNSEL
JAMES T. SWEENEY

*Also admitted in CA & DC

May 19, 2014

By Fax 617-343-5706

Steven Whitman
Commander, OLR
Boston Police Department
1 Schroeder Plaza
Boston, MA

Re: Vacation Issue

Dear Deputy Whitman,

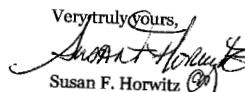
The BPPA is in receipt of your letter dated May 13, 2014 concerning the City's intention of changing practices and contract interpretations and implementations concerning vacations. The Union does not agree with the Department's interpretation of the contract language and objects to any intention to violate long standing practices under this contract language or for the City to unilaterally change longstanding practices between the parties.

It is especially insulting that the Department would decide to reinterpret contract language that was not changed during the last round of bargaining so soon after the new contracts were finalized and to provide such short notice of your intention of changing practices with only a few weeks notice.

If this was an issue it should have been raised during the years that the parties were negotiating contract changes for the new collective bargaining agreements.

Without waiving any rights that we have no obligation to agree to any changes in the contract interpretation or implementation, midterm, the Union is willing to meet with the Department to discuss its concerns and issues in this matter. However the Department should not be making any unilateral changes.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Susan F. Horwitz

SFH/cd

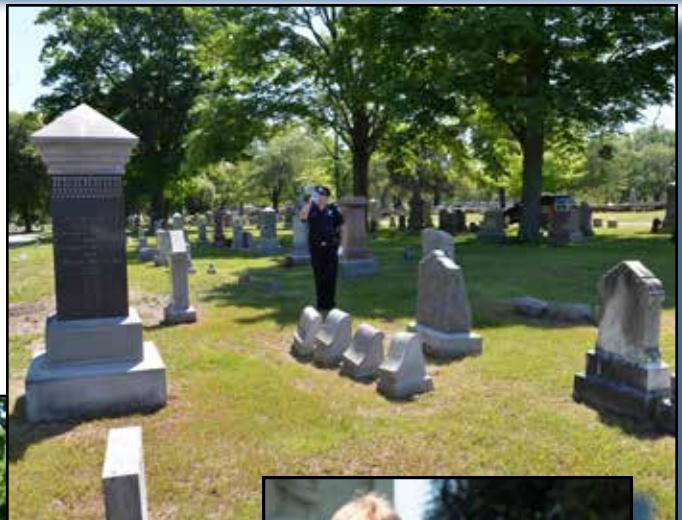
cc: Tom Nee, President BPPA
Ron McGillivray, Vice President BPPA
BPPA Bargaining Committee
Paul Curran, Esq.
William Evans, Police Commissioner
William Gross, Superintendent Chief

Boston Police & Boston EMS honor the fallen during Memorial Sunday observances on June 1st, 2014 at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Mattapan



On Sunday, June 1st, many Officers and Families of the Boston Police Department joined together to celebrate the lives of our Brothers and Sisters lost to us over the past year. Once again, we gathered at the Chapel of Mt. Hope Cemetery in Mattapan and were led up the hill to the Memorial, this year by Commissioner **William Evans** and Chief **William Gross**. The sun shined, the Gaelic Column played and the BPD Honor Guard, in crisp blue uniforms, the Honor Guard from H&H with our Union brothers in brown being followed up by our retirees, marched in lock step, standing proud representing their pride in each other and showing the reverent respect for what this day is all about.









Both on and off duty Officers, Detectives and Uniformed Officers alike marched side by side, sadly though, fewer than last year. The ranks of the retirees looked much thinner this year also, but there did appear to be more families showing their respect. It was quite a sight to see the formation work its way up to the Memorial being led, proudly I might add, by the department leaders, yes leaders, not managers, not politicians, but leaders. We are lucky enough to have a couple of gentlemen that are leaders, directing this Department. Those same two leaders have been out in front since the day they were appointed and for that I applaud them and thank them. It's so easy to fall into a management role, to quote rules and regulations, to simply wear it but not live it, we however are very lucky to have two leaders at the helm that talk the talk, walk the walk and always lead by

example. Excuse me I digress, our Commissioner and Chief led the way to the Memorial. They climbed the stairs to the altar, followed by the Command Staff dressed in Class A's. We shared a Mass of Celebration, a celebration of the lives lost in the past year. The Commissioner shared his insight and called upon all of us to never forget, to never give up the heritage of this Department. He called on us to continue these very important events, the remembrance of those that have gone before us, those whose footsteps we walk in. To stand proud and stand tall representing the best Boston has to offer, It was a riveting speech, as most are that are given from the heart, Thank you! The Chief read the roll, name after name of old friends and some that left us way too soon. As the names were

read, memories flooded my mind, some funny and some sad but memories I will continue to share. Memories that should be shared, let us never forget those that paved our way. A final salute of 21-guns filled the air with ear shattering crisp bangs and a haunting melody and echo of taps. The Gaelic Column started their tune and the commands from the Honor Guard snapped us all back to where we were. The troops stood tall and made their way down to a reception area at the bottom of the hill. We were honored to have a group of Officers (Bobbies, Coppers) from London share the day with us. Here on vacation but finding out that we were to celebrate, to remember the lives of those gone before, they humbly requested that they be allowed to share in the day by dressing in full dress uniform and parading along with us. These men and woman from across the pond show that we are truly one family.

After the ceremony we gathered and shared stories, remembrances and talked to old friends and were lucky enough to make some new ones. That is what this day is all about, remembrances, friendships new and old, and certainly heritage! Our heritage as Police Officers, please don't let it be forgotten.

When people ask me why I joined the Boston Police Relief Association, why I am so involved, well this is just one of those reasons. Please join me and others next year on the first Sunday in June, to not would be a crime, don't lose your heritage!

Stay safe out there!

-Pat Rose

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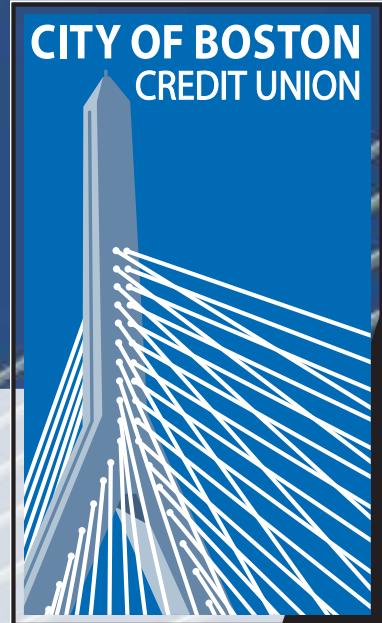
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Police/Illegal immigrants – Are we insane?

By James W. Carnell, Pax Editor

I KNOW I WILL PROBABLY BE CALLED A RACIST, or a Xenophobe, or something else, but I no longer care. As a nation, are we collectively insane? As you have all probably heard, thousands upon thousands (reports from the Border Control agents...what an oxymoron that is!!!) of "children" have been flooding across our southern borders. They come from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Columbia, and a wide variety of other venues. Nobody (?) knows whether terrorists from foreign countries are sneaking in also, because...well... we don't bother to check.

They are sending their children across our unguarded borders in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and California, simply because... **THEY CAN!** Once the "children" cross the border, it is incumbent upon the stupid gringos of the USA to provide them with shelter, and food and medical benefits etc. etc. And then, stupid gringos, the parents arrive from foreign countries to claim their "children", receive a notice to appear in 15 days in an alleged "immigration court", and promptly disappear into the American welfare system.

Please don't think I'm discussing some other state's problems, because as we all know, problems migrate north. There are valid, certifiable newspaper advertisements in many South American newspapers telling people to migrate to Chelsea, Lowell, Lawrence, Framingham and other Massachusetts cities. Geez, I wonder why?.....;

Could it be because in this United States, (another oxymoron), we do not require a citizen to have an identification card, like they do in Mexico? Would Mexico, or Guatemala, or Honduras, or El Salvador etc. etc. allow Americans to enter their countries illegally, stay, and then collect welfare benefits, subsidized housing, SNAP, WIC, EBT, and all of the other benefits of our stupid country? Do you realize what the immigration laws are in Mexico? If you overstay your tourist passport by one day, you can be damned-sure that the Mexican police will be requiring an "exit fee" (AKA: extortion) in order to "allow" the stupid gringo to leave their country.

And yet, our overburdened border control agents tell us that the border is a joke and that illegal immigrants literally laugh at them. It's not their fault, it's the fault of the frauds in Washington DC who talk a good game, pay lip-service to the issue, and then cloak themselves under the mantle of "diversity" and "multiculturalism" and "tolerance." It's nothing of the kind...

It is reported that upwards of 25 United States citizens are **KILLED every day** by illegal immigrants, either by murder or drunk driving or some other crime. No other country in the world would allow its borders to be crossed so flagrantly, and then grant welfare benefits to those who flouted its laws. I specifically recall being called to a car accident in Charlestown a few years ago, where an "undocumented" driver had been involved in an accident at Dexter and Alford Sts. The Brazilian driver, when I asked him about the status of his license, laughed at me. He had a fake Brazilian "ID" card which he had purchased at a mall in Somerville. The penalty for driving without a license in Mass.... is loss of license. A license he didn't have!

No wonder he laughed at me. And well he should have.

We are indeed stupid gringos. We are committing national suicide, and afraid to talk about it because of political correctness and fear of being called "racist." It is not immigration that is the issue, it is **ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION**. Most of our ancestors came to this country via other countries; whether from Ireland, Italy, Germany, Poland, or any other country. They were held in quarantine at Ellis Island or other locations until their health and status was checked and

re-checked. If they had any disease ("pinkeye," TB, smallpox, etc.) ... they were sent back on the next ship. Documents had to be signed saying that they would not be a burden on the public and that they had sponsors in this country. English was our spoken language, and

had to be learned by all who arrived here. And most; proudly, agreed that was the proper way to become an American citizen. As talk-radio host **Michael Savage** repeats constantly – "borders, language, culture" – protect our borders, have one language, and celebrate **SAME-NESS** – (not diversity).

I do not wonder why that Brazilian driver laughed at me. We are stupid gringos.



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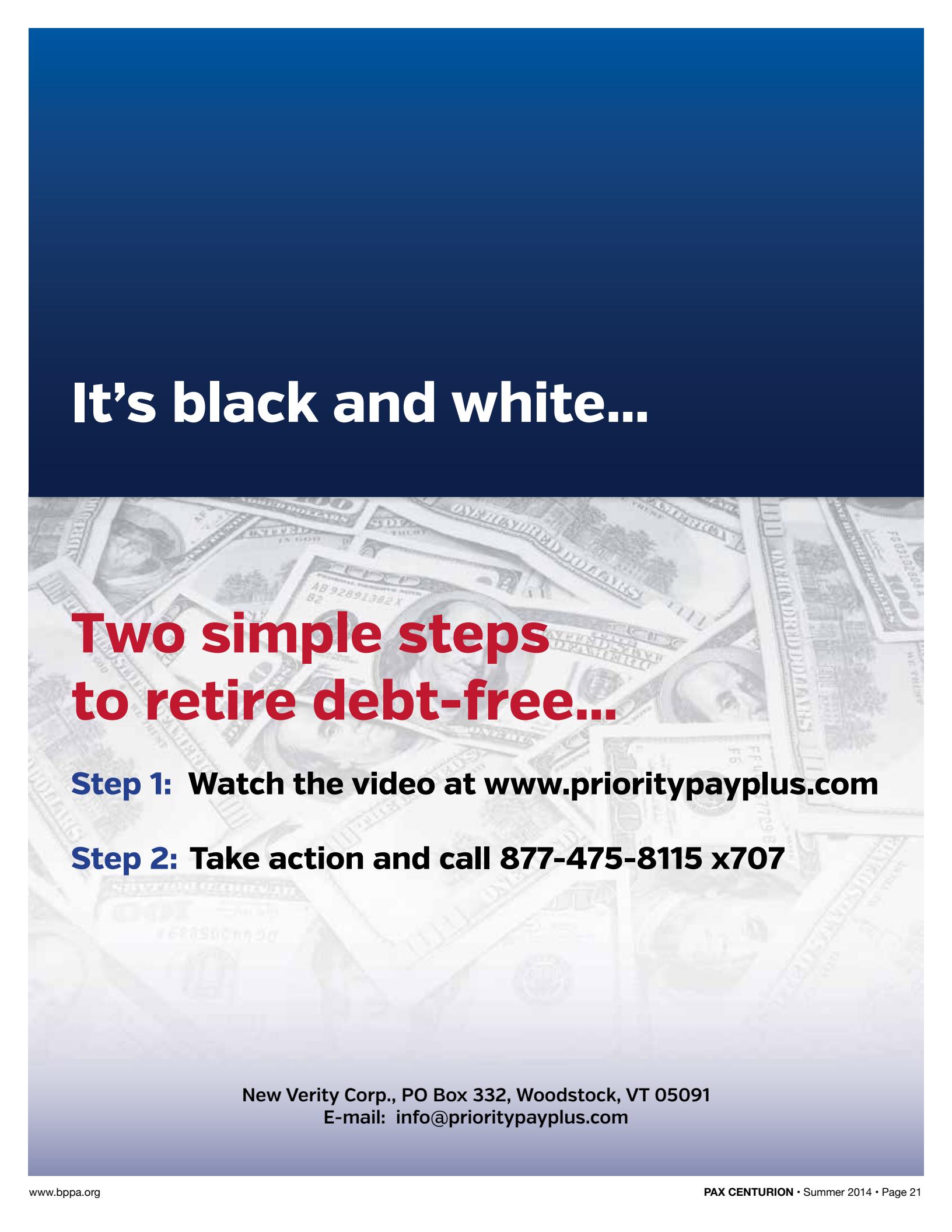
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HEARD ON THE HILL

By James Barry, BPPA Legislative Agent

Some good news in both pensions and budgets

Right now the good news is 2014 tax collections are running over estimates by \$520 million and this year's House and Senate budgets are heading to conference committee to work out the differences on the 2015 proposed \$36.20 billion annual budget.

The best part for the City of Boston is the increased funding levels for education and local aid next year. This factor will help relieve some pressure on Boston's budget. Proposals also increase investments of \$140 million in transportation. But most importantly for our members is \$163 million to help reduce the state's unfunded public pension liability.

This pension funding is long overdue and a very positive sign of the legislature is not "kicking the can down the road" for fully funding the system. Now currently on schedule to be fully funded by 2036.

The *Boston Globe* just released a front page report from the Urban Institute. Not surprisingly the *Globe* is also kicking the crap out of the pension system in their editorials. This report and the editorials "conclude" that Massachusetts to have the worst state-administered plans in the country, in terms of the benefits provided to employees and the funding of the plans by taxpayers. The report is wrong on so many levels and fails to take into account so many factors that make it one of the best-run systems in America. Many other reports show our public pension system to be one of the best, if not the best in the country. Recently tightened and reformed, the system now is working on fully funding itself.

The front page critical report does show Massachusetts standing out in one dimension among state-administered plans. **It ties with Colorado for having the cheapest retirement system in the country.**

Many factors can help explain why it is so cheap. Number one is Massachusetts public employees are not covered by Social Security. Some \$707M in state taxpayer money was saved in 2012, because the Social Security FICA assessments were not charged to the Commonwealth.

Which means the state does not pay the 6.2% tax of payrolls to Social Security. This fact is huge, but totally overlooked or understated by the study or editorial. Massachusetts public em-

ployees pay a much higher percentage of normal costs than most other public employees. The past 17 years, Massachusetts public employees have contributed at a rate that is considered one of the highest in the country – 9% on the first \$30,000 and 11% on additional compensation (some employees pay even higher).

Official state and private actuarial studies have confirmed that today's Massachusetts public employees largely fund all of their future retirement benefit.

The bottom line is that, while taxpayers in other states are paying an average of 14.2% of payroll (6.2% for Social Security and 8% public pension costs), taxpayers in Massachusetts are paying less than 3% of payroll for public-employee retirement benefits. In terms of the costs of the benefits, the Massachusetts plans serve the taxpayer very well. There are some public retirement systems that have collapsed or are in crisis (Miami, Detroit and Central Falls). We should all realize these as exceptional cases and they have real systemic problems. The differences when comparing them to our public pension systems here is night and day.

For instance in Central Falls, benefits to police and fire were awarded full pension with 20 years of service. Massachusetts police and firefighters must contribute for a minimum of 32 years and reach the age of 55 before achieving the maximum pension benefit of 80%. And all other public employees must have the same total service upon 65 years of age.

Our lower rating by the Urban Institute also looked at Massachusetts plans do not serve public employees as well as plans in other states. Citing Massachusetts on benefits for young and short-term workers because of ten-year vesting and high employee contribution requirements. They say we are not "portable." Which I guess means you work in Massachusetts for five years and then go to Alabama you should be able to take your pension with you. Public service in Massachusetts is a career. Turning from benefits to funding, Massachusetts received a "D" in terms of its funding and an "F" in terms of making required contributions. Massachusetts only started funding its pension obligation in the early 1980s. So the state has entered this century with a substantial unfunded liability. But actions appear to recognize this and the State is acting on getting the system funded.

Two of Boston's Finest recognized by the Mass. Association of Women in Law Enforcement

On Friday June 5th, the Massachusetts Association of Women in Law Enforcement MAWLE presented their association's Courage Award to Officer **Pamela Wilson** of Area C-11 and Officer **Jennifer Connolly** of Area D-14 at their annual Spirit of MAWLE Award Ceremony held this year at the Boston College Yawkey Center.

MAWLE began in 2004 when a small but dedicated group of female Officers and Troopers joined together to organize a professional women's police association. The primary objective of MAWLE is to keep women in the field of law enforcement informed, connected, and focused on the positive aspects of women in law enforcement. By promoting professionalism among women who serve in the field of law enforcement through education, training, and mentoring.

Officer Pamela Wilson was recognized for her actions on Friday, April 11th, 2014 when she stopped a suspect wanted in connection with a shots fired call near Wainwright and Brent. Inside the Shawmut MBTA station Pam observed several individuals, one matching the description of the shooter. She disarmed that individual of two firearms and the suspect was placed under arrest when he could not produce an LTC.

Officer Jennifer Connolly was recognized for her actions on Monday, April 15th, 2013 while assigned to the Boston Marathon Finish Line. Jen was standing on Boylston Street in front of the VIP and Family bleachers opposite the first bomb when it detonated. Despite injury, she began an orderly evacuation of the viewing area. When



that task was complete she assisted in tearing down the barricades at the site, responded to a fellow Officer with a serious leg injury, an injured Superior Officer, assisted medical personnel, rendered aid, and remained on scene until relieved several hours later.

MAWLE is open to current and former law enforcement officers with jurisdiction within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as well as persons employed by law enforcement or criminal justice related agencies within the Commonwealth. If your interested in learning more about this organization you can contact them at MAWLE, State House, 24 Beacon Street, Box #124, Boston, MA 02133 or at www.MAWLE.org

— Dennis Murphy, D14 Representative

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Many members have also sought our guidance and representation in a wide variety of matters, particularly personal injury claims on behalf of injured officers and/or their family and friends. We also provide representation in criminal and civil litigation, real estate and estate planning. We invite you to learn more about Byrne & Drechsler, LLP by visiting our website - ByrneDrechsler.com

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Putting your best foot forward while testifying in court

As I often state in these articles, your job is not easy. You work in rain, sleet, snow, cold, and now the heat; contending with guns, drugs, domestic violence, and emotionally disturbed people. And all of that is just a drop in the bucket compared to what your own department can often do to you. And then, at the end of it all, you have to deal with the court system, a world unto itself inhabited by (often overwhelmed) prosecutors, (occasionally overzealous) defense attorneys, and (sometimes cranky) judges. Your testimony in court is what brings the ball across the goal line, and your preparation for this testimony is of paramount importance. Doing things properly to make a good arrest is essential at the outset, but being able to explain **why** your actions were proper is often the most difficult part of your job. This maxim is evident in the recent case of *Commonwealth v. Jones-Pannell*, 85 Mass. App. Ct. 390 (2014), a case that highlights the importance of each and every factual distinction that can tip the scales in favor of a successful prosecution.

Like many of the important search and seizure cases, *Jones-Pannell* is a Boston police case. In this one, Officer **Luis Anjos** from B-2 made a gun arrest. The gun was suppressed by Judge **Raymond Dougan** in the Boston Municipal Court, who was recently overturned by the Massachusetts Appeals Court for the umpteenth time. In considering the findings made by Judge Dougan, the Massachusetts Appeals Court stated the following to highlight the significance of the factual findings from a judge:

Findings of fact are factual deductions from the evidence, essential to the judgment in the case.

Such findings should be stated clearly, concisely and unequivocally, and be worded so that they are not susceptible of more than one interpretation. A judge should rely on the facts derived from the evidence to reach the ultimate facts that resolve the case in light of applicable law. The judge's findings as to ultimate facts should be founded on reasonable inferences that flow logically from the evidentiary facts [emphasis added].

Because the judge's findings of fact flow from your testimony, and are arrived at based on how thoroughly and credibly you testify, the importance of bringing forth every relevant factor in a clear and honest way is of undeniable significance.

In terms of the facts of the case, here is how they were summarized by the Massachusetts Appeals Court based on the testimony of Officer Anjos:

At the time of the encounter he had served with the Boston police department for nine years. He had worked in the Roxbury district throughout that time. His basic training at the Boston police academy had included instruction for identification of persons carrying concealed firearms. According to that instruction, an unlicensed carrier will be less likely to employ a holster and therefore more likely to be adjusting a weapon manually inside his clothes. Another characteristic will be



his head movements in multiple directions in an effort to anticipate and to avoid detection.

On August 6, 2011, Anjos was engaged in an overnight shift as one of two uniformed officers in an unmarked patrol car in the Norfolk Street area. Anjos occupied the passenger seat. The neighborhood contained three or four gangs. Two weeks earlier in that area, he had responded to a gunfire incident resulting in a neck wound to a victim. Three to four months earlier, another shooting incident had occurred in the vicinity. On a separate occasion during that period, police had recovered a firearm.

At approximately 12:30 a.m., Anjos and his partner saw the defendant walking alone along the Norfolk Street sidewalk on Anjos's side of the car. As the defendant walked, he held his right hand inside the front of his pants and was "jousting" or "adjusting" an object. He saw the car, appeared surprised, and looked up and down the street.

As the car drew even with the defendant, Anjos two or three times asked, "Excuse me sir, can I talk to you?" The defendant looked away, continued down Norfolk Street, and kept his right hand inside his pants.

He turned a corner, and accelerated into a jog. His right hand remained inside his pants. At that point Anjos yelled, "Wait a minute," and got out of the cruiser. The defendant then broke into a full sprint. Anjos pursued him on foot, as his partner followed in the car. The chase ensued for twenty to thirty seconds through one and one-half blocks. Anjos overtook the defendant in a driveway. As Anjos attempted a patfrisk, the defendant resisted. As they grappled, a handgun fell out of the defendant's pants. Anjos placed the defendant under arrest and read him his Miranda rights. A subsequent inspection of the handgun housing revealed the seven rounds of ammunition.

Until these events, Anjos had no familiarity with, or knowledge about, the defendant. Anjos and his partner had received no information of any incident in the area during that evening.

In his findings, Judge Dougan noted two important factors that leaned in favor of the constitutionality of the seizure: (1) the evasion/flight of the suspect and (2) the fact that the suspect ran away from the police with his hand in his waistband. While conceding these factors, Judge Dougan noted that people can also run with their hand on the waistband because their pants are baggy, because they are not wearing a belt, or because they are holding another item such as a wallet. Judge Dougan did not consider the time of this incident, and also did not consider this area to be a "high crime" area despite the testimony that someone had been shot in the neck on this street two weeks earlier, that there had been another shooting three or four months before that, and that a firearm had also been recovered on that street. The Massachusetts Appeals Court disagreed with the manner in which Judge

See **Testifying** on page 33



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Why should Boston Police Officers care about what happens to California teachers?

As the elites in our society continue to attack public employees and particularly public education, a state court in California has handed them a great victory, at least for now. On June 10, a state court judge ruled in a 16-page "tentative decision,"¹ that state laws guaranteeing tenure, seniority protection, and just cause for discipline/discharge are unconstitutional. Tenure, seniority, and just cause - these are three of the basic principles protecting police officers from arbitrary and unfair treatment. Whether we like it or not, things that happen in California have a way of working their way back across the rest of the country, whether it's surfboards, taking a right turn on red, or Ronald Reagan.

This case in California follows a pattern of attacks against unions, and particularly public sector ones, at the state and national levels. Few people realize that union density (the percentage of workers who belong to unions) in the U.S. has been steadily declining for over 40 years. At the same time, union density among public sector workers (federal, state, and local) has been generally increasing. In 2013, about the same numbers of workers in the public and private sector were unionized, but the 7.3 million union members in the private sector represented only 6.7% of that workforce; while public sector density was 35.3%.² In the 1950's, over 35% of private sector workers, and about one-third of all workers, were unionized. So, we have gone from a society where roughly 1 in 3 workers belonged to a union to one where, in the private sector, only about 1 in 16 is unionized.

But what does this have to do with Boston Police Officers? A lot, and here's why. Collective bargaining has produced enormous gains for workers in general, and police officers in Massachusetts more specifically. We take for granted the right to belong to a union, which can then negotiate a contract with wages, benefits, and job protections. But these are not inalienable, constitutional rights, such as free speech or due process or (if it's your thing) the right to bear arms. Collective bargaining for local government workers (police, teachers, fire fighters) only exists as long as a state law provides for it. Even now, in many states (mostly in the South and Southwest) there is no law giving public workers the right to bargain a contract and in some states (Georgia for instance), it is illegal to bargain with a public union. Here in Massachusetts, we have only had a comprehensive bargaining law (Chapter 150E) since 1974. It is because of such state laws that when the former Mayor resisted the BPPA's legitimate bargaining demands, we were able to put the case before an arbitrator and make at least some modest gains.



But what state legislatures give, they can also take away. That is what has been happening throughout the country. In 2011, Governor Walker in Wisconsin pushed through changes in that state's bargaining laws which pretty much obliterated the non-public safety unions. Although police and fire were exempted from those changes, it would seem only a matter of time before they too receive the same treatment. Michigan, home of the United Auto Workers, once perhaps the most powerful union in the country, recently enacted legislation allowing workers in a union shop to refuse to join their union, pay nothing, and get the same benefits as union members. There is currently pending before the U.S. Supreme Court a case (*Harris v. Quinn*), which would essentially make what happened in Michigan the law of the land.³ If the lawyers for the right-wing National Right

To Work Committee win their case, no public sector union could compel the people it represents to pay anything for that representation.

So, the California court's finding that teachers' job protection rights are unconstitutional becomes another weapon for those who want to destroy unions and public ones in particular. These groups are largely funded by the same people who fund right wing causes in general, the Koch Brothers, for example. These extremely wealthy people (a) don't like paying taxes, and (b) want to elect politicians who agree with them. Paying decent wages and benefits to public employees costs money and that money comes from taxes. Unions, and particularly public sector ones, provide some money but, even more importantly, lots of free manpower, to politicians who support their causes. Weakening those unions also weakens the politicians whom the unions support.

While the public sector unions are under attack, there are fewer private sector workers who enjoy the benefits of union membership. When over one-third of all workers were unionized, an argument that cops or teachers or fire fighters did not deserve decent pay, retirement, health insurance, and job protection would not resonate. Now, with 15 out of 16 workers employed at the whim of management, many can be convinced that their taxes should not be used to pay police officers (whose overall earnings are an annual "story" in every local paper in the state) better wages and benefits than they get.

Without getting overly hyperbolic, I am reminded of the quotation on the Holocaust Memorial behind City Hall. If we do not speak up for others whose rights are taken away, ("Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist"), when they come after our rights, no one will be there to speak up for us.

¹ <http://www.scribd.com/doc/229021741/Vergara-v-California>

² <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/union2.nr0.htm>

³ <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2014/01/the-supreme-court-case-that-could-clobber-public-sector-unions/283232/>



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Wishing a fond farewell

By Mark A. Bruno

The Boston Police Department has lost a well-respected veteran. **Captain Frank Armstrong** has retired after a stellar career. He was well liked by the rank and file officers who served under him. Always a fair man, he was never afraid to speak his mind. Going toe-to-toe with the brass over various issues was not uncommon for Captain Armstrong. His kindness and self-generosity to various charities he has been involved with personally over the years are a testament to his good character. His sense of humor and friendly smile will be missed by all. He cared for many and helped those in need. I consider him a good friend and will always remember him for the gentleman he is. A husband, father, and family man. He rose through the ranks in a profession that can sometimes be harsh on family life. Having had many heartfelt discussions with him, I could tell you that his family was placed above all else in his life.

An absolute true measure of a man is how he treats and values his family; Captain Armstrong is the barometer we should all follow. There are so many stories I am sure we all could tell about Captain Armstrong. I've decided to share a few of my own.

The good Captain always had a sense of humor. While visiting him in his office over in C-11, I was admiring the mural of the world on the wall behind his desk. I couldn't help notice something that looked out of place – which looked like it may have been in South America. Upon looking at it closer, it appeared to be a picture of someone's head which was upside down. With a step closer and a slight tilt of my head, I could see it was Deputy Chief, or Superintendent-in-Chief **Robert Dungford**. Captain Armstrong immediately cleared this matter up by telling me that he and Bob are great friends, but every now and then they disagree on certain matters. He told me when this happens he places the picture of the Chief's head in another country to show there is turmoil existing between them. He said that when he turns the head upside down there is serious friction between the two; much like you would fly an American Flag a certain way during a conflict I guess! He tells me all this with a straight face and then a smile at the end to let me know it is all in good fun!

My next encounter happened at a party the Captain attended after

being informed the day before that he had been transferred to Central Supplies from C-11. Most probably would have not shown up after this transfer, but not Captain Armstrong! He comes walking into the party with a brick of paper and a box of pencils in tow and kindly informs everyone, "If anyone needs paper or pencils I have plenty!" Everyone cracked up laughing! He was so good at turning a negative into a positive.

The good Reverend **Eugene Rivers** and several of his associates threatened to have Captain Armstrong transferred and he politely told them he wished they would because he had been trying for years to get out! The Reverend stood there dumbfounded, not knowing what to say to this response.



The fact is, he cared about his neighborhood and the people he served. I have never heard a bad word spoken about how he treated his officers. He would always discuss things with me as equals, never once talking down to me. This to me is what will always define a good leader – the relationship he has with his subordinates. Never forgetting where he came from as he climbed the ladder of success will be how many will remember him as he embarks on a new career.

The most defining moment in his career will be how

he had his assigned officers along with himself at the Boston Marathon tragedy stand guard over two of the victims, **Martin Richard** and **Lingzi Lu**, while the crime scene was processed around them. All of the officers assigned to stand watch over these two young victims did so with a heavy heart. Captain Armstrong, as a parent, understood what the families of these victims must have been going through. Knowing their child was lying in the middle of Boylston Street and could not be removed until all the evidence was gathered was heart wrenching for them. The only consolation he could give the families was to let them know their children were not alone. It was an act of kindness that will long be remembered by both victim's families, and the Captain and his officers who stood watch. This is the softer side of police that the public does not see. This is the defining moment in Captain Frank Armstrong's career. He is a husband, father, officer and a gentleman; a real, cop's cop. A person I am proud to call a friend.

Thank you for your service.

A look back...

Boston Police vs. New York Police Hockey, 1984

THE BOSTON POLICE

"B" TEAM - 1984

Front Row: Police Officer Jack McCarthy, Retired Police Officer Neil Murphy, Detective Kevin McGill, Retired Sergeant Detective Herb Spellman, Police Officer and Editor of the *Pax Centurion* Jimmy Carnell, the late Retired Detective John Necco, Retired Detective Eddie Dominguez, Retired Detective Billy Dwyer, and Detective Frank Pomodoro.

Rear Row: Retired Deputy Superintendent and Coach Eddie Walsh, Retired Sergeant Richie Connolly, Retired Detective Jack McCormack, Retired Police Officer Eddie O'Toole, Retired Police Officer Richie Pimental, Retired Lieutenant Detective John McLean, Retired Sergeant Detective Walter Duggan, and the late Police Officer Bruce Knight, Deputy Superintendent Kevin Buckley, Police Officer Billy Carroll, and the late Retired Lieutenant Frank Graham.

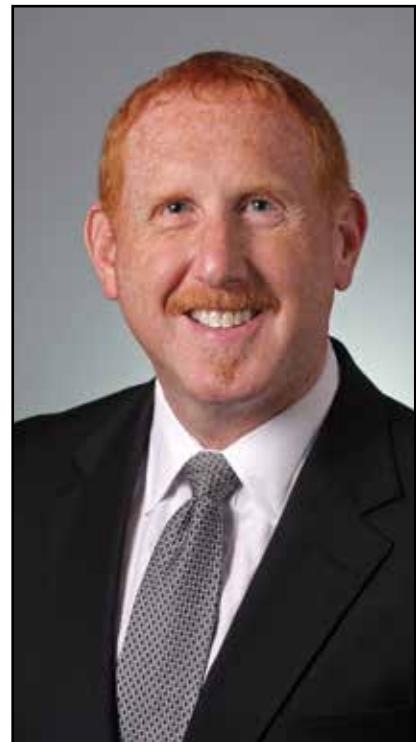


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After the year Boston has had, marked by the Marathon bombing and the heroic actions of many Boston police officers and first responders, it has never been more clear how you put your health and life on the line to protect and serve the public. If you are injured then you need someone to protect and represent you. Boston Attorney Scott Goldberg is proud to be the personal lawyer for many members of the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association and their families for over 20 years. Since 1990, Attorney Goldberg, who has been selected as one of Boston's 2013 "Super Lawyers" in Personal Injury Law by Thomson Reuters and published in Boston Magazine, has won and settled many cases for police men and women who were injured both on-duty and off, obtaining financial compensation that included lost base, detail, and overtime pay - even if they received Injured on Duty pay or used sick days. The financial recovery would also include payment for medical expenses, disability, and pain and suffering.

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No, not the Red Sox vs. Yankees, this was the Boston Police vs. the New York City Police ice hockey team. I still recall the headlines in the *Boston Herald* and the *Boston Globe* sports pages.

It was in the early 1980s, I was a night detective in Area A-1 and my partner Detective **Richie Ross** came up with the idea that we should challenge the New York City Police ice hockey team to a game to benefit the Jimmy Fund here in Boston. We sent out invitations for tryouts within the Boston Police Department and we had over 40 guys show up to skate with us. We would skate two teams an "A" team and a "B" team. **Elliott Feldman**, who now heads up the Police Athletic League would coach the "A" team and retired Deputy Superintendent **Eddie Walsh** would coach the 'B' team. The president of the Boston Police Emerald Society, retired Detective **John McManus**, who along with his partner the late detective **Arnold James** were both shot while responding to a bank holdup in Mattapan Square several years ago volunteered to sponsor the teams. He gave us two sets of emerald green Boston Police jerseys for both teams. Northeastern University rented the ice hockey arena on St. Botolph St. to us for the back-to-back games. Wow, I played four years of high school ice hockey there for the legendary coach **Bill Stewart** while attending English High School.

It was on a Saturday night, and the "B" teams played first, Detective **Eddie Dominguez** set up detective **Kevin McGill** for the first goal of the game. New York came back in the second period and scored their only goal. Our goalie, **Jimmy Carnell** was outstanding in the net for us. **Kevin Buckley** scored the winning goal for us late in the third period, off a nice set-up by **Neil Murphy** and we won 3 to 2. Sorry to report, but the "A" team who played after us lost to the New York City Police team. We all went out for a few beers after the game to The Ark on Beacon Street, outside of Kenmore Square.

Shorthanded patrol force prepares for long summer...

From **Shorthanded** on page 10

cept a myriad of BS assignments like the "Walk-Against-This" or the "Run-Against-That." The summer will be full of City Hall Festivals, Caribbean days, assorted parades, road races, protests, etc., etc. The BPD expects that you should sacrifice your time with your family in deference to the good of the kind and beneficent City you work for. (Yes, the same City who sent us to arbitration for an expired contract of 3½ years and then fought us all the way through the City Council....)

Make your decisions based on what is good for you and your family, not what is good for the City. A birthday for a child or a summer family barbecue that you do not attend is lost forever, and you will not receive an award from the City for foregoing it. It is unlikely that discretionary days, C-days or other days owed will be granted during the summer, as the department has already indicated. Enjoy your own summer vacations, and remember who is important – you and your family.



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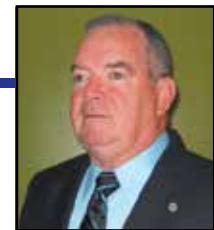
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Memorial Day is still a day to remember

Memorial Day has come and gone. With Memorial Day weekend comes the unofficial start of summer for many. Cookouts, opening vacation homes or a quick getaway, you know, like that sick day you use so you can sneak an extra day at the Cape, etc. I will say for most it is well-deserved, after all, you get up day in and day out strapping it on and showing up to get it done! We do indeed deserve a little me time, but let's not forget, we don't need a "holiday for me" time, skip a detail or two during the week and get the same result. Memorial Day for some of us though, is still a day to remember, to remember those that gave it all to defend this Nation. A day to plant flags and clean up neglected cemetery plots of our Nation's Heroes. The Heroes that are not known to many, the names that are not recognizable. They are the grave sites of the Smith's & Jones's, the O'Leary's or Polumbo's and Rosenfield's. You get the idea, these are not the Audie Murphy's of the world, just the everyday Janes and Joes that gave it all to defend what we have. These men and woman entered the Armed Forces never thinking for a moment that they would do anything heroic, little did they realize by raising their right hand and taking the oath, that in of itself was heroic. So what I guess I'm trying to express here is please take time out to reflect and remember what these holidays are truly about. As I walk around I see more and more of the Statues and Monuments built to show respect to and for our Veterans falling to disrepair, I get sickened when I see on the news that some misguided idiots toppled Veterans' tombstones. I sometimes wonder, does anyone really care? You don't have to be a Military Veteran to show respect for the service provided. If you see some trash building up around a Memorial, pick it up. If you have a little time around Memorial Day swing by your local VFW or American Legion Post, ask if they could use some help planting flags at the gravesites of Veterans, (those rows and rows of flags don't grow on their own, they are actually placed by human hands volunteering their time).

Take your kids for walk though any park on a weekend and lead by example with a bucket, some soapy water and a sponge to clean up some of the Monuments that have fallen to disrepair, or even start up a group through social media to raise funds and repair our Monuments and tributes to our Veterans from times of old. Don't wait for the other guy, because quite frankly the other guys are dying off. If we don't step up to the plate and take an active role in taking care of our Heritage, there will be nothing left for future generations to enjoy or reflect upon and our children and grandchildren deserve better. Don't rely on the government, they can't and won't get it done, rely on each other and you know it will be done!

There has been a lot of talk of late about supporting our Veterans. What we need, who we are, etc., about joblessness, stress, homelessness etc. Please allow me to share with you the thoughts of one of the greatest military minds that ever walked this planet. The following is a short speech given by **General David Petraeus** recently. Please don't dismiss the brilliance of this General Officer based on an extra-marital indiscretion, he is and probably will be remembered as one of the most learned, intelligent military leaders of our generation. I believe that history will prove me correct. At a recent graduation, he passed along the following thoughts and observations:

"I remember the day I found out I got into West Point. My mom actually showed up in the hallway of my high school and waited for me to get out of class. She was bawling her eyes out and apologizing that she had opened up my admission letter. She wasn't crying because it had been her dream for me to go there. She was crying because she knew how hard I'd worked to get in, how much I wanted to attend, and

how much I wanted to be an infantry officer. I was going to get that opportunity. That same day two of my teachers took me aside and essentially told me the following, "David, you're a smart guy. You don't have to join the military. You should go to college, instead." I could easily write a theme defending West Point and the military as I did that day, explaining that USMA is an elite institution, that separate from that it is actually statistically much harder to enlist in the military than it is to get admitted to college, that serving the nation is a challenge that all able-bodied men should at least consider for a host of reasons, but I won't. What I will say is that when a 16-year-old kid is being told that attending West Point is going to be bad for his future then there is a dangerous disconnect in America, and entirely too many Americans have no idea what kind of burdens our military is bearing.

In World War II, 11.2% of the nation served in four (4) years.

During the Vietnam era, 4.3% served in twelve (12) years.

Since 2001, only 0.45% of our population has served in the Global War on Terror. These are unbelievable statistics. Over time, fewer and fewer people have shouldered more and more of the burden and it is only getting worse.

Our troops were sent to war in Iraq by a Congress consisting of 10% veterans with only one person having a child in the military. Taxes did not increase to pay for the war. War bonds were not sold. Gas was not regulated. In fact, the average citizen was asked to sacrifice nothing, and has sacrificed nothing unless they have chosen to out of the goodness of their hearts.

The only people who have sacrificed are the veterans and their families. The volunteers. The people who swore an oath to defend this nation. You stand there, deployment after deployment and fight on. You've lost relationships, spent years of your lives in extreme conditions, years apart from kids you'll never get back, and beaten your body in a way that even professional athletes don't understand.

Then you come home to a nation that doesn't understand. They don't understand suffering. They don't understand sacrifice. They don't understand why we fight for them. They don't understand that bad people exist. They look at you like you're a machine – like something is wrong with you. You are the misguided one – not them.

When you get out, you sit in the college classrooms with political science teachers that discount your opinions on Iraq and Afghanistan because **YOU WERE THERE** and can't understand the macro issues they gathered from books, because of your bias. You watch TV shows where every vet has PTSD and the violent strain at that. Your Congress is debating your benefits, your retirement, and your pay, while they ask you to do more. But the amazing thing about you is that you all know this. You know your country will never pay back what you've given up. You know that the populace at large will never truly understand or appreciate what you have done for them. Hell, you know that in some circles, you will be thought as less than normal for having worn the uniform. But you do it anyway. You do what the greatest men and women of this country have done since 1775. **YOU SERVED**. Just that decision alone makes you part of an elite group.

"Never in the field of human conflict has so much been owed by so many to so few." – Winston Churchill.

Thank you to the 11.2% and 4.3% who have served and thanks to the 0.45% who continue to serve our Nation."

This speech kind of says it all. Thank you General Petraeus. To my fellow Veterans, enjoy the summer, enjoy your families, enjoy being home, but let us not forget.

Seaport jurisdiction is still a major issue

By Sgt. Det. Thomas Pratt, BPSAU

First and foremost I would just like to thank the leadership of the BPPA and the editors of the *Pax* for allowing this article to be published.

To get things started, I would like to beat a dead horse! Once again, the Seaport Legislation has come under attack by the Secretary of Public Safety, **Andrea Cabral**. The Secretary, in a meeting that was held a while ago to discuss the possibility of concurrent jurisdiction with the MA State Police in the Seaport, stated that the issue on the table was not a public safety issue, but a union and detail issue. Secretary Cabral's dismissiveness in regards to this issue is absolutely unacceptable and her favoritism towards State entities is blatant. She is the Secretary of Public Safety for the entire Commonwealth and her concerns should be with the safety of the citizens, guests and all police officers of the entire Commonwealth not just the special interests of State-funded police departments, and yes, Massport is a quasi-state agency.

Governor **Deval Patrick** is not running for another term and a new governor brings the possibility of replacing the current Secretary. That being said, we are a department of over two thousand sworn police officers. And every candidate you talk to, ask them the question of concurrent jurisdiction. Bring to their attention the contempt and dismissive attitude the current Secretary holds for you and your safety. Do not underestimate the power of your vote and your ability bring out the vote!

The Massport issue may not seem like a big deal to some, but it absolutely is! As police officers, we do not live in a world of black and white. We live in a world of gray and of what-ifs. Concurrent jurisdiction would also provide us with protection from potential law suits. As an example, the restaurants and licensed premises (more and more of which seem to be popping up) in the Seaport district are licensed through the City of Boston and as police officers, we are agents of the licensing board. If an incident occurs in that part of the city, we need to be protected by legislation that gives us the absolute right to be there.

I cannot figure out why post 9-11 that this issue has not been resolved. We are probably the only state in the union that still has exclusive jurisdictions, excluding the airports which are a totally different subject and are not what we are looking for. The Massachusetts Legislation is a body of men and women that are pretty intelligent on most matters and needs to settle this public safety debacle. As a body

made up primarily of lawyers, the potential for problems and possible litigation when it comes to criminal matters in that area should be very apparent to them.

Our new Mayor, **Martin Walsh**, was a legislator for over a decade. As a representative, he was a very effective legislator for the entire Commonwealth. He sponsored many bills for the protection of your rights and the rights of every citizen in this state. Now that he is our Mayor, I am hoping he can persuade Governor Patrick and Speaker **Robert DeLeo** to become our ally on this very important issue.

As it stands now EOPS, the Executive Office of Public Safety, is run by Secretary Cabral, who appears to be stonewalling this issue. I do not believe there is any compromise with her! A wise man named **George Carney** once told me everyone loves to win, everyone hates to lose but most people can live with a compromise of some sort. The compromise in this matter will allow the guests and residents of the Seaport having an extra layer of public safety protection. Secretary Cabral has a very short memory. Not too long ago, when she was the Sheriff of Suffolk County, the Boston Police Department was her ally in crime reduction and offender programs. Now in her new position, she treats us as her step children in law enforcement. EOPS is not our friend, but they are wolves in sheep's clothing.

Commissioner **William Evans** has been very vocal on this issue and he has been fighting a long battle to get the Boston Police Department concurrent jurisdiction in this neighborhood in the City of Boston. As Bureau Chief, Acting Commissioner and now Commissioner he has dealt with this issue and has battled long and hard. He strongly believes that this is a serious issue of public safety. Hopefully he, along with Mayor Walsh, will come back with a favorable outcome. An outcome of compromise that will keep the citizens, guests of our city and all police officers out of harm's way.

Remember what is ours is ours! Don't give your work away. I know after a long week of doing double shifts the last thing you want to do is write a report involving a MBTA bus. But if an accident occurs on our streets it is ours, do not give it away.

Also the calls in the Seaport add up! More calls mean more local aid funding.

In closing, I would like to say that I respect any person who puts on a uniform and goes out and does the job we do, regardless of who they are employed by.

Putting your best foot forward while testifying in court...

From **Testifying** on page 25

Dougan marginalized some of the other factors, noting that the fact that this foot chase occurred after midnight was a significant factor that should have been considered by the court. The Appeals Court found that Norfolk Street qualified as a "high crime" area and also noted the significance of Officer Anjos's training regarding the characteristics of people carrying guns. All of the factors that are to be considered in evaluating the propriety of a seizure must be measured at the moment in time that a reasonable person in the suspect's position would feel they were not free to leave, which in the present case was when Officer Anjos opened the cruiser door and called out "wait a minute." Evaluating all of these factors together, including "Officer Anjos's training and nine years' experience in the district, the history of firearms in the neighborhood, the late hour, the defendant's head movements, his continuous placement of his hand inside his pants, and his accelerating evasion of the police"

established reasonable suspicion of unlawful possession of a firearm. As such, Officer Anjos had reasonable grounds to conduct an investigative stop and frisk at the moment when the defendant turned the corner at a walking or jogging pace. Viewed this way, the seizure of the suspect and then the recovery of the firearm was constitutionally justified.

When you confront these situations on the street, it is important that you act in the appropriate manner. It is also equally important that you are able to justify your actions when you bring the ball across the goal line in the courtroom. In these fact intensive cases, your testimony is crucial. Take pride in your work and your reputation and properly prepare yourself. Along with being right and staying safe, being able to explain why you were right is a worthy goal.

Stay safe out there, watch out for each other, and keep up the good work.

Suicide prevention: “Making happy happen”

By Ruth Thompson, Scituate Mariner

Mary Nee wanted to do something to help others after the loss of her brother, Joseph.

“He was my best friend, biggest cheerleader and protector,” said the Marshfield resident. “Something I always admired about my brother was that he stood up for those who could not do so for themselves.”

Nee said Joseph always encouraged her to chase her dreams, and he never let a day go by that he didn’t say he was proud of her for pushing through tough times and coming out successful.

“His consistent advice to ‘make happy happen’ for myself and for others obviously came in handy because without it, this project would have never taken such form.”

The project she refers to is one that originated after Joseph committed suicide this past November.

“Make Happy Happen” is based on spreading positivity and happiness to all of those who need it through a simple picture, she said.

Nee explained that individuals take a photo of themselves, from the bridge of the nose downward, taking part in something that makes them happy. The photos are uploaded to Facebook, Twitter or Tumblr (social medial sites) with a caption.

“Grace Taylor, a young local photographer, allows people to come to her studio in Marshfield and take their photo, leaving a per-

sonal caption to go along with it,” Nee said.

Feedback so far on “Make Happy Happen” has been overwhelmingly positive, Nee said.

“From the moment Grace and I constructed the Facebook page, text messages, emails, phone calls, came pouring in from friends, peers, coworkers, even strangers,” she said. “Everyone wanted to know when they could take their picture, if they could help in any way, etc.”

Nee said the project has taken a new form in the last few weeks, “as it broadens to encouraging students, friends, and even strangers to ‘Make Happy Happen’ not only for themselves, but for others around them.”

During a meeting in Marshfield last month, where members of the Marshfield and Scituate communities got together to discuss forming a Suicide Prevention Coalition, and to raise awareness about what services and resources are available, Nee spoke about her brother, and about “Make Happy Happen.”

Nee said she attended the meeting because it is an issue extremely close to her heart.

“After the loss of my brother, and a couple of other individuals from my town, I realized that enough is enough,” she said. “The simple fact that the meeting took place at all is a step in the right direction because in order to raise awareness we must first rid the stigma that one cannot speak of suicide.”

She said it is important to teach not only the loved ones of those struggling with mental illness, but the individuals themselves, that it is OK to reach out in your darkest hour.

“This does not mean that you are weak or vulnerable, rather strong because your drive to live overpowers your mental capacity to want to end your life,” she said. “I thought it was important to attend the meeting as a graduate of Marshfield High and a college student, because I truly believe that there is so much power and influence in the youth of these towns.”

Throughout high school Nee was actively involved in student council and putting together projects to impact students around the state.

“Whenever I felt upset or worried about my future, Joe always supplied me with the advice to keep my chin up and to make happy happen.”

She acknowledges that Marshfield has gone through a tough few months, losing individuals who meant a lot to the community.

“I felt like this project would not only allow me to focus and heal, but also end the stigma of the glamorization of self hate and self harm, and bring to the surface the power of positivity,” she said.

State Representative Jim Cantwell, D-Marshfield, who organized the public awareness meeting, said he thinks “Make Happy Happen” is a “terrific project.”

“When people are feeling those tremendous bouts of depression, to be able to go back and feel how they did when they were happy is something that might make them feel better and remind them that they could feel happy again,” he said. “This is a very thoughtful way to help other people.”

Cantwell said he is touched by Nee’s dedication to being involved with the Suicide Prevention Coalition.

“She is using technology, which is right at our fingertips, to bring people together, to let them know that they matter and that we care, and hopefully to make them feel less alone,” he said.

Nee said people have to start talking about the issues behind sui-

Vice President’s Message...

From Vice President on page 5

by a Superior for reimbursement. New vests will be distributed to all sometime in the new fiscal year, hopefully by August.

Marathon gift

On the first anniversary of the Marathon bombing, the NY/NJ Port Authority Police, the New York PBA and NYPD Sergeants *once again* responded to the needs of their brothers and sisters in Boston by trekking up to Boston on Easter Sunday with their loaded trailers and canteen trucks to assist our police force with sustenance on Patriot’s Day. The show of solidarity and friendship in light of family holiday commitments is unquestionably one of the most gracious gestures any group has made in my many years.

In addition, Presidents Pat Lynch of the NYPBA and Paul Nunziato of the Port Authority were with their respective troops for the Marathon and for the passing of a “gift that will keep on giving”... a newly-detailed trailer. Members of both Departments observed their Boston counterparts were in need of a trailer to support officers in the field during the week of April 15, 2013. With the help of Ray Butler, Joe Rao and countless others that made this possible, this offering will help provide those in similar need and assistance in the future.

In commentary after the acceptance that was attended by Commissioner William Evans, Chief William Gross and members of the command staff, the theme of “reciprocity” was echoed by Presidents Paul Nunziato, Pat Lynch and Tom Nee regarding the on-going, “all for one and one for all” relationship between the Departments. Our Detectives have also purchased a canteen truck which has been meticulously detailed and also helped support recent events. A “special thanks” to Mike Talbot who assisted with the game-day logistics and lodging for our benefactors. A few had actually shed their Yankees pinstripes for Red Sox logos by go time.

cide in order to prevent more loss in the community.

"Instead of comparing chains, we need to encourage one another to break free of them," she said. "We must ask ourselves how many more individuals are we going to lose before we finally are OK to start talking about our self-worth and any feelings related to it?"

As an individual, Nee said people need to recognize their self-worth, and the moment they begin to question it, they should reach out for help.

She said for those carrying the burden of others who are suffering, "It's time to speak up and get those individuals the help that they deserve."

"If you feel like you want to self-harm, end the stigma, break the barrier and tell someone," she said. "Your loved ones need you here. Trust me when I say, suicide does not allow you to escape the pain, it instead shifts it all into the backpack of your loved ones who are then forced to carry it place to place."

She said she refuses to stand back and let another family endure what her family is currently struggling with – filling the hole of a remarkable loved one.

"I know I was meant to help people in one way or another, otherwise this project would have never even crossed my mind to begin with," she said. "I want those struggling to know that someone cares – I care, and that there is light in dark times."

In January Nee presented a workshop at the South Eastern Massachusetts Association of Student Council's Lock-In, centered on "Make Happy Happen." She recently traveled to Western Massachusetts to speak about this project, suicide prevention, and how high school students can get involved in raising awareness.

"I'm extremely excited to see where the next year takes me with this project, and in helping people I am helping myself to heal from the loss of my brother," she said.

Knowing that she is impacting even just a single person is what is making it all worth it, she said.

"I miss him every single day," she said of Joseph. "But through this project I can keep the memories and advice he left with me alive so that no one else will have to lose their best friend."

For more information visit "Make Happy Happen" on Facebook at facebook.com/ProjectMakeHappyHappen

If you are considering suicide, or know someone who might be, call 24-hour Help Lines: Samaritans: 1-877-870-HOPE (4673), Samaritans: 1-800-262-TEEN (8336), National LifeLine: 1-800-273-TALK (8255), TTY: 1-800-799-4TTY (4889)

(Reprinted from the Scituate Mariner, April 3, 2014.)



Mary Nee and her brother, Joseph.

After Joseph committed suicide this past November, Mary became determined to have a positive impact on people struggling with mental health issues, and their loved ones.

WE STILL REMEMBER



Kenneth Kelly



Denise Corbett



Kaitlyn Keaney



John Ridlon

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Sometimes even WE need a little help from our friends!



An apology

To the guy in the suit and tie driving the all-white, marked, Boston EMS Explorer:

I apologize for the other day when we passed each other in traffic. I realize now that it must have been awkward for you. Allow me to refresh your memory. You see, we were in an ambulance. You know, one of those noisy things that we take people to hospitals in, right? They have orange stripes, reflective lettering, and lots of lights. Kind of hard to miss. Anyways, we saw the Department vehicle you were driving, and waved. You saw us, made eye contact, and then a strange thing happened. You looked down, and away, averting your eyes, as if you were uncomfortable at the thought of associating with us. I couldn't figure out why you did that. I know we are just a pair of EMTs. Barely worth noticing. Apparently only slightly above the amoeba on the evolutionary scale, but still. It says 'Boston EMS' on your truck. I gave your motives a great deal of thought. I have to admit, I was initially a little angry. I regret that now. After mulling over your visible cringe at the sight of us, I suddenly realized why you could not meet our eyes.

Shame.

Shame that you didn't earn that fancy SUV you're driving. Shame that while EMTs and Medics break their backs carrying people down multiple flights of stairs, do CPR, and struggle with violent patients all day, you get a company car. EMTs have to pay their own way to work. I figured somebody gave you an unearned Boston EMS badge, to go with your fancy car too. You probably pull it out all the time,

and say things like "I'm with Boston EMS," or "I represent Boston EMS," and try and impress people with that. Is it in your wallet? Do you make sure it flips all the way open so the cashier at Whole Foods can see it? I bet you do. Is it gold? I bet it is. It's probably really shiny too. When you wear one out in the rain, and snow, carrying patients through Boston's weather, they get tarnished after a while, but you wouldn't know about that. I'll bet you even have one of those belt-clip things to hold it. And all the while you're doing this, it occurs to you that you haven't actually laid eyes, or hands on 'Patient One,' let alone the dozens upon dozens that the EMTs treat and transport every week. No wonder you looked away. If I were in your crocs, I'd take a sudden interest in the pattern of the car seats' upholstery too. It all makes sense to me now.

It's the EMTs and Paramedics that do the work around here. We're the ones that actually crawl under the trains, walk into darkened houses, and climb the five flights to the attic dormer apartments. We're the ones that execute the mission statement of this department. **Not you.** If anyone should be getting nifty perks and bennies, it's the people who might have to change out of their bloody shirt halfway through the shift. **Not you.**

Do you know we don't have a contract? Do you know we are critically short staffed? Do you know the vast majority of EMTs languish with no hope of promotion? Do you realize we've had important support personnel laid off? Do you know we cannot do

See **Apology** on page 37

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We don't run... well, eight of us do!

By EMT Mike Moran

I remember working Ambulance 11 on the day shift a few years back and getting dispatched to the "Diabetic" at a softball game. My partner and I headed that way. We arrived and could see roughly 100 yards away a group of people surrounding a person on the ground by the pitchers' mound. They waved frantically for us to rush. There was no movement by the person on the ground. This had all the makings of something else going on, probably a cardiac arrest.

"Run, run..." is all we heard as we opened the ambulance doors. Trying to grab all the gear, and then the stretcher, and then start rushing with a fully loaded cot across the very uneven dirt and grassy field was much akin to watching a school bus careen toward an out of control dump truck in slow motion... a nightmare.

"Run, run..." We both wanted to rush... to run... the people were becoming increasingly anxious and screaming, "run! run! why aren't you running?"

So we did, or we attempted to... The stretcher immediately started to twist and try to flip. Gear started falling off. Luckily a strap caught the defibrillator, but it was too late for the green oxygen bag, which was now dragging on the ground and of course, tripped my partner. My radio chose that moment to come flying off my belt, and smacked me in the eye... ah yes... perfect!

"Run, Run..." the crowd continued to scream. We tried so hard to go as fast as we could while keeping what remained of our Boston EMS cool.

We finally got to the patient. It was a cardiac arrest, and we began resuscitation. Paramedic 3 got on scene a few moments later and together we did what we do best. We brought this guy back from the

dead. We actually got a nice card and a fancy rosary from his wife and kids a few months later thanking us. Last I heard, he was at home with little to no ill effects, and looking forward to getting back to spring softball.

Nothing felt more paralyzing than being so close and wanting to run so fast, but being held back by obstacle after obstacle. But we handled each and every thing that came our way. We overcame the environment. We overcame our gear trying to kill us. And ultimately, we overcame death that day.

Last years' Boston Marathon pressed Boston EMS to run again. Obstacles, explosions, chaos, people everywhere, and Boston EMS, with the help of others, organized, treated and transported 118 patients and had cleared the blast scene of injuries within 18 minutes. The international community wanted to know: How did you do it? What was our secret? Administrators travelled around the world to give "Lessons Learned" power point presentations and lectures. Street EMT's and Paramedics were interviewed and featured in all sorts of media. Boston EMS members felt we were finally getting some recognition for our day to day hard work. We were off and running. And then our budget got cut dramatically, layoffs ensued, promotions cancelled and contract negotiations stalled. Since that time we remain a department fighting to exist in a world that we helped to save.

This year's Boston Marathon has eight of the bravest men and women you will ever meet running alongside the largest Marathon field of all time. Eight Boston EMS members motivated by last year's' tragedy and heroics. These EMT's and Paramedics will be running for the other roughly 350 Boston EMS members who will either be working the event or working the street that day.

Thank you to:

EMT Steve Garceau

EMT Walter Dunbar

EMT Frank Deaton

EMT Felicia Mohammed

EMT Roger Hamlet

EMT Dan Morgan

Paramedic Sharon Efstatihou

Paramedic Doug Williams

You might be running with your two feet, but you'll have 350 of us right behind you. Thank you.

An apology

From **Apology** on page 36

many of the things that made us the best EMS service in the world anymore? Do you realize EMS has had to do more and more with less, and less in the face of an ever-increasing call volume? Do you ever hear on the scanner that we're at 'zero availability'? Wait never mind that last one. Scanners are an EMT thing. You don't know what that is.

So, since I do not wish you to experience any further discomfort every time you see one of those 'ambulance-things' drive past, I'll tell you what. Please feel free to ignore us. I'll try to do the same. It'll be easier on both of us that way. Just go on your way and get your latte, and your *Boston Globe*, and sit in that nice comfy office you probably have. Go ahead, kick off your crocs. Don't mind us. We're just doing what keeps you in that office, In that SUV, and that unearned badge in your pocket.

E.

A true Irish ghost story...

This story happened a while ago in Dublin, and even though it sounds like an Alfred Hitchcock tale, it's absolutely true.

John Bradford, a Dublin University student, was on the side of the road hitchhiking on a very dark night and in the midst of a big storm. The night was rolling on and no car went by. The storm was so strong he could hardly see a few feet ahead of him.

Suddenly, he saw a car slowly coming towards him and stopped. John, desperate for shelter and without thinking about it, got into the car and closed the door...only to realize there was nobody behind the wheel and the engine wasn't on. The car started moving slowly. John looked at the road ahead and saw a curve approaching. Scared, he started to pray, begging for his life. Then, just before the car hit the curve, a hand appeared out of nowhere through the window, and turned the wheel. John, paralyzed with terror, watched as the hand came through the window, but never touched or harmed him.

Shortly thereafter, John saw the lights of a pub appear down the road, so, gathering strength, he jumped out of the car and ran to it. Wet and out of breath, he rushed inside and started telling everybody about the horrible experience he had just had.

A silence enveloped the pub when everybody realized he was crying. And wasn't drunk. Suddenly, the door opened, and two other people walked in from the dark and stormy night. They, like John, were also soaked and out of breath.

Looking around, and seeing John Bradford sobbing at the bar, one said to the other: "Look Paddy... there's that idiot that got in the car while we were pushing it!"

Everyone gets a trophy

By P.O. Jay Moccia

Pro Golfer Bubba Watson caused a bit of a stir, when he celebrated his Masters' win at the local Waffle House. I can't see why everyone was so surprised; where else would a guy named Bubba party?



I know an Officer who's so bipolar, he does Good Cop/Bad Cop by himself.



Twitter is like the bathroom wall of the Internet – that can't be painted over (thx Mike!)



Lingerie is French for "you'll never see me after marriage"



Some notes on the Boston Marathon:

Security was able to search bags before people entered the "hot zone", so why couldn't they search the backpacks of the Military "Ruck" runners?

Most spectators couldn't thank Police enough for their service along the route. I wonder if they changed that to "something else you" after the papers published the co\$t... But it was appreciated nonetheless.

Many groups reward their runners with a get-together when the race is done. Where's the BPD after-party?

To date, not one Police Officer assigned to the finish line during last year's bombing has been officially recognized by the Department. The Boston Fire Department honored nine Firefighters at their annual Awards Ceremony after reviewing hundreds of photos, and hours of footage, to determine meritorious actions at the site of the bombings. We got a pin.

The addition of food carts to feed the Officers assigned to the Marathon was a great idea. Hopefully there are plans for the BPPA to get one. If they do, I know a guy who'd be interested in the chef's position...

I refuse to believe the plate on the water truck is: MIA

Forget the cycling Murrays, the end of the marathon should be marked by the Milwaukee Brewers' "Sausage Racers."

From the Command Staff to the Patrolmen, everyone did a great job! It's now safe to say, we're 117-1!



Has anyone else noticed the radio now sounds like a bad Dunkin' Donuts drive through?



The Mayor of Somerville Joe Curatone has decreed that illegal aliens will no longer be arrested – just for being illegal. They can be detained if they have a criminal warrant, or are arrested for another offense. Oh, and don't forget, two years ago, Alcalde Jose decreed you can't refer to them as "illegal aliens." Muchos Gracias! American citizens will continue to be locked up in Somerville as usual.



Uber Liberal Alec Baldwin was arrested in NYC near his home after running afoul of the NYPD. The incident started with Baldwin once again complaining to Police about the paparazzi camped out near his downtown digs. He was taken into custody after failing to produce an ID for a civil violation of bicycling against traffic. How ironic: a flaming liberal arrested for no ID!! It was also noted Alec threw out the old "Do you know who I am?" to arresting Officers. In a TWEET following his pinch, Baldwin opined: "New York City is a mismanaged carnival of stupidity that is desperate for revenue and anxious to crimi-

nalize behavior once thought benign." Now I ask you, gentle reader, is this simply a case of Baldwin vs. de Blasio for title of Biggest Libtard in New York? Hey, Alec, these are **YOUR** people calling the shots – how ya like Dem (Big) Apples? File Under: Between a 30 Rock and a hard place...



Just a thought on Global Warming – while wearing my coat with liner, and knit hat on a detail in MAY! Why can't the Greenhouse gases escape through the hole in the ozone layer?



Hopefully Marty Walsh will be re-elected as mayor of Boston; it'll take at least two terms to remove the prior Mayor's name from everything.



L.A. Clippers owner Donald Sterling made some pretty nasty racially charged remarks. The fallout resulted in the NBA and its Board of Governors banning him for life, fining him \$2.5 million, and forcing Sterling to sell the team. Sterling has responded with a lawsuit for \$2 billion seeking damages. As despicable as his comments were, this issue is looking more about green as black or white.



MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome) has been reported in the United States. The disease is believed to have originated in Saudi Arabia, and is possibly contracted from camels. Hmm MERS from camels, AIDS from monkeys, can you crazy Third World perverts **STOP** making out with animals?



The Liberals and Greens claim regulation and taxes are needed to save the planet "for the children," BUT these same Libs see nothing wrong with dumping the astronomical cost of Obamacare on these same kids. At least they can look out the window at work and see some nice trees.



When we were young, our parents warned us to stay away from strangers in cars, now drunk kids don't think twice about getting in a sketchy livery vehicle. #strangerdanger!



If Deval Patrick runs for President, Justina Pelletier should be his Willie Horton.



I passed by Franklin Park Golf Course and couldn't help but notice the large flocks of Canada geese. I thought to myself, with the close proximity of the zoo, how funny would it be if a bunch of them landed in the lion's cage...



*Boston prides itself on being a walking city and I think that's great. Just one thing, though, could someone teach these idiots how to cross a street? I feel like taking a bat and smashing the pedestrian lights at every intersection – and I bet **NO ONE** would notice, because the %^\$#&# pedestrians pay no mind to them anyway! How about making the fine for jay-walking comparable to the fine for failing to stop for a pedestrian, then aggressively enforcing that! I'd bet traffic would flow a lot smoother. Oh, and whoever came up with the new traffic light patterns should be charged accordingly when someone gets hit. They are ridiculous – people should not be getting a walk signal when cars are turning through an intersection.*



I did a detail near Agganis Arena, which was hosting the "New

England Robotics Championship." It was like watching an eight hour marathon of "The Big Bang Theory" minus the hot neighbor.



I believe I speak for everyone when I say the song "Happy" should meet the same fate as "Achy-Breaky Heart" and NEVER be played on the radio again...



An audit of the Boston Public School's lunch program has shown it is losing millions and is among the worst places to work. Who would have guessed mystery meat was so expensive?



Another Muslim immigrant to our shores has been implicated in the Marathon Bombing. At least this one had a job.



A New Hampshire father was arrested at a Gilford School Board Meeting, after voicing his objection to a book on the reading list which contained graphic sex passages. William Baer protested that a permission slip was not issued this year – as has been the case in the past. He was led from the meeting in handcuffs for violating the “two minute” rule for speakers. Funny, offensive language was removed from literary classic “Huckleberry Finn,” so why not this book?



A U.S. Marine-Sgt. Andrew Tamoressi, who suffers from PTSD, is languishing in a Mexican prison on a weapons charge, after he took a wrong turn at the border. Although there may be more to this, the Administration appears to be dragging their feet in an effort to bring this vet home. Here's an idea – let's propose an exchange. We'll send back all Mexicans here illegally in exchange for our soldier...



Massachusetts Legislators are proposing more new gun laws. As usual, these laws will only affect **LEGAL** gun owners. There are no provisions regarding criminals or the mentally ill. These are the same clowns that claim Climate Change is settled science, but deny the **FACT** that more guns = less crime. Here's a unique idea, enforce the laws on the books, before you further restrict my **CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS!**



Dan Marino, Hall of Fame QB for the Miami Dolphins, is suing the NFL over its failure to address injuries-specifically concussions. That would explain his wooden performance in Ace Ventura – Pet Detective. Laces OUT Dan!



Police in Kentucky have seized three million dollars worth of stolen shoes. The Nike footwear went missing in 2009 while being shipped from Tennessee to Texas. How do you fit three million dollars worth of shoes in a double-wide? Those must be some stylish hillbillies!



Several national chains have asked patrons not to carry firearms onto their premises. Sonic, Chili's, Starbucks, Chipotle, Wendy's, and Applebee's are among those participating in this policy. Just a thought – are they asking patrons not to exercise any of their other Constitutional Rights in their businesses – or just this one? By the way, if I or anyone else chooses to ignore this “request” what's the worst they can do, ask you to leave?



After an avalanche on Mt. Everest killed several of their fellows, Nepalese Sherpa guides have stated they won't assist climbers during this season. They will now be known as Shirkers. More news from the

world's tallest peak: Embarking from the Tibetan (China) side of Everest (where there are no age restrictions on climbers) an impoverished 13-year-old Indian girl scaled Mt. Everest. Coming from the lowest caste in India (referred to as the “untouchables” because of their abject poverty), Malavath Poorna was sponsored by the Andhra Pradesh Social Welfare Society. A radio news report referred to her as “Slumdog Mountaineer.” Jeez, if I wrote that we'd been in the news again...just sayin'.



Another scandal now dogs the Obama Administration. Officials at several Veterans' Administration Hospitals have been implicated in a growing controversy that may foreshadow patient treatment under Obamacare. It seems some vets are being placed on lists, and denied prompt appointments for sometimes life threatening conditions. A number of VA Officials have been canned, including head of the VA, former General Eric Shinseki. A bi-partisan group of Senators, led by Republican John McCain, and Independent/Socialist Bernie Sanders is drafting legislation that would allow veterans to seek care at other medical venues, with full reimbursement if they cannot get an appointment at their local VA Hospitals. It's either that or claim they're illegal aliens, so they'll get their benefits faster. #deathpanel



The only American POW in Afghanistan, Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl has been returned to the U.S. Army in exchange for five hardened Taliban Commanders from Gitmo. Controversy surrounds the swap (but what else is new for Obama) after several of his former comrades claim Bergdahl is a deserter. More to follow as this unfolds. One can only hope the swapped terrorists got a (GPS) bug up their @\$\$ ala “Gigi Portella” and a drone will put a rocket in their pocket before they can kill more Americans. If it's true Bergdahl is a deserter, he should be welcomed home with a 21-gun salute pointed at his chest.



Pop tart Justin Bieber is doing the public mea culpa after a video surfaced of him telling racist jokes. Hmm what are they going to make him sell – he actually used the “N” word?? I didn't even know he was dating V Stiviano! File under: KKCanada...



Elliot Rodger, a child of liberal privilege, went on a murderous rampage that left 6 dead and 13 wounded, after he couldn't get a date. During his spree, Rodger stabbed, ran over with his car, and shot his victims, because he felt rejected by women, and couldn't lose his virginity. Although he employed different means to dispatch his victims, the do-gooders immediately attacked guns. There was no talk of banning knives and BMW's. Rodger proves the point that a nut who's bent on murder, will employ any means necessary to satisfy his urges.



I recently fielded a call for a naked woman in Copley Square Park. It's not what you think, supermodels rarely pass out nude on my beat. The drunken homeless woman was stripped from the waist down, and sprawled out in the grass. The sight has made me swear off sex for at least a month – it will be easy, I'm married...



I have a small pile of sand in my yard, and my dog will roll around in it, then climb into my bed, spreading it onto the sheets. Pair that with the hot flashes I get from my medication, and it's like sleeping on the beach.



Enjoy your summer, have fun on vacation, hydrate on your details, good luck on the Sergeant's test, wear sunscreen, and try not to get ordered too much. Thanks for reading!

BPPA Retired Patrolmen's Division News

Medicaid surge triggers cost concerns for states

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, Associated Press

From California to Rhode Island, states are confronting new concerns that their Medicaid costs will rise as a result of the federal health care law.

That's likely to revive the debate about how federal decisions can saddle states with unanticipated expenses.

Before President Obama's law expanded Medicaid eligibility, millions of people who were already entitled to its safety-net coverage were not enrolled. Those same people are now signing up in unexpectedly high numbers, partly because of publicity about getting insured under the law.

For states red or blue, the catch is that they must use more of their own money to cover this particular group.

In California, Democratic Governor Jerry Brown's recent budget projected an additional \$1.2 billion spending on Medi-Cal, the state's version of Medicaid, due in part to surging numbers. State officials say about 300,000 more already-eligible Californians are expected to enroll than was estimated last fall.

"Our policy goal is to get people covered, so in that sense it's a success," said state legislator Richard Pan, a Democrat who heads the California State Assembly's health committee. "We are going to have to deal with how to support the success."

Online exchanges that offer subsidized private insurance are just one part of the health care law's push to expand coverage. The other part is Medicaid, and it has two components.

First, the law allows states to expand Medicaid eligibility to people with incomes up to 138 percent of the federal poverty line, about \$16,100 for an individual. Washington pays the entire cost for that group through 2016, gradually phasing down to a 90 percent share.

Attention

To all members of the Boston Police Relief Association – Active Duty or Retired

If you need to change your beneficiary or you are not sure of who your beneficiary is you can contact the relief office at 617-364-9565. If you leave a message your call will be returned and if necessary the paperwork will be sent out to you. Thank you.

William F. Carroll, Clerk,
Boston Police Relief Association



Directors of
the Retired
Patrolmen's
Division of
the BPPA:
John Murphy
David Mackin
Joe Vannelli
Joe O'Malley
Billy Flippin

About half the states have accepted the offer to expand coverage in this way.

But whether or not a state expands Medicaid, all states are on the hook for a significantly bigger share of costs when it comes to people who were Medicaid-eligible under previous law. The federal government's share for this group averages about 60 percent nationally. In California, it's about a 50-50 split, so for each previously eligible resident who signs up, the state has to pony up half the cost.

There could be many reasons why people didn't sign up in the past.

They may have simply been unaware. Some may not have needed coverage. Others see a social stigma attached to the program. But now virtually everyone in the country is required to have coverage or risk fines.

"It's not a bad thing that we are opening a door that should have been open before," said Judy Solomon of the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, which advocates for the poor.

(Reprinted from the Boston Globe, May 27, 2014.)



BPPA RETIRED PATROLMEN'S DIVISION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Date of Appointment: _____

Date of Retirement: _____

Email: _____

Annual Dues are \$24.00.

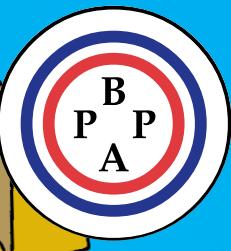
The year runs from March to March.

Please mail this application and
\$24.00 annual dues to the:

BPPA Retired Patrolmen's Division
9-11 Shetland Street, Boston, MA 02119



In Memoriam



*They Served With Dignity and Honor
We Shall Not Forget Them*



**Police Lieutenant
Edward P. Connolly**
March 26, 2014



**Police Officer
Joseph J. O'Rourke**
April 1, 2014

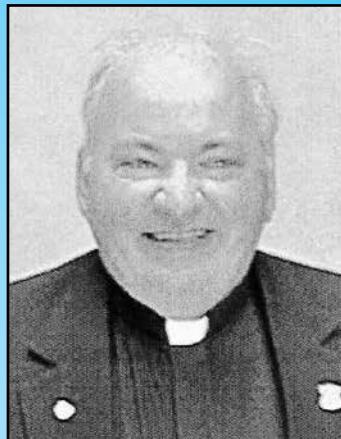


**Police Sergeant
Thomas D. Ryan**
April 7, 2014



**Police Officer
Dennis O. Simmonds**
April 10, 2014

- ACTIVE -



**Reverend
Thomas J. Reilly**
April 22, 2014

We apologize for any errors or omissions.

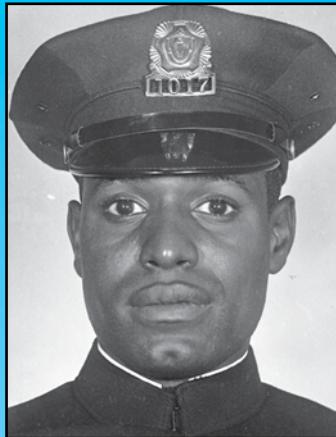


*They Served With Dignity and Honor
We Shall Not Forget Them*



**Police Officer
Lawrence E. Martinez**
April 23, 2014

- ACTIVE -



**Police Sergeant
Cecil C. Cox, Jr.**
May 9, 2014



**Police Commissioner
Joseph M. Jordan**
May 10, 2014



**Police Officer
William F. Moore**
May 10, 2014

We apologize for any errors or omissions.



THE KRAFT FAMILY

AND

The Heart Inside the Huddle



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for all you do!**

