

PAXCENTURION

The Newsmagazine for the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association

JOB DONE!

Thanks to the New England Patriots,
the City of Boston, the Boston Police
and the fans for a professional job!

See more photos on page 19



Boston Police Officers keeping order
during the Patriots Victory Parade
on Boylston Street, February 4, 2015.

Photo by Jay Moccia

January/February 2015



Mug shot.

Putnam is proud to support the joy of learning through the
Boston Police Patrolmen's Association Scholarship Fund.





New leadership at the BPPA

With the New Year comes new leadership for the BPPA. Before I go any further, please allow me to publically thank **Tommy Nee, Ronnie MacGillivray** and **Duke Fitzgerald** for their years of service to this great organization. As you are all well aware; on December 9, 2014 a large majority (81% to be exact), of BPPA members made a conscious decision to change the course and direction of this Union. You showed the world that our 'motto' is true; in Unity there is Strength!

Utilizing the 'Democratic' process, you decided it was time for a change and voiced your opinion through your votes. I want to first of all sincerely thank everyone that took the time to come out and vote. By all accounts it was the largest turnout of members to cast a ballot in any election of any type previously held by the BPPA.

Anyone that voted that day can attest to the torrential rains and flooding of the area. I was absolutely flabbergasted at the turnout in such despicable weather, it was nothing short of amazing and it was a testament to every member that voted that day. A testament to their involvement and dedication to this organization, you all deserve acknowledgement and a hearty 'pat on the back,' no matter which way you voted.

For those that didn't vote for me or members of our team, we will work hard to prove ourselves to you and earn your vote in the future.

For those that supported our ideas and our campaign of change, we will not let you down.

We are already making some promised change and are only 34 days into our term. Allow me to bring you all up to date on some of the changes that have already taken place: Information flow; The New BPPA E-Mail system is up and running. Each and every BPPA member now has an individual e-mail address; this is a closed loop secure system that has been built to keep our members supplied with real time information. *(If you haven't already, please log into our web page: www.bppa.org and follow the instructions to activate your personal e-mail account)* In addition, members of the Leadership team are out and about visiting stations and areas around the City.

Your association has entered into an agreement with the other BPD Unions whereas the Vice Presidents have already started meeting on a monthly basis to discuss grievances that affect all and are pursuing remedies to those grievances. Insofar as training for the Representatives: we are well underway.

Our January meeting included our first promised training session which was a very comprehensive and detailed training session for all BPPA Representatives covering topics, (but not limited to): BPD Internal Affairs Division and the BPD Anti-Corruption Division, their respective missions, roles and rules that direct and guide them; Member's legal rights, Carney Article 12; Mass Declaration of Rights and the US Constitution 5th Amendment. Firearms discharges, (rule 303), were covered in depth.

Some of the topics discussed were criminal actions to car accidents, from rules violations to criminal investigations and everything

in between. I can honestly report that under the direction of **Ken Anderson**; the Law Firm of Byrne & Anderson along with their able assistant; Attorney **Andrew Miller**, conducted what I believe was one of the most informative, thought provoking classes that we have had the opportunity to attend. A job well done!

We have already scheduled training from the Massachusetts Labor Guild and our Labor Attorneys for future classes. As far as improving services to the members; the Union Hall now has expanded hours of operation: Tuesday and Friday the Hall will be staffed and open at 7:00 am thru 5:00 pm; Monday, Wednesday and Thursday we will be open 9:00 am thru 5:00 pm. We will notify the membership thru e-mail when we start our Saturday hours.

We have already started rebuilding and staffing all association

committees, along with Representatives, we are also including the membership as promised. The Committee appointments will be made public after the March House Meeting.

We have already had multiple meetings with the City; (*Mayor, City Labor & Department*) along with State Officials; (*Governor, Senate President, Speaker along with many Senators & Representatives*), rebuilding the relationships necessary to move this organization forward. I might add that these meetings have been warmly and enthusiastically received. In addition to appointing a new Legislative Agent: (**Larry Calderone**, Area E-5), we are currently in the process of negotiating a contract with a professional lobbying firm to assist us in our political endeavors.

We are also interviewing public relation firms with the hope of picking the right one to represent our organization. As you can see, we 'hit the ground running' and haven't looked back. We fully intend to bring to fruition all promises made during our campaign and then some. There will be some proverbial 'bumps in the road', possibly some missteps or errors in our future, but I truly believe that our team is up to the task at hand and are as energetic now in moving this organization forward as we were when we started our campaign.

This is just a little update of what's going on; we will be reaching out to you much more often through our new e-mail system along with personal visits to the Divisions and Areas.

Last, but certainly not least, we recognize the amount of extra work that has been placed on your plate in the recent weeks. With the ongoing protest marches, Super Bowl, sports parades and storms; (*not to mention shortage of personnel and being ordered to extra duty day in and out*); everyone has been pushed to their limit. Needless to say; you have displayed such professionalism throughout these trying times that it has been observed, noted and commented on coast to coast. Your day to day professional demeanor along with your actions and appearance are commendable.

As always, please back each other up, look out for each other's safety and go home safely to your family after each shift.

I was absolutely flabbergasted at the turnout in such despicable weather, it was nothing short of amazing and it was a testament to every member that voted that day. A testament to their involvement and dedication to this organization, you all deserve acknowledgement and a hearty 'pat on the back,' no matter which way you voted.

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Boston Police Patrolmen's Association, Inc.
Boston Emergency Medical Technicians



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INSIDE the PAX

New leadership at the BPPA
3 & 10

**Big cities or small towns,
 police commissioners and chiefs
 can make a big difference**
11

"Peaceful protesters?"
13

**An honored guest:
 Justin Quinn**
17

Boston celebrates Patriots' victory
19

EMS Corner: The S.S. Mandation
23

New year, new team
24-25

The little things cops do
30

**Start planning NOW:
 the war on terror continues...**
32-33

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3. Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by the writer's name, but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
4. Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
5. The BPPA reserves the right to edit submission and/or include editor's notes to any submitted materials.
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It's an honor to serve the BPPA

I would like to start by thanking all of the members who came out to vote last December 9th. The turnout was overwhelming, especially considering the lousy weather that day. It proved to me just how important the leadership positions are to the men and women of our Association and because of that, I am truly honored to have been elected as your vice president.

A special thank you to my wife and also to the men and women of District A-7, otherwise known as the "East Boston Police Department." It was a privilege to serve as the first half representative for so many years. The life long friendships I have made there mean the world to me. I could go on and on expressing my gratitude, but the list would just be too long. Know that all the support, phone calls, conversations, and votes were all sincerely appreciated.

There was not much of transition period after the election, we had to hit the ground running. Two bus trips had to be organized in order for us to pay our respects to our fallen brothers **Rafael Ramos** and **Wenjian Liu** in New York City. We suffered the untimely death of one of our own, **Michael Ramos**, right before Christmas. Another one of ours was involved in "303" shooting incident and thankfully escaped serious injury.

We have been busy with reorganizing, setting up and attending meetings, and seeing to the "routine" union business.

One of my duties as vice president is to oversee the BPPA Grievance Committee. I would like to give the members a brief breakdown on the procedure that needs to be followed when our contract is violated and a grievance needs to be filed. There are five steps that can happen in the process.

Step 1: Attempt to settle the dispute informally, orally, to a supervisor or officer in charge.

Step 2: The shift representative presents the grievance to the Commanding Officer of district or unit.

Step 3: If it is not settled in five calendar days, grievance is to be submitted in writing to the Commissioner. My job as vice president would be to put this forward to the Deputy Superintendent of Labor Relations and arrange a meeting to resolve the grievance.

Step 4: If it is not settled in five calendar days, another meeting is set up, but this

time with the City Labor Department, the Police Department, and the BPPA. Both sides present their case and the City shall give an answer within five days.

Step 5: The grievance is submitted for arbitration. At anytime, the grievance can be settled by mutual agreement. It also can be withdrawn or held in abeyance.

Many times, these cases are drawn out and take so long because of attorney's and arbitrator's schedules. I wanted to give this snapshot of the process to help members understand why it can take so long to get a decision.

I, along with the rest of the new leadership, am

looking forward to working with Mayor **Martin Walsh**, Commissioner **William Evans**, and our department's command staff. It is understood that are many issues we disagree upon, but I hope for an open dialogue in order to work them out and get the job done.

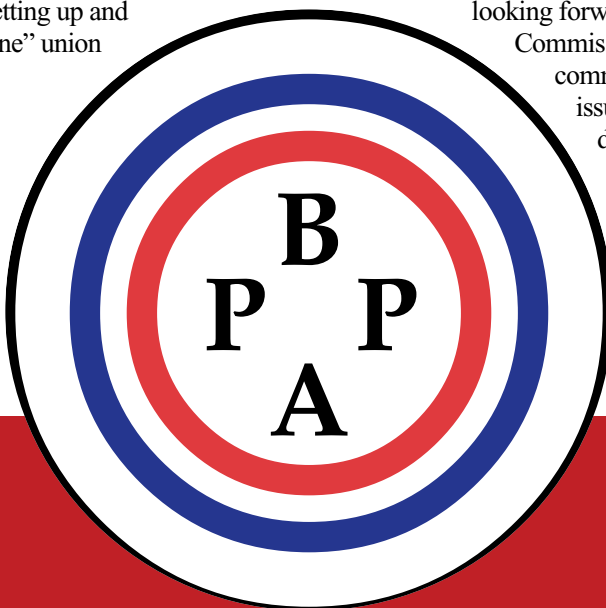
I am also looking forward to working with all of our members, and getting to know as many of you as I can.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Be careful out there and watch out for one another.

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The BPPA is a source of pride

Already a month of 2015 is behind us and boy have I learned a lot. Every day I walk into 9-11 Shetland Street I have an ever-broadening perspective of what the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association is. The only thing that grows bigger than that view is pride.

In December, we lost a brother. Officer **Mike Ramos** left us all too soon. A tragedy – for Mike's family and friends, for his brother and sister officers and for all the people denied Mike's noble service to the City of Boston. By all accounts Mike was a great man. Mike was remembered for his work as policeman but what was truly touching was how he was memorialized as a friend and family man. To be commemorated as a good cop is nice but to be recognized as a great mom or dad and great husband or wife is truly an honor. The only goal a person that takes on the role should strive for.

If you have had the chance to hear people speak of Mike he certainly accomplished that... Even in the painfully short time he was with us. To Mike's close friends, his inner circle I want you to know you did it right. I'm sure he's been looking down on you with a smile and at peace knowing you will take care of things down here.

To the men and woman of the Boston Police Department, Thank you for the way you have supported Mike's family during all of this. It began with just a few peoples compassionate ideas of trying to make Mike's kids feel a little better during Christmas while they struggled with their loss. The result was nothing less than a holiday miracle. The kindness displayed by so many people was incred-

ible. I cannot put into words how special it was to see a video of Mike's daughters smiling and laughing a little on Christmas Day. Those smiles are because of Mike's inner circle, because of those few people in the beginning who thought they could help Mike's family and because so many members of this Department unselfishly acted on those ideas. I would like to thank all of you for what you did.

While we were grieving this loss of our brother here at home a no more tragic but certainly horrendous event touched our brothers and sisters in New York City, and therefore police officers everywhere. New York City Patrol Officers **Wenjian Liu** and **Rafael Ramos** were brutally ambushed while in their patrol car. It was a tragedy that I thought could only play out on a scripted television show. They were

targeted for no other reason than because they chose to serve the citizens of New York City, because they wore a badge, because they were dedicated professional peace officers. What happened to those men that day was an attack on us all. I'm sure every officer nationwide felt the pain of losing two brothers like that. I'm sure many of us privately thought that could have been me. Those thoughts, and dare I say fear, were real and reasonable. But what did we very same woman and men do? We put on our uniforms, we got in our cruisers and we did our jobs. "Bravery is being the only one who knows you're afraid." That quote becomes so much more appropriate when something like this happens. We kept the city safe, we protected the people and most importantly we looked out for one another. As important as the first two are we can never forget the last. Sometimes

we only have each other.

I want to recognize the kindness and solidarity shown by so many of our members following the deaths of Officer Liu and Officer Ramos. When I say this I do not mean it to sound cold and I think you'll understand... The timing of their deaths was difficult. We were all still mourning the loss of Mike. It was in the midst of the Holiday Season. Sometimes children and spouses don't understand the unspoken bond we have for each other. no matter where we are "stationed". There was holiday shopping to do, family gatherings to attend or toys to assemble. We did not have the time or ability of stopping time with our families. In spite of all that hundreds of BPPA members boarded a bus to travel two hundred-plus miles to pay respects to men they did not

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know. Men they would probably never know. It was a virtual "planes, trains and automobiles" of officers making their way from Boston to New York to remember their brothers. We did it because of this very same reason they were attacked... Because we wear a badge, we did it because we are the Thin Blue Line. Some may think that sounds silly, some will say it's only a sticker on a back window. Others will say it is an order of woman and men that think rules do not apply to them. After seeing thousands of Police officers from California to Puerto Rico from Arizona to Maine. I know it is truly symbolism that bonds us together when we put on our badge, our star or our shield. Thank you for believing in it no matter what you call it. Thank you.



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A new look at the BPPA Treasurer's Office

My Fellow BPPA Members,

My name is **Bobby Colburn**, assigned to the K-9 Unit and your newly-elected treasurer of the BPPA. Let me start by thanking each and every member who braved the inclement weather of December 9th, 2014 to cast a vote in a truly historic election. What a tribute to our membership to have such a significant turnout of over 80% participation.

To all of our members, I pledge to work tirelessly, with honesty and integrity while charged with accounting for the finances of our union. I pledge to you transparency and open communication as we move forward. I am honored and excited to be part of the new leadership team of the BPPA.

The treasurer's job is to watch over the finances of our Union. It is a job that requires meeting with our financial advisor and insurance broker on a regular basis to insure that we, as the commercial says, "Just don't lose the money." The Advisor/Insurance Broker is **Scott Holden**. Scott has been working with the BPPA for over twenty years. After sharing some of my ideas with Scott, I plan on meeting him at a minimum, on a quarterly basis to track the progress of our investments. I also will meet with our accountant **Bill Louthan** several times a month for the purpose of tallying the receipts as well as paying the numerous bills, while providing a full account of the expenditures of our funds. In my role as treasurer I will also look to cut expenses and to seek out cost saving for the BPPA.

A few examples of this would be to look at the current practice of holding separate insurance policies for our building, for the "Blue Goose," for our new BPPA pickup truck, as well as for the canteen trailer. I believe there is substantial cost savings to be realized by consolidating all of these policies and receiving a multiple policy discount.

The same can be said about our office communication infrastructure. There is significant cost savings to be realized by switching over to a national carrier with business phone, Internet and TV. I would also like to explore our current dental insurance to possibly include an eyeglass/vision component at a reasonable cost for our members. If we can save in one area we may be able to provide more comprehensive services in another. I believe this is

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worth exploring and I will report back any and all progress on these issues.

Another area of potential cost-cutting/saving would be to examine the Museum Pass Program. Our current expenditure is in excess of \$100,000. These passes are intended for the use of our members

and our families. Unfortunately, we have strayed from the intent of keeping them in the family and I feel its time to take a second look.

One school of thought would be to cut back from what we have now and keep only the Franklin Park Zoo and the Children's Museum pass program. I look forward to discussing this issue with house members and also solicit other ideas for entertainment for our

membership.

If any member has an idea, please tell your Rep. or feel free to contact me here at the Union.

The treasurer's job is to watch over the finances of our Union. It is a job that requires meeting with our financial advisor and insurance broker on a regular basis to insure that we, as the commercial says, "Just don't lose the money."

A little house-keeping: There are several of the BPPA Scholarships that have yet to be collected. We ask that you come forward and accept the award or the scholar-

ship will be awarded to the alternates previously drawn.

Also, if you stop by the office you will note that the offices have received a fresh coat of paint, some new carpet downstairs and some "newer" memorabilia. Please stop by and check it out. It is **YOUR UNION**, and you are **ALWAYS** welcome!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the membership for their tremendous show of love and support for the family of our brother, Police Officer **Michael Ramos**. As you may recall, Michael passed suddenly just before Christmas. There was a great turnout for his wake and funeral, which meant so much to Michael's family, friends and co-workers.

And to all of you who so generously donated money, and gifts for Michael's family and to those of you who took time away from your own family to deliver these gifts we say **THANK YOU**.

Let us never forget, "In Unity There Is Strength!"



P.O. Michael Ramos

New BPPA leadership begins work

By **James W. Carnell**, *Pax Editor*

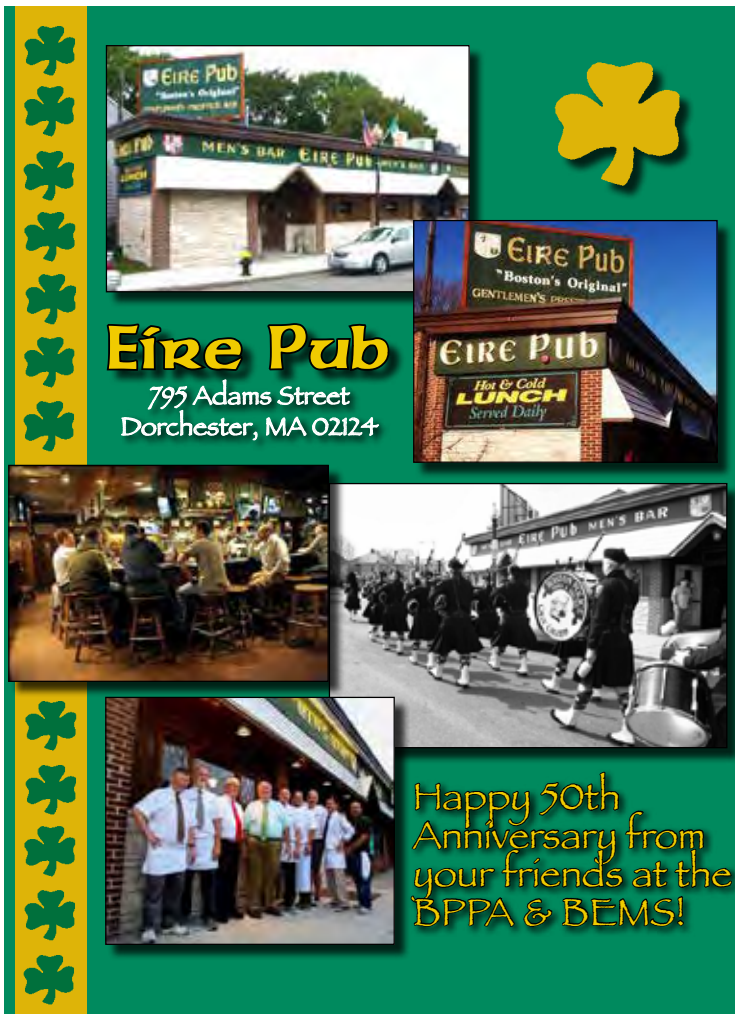
The new leadership of the BPPA, elected in a December election in which approximately 80% of the membership voted either in person or by absentee ballot and approximately 81% voted for a change in direction, has begun their work.

President **Pat Rose** (C-11), Vice President **Mike Leary** (A-7), Secretary **Chris Broderick** (D-4), and Treasurer **Bob Colburn** (K-9) were elected overwhelmingly in which the membership, apparently, signaled their desire for a change in direction. **Larry Calderone** (E-5) was selected as the new BPPA Legislative Agent by the leadership and House of Reps.

The new leadership and the membership wish to thank outgoing President **Tom Nee**, Vice-President **Ron MacGillivray**, Treasurer **Dave Fitzgerald**, and Legislative Aide **Jim Barry** for their work serving the BPPA. The new leadership knows that the BPPA operates, not on a “9-5,” Monday-Friday schedule, as many unions do, but 24/7/365, as the police department does. Calls for assistance come from members of the BPPA at 3:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m., every day of the week, every day of the year. As union personnel and representatives become available for staffing, we will endeavor to provide more expansive office hours for the convenience of our members during weekends and other non-traditional hours.

As the new leadership begins work, priorities have been established, among them: improving communication between the members and the BPPA via social media networking, establishing mutually-respectful, working relationships with department and city officials, and improving the physical environment of the BPPA offices for the future benefit of the entire membership. The leadership is also exploring ways to expand existing services and office hours of availability for the membership.

Please do not hesitate to contact the BPPA offices 24/7/365 with ideas, concerns, or questions.



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Guest Editorial:

Big cities or small towns, police commissioners and chiefs can make a big difference

By **Raymond L. Flynn**

While protesters and reckless demonstrators were jeopardizing public safety and order not far away on highway 93, Brockton residents were giving a heartfelt thanks to a “cop’s cop” **Bobby Hayden** who received a sustained standing ovation Thursday night. The former Dorchester neighborhood kid and Boston cop, is leaving the Brockton Police Chief’s job with the appreciation of a grateful Mayor **Bill Carpenter**, local officials, but even more importantly, the respect the people of Brockton. Watching fellow Brockton police officers and a diverse citizenry coming up to the former Boston Police Superintendent, giving him a warm embrace is not something you see anymore in the news. But I think this was a true reflection of how most Americans feel about their police officers who put their lives on the line every day to preserve law and order and every decent citizens right to live in a peaceful community.



When I introduced Chief Hayden at the packed Veterans Auditorium, the pride and respect that he had for the people was evident. But unfortunately, his declining health has forced Bobby to step down as Brockton’s Police Chief.

I told the crowd that my long-time friend, never wanted praise or recognition, but only the respect of the people he faithfully served. Commissioner **Mickey Roache** and I asked him to do some of the most challenging jobs in the City of Boston, and he would do them with courage and without reservation. When I was first elected, cleaning up the Boston Common and getting rid of the drug dealers, muggers and prostitutes was critical for the people who lived, worked or visited the oldest park in America. He especially made the beautiful and historic park safe and accessible for families, the elderly and children once again.

“Bobby, I want to have a little thank you reception at the Parkman House for you for doing such a good job.” This is what he said to me, “Mayor, if you would invite my dedicated police team to have a beer with you after work at J.J. Foley’s, that would great. I love those guys.” And that’s what we did.

Another time, he showed up at City Hall and asked me to visit a lady from the Bunker Hill Public Housing Development with him. **Mary McGuinness** was a big neighborhood crime watch supporter in Charlestown, but sick in the hospital. Bobby was a tough determined cop who had no patience for drug dealers, muggers and anyone who broke the law, but kind and generous.

See **Big Difference** on page 22

To the men and women of the BPD and BEMS,

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Sincerely,
Mike Joyce

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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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“Peaceful Protesters?”

Appeasement, accommodation doesn't work...

By **James W. Carnell**, *Pax Editor*

NONE OF US WANT TO SEE SCENES OF VIOLENCE, like those that occurred many years ago during the 60's and 70's, between police and protesters. People **DO** have the right to peaceably assemble for the redress of grievances. And police **DO** have the responsibility to ensure that the rights of **ALL** people, including the motoring public, are protected. But what has gone on lately on the streets and highways of Boston, is beyond the pale.

It must be said that none of these alleged protesters or their organizers have even bothered to obtain a permit, like all other groups are required to obtain before marching or occupying public streets. They simply believe they have the right to block traffic and interfere with everybody else's rights to work or proceed home in a reasonable manner. It has been a matter of much consternation amongst the rank and file officers who are forced to deal with these protesters to see that our political administration appeases and accommodates them, allowing them to march down crowded streets, against oncoming traffic, during rush hours, causing maximum inconvenience for those who are just trying to get home.

Put simply, the protesters don't care. Never mind their stated goals; the fact is that these remnants of “Occupy Wall Street/Occupy

Boston,” anarchists, and assorted social misfits have no respect for laws, rules, ordinances or civil, courteous behavior. Their goal is not to “protest”. It is to cause disruption and chaos. They invent a cause, hijack a movement, and hide underneath the cover of whatever they say they're protesting about.

Then, they go home to Arlington, Brookline, Jamaica Plain, Byfield, and a whole host of other rich, privileged communities where they reside in their parent's basements with their fake dreadlocks and post their internet laments about being friends of the oppressed and downtrodden. Yeah, right...

Students of history will remember the name of **Neville Chamberlain**, the British Prime Minister in 1938 before the start of World War 2. Chamberlain went to an infamous meeting with **Adolf Hitler**

in Germany, where he effectively threw Czechoslovakia under the bus and gave Germany control of that country under the guise of “we now have peace in our time.” He flew back to London, waved a piece of paper signed by Hitler saying that it had no more demands, and made that famous declaration: “peace in our time.” A year later, Hitler invaded Poland, and millions would die in WWII.

The point is this: appeasement and accommodation of tyrants and lawbreakers, whether at the international level or on our own streets, does not work. My sainted Irish mother used to say, “give them an inch, they'll take a mile.” She obviously knew more than Neville Chamberlain, or those who are allowing these alleged protesters to lead us around by the nose.



Photos courtesy of the Boston Globe.

The BPPA and BEMS congratulate the New England Patriots



Super Bowl XLIX Champions



Letters to / from the editor:

How dare you?

Letter to the Boston Globe editorial dept.

re: “Funerals are a time for respect, not protest”

Are you kidding us? I mean, really? In my 35 years with the BPD, I have seen many a sneering editorial in the *Boston Globe*, demeaning the blue-collar cops that elitist frauds love to criticize and second guess, even as they live and work in the ivory towers that we provide protection for. But the editorial of **Tuesday, December 30th, 2014**, really took the cake: (“*Funerals are a time for respect, not protest*”). The editorial lectures the police officers who silently turned their backs on the Marxist Mayor of New York, **Bill de Blasio**, while he pretended to honor two police officers assassinated as they sat in their cruiser.

“...Unfortunately, it was not free from politics”, laments the high holy hypocrites of Morrissey Blvd. Ahmmm... why do you think so many politicians were there, *Boston Globe*, and kept us police officers standing at attention in the cold for three hours while they blathered on about their alleged “respect” for what we do? (If there was a cop there who believed them, let me know, but that bridge in Brooklyn has already been sold.) The alligator tears were gross and obscene. But worse than that was the lecturing tone of the *Globe* editorial, criticizing officers for the silent act of turning their backs on a Mayor who has expressed in many ways his disdain and hatred for police officers.

I don’t recall a similar editorial following the hate-speeches for conservatives and Republicans engaged in by prominent Democrats

during the funeral of Minnesota Senator **Paul Wellstone**. (*No, the double-standard is evident to those of us who know what – and who – the liberal media actually represent.*) Senator **Robert Byrd**, Democrat of West Virginia, and **former head of a local chapter of the Ku Klux Klan**, was lionized by the *Globe* in past editorials, his sordid past poo-pooed and brushed off as a mere aberration in his evolvment towards enlightened liberalism after his own funeral. Such utter hypocrisy!

But the *Globe* lectures police officers about the simple, silent act of turning their backs on a speech given by a man who stoked resentment and hatred of police officers which resulted in the deaths of Officers **Rafael Ramos** and **Wenjian Liu**? How dare you? That symbolic act, in which several hundred Boston and local officers participated, was unplanned and spontaneous. Hundreds of civilians also turned their backs while that detestable man (Mayor de Blasio) gave a speech which came not from the heart but from a calculating, crass politician seeking to draw attention to himself.

I have waited for some time to respond to your editorial, in the belief that it is never a good thing to write in anger, but every time I read your editorial, I do a slow burn. Quite frankly, *Boston Globe*, how dare you?

– James W. Carnell

*Boston Police Patrolmen’s Association
Area A-1 representative*

Boston Globe Editorial / 12-30-2014:

Funerals are a time for respect, not protest

Last Saturday’s funeral for **Rafael Ramos**, one of two New York City police officers killed in their squad car on Dec. 20, was filled with mournful tributes, pomp and circumstance. Unfortunately, it was not free from politics. When New York Mayor **Bill de Blasio** spoke inside the church in Queens, scores of officers standing outside turned their backs to a large TV screen that showed the ceremony; they’re angry that de Blasio has expressed sympathy with activists who have taken to the streets to protest police killings of black civilians. Meanwhile, on that same day, some of those activists marched through Brooklyn, at one point stopping traffic, at some points hurling invectives at police.

Speaking on television talk shows on Sunday, New York Police Commissioner **Bill Bratton** criticized the officers who turned their backs on de Blasio, saying the funeral was an inappropriate moment for a political display. Bratton was right, and someone in a position of leadership among the Brooklyn protesters should have sent the same message. The activists’ feelings are heartfelt; their cause is important. Police officers’ grief is real, their defensiveness understandable. But a funeral is a moment for respect, reflection, and humanity – a shared public experience that deserves its own space.

Holding off on expressions of anger, from both sides, would have sent a public message too. Repairing relations between communities and police will be a long and painstaking process, but it’s a crucial

one, and mutual understanding is a baseline requirement for change. A day of respite from angry rhetoric would have been a small step toward progress. It also would have kept the focus where it deserved to be that day: on Rafael Ramos’s life. On Jan. 4, when mourners gather again to honor slain Officer **Wenjian Liu**, both sides should show appropriate restraint.

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

The coming Exodus: Retirement option looms for hundreds of BPD officers

By James W. Carnell, Pax Editor

With the dawn of 2015, hundreds of BPD officers, detectives and superior officers are either now or shortly will become eligible for retirement, as many reach the magic combination of 32 years of service/55 years old, making them eligible for maximum retirement benefits should they choose to do so (officers can, if they choose, remain on the job until age 65 under current state law before mandatory retirement, but the ability to roll around in the street with 21 year-old muscle-heads during bar-room fights diminishes with age over time...).

This unique situation occurs in regular cycles in this department, due to a number of factors beginning with the Boston Police strike of 1919, in which virtually the entire department was replaced within one year. BPD history buffs will remember that in 1980, the so-called "Tregor Bill" controversy arose, in which a city property owner sued and successfully won a lawsuit forcing the city to repay millions of

dollars to property owners. Some politicians, sensing an opportunity to inflame public passions, used the layoffs of hundreds of police officers and firefighters in order to draw maximum public outrage and attention to the issue. (Not surprisingly, an army of political coat-holders, flacks, and lackeys, did not suffer the same fate as the cops or firefighters.) Many were laid off for well over a year, suffering great

financial hardships, broken marriages, and/or leaving the city/state for other work opportunities.

After the controversy was settled legislatively, the laid-off officers were called back, (but the insult left a sour taste in many a young officer's psyche to this very day). In 1982, 83, 84, and 85 the BPD began hiring in earnest, to replace

the attrition of older officers from the ranks and the lack of new hires over a period of several years. For example, my own class was the first so-called "numbered" class ("Class 1-82" -November, 1982). My class, (or lack thereof, as some have alleged) has passed 32 years of service, and some (though not I) have begun to lose precious strands of hair. Classes hired in 83, 84, and 85 are rapidly approaching the same benchmark, and will soon be considering retirement options or in some cases have already exercised them.

It would seem to be beneficial for the city to consider the much-discussed "auxiliary police force", which about 172 Massachusetts cities and towns already have to supplement a beleaguered and short-staffed department until new recruits can be hired and fully trained. Auxiliary police forces are largely composed of retired officers in good health who step in during special events or when there is an excessive work load. For some reason, this proposal has been held up in the legislature, even though it is basically a "home-rule" situation which is not at all unusual and could be implemented fairly quickly once guidelines and rules are established by the BPD.

Time marches on, and all who think that their own retirement is far away should think again. All of a sudden, 32 years is upon you, and instead of diapers and baby formula, you're paying off college loans for your kids and wondering when the re-financed mortgage is going to end. In 1983, after graduating from the academy (we were the "travelling" academy, starting at City Hospital annex and then moving to the old Boston State College building on Huntington Ave.; there was no actual "police academy" because so many city buildings had been shuttered during the lay-offs) I remember looking around District 2 and noticing some of the older officers, sitting around, puffing away on their cigars. *Those* were the bad officers they had told us to stay away from during training, because *we* were pure and new and good.

Well, I learned more valuable information and "tricks of the trade" from the older cops than I ever did from the academy.

One thing you can be sure of: you're never going to get younger.

Time marches on, and all who think that their own retirement is far away should think again. All of a sudden, 32 years is upon you, and instead of diapers and formula, you're paying off college loans for your kids and wondering when it's all going to end.

"I wish somebody had shown me all this before, this is incredible!"

*"I never knew this could be done.
You should teach a class at the Academy!"*

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An honored guest

By Mark A. Bruno

On December 11, 2015, Boston City Hall and Area A-1 were graced with the presence of **Justin Quinn** who was made an Honorary member of the Boston Police Department. Justin who is special has long admired our profession. His Dad, **Thomas Quinn**, is a Detective in the Town of Gloucester. This special day started with a motorcade escort from Gloucester which included many local and State Police. The motorcade made its way from the North Shore all the way to Boston City Hall. The entourage was taken upstairs to meet Mayor **Martin Walsh**. Justin Quinn was taken to the City Council Chamber where the day was dedicated in his honor.

Justin always wanted to meet the Mayor of Boston. He also listens in on a police scanner to all our calls. His dream is to be a part of our police team and on this day he would get his wish.

Our guest of honor and his parents were whisked off to Area A-1 where Captains **Kenneth Fong** and **Kelley McCormick** had every unit and available detail officer report to the guard room to help welcome him. A ceremony was conducted by Command Staff and Justin Quinn was made an Honorary Boston Police Officer. He was given a call sign and logged on with our dispatcher. All the Officers lined up in ranks and saluted the new member of their team. One by one the officers walked up and shook Justin's hand to welcome him. All officers complimented what a remarkable young man Justin is. A group picture was taken in which Justin was beam-

ing from ear to ear as he stood with his fellow officers.

Justin thanked all the officers who welcomed him. Thomas Quinn spoke and choked back the tears as he explained how special Justin is to him and his wife who was also overcome with emotion. Every officer in that room understood

the unconditional love these

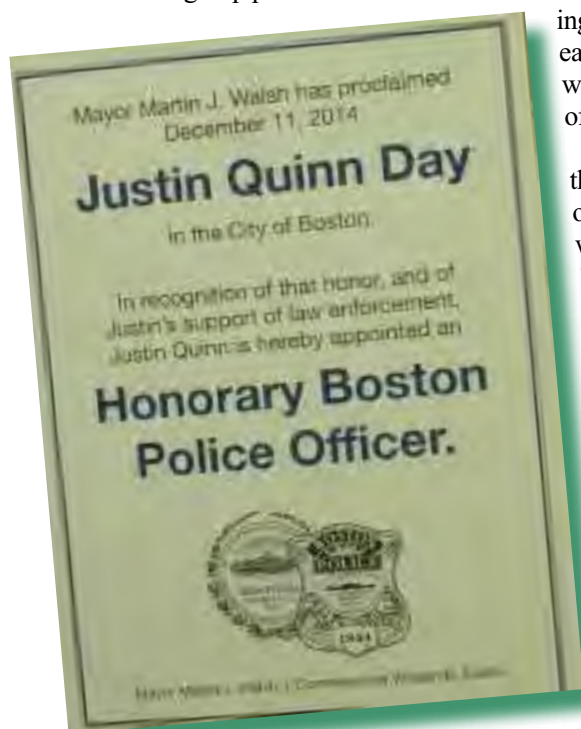
two parents had for their son. This day meant so much to Justin and his parents that finding the right words to thank everyone were difficult to say without the emotion.

I talked to Thomas Quinn briefly and he explained that Justin has been a frequent visitor to the Dana Farber Hospital for various treatments. He told me Justin's other wish was to go swimming with dolphins and that the Make-a-Wish Foundation was going to help with this wish. On behalf of the Quinn Family I would like to thank all three of our police unions (BPPA, DBA, BPSOF) for your gener-



osity in this matter. All of my brothers and sisters in blue stepped up once again with an act of kindness that will long be remembered by **an honored guest** and his family.

Justin and I have corresponded via e-mail. He told me of his trip to Florida and his swim with the dolphins. He always e-mails me when he is going for his treatments at Dana Farber. He is a remarkable young man who has touched the hearts of many with his sincere smile and kindness. Thank you to all my fellow officers for making **Justin Quinn Day** special.



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Boston Celebrates the Super Bowl XLIX Champion **New England Patriots**



A sincere thank you from BPPA members to the Paradise Café and Bakery, 800 Boylston Street, Suite FC10 – owner: Laura Wolfe, property owner: cbouffart@bostonproperties.com. Thanks for all the free food and beverages provided to Police & EMTs during this cold event. Please patronize and recommend this establishment!



Boston Police Officers once again do a tremendous job protecting the fans and team during the Patriots Duck Boat Parade on Boylston Street, Wednesday, February 4, 2015.
Photos by P.O. Jay Moccia



Welcome to 2015!!

We enter the New Year with many changes on Beacon Hill. We have new Governor **Charlie Baker** and Lt. Governor **Karen Polito**. The new Senate President is **Stanley Rosenberg** of Amherst, who has selected Senator **Karen Spilka** of Ashland as Chairwoman of Ways and Means. Senator **Harriette Chandler** of Worcester is the new Senate Majority Leader. Senate President Rosenberg also named Senators **Cynthia Creem** of Newton, **Brian Joyce** of Milton, and **Mark Montigny** of New Bedford as assistant Majority Leaders. We look forward to having a positive working relationship with all of our elected officials as we enter this new legislative session.

I'm happy to report that as of January 16th, there were three "Bills" filed that were of great importance to the member of The BPPA, Boston EMS, and police officers across the Commonwealth:

Bill HD3286, formerly known as Bill H.4529, was described as "An Act relative to retired Boston Police Officers". This is the new version of the bill that was filed last year. Bill HD3286 was filed once again by Representative **Daniel Hunt** of Dorchester and already has received the approval of Boston Mayor **Marty Walsh** and The Boston City Council. The new law would allow the Police Commissioner of the City of Boston to appoint retired Boston Police Officers as "Special Police Officers," in order to perform police details or any imperative duties during the course of police detail work. We hope this will move swiftly through the legislative process.

Bill HD3284, the second bill, is referred to as "An act relative to public safety and public health worker protections" (infectious disease transmitted by bodily fluid). This legislation was filed by Representative **Nick Collins** of Dorchester on the behalf of the BPPA and Boston EMS. The bill applies to any first responder, police officer, fire fighter, emergency medical technician, corrections officer, ambulance operator or attendant who, while acting in his/her professional capacity, attends, assists, or transports a person to a health care facility and has an "unprotected exposure capable of transmitting an infectious disease dangerous to the public health." This would ultimately allow the court to issue an order compelling the testing of a patients' blood or bodily fluid for infectious disease.

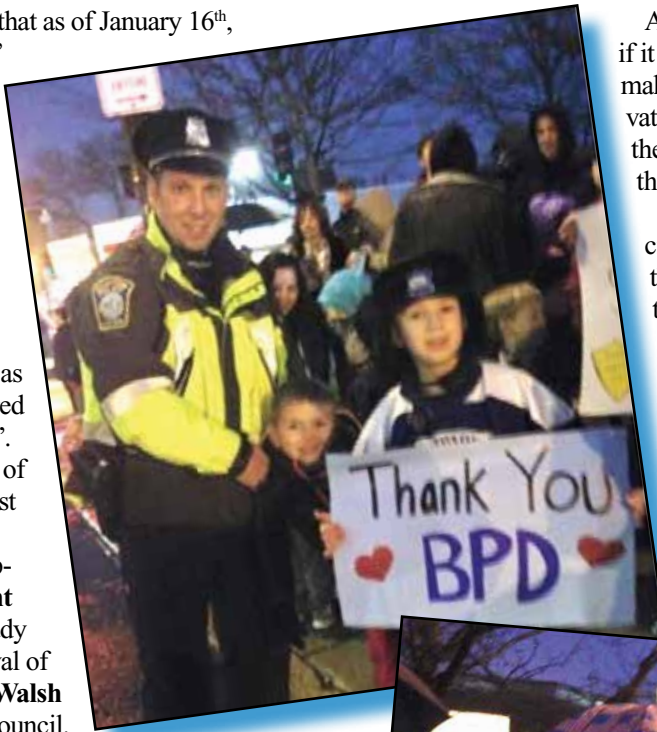
The third draft of legislation, Bill HD2678, is known as "An Act

Relative to Impeding the Flow of Traffic on a Public Way." It calls for a fine ranging from \$500 to a maximum of \$5,000. In addition to the fine or without the fine, the offender may face imprisonment for up to one year for "intentionally and without lawful authority" impeding or interfering with traffic on a public street or highway. If convicted, subsequent offenses would be met with fines of \$2,500 to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment of up to one year.

The bill further stipulates that if the action results in substantial bodily injury to anyone, the fine for the first conviction is \$5,000 to \$10,000 and imprisonment up to two years. If it results in someone's death, there would be a jail term of 2½ to 5 years.

Anyone found guilty of violating the provisions of the law, if it were enacted by the legislature, would also be required to make restitution to responding public-safety agencies and private emergency services agencies. We will continue to follow these important pieces of legislation as they proceed through the legislative process.

On another note, I'd like to take a moment to thank all the citizens of Boston, family members, and friends who braved the cold rainy weather in January to show their support for the Boston Police Officers in West Roxbury and throughout the City of Boston. Special thanks go out to **Kristian Loewen**, wife of Police Officer **Mark Loewen** (E5) for organizing the first "pro-police rally" in Boston. What started out as just some friends getting together with their kids at Starbucks with pro-police signs, turned out more than 200 supporters of Boston Police Officers on that cold rainy night. It ignited pro-police rallies throughout the city over the next couple of weeks. There were large events in both Dorchester and South Boston with hundreds of people coming out and showing



their support for the Police Officers of Boston. Words cannot express the thanks I have for each and every person that took time out of their busy lives to hold a sign and support the officers that protect them every day. It truly means a lot to each and every police officer on the street to know that their citizens care. Thank you and be safe!



Photos courtesy of bpdnews.com

Big cities or small towns, police commissioners and chiefs can make a big difference...

From **Big Difference** on page 11

Whether it was during the ugly school busing protests, big sports celebrations, or student protests, preserving “public order” was his first priority. No meetings or negotiations with radical protesters and demonstrators. He never pandered to anybody. “Mr. Mayor, I love you and respect you, but I serve the people.” This is what he told me when demonstrators wanted to disrupt traffic in one of downtown Boston’s main streets leading to the Expressway. They never got a chance to get near the Expressway or get off the sidewalk. The demonstrators complained to the press and criticized us, but we moved on.

After **Bill Carpenter** was elected Mayor of Brockton, he called me for some advise. What would you say about **Bob Hayden** being Brockton’s Police Chief? “Mr. Mayor, you told me that public safety was your number one priority in Brockton. Well Bobby Hayden is your man. When his job is finished and its time for him to retire, you

are going to say to Bobby Hayden what I said to this so-called tough cop. I love you Bobby.” And that’s exactly what Mayor Carpenter said before hundreds of concerned and grateful citizens the other night in Brockton.

A local small business owner originally from Haiti came up to me at the reception after the State of City Address where I introduced Mayor Carpenter and said, “Ambassador, I liked your speech tonight about Chief Hayden. Around here we say, if you’re a law-abiding citizen, you like him. But if you’re not, he’ll find you.” “Well, Mayor Carpenter made one good call. I’m convinced he’ll make another,” I replied.

While Bob’s wife **Katie** and **Bobby Jr.**, and the Chief were leaving the reception at Angelo’s Restaurant and Bar, I said to Mayor Carpenter, “This is the best part of the job as mayor. You get to appoint some very decent and caring people, who only want to do a good job for the people. It’s in their DNA. I appointed two of the best commissioners in Boston in **Mickey Roache** and **Bill Bratton**. **Tom Menino** had one of the best in **Paul Evans**, and later **Ed Davis**. **Marty Walsh** has a great one in **Bill Evans**. You had one of the best in **Bob Hayden**. Milton’s got a great one in **Dick Wells**.”

Big cities or small towns, Police Commissioners and Chiefs can make a big difference. Let’s show them our appreciation and don’t give in to professional critics.

(Raymond L. Flynn is the former Mayor of Boston as well as the former U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican.)


A special thank you to all

On behalf of **Freddie Marzano** and his family a special thank you to all who supported and attended the family event.

Freddie and his family were touched by the overwhelming support shown by fellow officers and friends. Freddie wishes all his brothers and sisters in blue, especially in A-7, a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year. May God keep you safe always.

— Mark A. Bruno

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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 & Anderson, L.L.P. by visiting our website – ByrneAnderson.com

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I just called my family and said:
Take my partner to the beach in my staid!
I had this weekend free.
But now I'm stuck in Ambulance Three.
My plans for family time all but dead.

But it's your only weekend off!
Said my wife with a sob.
I know that, honey, but it's part of the job.
I'm not at all happy,
To fill in for a lackey,
But at least I can hit Simco's for a dog.

It's kind of like purgatory,
Being stuck on mandatory.
Right now I'm seeing all red.
So let me tell you my story,
Please forgive the oratory,
I only have a minute to make up the bed.

The calls come in without a break.
Some of the incidents would make
grown men quake.
But we take it in stride, and keep them alive,
And focus on the difference we make.

Extra shifts I do take, as extra money, I can make.
So we hustle and hurry,
So fast, things get blurry.
But my back has begun to ache.

I do my forty and another sixteen.
For several weeks running, or so it would seem.
But my weekend off is in sight!
Just one more shift, just one more night!
And I'll be enjoying my dream.

A cottage on the Cape, we did reserve.
My one weekend off I do deserve.
To beat the traffic we leave at nine,
Assuming I get off on time.
The weather is supposed to be great,
I did observe.

"Multiple spots." Announced over the air,
And I mumble quietly: "Oh, don't you dare."
It isn't right.
It isn't fair.
And then the phone rings;
I'm caught in the snare.

The calls go out all through the am.
"ALS / BLS. Help out if you can."
If there are no takers, And no one can.
There is no help, not even a scam.

So my one out of six is now on a funeral pyre.
I don't know why they cancel promotions,
and won't hire.
While my family enjoys the sun and the beach,
I'll be swabbing down stretchers with
ten-percent bleach.

The S.S. Mandation has pulled into port.
When minimum staffing comes up short.
Small classes are an addition,
But can't keep pace with attrition.
And so to the list, they do resort.

It'll take the wife a while to forget this slight.
I couldn't get out of it, I tried with all my might.
It isn't fair.
It isn't right.
Sadly though, there is no end in sight.

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Sometimes even **WE need a
little help from our friends!**

New year, new team

By P.O. Jay Moccia

2015 welcomes a new leadership team to the BPPA, congratulations to President Pat Rose, Vice President Mike Leary, Treasurer Bob Colburn, and Secretary Chris Broderick. Chris's new job is doubly sweet, as I have been lucky enough to be elected to the Rep's seat for D-4 First Half. Best wishes to the outgoing crew, Tommy, Ronny, and Duke. Thank you for your service.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

While on a trip to Florida recently, I saw a lot of signs warning boaters to be wary of manatees. A tour boat operator gave us the local lore that the first mariners to these shores thought they were mermaids. I immediately wondered how desperate for female companionship you would need to be to consider a manatee attractive, or how much grog you had to consume.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I got my Advent Calendar on the 12th, so I could play catch up with the chocolate.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I have brought my gun to Starbucks while off duty on numerous occasions. It usually orders Latte, and hasn't bothered anyone.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Speaking of Starbucks, I was sitting outside (it was Florida!) and this guy starts waving as he's approaching. I hop up to greet him and he walks right past me to the table behind. I think my wife is still laughing.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Just a few things that struck me about Florida in the winter: seeing Christmas trees next to palm trees is a bit unsettling. Saw an ad that boasted "Extreme Segway Tours," and wondered how that was possible? They go about as fast as people run, what makes it extreme? No helmet? Your body acclimates to the warm much better than the cold. And the Gopher Tortoise is endangered. It likes to snuggle with car tires for warmth in cooler months, kind of like a reptilian chock block. No wonder they are endangered.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A guy came up to me in a hotel, and asked me where the Janitor's Interviews were being held. I gave him directions to the Men's Room.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

It still shocks me when an Officer with almost thirty years is passed over for an Officer with almost thirty tours.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Same with making Sergeant while cops are waiting for their marks from the new test – a practice that impacts the guys who end up at the bottom of the new list, rather than the top.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Oh how the mighty have fallen: A sprawling Christmas lights display at the corner of Warren Ave. has for the past six years or so, prominently featured Barack Obama, even displaying a likeness dressed as (GASP!) Santa. Three foot lighted letters spelled out his name, and even Michelle joined him a few times. This year, not even an honorable mention. I guess once the Republicans took over the Legislature, Barry Claus got the pink slip.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Rapper Iggy Azalea has been threatened by hackers "Anonymous" demanding an apology to Black Lives Matter and fellow Hip Hopper Azealia Banks over a Twitter comment. The group claims to have an Iggy sex tape and they threaten to publish a nude if she does not comply. Having seen the size of her backside...

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A new medical study shows that lending a friend money can cause memory loss.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Gas prices have plummeted, falling, in many places to under \$2/gallon, for the first time since Bush was President. Now I ask you gentle reader, when gas prices increased consumer pricing for everyday goods and services rose proportionally based on delivery expenses. So when the \$%^&^ are food prices coming down to reflect this????

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The state of Oklahoma executed a Death Row inmate, Charles Warner, despite pressure from Death Penalty opponents claiming the last execution of Clayton Lockett violated the Cruel and Unusual punishment clause of the US Constitution after he experienced some discomfort. Funny, the condemned Lockett died after his lethal injection, so I don't see how that qualifies as "botched".

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I may have watched too much South Park... I can sometimes understand Kenny.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Parents of a Little League pitcher struck by a hit ball are suing the bat's manufacturer. Now, I'm not making light of the injury but suing the bat maker is like suing a gun company after...nevermind.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Boston schools were closed recently when officials determined it was too cold OUTSIDE. Really? -and the pansification of America continues.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Love is blind, it's marriage that's the eye-opener (thanks Val!)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I travelled to New York City for the funeral of NYPD Officer Wenjian Liu, along with many other members of the BPD. Both funerals were well attended-it was a strong showing of support for our Brothers and Sisters in the Big Apple. Just a few thoughts, we really do need a Dress Uniform. At events like that, maybe posting the Color Guard out front and using those Officers to dress the lines would make us look a bit sharper, and cops, no matter where they are from always have a twin in another department...

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Naples Florida Police Department has a drag racing team.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

When did the practice of naming winter storms BEFORE they hit start? Winter storms have ALWAYS got their names AFTER they dumped countless feet of white global warming on New England, like Blizzard of '78; No-Name Storm; Perfect Storm; April Fool's Storm. I guess this is a case of hurricane envy.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Planned Parenthood has been teaching sex ed classes in California (where else!) using "Genderbread Persons". And the attacks on Christmas keep coming...

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Protesters blocked I-93 North and South forcing thousands of commuters to wait while these spoiled children wearing adult diapers were physically removed. The crew in Somerville/Medford was escorted off by Troopers and local PD's but those in Milton were determined to make a statement by using concrete filled barrels to lock themselves together. Public Safety was jeopardized by these terrorists (yes I said

that!) who inconvenienced their fellow citizens, even causing ambulances to be re-routed, to get their message across. Funny though, a viral video of them being heckled ended with the cell phone commando being threatened with bodily harm. Of course, since this is Massachusetts, almost all of them were set free with no bail. If I were in charge, I would have ordered up a couple of the DOT barrier trucks, some cones and a few troopers. Then I would simply move the offenders into the left lane and made them wait until traffic had been relieved and it was safe to get them out of there, probably around 2 am. I'd also love to see a class-action lawsuit against Occupy and #blacklivesmatter for this nonsense.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Islamic Terrorists (there goes my gig at Al-Jazeera) attacked the Paris offices of "Charlie Hebdo". The attack left 12 dead, including a Muslim policeman who was seen on video begging for his life. The savages responsible for this were themselves gunned down by French police a few days later. In the aftermath, a huge rally drawing millions along with many World Leaders gathered in Paris to show support and resolve in the face of this cowardly act. Everyone, that is, except Obama. In a move destined to damage Franco-American relations for years to come, he did send Secretary of State John Kerry who brought along that hippie geezer James Taylor who serenaded the French with "You've Got a Friend" while Kerry swayed dreamily to the music. File Under: Dip-(\$#!+) plomacy. Je suis Charlie!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I won't say some of these new guys are salty, but I saw one walking into the station, and the snow was melting under him.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

After a storm dumped almost 2 feet of snow over Boston, the Herald on-line featured these two gems listed next to each other: So silly I don't even have to make a joke...

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

*"Massachusetts lashed by heavy snow, wind but has few outages."
"Thousands without power during snowstorm in Massachusetts"*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The aforementioned blizzard was so severe, the Massachusetts House delayed a hearing on a bill to combat...wait for it...Global Warming!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

During his State of the Union address Obama channeled his inner Robin Hood, declaring he would take from the rich to give to the poor. Which would nominally be OK, think Hollywood Liberal Millionaires, but his definition of "rich" includes most of the middle class.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Uber Lib tubbie Michael Moore caused quite a furor after he panned the film "American Sniper", claiming all snipers are cowards because his uncle was killed by one during WW2. Too bad the scharfschutze didn't pop pops, the world would have been spared this bloated turd. Stick to your mockumentaries, which you are free to make because of those who serve. Of course to a fattie like you the word "serve" is ALWAYS followed by the words "me more food."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

*With the Patriots heading to the Super Bowl, Boston Police Officers were once again **ordered in** on their day off to patrol the Hub. They were bolstered by NEMLEC and METROLEC who get 8 hours minimum pay, and a day off.*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Patriots WIN the Super Bowl and AGAIN BPD Officers are ordered in on their day off to patrol the Duck Boat Parade. Of course that little fact didn't stop old friend Sam Tyler of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau from taking a cheap shot at us. After a *Herald* reporter got a quip about the snow removal budget for the parade, Tyler grouched: "This isn't something like police overtime or fire overtime where every year they exceed their budget" Sam can you grasp the concept of ORDERED? I'll let the boss know I'm just doing my bit next time I get grabbed for a morning watch, and tell him you said it was OK, so we don't go over budget.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The BPPA has set up an In-House email system. I urge you all to make use of it, and sign up ASAP. It will make the dissemination of info faster and more efficient, and as an added bonus, in the next issue of the PAX, I will include some photos from around Boston. The first cop that gets the location to me via our new email system will win a gift card to the coffee shop of their choice (Dunkies, Starbucks, Doughboy, etc) Stay tuned!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Folks, the PAX and our Scholarship Fund depend on our Advertisers. Atlantic Tactical just opened a shop in Westwood, and placed an ad in the Pax. I can say from experience, that Lenny, Frank and the rest of the staff are knowledgeable, helpful, and if they don't have it, you don't need it! Their prices on firearms cannot be touched anywhere else, so if you need some gear, or a new gun-and who doesn't, support those that support us. Check out Atlantic Tactical, you won't be disappointed.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Along those lines, the PAX is our paper, and should be used to acknowledge our work. I urge all Reps and CSO's to forward any good arrests, announcements, gripes, etc. to the PAX. Stay safe, and stay warm!

SPORTS TRIVIA

By **Bill Carroll**

1. What is the oldest NFL franchise never to have played in the Super Bowl?
2. What NFL team has lost the most Super Bowls?
3. Who was the first outfielder to be names World Series MVP?
4. Who won the 2014 Hobey Baker Award given annually to the best player in college hockey?
5. Who were the last two players to share a World Series MVP Award?
6. What pitcher holds the career record for strikeouts in the World Series?
7. What NBA team was the first to reach forty wins this season?
8. Who is the only player in MLB history to score five runs in a game without the benefit of a base hit?
9. In the sport of golf what club is often referred to as a "Texas Wedge?"
10. Who holds the MLB record for the most RBI in a season by a rookie?

See **Sports Trivia** on page 27



Protecting yourself from both the ignorant masses and your own police department

Where did the good feeling go? As you all remember, in the aftermath of the April 15, 2013 Boston Marathon bombings, Boston Police were given a standing ovation by throngs of people lining the streets as the police left the besieged section of Watertown where one of the bombers had been killed by his younger brother as the younger brother fled in a carjacked vehicle, and then was later arrested while hiding in a boat after a lengthy man-hunt. When the people needed police protection, the police's response was amazing and earned due accolades for tremendous work. Boston police officers and EMTs were on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*, *Time Magazine*, and many other publications. They were honored at Fenway Park. They were heroes.

Fast forward to November 24, 2014 and Ferguson, Missouri where a grand jury declined to indict a white police officer who had shot an unarmed black robbery suspect, and then fast forward to the ensuing aftermath from the December 3, 2014 decision of a Staten Island grand jury not to indict police officers for the death of a black individual who died during his arrest. Even though those two events had nothing to do with the City of Boston or the state of Massachusetts, the good feeling was gone. People were marching in the streets claiming that Boston police officers have shot and killed too many unarmed suspects. I guarantee you that none of these protesters could name a single person shot by the police, nor could they describe the fact pattern surrounding any of the police shootings they were allegedly protesting against. Having sat with almost every officer involved in these police-involved shootings over the past seventeen years, I can unequivocally tell you that each and every police-involved shooting was one hundred percent justified. Yet, these nitwits take to the streets and paint you all with a broad brush: they call you racist, trigger-happy, bullies, and their ignorant list goes on. They chain themselves to cement-filled barrels to block highways and protest over subjects they know little or nothing about. The hypocrisy is astounding. My favorite story is about a protester from Cambridge who was protesting police brutality when a Boston police officer performing crowd control commented (perhaps too loudly) to a fellow officer "here comes another clueless one now." These protesters have every right to express their First Amendment rights, and that is what the protester was doing. Yet when the police officer, quite accurately, expressed his First Amendment right, he ends up at Internal Affairs. Their rights matter. Your rights do not. That is the way they see it. And sadly, that may be the way it is.

Several weeks ago, I conducted a training session for the new BPPA House of Representatives, some of which covered how to prepare for and deal with Internal Affairs interviews. Although some of this may seem very basic, I thought it might be helpful to publish a portion of the outline I made for the House of Representatives so you can all be aware of some very simple yet important tips for dealing

with your own Department as you defend yourself against them and some of the nitwits out there:

Be prepared -- the most important thing about an Internal Affairs interview is to be prepared. Have the officer read their report several times before they are interviewed. Hopefully the report was well written so they have a solid foundation to begin with.

Be truthful -- at the outset of every interview, officers are given a copy of Special Order 10-007, the "truthfulness policy." This is the mechanism by which departments are now terminating officers they do not like -- by claiming they were untruthful. Almost everything is on video now too. Do not turn a non-termination case into a termination case by lying.

Be wary of what you say -- although your statement is currently being given to the Internal Affairs Division, your transcripts may be used in other forums:

Produced to criminal defendants -- under case law, defense lawyers who follow a simple procedure can get your Internal Affairs interview transcripts.

Produced in a civil lawsuit -- if an officer gets sued related to the arrest, the Internal Affairs interview transcripts will be produced as part of the lawsuit and the officer may well be cross-examined in federal court based upon what they told

Internal Affairs.

The **Civilian Review Board** (the COOP) has access to Internal Affairs interviews.

Explain and justify your actions -- the way the interviews are generally conducted, there are preliminary questions and then the officer is given the opportunity to give a long *narrative description* of their actions before the investigator's go back and ask specific questions regarding the incident. Be prepared to give this narrative explanation without any interruptions.

Articulate the concepts of BPD Rules and Regulations -- during your interview, take the language or the concepts from the applicable Rules and Regulations and use them to explain what you did. For example, say "I used the least amount of force necessary when I arrested the suspect" or "I was met with vigorous physical resistance so I deployed my O.C. spray." This shows the investigators that you are aware of the rules, and if they go to discipline you, you can argue that you acted in accordance with their rules and their rules were bad.

Cite to your training -- when articulating what you did, make sure you say that you did it in the manner in which you were trained. For instance, state "I took the suspect to the ground to handcuff him in the manner I was trained at the Boston Police Academy" or "I gave a short burst of my O.C. spray the way I was trained at the in-service training." If the Department does not like what you did, you can throw this back in their face and tell them that they trained you poorly, but you did what you were taught to do.

See **Protecting Yourself** on page 33



Obama to gut Veteran Choice Card Program

President **Pat Rose** has asked me to continue this section of the *PAX* which he started to address topics and issues of concern to those members of the BPPA who are also Veterans. I was a little more than apprehensive. I always look forward to, and enjoyed reading Pat's article. However, I was just not quite sure what to write about. Then the Federal Budget came out.

President **Barack Obama** submitted his FY2016 Budget on Monday, February 2nd. In what can only be the most cynical political ploy since delaying amnesty until after the general election. The White House has now announced plans to gut and reallocate funds for the Veteran Choice Card Program. A program he worked for and signed into law in August of 2014, just six short months ago.

Concerned Veterans for American issued a statement in part, Given his consistent refusal to propose meaningful reforms to how the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) operates – or to demonstrate bold leadership in fixing VA health care – we weren't expecting much from the president's FY2016 budget. What we didn't expect was for him to outright undermine reforms he just signed into law. It is outrageous that President Obama is proposing to reallocate funds away from the Veteran Choice Card Program and instead move those funds into the VA's broken single-payer healthcare system. This budget action would have the effect of denying many veterans the choice to access private health care, thereby forcing them to stay in a VA health care system that has failed, for too long, to provide care in a timely manner – sometimes with deadly consequences.

With this proposal, President Obama is placing preserving the current VA system over the needs, and preferences, of our veterans. He is undermining the very reforms he signed into law before they are fully implemented, making it quite clear that he has no desire to truly reform the VA.

The Veteran Choice Card Program allowed veterans experiencing problems getting treatment like living more than 40 miles away from a VA facility the option of seeking medical care at other medical facilities. Sen. **John H. Isakson** (R-GA), the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs stated, "It is unacceptable to me that the president would begin to dismantle the Veterans' Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014, that he just signed into law last August, by taking the resources allocated to enact this legislation for use elsewhere."

We all need to know the issues many Veterans have been dealing with the Veteran's Administration around the country. Here in Massachusetts, a Vietnam Veteran was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 2011. He was seeking treatment at the Boston VA facility but in 2012 requested a switch to the Bedford facility which is closer to their Acton home. He died four months later without a response. That is until 22 months after his death when they got a letter stating he could call for an appointment. The letter ended with an ironic "We are committed to providing primary care in a timely manner and would greatly appreciate a prompt response."

Forty Veterans died in a Phoenix VA facility waiting for health-care. The VA Office of the Inspector General found in May of 2014 elaborate schemes to falsify records in order to hide waiting times for medical appointments at VA hospitals across the country.

The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans reports that about 40% of all homeless veterans are African American or Hispanic, despite only accounting for 10.4% and 3.4% of the U.S. veteran

population, respectively....Why are veterans homeless? In addition to the complex set of factors influencing all homelessness – extreme shortage of affordable housing, livable income and access to health care – a large number of displaced and at-risk veterans live with lingering effects of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse, which are compounded by a lack of family and social support networks. Additionally, military occupations and training are not always transferable to the civilian workforce, placing some veterans at a disadvantage when competing for employment.

The VA estimates at least 15 percent of veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression, with some surveys suggesting that figure could be as high as 30 percent. These are a shocking statistics that highlight the need for more support for our Veterans, not less.

But what else should one expect from an administration that has, after so much empty words of support, always shows contempt for our warriors in it's action. Let us never forget the Department of Homeland Security issued a report in 2009 that identified returning combat veterans as worrisome terrorist and criminal threats to America.

Veterans generally do not complain, as a group, or as individuals, because we were not trained that way. We take quiet satisfaction in our service, and pride in our abilities as independent individuals. It is that very mindset that is making it difficult for our fellow veterans that need it to get the support the deserve. If you are not involved as a member of one of the many national veterans' groups, you should seriously start thinking about joining one today.

Sports trivia...

From **Sports Trivia** on page 25

1. The oldest franchise in the NFL that has never played in the Super Bowl is the Detroit Lions.
2. The Denver Broncos have lost five Super Bowls in the history of the game.
3. The first outfielder to be named World Series MVP is Orioles right fielder Frank Robinson in 1966.
4. Johnny Gaudreau who played at Boston College was named the 2014 winner of the Hobey Baker Award which is given annually to the best player in college hockey. He currently plays in the NHL for the Calgary Flames.
5. The last two players to share a World Series MVP Award were pitchers Randy Johnson and Curt Schilling for the 2001 Arizona Diamondbacks.
6. Yankees Hall of Famer Whitey Ford holds the career record for strikeouts in the World Series with 94.
7. The Atlanta Hawks were the first NBA team to reach forty victories this season on January 31, 2015.
8. The only player in MLB history to score five runs in a game without getting a base hit is Cincinnati Reds second baseman and Hall of Famer Joe Morgan who accomplished the feat on June 30, 1977.
9. In golf, the club commonly referred to as a "Texas Wedge" is a putter.
10. The MLB record for most RBI in a season by a rookie is held by Ted Williams who knocked in 145 runs in 1939.

With a heavy heart and a note of thanks

By **Mark A. Bruno**

Our recent visits to New York City to honor two “fallen heroes” was as sad as you could imagine. We may not know the officers who passed but we feel a deep bond none-the-less. It is like loosing a family member as all officers in attendance would tell you. The “brother and sisterhood” in our profession stretches far and wide when we loose a member. The sea of blue stretching up as far as the eye can see up these long streets of New York City was most impressive and heartfelt by the slain officers families. There were officers who came down from Canada and others from as far as Washington State, California and all the way down to Florida. The numbers were staggering, as many as twenty-five-thousand officers on hand to pay their respects for two fallen comrades. I will not go into the Mayor of New York and the lack of effort



on most of our elected officials who could have circumvented this hostile attitude towards police in the wake of two Grand Jury findings of not guilty. I will only say their silence was deafening.

I had the honor of attending the service of Officer **Wenjian Liu** who was promoted posthumously to Detective by Chief **William Bratton**. Bratton said “Wenjian Liu believed in the possibility of a city free from fear.” Listening to his wife speak was heartbreaking. **Pei Xia Chen** spoke of how he loved life and was always helping people. She spoke of how he loved and respected his parents. Her voice quivered as she thanked Wenjian’s extended family, the NYPD, and all the Officers who came to pay tribute to her husband. When the service ended a cortege which went a half mile in each direction of the church paid tribute to the “fallen hero.” NYPD helicopters formed the “missing man formation” overhead, while drums played solemnly as the procession rolled by and officers rendered a final salute to Detective **Wenjian Liu**.

There are so many people and businesses to thank for assisting officers who attended the two funerals. I will try to get them all in but if I don’t kindly drop me a line or leave a message at the BPPA.

First up is JetBlue who flew many officers from around the country free of charge into JFK Airport. It may have been well over one-thousand flights. I believe Boston Police had as many as one-hundred-fifty officers who flew roundtrip for free. With that being

said we would like to give special thanks to JetBlue executives **Jim Hnat**, Senior Vice-President and Chief Corporate Counsel, and **Jill Chaston** from Group Reservations. Thank you also to the booking agents, flight attendants and pilot crews who expressed their sorrow and thanked officers for their service. You can not put a price on this type of kindness, you can only say thank you from the men in women in blue. How apropos it would be JetBlue.

Thank you to the following hotels for putting up officers at a discounted rate. They are the Sheraton and Hilton Garden located at JFK Airport, the Marriott at the World Trade Center, and the Hampton Inn located on Flatbush Ave. in Brooklyn.

Thank you to the following officers and their departments who helped all our armed officers to get on and off the planes, and provided rides to and from the funeral. Chief **Horace Norville** and Officer **John Byron** of NYPD. Captain **William Kaufman** of the New York City Department of Corrections. To Boston Police Captain **Kelley McCormick**, Commander of Area A-7, for helping to book most of the flights and getting officers trained so they could fly armed, and for leading the contingent of Boston Police during the funeral. To the Boston Police Detective’s Benevolent Association members Sergeant Detective **Michael Talbot** and Detective **Danny Conboy** who drove their food truck down to New York City which helped to feed many officers. Sergeant Detective **Joe Sullivan** and several other individuals helped to dish out soups and sandwiches to officers during the two funerals.

A special thank you to **Roger Berkowitz** of Legal Seafood who provided three thousand bowls of clam chowder for the two funerals.

Thank all the fine restaurants and establishments that opened up their doors in New York to help feed our members. Thank all those food trucks and companies that provided the food and drinks for our officers.

Thank you to the BPPA for providing the busses which took many of our members down to New York City for the events. Finally, a special thank you to all our members of the Boston Police Department who attended both funerals.





Massachusetts Italian American Police Officers Association, Inc.

The Massachusetts Italian American Police Officers Association is an organization comprised of current and retired law enforcement officers of Italian decent. The Association is committed to supporting and recognizing the work of not just Italian American Police Officers, but all members of the law enforcement community who have dedicated their lives to a career in public service.

The Association hosts an Annual Banquet to honor the extraordinary work of individual police officers who deserve recognition. We also sponsor an annual golf tournament, provide scholarships to the children of our members and host other events throughout the year to promote our heritage and shared profession in a social setting. Planned events for 2015 include; Sunday Italian dinners, Barbeque and Bocce Ball Tournament, Wine Tastings and other social gatherings with an Italian flare.

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The little things cops do

By Mark A. Bruno

As law enforcement officers we are used to the press and some of the general public bashing us. Whatever good we may do hardly ever finds its way to the front pages of the *Herald* or the *Globe*. Hardly ever does television media cover the **little things cops do** to make a difference in people's lives. We are the only defense that stands between a civil society and what has most recently become chaotic. Many officers are disheartened by the lack of politicians stepping up to defend them. From the President on down, there silence is deafening to those of us who wear a blue uniform. But for a few, including our own Mayor **Marty Walsh**, no others have come forward to defend the most recent Grand Jury decisions in Ferguson and New York City which have caused riotous protest throughout the country. Our outgoing Governor who is no friend of law enforcement made sure he kicked us in the teeth on the way out the door. Let's hope the door didn't hit his ass on the way out or he will be blaming us for that as well!

The job may be a rewarding one financially but it has become harder to perform in light of recent events and lack of support from law makers. Their silence has put a bullseye on all our backs. They all played a part in two of New York's Finest being assassinated, as well as the rest of the attacks around the country. I have heard little from our elected leaders to defend our court system and the jurors who made their decision. Instead we are letting protestors who can care less about the facts of the cases or those who were killed run amuck in our communities. Different factions who are only looking to pillage and plunder in the name of justice are swarming our cities and we are being told to stand fast and let them vent! Some of these miscreants are chanting they want "dead cops now!" In my career I have never seen such hatred towards our profession! Shame on our President on down for allowing the **Al Sharpton's** of the world to turn our country into a racial divide. What happened to cooler heads prevail? Instead all who wear blue have been hung out to dry and to fend for themselves. Everyone whoever had hatred for cops are now brazenly stepping up to challenge them. **We are on our own!**

With that being said there are still many of us who refuse to let this hatred and race baiting get in the way of doing our jobs. Most recently in East Boston a civilian found a little puppy (pictured above) running around lost on McClellan Highway. They managed to corral the little puppy and bring her to A-7. The poor thing was shaking from the cold and scared out of her wits! Two of our female officers, **Shana Cottone** and **Kat Shea**, managed to calm the puppy down. Calls were made to inquire if any dogs were reported lost or stolen from surrounding towns but nothing came up. Captain **Kelley McCormick** took the



dog to Sandy Paws Grooming in Winthrop and had her groomed at his own expense. The dog was taken by Officer Cottone for a couple of nights. Officers were still unable to locate an owner so they did the next best thing and found a home for her.

The Velez family surprised their eleven year old daughter for Hanukkah. As you can see above they were elated to have her! They named the dog Lucy which in Hebrew means light. Of course this act of kindness never made it to the press!

Another call included Officer **Ralph Amoroso** and I in which a thirteen year old was arrested for a domestic because he threw a backpack at his mother. It turns out the young boy was stopped for shoplifting a bag of chips and a Gatorade at a local supermarket and his mother came to get him and brought him home. When she told him he would be punished for a month he threw a backpack with books at her. He stated he never meant to hit her with the backpack. Officers asked why he stole the items and he said he asked his mother for five dollars to buy the items because he was hungry but she would not give it to him. Officers asked the mother about this and she stated the family is financially strapped and she did not have money to give her son. The apartment was sparsely furnished and the kids were sleeping on mattresses placed on the floors of their bedrooms. There are many sad cases like this that we encounter all the time. This young boy after being processed was fed by officers and told to come by A-7 and ask for them if he was ever hungry again. A few days later Officer Amoroso and I purchased a winter jacket and brought it by for the boy. We told the mother of several programs she could enroll her boys in for free through our CSO. We also told her about officers who take kids to shop with donated gift cards from local stores and merchants. Many times officers exceed the gift card limit and take the money from their own pockets to pay for the items.

We are not a bunch of heartless, unconscious individuals like the press and protestors make us out to be. It would really be nice if law makers had our backs. The gratitude and thank you's are few and far in between for **the little things that cops do**.





Mauled while working? New legislation aims to safeguard your health

While responding to a call on December 10, 2014, for an intoxicated and unconscious woman at the Wyndham Hotel in Boston, Boston Police Patrolmen's Association-Emergency Medical Services Division ("BPPA-BEMS") member, EMT **Tony O'Brien** was viciously attacked by his patient in a highly publicized incident. O'Brien was injured by his assailant while attempting to assess her condition, provide emergency medical treatment, and transport the woman to the hospital. Before the intoxicated woman could be restrained and subdued, she ferociously bit and scratched O'Brien.

His bloody wounds included deep scratches from his head to his shoulders and large chunk of flesh missing from his left hand that the woman had removed with her teeth. O'Brien and the woman were both treated at Massachusetts General Hospital. Based on the mode of his injuries, O'Brien was understandably concerned that he could have been exposed to HIV or hepatitis. However, when O'Brien inquired with the hospital to learn if he had been exposed to any contagious diseases during the attack, MGH could not provide him with any information: O'Brien's attacker had refused to be tested for any contagious disease.

Currently, G.L. c. 111 Section 111C provides that if a health care facility *diagnoses* a transported or deceased person as having an infectious disease that is considered "dangerous to the public health," as defined by 105 CMR 172, the health care facility shall notify the police officer, fire, fighter, EMT, corrections officer, ambulance operator, or attendant, who, "while acting in his professional capacity, attends, assists, or transports a person," to the facility of the possibility that the first-responder has been exposed to a contagious disease. However, Section 111C does **NOT** require the patient to submit to testing or allow the facility to provide the first responder with any information in instances where no diagnosis has been made. Where O'Brien's assailant refused to be tested, the law privileges her right to medical privacy over O'Brien's ability to safeguard his health and get appropriate prophylactic medical treatment.

Unfortunately, the situation O'Brien faced is not at all unique: first responders regularly face exposure to contagious diseases while working. As the currently law stands, Massachusetts emergency workers have **NO** right to know what, if any, diseases they have been exposed to by perpetrators, suspects, or patients, while working, unless the patient/defendant consents to provide a sample or the patient/defendant is diagnosed.

Fortunately for O'Brien, the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office recognized the unconscionable inequity of the situation and requested that the woman submit to a blood test to determine if she had exposed O'Brien to a contagious disease, and share the results with O'Brien, as a condition of her release at her arraignment (she was charged with assaulting a public employee). Ultimately, as a condition

of her release, the woman assented to the testing, and the results were shared with O'Brien, but the gory incident illustrates a serious flaw in the law that endangers all first responders.

O'Brien's union, the BEMS-BPPA, working in concert with the BPPA, sprung into action to remedy the issue. The Unions hoped to create a legislative solution to help all first responders who are exposed to contagious diseases while working. Attorney **Ken Grace**, working with Attorney **Nick Pollard**, both of Sandulli Grace, P.C., drafted an amendment to G.L. c. 111, Section 111C that provides a mechanism for the first responder's employer (or the local Department of Public Health) to file a petition in District Court seeking an order requiring that the patient provide a blood or bodily fluid sample for testing, where the patient/defendant refuses testing or no diagnosis has been made. In addition, the proposed amendment mandates that the results of the test be shared with the first responder who may have been exposed within 48 hours of the test.

The amendment to G.L. c. 111, Section 111C, H.R. 3284, 189th Gen. Ct. (Mass. 2015), "*An Act relating to Public Safety and Public Health Worker Protections*," was filed earlier this month by Representative **Nicholas Collins**, of South Boston. The legislative fix was carefully crafted balance the scales: it protects privacy but it also aims to protect first responders. Under the

amendment, the District Court could only compel testing in instances where such testing is reasonable and necessary. To demonstrate that testing was necessary, the first responder's employer must first demonstrate that the first responder has:

- Been exposed to bodily fluid(s) that are known to transmit a highly contagious disease;
- Reason to believe the patient/defendant may have a highly contagious disease in question that could have been transmitted by the bodily fluid(s) to which the first responder was exposed;
- Sought testing within seven days of exposure; and
- Made an attempt to obtain a sample from the patient voluntarily.

Without an affirmative demonstration that the testing was necessary as described, the District Court could not require the patient/defendant to provide a sample for testing.

We are optimistic about the prospect that H.R. 3284 will become law and that this potentially devastating loophole will close. In the interim, if you suspect that you have been exposed to a contagious disease purposely or inadvertently; by a victim, patient, or suspect, first and foremost, immediately file the requisite standardized trip form with the treating facility. Then, for the sake of your health and well being, notify your employer and your union, and if necessary consult an attorney. Your union and your union attorneys understand the unique difficulties and potential dangers you face as a first responder, and we stand ready, willing, and able to help you protect your health and get you the necessary medical treatment you deserve.



Start planning NOW... the war on terror continues!

By Dennis Murphy

In September of 2014, the international terror group ISIS released a message instructing its followers to “rise up, kill intelligence officers, police officers, soldiers, and civilians.” The threat named the United States, France, Australia and Canada specifically as targets.

This message was recently re-released and it is a threat we should take seriously. We make a fatal mistake if we, as police officers, make the same false assumption that these attacks are random unrelated events that others have. To assume that these are “lone wolf” attacks, independent of each other and uncoordinated is folly.

In the War on Terror, today’s battlefield is an asymmetrical and non-traditional one. The most effective tactic of the enemy is dispersion. **Osama bin Laden** stated long ago that the ultimate goal of al Qaeda was to inspire autonomous groups of fighters to take up the fight they were waging world wide. He told us so and it is obvious we were not, and are still not, listening.

We are fooling only ourselves in believing the Tsarnaev brothers were working alone. That they were “home grown,” lone wolf terrorists. It is incomprehensible and defies logic that these two conceived, planned, financed, and conducted this operation without support. They had to have access to, and the support of, a vast network both at home and abroad. A network that is still in place.

Our most likely threat as police officers is the ambush. In October an Islamic convert called for Jihad against police stating on his facebook page “*They are weaker at home. We are scattered and decentralized, we can use this as an advantage*” before he attacked police in NYC with an ax. In Ottawa that same month **Zehaf-Bibeau** killed a soldier standing guard at public monument then shot up Parliament. In December 2014 two NYPD officers were gunned down sitting in their patrol car by **Ismaaiyl Brinsley**, another convert who answered the call to raise up and strike. There is a clear and present danger but even if the media and national political command structure chooses to ignore it, we do not have to.

We are our only defense, our only support, and unfortunately our only back up. It is upon us as individuals to take charge of our own lives. The most important course of action in an ambush is to get off the **X**. Remove yourself from the kill zone. Sometimes this means going on the offensive, assault through to the attackers, turn on them with as much violence as you can bring. Placing them immediately on the defensive breaks the advantage they already have over you.

There are two types of ambush. The near ambush, and the far ambush. The three ambushes discussed earlier are examples of the near ambush. Fighting your way off the **X** is your only chance at survival and understand even that chance at survival is small. Your attacker has all of the advantages. He has picked the place, the time, and the manner of attack. Reaction to it becomes our only advantage.

For the far ambush, like a sniper attack, the distance from the kill zone of the attacker makes assaulting the attacker impractical. However it allows the option for us to break contact. To fire and maneuver, to seek cover, and remove ourselves from the kill zone.

But those offensive tactics are only for when you are already in an ambush. The best defense is obviously to avoid one. As Mr. Miagi said in the Karate Kid, the best way to avoid a fight “no be there”. This of course is easier said than done.

We must first accept the fact that this threat is upon us. That it is real, very likely, and we should conduct ourselves accordingly. These

types of assaults on police officers have been on the rise. Our basic patrol procedure training from the Academy is a great basis in which to plan our daily activities. The vehicle stop is still the most common means of ambushing officers, so keep distance, remember to make sure you are far enough away from the car in front of you to see the back tires.

Proper patrol procedures are sound, but ramp it up a few notches. A little paranoia, when people are out to get us, is a healthy thing. Observe the people around us and the attention they pay to us, and even more telling the attention they are avoiding. Watch their hands, where they stand, what they are doing and not doing. When receiving a call, especially one from an unknown caller in an out of the way place, for a seemingly innocuous reason, it should be treated like we would the suspicious package. That one with too much postage, the odd addressing, and no return address.

Approach the scene twice. That is, pass by before stopping. Go around a few times and take note of the area and activity. Then approach from the least likely way. Walk to it from further away, from the odd angle. Be cognizant of the fact that not all ambushes will occur immediately. Assume that the intent to attack is present, but that you have not been brought into the desired kill location.

A foot chase is another great opportunity to draw an officer into a near ambush. Suspects escaping on foot can lead officers then wait for officers to turn a corner. Counter ambush tactics include utilizing cover on the move, not following the same path as the suspect, and rounding corners wide.

When attacked in a vehicle, **GET OUT**. A vehicle is a nice box in which to trap and slaughter a victim. Sometimes you can’t get out so whether stationary or otherwise, throttling it out of the kill zone maybe your best course of action. Ducking low and watching the overhead power lines on the telephone poles can guide you out of the kill zone when you can’t see the road.

If the attackers are forward of your position. Backing away is a difficult task when someone is not shooting at you. So reversing into a yard, driveway, or smashing between two parked cars then turning and driving away in the opposite direction is often a better option than driving forward into plunging fire. Always avoid hitting the front bumper since an airbag in the face makes things more difficult.

Remember that deadly force is deadly force and if there is a clear path to the shooter. Aiming that 1 ton car and running them over is easier than removing your pistol from a level III holster, and hitting them with well aimed .40 rounds all while the suspect is shooting at you is often a better choice for survival.

If your lucky enough to be assigned with a partner. **ALWAYS** at a minimum, practice 50% security when outside the station. One of you should have your head on a swivel, looking at everyone approaching your vehicle. Avoid stopping in the open, avoid sitting in a parking lot to read the MDT, especially at the station. Being among large concentrations of potential targets, like outside police stations, are terrible locations to be. Stay inside, deep within the secured areas away from windows, or far from the station in the first place. Become a difficult target to reach. Avoid routine.

Another key to your survival is learning self-aid, now, don’t wait for someone to teach it. Not only for yourself, but the officer beside you. Proper application of tourniquets, direct pressure bandages, wound assessment. You can not rely on H&H getting there quick

enough. The Israeli Battle Dressings are available from various online sites for under \$10 and are small enough to carry in a pocket. Staying sterile and available for a very long time.

However the **MOST** important aspect for your survival is proper mental conditioning and the survival mindset. Prepare yourself for the worse. Don't let it consume you, but be ready for it. Plan your if/then scenarios in your mind before you encounter a threat. Like all actions, they must become second nature so as to occur without conscious thought. This can only happen with training and practice. Practice, not to the point that you get it right, but to the point that you can not do it wrong.

They are planning right now, planning against us.

We should be setting our minds right to do the same.

Protecting yourself from both the ignorant masses and your own police department

From **Protecting Yourself** on page 26

Look at the entire fact pattern and not solely what is in the complaint -- even though you are there to address the issues in the complaint, ***it is not uncommon to have all of your actions examined.*** The Legal Advisor's Office may look at issues the investigator is not focusing on. For instance, in a complaint alleging disrespectful treatment or excessive force, be prepared to justify why you got into the encounter to begin with. Officers have been exonerated for the rules violations they were accused of, but then have had other rules violations foisted on them. The Department can say that you were not rude to a citizen, but then suspend you for not calling off on the radio when you began that interaction. They can say that you did not use excessive force, but then say you had no valid legal reason to pursue the suspect in the first place and therefore made a false arrest. ***Be aware that all of your actions are being scrutinized.***

Keep it formal -- refer to your interviewer as "Sergeant Detective" or "Lieutenant Detective" and not by their first name, even if they are an academy classmate or they are your best friend. Very frequently, the department is subjected to lawsuits for not conducting thorough investigations. If it appears that you are given special treatment by the interviewer, not asked difficult questions, or appear to be acting too friendly with the investigating officer, this can not only hurt the department but can also hurt you.

Create a record that someone can read and understand later -- In normal conversations we nod our heads, point to things, make motions, and demonstrate things that a tape recorder can't pick up. Make sure things are described in a manner that someone reading the transcript a year later will know what was said. A transcript that says "I chased the suspect this direction, then he went that way, then he went behind that house, then he came out and pulled out a knife that was 'this big' and swung it like that" does not help anyone trying to figure out what happened.

As you all know, the climate out there is not good, and I am not talking about the weather. A lot of the problems I have seen over the years are ones that are self-inflicted. Be prepared. Protect yourself. Take pride in your reputation. As history shows us, you can quickly go from being a hero to being a zero. Do not let that happen to you. Stay safe out there.

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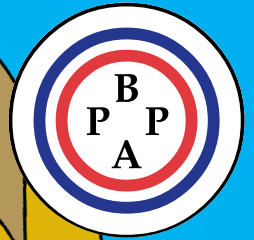
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December 6, 2014



**Police Officer
Michael Ramos**
December 18, 2014

ACTIVE



**Police Officer
Donald F. Holland**
December 24, 2014

Police Officer Joseph P. Donnelly, Jr.
December 12, 2014



**Police Detective
Maggie L. Celester**
January 5, 2015



**Police Officer
Francis J. Fitzpatrick**
January 16, 2015



**Police Sergeant
Paul D. Flaherty**
January 16, 2015



**Police Officer
Robert Gaulrapp**
January 19, 2015

We apologize for any errors or omissions.

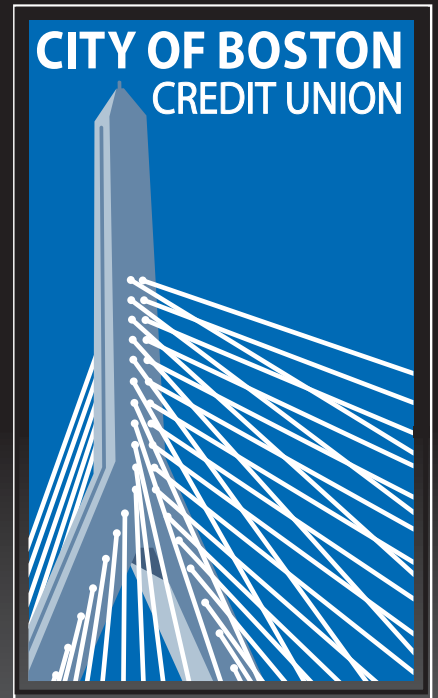
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