

Janice Mahlmann

**From:** Terrie Merritt [Terrie\_Merritt@nationalcops.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 09, 2006 6:36 AM  
**To:** undisclosed-recipients:  
**Subject:** March News from COPS  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg; image003.png; image005.png; image007.png; image009.jpg



# Monthly News From COPS Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc.

March 2006

 **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.**  
*Representing America's Finest*  
 750 First Street, N.E., Suite 920 • Washington, D.C. 20002-4241  
 (202) 842-4420 • (800) 322-NAPO • (202) 842-4396 FAX  
 www.napo.org - E-mail: info@napo.org

**Executive Offices** February 22, 2006

**THOMAS J. NEE**  
 President  
 Boston Police  
 Federation's Association

**MICHAEL J. PALLADINO**  
 Executive Vice President  
 Detectives' Endowment  
 Association of New York City

**MICHAEL J. MADONNA**  
 Recording Secretary  
 New Jersey State Policemen's  
 Benevolent Association

**SEAN M. SMOOT**  
 Treasurer  
 Police Benevolent & Protective  
 Association of Illinois

**JAKE JACOBSEN**  
 Sergeant at Arms  
 Phoenix Law  
 Enforcement Association

**SANDRA J. GRACE**  
 Executive Secretary  
 New Bedford (MA)  
 Police Union

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

**WILLIAM J. JOHNSON**  
 Executive Director

Suzie Sawyer  
 Executive Director  
 Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 3199-3096  
 South State Highway 5  
 Camdenton, Missouri 65020

Dear Ms. Sawyer:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 238,000 rank-and-file police officers from across the United States, I am writing to inform you of our whole-hearted support for Congressman Bart Stupak's legislation, H.R. 4424, which will make family members of public safety officers killed in the line of duty eligible for coverage under the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program.

The Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Act was designed to offer peace of mind to men and women seeking careers in public safety and to make a strong statement about the value that American society places on the contributions of those who serve their communities in potentially dangerous circumstances. The PSOB not only provides death benefits to the eligible survivors of public safety officers, but also financial assistance for higher education for the spouses and children of federal, state, and local public safety officers. Health insurance coverage will be a highly valued benefit, as well as an added comfort for eligible survivors of public safety officers and their families.

Healthcare coverage as a PSOB benefit will remove a great financial burden from the loved ones of those who so selflessly gave their lives for the safety of our communities. NAPO is proud to support H.R. 4424, as part of our on-going commitment to the families of officers who are killed in the line of duty, and we hope that other police organizations will see fit to do the same.

NAPO is pleased to join with Concerns of Police Survivors in support of this legislation and looks forward to working with you for its passage. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or NAPO's Legislative Assistant, Andy Mournighan, at (202) 842-4420.

Sincerely,  


COPS recently received this letter in support of H.R. 4244 from the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO). H.R. 4244 could provide comprehensive health care coverage to public safety survivors. **Thanks, NAPO!!!**

NAPO is the first law enforcement association to officially notify COPS of their support of H.R.

4424. H.R. 4424

was introduced by Congressman Bart Stupak of Michigan in November at the request of Concerns of Police Survivors after survivors from Washington, DC, asked Gary Hankins, Vice President of the Association of Retired Police in Washington, DC, to initiate the bill. This resolution would afford surviving spouses and dependent-aged children the opportunity to enroll in the Federal health care program, thus giving surviving families of fallen public safety officers access to affordable, comprehensive health care.

This legislation is vitally important to the surviving families who cannot afford the \$800+ per month cost of comprehensive health care. If passed, this bill authorizes any family that received the PSOB benefit for the death of their fallen officer as far back as 1976 to enroll in this health care coverage.

WRITE TO YOUR CONGRESSMEN/WOMEN as soon as possible encouraging them to not only support passage of this bill but to contact Congressman Stupak's office to sign on as a co-sponsor of the bill.

### **The 2006 "The Traumas of Law Enforcement" Trainings Conclude This Month**

The 2006 regional trainings in "The Traumas of Law Enforcement" presented by Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. (COPS), with funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, US Department of Justice, will conclude this month. Final 2006 sessions are Pomona, NJ, (March 13-15) and Eugene, OR (March 20-22). Over 520 law enforcement personnel have attended the first five sessions.

These three-day sessions provide law enforcement agencies with the tools needed to develop general orders addressing traumatic issues affecting officers and to sensitize them to emotional support needs of a fallen officer's surviving families. Other topics covered include appropriate death notification, funeral protocol, the need for emotional debriefings following critical incidents, law enforcement suicide, officer disability, traumatized officers, the effects of officer deaths on the co-workers, appropriate methods for dealing with survivors after the funeral, and the importance of support for officers that continue on the job. Information on how to obtain continuing education units for the class will be available at the training site.

This training is recommended for Chiefs, Superintendents, Sheriffs, Chaplains, Dispatchers, Benefits Assistance Officers, Planning and Research officers, Employee Assistance employees, Liaison Officers, Special Operations Divisions, Victim Assistance personnel, or any law enforcement officer or law enforcement family member. The training is **FREE**, however, pre-registration is mandatory. **ONLY THE EUGENE, OREGON, SITE HAS TRAINING SLOTS OPEN.** For a registration form, visit <http://www.nationalcops.org/pr06.htm> and fax it to the COPS office TODAY at 573-346-1414.

### **National Police Week 2006**

Registration packets for National Police Week 2006 have been mailed to surviving families in the COPS database. Registration forms may be downloaded from the COPS' website <http://www.nationalcops.org/NPW2006.htm>. Participants are encouraged to respond by the deadlines listed in the information.

Law enforcement officers who plan to attend only the Candlelight Vigil on May 13 and/or the Memorial Service on May 15 need NOT register with COPS for National Police Week 2006 and may contact DC Accommodations for hotel rooms (202-289-2220).

Survivors and Memorial Service escort officers should make hotel reservations through COPS on the form included in the registration packet. Transportation to and from Reagan National Airport and to and

from the planned activities is provided only for those staying in Conference hotels. ***Survivors not staying at one of the official Conference hotels will find it very inconvenient and will have to secure their own transportation to and from the airport and to and from all activities.***

The official observance of National Police Week is always the week that contains May 15. In 2006, those dates are May 14-20. However, national activities in Washington, DC, will be held as follows:

- May 11 - Early arrival day
- May 12 - Official arrival day and check-in. Survivors' totebags sponsored by the National Sheriffs' Association.  
Refreshments sponsored by the Christopher M. Wouters Family Foundation in his memory, End-of-Watch 10/11/00.  
National Association of Police Organizations' *TOP COPS Awards*® Ceremony, Washington, DC
- May 13 - First day of the 2006 National Police Survivors' Conference and "C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens" activities.  
Survivors' continental breakfast sponsored by the National Association of Police Organizations.  
Morning coffee sponsored by the Maryland Sheriffs' Association.  
Survivors' luncheon co-sponsored by Streamlight, Inc. and the New York State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police.  
Afternoon refreshments sponsored by the BRAVE Riders of Aliquippa, PA, in memory of Officer James Naim (EOW 03-15-01).
- May 13 - Annual Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and sponsored by NLEOMF.
- May 14 - Second day of the 2006 National Police Survivors' Conference and "C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens" activities.  
Survivors' continental breakfast sponsored by the American Association of State Troopers.  
Survivors' luncheon partially sponsored by First Choice Armor.
- May 14 - Troopers' Tour of the Capital for 2005 surviving families sponsored by State troopers' associations.
- May 15 - National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, West Front, US Capitol, sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police Grand Lodge and Auxiliary.
- May 15 - Picnic in the Park for survivors co-sponsored by the Blue Knights COPSRUN and the Woonsocket, RI, Police Department's COPSWALK.
- May 16 - Official departure day.

National COPS sponsors the National Police Survivors' Conference, which includes some meals for survivors. However, National COPS does **not** fund air travel or hotel costs for survivors. Agencies and local police groups are encouraged to financially assist surviving families so they can take part in the healing activities available in Washington when their officers are honored.

### **7th Annual NPC-50 is May 12**

The 7th annual National Police Challenge 50-kilometer relay race (NPC-50) will be held May 12, 2006. The NPC-50 is a 50-kilometer (31-mile) relay competition among local, state and federal law enforcement agencies from around the world. The NPC-50 is run in conjunction with National Police Week held each May in Washington, D.C. The U.S. Secret Service and the U.S.S.S. Employee Recreation Association coordinate the race on behalf of the law enforcement community. For information and registration forms, visit [www.secretservice.gov/npc50/](http://www.secretservice.gov/npc50/) or email [npc50@verizon.net](mailto:npc50@verizon.net). Proceeds benefit COPS and HEROES.

### **United States Secret Service Employee Recreation Association Makes Donation**

Just last month, the USSS-ERA sent COPS a check for over \$3,000, proceeds from a benefit hockey game between the USSS and the FBI. This week, COPS received a check for \$10,000 from the USSS-ERA! This check represents a donation from the employees of the US Secret Service as authorized by the USSS-ERA Board of Directors.

This fiscal year, the USSS-ERA is responsible for well over \$100,000 in financial support for COPS. THANK YOU, UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE!!!

### **Dates for COPS' 2006 Retreats**

Mark your calendars! Note that the Adult Children's Retreat has been moved to July to better accommodate college students' schedules. The registration form for Adult Children is on the COPS website at [www.nationalcops.org/forms.htm](http://www.nationalcops.org/forms.htm).

Adult Children's Retreat, Potosi, MO - July 7 through 10  
 Summer Camp in Troy, WI - July 31 through August 6  
 Outward Bound in Colorado - July 31 through August 6  
 Siblings Retreat, Potosi, MO - September 8 through 11  
 Spouses Weekend, Potosi, MO - September 22 through 25  
 Parents Retreat, Camdenton, MO - October 6 through 9  
 In-Laws Retreat, Potosi, MO - October 20 through 23

### **IACP/DuPont Kevlar Survivors' Club® Reaches 3,000 Lives Saved**

The IACP/DuPont Kevlar Survivors' Club® recently announced the 3,000th life saved through the wear of personal body armor. On October 8, 2005, Officer Corey B. Grogan of the Atlanta Police Department was hit twice in the upper torso with bullets from a suspect's .45 caliber pistol. Both rounds were stopped by his protective body armor.

COPS congratulates both IACP and DuPont on this phenomenal accomplishment. Just think, 3,000 families have been kept from membership in Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. because of DuPont Kevlar!

### **COPS Receives Grant from OVC**

COPS was recently awarded a grant of \$249,767 from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice. This grant will fund 7 regional segments of "The Traumas of Law Enforcement" training for 2007, 8 segments of "The Traumas of Law Enforcement" training to tribal law enforcement agencies, and a 2007 training for 65 COPS Board members and Chapter representatives on "How to Facilitate Support Meeting for Victims of Trauma".

### **Remember to "Fly the Blue" in May**

Concerns of Police Survivors has mailed blue ribbons for its "Fly the Blue" Campaign to all previous Campaign participants. COPS asks that blue ribbons be tied to vehicle antennas during National Police Week, May 14-20, 2006, to show support for law enforcement and to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Each year COPS sends out 1.5 MILLION ribbons!

Law enforcement agencies and civic organizations that have not previously requested blue ribbons may FAX their request to 573-346-1414. The request should be on letterhead, stating the number of ribbons requested, a contact person, and a mailing address. FAX ORDERS ONLY!

There has never been a cost to anyone requesting blue ribbons to participate in "Fly the Blue". However, at 3 cents per ribbon, with 1.5 million ribbons, shipping and postage, the project costs well over \$50,000. In order for this program to continue, COPS is requesting your assistance to help fund "Fly the Blue". These ribbons may NOT be used to raise funds for any organization other than COPS.

### **National Police Week Activity Sponsors Needed**

Each year, COPS expends about \$300,000 for the National Police Survivors' Conference. Several

sponsorship opportunities exist, and COPS works hard to let attendees know who funds the various activities.

The National Sheriffs' Association has committed to again sponsor the souvenir tote bags given to attendees. The Christopher M. Wouters Family Foundation is again sponsoring refreshments on check-in day at the Hilton Alexandria. State and local trooper associations have been asked to fund the Troopers' Tour of the Capital for survivors, and several have responded. Breakfast on May 13 is sponsored by the National Association of Police Organizations. Lunch on May 13 is co-sponsored by Streamlight, Inc. and the New York State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police. Breakfast on May 14 is compliments of the American Association of State Troopers, Inc. Lunch on May 14 is partially sponsored by First Choice Armor, The Picnic in the Park on May 15 is again sponsored by the Blue Knights COPSRUN and the Woonsocket (RI) Police COPSWALK. S&T Truck Sales in Jefferson City, MO, is again providing COPS a truck to transport materials and supplies to Washington.

Contact Terrie Merritt at the COPS National Office for sponsorship opportunity information.

### **Have Some Time to Spare During National Police Week?**

National Police Week 2006 will be here before we know it. Volunteers are needed to ensure Police Week is everything it should be for all of our survivors. If you will be in Washington, DC, during the National activities, won't you consider helping? Call Carol Botts, chairperson of COPS' Volunteer Committee, at 580-357-8179 or email her at [carolann522@hotmail.com](mailto:carolann522@hotmail.com) if you can help. Spanish-speaking volunteers are also needed.

### **COPSstore for National Police Week and COPS Merchandise**

Work has begun on the new designs for National Police Week 2006 merchandise. Roll Call items will be printed as soon as the list of those being honored is finalized. For those that will not be traveling to Washington, DC, COPSstore will accept group orders for Roll Call shirts beginning April 1, 2006.

Although the shipping date is dependent on the finalization of the list, COPSstore guarantees that group orders will be delivered prior to May 15. Start working now on how many family members, coworkers, and community supporters will help support COPS through Roll Call t-shirt sales. See the website at [www.COPSstore.com](http://www.COPSstore.com) for further details. You may want to sign up for the COPSstore email list so that you receive updates on this year's Roll Call designs.

### **Dallas Desperados Host Police Department Nights for COPS**



The Dallas Desperados Arena League football team is hosting two Police Department Nights for COPS. Every ticket purchased by members of law enforcement, their family and friends, will generate a \$6 donation to COPS. The first game was last month. The next Police Department Night is March 25 (vs. Philadelphia Soul). In order to benefit COPS, tickets must be purchased using a special code. For more information and the code, email Quinton Owens at [qowens@dallascowboys.net](mailto:qowens@dallascowboys.net).

### **Performance Group Hosting Benefit Golf Tournament**

Noel Carpenter, president of Performance Group in Paso Robles, CA, is organizing a golf tournament to be held at the Hunter Ranch Golf Course on April 15, 2006. With a full roster of 144 players, he hopes to raise between \$20,000 and \$30,000 for National COPS. For information, contact Performance Group at 800-245-6635.

### **California Correctional Peace Officers Memorial Run for Crime Victims**

COPS and Crime Victims United of California will both benefit from the California Correctional Peace Officers Memorial Run for Crime Victims on May 20 at the California State Capital in Sacramento. Motorcycle-riding officers can email [info@cpomr.com](mailto:info@cpomr.com) or [queenofdiamonds@prisonbound.com](mailto:queenofdiamonds@prisonbound.com) for more information.

## US Marshals Eastern District of Pennsylvania Charity Golf Outing for COPS

A benefit Golf Outing is being planned for June in the Philadelphia area. The US Marshals Eastern District of Pennsylvania is hosting this benefit for COPS. For more information, contact [Kenneth.Fechter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Fechter@usdoj.gov).



Concerns of Police Survivors has been awarded the "Best in America" seal of approval from Independent Charities of America. The Independent Charities Seal of Excellence is awarded to the members of Independent Charities of America and Local Independent Charities of America that have, upon rigorous independent review, been able to certify, document, and demonstrate on an annual basis that they meet the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. These standards include those required by the US Government for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign, probably the most exclusive fund drive in the world. Of the 1,000,000 charities operating in the United States today, it is estimated that fewer than 50,000, or 5 percent, meet or exceed these standards, and, of those, fewer than 2,000 have been awarded this Seal. Visit [www.independentcharities.org](http://www.independentcharities.org)



Charity Navigator has named Concerns of Police Survivors a Four Star Charity - "Exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its Cause." Visit [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org).