



R•C•P•A

Newsletter

RETIREE CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

February 2024

IF YOU RECEIVED A YELLOW NEWSLETTER, YOUR 2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED, APPLICATION FORM IS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. IF YOU RECEIVE A WHITE NEWSLETTER, YOUR DUES ARE PAID.

Upon receipt of your 2024 dues, we will send you a membership card and auto decal.

President's Message

Harold Brown

In December the Treasurer of the RCPA died. **Topper** was more than the Treasurer, he was my friend. I am sure he will be remembered by all who knew him.

The next meeting of the RCPA will be held on February 25, 2024 at 1:00 PM. It will be held in the fop hall, 1412 W Washington Blvd. At this meeting you will nominate the officers to represent you; the election of officers will be at the May meeting. To be eligible to seek office a member must be in good standing for the last two years and must have attended two at least two meetings each year.

As provided by state statute, as a cost of living adjustment (COLA) will be reflected in your annuity check on the last day of January 2024. This increase only applies to retirees who have attained the age of 55 years of age.

Retired public safety officers, do not forget the \$3,000 benefit you are provided under

the pension protective act of 2017. As this benefit allows for tax deferred deductions of insurance premiums such as healthcare, dental, optical, and long-term care. Check with your tax Consultant. The \$500 (13th) check was sent late; it will be sent after Christmas. This check is sent to annuitants receiving the minimum monthly annuity.

Remember if you received a yellow newsletter your dues are not paid.

RETIREE CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

5310 N. Harlem Avenue • Chicago, IL 60656

Phone: 773-763-5310

www.retiredchicagopoliceassoc.com

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REGULAR MEETING
Sunday, February 25, 2024 at 1:00 PM
at FOP
1412 W Washington Blvd.

Organized in 1888 as an Association to protect the Police Pension Fund and the welfare of Police Pensioners, their widows and children.

Just A Thought.....
By Russ Schaefer 1st Vice President, RCPA

In May of 1983 I was assigned to the Mass Transit Tactical Team on the 1st Watch. This Team was special as we were the HBT (Swat) Team for the entire City. As a Sniper and HBT team member I was required to attend regular training which was done at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, near Waukegan, Illinois. On FRIDAY, the 13th of May (get it?) I was training in a hostage scenario equipped with a Universal 30 Caliber Carbine Rifle when I received a gunshot wound to my face and right eye. This weapon experienced a failure to feed or as we call it, a Slam Fire. In short the cartridge case failed to go entirely into battery and the primer was struck by the bolt and the cartridge exploded sending hot gas, burning powder and metal debris back into my face and both eyes. Besides the bleeding to my forehead my right eye was severely damaged with metal debris having entered behind my right eye socket. I was taken to Victory Memorial Hospital and two Surgeons were flown in from Northwestern Hospital by the Navy to begin the surgery to remove the metal debris. Although my right optic nerve was damaged, I was assured that there was no damage to the brain.

After many months on IOD I was notified that I was going to be placed on Duty Disability and kicked out the door even though I begged to work light duty until my condition improved which the Physicians I was working with said it would and the CPD was provided that documentation.

At that point I proceeded to climb the ladder of rank asking for assistance in stopping this action against me. The general response was "So sorry but this is out of my hands". Frustrated, I got on the "L" and traveled downtown to the Mayor's office. One of his staff was kind enough to sit with me and look at my documentation but again, it was out of their hands. No one would listen to me!!

As I was leaving the buildings I saw the office of Alderman Edward Burke, Head of the Committee on Finance who was certainly one of the most important persons in City government and so I entered the office as a last resort. I explained at the front desk my reason for wanting to see Mr. Burke and I was directed to have a seat. Sitting there I saw many people enter and leave the office and finally

Mr. Burke came out and invited me to sit with him. For once I was sitting with a person who listened to me, asked questions and appeared to be truly interested in my situation. I left copies of the medical information with him and Mr. Burke said that he would look into it and get back to me. Less than a week later I met again with Mr. Burke and he said that the Medical Section was reviewing my case and that they would contact me soon. When the Medical Section contacted me I was told that I had to qualify with my service revolver before this case could be decided possibly in my favor. I went to the Range and easily qualified. After review by the Medical Section, I was told that I would remain active and months later returned to Duty.

Had it not been for Mr. Burke I would have not remained at a job that I loved and given the opportunity to climb a few ranks. I think what I most importantly learned from this experience and practiced, especially as a supervisor was not to discount the issues that my fellow officers would come to me with but most importantly to "listen" and focus on them because that's the only way you could help them. And finally....Thank you Mr. Burke for listening to me and supporting me as you did. Your support allowed me to return to a job I loved for over 32 years, even though I never worked another Friday the 13th !!

Stay Safe.....Russ

Yes, it's a new year, and some things that are changing: the price of food, utilities, mortgages and levels of safety and crime in and around the city. Pay attention! What happens in Chicago and Illinois affects our pension and the remainder of its funds.

The illegal, asylum seekers are depleting the revenue sources of the City and the State. Take note of the baggage they carry; much of it I cannot afford and appears they are vacationing, but they soon discover it is not what they thought. Even though they are given money, phones and other amenities with our tax dollars that are not stated. Have you heard or seen any gratitude? Instead of fighting for rights in their countries of origin, they expect handouts from us and it is never enough. The blame for this debacle is Biden, Pritzker, Lightfoot and Johnson and those who installed them. The illegals are flooding the U.S. without background checks or vaccinations, including the covid jabs that seem to be causing problems for U.S. citizen that were forced to get them. The installed officials do nothing but complain yet refuse to say the border needs closing fearing the fate of New York's mayor Eric Adams who became too vocal about the root of the problem. He is now serving time in the government's metaphorical Gulag Archipelago.

In the Chicago papers there have been letters from retired Lt's, Sgt's, and Detectives sharing thoughts on stopping the murder and mayhem increasing in Chicago. Criminals know the police cannot chase them or even stop and question them, so they are emboldened. Econ and Psych 101 teach that behavior rewarded, and behavior punished decreases as good parents know. Thugs are rewarded as they are humored by the police being punished. Everyone knows the solution is to return to effective policing

that includes stop and frisk and say nothing because they fear the race card play. Police must have the authority and backing of command to do their job. I understand recently cops were told to stand down as Palestinian protesters blocked expressways and medias did not mention it. Officers have a duty to put their families first and much of the command staff refuses to support them. Chicago's Corporation Counsel lawyers sell the police out to keep political favor and their livelihood. Do not expect Chicago to improve soon.

Again, the list of Lieutenant promotions was peppered with merit individuals. Promotions based on merit and competency seem a thing of the past. Personal profit and power trump ethics and fair treatment for the rank and file. The command structure is rife with installed political appointees. Those attempting to act ethically are soon cancelled. In February it is three years into the ongoing investigation involving on Dep. Yolanda Talley case by Inspector General Deborah Witzburg and nothing but crickets. Further, there are rumblings about her involvement in the PPP fraud investigation and rumors of demotion. Why not termination like what is happening to those at OEMC. Motion to fix? Secondcitycop.blogspot.com reported that Cook County Judges are not detaining arrestees charged with a felony, even those free on another felony. What's up?? Perhaps they too fear for their jobs. Chief Judge Tim Evans is elected by the judges, and he is the one that gives them their rotten or plum assignments. Who pulls Evan's strings? The city is more treacherous, and citizens get murdered, raped and robbed.

(continued on page 4)

**Donald Januszyk, Retired Sergeant
RCPA Trustee**

(continued from previous page)

Here's a thought; the predators that have been killing, shooting and robbing the citizens are conditioned by bad education, parenting, and government policies. Refer to the Econ and Psych 101 law.

The year will be challenging. The mayor lets favored groups do what they want in Chicago without fear of repercussions. The DNC is coming in August. Right now, the CPD has no one with the experience to handle the mass demonstrations. Us old timers remember the ability to call for a plan, and have teams available to handle mass arrests. Mr. Mayor and Mr. Superintendent what are you planning????? It appears that the only plans you have are insuring a lot of people are going to get hurt.

The primary elections are coming up, please take the time to vote and vote with your brain not so you can get a free garbage can.

**Donald Januszyk,
Retired Sergeant
RCPA Trustee**

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HISTORY COMMITTEE

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WELCOME

SPRING

2024

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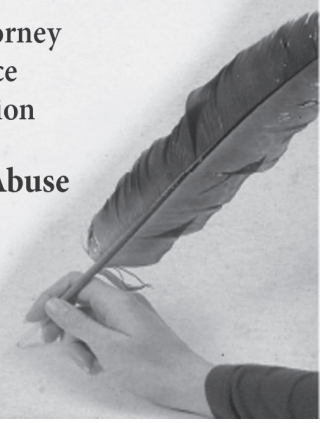
Tuohy Law Offices has served FOP members for 36 years
Tom Tuohy is the grandson of a CPD Chief and son of a CPD Detective

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or visit us at

7789 W Talcott • Chicago, Il 60631



OCTOBER DEATH NOTICES 2023

MAERSHALL ANDREWS	MICHAEL HEIL	JOSEPH MUCHARSKI	PHILIP SHERLOCK
EDWARD BARKOWSKI	DAVID HUNDRIESER	NICHOLAD NICKES	JERALD SLONSKI
ROBERT BELL	AUSTIN LAWLOR	MICHAEL PAVELICH	ALAN THIEL
WILLIAM CLANCY	THOMAS LAZAR	LESLIE PICKETT	DIANNE THOMPSON
FERANDO CRUZ	ROBERT LIVAS	HENRY PIERZCHALSKI	DANIE WALSH
EDWARD GALOWITCH	CORINE LUNT	PETER PIPER	HENRY WALSH
LIONEL GORDON	HOWARD MEDICI	MICHAEL PRIBYL	ROBERTA WOOD
WILLIAM GRIEB	DAVID MICHAELSEN	RONALD RICHARDSON	

NOVEMBER DEATH NOTICES 2023

JOSEPH BENIGNO	THOMAS DALY	KENNETH HOFFMAN	MICHAEL NAPOLI
GEORGE BOWNESS	JAMES DARLING	JAMES KUHN	BARBARA NEVERS
ANDREW BROOKS	JOHN DUDEK	DAVID MGUINEY	PETER ORTEGA
JOSEPH CHMIELIK	IVORY HAMPTON	PAUL MIAL	JOHN OWEN
SHERRY DAILLING	ROGER HEIKKILA	PATRICIA MOONEY	THOMAS REILLY
			THOMAS TINSMAN

DECEMBER DEATH NOTICES 2023

ROCCO ACCETTURA	JAMES GEORGALAS	MICHAEL LOUGHNEY	LINDA RIESS
KENNETH BLANKS	BASIL DEL GIUDICE	JOHN MCINTYRE	RICHARD SOWINSKI
ROBERT BORVAN	CHARLES HART	ROBERT T. MCVICKER age 97	RON "TOPPER" TOPCZEWSKI
KENNETH COX	DORIS HAYNES	DANIEL MULDOON	STEVEN VITEL
JOHN EGAN	JOHN KAPUT	JOHN NIELSON	LUNYE WILLIAMS
JULIEN GALLET	MARK KOOISTRA	GLENN OSKVAREK	SONIA WORTH
JAMES GEHR	JOHN LAMB	THOMAS REILLY	

CUT-OFF AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

If you are reading a yellow-colored newsletter
2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$20.00

Please return this cut-off with your CHECK or MONEY ORDER made out to:
THE RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

Please check the imprint of your name, address and annuity number on the reverse side of this newsletter. Make corrections if necessary, including apt. #, route #, etc. if applicable.

RETURN THIS CUT-OFF WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES OF \$20.00 TO:

THE RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION
5310 N. Harlem Avenue
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Owned and operated by Police Officers. Retired Capt. Tom Faragoi will donate 20% of his gross commission to the Gold Star Families, The Chicago Police Memorial Foundation or a refund to the officer. Check out www.retiredcpd.com for the up to date news of us CPD Retirees enjoying the good life in beautiful SW Florida. Sell your property in Florida for 3 to 5 percent commission. For a list of retired Chicago police officers residing in SW Florida please contact Tom Faragoi 239-770-7896.

Hamilton-Franklin Realty

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RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Treasurer's Message

If you received a WHITE NEWSLETTER, your 2024 dues are paid. If you received a YELLOW NEWSLETTER, your dues are NOT PAID and are now due. Please use the **YELLOW APPLICATION**. This is the only way to tell our members if dues are paid or not. Upon receipt of your 2024 dues, we will send you your membership card and auto decals. If you move, please notify our office and the pension office (312-744-3891) as soon as possible; provide your new address and phone number.

If any retiree groups would like to put an article in our newsletter regarding their meetings, please contact us.

Las Vegas Henderson Nevada Retiree's Breakfast

Every Friday morning at 8:30 a.m. • Willow's Golf Course - 2300 E. Horizon Ridge Ave., Henderson, Nevada

1st Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.
Cop Shop, Cape Coral, Florida - 822 S.E. 46th Lane
Tom Faragoi 239-770-7896

HAROLD BROWN
President

1st. Tuesday Of month 9:00 A.M. D'AGOSTINO
7350 W. Oakton
Steve Marshfield -773-771-0877

Treasurer

Twin Lakes Arkansas Retiree's Monthly Luncheon
3rd Friday each month at noon.
Elks Lodge, Hwy 62, Mountain Home, Arkansas
Bruce Powell 870-405-3777

SOUTH

2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.
Jedi Garden Restaurant
9266 S. Cicero Avenue