



R•C•P•A Newsletter

RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

February 2025

IF YOU RECEIVED A YELLOW NEWSLETTER, YOUR 2025 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 2025 dues, we will send you a membership card and auto decal.

President's Message

Harold Brown

By now everyone knows about the passing of the Social Security Fairness Act repealing the Windfall Elimination Provision. We are getting calls from our members asking when they will be getting their increase in Social Security and how much will they receive. If you are now receiving Social Security there is nothing you have to do to receive your benefits. At this time no one is sure when that will be but a good guess is March or April. Because of the passing of the Fairness Act if one spouse is receiving less social security than the other they may be eligible for some of their spouse's check without decreasing their spouse's benefits. Check with the S.S.A. to see what paperwork you will need.

I would like to thank John Catanzara Jr, President of Chicago John Dineen Lodge No. 7, and the FOP for their help in passing the Fairness Act.

The next meet of the RCPA will be held on February 23rd at 1:00 PM. It will be held in the FOP hall, 1412 W Washington Blvd.

As provided by state statute, a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) will be reflected in your annuity check on the last day of January, 2025.

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 is sent to annuitants receiving the minimum monthly annuity.

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

RETIRED 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 23, 2025 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.

Tom Lonergan
1st Vice President Retired Chicago Police Association.

A happy new year to everyone! In Washington Biden signed the Social Security Bill, but I'm not giving him any credit for it. Remember he voted to cut our benefits in 83 and 93. During the signing ceremony he never mentioned police officers, but did the firefighters and teachers. His speech writers are defund the police people. Due to Biden's Inflation Reduction Act everyone's health care costs went up \$40-\$43 a month for drug costs. If you are getting your health care premiums taken out of your pension check, your take home for January went down. Your take home will go up on the February check with your COLA kicking in. Good news is the inflows at the Pension Fund exceeded the out flows last year and is expected to again this year. I will be vigilant that this happens. In Springfield there are no bills that affect current retirees but I will monitor what happens with the new General Assembly session starting. In Cook County it's a pleasure to see a political candidate keep their promises. The new State's Attorney is prostituting shoplifting and gun cases that the last State's Attorney wouldn't. A safer Chicago is good for the tax base and good for the pension. In Chicago we need more police officers. As of last month there were 3160 more pension checks going out than there police officers paying into the Pension fund. There are less than 11,800 officers paying into the plan. Most of us retired with 13,500 on the payroll. Tell your Alderman we need MORE police officers!



LUNCH WITH RETIRIES FROM RADAR

It's a Happy New Year! Our new president is sworn in, but we still have the same Mayor in Chicago. At least we have a new State's Attorney who may work out well.

Things in the police department have been depressing. Off. Enrique Martinez was gunned down in November. In a video taken by a citizen, Martinez tells the offender sitting in a car to "Stop it, don't do it." The offender killed the officer by firing from a weapon that was altered and fully automatic. It is unacceptable that three uniformed officers were on the scene, and according to two separate reliable sources, none of the officers had their weapons drawn at the time of the Martinez murder. There is a department rule that if you display your weapon during a traffic stop you must notify the dispatcher. Whoever created that order has blood on their hands.

The Governor, the Mayor, and citizens want officers to de-escalate a situation. Does that mean the officers must wait for a subject to fire a weapon at them before defending themselves? According to the SCC Blog, an incident involving a marked police vehicle was being chased by another car. The squad car was fleeing in reverse while calling for help. The two officers were females. I've worked with some female officers in the past, and believe if someone gave them a hard time, their ability to defend themselves, or a partner was running a deficit. It appears the CPDs dedication to DEI is putting officers at risk. There is a rumor about a domestic disturbance that became unruly; one of the officers was picked up and slammed to the ground. The

atmosphere in the CPD makes this too easy to believe.

Governor Pritzker recently signed a bill allowing non-citizens to become police officers. What more can be done to undermine law enforcement before citizens and police revolt?

About 6 months ago Dexter Reed was driving a vehicle and was stopped by a unit with 5 officers. All officers exited their vehicle and requested Reed to step out. Reed foolishly displayed his weapon and opened fire at the officers. The officers sought cover and returned fire. Reports stated that the five officers returned 96 rounds in 41 seconds, and one officer was shot. Reed expired. The officers involved are still on limited duty, and Reed's family is suing the City for an untold amount, which the city refuses to disclose. You do your job, the offender's family gets paid, and officers suffer. It is an episode from the

Twilight Zone

This February is 3 years since her incident plus the PPO allegations and Chief Yoland Tally is still around! Has Insp. Witzburg been told to hold the results of her investigation unit until Tally retires? Chicago Mayor Johnson tried to fire Chicago School Board CEO Martinez, failing that he put his appointees on the Board, and they terminated Martinez. Mayor Johnson's prior job was a union organizer for the Chicago Public Schools employee union that wanted an outlandish contract before President Trump was sworn in. They expect the Mayor to get them one. Pity the families that cannot send their children to private schools.

(continued on page 4)

**Donald Januszyk, Retired Sergeant
RCPA Trustee**

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For the last few decades, the TV media prior to the Christmas Holidays showed military personnel from all over wishing their family and friends a Merry Christmas. This last Christmas they did not. Sadly, the corporate media leaders don't care.

Many of us, with good reason, are worried about our pensions. It would help our pension if the Gold Braid clause were eliminated. Too many bosses are promoted because of political connections and DEI. Absent competence, they cannot command. Please get in touch with your Illinois Senator, Representative, and police organizations and ask them to eliminate the Gold Braid clause.

After a noteworthy criminal incident occurs and the media brings it to the public attention, the command personnel routinely state that more police officers will be assigned to the area. This happens frequently, but from where do extra officers come? More lies and more die!

We live in interesting times. I hope my next column will offer more promise for the future. Keep your powder dry and head on swivel. Be safe!

Donald Januszyk,
Retired Sergeant

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HISTORY COMMITTEE

CHICAGO POLICE

CHICAGO POLICE

Email: cmolnar7@comcast.net

**David DiSanti
RCPA Treasurer**

I hope everyone had a holiday season filled with memories and family. Thank you to all the members who renewed their membership. The big news is that the ball President Catanzara started rolling years ago when he visited every district and watch to get signatures to repeal the WEP/GPO has become a triumph for the FOP! We have fielded dozens of calls regarding the details of the law. I advise retirees to go to the following websites for more information. Sign up for updates; I am sure we will have more information to share by the next newsletter. Again, I want to thank President Catanzara and the PAC for their work in achieving this accomplishment. President Catanzara's mission to increase our political influence in City Hall and Springfield through the Political Action Committee has borne fruit, the National Lodge is following our lead in putting political pressure on those in DC The next meeting will be held at the FOP hall at 1300. I will attempt to have someone there to address the membership and answer questions.

David DiSanti
Treasurer RCPA

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Tom Tuohy is the grandson of a CPD Chief and son of a CPD Detective

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New Social Security Act- Are you claiming the best benefit check?

The New Year starts off with good news regarding Social Security benefits. This new Social Security Fairness Act eliminates the WEP and GPO provisions that have reduced Social Security benefits. Your current benefit check should increase in 2025. It is even more important that if you are just short of the 40 Social Security Quarters that you call me to discuss your options. The GPO change may be significant for people who may have never claimed Spousal or Survivor benefits. We will have an online seminar on Wednesday February 12th to discuss the new law. Please call me or email dylane@ifcplanners.com for the online seminar link to be sent to you.

Questions? Reach out to Mike Marron at 312-802-0587 or mikem@ifcplanners.com Mike has been serving Chicago Police Officers and their families for over 35 years, initially representing the Nationwide Retirement Solutions 457 deferred compensation plan, and later joining the advisory team at the Financial Planning & Education Center of the Chicago Patrolmen's Credit Union. He was a frequent presenter at the Chicago Police Department retirement seminars and a valuable resource to our members.

Integrated Financial Concepts 1300 W Higgins Rd, Suite 218 Park Ridge, Illinois 60068



OCTOBER DEATH NOTICES 2024

LAWRENCE AUGUSTINE	JOHN DUGAN	CARMEN MALDONADO	DANA STARKS
CLINT BRANNON	THOMAS EICHLER	MICHAEL MCCOMB	TERRANCE STEFANSKI
WALTER BROWN	JOSEPH GAWLIK	THOMAS P MCDONOUGH	TRACY TUNSTALL
MICHAEL CALLAHAN	VICTOR GUTIERREZ	JOHN J. PALSON	JOSEPH VANDERBRANDEN
JOHN CHOJMACKI	NOLAN HAWKINS	ALLEN REYNOLDS	JOHN WATSON
TORRENCE DAVIS	BRUCE JOHNSON	JAMES A. REYNOLDS	EDDIE WINSTEAD
KATHLEEN DORE	JOHN KOZIEWICZ	PATRICK ROWAN	EUGENE ZALESKI
			REBERTO ZAVALA

NOVEMBER DEATH NOTICES 2024

MICHAEL ANTOLEC	KEVIN HANLON	LAURA KUBIAK	MARSHALL ROBINSON
AUGUST CAPORUSSO	DANIEL HOPKINS	ENRIQUE MARTINEZ	AARON RUIZ
JAMES J.C. CARTER	JESSE JOHNSON	LAWRENCE D. MILZ	RICHARD SANDRIK
MICHAEL DRAWHORN	JOHN KACHKA	MICHAEL O'GRADY	JACK WELLER
		DIANE PEYTON	STANLEY ZABORAC

DECEMBER DEATH NOTICES 2024

JESSE ACOSTA	RALPH CULVER	JOSEPH GORMAN	WAYNE KORA
ROMAN BOKOWSKI	RICHARD FILAS	WLLIAM HOOGLAND	ALAN KOSTKA
PETER CALANDRA	WILLIAM BILL FITZPATRICK	JACK WHITEG	ALBERT KRUEGER
BERNARD BUD CLARK	ELDNA FOSTER	STEVEN KING	LEROY LEVY
JAMES CLEMMONS	ERMILA GARZA	JOSEPH KLUPS	THOMAS MALOY
			TONITA MAESHALL

CUT-OFF AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

If you are reading a yellow-colored newsletter
2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$25.00

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 \$25.00 TO:

THE RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION
5310 N. Harlem Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60656

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Hamilton-Franklin Realty

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RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Treasurer's Message *By David DiSanti*

If you received a WHITE NEWSLETTER, your 2025 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 2025 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

DAVID DISANTI
Treasurer

SOUTH

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