

# Ohio Police



April 2025

[www.fopohio.org](http://www.fopohio.org)

Issue #8

***FOP OF OHIO WORKS FOR LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES***

## **FOP of Ohio Lobby Day !!!**

On April 2, about 40 members of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio met with their state senators and representatives to discuss the legislative priorities of the FOP. We focused on pensions in both the OP-F and PERS funds; arming our state law enforcement officers at the Departments of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Developmental Disabilities; banning quotas; funding PTSD treatment; protecting collective bargaining and providing due process for officers wrongly placed on so-called Brady lists.

The position papers used will be emailed out to the membership separately for you to continue to advocate for these important issues.



# Photos from Lobby Day





# Important Information on the National Memorial

If you plan to attend armed, you must be in uniform and you must have two forms of ID like your drivers license and department ID.

If you are not in uniform, you cannot be armed.

These are the rules of the Secret Service and Capitol Police.



## Ohio Memorial Motorcade

The FOP of Ohio holds our annual Memorial Motorcade that goes from our office in Columbus to the Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial in London. This year, we will hold it on May 8, 2025 and we ask that all agencies send a cruiser to this important event. Please arrive at 222 E. Town St. by 0915 and will depart at 1000 sharp.



## Schedule of Events

- May 6 - Blue Mass
- May 8 - Ohio Law Enforcement Memorial Service and Memorial Motorcade
- May 10 - Police Week 5K
- May 11 - Police K9 Memorial Service
- May 13- Candlelight Vigil
- May 13-15 - Tent City
- May 14 - Steve Young Honor Guard and Pipe Band Tribute
- May 15 - National Peace Officers' Memorial Service



# FOP of Ohio participates in the National FOP Spring Board Meeting

The National FOP held their Spring Board Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah and much of it was focused on the upcoming National Conference.

All of the National Board members will be seeking re-election and no challengers have come forward. Several Constitution amendments were proposed, as was a per capita increase was proposed. The delegates will be asked to vote on a \$3 per member increase in 2027 and a \$3 per member increase in 2030.

The National FOP is focused on the Protect and Serve Act as their next legislative priority.

Detroit, Houston and Nashville all have been deemed qualified to host the 2029 National FOP Conference and will be on the ballot for the delegates to choose from while we are in Miami Beach.



# FOP of Ohio Legislative Report

Mike Weinman - Director of  
Governmental Affairs



It is only the FOP  
who is working  
for cops everyday  
in the Statehouse  
and in D.C. !!!



# National FOP is making big changes to their training schedule

The National FOP has made a big change in their training schedule, moving all of their offerings to Las Vegas and the South Point Resort and Convention Center. National President Yoes advised that the FOP has outgrown Nashville and was looking for a location that could host all of the training and potentially, an expo to highlight vendors.

The schedule for 2026 will be:

- Professional wellness Forum - March 29
- Officer Wellness Summit - March 30-31
- Labor Leadership Summit - March 30-31
- Legal Counsel Seminar - March 30-31
- General Session - April 1
- Police Chaplain Summit - March 31 - April 2
- Leadership Matters - April 1-3





## PRE-65 Retiree Health Insurance

**The FOP of Ohio is in communication with Thin Blue Line Benefits about the issues our members are facing with their service. In response, they have established this customer service hotline and are reaching to members who have unpaid claims. We will continue to work to get the problems resolved for our memebrrs**



### THIN BLUE LINE B E N E F I T S

Dear Members,

We recognize that some of you may still be facing challenges with older claims. Please be assured that we are here to assist you with any claims submitted prior to December 1, 2024, and we have several options to help initiate this process.

You can connect with our dedicated claims support team by calling: 408-480-7522 or by emailing [claims@livefreelyhealth.com](mailto:claims@livefreelyhealth.com).

Alternatively, feel free to schedule a call at your convenience by clicking [here](#) or scanning the QR code below to secure an appointment.

Our Care Navigators will also be reaching out to provide updates on your claim status and will be at your service throughout the process, ensuring that your claims are successfully resolved with your providers.

We sincerely appreciate your patience and cooperation during this journey.



# FOP of Ohio will hold Spring Board

President McDonald has called for the Spring Board Meeting to be held on Saturday May 3, 2025, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the Holiday Inn, 4520 Everhard Road NW, Canton, Ohio. McKinley Lodge 2 is hosting this meeting. There will be hospitality at the hotel the evening of May 2nd.

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**The FOP of Ohio is looking to keep all of its members updated on important happenings in our organization. Is your private (non-work) email on file with the state lodge? Does your local lodge president and secretary have their contact info on file with the FOP? Are you following the FOP social media?**

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**The FOP  
is growing  
every  
day!!!**



**SUNDAY**  
**JULY 13, 2025**

**Both Classes are certified for two hours of CPT**

# **2025 FOP State Conference Training**

## **Pre-incident Education**

**11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

This training is designed to familiarize officers with the common reactions to cumulative and traumatic stress, with an emphasis on helpful coping strategies and self-care.

Deirdre is an ICISF Approved Instructor in both Group Crisis Intervention and Assisting Individuals in Crisis. Deirdre received her OPOTA instructor certification in 1992. She instructs on peer support training throughout the state. Deirdre is retired from the Blue Ash Police Department.



*Deirdre DeLong*  
Director of Critical Incident  
Response Services

## **Legal Updates**

**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

This presentation will provide the latest legal updates in an engaging, interactive format. Learn how up-to-date case law impacts Ohio law enforcement and gain the knowledge needed to make informed, legally sound decisions when you are at the B-Pillar, threshold of the doorway or when the suspect decides you must use force.

Bob Meader is an attorney, retired Columbus Police Commander, USAF veteran and adjunct college professor. Bob continues to be a proud member of the FOP for 35 years.



*Bob Meader, Esq*  
Attorney

**Delta Hotel by Marriott**  
1132 Chester Road, Cincinnati, OH 45246

# Save the Date!

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# FOP of Ohio Pushes out App

We have quite a lot going on at the State Lodge. We have hit the ground running and have been working hard. One of our ongoing initiatives is to ensure that we are getting information out to the membership in as real time as possible. Several of these initiatives will be better served with your participation.

If you have not already done so, we are asking each FOP member from Ohio to please go to [www.fopohio.org](http://www.fopohio.org) and create an account. This is a fairly simple process and does not take up a lot of time. Once you have your account created, please go to your Apple or Google Play Store on your phone and download the app titled "FOP Ohio":

Once you install the app and sign in, your smartphone app will be linked to the FOP of Ohio website.

Creating your account will not only allow us to send you important information on a real time basis but it also helps to solve our ongoing issue about keeping up-to-date contact information (member's email address and phone #) on file with the state lodge.

Please push this out to all of your members and encourage them to create their account. Keeping our members as informed as possible does nothing but benefit our organization."



The FOP of Ohio was  
invited and attended  
the Investiture  
Ceremony of Ohio  
Supreme Court  
Justice Megan  
Shanahan

# **Is your Lodge getting ready for the 2025 National FOP Conference?**

**It will be August 2nd through the 8th in Miami.**

The Ohio FOP will be staying at the Marriott Biscayne Bay and the total room cost will be \$253.12 per night. We know that is expensive but it is on the less expensive side of the options we were presented. We have contracted for less rooms than usual, so when the time comes to book, do not wait to secure your lodging.

The event package is not out yet.

There may be NFOP elections and Constitution changes to vote on. It looks like a NFOP per capita increase will be on the floor to be decided, plus loads of other important issues to be discussed. If your local lodge can attend, they absolutely should.



# **RETIREMENT DOESN'T MEAN STEPPING AWAY FROM THE BROTHERHOOD.**

**JOIN THE NATION'S LARGEST POLICE  
ORGANIZATION.**



**To all retired law enforcement members, we are proud to offer our concealed carry legal protection through the FOP Legal Defense Fund for only \$75 a year! You can learn more at <https://foplegal.com/>.**

**We also offer exclusive access to the Thin Blue Line Healthcare, amongst many other benefits of membership. You can learn more at <https://thinbluelinebenefits.com/>**

**If you know a retired law enforcement who is interested in joining the nation's Largest Police Organization contact Rob Hawley at [rhawley@fopohio.org](mailto:rhawley@fopohio.org).**



Do you know  
someone who  
“BACKS THE  
BLUE”? The FOPA  
is the organization  
for them!

The FOPA Ohio is a civilian affiliate of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Inc. Our members are friends and families of law enforcement Officers, responsible and respected business persons, professional men and women, and citizens from all walks of life—people willing to devote a portion of their time and efforts toward assisting the various law enforcement agencies of our communities, states and nation.

The FOPA Ohio is an organization formed for the purpose of increasing our understanding of the rights, duties and problems of law enforcement officers; of fostering respect for them; and of bettering conditions under which they serve society. We accomplish this through public relations, as well as legislative and educational efforts. It is our aim and objective to support law enforcement throughout Ohio in every way possible. We believe that Law is the safeguard to freedom, and it is our duty to defend it.

We all need to help the FOPA help us, by recruiting a member or two to join the FOPA. If you need information on the FOPA, please email [alodgeupdate@gmail.com](mailto:alodgeupdate@gmail.com)



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By Dr. Matthew Lounsbury

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To make a work shift manageable, something's got to give.  
By Casey L. Stinson

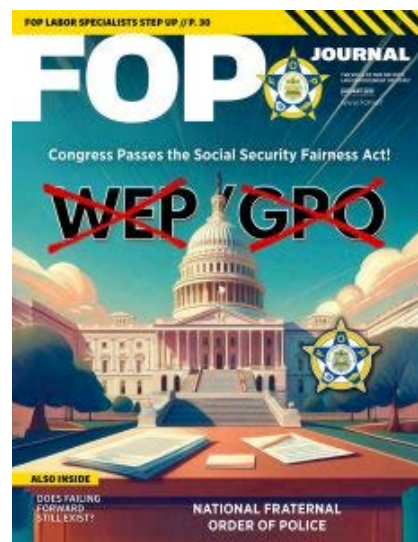
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**FOP JOURNAL**  
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at <https://fop.net/member-benefits/>

# Ohio Police

## Important Dates

May 2-3, 2025	Ohio FOP Board Meeting	Canton
May 8, 2025	Ohio Law Enforcement Memorial	London
May 13-15, 2025	Police Week	Washington D.C.
July 13-15, 2025	Ohio FOP State Conference	Cincinnati
August 2-8, 2025	National FOP Conference	Miami
October 8-10	Great Lakes Training	New Buffalo, MI

