



FOP of Ohio Attends NFOP Conference

About 200 FOP of Ohio members from across the state gathered in Miami Beach to do the business of the National Fraternal Order of Police.

President Patrick Yoes; Vice President Joe Gamaldi; Secretary Jimmy Holderfield; Treasurer James Smallwood; 2nd VP John Hoyt; and Sgt. at Arms Steve James were all re-elected without opposition.

The only election was that of the 2029 conference site and Detroit won that election over Nashville, receiving about 67% of the vote.

Several Constitution and By-law changes were adopted, including a change to the per capita that will take place in 2027 and 2030. The per capita tax due to the NFOP will rise by \$3 in 2027 and an additional \$3 in 2030.

There were speeches by several members of President Trump's administration and a video message from the President himself.

Jerry Wright of South Carolina won the Jack Dudek award as Member of the Year and Gary Nissen of California received the Chuck Canterbury Award Excellence in Leadership Award. Both are outstanding FOP men and very worthy of their respective awards.

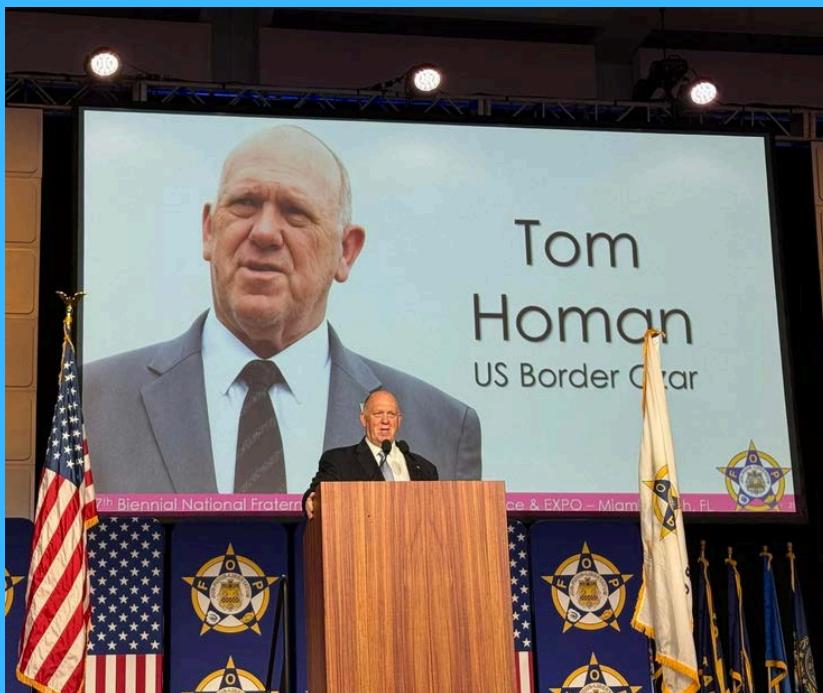


NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED FOP EXECUTIVE BOARD

**National President: Patrick Yoes; National Vice President: Joe Gamaldi;
National Secretary: Jimmy Holderfield; National Treasurer: James
Smallwood; National Second Vice President: John Hoyt
National Sergeant-at-Arms: Steve James; National Trustees Chairman:
Rob Pride**





During its 67th National Conference in Miami Beach, FOP recognized former US representatives Abigail Spanberger (Virginia) and Garrett Graves (Louisiana) with its inaugural “Armstrong Award” for their relentless commitment to securing the full benefits earned by law enforcement officers. Spanberger and Graves led the Social Security Fairness Act in the House, which President Biden signed into law earlier this year.



Queen City Lodge 69's own Bill Vogel was honored at the NFOP conference as one of the longest serving members in our great organization.

Bill turned 90 and is a treasure of the FOP and we are so grateful for his leadership.



The FOP of Ohio is proud to announce Susan Vargo has been re-elected to the position of Financial Secretary of the National FOP Auxiliary!

Congratulations Susan, we are so happy for you and we are very proud of you!!!

Michael Israel painted these fantastic pieces during our conference and they were auctioned off to support the NFOP Foundation. More than \$100,000 was raised to help our members who are in need. What a great experience to watch Mr. Israel perform and produce these amazing pieces of art.



Ohio law enforcement officers remain under attack



10TV.COM
Officer, 1 person injured after shooting involving police in Chillicothe
An officer and another person were injured in a shooting involving Chillicothe police Wed...



In the month of August, two East Cleveland officers were shot. An officer in Chillicothe was shot. Ohio had five officers shot in ambush style attacks in 2025. This is on the heels of the tragic events in Lorain in July.

These events place Ohio near the top of the list of states where officers are under fire. That is a list Ohio does not want to be near the top of. We can, and must, do better.

- We need every Ohio Congressional leader to sign onto the Protect and Serve Act.
- We need every Ohio legislator to sign onto the Larry Henderson Act.
- We need judges and prosecutors to use bail and the filing of the appropriate charges against violent criminals.
- We need community leaders, elected or not, to stop putting forth a narrative that makes the job of policing more dangerous. We must #ProtectOhioPolice.

FOP of Ohio adds first 2 members to the #ProtectOhioPolice Hall of Shame

The FOP named Cincinnati rabble rouser Iris Rowley its very first member of the Protect Ohio Police Hall of Shame. Rowley, an anti-police activist and city paid consultant, has been harassing officers for simply doing their job. Lodge 69 created an online petition calling for Rowley to have her consultant contract terminated. You can find it here: <https://www.cincypolice.com>

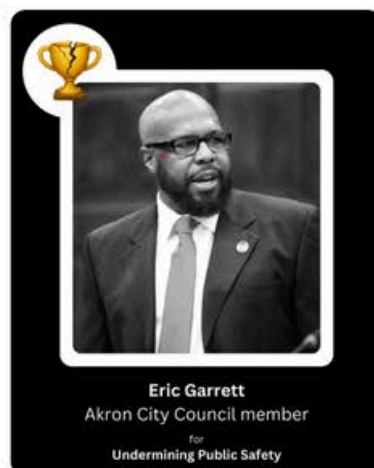
The FOP added Akron At-Large Councilman Eric Garrett to the “Hall of Shame” for undermining public safety in August.

Garrett has been a consistent and vocal opponent of the police in Akron. Most recently, he put out a statement fomenting distrust in local police after he disagreed with the decision of the grand jury not to indict officers in a 2024 officer-involved shooting.

POP, an initiative by the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, exists to hold public officials accountable when they undermine the rule of law in Ohio

Protect Ohio Police Presents:

THE HALL OF SHAME



Ohio FOP VP Assion running for OPERS Board!

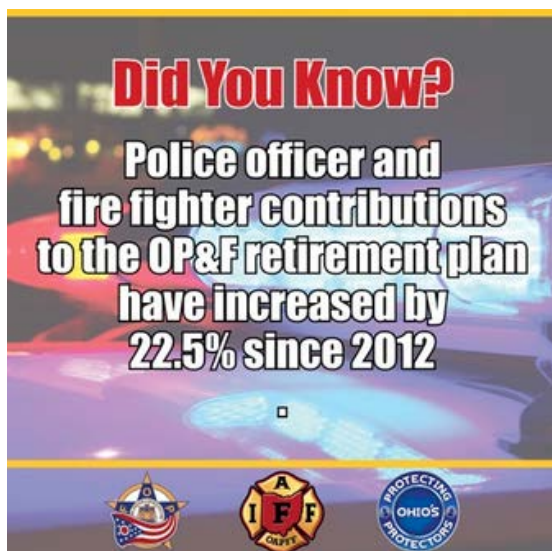
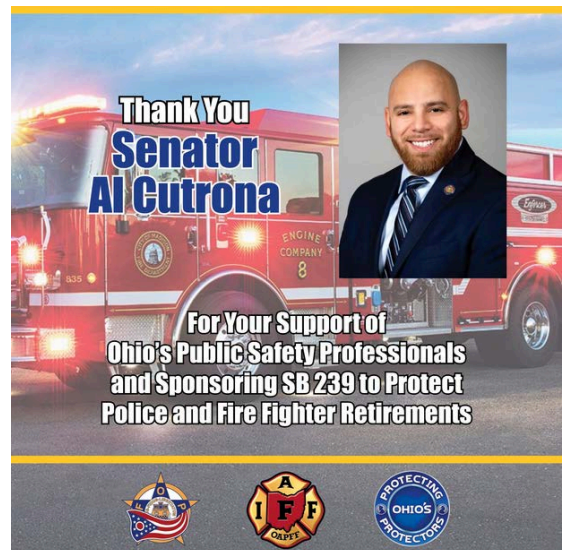
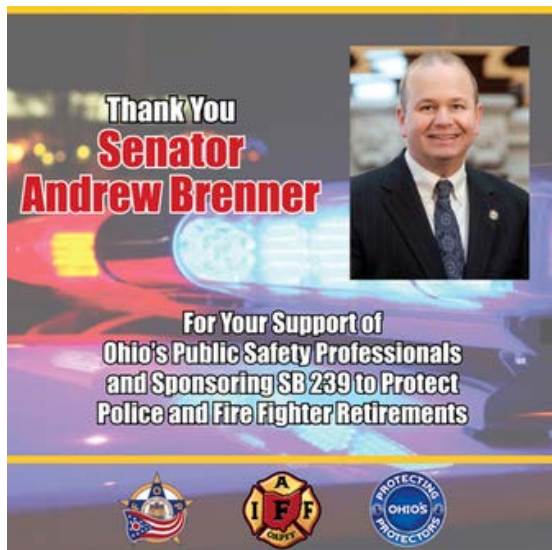


- 25 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE MAHONING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
- FORMER FOP LODGE 141 PRESIDENT
- FOP OF OHIO CURRENT VICE PRESIDENT
- U.S. MARINE CORPS VETERAN

Neither the OPERS Board nor OPERS as a system endorses any particular candidate or statement.

T.J. will be your voice on the OPERS Board

FOP goes on social media campaign to help pass OP-F employer increase! You can help by sharing our content on Facebook and X.





FOP of Ohio 3rd District Trustee Tracey Susana has organized a Poker Walk on Put-In-Bay on 9/27 to benefit the FOP of Ohio Foundation.

\$30 buy in with light lunch and pizza dinner. We will stop at 7 establishments and participants will draw a card at each stop. Top 3 hands will be paid out depending on participation. Grand Islander Hotel will be the host hotel with room rate specials for Friday and Saturday nights. 50/50 and raffle baskets. Don your best golf gear and join us for the day or weekend. Any questions, contact Tracey at tsusana@fopohio.org

FOP OF OHIO – A GREAT LEGACY



Joseph Pence – 1935-1936



Jack Dudek – 1946-1965



Dewey Stokes – 1987-1995



Steve Young – 2001-2003

Did you know that the FOP of Ohio is the oldest state lodge in the FOP and the NFOP has spent more years under the leadership of an Ohioan than any other state?

The FOP of Ohio is building on this legacy and working to grow the FOP in the Buckeye State.

If you know of any members or agencies who would like to join the FOP of Ohio, contact Rob Hawley at rhawley@fopohio.org

Preliminary Qualified Immunity Plan

Proponents of eliminating Qualified Immunity need 413,487 valid signatures from at least 44 counties and are aiming for the 2026 ballot. They have not filed a campaign finance report, indicating that they have not raised substantial revenue. They do not have an established group with political muscle backing them as of now.

Follow the playbook from Senate Bill 5

1. Build coalitions - Unions; Police and Fire groups; Mayor's Alliance; elected officials and others have all reached out to work with us to defeat proposal

2. Engage Experts - Communications Counsel and Bob Paduchik remain on our team

· **Lodges should be building social media; gathering emails/phone numbers; begin to think about financial resources; making sure members are registered to vote**

1. FOP of Ohio War Chest has funds that have been building since SB 5

2. FOP of Ohio will begin Social Media Efforts to build more followers

3. FOP of Ohio will work with local lodges to build bigger email/app database

· **MESSAGING:** Until we get direction saying otherwise informed by polling/testing, we are using:

**** Eliminating Qualified Immunity will raise taxes, increase crime and devastate the number of people willing to serve their community.***

****Eliminating Qualified Immunity hurts not just law enforcement, it targets those who educate our children, care for our elderly, and all other public employees***

§ Two kinds of messaging;

· To members, tell how it impacts them so they understand the risk

· To the public and on our social media/in press, laser focus on how it impacts the community as a whole and not on us

FOP of Ohio Legislative Report

Mike Weinman - Director of
Governmental Affairs



There are no fewer than twenty-three property tax-related bills in the Ohio House of Representatives and six in the Ohio Senate. Several property tax items were in the State operating budget, HB 96, and some of those were line-item vetoed by the governor. The House overrode one of those vetoes, but the Senate has not concurred. The House returned from its summer break to override vetoes, but the Senate did not.

The governor then formed a working group to study the property tax issue, and they have been meeting throughout the summer. He invited the legislature to participate, and the leaders of the House and Senate declined.

There is also a group collecting signatures for a ballot proposal to eliminate the property tax in Ohio. If this were to pass, it would create a collective thirty billion dollar hole in the budgets of all political subdivisions in the State. Couple this proposal with the elimination of the income tax, which is also being discussed, and the devastation would be felt by everyone in law enforcement, active, and retired. All that would be left is sales tax and user fees. The sales tax and user fees would have to be increased substantially to offset the loss.

If we do not take these measures, the consequences could be dire, including the potential failure to meet payroll and pension payments, layoffs, and the inability to purchase necessary equipment. Therefore, the FOP of Ohio is working diligently to ensure that a commonsense approach to property tax relief is implemented without negatively affecting pay, benefits, and working conditions of its members.

Register Now!

**FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE
GREAT LAKES AREA COALITION**

**LABOR,
LEADERSHIP, &
LEGISLATIVE
TRAINING**

HOTEL / SEMINAR LOCATION
Four Winds Casino & Resort
11111 Wilson Rd, New Buffalo, MI 49117

A block of rooms are available at a rate of \$149 + taxes/fees.
Cutoff to reserve a room is September 17, 2025.
Booking Info will be provided upon
registration for the training

Seminar begins 8:30 am each day.
Seminar ends 2:30pm Friday.
Lunch Provided both days.

October 9-10, 2025
Four Winds Casino & Resort
New Buffalo, Michigan

Police Use of Force Through the Lens
Dr. Mike Knetzger

Leadership In Action
Chet Effler, NCFOP

**Best Practices Immediately
Following a Critical Incident**
Marc Curtis
Defender of the Blue

Health and Wellness Needs for Leadership:
Taking Care of YOUR Officers
Mike Wierenga, 2 The Rescue

**COMMUNICATIONS
COUNSEL**

DEFENDER BLUE
DEDICATION | EXPERIENCE | RESULTS

MW **MACGILLIS WIEMER, LLC**
Attorneys at Law

2 THE RESCUE
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REGISTER NOW  Online: fopglac.com  Email: info@fopglac.com

\$100 Includes Instructional Materials, lunch both days,
hospitality reception and registration gift.

**REGISTER BY
SEPT 17, 2025**


SCAN TO REGISTER

Best training for the money in the FOP!



FOP Women's Conference

Save the Date

What: FOP Women's
Conference

Where: FOP Lodge #9
6800 Schrock Hill Ct
Columbus, OH 43229

When: Wednesday

October 29th
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**** Classes are pending CPT approval**

SAVE THE DATE



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

PATHWAYS TO EXCELLENCE EDUCATION & EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT

One Conference, Six paths: Your Training – The FOP Way

March 29 - April 3, 2026 - Las Vegas, NV

Wellness Professionals' Forum - March 29

Excellency in Chaplaincy - March 31-April 1

Wellness Summit - March 30-31

Leadership Matters - April 1-3

Labor Leadership Summit - March 30-31

Legal Counselors Seminar- March 30-31



NEW REPORT

OFFICERS SHOT & KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY THIS YEAR

DATA COLLECTED BY THE NATIONAL FOP

1 JANUARY 2025 - 31 JULY 2025

OFFICERS SHOT IN THE LINE OF DUTY

198

OFFICERS KILLED BY GUNFIRE

26

56 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
WERE SHOT IN **45** SEPARATE
AMBUSH-STYLE ATTACKS

NUMBER OF OFFICERS SHOT IN THE LINE OF
DUTY IS **-12%** FROM THIS TIME IN 2024



THE NATIONAL
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [@GLFOP](#) [@FOPNATIONAL](#)

THE NUMBER ONE
VOICE



OF AMERICA'S LAW
ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

FOP of Ohio Needs to be able to communicate with you

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 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."

— FOLLOW US ON —
FACEBOOK
—  —

www.facebook.com/fopohio

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?



Follow us on 

@FOPofOhio



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

amazon business

FOR FOP MEMBERS

GET THE GEAR YOU NEED—FASTER, CHEAPER, AND WITH BENEFITS THAT GIVE BACK TO THE FOP.

- ✓ Free Amazon Business Prime: same-day, 1-day, or 2-day shipping
- ✓ Business-only pricing: never more, often less than Amazon.com
- ✓ A percentage of eligible purchases goes directly back to the NFOP
- ✓ Access to exclusive, business-only items—including a First Responder Storefront

amazon business



What is Amazon Business for FOP?

- FREE Amazon Business Prime access with same-day, 1 day, 2 day shipping
- Business-only pricing—never more, but often less than Amazon.com
- Percentage of eligible member spend is paid directly back to NFOP
- Access to exclusive business-only items including [First Responder Storefront](#)

How do I join?

Option 1: From your phone: Scan the QR code below and enter your e-mail and name. Use a separate e-mail from your personal Amazon Prime account if you wish to keep those benefits.

Once National FOP validates your membership, you will receive an email invitation to join the NFOP Amazon Business account. Follow the steps in the e-mail invitation once you receive it and enjoy shopping.



Option 2: From your computer or phone browser: [CLICK HERE](#) and enter your e-mail and name when prompted. Use a separate e-mail if you wish to keep your personal Amazon Prime benefits.

Once validated, you will receive an e-mail invitation to join the FOP Amazon Business account. Follow the steps from the email and enjoy shopping.



Access First Responder Storefront here:



amazon business

Amazon Business for FOP Members

Get the gear you need—faster, cheaper, and with benefits that give back to the FOP.

Free Amazon Business Prime: same-day, 1-day, or 2-day shipping

Business-only pricing: never more, often less than Amazon.com

A percentage of eligible purchases goes directly back to the NFOP

Access to exclusive, business-only items—including a First Responder Storefront

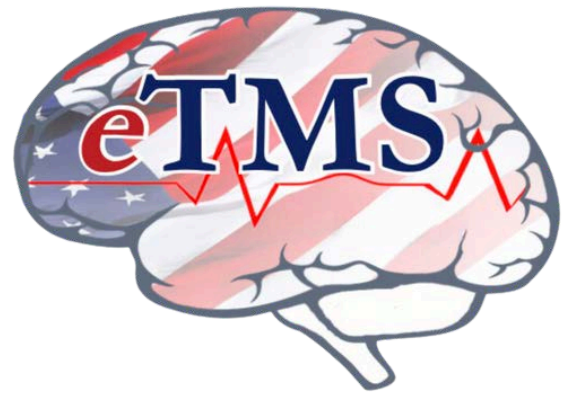
How to Join:

From your phone: Scan the QR code and enter your name and email. (Use a different email than your personal Prime if you want to keep both.)

Once your membership is verified, you'll get an email invite to join the NFOP Amazon Business account. Quick setup—big perks.

Innovative Clinical Trial Seeks to Improve Mental Health Care for Veterans and First Responders

A groundbreaking new clinical trial is underway, aimed at expanding access to a promising non-invasive brain stimulation therapy known as eTMS (Electromagnetic Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation). The trial, titled eTMS FDA, is focused on evaluating the safety and efficacy of eTMS in treating mental health conditions such as PTSD among Veterans, First Responders, and Law Enforcement Personnel.



Led by a team of dedicated clinicians, this trial is designed to help bring eTMS one step closer to FDA approval. Unlike traditional rTMS, eTMS utilizes an individualized, precision-based approach that targets specific areas of the brain to support healing and improve overall cognitive function.

Participants in the study receive treatment at no cost, and many have already reported life-changing results. The eTMS FDA trial represents not just a scientific breakthrough, but a mission-driven commitment to serving those who have served us.

For more
information or to
see if you qualify,
visit
www.etmsfda.com

RETIREMENT DOESN'T MEAN STEPPING AWAY FROM THE BROTHERHOOD.

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



The FOP works in the Statehouse and Congress on pensions and Social Security to benefit all of our retired 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/>.

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.

Member benefits, **OPTIMIZED**

Optavise engages, educates, and provides benefit guidance for your members.



\$10,000 Accidental Death Benefit

- ▷ Pays a cash benefit if a member dies accidentally or suffers a severe injury, such as loss of motion, sight or limb.
- ▷ Offers coverage 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- ▷ No financial obligation
- ▷ No medical exams, forms, or waiting period
- ▷ First 12 months complimentary at no-cost



Discount Mortgage Programs

- ▷ **Mortgage program** offers no lender fees, 1% rate buy down for 2-years, and loan forgiveness up to \$525k for on-the-job deaths in certain industries.



Member Engagement and Education

- ▷ In-person and virtual engagement available
- ▷ On-site visits at roll calls one time per year
- ▷ Drawings and prizes for members who review the new benefits



Voluntary Benefits

Offer voluntary benefits specifically beneficial to law enforcement.

- ▷ **Accidental Injury protection:** Important protection from the costs of unexpected covered injuries
- ▷ **Critical Illness protection:** A simple solution that helps cover the costs of covered critical illness, including cancer, heart, stroke.
- ▷ **Hospital coverage:** valuable protection against the costs of hospital stays
- ▷ **Life insurance:** permanent, portable and term options
- ▷ Many policies include a premium-return option, which means members get their money back after a specified period of time.*
- ▷ Coverage available for members, spouses, children, & grandchildren.
- ▷ Rates never increase due to age



Membership Services

Let us help empower your organization with impactful initiatives, such as:

- ▷ Sponsoring local, state and national conventions
- ▷ Recognizing your officers at annual awards ceremonies or galas
- ▷ Being involved in outings or charities that are important to your group

* The premium-return benefit is subject to state and product availability. The benefit has an additional charge and may pay minus claims or regardless of claims based on the policy selected. The policy must remain in force until the end of the premium-return period for the benefit to be paid.

LIMITED-BENEFIT POLICIES. These policies have limitations and exclusions. For costs and complete details of coverage, contact the agent. Most policies underwritten by Washington National Insurance Company, home office: Carmel, IN. AD&D insurance provided by third-party affiliate.

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OP-1154-FS

To learn more, contact:

Amanda Krieg

330-715-8959

amanda.krieg@optavise.com



Optavise.

Member benefits
well-advised.



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

Do you have FOP/FOPA Plates?



In cooperation with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), the FOP offers a special FOP member-only license plate and a FOPA member-only license plate.

These plates can be ordered at any local BMV Office, but first, you must receive an approved application from the Ohio State Lodge. You will receive your approved application(s) in the mail, which you can complete based on the style of plates desired and take to any local BMV.

In order to approve your application, please fill out this web form at this address :

[https://www.fopohio.org/index.cfm?
zone=%2Funionactive%2Fform_page.cfm&formID=6373](https://www.fopohio.org/index.cfm?zone=%2Funionactive%2Fform_page.cfm&formID=6373)



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False confessions
What every police officer should know
by Dr. Matthew Lounsbury

Patrol officers don't patrol
To make a work shift manageable, something's got to give.
by Casey L. Stinson

Real-time intelligence
Revolutionizing crisis response
by Anthony Thomas

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NATIONAL



POLICE CREDIT UNION
A DIVISION OF CHICAGO PATROLMEN'S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



**LEGAL
DEFENSE
PLAN**



FOP JOURNAL
Congress Passes the Social Security Fairness Act!
~~WEP~~ ~~GPO~~
ALSO INSIDE:
DOES FAILING FORWARD STILL EXIST?
NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE



ID Theft Assist SM
One Call. One Solution.

College **AVE** [®]
STUDENT LOANS

These benefits and many more can be found
at <https://fop.net/member-benefits/>

Ohio Police Important Dates

- October 8-10, 2025 Great Lakes Training New Buffalo, MI
- October 29, 2025 FOP Women's Leadership Training, Columbus
- January 23-24, 2026 FOP of Ohio Winter Board Columbus
- March 30-31, 2026 Officer Wellness Summit Las Vegas
- March 30-31, 2026 Labor Leadership Summit Las Vegas
- March 31 - April 1, 2026 Excellency in Chaplaincy Las Vegas
- April 1-3, 2026 Leadership Matters Las Vegas
- April 24-25, 2026 FOP of Ohio Spring Board Newark
- July 18-21, 2026 FOP of Ohio 90th Annual Conference Independence
- January 22-23, 2027 FOP of Ohio Winter Board Columbus
- August 9-12, 2027 National Conference Salt Lake City

