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April 2018

THE PROMISE

*Keeping Our Promise to
"Never Forget our Fallen Heroes"*

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May 12th to May 20th 33rd Annual GCPOMS Police Commemoration

Hosted by the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society, the commemoration recognizes all law enforcement officers for their dedicated service, and honors those who died in the line of duty serving their communities.

Our commemoration week begins with the Grave Marker Placement on May 12th where **volunteers** will travel throughout the region and place markers on the graves of the officers remembered on our memorial. Other events include the Candlelight Vigil at our memorial Monday evening at 8p, Heroes Welcome Thursday evening, Parade Friday morning, **Rib Roast** Friday evening, and Saturday is the main event, **The Cleveland International Tattoo**, tickets start at only \$10, which is followed by the After Tattoo cast party with music by **SUMRADA**.

If you are still in need of hotel **accommodations** please contact The DoubleTree on Lakeside.





President John F. Kennedy designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day in 1962. Since then, cities and departments across the United States have taken this week every year to honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The FBI Citizens Academy Foundation of Cleveland, partnered with the Cleveland Division of the FBI, the City of Cleveland, and the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society and have come up with a new way to honor those in law enforcement this year. We will Light Northern Ohio Blue.

Lowe's Home Improvement stores in Greater Cleveland have generously discounted blue lights for our cause. Plus, all area law enforcement members will receive a special discount off any Lowe's product or service of 10% during the Light Northern Ohio Blue campaign. In addition, stop by Only in Clev on 17025 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland, in the Kamm's Corners neighborhood, or visit <https://www.onlyinclev.com/> to purchase LNOB t-shirts.

I hope you will join us to help #LightNorthernOHblue during this year's Police Week, May 12-20, 2018.

A Proclamation



This May will be my sixth Police Unity Tour ride. Every year from May 9 thru May 12, I have ridden in memory of my

father Cleveland Police Detective John Apanites, Jr., E.O.W. 4/07/1969, who was killed by gunfire during a shoplifting incident in downtown Cleveland's Public Square. This year I will also be riding in honor of Cleveland Police Patrolman Wayne A. Leon, E.O.W. 6/25/2000. He was killed by gunfire after stopping a man suspected of being involved in a shooting the previous day.

The Police Unity Tour's motto is: "We Ride for Those Who Died". We raise awareness about America's fallen officers. I hope you will support me by making a [donation](#) to my page today.

Today in the United States, some 900,000 law enforcement officers put their lives on the line for the safety and protection of others. But that protection comes at a very high price.

A few sobering statistics:

- Every 63 hours a peace officer is killed protecting our families and communities
- Each year, there are over 15,725 assaults
- More than 13,824 injuries on law enforcement officers
- On average, 144 officers are killed in the line of duty each year

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial honors America's fallen law enforcement heroes who have died in the line of duty. Their mission is to tell the story of America's law enforcement officers and make it safer for those who serve.

My participation in the Police Unity Tour helps sponsor the Memorial and its programs like the Officer of the Month Award, Recently Fallen Alert notifications and other special projects.

With every dollar that I raise for the Police Unity Tour, I'm doing my part to honor our nation's law enforcement officers. Please help by supporting my fundraising efforts with a donation!

Thank you for generous support!

Barb Apanites

[Support Barb on her Ride](#)



Support Our Fallen Heroes

The [expansion](#) of our Memorial located at Huntington Park in downtown Cleveland is almost complete. Two new black granite pillars were added to make room for historical officers not yet listed and for the unfortunate necessity to have room for future line of duty deaths.

Our Memorial will be re-dedicated during the Memorial Service during the [33rd Annual GCPOMS Commemoration](#), Friday, May 18th.

The [Each Paver Remembers](#) campaign is an integral part of funding the almost \$200,000 that the expansion is costing. Please consider purchasing your paver to help us *"Keep the Promise to Never Forget Our Fallen Heroes"*. If you have already purchased a paver know how much we greatly appreciate your support.

Thank You to the following for purchasing your Commemorative Paver!

- **Reese Pharmaceutical Company**
- **Timothy Rinas**
- **Theresa Hart**
- **Anthony Deserto**

Thank You to Northern Ohio Printing and Vedda Printing for their generous donation of Each Paver Remembers posters, flyers and order forms.

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[Support GCPOMS by purchasing an HOF license plate...](#)



The Promise...

...a publication of the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society. The GCPOMS honors the service of fallen police officers, ensuring that they are never forgotten and providing assistance and emotional support to their families. We serve Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Geauga, Medina and Northern Summit counties. [Website...](#)

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