



THE EPITAPH



Serving the law enforcement community of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina & Northern Summit Counties

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Joe Mannion | President/Member of the GCPOMS Executive Board / Board of Directors

Welcome to the GCPOMS *The Epitaph*. The official publication for the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society®.

I hope everyone is healthy and well. Tragedy struck the Cleveland Division of Police on September 3, 2020. Detective James Skernivitz was working an undercover detail with an informant. Three males walked up to the car in which they were sitting and shot several times into Detective Skernivitz's undercover car killing Detective Skernivitz and his informant. This was a senseless and tragic happening. Detective Skernivitz was killed in the Line-of-Duty. Cleveland Police and FBI agents successfully arrested 3 individuals within a couple days.

Cleveland Division of Police, Chief Calvin Williams described Detective Skernivitz as a policemen's policeman. One who worked hard for the city he loved.

Detective Skernivitz leaves behind his wife Kristen, sons Matthew and Peyton and daughter Bayleigh. Services for Detective Skernivitz was held at Rocket Mortgage Field House and was attended by many friends and fellow officers. United States Attorney General William Barr also was in attendance, as Detective Skernivitz was sworn in as a Federal Task Force Officer at Cleveland FBI headquarters the day before he was killed.

Detective Skernivitz served 22 years as a Cleveland Police Officer. He will be remembered and never forgotten as his name will be forever inscribed on the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Wall during our annual Memorial Service, May 21, 2021. Detective James M. Skernivitz E.O.W. September 3, 2020.

Please keep the Skernivitz family and members of the Cleveland Division of Police in your prayers. I would like to thank everyone who reached out to the Skernivitz family and for the strong showing of support by all and to all of the survivors who were able to attend the service showing their support to the Skernivitz family and other survivors.

If you have been to the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial site the past few months you have noticed a 6 foot chain link fence around the perimeter. This is a temporary fence. The fence was installed due to all of the civil unrest that occurred downtown and around the country. Several police memorials around the country have been damaged by vandals. After the riot



downtown in June, after our Memorial sustained damage, the fencing was installed as a precautionary measure. The landscape around the Memorial and inside the fencing is still being maintained and kept up. Mike Eli, President and owner of Great Lakes Fence Company has graciously donated the fencing. The fencing was erected by Mike Eli and 2 of his employees, along with Bob McKeon, Michael Koubeck, Allen Biscoff, GCPOMS Board members Jim Hopkins, Dave Tomcho, Chris Russo and myself with Todd Vogler (*Memorial Parade Committee Chair*), Todd's wife Michelle and daughter Charlotte. Todd also brought 7 members of the Forsaken Defenders Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club to assist. I want to personally thank everyone that was there. It was great to see the support. GCPOMS board has not determined a date when the fencing will be taken down.

There are many ways to Honor Our Fallen. I would like to thank the Mazany Family (Patrolman Matthew Mazany EOW 06-24-2018), Bernard Buckner, Tom Lekan, Vivian McLaughlin, Donald Arrowood, Members of the Macedonia Police Department and the Cuyahoga County Chiefs of Police Association, for their support with the purchasing of pavers that make up the walk way at the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial site. Pavers are in remembrance of Fallen Officers, loved ones, and supporters of GCPOMS, while some just had words expressing their feelings. Pavers can be purchased on line at www.GCPOMS.org or by mail addressed to The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society at P.O. Box 6207 Cleveland, OH 44101.

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SURVIVORS' CORNER

Father Doug Brown | Pastor of Mary Queen of Peace in Old Brooklyn, Cleveland
Chaplain for the Cleveland Police Department

I do not remember how old I was when I found out that my great-grandfather had been a Cleveland Police Officer. As the youngest of five boys, I did not know much about my father's side of the family as my grandfather had died before I was born. However, when researching family history, we discovered that my great-grandfather, Cadet Officer William Brown, died after a shooting in 1917.

Today, we might not look at my past family history as complicated but back in the early 20th century, it was likely a source of embarrassment. My great-grandmother, Margaret, was married to a man who had died young, but not before they had three boys together, one of who was my grandfather. She met William Brown and married him, but that is all that we know. I am unsure how long they were married, but I do know that they had a daughter together. My grandfather and his two brothers were not formally adopted by my great-grandfather but took his name out of respect. When Margaret married William, he was six years younger than her.

Two years later, William was a cadet for the Cleveland Police Department. He had two brothers who also served as Cleveland Police Officers. Officer William Brown was patrolling downtown when he was called to a local café across from the new courthouse. A man was annoying a woman and flashed a gun. The manager told him to leave. As Officer William Brown approached the scene, he saw the assailant running. After yelling for him to stop, he was met with a hail of bullets. Officer Brown was struck by several shots in his right side.

He was rushed to Huron Road Hospital weak from losing so much blood. His brother Frank, a bicycle patrolman offered to give a blood transfusion. The next day, his brother Officer Theodore Brown was also prepared to give blood. My great-grandfather's leg was amputated, and he never regained consciousness, dying on September 29, 1917.

With the good work of the Cleveland Police Memorial Society, I would never know all of the details of my great-grandfather's heroic actions. It is true that our heroes are NEVER FORGOTTEN. I am proud of his service to our city and visit often the Cleveland Police Memorial in downtown Cleveland. My grandfather's badge is displayed in the badge case at Cleveland Police Headquarters. Presently, I am a Roman Catholic priest at the parish of Mary Queen of Peace in the Cleveland neighborhood of Old Brooklyn. I also proudly serve as a Cleveland Police Chaplain and fondly remember the great-grandfather I never met every time I put on my uniform.



William G. Brown | Badge #711 | Appointed February 1917 | EOW – September 29, 1917.

“Down these mean streets a man must go who is not himself mean, who is neither tarnished nor afraid. He is the hero; he is everything . . . if there were enough like him, the world would be a very safe place to live in . . .”

The Hero by Raymond Chandler, Novelist



We protect the memories of our Fallen Heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice protecting us.



Thanks to Mike Ely, owner of Great Lakes Fence Company, for graciously donating the fence to protect the Greater Cleveland Police Officers Memorial.



GCPOMS 3'x5' Flag



“Keeping the Promise to Never Forget our Fallen Heroes”®



BADGES OF COURAGE: HEROES AMONG US

Mary A. Lentz | Survivor / Secretary / Member of the GCPOMS Executive Board / Board of Directors / The Epitaph Editor

Reverend Father Douglas T. Brown

Pastor of Mary Queen of Peace in Old Brooklyn, Cleveland
Chaplain for the Cleveland Police Department and
Life Member of GCPOMS

Father Douglas T. Brown, who is an ordained Catholic Priest for the Diocese of Cleveland and a Chaplain for the Cleveland Police Department, is the great grandson of Cleveland Police Patrolman William Brown, who was killed in the Line-of-Duty on September 29, 1917. Father Brown finds that his ministry as a parish Priest and Pastor and his ministry as a Police Chaplain complement one another. Both have been a great blessing to his ministry and have brought him prayerful experiences which are spiritually and morally uplifting, as well as enabling him to become more deeply engrained in the City of Cleveland.

Father Brown was born in Willowick, the youngest of five boys. When he was eight years old, his family moved to Madison (Ohio) where he attended public grade school and high school. After graduating from high school, Father Brown enrolled in Ohio University in Athens. Upon completion of his freshman year at the age of nineteen, he decided he wanted to enter the seminary. His oldest brother had just passed away from cancer, but his parents asked him to return to Ohio University for another year. Father Brown continued on to graduate from Ohio University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Journalism. He continues to be a gifted writer, a skill he uses regularly in preparing his homilies for daily and Sunday Masses and also in his ministry as a Police Chaplain.

Father Brown has brought many talents and valuable life experiences to the priesthood and chaplaincy. Following graduation from Ohio University, he worked for a national fraternity for a year and traveled extensively. He waited tables and bartended for a year, before returning to Ohio University to secure a Master of Arts Degree in Higher Education and Administration which prepared him well for college admissions recruiting for Northern Kentucky University outside of Cincinnati. He accepted a position at the University of Akron in college admissions and then at Case Western Reserve University. By this time he was in his early thirties.

Although Father Brown had drifted from his faith in his twenties, he always maintained a deep love for the faith of his youth. In his early thirties, he had an epiphany and started to attend Mass regularly. At age thirty-three, he again felt the call to the priesthood, and he entered St. Mary Seminary in Wickliffe as a “delayed or later vocation” to begin his studies in priestly formation for the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. He was ordained at age forty upon completion of his seminary studies with a Master’s Degree in Theology and a Master of Divinity Degree. His first parish assignment in 2006 was St. Basil the Great Church in Brecksville, and in 2010 Father Brown was assigned as Pastor of



Mary Queen of Peace Church where he continues to serve the parishioners in Old Brooklyn. He loves city life and serving a Church with a very active Parish life, including an elementary school with grades pre-kindergarten through grade 8. Each grade has two classes, and the school continues to grow in size.

After about five or six years as a priest, Father Brown looked to become involved in service to law enforcement and initially became active when the RNC was in town. He became a non-denominational presence to police officers not only in the Cleveland Police Department, but also from across the Nation who came to assist the CPD during the Convention. This was the beginning of the formal process and acceptance by the Cleveland Police Department to become one of nineteen CPD Chaplains. It is a commitment to those who serve in a law enforcement capacity and to their families and fellow officers. It is a service to help others search for meaning and purpose in times of crisis. Bereavement care takes a special gift of empathy and compassion to work collaboratively with all who become a part of a tragic loss.

In 2012, Father Brown talked with Father John J. Cregan, Pastor of Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church, who Father Brown describes as the “Gold Standard of Chaplains.” Father Cregan was a Chaplain for the for the Cleveland Police Department, the FBI and other law enforcement agencies. Father Brown also spoke with Father Miceli from St. Mark Catholic Church. He made the decision that he wanted to serve the members of the Cleveland Police Department on a more permanent basis. He first sought permission from the Diocese of Cleveland to pursue this interest and then sought approval from the Chief’s Office of the Cleveland Police Department. Father Brown was sworn in as a CPD Chaplain in 2017. He considers the Chaplaincy as an extension of his Parish work. His parishioners are very supportive of his Chaplaincy service which involves calls at any time of the day or night when his presence is needed-very much like being a Parish Priest. If called in the middle of the night, Father Brown always returns to say scheduled morning and Sunday Mass at Mary Queen of Peace.

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FUNERAL SERVICE FOR JIM “SKERN” SKERNIVITZ

Friday, September 11, 2020 | Psalm 23 | St. Matthew | Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse | Father Douglas Brown

I would like to acknowledge the various VIPs and dignitaries that are here including Attorney General William Barr; Mayor Frank Jackson, Cleveland Safety Director Karrie Howard; Chief of Police Calvin Williams and anybody else I may have missed. We are all here for one man and that is James Skernivitz, otherwise known as “Skern”, “Jim”, and “Jimmy”. Our thoughts and our prayers are with his family today including his beloved wife Kristen; his son, Matthew, daughter Bayleigh, his son, Peyton; his mother, Sandy, his brother Greg as well as his large extended family and his brothers and sisters in the Cleveland Division of Police. Skern’s many friends go beyond the boundaries of the Cleveland area and are a testament to how much he was loved by so many.

It seems fitting that this service for Skern is on what has become to be known as Patriot Day and the commemoration of the terrorist attacks on 9/11 in 2001. I selected this reading for this service from the words of Jesus as He spoke the beatitudes - that is Latin for blessing. Jesus lists several qualities that will be blessed in Heaven but that may not be seen as “blessings” here in this world. One specifically struck me as relevant to today when Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called “children of God”. Jim was truly a peacemaker in his work and his life.

I don’t think there is anyone here who say that it’s been an easy time over the past several months. Between COVID-19 and it’s impact on our lives in the way of quarantine and canceled events to the recent social unrest in our cities that moved beyond peaceful protest. It hasn’t been easy, and I know it has been

particularly difficult for the families and loved ones of those who protect us. As a Police Chaplain for the past several years, I

have gotten to know many of the people who make up this blue family. And I know you’re hurting at this time and you have many questions.

Most specifically, you’re asking “Where was God in all of this?” Where was God the night that Skern lost his life? Where was God those long difficult morning hours at Metro Hospital? I know that He was there as I saw the love and support loving to Kristen and her family. I know He was there when I saw the reaction throughout the city and beyond toward the loss of Skern. I know He was there when I saw the powerful procession bringing Skern to the funeral home. And I know He’s here today.

Through all of this, I believe that God decided that we needed a hero. God has seen us these past several months and knows how hard it’s been, and He gave us a hero, a man who selflessly gave his own life in service to this city. A hero, a man who devoted himself to law enforcement in a way that was compassionate and with a sense of humor. God knew we needed a hero that was upstanding and was - as Chief Williams described Skern - a policeman’s policeman. God knew we needed a hero. And He gave us one.



Detective James Skernivitz | Badge #2249 | EOW – September 3, 2020

CLEVELAND POLICE DETECTIVE JAMES M. SKERNIVITZ EOW September 3, 2020

Father Doug Brown | Cleveland Police Chaplain

A late night call usually means that a police officer has been shot or injured. Those moments are filled with anxious thoughts about the possibility that another police officer has given his or her life in the line of duty. When I received the call, I immediately drove to Metro Hospital and witnessed the anguish and heart-wrenching grief from all present who were aware that Detective James M. Skernivitz had died from a gunshot wound to the chest. I was invited to pray with the family and fellow police officers who had

gathered at the hospital. Two police officers from the Pittsburgh Police Department, long-time friends of Detective Skernivitz, were on shift and had driven directly to Metro Hospital from Pennsylvania.

Approximately 75 Cleveland police officers and personnel along with family and friends of Detective Skernivitz lined the hospital driveway and saluted this Fallen Hero, sickened that this tragedy had happened again and promising in their hearts to never forget.

*“When a police officer is killed, it’s not an agency
that loses an officer, it’s an entire nation.”*

Chris Cosgriff, ODMP Founder



CLEVELAND POLICE DETECTIVE JAMES M. SKERNIVITZ EOW September 3, 2020

Funeral / Memorial Service at Rocket Mortgage Field House | Cleveland, Ohio

Eulogy written by Detective Skernivitz's wife Kristen and presented at her request by Father Douglas Brown

Jim wouldn't be very happy with all this attention. He was a guy who just liked to be in the background but helped everyone else shine. He worked as an usher at the Coliseum and then in this arena for more than 20 years as an usher. He enjoyed concerts and sporting events so much that he traveled all over the country to see them.

Many of you already know what a generous person Skern was. He always wanted to help others and make sure everybody was taken care of. In fact, taking care of somebody else is how he became a police officer.



Skern never aspired to be a policeman, but his buddy was coming from Pittsburgh to sit for the civil service exam hoping to join the CPD. In the days before GPS, his friend was uneasy about navigating these city streets, so Skern lovingly said, "No problem. Come to my house and I'll drive you down there." The application process was a bit different back then, so Skern decided instead of sitting in the car waiting, he'd sign up and take the test too. Four months later, Skern was in the academy. Skern graduated in the 117th class of the Cleveland Police Academy in 1998 when his son, Matt was eight years old and his wife, Kristen was pregnant with their first child, Bayleigh who was born that November.

Through his friend Hammer, Skern met many Pittsburgh Police D brothers, and he played softball tournaments all over the East Coast with Steel City Enforcers as the token cop from Cleveland and loved every minute of it. Even after he stopped playing, he was one of their biggest cheerleaders traveling to different cities just to be with the guys. Skern and his brother Greg never missed the annual trip to Las Vegas for the Police Softball World Series.

After graduating from the Cleveland Police Academy, Skern was assigned to the 3rd District where he and his partners Jeff Cox, Guy Sako, and Rick Mauer in Zone Car 313 gained notoriety for their outstanding police work AND ridiculously stress-relieving practical jokes for the men and women in the "Old Third." The Old Third crew is a family of its own, and the names are too numerous to mention, but you all know who you are and you all know you were loved by one of the best.

Skern and Kristen welcomed their son, Peyton in 2001. The same year he proudly joined the Ceremonial Team honoring men and women police officers at ceremonies all over the country. Skern remained a member of the Ceremonial Team until his own death.

In 2008 Skern was re-assigned to 2nd district and curiously the notorious humor followed. Skern was partnered with Lt. Ed Lentz.

For most of his police career, Skern was loyal to many part-time jobs providing security to multiple establishments in The Flats and on W. 25 since 2000, nearly every game of each season at Progressive Field since 2007, and so many more. Nobody could ever accuse Skern of taking a day off.

One of his favorite part-time responsibilities began in 2019 providing security at presidential rallies around the country with members of Black Tie Protection Services. What it really meant was Skern had great times and many laughs with Sgt. John Kubas catching Skern in the "Thinking Man" pose everywhere they traveled.

In 2013, Skern's final assignment landed him in the newly formed Cleveland Police Gang Impact Unit. Two years later, the Unit was awarded meritorious Cleveland Gang Unit of the year in 2015. Many GIU members were mentored by Skern and pursued higher ranks, subsequently leaving the Unit. Skern's love for the work of GIU and the camaraderie among these men and women packed a lifetime of happiness in Skern's heart during the 7 years the GIU was lucky enough to have him.

The GIU is responsible for some of the most dangerous work in the city, but Skern managed to keep everyone laughing, maybe even forgetting for a minute, just how perilous their work could be.

While in the GIU, Skern formed countless brotherhoods, but perhaps one of the most exceptional was with Sgt. Chris Mobley. One of Skern's proudest moments came when Chris was sworn in as FBI Task Force Officer assigned to Operation LEGEND. In fact, Skern was so impressed that he joined Chris and was sworn in as a FBI Task Force Officer in Operation LEGEND on September 2, 2020, just one day before the tragedy that ended his life on September 3, 2020.

Skern received many letters from community members commending his professionalism and quality of police work, as well as numerous awards from the City for the fine work he did, but he didn't boast about it. He didn't display anything. All of the well-deserved accolades were tucked away in a box that only he had access to.

Skern loved his family and protected us from realizing the danger he faced every day. At home, he was just "Dad." No frills, no fanfare, no stress.

So here we are today celebrating the hero he never wanted to be, but I always knew he was.

Skern is not the only hero on my mind today. I'd like us all to take a moment of silence to remember the heroes we lost on this day in 2001 and all those who have been lost or grieving in the aftermath of 9/11.

Skern is survived by his wife, Kristen; son, Matthew; daughter, Bayleigh; son, Peyton; his mother, Sandy; his brother, Greg and so many of Kristen's ever-loving relatives that he was certain he didn't want, but could never get away from.



FOP



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JUNE 2020

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FORGOTTEN

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National FOP Journal, June 2020

"Keeping the Promise to Never Forget our Fallen Heroes"®



BADGES OF COURAGE: HEROES AMONG US

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Mary A. Lentz | Survivor / Secretary / Member of the GCPOMS Executive Board / Board of Directors / The Epitaph Editor

Father Brown exemplifies the qualities of a dedicated Police Chaplain. A Police Chaplain understands the challenges facing law enforcement and their families, and when tragedy strikes must further understand the depth of grief experienced by the families of Fallen Heroes who have lost a husband, parent, son or daughter or friend. Whether the tragedy is of Line-of-Duty Death (LODD) or injury, a Chaplain is available 24-7 to counsel and be available when family members of law enforcement officers who respond to the loss of fellow police officer just want to talk or pray.

Police Chaplains are available to serve all in need regardless of their individual faiths or beliefs. A Chaplain is present to assist and guide family, fellow officers and friends in a crisis and to counsel and support them as they begin the journey of loss and pain. It takes special gifts to remain supportive and authentic in the midst of palpable grief and loss.

Father Brown exhibits a calm, prayerful empathy for those in need. When they are ready to begin the journey and will remain available to assist along that journey if needed. He knows that the journey to peace and healing is a very personal one to each suffering a loss. Father Brown considers every day as an opportunity to be of service to others.



Father Brown and his Mom

EDITOR'S NOTE: Months ago when it was learned that Father Brown's Great Grandfather was a Cleveland Police Officer killed in the Line-of-Duty he graciously agreed to write the Survivor's Corner for this edition of The Epitaph and also agreed to be interviewed regarding his Police Chaplaincy. Just as this newsletter was about to go to print, the horrific tragedy of the Line-of-Duty-Death of CPD Detective James M. Skernivitz occurred. The

name of Detective Skernivitz will be engraved on the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial on May 21, 2021 during National Police Week. His name will join 190 Fallen Police Heroes from 5 ½ counties in Northern Ohio and will become the 111th Cleveland Police Fallen Hero on the GCPOMS Monument.

(Mary A. Lentz, Survivor and Editor of The Epitaph)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Joe Mannion | President/Member of the GCPOMS Executive Board / Board of Directors

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Pat Sullivan, Pipe Major of the Cleveland Police Pipe & Drums, Patrolman and School Resource Officer for the Avon Police Department, recruited Supervisors and Patrolmen of the Avon Police Department to become Annual and Lifetime Members of the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society. Becoming a member is one way of supporting the Memorial. Pat himself is a Lifetime Member and strong supporter of GCPOMS. Pat said he reaches out to the young officers and explains what GCPOMS is all about. Thank you Pat and the Avon Police Department for your strong support and service. On a side note, next year will be the 25th Anniversary of the Cleveland Police Pipes & Drums.

Appreciation and thanks of the Annual Members for renewing their memberships and to the following who became Lifetime Members over the past 4 months: Jonathan Epstein, Kenneth Collins, Antonio Baez, Fred Lambing, Jessica Zuk and Linda Carroll. Your support is truly appreciated.

Even though we did not have a full Memorial Service this past May due to COVID-19, GCPOMS Board Members and some Lifetime Members, still honored our 190 Fallen Heroes that are on our Memorial. Board Members read the names of all 190 Officers and all Officers Killed-in-the-line of duty

in the United States by virtue of live streaming on the GCPOMS Facebook page. The video was viewed by thousands. Our friends from Canada, Chicago, New York who usually attend our Memorial Week, were happy to see that we were still able to Honor Our Fallen and watched the reading of names. After the names were read, a wreath was placed at the Memorial Site. The video is now on the GCPOMS website. Next year's Peace Officers Memorial Week will start on Saturday May 15, 2021 with our Grave Marker placement, May 21, 2021 with our Memorial Service, and end Saturday May 22, 2021 with our Cleveland International Tattoo.

Thanks to Law Enforcement Ministries Services of Cleveland and Megan Biscoff of Wellington for their generous donations to GCPOMS.

I want to acknowledge businesses and store owners who donated N95 face masks to the North Royalton Police Department to use during this COVID-19 Pandemic: Dr. Sam Pandreas, Ultrasteel Corporation, Oil Skimmers, Inc., and Hop Hing Restaurant, and residents Larry & Bob Stauss.

Please stay safe and healthy,

Joe Mannion, President



IN MEMORIAM

February 15, 1926 – October 25, 1966

John F. Saxton, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW February 15, 1926

Edwin A. Janes, Patrolman
Shaker Heights Police Department
EOW April 17, 1926

William G. Borgman, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW April 20, 1926

Michael B. Beuerlein, Patrolman
Parma Police Department
EOW May 20, 1926

George J. Buttermore, Patrolman
Shaker Heights Police Department
EOW May 24, 1926

Clinton Wolf, Deputy Marshal
Parma Police Department
EOW June 28, 1926

Lawrence R. Yaxley, Deputy Marshal
Mentor Village Marshal's Office
EOW January 30, 1927

Richard White, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW August 4, 1927

Albert Flemke, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW March 22, 1928

Anthony Wiczorek, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 13, 1928

Ernest L. Ford, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 19, 1928

Carl Sherman, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW March 6, 1929

Edward Butler, Detective
Cleveland Police Department
EOW November 3, 1928

Franklin J. Strohl, Deputy
Lorain County Sheriff's Office
EOW June 30, 1930

James Ryan, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW January 8, 1931

John Buettner, Detective
Cleveland Police Department
EOW August 9, 1932

Harry Rose, Marshal
Seven Hills Police Department
September 25, 1932

Herman Pabler, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW March 8, 1933

George Effinger, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW March 20, 1933

Harold Beingesser, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW July 29, 1935

Harry McCue, Detective
Cleveland Police Department
EOW July 29, 1935

Martin J. Carlin, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW August 3, 1935

William J. Burmeister, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW October 20, 1935

Joseph Ternansky, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW April 1, 1936

Otto Mosholder, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 10, 1936

Virgil T. Bayne, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 18, 1937

Gerald Bode, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 18, 1937

John J. Cleary, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
January 4, 1938

Raymond Griffin, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW May 30, 1938

Robert Wehagen, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
July 8, 1938

Louis Mlakar, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW July 20, 1938

John Luses, Deputy
U.S. Marshals Service
EOW September 8, 1938

James Goggin, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW January 13, 1939

Otto Jirecek, Marshal
Solon Police Department
EOW March 31, 1939

Clarence Smith, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW June 6, 1939

Otto J. Ziska, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW March 31, 1940

James Goodwin, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW May 4, 1942

Howard B. Taft, Patrolman
Elyria Police Department
EOW August 8, 1942

Patrick Ryan, Sergeant
Cleveland Police Department
EOW January 14, 1944

George Kirk, Patrolman
Lorain Police Department
EOW March 30, 1944

Lewis Hauschild, Detective
East Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 22, 1945

Clarence Cerell Chance, Patrolman
Cuyahoga Falls Police Department
EOW May 30, 1947

Norman Carl Reker, Patrolman
Cleveland Heights Police Department
EOW February 21, 1948

Henry L. Walton, Chief
Fairview Park Police Department
EOW March 12, 1950

Forney L. Haas, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 8, 1951

Earl D. Thomas, Lieutenant
Gates Mills Police Department
EOW December 26, 1951

Eugene Stinchcomb, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW May 12, 1952

Joyce Robbin Moore, Lieutenant
Willoughby Police Department
EOW March 22, 1955

William Hudec, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW August 30, 1955

Warren Stainbook, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW August 30, 1955

Joseph Haydu, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW May 19, 1956

Garner M. Robertson, Patrolman
Valley View Police Department
EOW July 8, 1956

Howard Scott, Deputy
Geauga County Sheriff's Department
EOW August 14, 1956

Nicholas R. Catalano, Patrolman
Mayfield Heights Police Department
EOW December 26, 1956

Edmund G. Smith, Patrolman
Wellington Police Department
EOW May 4, 1957

Edward G. Lentz, Lieutenant
Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 9, 1957

Edgar Nagie, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW March 26, 1958

Edward H. Perdian, Captain
Newburgh Heights Police Department
EOW September 15, 1960

Martin E. Mrugacz, Detective
Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 29, 1960

Michael J. George, Deputy
Lorain County Sheriff's Office
EOW January 9, 1961

Arthur W. Guenther, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW December 19, 1961

John P. Palermo, Deputy
Lorain County Sheriff's Office
EOW January 21, 1964

Lester G. Peterman, Chief
Bentleyville Police Department
EOW February 10, 1964

William Greller, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW September 18, 1964

Chester Burmeister, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
December 23, 1964

Lummie Sanders, Deputy
Geauga County Sheriff's Office
EOW July 28, 1965

Frank Humr, Patrolman
Cleveland Police Department
EOW October 29, 1965

John R. Bohl, Chief
Chardon Police Department
EOW October 25, 1966

*To be continued in the
November-December issue*

We will never forget!

"Keeping the Promise to Never Forget our Fallen Heroes"®



Visit the Memorial Mini-Market on our website for additional items to Honor Our Fallen at HonorOurFallen.us



"Keeping the Promise to Never Forget our Fallen Heroes"®

"Honor Our Fallen!" You Can Make a Difference!

Membership for the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society

Annual ☐ Individual Member \$25.00 ☐ Annual Business/Organization \$75.00

Lifetime ☐ Individual Member \$250.00 ☐ Lifetime Business/Organization \$750.00

Gift ☐ \$ _____

Name _____

Org. / Bus. _____ Contact Person _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

☐ If you are interested in becoming a GCPOMS volunteer, please check this block and we will contact you.

Please make your check or money order payable to:

The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS) | P.O. Box 6207, Cleveland, OH 44101
216-337-3537 | info@policememorialsociety.org | www.honorourfallen.us

Please remember that The Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society (GCPOMS) is a 501(c)(3) organization and your donation is tax exempt.

GCPOMS® FRONT LICENSE PLATE

The GCPOMS® logo front license plate is available for purchase online from the Memorial Mini-Market web store (HonorOurFallen.US) and is also available at all Tent Sales. The State of Ohio will no longer require a front license plate matching the back plate beginning July 1, 2020. Ohio drivers will only be required to have a back plate issued by the Ohio BMV. Please Honor Our Fallen Officers with the purchase of a GCPOMS® front plate.



Vehicle GCPOMS front plate is available from our Memorial Mini-Market on our Web site at GCPOMS.org or HonorOurFallen.us



GCPOMS® REAR LICENSE PLATE

Available to the Public!
To Order Your Plates
Visit Your Local BMV or
www.BMV.Ohio.Gov

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"Keeping the Promise to Never Forget our Fallen Heroes"®



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. Please consider showing your support for our Safety Forces at any of the following events open to the public.

Saturday, May 15, 2021

Grave Marker Placement: After a brief ceremony at 8:00 a.m. at the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial® (GCPOM®) located in Huntington Park, Lakeside Avenue and West 3rd Street, volunteers will travel throughout the region and place markers on the graves of the Officers commemorated on the GCPOM®.

Sunday, May 16, 2021

Police, Fire & EMS Memorial Mass: 9:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Angels Church, 3644 Rocky River Dr., Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Breakfast served after Mass in Linus Hall. Cost \$7.00.

Monday, May 17, 2021

Candlelight Vigil: At Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial site, begins promptly at 7:45 p.m.

Thursday, May 20, 2021

Cleveland Police Badge Case Ceremony: Begins at 11:00 a.m. 1st Floor, Cleveland Police HQ, Justice Center – 1300 Ontario Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113.

Hero's Welcome: 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. at Sausalito on Ninth, 1360 E. 9th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114. Live music and complimentary appetizers.

Friday, May 21, 2021

Parade: Steps off at 10:30 a.m. from Lakeside Avenue and East 12th Street, continuing along Lakeside Avenue to the GCPOM®. Parade participants include officers from local, county, state and federal agencies throughout the U.S. and Canada; and surviving family members of officers who made the supreme sacrifice.

Memorial Service: All are encouraged to gather at the GCPOM® at 11:30 a.m. immediately following the parade in "Keeping the Promise to Never Forget Our Fallen Heroes®."

Luncheon: For parade participants immediately following the Memorial Service at the FOP Lodge No. 8, 2249 Payne Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

Greater Cleveland Police Emerald Society: Fellowship Event, CPPA, Upstairs Hall, 1303 West 58th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44102 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Rib/Steak Roast: CPPA, Hall, 1303 West 58th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44102 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

www.honorourfallen.us Sponsored by Chicago Police Emerald Society.

Saturday, May 22, 2021

Police patch collectors show: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Double Tree Hotel, 1111 Lakeside Ave.

Cleveland International Tattoo®: Highlighting the weekend will be the "Tattoo" at Cleveland Public Hall, 500 Lakeside Ave E, Cleveland, Ohio 44114 at 7:00 p.m. A spectacular demonstration of pageantry, music, song, drill and dance. Featured performers include the Pipes and Drums of the Cleveland Police, United States Coast Guard Silent Drill Team, Ottawa Regional Pipes and Drums from Canada, and more! Tickets on sale at www.honorourfallen.us \$20.00 per person, 10 years old and under free.

After-Tattoo Party: Follow the bands back to the Double Tree Hotel at 12th and Lakeside Avenue. Featuring music by "West Awake."



POLICE WEEK MAY 15-22, 2021



Celebrated in Cleveland with the
36th Annual Police Memorial Commemoration

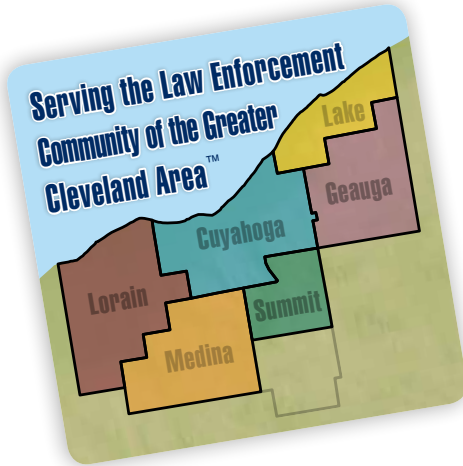
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"Keeping the Promise to Never Forget our Fallen Heroes"®

THE
EPITAPH



P.O. Box 6207
Cleveland, OH 44101



Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Commemorative Paver

The Memorial in Downtown Cleveland honors Northern Ohio Peace Officers killed in the line of duty in Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina and Northern Summit Counties. This beautiful Memorial located on the corner of West 3rd and Lakeside Avenue (Huntington Park) features dark granite pillars inscribed with the names of Fallen Officers.

Purchase a Paver to Show Your Support

You can choose your own **personalized message** to remember or honor a person, or even promote your business or organization. Your engraved paver will be on view permanently at the memorial where visitors will pay their tributes for generations to come.

Paver Sponsor Levels *(tax deductible)*

\$100 - 6"x 6"	\$250 - 6"x 12"	\$1,000 - 12"x 12"
Max 5 lines, 14 characters / line	Max 5 lines 28 characters / line	Max 5 lines 28 characters / line

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