

Police Benevolent &
Protective Association
Unit 156A

Chicago Police
Sergeants' Association
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Inside this issue:

Food for Thought
Chaplain's Corner
Membership Report
Recent Retirees
In Memoriam
Retiree Info
Golf Outing
...and much more

Chevrons

Chicago Police Sergeants' Association Newsletter

April 2026 Volume 67 Number 2

President's Message

By President James Calvino



Thank you to all of you! I know it is not said enough, and that is unfortunately just the way it is. Most of the time, the general public has no idea that the Police are out there, every minute of every day, doing what needs to be done. When a tragedy is so huge that it affects thousands or even just hundreds, then everyone is on the love the Police bandwagon. They wave and say hi even though they have no idea who you are, except the Police. They stop to talk, not about the reason you stopped or pulled someone over, but to say "Thank you" or offer some other kind words. Now that is not to say none of the citizens out there don't appreciate the Police, as there are still plenty, but not enough for sure. Why can they not see the day in and day out sacrifices you all do? Part of the reason is our lack of political support in the City. There are too few politicians out there who openly praise and thank you. Saying thank you or I support you when there is no one else in the room means very little. We need politicians who are willing to yell at the top of their voices, "I SUPPORT THE POLICE!" And not just say it but mean it in the legislation they propose and pass. Please remember that when it comes time to cast your ballot!

The City recently revealed the results of a study on staffing for the Department, which found we need more Police. Imagine that, this is something that the Police have been saying for a while now. In fact, it calls for nearly 100 more Sergeants alone. The 2026 tentative budget called for 1421 total Sergeants, which includes 6 Sergeants titled as Legal Officer II. As you will see later in this edition, there are 50 soon-to-be Sergeants in pre-service training. Great right? Well, not really, as with those 50, we are still short of the 1421. Why promote a class and not bring us to our full budget number? Especially since the study that was authorized by the City says we should have nearly 100 more than the budgeted amount. Penny-wise and dollar-foolish, I say. Arguably, the most important supervisory position is Sergeant. *...Continues on page 2*

President's Message*continued from page 1*

It is the link between the street and the office. Officers look for guidance and a mentor, and that is a role fulfilled by their Sergeant. A Sergeant who is saddled with 15 to 20 Officers can not properly complete that role. This is a disservice not only to the many great Members of this Department but also to the citizens of this City. One can only hope that City Hall finally realizes that supervision is not something they can skimp on.

A few weeks ago, we visited the soon-to-be Sergeants in preservice training. And as with every class, the most important thing we told them was the need to follow the GO on obtaining a CR. I know this is not something that the FOP and Officers like to hear, but it is what we must do. It is part of our required responsibilities as Sergeants. There is no judgment allowed; it is not an item that we have the authority to decide. The going discipline for not obtaining a CR is a 5-day suspension. These are open and shut investigations. Did you obtain a CR when a complainant requested? No? Well, there really isn't a defense to that. Please do yourself a favor and get the number, or the next number will be yours.

The Annual Active Death Benefit Golf Outing will be held on Monday, 10 August. You will soon receive raffle tickets as well as registration info. Please complete and send back the raffle tickets as soon as possible. Don't toss them aside and say I'll send them in tomorrow, next week, or later, do it when you get them, and you won't forget. Last year's golf outing was one of the least attended I have seen. I don't know why. The outing is a great time; it allows us to get together in a great setting and have some fun with friends. Regardless if you are part of a foursome or are playing as a single, the outing will be one of the highlights of your year. If you are PGA material or can't even make a 2-foot putt, it doesn't matter; everyone is welcome!

You will have a great time just mingling out there. See page 12 for more info and a registration form. Let's get both courses filled this year! I hope to see you all out there.

I'd like to take a step back and go back to the politicians. House Bill 4414 was introduced by Rep Anne Stava (81st District). This bill requires all handgun ammunition to have a serial number on it. And it adds a 5-cent tax per round for the infrastructure and implementation of the policy. Police would be exempt for their duty ammunition, but what about all the non-duty ammo? What about all the ammo that is currently in law-abiding citizens' hands? Well, as the law reads, beginning January 1, 2027, any handgun ammo manufactured in the state, imported into the state for sale or personal use, kept for sale, offered or exposed for sale, given or lent, must be serialized. So, with that, I would have to say that no ammo would be "grandfathered". Well then, what happens to all the non-serialized ammo someone has? Do we have to move it to a normal state? What about the cost that a person would incur to come into compliance? What happens when you go to a public range and drop a few rounds that go rolling down range? Are you now responsible to go track them down so that they are accounted for? Oh, wait, you bought how many rounds? Well, now you are popping up on the State Police's database for purchasing over X rounds. Are they now knocking on your door, asking why you need so many rounds? This does nothing for public safety. Just another insane law to hinder the law-abiding citizens' 2nd Amendment rights. How about we go back to locking up real criminals and holding them accountable by putting them behind bars? That is public safety! Please remember this on election day and show these politicians where the unemployment line is.

I recently had the opportunity to attend

...Continues on page 15

Vice President's Report *By Vice President Danielle Barnes*

We currently have one hundred and sixty-two (162) open grievances. I am happy to report that the longest suspension grievance that our members have received since 2025 is forty-five (45) days. Previously, COPA routinely issued excessive suspensions of 30, 60, 90, 180, and 365 days. The majority of those grievances had successful outcomes for the affected members. Most of the cases were settled for no discipline due to the delay in the investigation, or the members were offered drastically reduced penalties. Three of those cases remain open and are in the arbitration process.

Medical Grievances	9
Suspension Grievances 1-10 Days	45
Suspension Grievances 11-15 Days	8
Suspension Grievances 20 days	4
Suspension Grievances 21-30 Days	6
Suspension Grievances 45 Days	2
Suspension Grievances 60 Days	1
Suspension Grievances 90 Days	1
Suspension Grievances 180 days	1

For those who are contemplating retirement, please keep the following in mind:

- Review the retirement videos posted on the WIRE.
- Please call the Pension Board before submitting a PAR form for retirement.
- Members (Age 55-59) can retire 01 May through 31 December and must give thirty (30) days' notice to be eligible for the insurance benefit (3.5%).
- Members (Age 60-62) can retire at any time of year, and notice is not required to be eligible for the insurance benefit (1.5%).
- Members (Age 63) receive free insurance
- Members who are not eligible (Age 54 and younger) or do not choose the RHC option can retire without notice.
- All members are placed on Medicare on the first day of their 65th birthday month.

I would also like to remind all members to check their pay stubs for any discrepancies, such as step raise increases. As always, please take care, stay safe, and thanks for the opportunity to continue serving the membership. Wishing everyone a prosperous new year!

Walking Wednesdays / Fitness Group

Retired Sgt. Shawn Kennedy hosts Walking Wednesdays. It takes place every Wednesday at 7am at Dr. Conrad Worrill Track & Field Center (Indoor Track) 10201 S. Cottage Grove Ave, Chicago, IL 60628. In addition to the walking, there is also weight training, and other fitness / exercise options. The events are open to all no matter what your fitness level is currently. For those with any questions please reach out to Shawn directly at: 312-351-0441.

“Does G-d Exist?”

By Rabbi Moshe Wolf - Chaplain

This is one of the best explanations that I use with my flock of why it seems that G-d allows pain and suffering. It's an explanation some people will understand, and those that don't, at least it will give them something to ponder.

A man went to a barbershop to have his hair cut and his beard trimmed. As the barber began to work, they began to have a good conversation. They talked about many things and various subjects. When they eventually touched on the subject of G-d, the barber said: "I don't believe that G-d exists." "Why do you say that?" asked the customer. "Well, you just have to go out in the street to realize that G-d doesn't exist. Tell me, if G-d existed, would there be so many sick people and poor people? Would there be abandoned children? If G-d existed, there would be neither suffering nor pain. And especially all the hate we see. I can't imagine a loving a G-d who would allow all of these things to be." The customer thought for a moment, but didn't respond because he didn't want to start an argument. The barber finished his job, and the customer left the shop. Just after he left the barbershop, he saw a man in the street with long, stringy, dirty hair and an untrimmed beard. He looked dirty and unkempt! The customer turned back and entered the barber shop again, and he said to the barber: "You know what? Barbers do not exist." "How can you say that?" asked the surprised barber. "I am here, and I am a barber, and I just worked on you!" "No!" the customer exclaimed. "Barbers don't exist because if they did, there would be no people with dirty, long hair and untrimmed beards, like that man outside." "Ah, but barbers DO exist! What happens is, people do not come to me." "Exactly!" affirmed the customer. "That's the point! G-d, too, DOES exist! What happens is, people don't go to Him and do not look for Him. You can have a prayer book on the shelf, but if you don't read it, you can't nourish your soul. It's like having a subscription for medication for your cold, but you don't fill it. Sometimes people forget to fill their spiritual subscriptions or to read the signals. That's why there's so much pain and suffering in the world."

The following anecdote will drive the point home..... "G—d's Signal"

A farmer is in Iowa during a flood. The river is

overflowing, with water surrounding the farmer's home up to his front porch. As he is standing there, a boat comes up. The man in the boat says, "Jump in, I'll take you to safety". The farmer crosses his arms and says stubbornly, "Nope, I put my trust in G-d." The boat goes away. The water rises to the second floor. Another boat comes up; the man says to the farmer who is now in the second-story window, "Jump in, I'll save you." The farmer again says, "Nope, I put my trust in G-d." The boat goes away. Now the water is up to the roof. As the farmer stands on the roof, a helicopter comes over and drops a ladder. The pilot yells down to the farmer, "I'll save you, climb the ladder." The farmer says, "Nope, I put my trust in G-d." The helicopter goes away. The water continues to rise and sweeps the farmer off the roof. He drowns. The farmer goes to heaven. G-d sees him and says, "What are you doing here?" The farmer says, "I put my trust in you, and you let me down." G-d says, "What do you mean, let you down? I sent you two boats and a helicopter!"

So, as we enter a new year, let's make a resolution to renew our faith and keep our eyes open to the heavenly signals, they may come in ways you least expect.

And before we close, a bit of humor from the "Moshe Files"...." The Taxi Driver"

A passenger in a taxi leaned over to ask the driver a question and tapped him on the shoulder. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb, and stopped just inches from a large plate-glass window. For a few moments, everything was silent in the cab, and then the still-shaking driver said, "I'm sorry, but you scared the daylights out of me." The frightened passenger apologized to the driver and said he didn't realize a mere tap on the shoulder could frighten him so much. The driver replied, "No, no, I'm sorry! It's entirely my fault. Today is my first day driving a cab. I've been driving a hearse for the last 25 years.".....LOL

On behalf of ALL the Chaplains, May G-d bless you and keep you safe. Amen.

Should you need

...Continues on next page

“Does G-d Exist?”*cont. from pre page*

an ear to listen, a shoulder to lean on, or perhaps have some good humor or good stories to share, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Visit the Chaplains website at: www.chicagopcm.org

Compliments of your Police Chaplain
 Rabbi Moshe Wolf 773-463-4780 (voice mail)
 Cell:773-230-7872 text or moshewolf@hotmail.com
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Safeguarding Your Family**By: Sgt-At-Arms Robert Shoup**

Tragedy or loss can strike a family at any time. With the sudden death or sickness of a loved one, the family may end up overwhelmed with the responsibilities they will now have to handle from the loss. They will also have to deal with any financial issues that arise, such as bills, mortgages, etc. This is why creating a will or a trust is one of the things you can do to ease hardship and the extra stress on your family in an already stressful situation.

A will is a document that says how you want your money and property given out after you pass away. You can choose who gets what and, importantly, choose a guardian for any minor children. If you don't have a will, the state will decide how your estate is given out. This can leave out partners, close friends, or a charity you care about. Without planning the process of sorting out, your estate can take months or years, costing a lot of money and adding to the stress.

Trusts work with wills to provide security, especially in complex situations. A revocable living trust lets you put assets into the trust while you're still alive and keep control of them. When you die or can't work, your assets go directly to your beneficiaries without going through the sorting-out process. This means your family gets the money faster, and it costs less. There's more privacy. You can also control how the money is given out. For example, you

might schedule payments to adults or secure assets for someone with special needs.

These strategies can help keep things from going awry in times of tragedy:

- They make sure your assets go where you want them to, preventing family fights.
- They make things easier for survivors by letting them grieve without going through court cases.
- You can relax, knowing the person you choose will care for your children, not a stranger chosen by the court.
- Trusts even help if you lose the ability to make decisions, letting someone you appoint manage your affairs smoothly.

A lot of people put off estate planning, me included, because they think nothing bad will happen soon or that they don't have enough to protect. Unexpected events can happen to anyone with loved ones, a home, savings, or sentimental items. It is neither hard nor overly expensive to make a will and trust. A lawyer who specializes in estate planning can ensure everything is done correctly. In a world of unknowns, these documents give you something certain. Your wishes will be. Your family will be taken care of, no matter what happens. Plan for the unexpected today. Your future self and those you care about will benefit.



From Your Directing Chaplain, Fr. Dan Brandt...



On Christmas night and New Year's Eve, some of my elves and I visited several districts to distribute care packages made by six generous high school students. The bags, filled with candy, gum, beef jerky, etc., put smiles on a lot of faces...as evidenced here in 007! When we missed a roll call, we gave the available Sergeant a big bag full of these care packages, so that he/she could share them with the next tour(s), along with our prayerful regards.

As we progress through the Lenten season, I pray yours is going well, and your faith life is benefiting from your Lenten practices of increased prayer, almsgiving, and sacrifice/fasting. If you happen to celebrate a different season at this time of year, I pray the very same, that this special time be one of blessing for you and your loved ones. This year, Ramadan began the same day as Ash Wednesday...and Passover begins on 01 APR. Lots of good stuff is going on these days! May it be spiritually fruitful for you and yours!

Last month, Chicago Police Officer Jay Cuaresma received a handmade quilt from Quilts for Cops

(QFC), presented by Chaplain Kimberly Lewis-Davis. QFC presents such lovingly-made pieces of art following life-changing injuries in



the line of duty.

Officer Cuaresma's injuries were a result of responding to a 10-1 call last November when struck by another vehicle driving at a high rate of speed. Thank God, he is on the road to recovery.

Interestingly, Jay's last name, Cuaresma, is Spanish for LENT. How fitting that a quilt should be presented during the Lenten season! I call that a "GMC"...a **God-Made Coincidence**. These happen all the time; *we just have to notice them*.

In recent months, Chaplain Selenica and some of our Chaplains Unit colleagues have been busy presenting quilts to deserving officers. To see all of them and read the related narratives, please visit our website's "Photo Album" page. Also, if you have a suggestion for a worthy quilt recipient, please contact Chaplain Selenica at Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org.

Thank you to QFC for supporting our police in such a generous way. If you would like more information about this wonderful organization, headed here in Chicago by a retired PO/E.T., check out the home page on our website.



During the Lenten season, many people try to pray more intentionally. So, just a reminder: every Friday at 1:00 p.m., the Chaplains Section hosts a Bible study/prayer/faith-sharing group at the police academy. No matter your faith tradition, ALL are welcome to share and hear words of encouragement at these brief Christian-based gatherings.

A similar (though more intimate in size) non-denominational Christian prayer opportunity is offered every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Public Safety Headquarters.

And a Muslim Jumma service is prayed every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in room 202 of the academy.



To confirm times, or if you'd like more information, please email Joseph.Jackson@ChicagoPolice.org, Kimberly.LewisDavis@ChicagoPolice.org, fael.Yanez@ChicagoPolice.org, or Hysni.Selenica@ChicagoPolice.org.

Kimberly Lewis-Davis

Easter Sunday is celebrated on 05 APR. The police Mass will be celebrated... ***Continues on next page***

From Your Directing Chaplain, Fr. Dan Brandt...

continued from previous page

brated at Mercy Home (1140 W. Jackson Boulevard) at **10:00 a.m.** The following week, we return to the usual 11:00 a.m. second- and fourth-Sunday Mass.

Coming up on Friday evening, 17 APR, we again have the “Battle of the Badges” boxing exhibition between members of CPD and CFD, hosted by DeLaSalle High School. My friend and colleague, Chaplain Hysni Selenica, has been training for many months to compete in this event. Please join me in cheering him on! More information on this evening can be found on our website.

I hope to see you on any of the above-mentioned occasions. In the meantime, may God continue to bless you and keep you safe...especially during this sacred time!

Fr. Dan Brandt, *Directing CPD Chaplain*

773/550-2369 (cell/text)

dan.brandt@chicagopolice.org www.ChicagoPCM.org

Membership Report *By Vice President Danielle Barnes*

Subtracting the Retirees and adding the 50 soon-to-be promoted listed in this edition of Chevrons, there are 1387 Active Members of the Association. The 2026 budgeted strength for our rank is 1421 which puts us 34 Sergeants short. Currently, we have nearly 1400 retired Members.

Retiree Gatherings

8th District Retiree Luncheon (8 Balls) is generally on the last Wednesday of the month at Noon, at the Les Brothers Restaurant, 8705 S Ridgeland Oak Lawn. Contact Dorothy Piscitelli at 733-972-0139 for any last minute changes.

Orland Park Law Enforcement Organization (OPLEO) meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month, 7:30 pm, at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 Ravinia Orland Park. Contact Rich Miller 708-277-8632 for any last minute changes.

South Side Retirees meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10 am Country House Restaurant, 5400 W 127th St Crestwood.

North Side Retirees meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 9 am D’Agostino 7350 W Oakton For Info Call: Ken Houser at 312-485-8388.

Recent Retirements

The following have retired since our last Chevrons. These Sergeants have provided Chicago with many years of service. We wish a long, healthy and prosperous retirement to all!!

Name	Star	Unit	Age	Years	Retirement Date
Sgt Joe A Holt	2493	114	50	21	23 Feb 2026
Sgt Adrian Navar	1715	025	36	8	09 Jan 2026
Sgt Lynn M Meuris	1369	007	54	20	15 Jan 2026
Sgt Peter Torres	1976	010	61	29	15 Jan 2026
Sgt Amelia A Kessem	2190	016	50	26	09 Mar 2026
Sgt Mark T Warner	2413	006	62	27	15 Mar 2026

Pension Report

By: John Lally Pension Board Rep

A LOOK BACK

There is one question I am asked more often than any other by members: "Will there always be a pension there for me?" I believe the simple answer is "yes", but of course it is more complicated than that, and it is contingent upon the City continuing to make its required contributions every year. To this point, the City has done so, and I think it is a good time to look back and see how contributions have increased since the statute was changed to determine the City's contributions from a simple multiplier (two times employee contributions) to an Actuarially Required Contribution.

From the year 2000 to the year 2014, the City paid less than \$200 million per year into our fund. They did this despite the fact that benefit payments rose during that time from about \$300 million in 2000 to around \$650 million in 2014. The Fund was regularly liquidating assets to make benefit payments. In that same period of time, the Fund's funding ratio of total liabilities precipitously dropped from 70% to around 25%. The City had been repeatedly warned that if this trend continued, the Fund would become insolvent. The City ignored those warnings and continued to pay into our Fund only what was required of them by law. Thankfully, the law has changed, and the City's contributions have dramatically increased since then. The City cried at the time that they would not be able to keep up with these required contributions. This has proven to not be the case.

The City contributed \$188.4 million into our fund in 2014. As I stated, this was woefully inadequate to maintain the Fund's sustainability. The following year, in 2015, the City was required to pay just under \$600 million into our fund. Those required contributions have steadily risen each year to the point where they were \$929 million last year and \$1.042 billion this year. Through 2025, the City has made all of these payments in full, along with supplemental payments in each of the last three years. Now, I don't bring all of this up to try and paint a picture that all is rosy with our fund, and there is nothing with which to concern ourselves. I bring it up to show that the practices of the City have changed when it comes to funding our pensions. Don't get me wrong. The City was forced to do it, and it is in its

own interest to make these supplemental payments, so as not to increase liabilities down the road and to not adversely affect the City's bond rating. However, we really don't care why they are making the payments, as long as they are doing so. We are asking nothing more than what is promised to us. The mess that was created was created by our city's government, no one else. That is why any cries from the City that they have to pay too much should fall on deaf ears. We need to continue to hold them accountable and protect the Fund.

ELECTION RESULTS

A special election was held in February following the death of our friend and annuitant member representative, Tom Lonergan. Tom was a true gentleman, a devoted advocate for both active and retired members, and a great asset to us all. He will be sorely missed. Saul Del Rivero was elected as the new representative for annuitant members. Congratulations and welcome to Saul as he joins us on the board.

FUNDING

The Fund has received the entirety of the City's required payment of \$929,066,000 for tax year 2024 (payment year 2025). As of the February meeting, the Fund had received \$125,612,169 of the City's required payment for tax year 2025 (payment year 2026). At the end of 2025, the Fund's investments totaled \$3.788 billion. This is \$467 million more than we had at the end of 2024, when the Fund's investments stood at \$3.321 billion.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at my department email address john.lally@chicagopolice.org or at jlally@chipabf.org Take care and stay safe!



Should my partner and I buy a house together even though we're not married?

By: Doug Aller, New Concept Benefit Group

If you want to buy a home with your partner, you may be able to qualify for a larger mortgage than if one partner applied for the loan.

However, be aware that unmarried partners have some unique considerations that married couples don't have. The laws dealing with the distribution of property when a couple splits up, or a partner dies, are few and vague when the couple is not married.

It is crucial for unmarried partners to have a detailed written agreement regarding their respective ownership interests in the property and their intentions for distribution of the property if either partner should die or if the relationship ends.

Both partners should also keep thorough and accurate records of their respective contributions.

You and your partner can own the property in one of many ways, including:

- Joint tenants with rights of survivorship
- Tenants in common
- Individually, in one of your names
- In trust

Joint Tenancy with Rights of Survivorship means that when one partner dies, the surviving partner automatically owns the entire property, bypassing the probate process. This way of owning property may make it more difficult to sell your share of the property without your partner's consent. However, it may also offer creditor protection because neither partner owns a separate share; instead, both own equal rights in the entire property.

Tenants in Common, you and your partner can each leave your portion of the property to whom ever you choose in your wills. Creditors of tenants in common may have an easier time attaching the property than if it were owned jointly with rights of survivorship.

Individually, in one of your names. This is where you and your partner may decide that only one of you will own the property. However, if you choose individual ownership, beware. The person named on the deed will be able to sell the property without the consent or even the knowledge of the other partner.

Property held in Trust -You can also choose to own the property in trust, with the trust agreement spelling out the rights and obligations of each partner. This method spells out, in writing, each person's ownership interest in the property as well as the mutually agreed-upon terms should one partner die, or the relationship dissolves.

You'll want to get advice from an experienced attorney on all of the ownership options available to you and your partner

New Concept Benefit Group is an independent tax accounting, legal, financial advisory, and financial education firm located in Westmont, IL. We specialize in serving the unique financial, tax accounting, and legal needs of first responders. New Concept Benefit Group can be contacted at www.ncbg.net or via phone at 708-415-0497. For more information on New Concept Benefit Group, scan the QR code below.



Attention Members

Don't miss out on this year's golf outing! Registration form and information can be found on page 12. On page 13, is the flyer for this year's gun raffle, get your tickets today!

Next CPSA General Meeting 21 May 2026 6:00 pm

SAVE Act

By: Retired Sgt Bob Kirchner

Currently, Congress is trying to pass the SAVE ACT, which would require voters to show identification when voting. It would also require states to update and maintain voter rolls to ensure only American citizens are allowed to vote in Federal elections. You would think this common-sense law would be a no-brainer and pass easily. But no! According to the Democratic Party, asking to show identification for voting is racist. That's right, asking for an ID is now racist. Since moving to Florida, I have had to show my identification to cast my ballot. Nobody complains, and no one thinks it is racist. In the 2024 general elections, Florida counted over 8.5 million votes before 11:00 pm. Unlike California, which took almost 30 days to count their votes. So why is asking for identification racist? Let's look at what you must show identification to obtain. A driver's license, a fishing license, a hunting license, a marriage license, and a business license. You must show identification to get copies of birth certificates, death certificates, marriage certificates, buy a car, buy a house, buy a weapon, or buy a boat. Open a bank account, apply for a car loan, house loan, personal loan, apply for a credit card, apply for a library

card, and apply for a job. You must show identification to board a plane, obtain a passport, or join the military. If you are young or look young, you need id to purchase alcohol or tobacco. This has been an accepted common practice for years, and people understand this. But in Illinois and in Democratic run states, you don't need to show identification to be able to vote. Can someone please explain how requiring identification is racist?

Retirees, remember if you are turning 65 soon, you need to apply for Medicare 3 months prior to your birthday month. So, if your birthday is in June, you should apply for Medicare in March. If you have applied for your Social Security benefits before age 65, you need to apply for Medicare, as the Social Security Administration will automatically enroll you in Medicare. If you're taking advantage of the City providing your health insurance until age 65, the city automatically cuts off you and your spouse the first day of the month you turn 65.

Until next time, stay safe. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the Sergeants' Association Golf outing in August.

Bob Kirchner. Retired and loving it

Legal Defense Representation

Police Benevolent Labor Committee Chicago Law Office

Attorney Donna Dowd

Attorney Jason Lee

Attorney Andy Dalkin

Attorney Keith Karlson

Phone: 312-453-7751

1616 W Pershing Rd Chicago, Illinois 60609

CPSA DISTRICT / FIELD REPRESENTATIVES

001 Joe Simpson (145)	002 Charmaine Price	003
004	005 Roderique McClain	006 Rich Bednarek
007 Tim Fenton	008	009
010 Amy Mogelberg (261)	011 Denisha Price	012 Gena Ontiveros
014	015	016 Andrea Sexton
017 Debbie Iza	018	019 Dean Angelo
020	022	024
025 Jafar Rahimi	HQ Joe Carroll (721)	ARS
Homan Sq Frank Evans (603)	New Academy Tom Surma	Old Academy Kevin Spisak

In Memoriam

The following Sergeants have passed away and will be missed. We extend our condolences to their families and friends. Please contact our office if you hear of any of our brothers or sisters passing on, as we are not always notified in a timely manner of their passing.

Name (Age)	Status	Passed Away
Sgt. Kither E Greenlee (93)	Retired	19 Nov 2026 ***
Sgt. William M Smith (85)	Retired (IN)	07 Dec 2025
Sgt. William D (Bill) Kelly Jr. (74)	Retired	18 Dec 2025
Sgt. Will L Simpson (96)	Retired (FL.)	23 Aug 2025 ***
Sgt. Roy C Hull (92)	Retired	11 Jan 2026
Sgt. Jack Molly (78)	Retired	21 Dec 2025
Sgt. Benero Martinez (82)	Retired	18 Jan 2026
Sgt. Kenneth D Fowler	Active	23 Jan 2026
Sgt. Gene Hunt	Retired	25 Jan 2026 ***
Sgt. Donald J Wolverton (79)	Retired (Apple River)	02 Feb. 2026
Sgt. Leroy S Almanza (81)	Retired (Oak Lawn)	09 Feb 2026
Sgt. James G Kulekowski (80)	Retired (Crest Hill)	22 Feb 2026
Sgt. Merrilee Martin (81)	Retired	23 Feb 2026
Sgt. Darlene Wicht (84)	Retired (FL)	27 Feb 2026
Sgt. Carol Lynn Lawrence (65)	Retired (TN)	06 Mar 2026
Sgt. Carl Silvestrini (85)	Retired	13 Mar 2026
Off. Phillip Hasket (85)	Retired (FI)	17 Feb 2026

Phil was a member of the Peer Support Group and was of great assistance to our Association

*** No obituary found

CORRECTION: January's edition incorrectly listed Patricia Maher as deceased, I am happy to say Patricia contacted the office to say she is indeed still alive. Apologies to her and all of you.





CPSA / PBPA Unit 156A 64th Annual Golf Outing

The 64th Annual Chicago Police Sergeants' Association Golf Outing will be held on Monday, August 10, 2026, at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park, Illinois.

The outing costs \$190.00 for each golfer, including a gift, 18 holes of golf, a cart, beverages on the course, lunch on the 9th hole, and a buffet dinner with additional beverages. If you pay on or before 26 June 2026 cost is \$185.00 per golfer, or if paying for a foursome, it is \$740.00. We will also hold drawings for cash prizes (the winner need not be present). We will also sell dinner tickets for the non-golfers for \$65, including dinner with beer, wine, and soda. If you pay on or before 26 June 2026 cost is \$60.00.

In addition to the cash prize drawing, there will be a bucket raffle at the event, which in the past has included such prizes as LCD TVs, bicycles, restaurant gift cards, sports memorabilia, sports tickets, travel certificates, etc. Join your Association for our only fundraising event of the year that supports our death benefit fund. If you cannot attend, you can still support your Association by participating in our raffle.

Raffle tickets will be sent out to your units/districts for active Members and to Retirees' homes. If you would like additional raffle tickets, please give the Association a call. The death benefit fund, available only to active Members, provides a check in the amount of \$7500 to the Sergeant's named beneficiary to help the Member's family at the time of their loss. Again, this is the only time we hold a fundraiser for the death benefit.

We are taking reservations. Complete the form below and mail it to CPSA 1616 W Pershing Rd, Chicago, IL 60609, or scan it and email it to golf@chicagosergeants.org. We accept Zelle at golf@chicagosergeants.org

Jim Calvino

2026 Golf Reservation Form

All money is DUE by 30 July 2026

Golfer #1 (print) _____ Golfer #2 (print) _____

Golfer #3 (print) _____ Golfer #4 (print) _____

Contact Person

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____



Chicago Police Sergeants' Association Death Benefit Gun Raffle

\$20 Per Ticket

1st Prize: S&W M&P 2.0 Optic Ready 4" Compact

2nd Prize: Henry Golden Boy .22 LR Rifle

3rd Prize: Mossberg 500 Tactical Shotgun

Drawing held at the CPSA November 2026 Meeting

Call the office for info at 773-376-7272

Winner Need Not Be Present

Congratulations

Congratulations to the newest members of the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association who will start their Sergeant careers in April. We look forward to working with them and wish them all the best in their new assignments.

Evangelos Ainalakis	Rakan Alawawda	Erik Albright
Jessica Alvarez	Adewale Apata	Erika Arroyo
Olamide Awotayo	Kristin Bailey	William Barker
Lakeidra Bolin	Chike Brown	Brock Brunson
Carlos Camey Sandoval	Erin Carlquist	Nadia Chikko
Juan Cortes	Joshua Cotto	Wilfredo Cruz
Maria De La Torre	Arturo Delgado	Maria Dillon
Mitchell English Jr	Robert Gorzelanny Jr	Denis Hasanovic
Martin Hernandez	Alexandra Hochhauser	Nicole Holstrom
Eric Huml	Joanna Jarzabek	Kevin Kelly
Tomasz Kociolek	Anthony Kurien	Michael Lai
Brian Merito	Antonio Miranda	Zachary Negrete
James O'Donnell	James O'Sullivan	Donnell Owens
Daniel Piell	Jospeh Plovovich	Carlos Ponce
James Richards Jr	Patrick Roth	Lester Scott
Wendy Stanton	Brian Tremaine	Abdul-Aziz Vhora
Marshall Warren III		

Police Organizations

By: President James Calvino

I would like to take a minute and encourage all of you to take a look at the many ethnic police organizations as well as the many other police related organizations available to all of us. There are countless groups made up of Chicago Officers and Officers from suburban, county, and state agencies. They all have a few things in common the primary ones, law enforcement, comradery, and a desire to give back. But unfortunately, lately the membership in many of the organizations is dwindling. The annual dues are usually only no more than \$50 a year. How many of us can't afford that? The organizations will accept nearly everyone that wishes to join. And nearly all of them host many great events that give back to the law enforcement community as well as the community at large. Why not reach out to one of the many groups and inquire about membership. If you need contact info for any of them please give me a call in the office or send me an email. Or if you wish to find out what groups are out there, again just reach out to me. The groups are a great way to meet people and do some networking. You never know that person you meet through one of the groups could assist you in some way or another.

THANK YOU ALL FOR ALL THAT YOU CONTINUOUSLY DO DAY IN AND DAY OUT

President's Message

continued from page 2

ATIR training. This training was conducted over two days and was arguably the best two days of training I have had in my nearly 34-year career. There have been a few others, but ATIR is absolutely in the top 5. I had to wonder after the two days why this is not a full week. I won't dwell on that, as I am happy that the Department made it two days and not just one. It was actual "hands-on" training. Skills no one ever hopes to have to use, but we all need to know. We are all critical, myself included, of the Department sending us to training we will never need, is complete nonsense, and a pain to attend. When it is your turn to attend, please know that it is not a waste and take in as much as possible. There is no telling when \$hit will go sideways on or off duty. With the skills you learn in ATIR, you will be ready for it. A very much deserved "Thank You" to whoever developed this course.

How many of you are planning on retiring this year? Please ensure you have all your bases covered before you push that button. Don't make it a split-second decision made in the heat of the moment. I have had the unfortunate situation of seeing Members retire with an open CR and not getting their credentials. I've gotten statements of "I don't care about that crap", "We can grieve it after I leave", or "I can't stay any longer, I gotta go". All of which are bad reasons. A couple of months after retirement, I get the call, "Jim, is there any way I can get my credentials?" And the answer is no, not really; it is now going to be a very uphill battle to fight. When you think it is your time, make the calls before making any permanent decisions. What will your pension check look like in retirement? How much will your healthcare cost? Do you have an active CR number? What do you plan on doing to keep yourself occupied? Have you set yourself up financially, or will you be forced to take a

post-retirement job to make ends meet? Don't let something you've been working on your whole life to attain be a disappointment. Retirement should be one of the best things you experience; make sure it is. If you need assistance, please call the office and ask. While we may not be able to answer all your questions or resolve all your issues, we can assist in getting you to the people who can help.

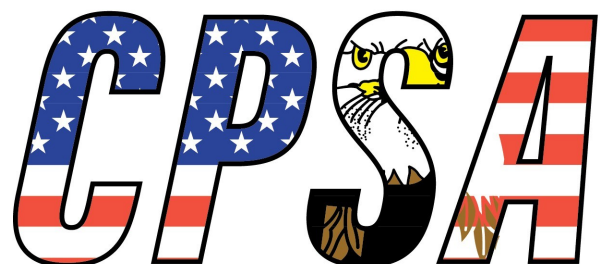
While we are the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association (CPSA), our state organization is the Police Benevolent and Protective Association (PBPA), and on the national end, we are a part of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO). Please take a few minutes and take a look at the PBPA and NAPO websites. There is a bunch of information that you may find useful.

"Until the next edition Thank You All" and please stay safe!
~Jim~

CPSA 2026 Scholarship Winners

Listed below are the winners of our 2026 Youth Scholarship. Congratulations to all of them.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Jason Boettcher | Raymond Boyd |
| Patrick Brannigan | Valerie Dozono |
| Michael Ferguson | Robert Fischer |
| Jorie Helstern-Wood | Shirene Hicks |
| John Kennedy | Evan Komosa |
| Michael Ly | Nora Valdes |





Up Coming General Meetings: 21 MAY 2026 6 pm

Have you moved, changed units, or changed your star number? Make sure we know!

Name _____ Star # _____ Unit _____

I have moved. My current address information is as follows

Old Address _____ Zip Code _____

New Address _____ Apt./Unit _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (new) _____

E-mail _____

I have changed Units. My current unit is as follows

Old Unit _____ New Unit _____ Day Off Group _____

I have a new star number. My current star number is as follows

Old Star Number _____ New Star Number _____

Member's Signature: _____ Date: _____

You may mail this form via Police Mail to: Unit 545 or U.S. Mail to: CPSA/PB&PA Unit 156A, 1616 W Pershing Rd, Chicago, IL 60609

Chevrons

The Official Publication of the
Chicago Police Sergeants' Association

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