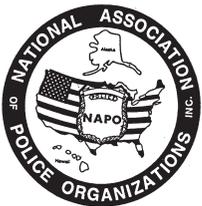




Police  
Benevolent &  
Protective  
Association  
Unit 156a



July 2009  
Volume 50  
Number 3

# Chevrons

news from the

CHICAGO POLICE SERGEANTS' ASSOCIATION

## President's Message

By John Pallohusky

On behalf of all the members of the Chicago Police Sergeants Association I would like to extend our deepest condolences to the family of Officer Alejandro Valadez # 9534 who was killed in the line of duty on 01 June 09. Officer Valadez gave his life protecting the citizens of Chicago and trying to make the community safer. He stood protecting that thin line between good and evil - "We Will Always Remember".

Officer's Valadez's death serves as a grim reminder of how dangerous a police officer's job is. One only needs to look at the number of police involved shootings, assaults and aggravated batteries on police officers to realize how often our officers are injured while serving and protecting the citizens of the City of Chicago.

In this issue of the Chevrons, please see the article for information about the upcoming Memorial Tribute and Dedication of an Honorary Street Sign in Remembrance of Sergeant James Severin and Officer Anthony Rizzato set for Saturday 18 July 2009. I would like to thank newly retired Sgt. Al Piantkowski for providing us with this information.

In this issue of the Chevrons I have included separate articles on the status of the ongoing Contract Negotiations and Lieutenant's Exam Federal Lawsuit. There is also an article on the Performance Evaluation System (PES) that the Department is currently developing and planning to implement beginning in January 2010. During some of these training session's incorrect information was stated indicating that the C.P.S.A. was consulted in developing this system and was supportive of it. This is completely wrong. The C.P.S.A. was never consulted and did not sign off by giving our approval. In fact, the Department has acknowledged that we were never consulted and that it is not a contractual issue, therefore they did not seek our input or approval. This issue has become a concern since the proposed PES entails

### What's Inside

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disciplinary aspects and other areas of concern that we believe our contract covers. We are currently evaluating this with our attorneys.

As many of you know from previous articles, I along with the C.P.S.A. have been supportive of the current administration and always willing to discuss any issues that arise. We realize that with advances in policing strategies, socioeconomic and community issues that communication and compromise is vital. Lately it seems that on many issues that affect our members we are contacted only after the fact. Hopefully this is just an oversight by a few people within the Department that possibly are lacking complete information, experience or good management skills. Communication is a two way street not a one way avenue.

It is not that many years ago that supervisors won the right to be covered by a collective bargaining agreement and when appropriate we will challenge whatever agency attempts to circumvent our contract.

As always, Stay Safe!

*John Pallohusky*

John Pallohusky, President  
Chicago Police Sergeants' Association 

# Vote Results on VEBA Proposal

*By John Pallohusky*

On 05 May 09 the ballots were counted. The C.P.S.A. Membership **REJECTED** the City's proposed Post Retirement Medical Savings Plan (Voluntary Employee Benefit Association-VEBA). Only active members voted, since this proposal had no impact on any retired member.

**Number of ballots returned: 939 (72.5% )**

**Spoiled ballots: 7**

**Ineligible: 10**

**Ballots counted: 922**

**Votes to accept the proposed Plan: 34**

**Votes to reject the proposed Plan: 888** 

## May Raffle Winners

### May Meeting Raffle Winners

**Don Fournier (Retired)**

**Vince Walsh (008)**

**Lou Vasquez (007)**



## Upcoming Meetings

### JULY MEETING

The July general meeting will be held on **Thursday** the **16th** at our office **1616 W. Pershing**, and will start promptly at **1900 hours**. Refreshment will be available.

### SEPTEMBER MEETING - A CHANGE!!!

The September Pizza meeting will be held on the north side. This is something new that we are trying and hope that all are reasonably satisfied. It will be **Thursday** the **17th of September** starting promptly

at **1900 hours**. It will be held at the **La Villa Restaurant & Pizzeria** located at **3632 N. Pulaski (773-283-7980)**. You can take the Kennedy and exit at Irving, and go south about 4 blocks. For the more senior Sergeants they will recall we used to have our north side meetings there.

### PENSION MEETINGS

The Pension Meeting is held the Fourth Thursday of Each Month. 

# Performance Evaluation System (P.E.S.)

By John Pallohusky

By now most active sergeants should have attended one of the Performance Evaluation System (P.E.S.) sessions. I along with two other C.P.S.A. Board members attended the afternoon session on 27 May 09. During this session the trainers stated that “ the Sergeants’ Union along with the other unions were consulted in developing this system and that the C.P.S.A. supported and agreed to the system”. THIS IS NOT TRUE. In fact, during this session I identified myself as the President of the C.P.S.A. and informed the two trainers that the C.P.S.A. was never contacted, consulted or agreed to any performance evaluation system. In fact, we believe that this performance system is going to be very time consuming on already over taxed field sergeants.

The next day I contacted the Management and Labor Affairs Section (MLAS) and spoke with Commander Don O’Neill to voice our objections. Commander O’Neill related that the Department did not and was not contractually obligated to seek our input or approval. Commander O’Neill related that he would pass this information onto the individuals responsible for this training to ensure that this

misinformation is not being disseminated.

The following week it was again brought to my attention some trainers were still making statements that the Sergeants Union was onboard with this system and signed off on it. Again I contacted Commander O’Neill and subsequently on 03 June 09 emails were sent to all the trainers involved in these sessions which informed them that “ the sergeants union has not signed off on the new evaluation system”.

It is our position had the Union been consulted some of the issues and concerns that our members have voiced about this system possibly could have been avoided. Further, any information documented in this system is discoverable in court proceedings and also has the potential of being the basis for disciplinary action against an officer that possibly could lead to termination. An additional concern is that our members at some point will become the subject of being rated by a superior and once the information is submitted it becomes a permanent file. What recourse is there to correct inaccurate information or malicious documentation and what is the appeal process? ⚡

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## Cheap and Effective Home Alarm

By Retired Sgt. Don Januszyk

It’s not my idea; I’m just passing it along. Before you go to sleep at night place your car remote keys on your bed stand. Each remote usually has a panic button on it. If you hear a noise or you think someone is breaking into your house, press the panic button which will set off your car’s horn. It’s reasonable to think that the intruder would be scared away. It’s not a bad idea. ⚡

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## Interesting Websites

A Lot from the Past

[www.billsretroworld.com](http://www.billsretroworld.com)

“A Policeman” Paul Harvey

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=bB9-NcunsKc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bB9-NcunsKc)

Police Stories

[www.policeone.com/](http://www.policeone.com/)



# Newly Promoted Sergeants

By John Pallohusky

Congratulations and welcome to the newest members of the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association.

Kevin D. Bruno	Dena M. Carli
Kevin M. Connors	John T. Curry
Joseph E. Di Pinto	Leszek Dorau
Nakia M. Fenner	Nicholas P. Forrestal
Daniel A. Gallagher	Janine Hermann
Amin Jessani	Michael A. Kelly
Nicole C. Konet	Kevin R. Lameka
Wilfredo S. Lapitan	Davina F. Loggin
Ryan M. Manning	Brendan J. McCrudden
Patrick J. McKenzie	Daniel J. O'Connor
Felipe Reyes	Clinton D. Sebastian
Ben Senora	Jeffery J. Siwek
Jeffery D. Stankus	Johnny E. Tate
Richard W. Unizycki	Rodolfo Vargas Jr.
Willie G. Whitehead	Andres Zayas Jr.

This is now YOUR Union; it is as strong as we collectively decide to make it. I urge you to be involved, whether it is by attending the General Membership Meetings, volunteering at activities or events sponsored by the Association, becoming a Unit or District Representative or just providing constructive input. It is our hope that you choose to be an active member of the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association.

As you transition into your new role as a supervisor questions may arise concerning your additional benefits, contractual issues such as; bids, assignments or grievance procedures. I encourage anyone with questions or concerns to contact any of your elected representatives or the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association at 773-376-7272 / email [cpsa\\_sgts@ameritech.net](mailto:cpsa_sgts@ameritech.net). 🏠

# Lieutenant's Promotion Exam

By John Pallohusky

**Case # 08CV4214 - United States District Court - Northern District of Illinois - Eastern Division**

At the last court date on 27 May 09 the Judge refused to reconsider the City's motion to dismiss the case. The Judge has instructed our attorneys to present the City with a list of demands. Depending on the City's willingness to address the issues that precipitated this lawsuit will determine if the case goes to trial. At this time, the City has indicated that one option they are not interested in considering is conducting a new examination.

Our attorneys are abiding by the Judge's instructions to attempt to resolve the various issues with the City that resulted in us filing this lawsuit, but at the same time are preparing for a court hearing in the event that the City either fails to abide by the Judge's instructions or refuses to make a concerted effort to adequately address our demands.

The next scheduled court date is 16 September 2009. 🏠

## Need Work???

SMG Security is looking for retired police officers to work at the Police Department's O.E.M.C. (Office of Emergency Communication on Madison and Racine). The position pays \$15.00 per hour with overtime and paid holidays. You must be in possession of a gun card. For further information you can contact SMG Security at 1824 W. Pershing Rd., 773-254-1824. 🏠

# Contract Negotiations

By John Pallohusky

Contract negotiations continue, but have become more tedious as we continue to demand a decent wage package. We fully understand the current economic conditions the City is challenged with, but our members deserve a fair wage increase that reflects the cost of living in the City of Chicago. In light of the fact we are being compensated at 2007 wage levels it is grossly unfair and an insult to our members that the City would expect us to forgo a decent wage increase. Everyone is painfully aware of the cost of living in the City of Chicago and Cook County. This becomes even more of a financial burden on our members and their families since we have a residency requirement. Our members are NOT afforded the opportunity to lower their housing cost by finding less expensive housing outside of the City. The City's current wage and salary proposal does not provide for any cost of living adjustments that would at least allow our members to maintain their current standard of living. The city's proposal would only serve to lower the standard of living for our members and put an undue hardship on many members already struggling financially to maintain a household and provide for their families.

Currently the City is also demanding that all future promotions include a fitness requirement. Even though the City has yet to provide what these requirements would be, we are opposed to this proposal and maintain that any such requirements should be implemented starting with new employees. Interestingly enough the City doesn't propose that current or future exempt members be required to pass some type of physical fitness test.

These contract negotiations have resulted in significant progress on some very important issues. Early on discussions focused on health care insurance costs. We were able to reach an agreement with the City that allows for no increases in the percentage that an employee contributes towards their health care insurance. This would remain in effect for the duration

of the contract.

We have also made significant progress in eliminating the restrictions that the City had proposed to lower the age for retiree health care coverage from the current age of sixty (60) down to age fifty five (55). The City has agreed to withdraw their original requirement that a certain percentage of members had to agree each year to elect to retire in order to be eligible for insurance coverage. The City also agreed to expand the effective date of retirement from 01 December to 01 November, thereby allowing anyone who chose to retire to be eligible for the COLA. The City is also willing to keep this provision in effect until such time as the next contract would be approved by providing for a successor agreement.

While the City is not willing to expand the number of watch bids within District Law Enforcement, we have obtained some additional bid positions in other Units.

The contract negotiations are reaching a point that the only major hurdle is to agree upon a compensation package. The City is asking us to agree to a non-specific future promise of obtaining a wage increase.

Currently we are working with our attorneys to decide on what options remain for us to obtain a fair and equitable compensation package. ⚡

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## “Pay, Quit, or Die”

Ret. Sgt. Don Januszyk

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**Pay, Quit, or Die** is a book on the Chicago mob, written by Retired Chicago Sgt. Don Herion. Don was assigned to OCD and also worked with the Cook County Sheriff's office. After 46 years Don retired. Don's book tells the story behind the mob, names people, and gives you an insight into the dark world of organized crime. His book is available in local book stores or on Amazon.com. ⚡

# Pension Report

By Sgt. Mike Lazzaro, Sergeant's Pension Representative

## DV Urban Boondoggle

In April 2006, at The Fund's investment meeting, The Pension Board made a motion that passed to invest 15 million dollars with DV Urban, a Chicago real estate developer. This investment was considered "non-diversified, high risk/high-return" and had high management fees. I never felt this was an appropriate investment and voted against hiring DV Urban. Unfortunately, DV Urbans' performance since they were hired has been very poor, to say the least.

It seems that every other day a negative story about DV Urban is in the newspapers since the *Sun-Times* first article appeared in late August of 2007. The only good news: on June 8, 2009, Robert Vanecko (the Mayor's nephew) resigned from DV Urban.

## Update Your Personal Information

Latest horror story - a retired officer recently passed away. He lived in another state. His son said that the officer and his wife had been married for more than 54 years. The Fund did not have a copy of neither the widow's birth certificate nor their marriage License on file. This could cause a delay for the widow in receiving her Widow's annuity check and the \$6000 death benefit. We are a separate entity from the Police Department, so you must also notify the pension fund of any changes in marital status, birth of children, etc. Please call The Fund (312-744-3891 or 1-800-656-6606) to make sure all your information is up to date.

## C.F.D Vs. C.P.D

### Blackhawks Alumni Charity Softball Game

This is the second year for this event. The game will be at Standard Bank Stadium, 14011 S. Kenton, Crestwood, IL, on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7, 2009, 4 P.M. starting time. Some of the current Blackhawk players will be at the game to sign autographs. All proceeds will benefit Police & Fire charities. Posters and more information will follow.

Many thanks to the Chicago Fire Pension Fund.

The Fire Pension started this charity event last year and gave the Police Pensions' widows & orphans charity a check for \$3000. Special thanks to Trustee Tony Martin and the staff (especially Eileen Doherty-Rich) of the Fire Pension for their generosity .

## Proposed Special Meeting

The Pension Fund is considering having a meeting for all active and retired members to answer any questions or concerns about anything (examples: health care, investments, funding) concerning our pension. The tentative date is in the first two weeks of October, in the morning (10 P.M.). We are still considering where (plumber's Hall, Northern Trust, etc.) to have this meeting. If you are interested in attending please contact me at 312-744-3891 or email [mjlazzaro@chipabf.org](mailto:mjlazzaro@chipabf.org) and let me know which topics you would like to be addressed at the meeting. ⚡

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## If You Have Time

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Disabled Chicago Police Officer Bernie Domagala was shot and severely injured in a hostage-barricade incident over 20 years ago. He is currently residing at the Sunrise Assisted Living facility located at 12828 S. LaGrange Road, Palos Park, Ill 60464. The telephone there is 708-361-3577.

He is doing reasonably well and gets around using a walker. One of Bernie's friends stated that he seldom has a visitor and would like to see his active and retired police colleagues. If you get a chance, especially the south siders, stop by for a visit. The north siders could always use the phone. See what you can do for a fellow officer. ⚡

# 2009 Chicago Police of Nevada Reunion



Sgt. Jimmy Kehoe

Here are some of the pictures taken at the Chicago Vegas Re-Union. To see the rest of the pictures you can go to their website [www.cpaon.org](http://www.cpaon.org). 🏠



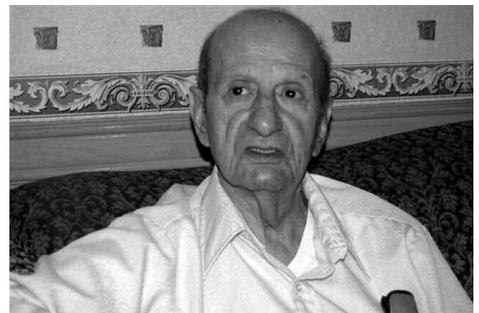
Sgt. Gene Domuret and wife



Air Force Lt. Bill Tracy, Sgt. Bob Jones, and Capt. Dick Tracy



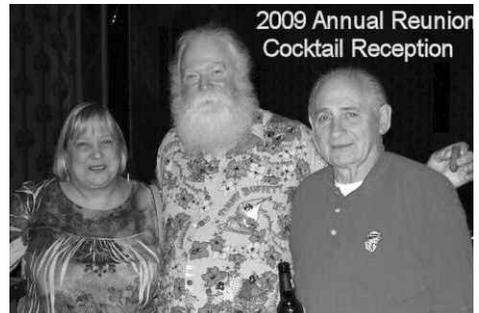
Cmdr. Jack Clishmam



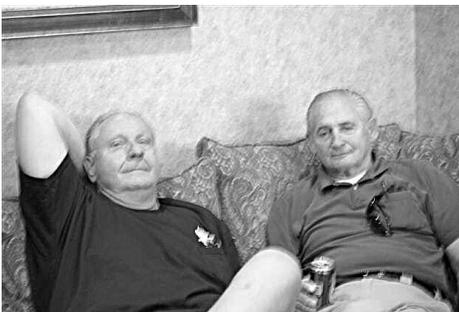
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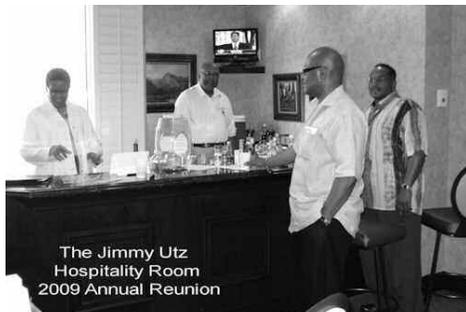
Sgt. Ernie Harris and family



Sgt. Jacque Boyd and Tom, and Capt. Tracy



Sgt. Ted Raab and Capt. Dick Tracy



002 Runs the Bar



Air Force Lt. Bill Tracy, Capt. Dick Tracy, Sgt. Ted Raab and wife

# Retiree Report

*By Retired Sgt. Don Januszyk*

There have been several issues in the news that pertain to current pensions and to those who will be retiring in the future (that means active duty Sergeants). I hope to cover a few of them.

In the Chicago Sun Times (Monday 29 June 2009) in an article by Philip Elliott, David Axelrod (a Chicago guy) who is the White House adviser said that the administration (President Barack Obama) would not rule out taxing employees' health benefits. This is the second time this possibility has made the press. I wonder if it will apply to our elected officials.

The former South Dakota Senator, who was nominated to two positions on President Obama's cabinet, and lost both to scandals stated, "Seniors should be accepting of the conditions that come with age instead of treating them." No, he's no longer a senator however he is one of the individuals the administration wanted on the cabinet.

On a local level, the city administration by state law was to appoint a health care committee in the summer of 2008 to deal with the health care issues which are set to expire in June 2013. This was not done. This past May 2009, the city administration finally named five individuals to the "2013 Retiree Health Benefit Commission". They are as follows: City of Chicago Representative Mr. Steve Lux, City Comptroller; Mr. Howard J. Boinick Adjunct Professor at Northwestern University and consultant to the health industry; Mr. William K. Borland an expert in health law; Mr. Dan B. Pikelny is the Dir. of Health and Productivity of Navistar; Barbara Smith an attorney recently retired from the CTA; and Mr. James Capasso Executive Director for the Laborer's Pension Fund. Mr. Capasso will be representing all of the City of Chicago Retirees. Please note that the Laborer's Pension Fund is one of the smallest funds. The police and fire funds far surpass the number of annuitants the Laborer's fund has. This committee has its report due in 2012 which is after the mayoral election. What ever this committee recommends, will affect not only the retirees but also

those currently working.

In the last issue I talked about HB-687 which was introduced by Rep. Kenneth Dunkin (D) who represents the north side of Chicago. Rep. Dunkin wanted all Illinois gun owners to maintain a liability insurance policy of one million dollars. We were all fortunate that through the efforts of Rep. David Reis (R) the bill was tabled by Rep. Dunkin. Rep. Reis represents the citizens of Jasper County in downstate Illinois. We owe Rep. Reis our thanks.

On the Social Security Issue we ask you again to call Rep. John Tanner (202-225-4714) and Sen. Max Baucus (202-224-4515) and request that they move the Social Security Fairness Act out of committee for a vote. This is not a gift to us. We have paid into social security and are entitled to its full benefits. Frequently, our elected officials introduce a bill, others co-sponsor it, and then it sits in committee; however they all can state that they support that bill.

We have to remember that public officials elected to office work for us. They enjoy good pay, health benefits, and a good pension. In Chicago they make more than a Sergeant. In spite of the favors we may have requested of them, it is our right that we demand that they look out for our well being.

In case anyone has noticed there is a severe shortage of small arms ammunition. For the retirees who participate in the 218 (concealed carry) bill, this could be a problem. The price for 38 and 9 mm ammo has more than tripled in price since November that is if you can find any. It's not even available on the internet. I have no idea what's happening.

In closing there is one interesting point. There were no Sergeants who retired in the month of April. The department sends us a "separation notice" which also lists all of the retirees; however we receive it six to eight weeks after the last day of the month. I found out two Sergeants retired in June after reading a "blog". See you at the golf outing. 🏏

# Retiree Roll

Congratulations to all of our retirees. These sergeants have provided the City of Chicago with many years of service. We wish a long, healthy and prosperous retirement to all!!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Star</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Retirement</u>
Sgt. Jennifer Manning	1144	022/212	51	20	03 Mar 2009
Sgt. Donald Wolverton	878	020	63	38	05 Mar 2009
Sgt. James Kuyken	2121	014	63	18	14 June 2009
Sgt. Robert Anderson	2588	012	60	28	15 June 2009

## 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, we are not always notified in a timely manner.

<u>Name (Age)</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Passed Away</u>	<u>Name (Age)</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Passed Away</u>
Borufski, Sigmund J.	Retired	14 Apr 1993	Thomas G. Rich Sr.	Retired	Aug 2007
Moore, Edward T.	Retired	27 Dec 1998	Craft, Raymond (84)	Retired	28 Oct 2008
Johnson, Einar O.	Retired (Fl.)	Jan 2004	Dettloff, Daniel R. (57)	Retired	01 May 2009
Thomas J. Woods	Retired	2007	Giltmier, John R.	Retired	23 June 2009

## 022nd District Tactical Team 1991

*Courtesy of Retired Sgt. Joel Westbrook*



Left to Right: P.O. James Quinn; P.O. Mary Gallagher; P.O. Brian Burke; Lt. Joseph LoGue; P.O. Victor Morgan; Sgt. Joel Westbrook; P.O. Robert Anderson; P.O. Patrick Carey

# Thanks for Just Being There

*Compliments of your Chaplain, Rabbi Moshe Wolf • 773-463-4780 • moshewolf@hotmail.com*

So what does one say, when there is nothing to say? A day after Mother's Day my beloved Mom passed after suffering what seems to have been a massive heart attack. Words cannot express my thanks and appreciation to each and every one of you, for all the words of comfort and sympathy, notes of support, donations and memorials made on behalf of Mom. But most of all as my Mom would always say "In life you will find, it's not what you say or what you do, but just to 'be there' for a friend in time of need".

It brings to mind the following parable ... THE MOST IMPORTANT BODY PART ...

My mother used to ask me what is the most important part of the body? Through the years I would take a guess at which I thought was the correct answer.

When I was younger, I thought sound was very important to us humans, so I said, "My ears, Mom."

She said, "No, many people are deaf. But you keep thinking about it and I will ask you again soon."

Several years passed before she asked me again. Since making my first attempt, I had contemplated the correct answer. So this time I told her, "Mommy, sight is very important to everybody, so it must be our eyes."

She looked at me and told me, "You are learning fast, but the answer is not correct because there are many people who are blind."

Stumped again, I continued my quest for knowledge and over the years, Mother asked me a couple more times and always her answer was, "No. But you are getting smarter every year, my child."

Then! Last year, my grandpa died. Everybody was hurt. Everybody was crying. Even my father cried. I remember that especially because it was only the second time I saw him cry.

My Mom looked at me when it was our turn to say our final good-bye to Grandpa. She asked me, "Do you know the most important part yet, my dear?"

I was shocked when she asked me this now. I always

thought this was a game between her and me.

She saw the confusion on my face and told me, "This question is very important. It shows that you have really lived in your life. For every body part you gave me in the past, I told you that you were wrong and I have given you an example why. But today is the day you need to learn this important lesson."

She looked down at me as only a mother can. I saw her eyes well up with tears. She said, "My dear, the most important body part is your shoulder." I asked, "Is it because it holds up my head?" She replied, "No, it is because it can hold the head of a friend or a loved one when they cry. Everybody needs a shoulder to cry on sometime in life, my dear. I only hope that you have enough love and friends that you will have a shoulder to cry on when you need it." ... End of story.

Then and there I knew the most important body part is not a selfish one. It is sympathetic to the pain of others. People will forget what you said ... People will forget what you did ... But people will NEVER forget how you made them feel.

I know this might come as a surprise to some, but yes, I am at a loss of words. My heartfelt thanks and a hug to each of you, for just 'being there' for me and my family, for being so supportive and comforting during this most difficult time, it meant the world to us.

May God bless you and keep you safe. Amen. 🙏



# 2009 Annual Golf Outing & Death Benefit Fund Raiser

This year's Golf Outing is on **Monday the 10th of August** at the Silver Lake Country Club, located at 14700 S. 82nd Ave. in Orland Park. The price is \$95.00 per golfer and \$380.00 per foursome. This fee includes doughnuts, goody bags, golf, with cart, beverages on the course, lunch on the 9th hole, dinner with free beer, wine and soda, door prizes, raffle and a great time. We have reserved both the North and South Course and as of mid-June, we are half full. Reserve your spot now by filling out the reservation form and sending it in with a check. You can also email Rick Wisner at [sgtatarms@chicagosergeants.org](mailto:sgtatarms@chicagosergeants.org) to reserve your spot. It's a shotgun start at 0900 hours.



Both courses are a shotgun start at 0900 hours; please arrive early enough to check-in and sign up for the raffles and contests (closest to the pin & longest drive). This year the check-in will be a little different. Golfers will be directed to check-in at either the North course or South course tents. The check-in tents will be in the parking lot in front of the golf carts which we will be using on the course. When you check-in you will receive your tickets and then be directed to the patio to receive your free goodie bags and sign up for contests and/or raffles. There will also be complimentary coffee and donuts on the patio. Don't forget to turn in your golf ticket stub (which you pick up at check-in) for the door prize raffle.

Remember, all of the proceeds from this event go into our "Death Benefit Fund" for the families of active duty sergeants who pass while active members.

Come golf with some friends and have some fun. See you there! 🏏

## 2009 Golf Reservation Form (Please Print)

Golfer #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer #3 \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer #4 \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$380.00. Make check out to CPSA

Return To: Chicago Police Sergeants' Association, 1616 W. Pershing Rd., Chicago, IL 60609

# Red Light Camera Enforcement

By Retired Sgt. Don Januszyk

Well I'm starting out by saying I am a graduate of Mayor Daley's Red Light Traffic Enforcement Cameras. Yup, and it cost me 100 bucks too. I was kind of complaining about it, because when I got nailed I didn't see any signs and the traffic was bumper to bumper. Others I spoke too were also graduates and one was in a funeral procession. The questions that came up were about funerals and right turns on red lights. I decided to check it out and it took me a while to find someone who knew anything about the program. It happened to be a Mr. John Bills who was the Assistant Director of City Operations at the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC).

I told him what I was looking for, and what happened to me. He offered to run the video of the incident, but I told him I already did that, and they had me dirty. Now regarding funerals, when the procession goes through the intersection it trips the camera so many times that when the video is monitored by the vendor they are able to see the funeral procession and not flag the cars. Now if you are the last car in the procession, the camera should catch what happened, but if you get a violation contest it by mail with the proper written documentation from the funeral director.

Right hand turns on red are one of the biggest offenders at the present time. There are sensors in the street and you MUST come to a complete stop before proceeding, and that should be before you cross the white line. If you comply and there is a flash, the vendor does not flag the incident. If there is a question relative to an incident the vendor sends the information to the City who makes the final determination.

The vendor, the company who sold and maintains the system, watches the video prior to sending it to the

City. All of the incidents that are flagged by the vendor are again checked by the City prior to a violation notice being issued. If you get a violation notice you can run the video on your computer just like I did. The video is very clear. Something else to know is that the owner of the car receives the violation notice and it is not considered a moving violation. So know who and when someone uses your car.

I asked about squad cars marked or otherwise going through those intersections.

Mr. Bills stated that if they are able to determine that the emergency equipment was activated they are not flagged. If a unit is responding in a covert fashion (no lights) then the unit is flagged, and a violation set through channels. When the driver of the police units receives the violation they must submit documentation showing they were involved in some type of enforcement action. Then they get the monkey off their back. No comments please, I know what I used to do.

Mr. Bills said that this is a public safety program to change negative driving and there has been a 59% reduction in red light incidents. Are they making money on it??? Yea, but how many friends or accidents that you know of or handled and someone was t-boned by a car blowing a red light. Currently there are 121 intersections that have camera enforcement, and that does not include the suburbs.

I was able to contact Redflex Traffic Systems, and in summary they did verify all of the above information. My thanks is expressed to Mr. John Bills who took the time and patience to explain the system to me. ⤴



# 018 Memorial Tribute

Memorial Tribute and Dedication of an Honorary Street Sign in Remembrance of Sgt. James Severin and Officer Anthony Rizzato.

On 17 July 1970, Sgt. James Severin and Officer Anthony Rizzato were cut down by sniper fire while assigned to a "Walk and Talk" program in the Cabrini Green housing development.

On Saturday, 18 July 2009, at 10 a.m. the 018 District will be hosting a memorial tribute commemorating the anniversary of the line-of-duty deaths of Sgt. Severin and Officer Rizzato.

Included in the remembrance to these slain officers will be an unveiling in front of the 018 District, of a

permanent Honorary Street Sign in their names by the surviving Severin and Rizzato family members.

Help is needed to inform any involved present or former members, along with any interested individuals of this memorial salute.

Please have interested individuals contact the 018 District Community Policing Office (312 742-5778) if they are attending to assist them in planning appropriate arrangements.

A light luncheon will follow in the 018 District James L. Severin and Anthony N. Rizzato Community Room.

"All Gave Some Because Some Gave All" 🏠



## Remember Our Military

Officer Pedro Medina, 014, was on his third tour of duty in Afghanistan when he was injured. A building collapsed on him during an operation. Pedro is currently rehabilitating at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and could use a few get well cards. If you are so inclined, here is the mailing address. Those of you who were in the service (regardless of the Branch) know what a high point Mail Call can be.

Pedro Medina  
Walter Reed Medical Center Ward 58  
6900 Georgia Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20307

Cards may also be sent to Pedro c/o the 014th District. 🏠



2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
16" Softball Game

**CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT  
& CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

VS.

**THE CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS ALUMNI**

**Monday September 7, 2009  
4:00 p.m.**

**Standard Bank Stadium  
14011 S. Kenton Avenue  
Crestwood, Illinois 60445**

**All proceeds will benefit Chicago Fire & Chicago Police charities**

Tickets - \$12.00 - Children under 10 are free - Free Parking  
All seats are General Admission

**Tickets available at:**

Chicago Fire Fighters Union Local 2  
440 W. 43rd Street (773)536-0450

Chicago Firemen's Assoc. Credit Union  
2435 S. Archer, Ste E & F (312) 791-0834

Chicago Fire Fighters Credit Union  
6230 S. Central Ave. (773) 581-5253

Chicago Fire Officers Credit Union  
10231 S. Western (773) 445-1700

Fraternal Order of Police - Chicago Lodge 7  
1412 W. Washington Blvd. (312) 773-7776

Chicago Patrolmen's Federal Credit Union Central Branch  
1359 W. Washington Blvd. (312)726-8814

Chicago Patrolmen's Federal Credit Union Southside Branch  
2766 W. 111th Street (312)726-8814

Chicago Patrolmen's Federal Credit Union Northside Branch  
5310 N. Harlem Avenue (312)726-8814

Windy City Thunderbolts (708) 489-2255

Food, Beverages Available  
Celebrities - Autographs - Games - Raffles - Prizes

*Some current Chicago Blackhawks players will be on hand for autographs*

**Donations for Fire & Police charities can be sent to:**

Fire & Police Charity Softball Game  
20 S. Clark Street, Suite 1400  
Chicago, IL 60603



The Chicago Blackhawks will be collecting school supply donations to benefit the Chicago Public Schools at this event. Everyone is asked to bring at least one new school supply item for the "Fill the Bus" program



\*\*\* Rain Date is Saturday, September 12, 2009 at 1:00 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) \_\_\_\_\_

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/P.B.&P.A. Unit 156a, 1616 W. Pershing Rd., Chicago, IL 60609**

## Chevrons

The Official Publication of the Chicago Police Sergeants' Association

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Phone 773.376.7272 • Fax 773.376.7344

www.ChicagoSergeants.org

### CPD Interdepartment Mail CPSA - Unit 545

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