



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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President Trump Joins FOP in Salute to Fallen Heroes *36th Annual Memorial Service Honors Officers' Sacrifice*

Today, the Fraternal Order of Police and the law enforcement community will assemble on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol to honor the 234 law enforcement officers who gave their lives in the line of duty, including 70 officers who ran toward the smoke and the chaos on 9/11 and have succumbed to illnesses they contracted there. The National Peace Officers' Memorial Service is the capstone event of National Police Week.

"It is a day filled with sorrow and mourning as we remember those men and women who laid down their lives for the communities they protected," said Chuck Canterbury, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police.

National President Canterbury will host the event which will feature the keynote address by the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump. A musical tribute will be performed by country music artist Kellie Pickler.

"National Police Week is a special time for our nation as we all pause, reflect and remember the enormous sacrifices made by our law enforcement officers and their families," Canterbury said. "And today, at this National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, we come together with, the President and Vice President of the United States, to honor the memories and mourn with the families of the fallen."

During National Police Week, thousands of law enforcement officers in every region of the nation and corner of the country gather at memorial services to honor their fallen brothers and sisters. More than 20,000 officers, as well as the surviving family members and friends of slain officers, have traveled to the nation's capital to attend the 36th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, which remains the nation's largest and most prominent memorial service held on behalf of fallen law enforcement officers.

"In our grief, we find solitude. In our healing, we find gratitude. We carry on and renew our dedication and service to the communities we protect and serve," said President Canterbury.

In October 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15th as National Peace Officers' Memorial Day. Since the signing of this proclamation, this date has been the official day of recognition for law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the performance of their duty. This is the 36th year that the Fraternal Order of Police and its Auxiliary have held the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service. Additionally, this year will be the largest turn out to recognize our law enforcement and those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

The Fraternal Order of Police is the largest law enforcement labor organization in the United States, with more than 330,000 members.

— BUILDING ON A PROUD TRADITION —

Information on this year's Event

- FOP National President Chuck Canterbury will host the event, which will honor 234 law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty, including 70 officers who succumbed to illnesses contracted on 9/11 and 20 officers who died in the line of duty but were not previously honored at this service. These officers come from 37 different States, Puerto Rico, Guam and five (5) different Federal and tribal agencies.
- Donald J. Trump, President of the United States, is the keynote speaker for the event.
- Attendance is expected to exceed 30,000.

History of the Event:

- In October of 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation setting aside May 15th as National Peace Officers' Memorial Day. Since the signing of this proclamation, this date has been the official day of recognition for law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the performance of their duty.
- On 15 May 1982, the Fraternal Order of Police and its Auxiliary hosted the First Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service. The ceremony has become nationally recognized, which contributed to the building and dedication of the "Wall of Remembrance" on Judiciary Square in Washington, D.C. The Wall is inscribed with the names of the more than 20,000 law enforcement officers who have made the supreme sacrifice "to protect and serve" the laws and the citizens of the United States.

Facts about Law Enforcement Officer Line of Duty Deaths

- A total of 144 officers were killed in the line of duty in 2016.
- Of the 64 deaths by gunfire suffered by law enforcement in 2016, 21 of them were ambush killings.
- Since the first recorded police death in 1792, there have been more than 20,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.
- A total of 1,512 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty during the past 10 years, an average of one death every 61 hours or 151 per year.
- The deadliest year in law enforcement history was 1930 when 304 officers were killed.
- The deadliest decade was the 1920s when a total of 2,437 officers died, or 243 each year.
- The deadliest day in law enforcement history was 11 September 2001, when 72 officers were killed while responding to the terrorist attacks on the United States.
- New York City has lost more officers in the line of duty than any other department, with 705 deaths. Texas has lost 1,682 officers, more than any other State.