# CHIEFLY SPEAKING

Monthly Newsletter for New York State Law Enforcement Leaders

December 2021

### **Christmas in the Trenches** 1974: Tragedy and Joy Are Etched Memories for Fulton Police Officer

By Chief/Ret. Mark Spawn

One of my mentors as a new cop in Fulton, New York was Lt. Larry Mullen (Fulton PD/Ret.). A former military man (U.S. Army 1963-1966), he exuded professionalism. I was fortunate to work on his crew in my early years at Fulton PD. He retired in the 1980's and has since relocated to Florida. Each year around Christmas, he shares the story of one of the most memorable times of his career – the delivery of twins. But on that fateful Christmas of 1974, the joy of bringing new life into the world was preceded by the carnage of a multi-fatal head-on DWI crash, as well as a separate accident that critically injured a State Trooper, both crashes occurring in the hours preceding the maternity call.

Lt. Mullen remembered, "When we came on duty for the midnight shift, we were all told that a beloved State Trooper had been injured while investigating an accident." Trooper Larry Wood (NYSP Fulton) had been struck in the head by the mirror of a passing truck. "That was heartbreaking," said Mullen, saying that Trooper Wood was well-known in the region and liked by all.



Officer Larry Mullen Fulton PD/Retired

Mullen went on patrol for the Christmas shift, ready for whatever holiday calls awaited him and his colleagues.

He told me, "It was just around midnight when we got called to the city limits, finding a two car wreck. A drunk driver struck a vehicle head-on, killing the occupants – a young mother along with her three children ranging in age from 1 to 5 years old, and her

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New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

### FROM THE PRESIDENT CHIEF TIMOTHY PARISI



### Year in Review

#### What We Have Done; Where We Are Going

As we enter the full swing of the Holiday season and close out 2021, I thought I would provide a recap for our members.

First, let me reiterate how honored I am to serve our members as the President of this great organization!

Thanks to the hard work of our NYSACOP staff, the Annual Training conference and our recent fall Leadership Summit with the Sheriff's Association were both a great success. Both contained great relevant training with something for agencies of all sizes, and substantial opportunities for peer networking. Looking toward the future, NYSACOP staff are currently working with DCJS to develop a training curriculum specifically tailored for new police chiefs. While the plan is not completely solidified, the idea is to present this training throughout the training conference, in addition to other training being offered during the conference. Our goal is to continue to offer meaningful education at the conference, as well as adding training that will provide our new members with a basic foundation as a police chief. Peer networking at all of our events affords a number of opportunities to discuss the practical application of that information. In addition to our Conference and Summit, NYSACOP has offered webinars and in-person training opportunities throughout the year, and we will continue to do so.

Over the last year, our Corporate Partnership Program has seen substantial growth. Our alliances with the valued sponsors provides members with information about a diversity of related products, while providing resources to help maintain our organization's operations. Our Partners play an important role in maintaining the affordability of our conference, as well as maintaining our everyday functions of the organization. With that in mind, If any our members have or know of any businesses or organization that might be interested in a partnership with NYSACOP, please direct them to Executive Director Pat Phalen at <u>pphelan@nychiefs.org</u> or Bill Georges at <u>thegeorgesgroup@nycap.rr.com</u>.

Lastly, the Legislative Committee is actively engaged in developing tenable legislative answers to mitigate the unintended consequences to public safety caused by reform legislation over the past few years. You will be seeing information about this in the coming days.

Thank you to the great NYSACOP staff who made all of this success possible! Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHIEF/RET. PATRICK PHELAN



### What You Need to Know About the Professional Policing Act

The Professional Policing Act (PPA) has been enacted and Executive Law 840 directs the Municipal Police Training Council to establish mandatory minimum hiring standards for all new hires. The standards include mandatory background investigations and a psychological exam.

The background investigation must include a record check on the police/peace officer registry and national decertification index. It must also require fingerprint based criminal history checks and an inperson interview and application. The background should include a review of other resources including family, military, and DMV records.

The PPA also establishes new standards for good moral character and establishes that a candidate is unfit for service if he/she has been engaged in criminal activity in the past three years, regardless of

prosecution. A candidate is also unfit for service if he/she has used unlawful controlled substances or had been dishonorably discharged from the military in the previous three years. Lying on an employment application in the past three years is also a disqualification for service. The PPA establishes that new hires will undergo a psychological evaluation. It requires that a qualified psychologist or psychiatrist conduct and assessment. The assessment must include a screening for psychological disorders, personality characteristics, and substance abuse problems. The assessment must also include the use of a written

The PPA also sets new parameters for decertification including giving DCJS the authority to decertify a police officer without a referral from the police agency.

test and a psychological assessment report and recommendation. The requirement for a psychological evaluation does not apply to officers with a valid certification. This is one of the most frequent questions, a psychological evaluation is not required for a transfer officer hired with a valid certification. This does not preclude an agency choosing to require a psychological evaluation for transfer officers.

The PPA also sets new parameters for decertification including giving DCJS the authority to decertify a police officer without a referral from the police agency. The act allows for permanent invalidation of a training certificate when a police officer is removed for cause. An officer who is decertified can be hired by another agency, but the officer will have to undergo the certification process again, unless the officer

### CHIEFLY SPEAKING

### At 145 MPH, Multiple-DWI Offender Arrested Again

While conducting a stationary RADAR patrol on November 19 shortly after 9:00 PM on I-890 in Rotterdam, NY (Schenectady County), Officer Christopher Nardini's attention was drawn to a speeding car. He estimated the vehicle to be travelling at well in excess of 100 MPH and then verified the offender's speed at 145 MPH

with his RADAR unit and went after the car, stopping the driver Michael Agosto, age 35 of Amsterdam, NY. During the traffic stop, the driver denied consuming alcohol though the officer smelled the odor, along with other signs of impairment. The driver declined to perform any field sobriety tests and was subsequently arrested for DWL But this was not Agosto's first DWI arrest. His



license had been revoked for five prior convictions of DWI spanning from 2013 to 2017. At the police station, Agosto refused to take a chemical test. Agosto was charged with felony DWI, aggravated unlicensed operation 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, refusal to take a breath test, reckless driving, speeding, and two ignition interlock offenses. He was taken to the county jail pending arraignment.

*View the DCJS-GTSC-NYSACOP production on <u>Ignition Interlock Devices</u> for details about this technology, including a way to get credit for in-service training on your police training record.* 



### Visit our website: www.nychiefs.org

Recent and archived publications; NYSACOP Partners; membership directory; podcasts; training, and much more.

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grandfather. "They were incinerated, not even recognizable as human," Mullen recalled. He said that the crash occurred just feet outside of the jurisdiction of Fulton PD, so they awaited the State Police who came to investigate the crash. The DWI driver sustained a broken leg, he recalled. While on the scene of the gruesome collision, Mullen said he received a radio call for a woman in labor on the other side of the city. "I broke away

"They were incinerated, not even recognizable as human." from the crash scene and went to the Clark home. When I ran in the front door, the husband was in panic telling me, 'she's going to have twins!'" Mullen said that Sgt. Arlen Cline (Fulton PD) arrived on the scene, and they both tended to the mother who was laying on the couch in the living room next to the Christmas tree. "One of the things I still remember, aside from knocking a few ornaments off their Christmas tree, was how calm Sgt. Cline was. He positioned himself at the mother's feet and delivered the first baby." Mullen continued, "He noticed that the umbilical cord was

wrapped around the baby's neck, and without signaling any concern, he unwrapped the cord and stepped aside." Mullen said that Cline never displayed any fret over the umbilical cord. "Then, I knelt down by the mother's feet, and very soon, I delivered the second baby. We took a blanket and wrapped up the mother and two babies, one under each of her arms, and carried them to the back seat of a patrol car." Mullen remembered that there were no ambulances available because of the multi-fatal crash, so police quickly whisked the family to the Fulton hospital less than a mile away. The maternity hospital in the region was in Oswego, about 12 miles from Fulton, but the emergency room staff checked the mother and babies at the urging of the police. By this time, an ambulance had arrived at the ER from the previous crash, and promptly took the mother and babies to the Oswego Hospital.

For Larry Mullen, the memories of these events are as sharp today as they were 47 years ago: the critical injury of a friend and fellow officer, the horrific tragedy of a family's loss, and the joyous birth of two healthy babies. "It's something you don't forget. That night, we went from one extreme to the other," said Mullen.

"That night, we went from one extreme to the other."

Thousands of first responders will be protecting and serving communities across the nation this holiday season just as

Officer Larry Mullen and Sgt. Arlen Cline did almost half a century ago. Cops, firefighters and EMTs will be protecting, helping, and consoling our citizens. Some will wear the physical scars of offenders resisting and patients flailing; others will wear the emotional scars from gruesome crime scenes and the aftermath of accidents; life as a first responder is an emotional roller coaster, and we all have different ways to handle those stresses. Always remember that there are peers, groups and organizations that are ready to help when a first responder needs help, even if it is just a friendly ear. From all of us at the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, stay safe, and Merry Christmas.

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has been permanently decertified. Once again, a check of the police/peace officer registry and the national decertification index can clarify this issue. All the existing regulations previously in existence are still in effect requiring agencies to report officers to DCJS who are removed for cause or who have left after the commencement of disciplinary action.

The PPA also changes the makeup of the Municipal Police Training Council and the Law Enforcement Accreditation Council, perhaps the most notable change is that NYSACOP will only be able to nominate one member of each council. The act also establishes several civilian members of the councils.

### State Police Investigate Double Homicide in Duanesburg

On December 1, 2021 at approximately 9:15 PM, State Police and Schenectady County Sheriff's Office responded to a residence in the town of Duanesburg after a male at the home contacted police stating that he had stabbed his family.

Patrols arriving on scene took the caller, 47-year-old Nelson D. Patino, into custody. Three victims were located inside the home with apparent stab wounds. A five-year-old male died at the scene. His 37-year-old mother was transported to Albany Medical Center where she died from her injuries. The third victim, a 2-year-old male, was transported to Albany Medical Center where he remains in stable condition. The names of the victims have been withheld pending family notifications.

Nelson Patino was transported to an area hospital where he was treated for self-inflicted injuries and released. He has been arrested and charged with

Two counts of Murder 2nd degree One count of Attempted Murder 2nd degree Three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon 4th degree

He is due to be arraigned in Duanesburg Town Court.

New York State Police Press Release



Don't forget to renew your membership and update your profile

### Money Laundering: Don't Be a Money Mule

Secret Service Provides Safety Tips to Prevent Money Laundering Crime

Criminals are using the unprecedented national response to the coronavirus pandemic as an opportune moment

to further their criminal behavior. To avoid being detected by law enforcement, criminals use money laundering techniques to conceal the identity, source, and destination of illicitly obtained money. Criminals often prey on unsuspecting individuals by creating elaborate stories to assume false identities to gain your trust by pretending to be an entrepreneur or a bachelor looking for romance.

"Money Mules" are individuals who transfer illegally obtained money on behalf of others using bank accounts, wire transfers, money orders, or checks.

The United States Secret Service, we would like to remind you to protect yourself and the nation:

- Never respond to an offer to earn quick and easy money.
- Never agree to receive and send money on behalf of others.
- Never share your bank account or personally identifiable information PII.
- Never open a joint account with anyone other than close family.

Contact law enforcement or your local Secret Service Field Office if you suspect you were approached to become a money mule, or you have unknowingly become one. Money laundering is a crime, and so is being a money mule. For more information read: <u>Don't Be a Mule</u>

Source: U.S. Secret Service

### DCJS: Human Trafficking Victim Referrals Must Be Made Online Now

In February 2021 the Division introduced our electronic human trafficking victim referral procedure to replace the FAX system established in 2007 with the enactment of New York's human trafficking statutes. Thank you for your extremely positive response in embracing this new procedure. We will, therefore, permanently eliminate the FAX line as of December 31, 2021. We encourage your continued use of the e-referral process and request that you refer your colleagues to it.

For more information on the referral process and the electronic submission form, please visit the DCJS website by clicking the following link - https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/pio/humantrafficking/ humantrafficking.htm



### Wellness: Helping Police Officers in Crisis

### Dealing with Stresses in Law Enforcement

A recent story in the Buffalo area news featured OpOverwatch, an organization comprised of active/retired faith-based law enforcement officers and greatly supported by the community and churches. Founded in 2019, the mission of OpOverwatch is "to provide repeated opportunities for all Law Enforcement Officers to hear about the identity that can be found through the gospel of Jesus Christ."

OpOverwatch was founded in 2019 with the vision of providing all LEO with the opportunity to hear about a

new identity in Jesus Christ that is greater and more fulfilling than an identity that is built on the badge. In the news interview, **OpOverwatch** Executive Director David Budz discuss the problem of law enforcement suicide and said that the organization's services are available to officers who may be struggling or in crisis. "We don't just want to make an officer feel loved and valued, we want to actually love them and value them."



Budz said this is important as officers often value themselves by their identity as police officers. Budz added that services are available to any officer regardless of their religious beliefs or affiliations. OpOverwatch is a resource, Budz said, especially when officers are often reluctant to seeking out help because of the stigma of having a mental health issue.

According to the OpOverwatch website, "OpOverwatch functions under the belief that our identities in the badge serve our greater identity in Jesus Christ. We operate under four pillars to achieve our mission. Those pillars are Edification, Benevolence, Outreach, and Training." Some of the outreach activities of OpOverwatch include Bible studies, youth groups, providing law enforcement support packages, and conducting team debriefings. The training programs include basic Chaplaincy, critical incident debriefing, and threat assessment. If you have questions or would like to participate in OpOverwatch, contact David Budz at OpOverwatchMinistry@gmail.com

Click on the image to view the Channel 4 news story.

### CHIEFLY SPEAKING

### Presentations from the Leadership Summit

Looking for one of the presentations from the 2021 Leadership Summit? Click <u>here</u>.

Presentations include: Duty to Intercede Critical Incident Policy Implementation Law Enforcement Misconduct Investigative Office Faith & Blue Weekend Handling 207-c Claims Professional Policing Act Rochester Threat Advisory Committee.





Materials including this graphic are available from TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov to support your pre-Holiday Season Campaign efforts.

### **REAL RISK MANAGEMENT**

### BY GORDON GRAHAM



### The Perils—and Power—of Politics

Gordon Graham here and this is the final writing in what has been almost six years of monthly articles focusing on the 10 Families of Risk. For those of you who have been following these writings since inception, I sincerely thank you. For those of you newer to these articles, you can access the entire series <u>here.</u>

My last article introduced you to Family 10 of the 10 Families of Risk—political risks. And I left you with a question: "What can you do in your key role as a citizen of this great nation to influence our collective future in a positive way?" The obvious answer is, VOTE. But just blindly voting without knowledge of issues or candidates is irresponsible. Please vote responsibly—that requires some action and thought prior to filling out a ballot.

Let's start by understanding how fortunate you are to be able to vote! In my mind voting is a right, a privilege and a responsibility. Yet when you look at the percentage of eligible voters who actually vote, it's clear not everyone thinks that way. I am shocked to read that oftentimes less than half of eligible voters cast a ballot. Please get away from thinking *my vote won't count*. Countless elections at all levels of government have been decided by just a few votes. Wikipedia has a page devoted to <u>close election</u> results; NPR provides a <u>short list here</u>.

To vote properly, you must educate yourself regarding what is going on—and that requires reading and learning about the involved issues or involved candidates. As I have mentioned in past articles, I try to talk to anyone and everyone because I benefit by meeting and engaging people. However, over the last few decades, I have noticed a lot of people who I converse with are lacking in basic knowledge. Thirty years ago, I read a book by Professor E.D. Hirsch, *Cultural Literacy*. Here is the Amazon summary of what this book is about:

In this forceful manifesto Professor E. D. Hirsch Jr. argues that children in the United States are being deprived of the basic knowledge that would enable them to function in contemporary society. They lack cultural literacy: a grasp of background information that writers and speakers

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assume their audience already has. Even if a student has a basic competence in the English language, he or she has little chance of entering the American mainstream without knowing what a silicon chip is, or when the Civil War was fought. An important work that has engendered a nationwide debate on our educational standards, *Cultural Literacy* is a required reading for anyone concerned with our future as a literate nation.

This book was written in 1988. If Mr. Hirsch had concerns *then*, I wonder what he would think now? I have read dozens of stories about how far behind students in the U.S. are in reading and mathematics

skills, with one recent piece saying that your "average" ninth grader is reading at a second-grade level. How are we going to compete on an international level in the future if the next generation cannot read or compute?

Another example: a recent piece in the *Wall Street Journal* (I try to read that paper every day, and every day there is some story of value to police personnel) entitled "Now, Go Where No Man Has Gone Before" by Buzz Aldrin. While I enjoyed reading this piece, I was a bit surprised to find at the end of the article the statement, "Mr. Aldrin is a former astronaut." How could someone not know the names Neil Armstrong, Mike Collins and Buzz Aldrin and their role in the first lunar landing 52 years ago?

I am confident all the readers of this article know who Buzz Aldrin is, but apparently not everyone does. The same paper on the same day had a story about Bill Clinton being released from the hospital in Orange County, Calif. That article finishes up with, "Mr. Clinton, a Democrat, served as President from 1993 to 2001." I am so happy they did not add in "President of the United States"—or maybe they forgot! What does this candidate stand for? What is their background? What have they done in the past? Who supports this candidate and who does not?

This is a stretch in my brain, but if you don't know who Bill Clinton or Buzz Aldrin are, my guess is you don't really know much if anything

about people running for office at the local, state or federal level. What does this candidate stand for? What is their background? What have they done in the past? Who supports this candidate and who does not?

A pet peeve of mine is the "litmus test" some voters give candidates. "Well, I agree with them on everything they want to do EXCEPT on this one issue so therefore I will not vote for them." In my mind that is very myopic thinking.

### CHIEFLY SPEAKING

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Over the years I have met so many people who are upset with politicians and what they are doing. When I ask them whether they voted in the involved election, the answer is often *no*. If you are not voting, you

really have no right to complain about the actions of those who were elected. I feel the same way about "issues" people vote on. So many people don't read or fully understand what the ballot initiative is and are swayed by cleverly done advertisements on television or the internet.

I am running out or words for this article, but Family 10 political risks—was where I started. And in my opinion the biggest risk in politics is citizens who don't vote—or vote without understanding the candidates and/or issues involved. And lest you think this is just some rant unrelated to law enforcement, consider how much new legislation has been passed in the last five years—not to mention proposed legislation—that affects what you and your personnel do every day. Regardless of where you stand on the issues, it's impossible to deny that elections—and votes—matter.

Going back to a statement in my last writing, "Politicians worry about the next election. Statesmen worry about the next generation." Please do whatever you can do to make the next generation stronger and smarter. Whether it is your role as a parent, a cop, a teacher, a friend, a mentor, or in any other capacity you can think of—we must prepare for the future.

Note: Although this is the last article in the Real Risk

Politicians worry about the next election. Statesmen worry about the next generation.

Please do whatever you can do to make the next generation stronger and smarter.

Management series, Madame Editor and I are discussing future contributions for your fine organization. In the meantime, check out <u>Lexipol's blog</u> for new articles and don't miss our <u>upcoming webinars</u> too.

Gordon Graham is a 33-year veteran of law enforcement and is the co-founder of <u>Lexipol</u>, where he serves on the current board of directors. A practicing attorney, Graham focuses on managing risk in public safety operations and has presented a commonsense approach to risk management to hundreds of thousands of public safety professionals around the world. He holds a master's degree in Safety and Systems Management from University of Southern California and a Juris Doctorate from Western State University.

## SUNY Chancellor Malatras Announces Recipients of 2021 University Police Awards

### Officers Honored for Demonstrating Heroism in Saving Lives and Professional Commitment to Public Safety

Albany, NY – State University of New York Chancellor Jim Malatras today announced the recipients of the 2021 University Police Awards, who were recognized by the SUNY Police Chiefs Association in a ceremony in Saratoga Springs today. The annual awards honor lieutenants, officers, and staff who

played a key role in lifesaving events in the past year, as well as others on the New York University Police force for their outstanding professional service.

"I want to congratulate this year's University Police Award recipients who time and time again, and without hesitation, work to keep our students and our entire campus communities safe," said SUNY Chancellor Malatras. "These awards recognize our officer's extraordinary acts of heroism, selfless



SUNY Award Recipients.

Photo: SUNY

service, courage under pressure and above all, their unwavering commitment to our campuses. It is with immense pride and profound appreciation that we thank the winners for their service to SUNY."

SUNY Board Trustee Robert J. Duffy said, "When families send their children off to college for the first time, they entrust the safety of their loved ones to SUNY. New York State University Police work tirelessly to safeguard not just the students across our 64 campuses, but also the faculty, staff, and guests of our educational institutions. These brave officers wake up every morning not knowing what situation will come their way, and they do so willingly, at times putting their lives at risk to protect others. We thank them for their dedication, bravery, and fortitude and we couldn't be more proud to call them our own."

#### (Continued from page 13)

University Police Commissioner Mary Ritayik said, "This awards ceremony has always been a highlight for the University Police each year. It is a time to come together to acknowledge those members that have gone above and beyond their duties. In a time where society is currently focused on law enforcement, praise and appreciation for the jobs our officers do, now more than ever, is extremely important for them. It is imperative that we continue to honor our officers and acknowledge them for the risks they take to help others

in need, the lives that they've saved, and their efforts and contributions that they make to their departments in order to ensure that the New York State University Police remains a professional leader in law enforcement. Our men and women of the New York State University Police are some of the finest officers in law enforcement today."

PBANYS President and University Police Officers Director Ryan Law said, "The entire membership of the PBA of New York State extends our warmest thanks and congratulations to the 67 officers and staff from 11 State University of New York campuses that were recognized at this year's SUNY Chiefs Association Awards Ceremony. Honorees were recognized in three categories that highlight the professionalism and ethos of the nearly 1,200 members of the PBA – Heroism, Life Saving and Professional Service. Our students, faculty, staff, and visitors remain safe and able to partake in all of the offerings of New York's public higher educational institutions because these dedicated women and men protect our campuses and serve these vital communities." "In a time where society is currently focused on law enforcement, praise and appreciation for the jobs our officers do, now more than ever, is extremely important for them."

Mary Ritayik SUNY Police

The Life Saving Awards recognize University Police who helped saved lives during the past year. These awards went to:

University at Albany: Lieutenant Kevin Krosky, Police Officer Alex Jobson

Farmingdale State College: Police Officer Elizabeth Malenovsky, Police Officer Matthew Fitzharris, Police Officer Joseph Tucker, Police Officer Andrew Sousa, Police Officer Stephen Beckwith

SUNY New Paltz: Lieutenant William Shaw, Police Officer Joseph Haubrich, Police Officer Lilah Bunce, Police Officer Antonio Stenta

Stony Brook University: Police Officer Edward Dowd, Police Officer Michelle Mori, Police Officer Richard Sotomayer

Upstate Medical University: Police Officer Dylan Lyons

The Heroism Awards recognize university police for acts of exceptional bravery performed at very high risk to their own lives with full awareness of the danger involved. This year's honor was awarded to:

University at Buffalo: Police Officer Catherine Guzman, Police Officer Jay Lawrence

#### (Continued from page 14)

The following university police received the Professional Service Award, which recognizes members for acts that greatly enhance the operation of the respective university police departments:

University at Albany: Police Officer Adam Pasnik

SUNY Brockport: Lieutenant Dennis Price, Lieutenant Michael Johnson, Police Officer Dennis Schultz

University at Buffalo: Police Officer Michael Virchau, Police Officer Florence Brown, Police Officer Gregory Fowler, UPCSS Alaina Reid

Buffalo State College: Chief Peter Carey, Assistant Chief Amy Pedlow, Lieutenant William Ginnick, Lieutenant Daniel Harris, Investigator Steven Cahoon, Investigator Renee Polniak, Police Officer Robert Fletcher, Police Officer Jesse Gang, Police Officer Anthony Olszewski, Police Officer R. John Wood, Dispatcher Morgan Liberty, Staff Assistant Darlene DiCesare

SUNY Cortland: Lieutenant Francis Cullen, Parking Operations and Security Services Director Eamon O'Shea

SUNY Morrisville: Lieutenant James McCartney, Police Officer Stephen Leuthauser, Police Officer Tyler Morgan, Police Officer Cody Welch, Police Officer Luke Learned, Lieutenant Philip Netzband, Police Officer Nicole Wright

SUNY New Paltz: Lieutenant John Ritayik, Police Officer Antonio Stenta, Police Officer Lilah Bunce, Police Officer Tyler Pece, Police Officer Justin Larchevesque

SUNY Oswego: T/Sergeant Richard Sherwood

SUNY Plattsburgh: Lieutenant Darren Barcomb

SUNY Purchase: Lieutenant Roberto Caban, Lieutenant Timothy Ludden, Police Officer Fred Vanzillotta, Police Officer Adrienne Jordan, Police Officer Kevin Racioppa, Police Officer Sean McKenna, UPCSS II Mercedes Andujar, UPCSS Bruce Butler

Stony Brook University: Lieutenant Zachary Lee, Investigator Stephen Kiefer

Upstate Medical University: Lieutenant John Stefanko, Police Officer Brian Patterson, Lieutenant Michael Jorgensen, Police Officer David Woodward

As part of the award ceremony, two SUNY students received the following scholarships:

Platt/Malcolm Harris Scholarship: Rosielynn Marasigan - SUNY Purchase

Dr. McBride Student Achievement Award: Avery Gravelle - SUNY Potsdam

Press Release—SUNY; November 16, 2021

### Looking Back...



The Dougherty Detective Bureau was an advertiser in the 1916 Conference Book of the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police. In addition to private detective services, they offered uniformed services at Madison Square Garden, Harlem River Casino, Brighton Beach State Park, as well as at sporting events, exhibitions, and places of amusement.

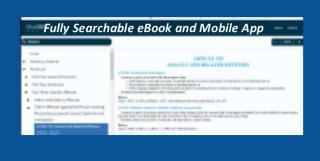


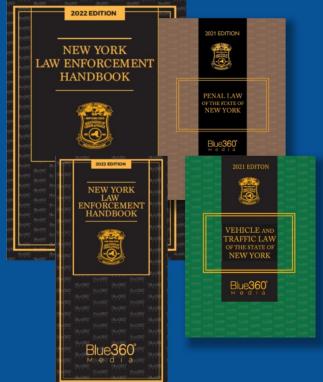
#### The Best Law Content At Your Fingertips

New York State titles include: Penal Law, Criminal Procedure Law, Vehicle and Traffic Law; and the Law Enforcement Handbook (2 sizes)

Featuring the New York Law Enforcement Handbook containing the most frequently used sections of NYS laws with custom content by the New York State Assn. of Chiefs of Police:

- Raise the Age Guide
- Federal Crimes
- HIPPA Guidelines
- Good Samaritan and Syringe Law Guides
- Ignition Interlock Device Guidance
- Traffic Resources: campaign dates, VTL index, supporting depositions & more





10% of all sales benefit the New York State Assn. of Chiefs of Police

Last months' winner of a free New York State Law Enforcement Handbook was Chief Frank Milazzo (NYC DEP PD ) for correctly answering our monthly trivia question. Congratulations Chief Milazzo! —your free New York State Law Enforcement Handbook is on the way from Blue 360° Media!

#### **Monthly Winner!**



## COP TALES

ASST. CHIEF/RET. BRIAN SMITH, California Highway Patrol

### **Christmas Twins**

Two weeks before Christmas, I was driving a black and white Mustang patrol car when I stopped a woman on the freeway for speeding and expired registration. She also had a suspended driver's license. She had 4-year-old twin boys with her. She started to cry and told me she didn't have any money and couldn't afford a ticket. She also told me she couldn't afford to buy anything for her boys for Christmas. I couldn't let her continue to drive on a suspended license, so I had to tow her vehicle and I drove her home. When I arrived at her house, I noticed it was a one-bedroom apartment with no Christmas tree or any decorations.

I dropped them off, returned to the station and traded my Mustang for a larger patrol car. I bought a Christmas tree, decorations, gifts for them and other Christmas items. I drove to her house and gave her all the items. She cried as she hugged me. Since I was also volunteering at the church's toy drive, I was able to get a bike for each of the boys. I suggested she put the bikes and other gifts away for Christmas morning.

I know I gave them the gifts, but I felt like I was the one who received so much that day. I never saw them again, but I think of them all the time around the holidays.

The author served four years in the United States Marine Corps, and retired as an Assistant Chief with the California Highway Patrol. He resides in Bakersfield, CA. If you have a personal "Cop Tale" to share, please contact Brian at bmsmith778@gmail.com

### **Calendar of Events**

NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (webinar recording): Recognizing Lethality Risk in Domestic Violence Cases and the Role of Law Enforcement" <u>View here</u>

Fundamental Crisis Intervention Skills for LE: Instructor Level Training - Erie, Monroe and Oneida Counties (various dates—see link) <u>Link Questions</u>

Suicide Prevention in County Jails and Police Lockups: Instructor Level Training - Erie, Monroe, Oneida and Suffolk Counties <u>Link</u> <u>Questions</u>

ICISF Advanced Assisting Individuals in Crisis - Chautauqua and Schoharie Cos.—Nov. 2-3, Dec. 2-3 <u>Register</u> <u>Announcement</u> <u>Questions</u>

Use of Force Updates/2 Day Refresher: NYC-Nov. 19-20 Registration Questions

Post Critical Incident Seminar (Saratoga Co.) - Dec. 6-8 Registration Questions Information

Suicide Prevention in County Jails and Police Lockups: Instructor Level Training - Oneida Co. Register Questions

DCJS Defensive Tactics Booster Training Series—Jefferson: December 1-2; Niagara: December 13-14 Link Questions

Breath Analysis Operator Student Course—Broome County - Nov. 16-18; Dutchess County—Dec. 8-10 <u>Register</u> <u>Questions</u>

Property/Evidence Room Management Course

Rockland County FULL (Nov. 3-4); Monroe County FULL (Dec. 1-2); Oneida County (Feb. 1-2); Nassau Co. (Feb 24-25); Saratoga County (Mar. 1-2) Erie Co. (Mar. 22-23) <u>Announcement Registration Questions</u>

Reality Based Training Instructor Course-Oswego Co.; Nov. 8-12 Registration Questions

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Training - Oneida (Nov. 10-12) and Westchester (Mar. 9-11, 2022) Counties Information Register Questions

ALERRT Active Attack Integrated Response Course Train-the-Trainer-Albany Co., Dec. 6-10 Registration Form

Post Critical Incident Seminar-Saratoga Co. Dec. 6-8 Registration Questions

Disability Awareness for LE Instructor Level Training—various virtual and in-person dates; <u>Information</u> <u>Registration</u> <u>Questions</u>

Use of Force Refresher; Southern Tier; Dec. 8-9; Register Questions

Principled Policing: Procedural Justice I & II Instructor; Dec. 14-17 (Schenectady Co.) Register Info Questions

MPTC Defensive Tactics Instructor Course—Schenectady Co.; Jan. 10-21 Register Questions



#### (Continued from page 19)

DWI Detection and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor Course—Albany Co.; Jan. 10-13 <u>Register</u> <u>Questions</u>

Ethics and Professionalism Workshop Training—Erie (Dec. 21); Onondaga – (Dec. 22); Warren – Jan. 21; Westchester – Feb. 21. <u>Announcement Registration Questions</u>

Post Critical Incident Seminar (NYLEAP) - Erie Co.; Jan 24-26; <u>Register</u> <u>Announcement</u> <u>Questions</u>

Crash Management Course Training Series - various levels at <u>Oneida</u> and <u>Dutchess</u> Counties (2021-2022) <u>Questions</u>

IPTM Pedestrian/Bicycle Crash Investigation Course: Saratoga Co. – Jan. 24 - 28; Westchester Co. – June 27 – July 1; <u>Ped/Bike Course Registration</u> <u>Motorcycle Course Registration</u> <u>Announcement Questions</u>

ALERRT Active Shooter Level 1 Train the Trainer-Feb. 28 - Mar. 4 Westchester Co. Register Questions

### Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes Funding Available

Applications due by noon on Friday, Jan. 7, 2022

The Division of Criminal Justice Services seeks proposals to fund safety and security projects at nonprofit organizations at risk of hate crimes or attacks because of their ideology, beliefs or mission. Approximately \$25 million is available to fund approximately 500 projects throughout New York State.

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Press Release

### Fingerprint Processing Equipment Funding Available

The Division of Criminal Justice Services has \$1.7 million in federal funding available to law enforcement agencies for the purchase of Livescan fingerprint processing equipment. Applications for this grant funding are due by **Noon on Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021**; agencies must provide a 25 percent match for grants funded through this request for proposals (RFP).

Any questions about this RFP will be accepted through Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021. Answers will be posted on the <u>Grants / Funding page</u> on or about Tuesday, Oct 26, 2021.







### State Police Investigating Personal Injury Crash Involving Patrol Car and a Box Truck on I-87 in Westchester County

Greenburgh, NY - On November 30, 2021, shortly before 6:00 AM, a marked State Police car was struck by a 2017 Freightliner box truck

while it was parked on the southbound right shoulder of I-87, in the town of Greenburgh.

Trooper Carlos Desilva was inside his patrol car monitoring traffic between exits 7 (Ardsley) and 7A (Saw Mill River Pkwy), when a box truck driving



southbound drifted off the roadway onto the right shoulder and struck the driver's side of the Troop car, causing significant damage. Michael Geleski, 35, of Fishkill, NY, was operating the Ace

Endico food truck out of Wappingers Falls. He and his passenger were not injured.

Trooper Desilva, a 15-year veteran assigned to SP Tarrytown, was

transported to Westchester Medical Center for non-lifethreatening injuries, treated, and has since been released.

The crash remains under investigation. State Police would like to remind drivers to slow



down and move over when emergency and construction vehicles are working on the highway.

New York State Police Press Release

### Contact Us

Share your stories, photographs, comments and questions:

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Click on <u>Publications</u> at nychiefs.org

### CHIEFLY SPEAKING

### The New York State Chief's Chronicle





Active Shorters, Barricaded Subjects, and Hostage Considerations Also in the issue: Counsel's Corner: Root Cause Analysis of a Contemporary Tragedy Police Officers Recognized for Exemplary and Heroic Conduct Podcast Series on Cannabis Reform Laws

## Facebook Post of the Month

#### Mount Vernon PD

We remain dedicated to making Mount Vernon safer. Another illegally possessed gun off the street.

