



National Law Enforcement MUSEUM

A MATTER OF HONOR

Mission Statement

The National Law Enforcement Museum tells the story of American law enforcement through exhibits, collections, research and education. The Museum dynamically engages the broadest possible audience in this story in an effort to build mutual respect and foster cooperation between the public and the law enforcement profession. By doing so, the Museum contributes to a safer society and serves to uphold the democratic ideals of the U.S. Constitution.

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LawEnforcementMuseum.blogspot.com

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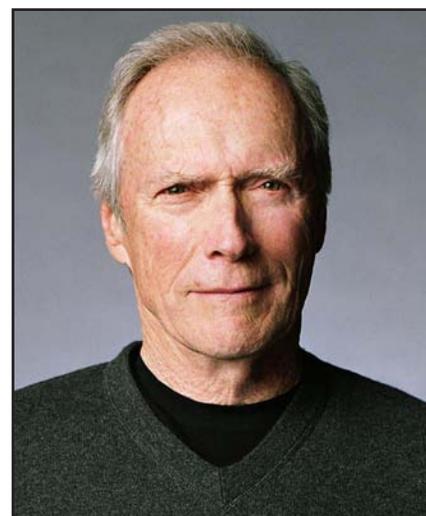
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Clint Eastwood takes on new role as Honorary Chairman for National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Museum

Legendary actor and Oscar award-winning director and producer Clint Eastwood has agreed to serve as Honorary Chairman for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Museum in Washington, D.C.



Actor, Oscar award-winning director and producer Clint Eastwood

“The National Memorial and Museum are long overdue and richly deserved tributes to the men and women in law enforcement,” declared Mr. Eastwood. “On average, an officer is killed in the line of duty somewhere in America every 53 hours. Some 60,000 officers a year are assaulted resulting in 16,000 injuries. Yet, despite those daunting risks, some 800,000 men and women go out every day to serve and protect us. I am deeply honored to help tell their heroic story of service and sacrifice,” he stated.

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) built and dedicated America’s national monument to fallen peace officers in 1991, and is now constructing the National Law Enforcement Museum. The National Memorial bears the names of 19,298 names of Federal, state and local officers who have been killed in the line of duty, dating back to the first death in 1791. Officer deaths have spiked the past two years, including 102 fatalities

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Clint Eastwood named Honorary Chairman of National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Museum

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already in 2011.

Authorized by Congress, the Museum will be built on Federal land right across the street from the National Memorial. Groundbreaking on the Museum occurred in October 2010 and is scheduled for completion by the end of 2013.

The three-story experiential Museum will offer high-tech interactive exhibitions, along with thousands of historical artifacts to tell the story of American law enforcement. The Museum will feature a Hall of Remembrance that will chronicle the lives of the officers who made the supreme sacrifice. As the largest and most comprehensive law enforcement-focused museum in the world, the institution is designed to help visitors better understand and appreciate law enforcement's vital role in our society.

As Honorary Chairman, Mr. Eastwood will help raise public awareness for the Memorial and Museum with an informative Public Service Announcement campaign. In 2007, the Memorial Fund publicly launched a capital campaign called "A Matter of Honor" to build our nation's first-ever National Law Enforcement Museum. To date, more than \$43 million has been raised toward the \$80 million goal.

"Clint Eastwood is an American icon, and we



National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial



Artist's rendering of National Law Enforcement Museum entry pavilions.

are extremely pleased and grateful that he has agreed to play a leadership role in helping us honor America's law enforcement professionals and complete their National Museum," declared Memorial Fund Chairman and CEO Craig W. Floyd.

"Thousands of real-life, sworn law enforcement officers never make it home," Mr. Eastwood explained. "They make the ultimate sacrifice. We owe those who have fallen, and all of our nation's law enforcement officers, a huge debt of gratitude," he concluded.

Education Programs

Witness to History: The Shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald

Retired Dallas (TX) Police Detective James R. Leavelle Shares his Story with the National Law Enforcement Museum

Two days after President John F. Kennedy was assassinated during a visit to Dallas, Texas, then Detective James R. Leavelle of the Dallas (TX) Police Department was given a special assignment. His job was to escort the President's alleged assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, from police headquarters to the county jail. The date was November 24, 1963.

On Tuesday, June 7, Mr. Leavelle, 90, made the trip from Texas to Washington, D.C., to be the first speaker in the National Law Enforcement Museum's new *Witness to History* lecture series. Mr. Leavelle joined Museum staff, supporters, board members and friends, who listened intently to a living legend recall with detailed precision his account of the infamous event.

Linked to Oswald by handcuffs during what Det. Leavelle hoped to be a safe and smooth transport through the basement of police headquarters, he recalled the words he exchanged with Oswald. Shackled side-by-side, Leavelle said in his genial, teasing style, "Lee, if anybody shoots, I hope they're as good a shot as you are." According to Mr. Leavelle, Oswald kind of laughed and said, "Well, nobody's going to shoot at me."

Moments after these "famous last words" — as Mr. Leavelle appropriately dubbed them — were uttered, local nightclub owner Jack Ruby shot and killed Lee Harvey Oswald.



James Leavelle during his recent trip to Washington, D.C.



Jack Ruby shoots Lee Harvey Oswald in the Pulitzer Prize-winning photo taken by Robert Jackson of the Dallas Times-Herald. Det. Leavelle is in the center, wearing the light-colored suit and matching cowboy hat, cuffed to Oswald as the fatal bullet hits—a photo that undoubtedly made him one of the most recognizable police officers in America.

During the *Witness to History* event, Mr. Leavelle displayed a slideshow of photographs that seemed to come alive as he guided the audience through the events that led to the shootings. Leavelle responded to audience questions, including why he was the detective chosen to escort Oswald. He explained that Oswald was the prime suspect in the murder of Dallas (TX) Police Officer J.D. Tippit, who was killed minutes after President Kennedy was shot. Since then Det. Leavelle was assigned to investigate the murder of his colleague, the alleged gunman and chief suspect in the investigation—Oswald—was in his charge.

Mr. Leavelle continued to escort Oswald after he was shot, now to the hospital instead of jail. When the bullet was extracted from Oswald's body, Det. Leavelle made sure the surgeon carved the initials "LHO" into the bullet, to avoid more controversy. The next day, Leavelle transferred Jack Ruby to prison, but this time he didn't handcuff himself to Ruby as he did to Oswald. According to Mr. Leavelle, Jack Ruby said the reason he shot Oswald was

because he wanted to be a hero. "You didn't do us any favors by killing Oswald," Leavelle recalled saying to Ruby.

In addition to his *Witness to History* appearance, Mr. Leavelle recorded a detailed oral history, now part of the Museum collection. His testimony will be available to researchers and others interested in gaining knowledge of these historic events. His unscripted and unedited recording will forever document his law enforcement service and will preserve his unique and remarkable story to be shared with millions of Museum visitors.

The Museum is currently planning the next *Witness to History* event, which will be held in early September. Please stay tuned for more information about the forthcoming event in this exciting new Museum program.

Exhibits of the National Law Enforcement Museum: To Serve and Protect

After visiting the main theater and watching a film introduction to the Museum's story, visitors can choose to explore several different exhibits. Right outside the theater is an area called *To Serve and Protect*. Like the main theater, this exhibit space is a point of connection between law enforcement and the visitor. The stories told here will allow visitors to explore and better understand how law enforcement in America works and how large and small acts of policing affect individuals, communities, and the nation. It also provides a forum where visitors' opinions, experiences, and ideas about law enforcement can be shared.

Visitors might begin their experience by taking a seat at the *To Serve and Protect* media display for which the entire area is named. Four to six monitors show a narrated, six-segment audiovisual presentation which runs on a loop. Each segment focuses on a single event—an emotional and compelling story that is told from the viewpoint of officers, victims, and bystanders involved in each incident. The selected events will concretely illustrate the jobs that officers do and, most importantly, how their actions affect the communities in which they work. One of the stories will relate to the U.S. Park Police *Eagle One Bell* helicopter hanging above, which was used to rescue the victims of the 1982 Air Florida Flight 90 crash into the Potomac River in Washington, D.C.

Complementing *To Serve and Protect* is an interactive media installation titled *The Web of Law Enforcement*. Visitors can interact with a ten foot-wide touchscreen to learn about the process of law enforcement in America and how the over 18,000 agencies interact to keep society safe. A small text message instructs visitors to select one



of the passing crime icons. When they do so, they activate the portion of the web nearest them, and a small text box with an image pops up. The pop-up window contains a brief description of an actual crime and law enforcement's initial response to it. Visitors can then follow the trail of that crime through the web and see how other agencies were brought into the investigation, arrest, trial, and imprisonment.

Nearby, visitors can access one of two identical computer kiosks that contain information about every department and agency in the United States. They can look up agencies in their hometown or state or agencies across the country at the local, state and federal levels.

Visitors are also invited to make their own connections to the museum and the stories it tells. At a feedback station, visitors can share their beliefs about and experiences with law enforcement, which will help to foster a constructive dialogue between the community, law enforcement, and the Museum. Selected comments will be posted for all to see.

Next month: [History Time Capsules](#)

Artifact Detective



With the sheer volume of artifacts that have been acquired by the National Law Enforcement Museum—more than 15,000 to date—we can't always devote as much time to researching individual objects as we would like. We are calling on you to help us uncover some of the stories behind our objects. We will post pictures and any information we have on specific objects in our collection on our [website](#), on our [blog](#), and in our newsletter. We would like you to tell us anything you may know about the item. All information is welcome; sources and citations are requested when possible.

Please email: museum@nleomf.org.

Office Supply: RITE-LINE Paper holder

What we know:

- This item belonged to Rita Trombly Manning when she worked for the FBI from the 1940s to 1970s.
- We know Ms. Trombly worked as a stenographer, someone who takes notes in shorthand, in various departments, including the Records and Communications Division and the Crime Records Division.
- A note included with the object says, "Device allows you to insert an already typed paper and add another line to it."



2011.12.6 Collection of the National Law Enforcement Museum, Washington, D.C.

What we want to know:

- What is the primary purpose of this device?
- How does this object work with a piece of paper?
- What year was this item made and in what years was it used?
- Was this an everyday office supply?
- Was this a common office supply for law enforcement offices?

Museum News

Meet Marion Ramey, Member of the Museum's Advisory Council



Marion Ramey, founding member of the National Law Enforcement Museum's Advisory Council

Marion Ramey is a founding member of the National Law Enforcement Museum's Advisory Council and is actively participating in the development and building of the Museum. He also volunteers his time to help research the Hoover Collection for the Museum.

Mr. Ramey has dedicated his career to law enforcement. He began as a Special Agent of the FBI in 1954, eventually serving as Inspector/Deputy Assistant Director in charge of Program Evaluation and Audits until 1982. He then served as Assistant Administrator and Chief Inspector for Planning and Inspection on loan to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) until his retirement in 1988.

After Mr. Ramey's retirement from the FBI, he became the Executive Director of the [Special Agent Mutual Benefits Association](#). While there, he sponsored one of the Federal

Employee Benefit Plans and other insurance programs for federal law enforcement employees and retirees, working with the Association until 2000.

In 1993, Mr. Ramey was appointed Vice President/Director of the [J. Edgar Hoover Foundation](#), a position he still holds. He is currently the liaison between the Foundation and the Museum, overseeing the acquisition of J. Edgar Hoover's personal effects by the Museum in 2010.

Mr. Ramey has lived in the Washington, D.C., area since 1968.



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