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# MemorialNews

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## 2005 FALLEN HEROES REPORT: 153 Officers Made Ultimate Sacrifice

In 2005, 153 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty according to preliminary figures compiled by the NLEOMF. Shootings (60) and automobile accidents (41) were the leading causes of line of duty deaths. This is the fourth consecutive year that the total number of law enforcement fatalities has been below the decade-long average of about 162 officer deaths per year.

However, for the second consecutive year, more officers (62) died in traffic-related accidents (the combination of 41 in auto accidents, six in motorcycle accidents, and 15 officers struck

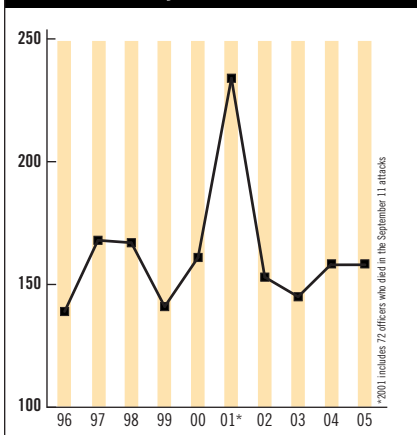
by vehicles) than from being shot. In 2004, 73 officers died in traffic-related accidents and 57 were shot.

The states with the most officer fatalities were: California (17), Texas (14), Georgia (10), Missouri and Virginia (7 each). Nine federal law enforcement officers made the ultimate sacrifice. The annual Fallen Heroes report shows a sharp increase in the number of officers who died as a result of a physical-related incident (i.e., heart attack, heat stroke, etc.): 21 in 2005 versus 10 in 2004.

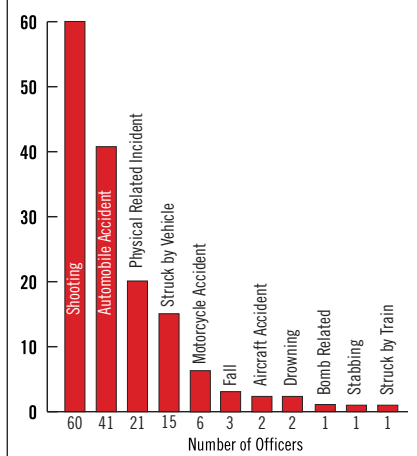
In addition to the shootings (60), traffic-related accidents (62), and physically-related incidents (21), other causes of deaths were: three officers died in falls, two officers drowned and two officers died in aircraft accidents. One officer each died as a result of a bomb-related incident, stabbing, and being struck by a train. Of the 153 officers who died last year, five were females.

Released jointly by the NLEOMF and the Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS), the annual Fallen Heroes Report is a preliminary summary of those federal, state, and local officers who made the ultimate sacrifice during the past year.

Number of officers killed in the last 10 years



2005 Causes of Death



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## Body Armor, Better Training, and Less-Lethal Weapons Credited for Fewer Fatalities

During the 1970s, 225 officers were killed on average each year, making it the deadliest decade in law enforcement history. Since then, the increased use of body armor by officers, better training and, more recently, the advent of less-lethal weaponry, have all helped to significantly reduce officer fatalities to about 162 per year over the past 10 years, according to NLEOMF Chairman Craig W. Floyd.

"Despite the substantial reduction in officer deaths, the sad fact remains that a law enforcement officer is killed somewhere in America nearly every other day," Mr. Floyd said.

This is the second consecutive year in which traffic-related accidents topped gunfire as the leading cause of death. Over the past 30 years, the number of officers killed in automobile accidents has increased by 40 percent, according to the NLEOMF. As a result of this troubling trend, the NLEOMF and COPS are calling for better driver training for officers, safer automobiles, and for the public to be more attentive to officer safety while driving. The NLEOMF's Drive Safely campaign is an example of the leadership role the NLEOMF is taking in this effort.

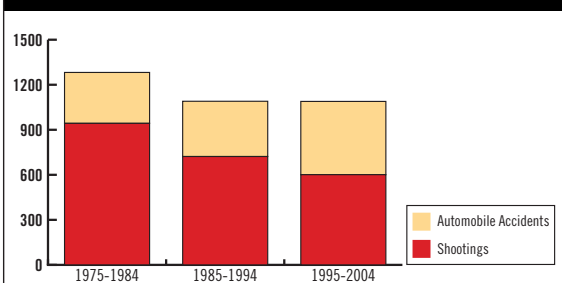
According to the International Associations of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Dupont Kevlar Survivors' Club®, which tracks incidents in which officers' lives have been saved by body armor, nearly 3,000 officers have been protected from injuries that likely would have been fatal since 1975. Based on its own research, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reports that the risk of fatal injuries for officers who do not routinely wear body armor is 14 times greater than for those who do.

In the meantime, we must do all that we can to honor and remember the officers who made the ultimate sacrifice and their families. "When law enforcement officers die in the line of duty, their families need strong support," said COPS National President Shirley Gibson. "Concerns of Police Survivors will be there for the 153 families who lost an officer in 2005, or in previous years, encouraging them to find that support through the other law enforcement survivors and COPS programs. COPS saved my life by reaching out to me and my family in 1997. COPS is ready to do the same for the survivors of 2005 and for survivors of past years for as long as they need our support."

Every officer who died in the line of duty during 2005 will be honored at the 18th Annual Candlelight Vigil on May 13, 2006, during National Police Week. The officers will also be honored in the Hall of Remembrance Gallery at the National Law Enforcement Museum, which will open in 2009.

*On May 15th, Peace Officers Memorial Day, flags will be lowered to half-staff in honor of all fallen law enforcement officers. To leave a tribute for a fallen officer, or a message of condolence to their families, please visit [www.NLEOMF.com](http://www.NLEOMF.com).*

Comparison of officer deaths resulting from automobile accidents & shootings over the past three decades.



## Golfin' the Carolinas "Putts" the NLEOMF First

*"I organize this event because I enjoy doing it and I believe in the cause. I hope to make it the largest law enforcement tournament in the world."*

— Dan Morphet, Tournament Director of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Golf Classic.

With 794 participants, this year's "Golfin' the Carolinas," raised \$55,000 to help build the National Law Enforcement Museum. The golf tournament, started in 2000, has raised more than \$160,000 for the Memorial Fund and its programs. It is a great example of how to bring law enforcement professionals together to support an honorable cause. Thank you to all event coordinators and participants, for "putting" us first!

Next year's tournament is scheduled for November 5th-10th, 2006.

**For more information, visit [www.golfinthecarolinas.net](http://www.golfinthecarolinas.net).**



Craig W. Floyd, Chairman, NLEOMF, Dan Morphet, Tournament Coordinator, and Sam Cabral, President of IUPA and NLEOMF Board Member.

## OFFICERS: Tell Your Story in the National Law Enforcement Museum!

### Officer Registry to Go “Live” in May

The National Law Enforcement Museum will offer visitors a wealth of information about the law enforcement profession. Included in the Museum will be a comprehensive registry profiling the officers who have served our nation throughout history.

Any U.S. officer can register in the Officer Registry, which will be live on the NLEOMF website during National Police Week 2006. The program has been in development since August 2005 with General Systems Corporation.

Officers, for a fee, will be able to register information about their lives in law enforcement, including specialized training and awards they have received, personal memories, and an image of themselves in uniform. Proceeds from the registry will help to build the National Law Enforcement Museum.

Starting in September 2006, a registry of law enforcement agencies will also be created to provide information about department history, and images of their headquarters, patrol vehicles, uniforms, patches, badges, and much more.

During National Police Week, you can be among the first to join the officer registry by going to our website, [www.NLEOMF.com](http://www.NLEOMF.com). We encourage you to be one of the first to have your story told in the National Law Enforcement Museum!



*The National Law Enforcement Museum, to open in 2009, will house many interactive exhibits such as the Officer Registry.*

### Mark Your Calendars!

Preliminary information for 2006 National Police Week activities is now available online. **Visit [www.NLEOMF.com](http://www.NLEOMF.com) for event listings and contact information.**



*Grand Arrival: The Police Unity Tour arrival ceremony is a National Police Week highlight.*

### Law Enforcement Ambassadors Continue Rallying Support for Museum

On November 8, 2005, the Law Enforcement Assistance Connection Inc. (LEAC), and its Executive Director, Mr. Terry L. Hunt, Jr. hosted a local event at Michael's Café in Baltimore County, Maryland. John Walsh, host of *America's Most Wanted*, delivered special remarks to the more than 150 event participants.

Mr. Hunt has been an advocate of law enforcement and a strong supporter of the Memorial Fund for many years. In 2003 he took on the role of Law Enforcement Ambassador and pledged to invest his time and effort to raise awareness for the upcoming Law Enforcement Museum. He has coordinated this local fundraiser for the past three years and has raised more than \$9,000 for *A Matter of Honor: The Campaign to Build the National Law Enforcement Museum*.



## NLEOMF Officer of the Month Program Recognizes Distinguished Law Enforcement Professionals

Every year the names of officers killed in the line of duty are added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, but an officer does not have to die to become a hero. Since September 1996, the NLEOMF has honored those who continue to serve and protect with the Officer of the Month program. Every month, the NLEOMF selects one active law enforcement officer who has distinguished him/herself through exemplary service and devotion to duty.

Following tradition, the NLEOMF Board of Directors will host a special awards luncheon during National Police Week 2006 to honor the distinguished winners from the past year and formally present them with their awards. Past keynote speakers at this event have included FBI Director Robert Mueller, U.S. Capitol Police Chief Terrance Gainer, and U.S. Mint Police Director William F. Daddio, Ph.D.

Nominate an officer who has made a difference in your community! Any duly sworn officer with full arrest powers, who is directly involved in crime control or reduction and is employed on a full-time basis by a federal, state or local law enforcement agency, may be nominated for this prestigious award.

Nominations must be submitted in writing or transmitted electronically at [www.NLEOMF.com](http://www.NLEOMF.com), and can be submitted by anyone other than the nominee. A single heroic incident may be worthy of consideration, but special consideration is given to those nominees who have distinguished themselves and their profession throughout their careers.

**For more information, call Brian Lacey at 202-737-3400. Learn more about these "Living Legends" by visiting the Officer of the Month page at [www.NLEOMF.com](http://www.NLEOMF.com).**

### 2005 Officers of the Month

- Deputy Sheriff Tim Gillespie, *Tazewell County (IL) Sheriff's Office*
- Special Agent Rebecca Bobbich, *Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives*
- Patrolman Frank Rutherford, *Youngstown (OH) Police Department*
- Officer Jason Bellavance, Officer William Sullivan III, Officer Sue Roberts, *University of Vermont Department of Police Services*
- Officer Michael Cordova, Officer Patrick Bouhana, *Denver (CO) Police Department*
- Officer Timothy Greene, *Rock Hill (SC) Police Department*
- Game Warden William Livezey, *Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife – Warden Service*
- Officer Jonathan Pate, *Santa Clara (CA) Police Department*
- Special Agent Jude Tanella, *Drug Enforcement Administration*
- Trooper James Boyd, *Pennsylvania State Police*
- Officer Jeffrey McCloskey, *Whiteland (PA) Police Department*
- Officer Richard Valdes, *City of Miami (FL) Police Department*



*The Officer of the Month Award recognizes law enforcement officers who distinguish themselves through exemplary service and devotion to duty.*

## Experience National Police Week from Behind the Scenes

Volunteering your time, enthusiasm, and in some cases, brute strength, with the NLEOMF during National Police Week lets you experience this special time from a unique vantage point. Whether at the Memorial Visitors Center or the Candlelight Vigil, your assistance will play a vital role in helping us pay tribute to the men and women we honor, and will ensure that National Police Week 2006 is a wonderful, memorable experience for their families.

We encourage you to volunteer for this worthy cause. You might just find it to be the best National Police Week you ever attended!

**For more information, call Brian Lacey at 202-737-3400.**

## Preview of a Coming Attraction: NLEOMF Launches Premier Museum Film Festival in March

This Spring, the NLEOMF will introduce the National Law Enforcement Museum to the Washington area through a public film festival scheduled for March 2-4, 2006. The event is titled *Preview of a Coming Attraction: The Premier National Law Enforcement Museum Film Festival* and will be held at the American Film Institute Silver Theatre complex in Silver Spring, Maryland.

The three-day festival will feature “*The French Connection*,” “*Se7en*,” and “*Dragnet*.” The themes of the films relate directly to three Museum exhibits: The History of Law Enforcement; Being an Officer: Take the Case (which explores forensics and other methods of investigation); and Reel to Real (which examines perceptions of law enforcement).

Discussions after each screening will feature prominent law enforcement experts who will interact with the audience in a “Q & A” format. Special guests for this event include Sonny Grosso, whose experiences as a NYPD officer were the basis for “*The French Connection*,” and husband and wife team Dr. Michael Baden, MD, and Linda Kenney Baden, Esq. Dr. Baden, who is known for his work as chief forensic pathologist in the congressional investigations of the JFK and Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinations, has been a consulting forensic pathologist for the FBI and Veterans Administration and is host of the HBO series “*Autopsy*.” Additional guests will include Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives forensics expert Walter A. Dandridge, Jr. and DC MPD Officer Marcello Muzzatti and his faithful sidekick, K-9 Officer “Shrek.”

Each film screening will begin with a presentation of the virtual tour of the National Law Enforcement Museum (now viewable at [www.NLEOMF.com](http://www.NLEOMF.com)). The guest speakers will provide behind-the-scenes, first-hand knowledge of how accurately these films depict genuine police work.

***Limited tickets are available through the AFI Silver box office. For more information about the Film Festival, visit [www.NLEOMF.com](http://www.NLEOMF.com).***



*Sonny Grosso's heroic story was told in the Oscar winning film, “The French Connection.” The film was added to the National Film Registry by the Library of Congress this past December.*

## NLEOMF Helps an Officer Bring the Pieces Back Together After Hurricane

In April 1998 the NLEOMF recognized Sergeant Richard Hannah of the Bay St. Louis (MS) Police Department as one of its “Living Legends.” One case that Sergeant Hannah investigated involved two children whose parents were using them to produce child pornography.

Prior to Katrina, Sergeant Hannah was involved in a serious accident while on duty and was badly injured. He had three operations to his shoulder and one to his neck, but was healing well when Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast. While trying to retrieve the remains of a local citizen during a recovery operation, Sergeant Hannah fell and re-injured his shoulder and neck, forcing him to end a 20-year career of protecting and serving the city that has been left in ruins.

The Hannahs, like so many in the Gulf region, lost everything to Hurricane Katrina. Knowing how much the Officer of the Month Award meant to her husband, Mrs. Hannah requested that the NLEOMF staff reproduce the paperwork, the award and other memorabilia from his trip to DC in May 1998.

With help from the NLEOMF, Mrs. Hannah replaced items that, while they hold little monetary value, confirm and validate the sacrifice and contribution Sergeant Hannah made during his law enforcement career. Mrs. Hannah's efforts speak to the love, respect and pride she has for her husband. Many stories have been written about the suffering and devastation after Katrina, but this one underscores a love that this terrible storm could not destroy.



## Chiefs Gather for a Night of Cuban Flavor to Raise Support

On the evening of September 24, 2005, in Miami, Florida, the Miami-Dade County Police Department, Director Bobby Parker, and American Police Beat, hosted a special gala event to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Museum. Destination Miami was held at Gloria Estefan's Bongos Cuban Café, a popular dance club overlooking Biscayne Bay. A donation of \$65,000 was presented to the Museum Campaign as a result of this event.

This evening of dancing and entertainment preceded the opening day of the 2005 International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference, also held in Miami. Chiefs of major U.S. cities and representatives of top companies in the law enforcement market participated in the festivities. Special guests included Miami-Dade Police Department Director Bobby Parker, and Miami Heat (NBA) star Dwayne Wade, and American Police Beat Publisher Cynthia Brown.

This is the second year that American Police Beat successfully organized a major event to rally support for the Museum. The events, which raised a total of \$120,000 for the Museum Campaign, have proven so successful that Destination Miami coordinators are already planning to host a similar gala next year at the IACP conference in Boston.



*Guests enjoy an evening of glamour at Gloria Estefan's Bongos Cuban Café.*



*Bobby Parker, Director of the Miami-Dade Police, Dwayne Wade, Miami Heat NBA Star, and NLEOMF Chairman Craig W. Floyd.*



*Bobby Parker recognizes American Police Beat Publisher Cynthia Brown for her efforts in planning Destination Miami.*

## Mag Instrument, Inc. Sponsors 'Locker Room' Exhibit At National Law Enforcement Museum

'The Locker Room'—a major exhibit in the future National Law Enforcement Museum—will be sponsored by Mag Instrument, the U.S. manufacturer of Maglite® flashlights. The company has supplied law enforcement officers around the nation with flashlight equipment as vital as a uniform, a badge or a gun. Through the sponsorship, Mag Instrument, which also is a Founding Partner of the Museum, will make it possible for visitors to browse through individual lockers "assigned" to men and women from virtually every branch of law enforcement. While listening to oral histories of real-life officers, visitors will look at artifacts and images from each officer's life. From uniforms to firearms to badges to protective and investigative equipment, the lockers will present a compelling collage of the objects and experiences that comprise a law enforcement officer's life.



*"The Locker Room"*

"Everyone has an opinion about policing, but if you really want to know what it is like to speak respectfully to a crowd of angry protestors or face down a predator on a city street, you need to walk in the shoes of the people who do the job," said Mag Instrument President and Founder Anthony Maglica, who is the father of a former Ontario, California police officer who was injured in the line of duty. "Bringing 'The Locker Room' to life is a good way for us to spotlight the role of law enforcement in keeping our communities safe."

# Honor Roll of Donors

**Annual Donors of \$1,000 and Above** — The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following donors for the period of January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2005.

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**A Matter of Honor: The Campaign to Build the National Law Enforcement Museum - Donors of \$1,000 and Above through December 31, 2005** — We are deeply grateful to all of our supporters for their generosity and commitment to build the new National Law Enforcement Museum.

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Rockingham Co. Law Enforcement Officers Assn (NH)  
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Town of Easton EPD PAL Center (MD)  
United Federation of Police Officers, Inc.  
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Officer Harold L. Vitale Memorial Fund, Inc.  
Chief Daniel B. Watson, South Pasadena  
Police Department (CA)  
Mr. Scott C. Wood

**Planned Giving Donors** — We gratefully acknowledge the following donors who have generously remembered the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund in their estate planning.

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## More Than 25,000 Stamp Petition Signatures Delivered to Congress

In less than six months, the NLEOMF collected more than 25,000 signatures in support of a U.S. Postal Service (USPS) stamp commemorating law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, their families, partners, and fellow officers.

Sylvia Simons-Trembelas and Marie Conroy (Survivor 1989) were the motivating forces behind the Stamp Petition initiative. The initiative's congressional sponsors were Congressman Robert Filner (D-CA) and Darrel Issa (R-CA).

In December, NLEOMF Chairman Craig W. Floyd and Congressman Filner presented the signatures to David Failor, USPS Stamp Manager.



*Chairman Craig W. Floyd and Congressman Robert Filner (D-CA) present David Failor, USPS Stamp Manager, with more than 25,000 signatures in support of a stamp honoring law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.*

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