



JOURNAL

— Official Publication Of The —

SAN FRANCISCO

POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 42, NUMBER 1

SAN FRANCISCO, JANUARY 2010



www.sfpoa.org

The Curious Case of Bobby Brown

By Gary Delagnes
SFPOA President

CAUTION: Do Not Read if you are prone to Fits of Outrage, Frustration, or General Disgust with the Criminal Justice System—

Those of us in law enforcement are well aware that we are far too often the scapegoats in a dysfunctional criminal justice system. While Judges, DAs, defense attorneys, Probation Officers, and elected sheriffs wash their hands of any accountability and responsibility, it is those on the front lines — street cops, field investigators, and deputies — who are held most accountable when the system fails another hapless victim of a career criminal. While the officials shield themselves behind a cloak of silence and impunity, it is the street cops who are confronted with the outrage and incredulous question from every victim who is essentially re-victimized by an often arrogant and unaccountable justice system that allows recidivist animals to go unfettered in a vulnerable society: “How could this happen?”

Well, incredulously, this is how!

The Curious Case of Bobby Brown

Bobby Brown began his ignominious career as a lifetime criminal on September 30, 1998 at the age of 19. (We don’t know the extent of his juvenile record, as that is sealed, but it’s hard to imagine that he didn’t have one.) He was arrested for burglary in Richmond, California and for whatever reason the case was referred to Juvenile Hall, which seems odd due to the fact that Mr. Brown was already an adult. On January 26, 1999, barely 4 months later, he was arrested and charged with burglary, and grand theft. He was actually sentenced to 6 days in jail and two years proba-

tion. Over the next 11 months Bobby Brown was arrested a total of 13 times in Oakland, Martinez, Richmond, and San Francisco, and in the latter case, it was for first degree murder on July 21, 1999. Those charges were dropped when he pleaded guilty to a lesser charge. Remember, in San Francisco —the “City that knows how!” — it’s often acceptable to plead out a first-degree murder case to a lesser charge.

Some of the other highlights of 1999 for Mr. Brown included arrests for burglary, trespassing, selling a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, vandalism, assault with a firearm, and petty theft with a prior. He actually received 120 days in jail for his plea to a lesser charge in the murder case.

Mr. Brown got off to a rollicking start in 2000 as he was arrested in Oakland for petty theft with a prior on January 14. On January 25th he was picked up on several warrants for drug sales, but apparently again was not sent to jail as he was again taken into custody on yet another bench warrant in San Francisco on February 8th. On June 12th he was again picked up in San Francisco for additional warrants. Brown was *finally* sentenced up to 90 days on parole violations on October 17, 2000.

Bobby got off to another fast start in 2001 when he was arrested on January 9th for assault with a deadly weapon in San Francisco and, lo and behold, was *finally* sentenced to 3 years in prison. He apparently didn’t stay long, however, because one year later, January 11, 2002, he was arrested for a *parole violation* and sent back to San Quentin to FINISH HIS 3 YEAR SENTENCE. Apparently he didn’t finish his sentence this time either as he was scooped up again on September 23rd, 2002 on a *parole violation* and was ordered to, you guessed it, FINISH HIS 3 YEAR

SENTENCE. Never let it be said that SF courts are soft on crime!

I think you are starting to get the point, but just for good measure know that Mr. Brown was arrested 6 more times over the next 3 years for numerous felonies and parole violations for a grand total of 31 arrests and 7 FELONY STRIKES, which means he could have been sentenced to 25 years to life anytime after the 2nd strike.

But, he wasn’t, and he surfaced again in March of 2008 when, at the urging of citizens in the Union Square area, he was arrested for possession of a switchblade knife. The case was thrown out for an improper search even though Brown admitted to the officer that he had a weapon on his person prior to the search.

Where does the story end? On September 1st, 2009 Bobby Brown stabbed 11-year old Hatim Mansori. On November 30th, 2009 Bobby Brown stabbed 24-year old Rachel Brown while she slept on a Muni bus. Bobby Brown was also charged with the stabbings of two other women while they were walking their children in the tenderloin in November of 2009. Additionally, he was charged with the stabbing of a woman on a BART train in 2004.

The police handed Mr. Brown over to the authorities over 30 times and they refused to do their job! Mr. Brown should have been sentenced to life in prison in 2003, but the criminal justice system released him time-and-time-again until he stabbed at least 5 people.

The criminal justice system has the obligation to give everyone their day in court. We live in a society where you are innocent until proven guilty. Bobby Brown was determined to be guilty over 20 times. Society also has the obligation to protect its citizens against undue harm. This was another



SFPOA President Gary Delagnes

of many examples when the courts did not do their job, and at least five people were seriously injured as a result. One young man almost died! Rest assured, the judges won’t comment, the DAs won’t comment, and of course the defense attorneys will do what they always do. (After Bobby Brown’s final arrest for the 5 stabbings his attorney, V. Roy Leftcourt, declared his innocence.)

At least 5 people were victimized by a career criminal whose rights were protected beyond those of his victims. This story is not unique, but certainly tragic. While the finger pointing is plentiful, I guarantee you that nobody in the criminal justice will take responsibility for the criminal career of Bobby Brown. I promised after the death of Officer Nick Birco that I would hold the system accountable whenever I could. Oh, yeah, Presiding Judge James McBride refused comment on the matter. Imagine that!

The next time somebody asks you, “How could this happen?” tell them about the furious case of Bobby Brown.

Washington state massacre

Honoring Our Fallen

By Eric Chiang

As word spread about the tragedy of four Lakewood, Washington police officers that were gunned down on November 29, 2009, many of us who were determined to attend the December 8th services scrambled to find flights and hotels. On the day of the service, approximately 40 of SFPD’s finest braved the 30-degree temperatures to stand together with over 22,000

other law enforcement personnel from more than 370 agencies. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, along with the Vancouver and British Columbia police, were represented by a total of 749 officers.

Although SFPD did not have a vehicle in the procession, it was a somber 10-mile drive from McChord Air Force Base to the Tacoma Dome, the site of the funeral service. By the time the

Continued on page 9

San Francisco Soldier Killed in Afghanistan

Editor’s Report

The men and women of the San Francisco Police Officers Association express sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of Army Sgt. David H. Gutierrez, a San Francisco soldier who died December 25, 2009 in Afghanistan. He was 35.

Sergeant Gutierrez was killed by an improvised explosive device outside of the southern city of Kandahar. He becomes the third San Franciscan to be killed in action in Iraq or Afghanistan since the terrorist attacks of 2001. Each a hero, the death of Sgt. Gutierrez on Christmas Day is particularly somber, and our prayers go with the family of this son, soldier, and patriot.

Minutes of the December 16, 2009 POA Board Meeting*

1. 1205 hours, Secretary Montoya called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance and conducted the roll call of the Board of Directors and Executive Board.

2. Teri Kidd and Mark Derenderie of A. Francois Derenderinger Insurance Agency, Inc. gave a presentation to the Board of Directors regarding their Long Term Care Program.

3. Rep. Browne (Co. A) Made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 2009 board meeting. Motion was seconded by Rep. Flaherty (Co. E) and passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. President Delagnes addressed the Board regarding the recently issued Department Bulletin regarding overtime. President Delagnes is working with Assistant Chief Tabak to clarify concerns of our members with a new Department Bulletin to be issued.

5. President Delagnes addressed the Board regarding our current contract. The POA is not having discussions with the City and the current contract stands.

6. Chief Gascón addressed the Board of Directors regarding challenges facing the Department. Chief Gascón advised that 89% of the Police

7. After working 41 years for the retirement system with the last 25 as the Executive Director, Clare Murphy is retiring 1-08-10. On behalf of the membership, President Delagnes presented Mrs. Murphy with a plaque of appreciation. Mrs. Murphy thanked the POA and spent about 15 minutes answering questions.

8. President Delagnes addressed the Board regarding a proposed Charter Amendment affecting our member's retirement contribution. Although the final draft has not been reviewed, it is anticipated that members hired after 7-01-12 would have a retirement contribution of 9% (currently 7% for Tier 1 and 7.5% for Tier 2). New hired members would also be required to make the 2% contribution to help cover the costs of retiree health care. Also in the Charter Amendment would be a bond measure to fund a new Crime Lab and Hall of Justice.

9. Treasurer Halloran distributed the

Department budget is staffing. Chief Gascón was advised that he needs to cut 5 to 6 million dollars from his current budget by 1-1-10. Since 89% of the budget is staffing, the quickest way to address the cuts was re-evaluating staffing costs (overtime and like work like pay). Chief Gascón also spoke to the fact that Assistant Chief Tabak and President Delagnes are working on the issuance of a new Department Bulletin regarding overtime guidelines. Chief Gascón then talked about projected budget cuts for fiscal year 2010-2011 which range from 30 to 47 million dollars. After his initial presentation Chief Gascón spent an hour fielding and answering questions from Board Members and other POA members who attended the meeting.

10. Treasurer Halloran advised the Executive Board approved the following contributions, Carmen Chu for Supervisor (\$500.00), Phil Tong for Assessor (\$500.00), Alberto Torrico
-
- Chief Gascón fielded questions from the Board.
-
- L to R: Al Casciato, Clare Murphy, Gary Delagnes year-to-date Expense Recap Report.
- for Attorney General (\$500.00), Jerry Brown for Governor (\$5000.00) and Michaela Alioto-Pier for Supervisor (\$500.00).

11. President Delagnes adjourned the meeting at 1450 hours.

Tony Montoya
POA Secretary
- *These minutes will not be adopted by the Board of Directors until the next General Membership meeting. Corrections and amendments might be made prior to a vote to enter the minutes into the permanent record. All corrections and/or amendments will be published in the succeeding issue of the Journal.
- ## Board of Directors Meeting Roll Call Wednesday, December 16, 2009
- | | | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---|-----------|--------------------|---|
| President | Gary Delagnes | P | Co. G | Dean Sorgie | P |
| Vice President | Kevin Martin | P | | Dominic Yin | A |
| Secretary | Tony Montoya | P | Co. H | Maris Goldsborough | P |
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| | Chris Breen | E | | Jody Kato | P |
| Editor | Ray Shine | P | Co. J | Kevin Lyons | P |
| Co. A | Ed Browne | P | | Brian Philpott | P |
| | George Rosko | P | Co. K | Matt Gardner | P |
| Co. B | Larry Bertrand | P | | Corrado Petruzella | P |
| | Jayne Campbell | P | Hdqtr. | Bob Mammone | P |
| Co. C | George Ferraez | A | | Joe McFadden | P |
| | Chris Schaffer | P | Narcotics | Dave Falzon | E |
| Co. D | Martin Covarrubias | P | | Frank Hagan | P |
| | Jose Jimenez | P | Tactical | Dan Laval | P |
| Co. E | Jesus Peña | P | | Mark Madsen | P |
| | Tim Flaherty | P | Invest. | Gavin McEachern | E |
| Co. F | Peter Dacre | P | | Dean Taylor | P |
| | Rob Imbellino | P | Airport | Anton Collins | P |
| | | | | Joe Finigan | P |
| | | | Retired | Ray Allen | P |
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- The POA Journal and the POA web site (www.sfpoa.org) are the official publications of the San Francisco Police Officers Association and are published to express the policies, ideals, and accomplishments of the Association. The following provisions that are specific to the publication of the POA Journal shall also be applicable to publication of material on the POA web site to any extent that is practical. Publication of material in the POA Journal or on the POA web site does not necessarily include publication on or in both instruments of communication. Nor does the following editorial policy for the POA Journal preclude a different or contrary editorial policy for the POA web site.
- #### Member Opinions and Commentary: Unsolicited Written Material
- A member or group of members may submit unsolicited written material to the POA Journal that expresses his/her/their opinion(s) and concerns within the following limitations and guidelines:
- Such material must be addressed as a letter or mail using common salutations such as "Dear POA," "Editor," "SFPOA" "Dear POA Members" etc.
 - Such material must be authored and signed by the member(s) making the submission. Anonymous submissions will not be published.
 - Such material must be factually correct and presented in a respectful and civil manner.
 - Such material can not be slanderous, unnecessarily inflammatory, sexist, racist, or otherwise offensive, nor can it be disparaging of any member or bring upon them unwarranted accusation or rebuke, either express or implied.
 - Such material can be forwarded to the editor by electronic mail, US Mail, inter-departmental mail or other written communication, or delivered in person to the editor or to any person in the POA office.
 - Upon receipt of such material, the editor shall cause it to be published in the next regular printing of the POA Journal, or in a future issue designated by the submitting member provided that the content complies with all the provisions of this policy. Such material will not necessarily appear in more than one issue of the POA Journal.
 - Such material will be published in a designated section that shall be clearly titled as "Letters to the Editor," "Letters to the Journal," "Mail" or other similar title indicating that the material included therein is the express opinion of the author(s) and not necessarily that of the SFPOA or any of its elected or appointed officers.
 - Depending upon considerations of timeliness and space, the editor reserves the right to withhold publication of such material for as many as two issues. The editor also reserves the right to decline to publish material beyond a date wherein the context of the material is no longer timely.
 - All such material is subject to editing for grammar and punctuation. Portions of a submission may be omitted for considerations of space so long as the general context of the material is not significantly diminished or altered.
 - The editor may select portions of a submission to be highlighted in a common editorial manner such as pull quotes, sub-heads, or kickers.
- #### Other Submitted Material
- All other written, photographic, or graphic material must be:
- Specifically solicited by the editor;
 - Or be unsolicited material that may be published at the discretion of the editor, and in accordance with other applicable sections of this editorial policy and Article XI, Section 8(e) of the by-laws.
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- (USPS #882-320)
- #### MANAGING EDITOR
- Ray Shine
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- #### WEBMASTER
- Courtney Dickson
- PUBLISHED MONTHLY \$10 PER YEAR
- OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
- THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
- 800 BRYANT ST., 2nd FL., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103
- (415) 861-5060
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- Members or readers submitting letters or articles to the editor are requested to observe these simple rules:
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 - Letters must be accompanied by the writer's true name and address. The name, but not the street address, will be published with the letter.
 - Unsigned letters and/or articles will not be used.
 - Writers are assured freedom of expression within necessary limits of space and good taste.
 - The editor reserves the right to add editor's notes to any article submitted, if necessary.
 - Articles should be typed, double-spaced, or submitted via e-mail or on disk in Microsoft Word.
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- POSTMASTER: Send address changes to POA Journal, 800 Bryant St., 2nd Fl., San Francisco 94103. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Francisco, CA.

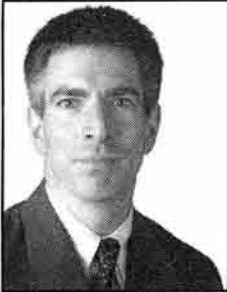
Counselor's Corner

The Gift of the Difficult

By John Tennant
SFPOA Counsel

Several years ago I saw a modern re-telling of the famous "Jason and the Argonauts" story from Greek mythology, staged in a marvelous theatrical production by a Bay Area acting troupe. Near the opening of the play, the hero, Jason, learns from the gods that he and his fighting men, the Argonauts, are about to be put to a test whose difficulties they can scarcely comprehend. The men begin to tremble in fear at the prospect of confronting so daunting and dangerous a task. And then, a calm voice from on high offers these words of wisdom regarding the perils the men will face in what will become their harrowing quest for the Golden Fleece: "This is a great gift — as are all difficulties."

To think of difficulties, something most of us would rather avoid, as being in fact a "great gift" is a radical shift



from our normal way of thinking. But a shift along those lines is, I believe, in order, as we embark upon a new year which is likely to prove the single most challenging faced by police labor in a generation. For this year carries with it our full-square confrontation with the harrowing financial condition both San Francisco and San Jose, not to mention the rest of California (if not the country as a whole), find themselves in after the past years' economic debacle. Indeed, California has been compared to a failed country, whose spending has overstretched its increasingly limited resources.

And, thus, with so many efforts afoot to roll back the gains we have made over our recent past, all in the name of alleviating California's ailing fiscal health, it will require something approaching the heroic mindset offered by the gods to Jason: Re-conceptualizing the difficult task we face as a gift, a challenge to be met with grit and resolve if we are to succeed. Make no mistake, the catalogue of coming assaults on police benefits is not for the faint of heart:

- A statewide initiative seeks to roll back public safety pension levels

(for new hires) to 2.3% at age 58, times the number of years worked times final pay up to a maximum of 75% of final average salary.

- Notwithstanding the above statewide measure, city managers in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties have also united to cut retirement benefits for new hires, and a proposed charter amendment in San Francisco seeks to revamp pensions (although as this article went to press, the SFPOA was in the process of attempting to limit its effects to new hires).
- The SFPD faces a potential reduction to its budget of up to \$47 million and the SJPd is looking to reduce its yearly expenditures by some \$20 million. Since the vast majority of any department's budget is employee salaries, the implications for police labor are unmistakable.
- An expiring contract for the SJPOA means that for the first time in recent collective bargaining memory, proposed takeaways by the City will be the unavoidable focus of upcoming contract negotiations, and while the SFPOA's contract does not expire

until 2012, pressure in the court of public opinion for "givebacks" this year is likely to be intense.

Confronting the above is our collective challenge. There is no magic wand to wave and make it all go away. And if you're at all like me, even to suggest that we re-think facing this grim litany as some sort of "gift" seems almost perverse. Better simply to condemn the lot, root and branch.

And yet, the potential for greatness lies precisely in the enormity of the challenge. Each generation is called to rise and pick up the gauntlet thrown down at its feet by history. There is no avoiding what our present time demands — that is, confronting head-on the havoc on state and local finance wrought by the Great Recession. This generation of police labor leaders will face challenges undreamt of by many of their recent precursors. And therein lies our present time's opportunity for achievement, for attempting something great: fighting to preserve what we have won for California' finest. That is no burden. On the contrary, it is an honor — it is a great gift.

"Roll the Union On..."

Former POA President a good fit for SFSO

Sheriff Hennessey Appoints Chris Cunnie to Number Two Spot

By Ray Shine
Editor

San Francisco County Sheriff Michael Hennessey has announced that he will appoint former POA President Chris Cunnie as his Undersheriff in January 2010. Cunnie will replace retiring Undersheriff Jan Dempsey.

Cunnie served as President of the POA from December of 1996 through March of 2004. With Cunnie at the helm, and current President Gary Delagnes serving as his VP, the POA began its unprecedented series of

bountiful contracts that propelled the SFPD to one of the best compensated departments in the state. Chris resigned the presidency in 2004 when he left the SFPD to accept the top job at Walden House. After a stint in that position, he accepted the job as Chief of Investigators in the Office of the District Attorney.

Himself a recovered alcoholic, Cunnie feels that his struggle with the demons of substance abuse and addiction will serve him well in the Sheriff's Office. He knows first-hand what the hurdles are that face so many

of the county inmates, and he praises the many on-going programs initiated by Sheriff Hennessey that are available to those who seek help and guidance with a substance abuse problem.

As a former POA leader, Cunnie is also keenly aware of the rights and protections afforded to the deputies and other unionized workers in the county jails. Cunnie respects labor, and is quick to herald the hard and perilous work of the jail staff and rank and file deputies. He is confident that he will be able to work cooperatively with the unions to resolve any labor issue.



Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars for the following meetings and events by the POA and its friends and supporters. All dates and times are subject to last minute changes, so always contact the event coordinator to confirm dates and times. If you have an event you would like posted on our calendar, contact the editor at journal@sfpoa.org.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings or Events

Event	Location	Date & Time	Coordinator
Meeting, Veteran Police Officers Association	3255 Folsom, SF	Second Tues. of Every Month, 11:00 AM	Larry Barsetti (415) 566-5985 larry175@ix.netcom.com
Meeting, Widows & Orphans Aid Association	Ingleside Police Station, Community Room	Second Tues. of Every Month, 2:00 PM	Mark Hurley (415) 681-3660
Meeting, American Legion SF Police-Fire Post	Old POA Building 510-7th Street, SF	Second Tues. of Every Month, 6:00 PM	Rene Laprevotte rlaprevotte@comcast.net
POA Board of Directors Meeting	POA Building	Third Wed. of Every Month, Noon	POA Office (415) 861-5060
Meeting, Retired Employees of CCSF	Irish Cultural Center	Second Wed. of Every Month, 11:00 AM	Reyna Kuk (415) 681-5949
Retiree Range Re-qualification	SFPD Pistol Range	First Fri. of each Month, 0730 – 1130	Range Staff (415) 587-2274

Specially Scheduled Events

Co. K Retirement/Promotional Dinner 11 Honorees	Italian-American Athletic Club Stockton/Union St., SF	Wednesday, January 20, 2010 6:00 PM	Matt Gardner (415) 553-1245 Corrado Petruzzella (415) 553-1245
9th Annual Guns & Hoses Tourney	SF Tennis Club	Saturday, April 24, 2010	Robin Matthews (415) 553-1093

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID ASSOCIATION

PO Box 880034, San Francisco, CA 94188-0034 ♦ Established 1878 ♦ Telephone 415.681.3660

The regular meeting of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association of the San Francisco Police Department was called to order by President Joe Garrity at 2 PM in the Conference Room of Ingleside Station.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by President Joe Garrity.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Present were President Joe Garrity, Vice President John Centurioni. Secretary Mark Hurley, Trustees Bill Gay, Matt Gardner, Mark McDonough, Harold McCoy and Bob Mattox. Excused was Treasurer Joe Reilly (Vice President John Centurioni assumed his role).

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING: Motion by Centurioni, seconded by Bob Mattox that the minutes be approved as published. Motion carried.

BILLS: Vice President John Centurioni presented the usual bills prepared by Treasurer Joe Reilly. Motion by McDonough, seconded by Bill Gay. That the bills be paid. Motion carried.

We Had Three Deaths This Past Month:

WILLIAM "BILL" BIGARANI, 78 years. Bill was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Mission. He went to Sacred Heart High School and U.S.F. He proudly served our country in the Army during the Korean Conflict. He rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant in the Intelligence Unit. Upon his discharge, he returned home and worked briefly as a shipping clerk before he took the

Police Exam and entered the Police Academy in 1957. His first assignment was Central Station. He was just detailed so he returned back to the Police Academy to complete his training. He was sent back to Central and then on to Mission for five years. He was detailed to the Bureau as a Patrolman for five years before he made Sergeant and Inspector. Bill, along with his police duties, worked for years with PAL, and the SFPOA as its Welfare Officer. He coached PAL soccer and football and was a well-decorated Officer. He earned a Silver Medal of Valor for getting sleeping occupants out of a burning hotel. Another Silver Medal of Valor for his arrest of an armed suspect who just held up a cab driver. He was awarded a Bronze Medal of Valor for his arrest of an armed robbery suspect. Bill also received several Captain's Comp's. Bill retired in 1982 and opened his own security business.

WILLIAM C. O'BRIEN, 77 years. Bill was born in San Francisco and grew up in the outer Mission. He attended Saint Ignatius High School and served our country in the Naval Reserves for eleven years. Bill entered the Police Academy in 1953. His first assignment was Company "K" fixed-post traffic. He remained on that assignment for nine years before being transferred to Richmond Station. He remained at Richmond for two years before he transferred to the San Francisco Fire Department. Bill was

awarded a Silver Medal of Valor for his rescue of a man stranded on a rock wall over the ocean and the incoming tide. Bill worked various assignments in the Fire Department and went out as a Lieutenant in the Fire Prevention Bureau. Bill kept busy in retirement and played in the San Francisco Banjo Band and was a proud member of the old and honorable order of E. Clampus Vitas. Bill always kept in touch with all his many Police and Fire friends in retirement.

KENNETH R. MURRAY, 81 years. Ken was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Sunset. He attended Poly High School. He served our country in the Army. He worked as an ambulance driver with the Coroners Office before he entered the Police Academy in 1950. His first assignment was Ingleside Station. Six years later, he went to Southern for a brief stay before being assigned to Headquarters Company and the Taxi Detail. Ken received several Captain's Comp's during his career. He remained working the Detail until he retired in 1978.

Correction; October Minutes; My good friend Walt Garry was raised in the Sunset and went to Riordan High School.

DROPPED FROM MEMBERSHIP: Pursuant to Article III, Section 4 (non-payment of dues for one year) Correction to the November minutes Daniel Murphy. Also Jacqueline Rich. President Joe Garrity ordered them

removed from the membership roles.

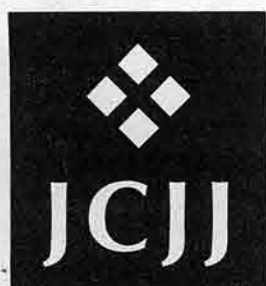
COMMUNICATIONS: A \$20 donation in the memory of Napoleon Hendrix from Robert and Arleen Maginnis.

OLD BUSINESS: Nomination of Officers and Trustees for 2010. President John Centurioni. Vice President Matt Gardner. We have no one for the Treasurer job at this time. Trustees Harold Vance, Bill Gay, Mark McDonough, Bob Mattox and nominated Al Luenow who was presented at the meeting and accepted.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES: This meeting was held at 5PM at Wells Fargo Bank. Mr. Jerome Paolini and Shane Hiller and Pam Royer gave a report on or account. We are holding our own. The recovery will be slow. Prepare for a possible market correction. The meeting on ERISCA is in the works and we will have some changes coming next year based on the advice of attorneys who are doing this for us with no charge to the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association.

ADJOURNMENT: President Joe Garrity had a moment of silence for our departed members and those men and women serving our country in the armed forces. He set the next meeting for Tuesday January 12, 2010 at 1:45 PM in the Conference Room of Ingleside Station. Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM.

Fraternally,
Mark Hurley,
Secretary



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Melanie J. Carr

Some of our past personal injury results include:

- ❖ **\$7,700,000** verdict for the victim of a head injury
- ❖ **\$4,450,000** for two law enforcement officers injured by an inattentive big rig driver
- ❖ **\$2,125,000** for a law enforcement officer injured by a negligent driver
- ❖ **\$900,000** settlement for a police officer injured in a motor vehicle

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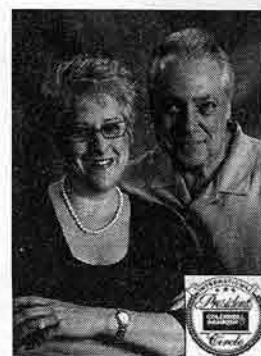
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POLICE-FIRE Post 456 News

By Greg Corrales

"Esprit, then, is the product of a thriving mutual confidence between the leader and the led, founded in the faith that together they possess a superior quality and capability."

On December 9, 2009 Police-Fire Post 456 participated in one of their most important annual functions. Led by Post Commander Mario Gonzalez, post members John Scully, Paul Wallace, Bill Wakefield, Joe Juarez, Eric Perez and Peter Mellett went to Fort Miley to visit the veterans that are patients there. Once again, Jennifer Forrester accompanied the post. The lives of one hundred elderly veterans were brightened by our Christmas visit. The vets, most of whom will never leave Ft. Miley, received Christmas cards containing twenty dollar bills, military stickers provided by Joe Juarez, and numerous gifts and stuffed animals provided by Jennifer Forrester. Many of these ancient warriors have outlived their friends and family. We are their only visitors during the year. Seeing the tears in these veteran's eyes as we thanked them for their service is a very emotional experience. God bless them!

Speaking of venerable warriors, I recently received information about the Red Tail Project. The mission of the project is to build a Tuskegee Airmen Traveling Museum to encourage kids to "rise above" the obstacles in their lives. The Tuskegee Airmen flew over 15,000 sorties during WWII, shot down over 260 enemy aircraft, sank one enemy destroyer and demolished numerous installations. They earned 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 8 Purple Hearts, and 14 Bronze Stars. Sixty-six airmen lost their lives in combat and thirty-two became POWs. Most importantly, Tuskegee Airmen fighter pilots lost very few of the bombers they escorted, which was no small feat considering they were often in combat against the much faster German Messerschmitts. The extraordinary success of the Tuskegee Airmen in World War II was a major factor in President Truman's decision to integrate the Armed Forces in 1948.

Members of the Police-Fire Post totally agree with the project's contention that young people need to hear the inspirational story of how the Tuskegee Airmen helped defeat Nazi Germany and end "Jim Crow" segregation. They need to know that America is the land of opportunity where hard work, discipline, and dedication are rewarded in the long run. We believe that by building a Tuskegee Airman Traveling Museum, young people, particularly at-risk youths, will be inspired to work harder in school and to have a greater appreciation of the sacrifices of all veterans. Towards that end, the Police-Fire Post has made a generous donation to the Red Tail Project.

Anyone interested in contributing to the building of a Traveling Museum to these aviation and civil



rights heroes can send checks payable to Red Tail Project, to P.O. Box 8039, Topeka, KS 66608-0039. You can become a Red Tail Sponsor with a donation of \$41, symbolic of the year (1941) when the Tuskegee Airmen were formed. If that is more than you can afford, consider making a symbolic donation of \$19.41. Thank you.

I received the sad news that a member of my old unit, 1st Force Reconnaissance Company died December 3 during a nighttime parachute jump at Camp Pendleton. Cpl. Ryan L. Pape, a 23-year-old reconnaissance Marine died after a low-level static line jump from a C-130 went wrong. He was one of six Marines who made the training jump over Drop Zone Basilone. His parachute "failed to open" during the jump.

Having personally made night jumps at Drop Zone Basilone, I can attest to the fact that the drop zone has no unusual hazards. What most people don't realize, however, is that low-level jumps are much more dangerous than high-level. We parachuted at 900 feet in Vietnam. At that altitude, the reserve parachutes were for psychological purposes only. If one had problems with his main parachute, one was already too low for the reserve to deploy. Rest in Peace Corporal Ryan L. Pape, USMC.

Drop Zone Basilone, of course, is named after Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions at the Battle of Guadalcanal. He held off 3,000 Japanese troops after his 15-member unit was reduced to two men. Medal of Honor recipients are generally not allowed to return to combat. Basilone, however, requested a return to the fighting in the Pacific. He was killed in action on the first day of the Battle of Iwo Jima, after which he was posthumously honored with the Navy Cross. John Basilone was the only enlisted Marine in World War II to receive the Medal of Honor and the Navy Cross. He is also the only Medal of Honor recipient to go back into combat and be killed in combat.

I would like to close the first column of 2010 with words we should all consider living by:

"Be a man of principle. Fight for what you believe in. Keep your word. Live with integrity. Be brave. Believe in something bigger than yourself. Serve your country. Teach. Mentor. Give something back to society. Lead from the front. Conquer your fears. Be a good friend. Be humble and self-confident. Appreciate your friends and family. Be a leader and not a follower. Be valorous on the field of battle. Take responsibility for your actions."

These words from Marine Major Douglas Zembiec were taken from his combat journal under the title *Principles My Father Taught Me*. Major Zembiec was killed in action, March 11, 2007, during his fourth tour of duty in Iraq, during a raid against insurgent forces.

AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

By Al Casciato



...The Not So Good New Year:

The old year was not a very good year and the pundits predict that the new year will not be better.

Yes; many of the problems will be budget based which is not a new phenomena. We experienced budget shortfalls in the mid 60s, mid 70s (Police, Fire and City worker strikes), early 90's (layoff notices to 92 officers) and today's hiring freeze and layoffs. So it seems that the more things change the more they remain the same; an ever repeating cycle.

What can you do about it? Not much. Many of the problems are a result of poor governmental management during boom years. Money not saved, programs instituted that could not be sustained and a variety of wasteful missteps involving finances.

So now we are watching the politicians and administrators react to the current shortfalls. Naturally they think they have the answers; will propose legislation, charter amendments and governmental reorganization; all which has occurred in the past. All of the initiatives will have intended and unintended consequences. For example, charter amendments which create new retirement tiers will cause divisions within the workforce which will last for thirty years until the previous tier passes on. But during those 30 years the labor unions will constantly advocate and place forward charter amendments designed to eliminate the tier separation. These campaigns will be emotional, costly and may or may not bring parity but will defi-

nately breed acrimony.

There will be no easy answers or solutions and given our past history we appear to be doomed to repeating the cycle. So, what can you do for yourself during this period? First concentrate on your mental and physical health by not getting caught up in a the race horse syndrome. Being worked and worked (ridden and ridden) until you die and then they get a new race horse and do the same. We are all expendable and keep that in mind when someone wants to work you with no consideration for your health or welfare.

Another phenomena that occurs when reorganization takes place is the one of misinterpreted directions. There is an exercise in first line supervisor training in which a phrase is whispered to a person and that phrase is then passed on individually to seven others in a line. Invariably what was said to the first person is not what comes out from the last person. Why? Human nature; people impose their biases, prejudices and perceptions when they receive information and impose same when they pass it on. Best way to deal with this is to get the person who gives the first direction to address all at the same time so all can hear the same message. But, keep in mind that even when everyone hears it at the same time not everyone will interrupt it the same.

The new Chief's message video is a start at trying to address some of the issues that are out in the workforce. Send in your questions...

...Not all doom and gloom:

During this period of doom and gloom there are some positive signs. We are starting to see some recovery in our number one industry, tourism, and the real estate markets are starting to slowly recover. The Retirement System is in recovery which indicates that there is strength in the institutional investment field which bodes well for private investors. The San Francisco Retirement System is considered one of the best and all of you should be following the minuets via the sfgov.org website. Why? Because this is where the rubber really hits the road when it comes to the financial health of the City; bond ratings, liability, etc...

Be patient, don't panic and do the best you can for those that you can do for...

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This and That...

By Kevin Martin,
SFPOA Vice President

I was absolutely overwhelmed at the outstanding and inspiring turnout of our members at the memorial service for the four slain officers in Tacoma, Washington. As you know, all four were gunned down in cold blood by a career felon who, not surprisingly, had quite a rap sheet filled with arrests for assaulting police officers. This deranged animal was out on bail for a charge of rape of a young child and assault on a police officer. On the quiet Sunday morning of November 29, 2009, this evil doing sub-human parasite shot and killed four police officers sitting together and instantaneously devastated the lives of so many people who were husbands, a wife, fathers, mothers, sons, a daughter, family, friends and colleagues of these innocent victims.

While the community of Lakewood and the entire state of Washington struggled to come to grips with the senseless loss, the suspect went on the lam, assisted by his family of conspiratorial rats who apparently had no qualms whatsoever with their "loved one" killing four innocent Peace Officers for no reason. This assassination came on the heels of a Seattle Police Officer being gunned down on Halloween night while conducting a "routine" traffic stop.

The Lakewood shooting suspect was finally brought to his "just" end when he was confronted by a Seattle Police Officer conducting a felony traffic stop on the stolen vehicle in which this cold-blooded killer was riding. The suspect attempted to shoot the Seattle officer but was shot and killed by the officer. The suspect was in possession of a gun belonging to one of the slain Lakewood officers.

On Tuesday, December 8, 2009, nearly twenty thousand law enforcement professionals from across America and Canada gathered to pay homage to these four Police Officers and their families. The outpouring of support from this professional community was amazing and very moving. Among the mourners were almost 1,000 Canadian Mounties, one of the most impressive contingencies in the gathering.

The start of the service was delayed over an hour because of the seemingly endless numbers of law enforcement personnel filing into the standing-room-only Tacoma Dome.

The service was similar to that of the Memorial Service for the four slain Oakland Police Officers earlier this year.

Can you imagine going to two memorial services in which eight police officers were laid to rest? Some of our members have attended three services this year that honored a total of twelve slain police officers; Four each in Oakland, Pittsburgh, and Lakewood. 2009 will enter the log as one of the deadliest in the history of American law enforcement.

Sergeant Mark Renninger; Officer Tina Griswold; Officer Ronald Owens and Officer Greg Richards were laid to rest that mournful day in Washington surrounded by family, loved ones and law enforcement brethren from across this great land and beyond.

One of the more touching moments of the service was when Officer Greg Richards was eulogized by his two sons and daughter, Austin, (17), Jami-Mae

(15), and Gavin (10).

Over 50 members of the San Francisco Police Department and POA members made their way to Tacoma to pay their respects and represent us all. The SFPD contingent sat together and shared solemn moments and quiet prayers.

Before the service, Sgt. Eric Washington and Officer Nelson Ramos of Southern Station joined me in presenting a check for ten thousand dollars for the four slain families to a member of the Lakewood, Washington Police Department who was very touched by the overwhelming response and generosity of the San Francisco Police Officers' Association. The officer told us he would deliver the check to Officer Brian D. Wurts, President of the Lakewood Police Independent Guild.

I was proud to be among the SFPD/SFPOA contingent, and I was absolutely honored to be among so many of our members who represent the best of who are the men and women of this fine department.

While traveling to Washington and mulling over the thoughts of another four police officers killed in the line of duty for the third time this year, I couldn't help but think of a most interesting conversation I had with an investigator from the Office of Citizen Complaints only a few short years ago. During this conversation, this investigator was trying to convince me that police officers always had the advantage because they carried guns at their side. I immediately argued the point stating that even though we carried guns that did not necessarily give us any advantage whatsoever because we never know what weapons people we encounter are concealing and may use against us as we have seen all too often. We are at a terrible disadvantage because we ALWAYS have to react to an action that has already occurred. Just ask any officer involved in a "Close Encounter."

It was not too long after this conversation that a Pittsburg, California Police Detective was shot and killed by a wanted violent felon who had shot and killed this officer from behind during the search of the suspect in a house.

I later brought this issue up to the same investigator who was not really in a position to defend his prior statements.

I wonder if this investigator with the OCC still believes this nonsense? My guess is that he probably does...why wouldn't he? That's his job...

UCSF Turkey Feast...

This past Thanksgiving Day, members of the SFPOA arranged to cook a great feast for some very special families at UCSF's "Family House." Located at 50 Irving Street, the home is only a stone's throw from UCSF Hospital where each family has a son, daughter or sibling fighting a



life-threatening illness or disease.

We had another great turnout as even a larger crew than last year arrived ready to "rattle some pots and pans" and cook up a holiday feast.

Our culinary staff included Sgt. Patrick Cadigan and his lovely daughter Caitlyn, an aspiring Sacred Heart/Cathedral Preparatory student; Val Kirwan of Northern Station by way of Ireland and his lovely friend, Janine Bocciardi; The very talented Lyn Tomioka and her most competent husband Kirk Tomioka; Jordan "The Ragging Bull" Oryall of Southern Station; Karen Ferretti of Richmond Station; Ana Cuthbertson of Mission Station who went on to develop a great relationship with a family and has since taken the family on a shopping spree at a local mall along with other great activities; The venerable and honorable Tony Flores of Domestic Violence; Maria Oropeza (Vice-President of the LPOA) and "Becky" Newman both of the SFPD Academy; Sgt. Marty Haloran (POA Treasurer) of the Narcotics Division, Karen Toy of the SFPD Emergency Communications Division and of course, "Old reliable", Nelson Ramos who is always there ready to lend a helping hand. Did you know Nelson was once a batboy for the Oakland A's? It's a fact...He once told me he used to steal the signs from the A's and in turn give them to the Yankee coaches...great to be on two payrolls, huh?

We were also assisted by retired member Sgt. Ron Vernali, Courtney Dickson of the POA who baked four delicious apple pies that were eaten to the last crumbs; "The Great" Karen

Toy of the Emergency Communications Division (Police Communications); and Monsour, a fine young gentleman who is a friend of Ana Cuthbertson and who wanted to do something meaningful for others on Thanksgiving Day.

We had a great time cooking up the dinner and all followed Lyn's lead, as she was the chief cook for the day. We prepared all the trimmings including turkey, a ham, mashed potatoes; stuffing, two salads, some outstanding appetizers, beverages and of course, dessert.

When the families arrived for the meal, it was the best time of the day. They were as eager to eat and celebrate as we were to accommodate each and every one of them. I think we ended up feeding around twenty-five people, which was a real treat for us.

The family members were very kind and gracious and shared with us stories of their children and grandchildren.

It was a great experience as the second annual "Madison Magee Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner at Family House" was a wonderful success.

My sincerest thanks to everyone who made this day a memorable event for some outstanding folks who deserve a break every once in a while, given their unfortunate circumstances.

It is amazing how far some small acts of kindness can go... I think we got more out of the experience as it sure puts things into perspective.

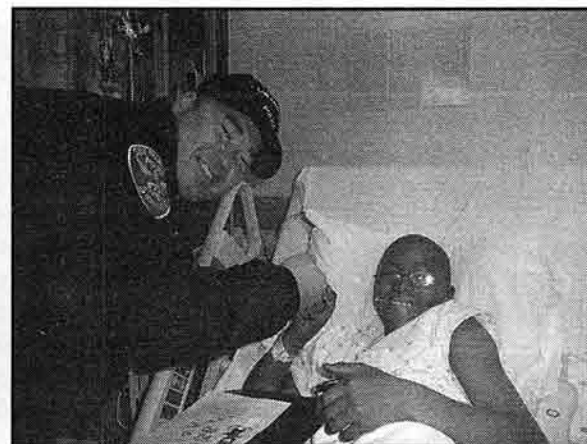
I really appreciate the time you took away from your own families and loved ones. It really shows your dedication to serving others. Thank you seems too inadequate for all the time and effort you put in.

The staff of "Family House" is very kind to allow us into their home and share a few hours with their residents. I trust we will be back next year, and I'm sure we will have a full crew of volunteers to cook another masterpiece meal.

Speaking of service...

Congratulations are in order for Colt Ching, son of Sgt. Kyle Ching of Traffic Company who on December 16, 2009 became a member of the United States Army Military Police. Colt is currently stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas. In due time, Colt will be deployed to either Iraq or Afghanistan.

Colt, please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and all those



you serve with. I know your father is very proud of you and keeps you close to his heart. We wish you all the best as we do all our fighting men and women in all branches of our military service. May God bless and watch over you and guide you safely home once your tour of duty is completed. Godspeed!

Speaking of UCSF...

The POA had an outstanding group of Officers from Ingleside Station participate in December's monthly visit with the children and, later in the evening, the teenagers. A big tip of the hat to Mike Perego, John Park, Robert Pederson, and Jeff Smethurst who spent a couple of hours on Wednesday, December 9th with the youngsters and had a great time playing educational games and doing some bedside visits.

Later that same evening, Co. H POA Representative Maris Goldsborough led a group including Anna Lee, Scott Heidohrn, and once again, "The Great" Robert Pederson who enjoyed himself so much in the afternoon, he came back to spend time with the teens.

A great time was had by all as we played video games, foosball, computer games and made jewelry.

We met some real cool kids and I think they had a great time as well.

Each of the Officers did an outstanding job bringing some fun and joy into the lives of some very deserving children and teens. I know their parents are always so grateful when we visit the hospital and pay some special attention to their loved ones. These acts of kindness are immeasurable.

Many sincere thanks to the nearly 100 officers who visited with the kids this year, and another large group volunteering at Family House on Thanksgiving. I look forward to another year of great visits and interactions with the children and staff of UCSF Hospital.

Wellness Manual...

Among the many projects the POA was involved in this year, I am very proud of the effort of the Wellness Committee. Those folks worked very hard to put together "From Injury to Wellness," a step-by-step guide designed to assist our members who have been injured on the job and are going through the sometimes very difficult process of rehabilitation, doctor visits, surgery, recovery...the whole picture, if you will.

The Wellness Committee began working on this effort in the early part of 2009 and just recently completed the work and is now distributing the manual to the membership.

Your POA Representatives have a copy of the manual, which will be made available at each station, unit, and detail.

"From Injury to Wellness" is going to be available on the POA website by

the first of the New Year and beginning next month, the manual will be available to read as a series in the Journal.

My very special thanks to the following POA committee members who really did an outstanding job to make this effort possible: Sgt. Michael Sullivan, SFPD retired; Sgt. Mary Dunnigan of the Behavioral Science Unit; Officer Pat Burley of the Medical Liaison Unit; Lt. Jill Brophy, SFPD retired and Officer Ernie McNett, SFPD retired. I would also like to acknowledge Captain Michael Hebel, SFPD retired and current SFPOA Welfare Officer and General Counsel for the POA, John Tennant for their most valuable contributions and insights towards this effort.

It was a pleasure working with this outstanding group of people who really pooled their talents and resources to put this very important and most worthwhile manual together.

Please make good use of this manual, which we hope you find to be informative and helpful to you and your family if the need ever arises. Hopefully the need will not occur!

Condolences...

My deepest and sincerest condolences to the family of Lt. Kurt Bruneman, whose father Commander Gus Bruneman, SFPD Retired, passed away this past December 12, 2009.

Gus Bruneman was an outstanding 30-year member of the San Francisco Police Department. Gus loved being a member of this department and his contributions certainly reflect that love. Gus along with his old and dear friend Art O'Keefe started the first canine unit for this department during the 1960s. Gus later showed his commitment to the youth of the San Francisco by being one of the pioneer founders of the very famous Police Athletic League, an outstanding organization that still serves the youngsters of this fair city.

Gus was always very committed to his wife Esther of 55 years and their four children. There is no question he loved them dearly.

A funeral mass for Gus Bruneman was held at St. Brendan's Catholic Church on Thursday, December 17, 2009. The Bruneman family was surrounded by loving family members and friends.

It is in the memory of Commander Gus Bruneman and all his outstanding works as a Police Officer for the City and County of San Francisco that this column is dedicated. God Bless you Commander Bruneman, Rest in Peace...

My very best wishes to each of you, your family and loved ones for a very happy new year...I hope each of you stays happy and healthy! God Bless and Be Safe...

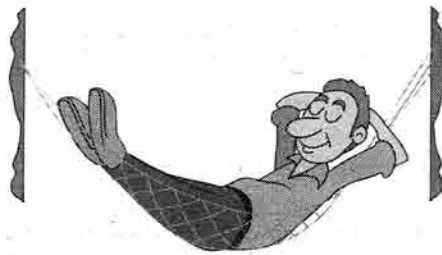


The Castro Lions Club's Holiday Party and Toy Drive for the San Francisco Police Associations was held at the POA Building on December 16th. Toys collected by the Castro Lions Club and the other District 4c4 Clubs (San Francisco and San Mateo County Clubs) were brought to the POA Building to be later distributed by the San Francisco Police Toy Program.

Retirements

The San Francisco Police Officers Association congratulates each of the following POA members on his recent retirement from the SFPD. These veterans will be difficult to replace, as each takes with him or her decades of experience and job knowledge. The most recently retired POA members are:

- Sergeant James Acevedo #755 from Taraval Station
- Inspector Barbara Campagnoli #1031 from Domestic Violence Unit
- Sergeant Leanna Dawydiak #626 from Medical Liaison
- Officer James Escobar #272 from Mission Station
- Officer Ernest McNett #1421 from Behavioral Science Unit
- Sergeant James Millett #4039 from Southern Station
- Officer Helene Valencia #1039 from Identification Section



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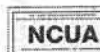
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POA Medal of Honor Awards

By Kevin Martin

Congratulations to the following members who on December 10, 2009 were honored, in company with their families, at the fifth San Francisco Police Officers Association Medal of Honor Ceremony held at the POA Building.

Recipients for acts of valor and dedicated professionalism were Sergeant Jon Kasper, Sergeant Danny Manning, Officer Sam Martin, and Officer Britt Elmore.

Receiving POA Plaques of Honor for their continued outstanding work in serving our members and promoting the good name of the SFPOA were Sergeant Mary Dunnigan of the Behavioral Science Unit, and Officer Val Kirwan of Northern Station.

Each of the recipients was absolutely worthy of the honor conferred upon them and the Executive Board of the SFPOA was very proud to recognize them and their supportive families.

A wonderful meal was enjoyed by the approximately 65 guests who were later treated to an outstanding speech given by Sergeant Dominique Arotzarena, President of the Oakland Police Officers' Association.

Kimberly Scurr, R.N. was presented with a POA Citizen Plaque of Honor for her outstanding work at UCSF Children's Hospital. Kim has been a friend and supporter of the POA for quite some time now and has poured her heart and soul into her work at UCSF.

It is always a very special pleasure for the Executive Board of the POA to honor our individual members and recognize them for what we consider to acts of bravery and service to others beyond the normal call of duty.

Kimberly Scurr Director of the Pediatric Heart Center and Prenatal Services UCSF Children's Hospital

The POA association with UCSF started over 20 years ago with Christmas visits to the hospital. All of us who made those visits not only fell in love with those special children, but also had the opportunity to meet the very special people who devote their lives to caring for these kids as well as their parents and loved ones. There can be no more trying experience than dealing with a serious illness that has struck a child. When these devastated parents arrive at UCSF they are reaching out not only for medical assistance for their children, but also emotional support.

Kimberly Scurr is Director of the Pediatric Heart Center and Prenatal services at UCSF hospital. From the first time we met her we were struck by her optimistic nature and positive attitude. We were also impressed by her ability

to ask for donations without hesitation.

Kim has chosen a career and dedicated her life to others who need her help, guidance, and emotional support. There can be no "bad" days for Kim and her staff because they have to be there for the patients and their families. To watch Kim and her co-workers interact with these seriously ill children and stay positive with families who are devastated by their child's illness is inspiring. Our relationship with Kim and her program has continued to grow over the years and our officers make monthly visits to the hospital in an attempt to cheer up these special kids.

We made a decision when we started honoring special citizens in the community that only the best would be honored. Kim is certainly all of that, and it is a privilege to know and work with her.

We look forward to many more years of collaboration and want to take this opportunity to acknowledge her for her noble and selfless efforts.

Officer Stephen "Val" Kirwan

A proud native of Ireland, Val Kirwan joined the ranks of the San Francisco Police Department on March 25, 1996.

Val has been a member of our department for thirteen years and is currently assigned to Northern Police Station as a "P-2" Solo Motorcycle Officer. He has served the Police Department and the Police Officers Association in a variety of important roles and capacities.

Val was a member of the POA Board of Directors representing Ingleside station for two terms, (4 years) and served as a POA Representative for our members at the Office of Citizen Complaints until a slight misunderstanding between Val and just about every employee at the OCC resulted in a restraining order issued against him prompting the end of his representative function.

Val has been a Director on the California Peace Officers' Memorial Foundation for six years. He is also serving as Director on the Golden Badge Foundation, again for the past six years.

Val has also served as Representative of the SFPOA to the California Coalition of Law Enforcement Agencies and the Sacramento Political Action Committee for the last five years.

Val along with SFPD, member Steven Benzinger were among the first two SFPD Officers to participate in the Police Unity Bicycle Tour in Washington, D.C. However, it is in his capacity as Liaison to Families at the California state and national memorials that Val's efforts really stand out.



L to R, Sam Martin, Mary Dunnigan, Gary Delagnes, Kim Scurr, Jon Kasper, Dan Manning, Val Kirwan, Britt Elmore and Kevin Martin.

As a Liaison to Family coordinator, Val provides invaluable assistance and resources to families who have had a member of their family, a Law Enforcement Officer, killed in the "Line of Duty."

During a most difficult time, Val provides great comfort and strength to families suffering a terrible tragedy. Val gives so much of himself to those who really need it the most. From the widowed spouse to the youngest child, Val leaves no stone unturned as he attends to every need and always with a confident and ready smile. Val guides the grieving family through a myriad of tasks, making certain that everything is handled as smoothly as possible.

To say that Val has a "Heart of Gold" is a vast understatement. To quote a phrase which more aptly describes this wonderful man, "Val's heart has seven points", an noble reference to the seven-point star that law enforcement officers proudly wear over our hearts while serving our city.

Sergeant Mary Dunnigan

Simply stated, Sgt. Mary Dunnigan is one of the true Guardian Angels of the San Francisco Police Department.

Mary has had a profound effect on many members of our department and their families in her capacity as the Officer in Charge of the department's Behavioral Science Unit.

Mary began her career with the San Francisco Police Department following in the footsteps of her father, retired Sergeant Phillip Dunnigan.

Mary worked in the patrol force for seventeen years and served two years as part of the Security Detail for then Mayor Art Agnos.

In 1999, Mary was asked by the late Dr. Al Benner (Ret. Lt., SFPD), who was at the time was the Director of Police Psychology for the San Francisco Police Department, to come to the Behavioral Science Unit and coordinate the Employee Assistance Program.

Mary's background certainly had a lot to do with her selection. She entered the department with a degree in Behavioral Science, and received her

teaching degree in 1985. Mary had also served the department as a Peer Counselor, a member of the department's Critical Incident Response Team and eventually became the team's coordinator. In 1994, Mary became a member of the Hostage / Crisis Negotiation Team, and in 2004 became the Officer in Charge of the team.

Mary returned to school attending the University of San Francisco and successfully receiving a Bachelor in Science Degree in Organizational Behavior. In 2007, she earned a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology with an emphasis in Marriage Family Therapy.

Mary has touched the lives of so many members of the San Francisco Police Department in a most positive way. Mary constantly receives phone calls at all hours from a member in crisis. Mary has been the calm in an ocean of chaos, and has been most successful bringing peace and comfort to those in need.

Mary is also the Director of the Bay Area Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (BALEAF), which provides monetary and other necessary resources to those law enforcement individuals and families in conflict, crisis, and need.

Mary works tirelessly to help others in need and always manages a way to say, "Don't worry, we can work through this crisis."

Mary was recognized by the "Heroes and Heart" Foundation of San Francisco General Hospital in 2007 for her contributions to the Community of San Francisco as well as for her dynamic contributions to the S.F.P.D.

It is with that same sense of great pride and honor that the San Francisco Police Officers' Association presents this Plaque of Honor to Sgt. Mary Dunnigan.

Officer Britt Elmore and Sergeant Jon Kasper

It never sits well with this organization when incredible police work goes unrecognized. That was just the case when Officer Britt Elmore and

Continued on page 9

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Honoring Our Fallen

Continued from page 1

first car arrived at Tacoma, the last car was just leaving McChord.

Hundreds lined the streets holding flags and signs showing their support, while others held their hands over their hearts, weeping quietly. It was reported that Air Force Sergeant Chad Gloor stood in his dress blues, at attention, unflinching, in the freezing temperatures for the 3 hours and 15 minutes, until the final car left the base. The ceremony was to start at 1 pm, but it was more than two hours later that Mayor Richardson stood next to four flagged draped coffins and began the service.

The SFPD contingent sat and watched a touching video about the lives of Sgt. Mark Renninger, Officer Ronald Owens, Officer Tina Griswold, and Officer Gregory Richards. Various colleagues and family members stood and offered humorous insights into their childhood and adult lives. As we

watched the private photos of their families, their hobbies, vacations, and police career, many of us must have pondered deep within: "That could be me lying there." In all, nine children have now been left without one of their parents.

The ceremony ended with a Lakewood dispatch recording announcing each officer by his or her call sign, and 10-7 end of watch, followed by "Gone but not forgotten."

After the service, we all gathered inside a nearby casino for a reception. Food and drinks were provided. I was approached by a Lakewood Police officer who was extremely grateful that we all attended today's funeral. I assured him that it was our honor to do so. The Lakewood officer offered to go over the incident with me.

The Lakewood officer was anxious that an "after-action" assessment be made post haste by his Chief so that other cops may learn from this tragedy. Three of the slain officers were sit-



SFPD Contingent at Washington State memorial service.

ting at the table inside the coffee shop while the fourth officer was at the cash register close by. The gunman, armed with a .357 revolver in one hand and a load semi-automatic stuffed inside his waistband, walked into the shop and shot officer's #1 and #2 in the back of their heads while they were sitting down. The suspect then shot Officer #3 in the face as he tried to stand up. At this time, Officer #4 who was at the cash register turned and grabbed the revolver and began to wrestle with the suspect, shooting him in the stomach, however, it was at an angle. The gunman then gained Officer #4's weapon and shot and killed him. The suspect fled but was later shot and killed by a Seattle police officer.

Many of us have sat with co-workers during a coffee break, never expecting a tragedy of such magnitude. But, this could happen to any of us. As quoted from The Seattle Times, Officer Luis Turcaz of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department said, "I can't tell you how many times I've sat at a Starbucks, face to face with another officer. I'm

watching his back and he's watching mine. You're in uniform. You're armed. You think you're safe." I agree with the Lakewood officer in that we must all learn something from this tragic event. We must step-up our vigilance and maintain sound tactics while never taking our training efforts lightly.

Washington Governor Gregoire concluded her remarks by calling for a time to heal from what she stated was, "the darkest day in the history of law enforcement in Washington."

With 22,000 law enforcement officers in attendance showing our support for Lakewood PD, it was a good start.

(I would like to acknowledge Officer Kevin Martin, Sgt. Eric Washington, and Officer Nelson Ramos, as well as the \$2,500 POA donation made to each of the families of the fallen officers.)



POA Medal of Honor Awards

Continued from page 8

then-Officer Jon Kaspar were working plainclothes narcotics together on January 14, 2001. Even though some time has passed, it's important to us that these officers be appropriately recognized. They were on patrol looking for a wanted felon in the Western Addition of our city when they came across another individual who they knew was dealing in narcotics and guns. When Britt and Jon approached this subject, he ran, and Britt and Jon were right behind him.

The Western Addition has traditionally, and unfortunately, served as a haven for parolees and subjects who have little, if any, regard for law enforcement. So when Britt and Jon initiated their pursuit, they were fully aware of the environment in which they had to operate.

The suspect tried to take refuge in a nearby grocery store with both officers in hot pursuit. The suspect suddenly stopped and turned around armed with a fully loaded, semi-automatic weapon. He pointed the gun directly at Officers Kaspar and Ellmore. Britt and Jon had no time to draw their weapons and, even if they did have time, their field of fire was covered with civilians in a nearby store. Instead, Britt and Jon tackled the armed suspect and a fierce struggle ensued. The officers were eventually able to place the felon under control but only after placing themselves in grave danger of serious injury or death.

Officer Daniel Manning

One of the most dangerous of all assignments in the San Francisco Police Department involves working undercover. In most cases, an officer working undercover will purchase narcotics on the street with marked city funds and then give a signal where his/her cover officers will move in and arrest the suspect who sold the illegal goods. Every officer who accepts this challenge is fully aware that things can go sideways very quickly, and it was on July 23, 2009, when things did.

On that day Officer Daniel Manning, a member of the Tenderloin Task Force, volunteered to work undercover on a "buy/bust" operation. He was approached by two individuals who wanted to sell him both crack

cocaine as well as oxycontin pills. Dan completed the exchange with one suspect and was negotiating with the other when he was suddenly and violently assaulted by both. The suspects grabbed the money he had in his hand and Dan resisted. The suspects continued their assault as Dan fought back. At one point one of the suspects pulled out a sawed-off shotgun he had concealed under his jacket and pointed it at Dan just as his cover officer, Sergeant Mike Browne, came running over. Fortunately, the armed suspect decided against using his weapon and both were taken into custody, but only after resisting violently.

Officer Daniel Manning was extremely fortunate. He was operating in a very dangerous area with minimal cover all because he wanted to rid the neighborhood of those who would prey on others. We are very thankful he is here today to receive this honor.

Officer Samuel Martin

On February 13, 2009, the family of a young 14-month old child was extremely fortunate that Officer Samuel Martin, a 28-year veteran officer of the San Francisco Police Department, was on duty. Sam was responding to an emergency call on the 2500 block of 4th Avenue. Because of a language barrier (the caller spoke Cantonese) Sam had absolutely no idea what he might be getting into, but the dispatcher said that they could hear a great deal of commotion in the background.

Sam arrived at the address and rushed into the home, again not knowing what he might face. Once inside he located a woman holding a small child in her arms. The child was unconscious and, based on the color of his skin, it was obvious he was in serious distress.

Sam requested medical assistance and immediately commenced CPR, continuing his efforts to revive the child until paramedics arrived.

A child's life was saved that day because of the actions taken by Officer Samuel Martin and the grandmother of the child, even though she couldn't converse with Sam, gave him a knowing look of gratitude for saving her grandson. We are proud of Sam, and honored that he is our co-worker and friend.

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Book Reviews

Inherent Vice

By Thomas Pynchon

Reviewed by Dennis Bianchi

I have been reading about Thomas Pynchon for a long time but had never read anything he has written. I decided that now would be a good time to fix that with his most current best-seller, *Inherent Vice*. I think maybe this one book will be enough for me. For those of you who really enjoy reading about the late 1960s and early 70s, about the rampant, inane drug culture of the time, about lovely beach babes engaging in the "free love" stuff and a white dude with a dyed afro who employs himself as a private detective when he's not stoned, then this could be your book. I almost forgot, there is an ex-con with a swastika tattoo who reveres Ethel Merman. Of course.

Doc Sportello, the protagonist private-eye, is a bit of a cross between Phillip Marlowe of Raymond Chandler fame, and "The Dude" from the movie "The Big Lebowski." His agency is titled LSD Investigations, standing for Location, Surveillance, Detection. He manages to have moments of clarity in spite of being stoned most all day, every day, that rival many other fictional sleuths, and just as many funny lines. When a missing person that some people believed to have been murdered re-appears Doc discusses this with a Los Angeles Police Department Homicide detective. The dick, "Bigfoot" to his peers, states that the case shouldn't be a homicide investigation. Doc asks, "So, who around here would handle resurrections, man?" "Bunco squad, usually." "Does that mean LAPD officially believes that every return from the dead is some kind of con?" "Not always. Could be a mistaken or false ID type of problem." "But not —" "You're dead, you're dead. Are we talking philosophy?"

Maybe that is what is hidden in the middle of this — philosophy. Pynchon is known for big books filled with big ideas so the reader feels an obligation to look for exactly that, but *Inherent Vice* makes its impact with riffs on dope, on music and on the crevices that separate societal groupings. The hippies were here and gone, but were they any less or more immoral or devious than the society they were rebelling against? Didn't the powers that were erase the hippies, or did they just figure it out — if you can't beat it, join it.

Doc begins looking for a missing real estate developer who was a lover of Doc's ex-girlfriend. The developer's bodyguard gets murdered, a secret society called The Golden Fang, gets involved as do a large number of Southern California beach types. The LAPD looms ominously in the background along with the Tate-LaBianco murders. As one character, Sauncho Smilax, states at the end of an oral analysis of who and what Charlie The Tuna really represents, "And don't forget that Charles Manson and the Vietcong are also named Charlie."

The book's title comes from maritime law. Doc is again speaking with Sauncho Smilax, a maritime lawyer: "Is that like original sin? Doc wondered. "It's what you can't avoid," Sauncho said, "stuff marine policies don't like to cover. Usually applies to cargo — like eggs break- but sometimes it's also the vessel carrying it. Like why bilges have to be pumped out?"

This book is truly not for everyone but the writing will carry you along if you put aside any preconceived ideas of what a crime story should be. If you can appreciate the imagination, the creativity of a very facile mind and enjoy living in the moment you might give it a try.

Crossers

By Philip Caputo

Reviewed by Dennis Bianchi

Philip Caputo is not your ordinary author. After graduating from Loyola of Chicago University in 1964, he joined the U. S. Marines. He served for three years, including sixteen months in Viet Nam. He used that Viet Nam experience to write *A Rumor of War*, which was published in 1977. It had such a huge commercial and critical success he became internationally-known author. It has sold more than 1.5 million copies in fifteen different languages. He has written thirteen other books. *Crosser*, his newest work, is long but very rewarding.

The book sways back and forth from today's Mexican border to the same location during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The comparison reveals that much of what has changed is only the cargo and technology, not the crime or violence. The selling of arms for the Mexican Revolution, and its attendant lawmen attempting to intervene, is not that much different than the traffic conducted today in humans and narcotics. As a matter of fact one of the characters in the book describes the U.S. border efforts as "Star Wars joining hands with the Old West, two myths linked by the gringo faith in technology to overcome..." Caputo makes that description come alive.

The protagonist, Gil Castle, has become wealthy in New York as an investor and consultant. When his wife was killed in the murderous explosion of the World Trade Center's Twin Towers, he has great difficulty in overcoming the loss. Seeking relief he moves to Arizona at the suggestions of his relatives to live in a small place near them where he can perhaps reinvent his life. Early on, he discovers a starving and near-dead Mexican national who had been trying to enter the United States illegally, a Crosser. This sets off the 21st Century version of the story. When Castle's hot-headed cousin, Blaine Erskine enters the picture, we are introduced to their mutual grandfather, Ben Erskine, a legendary lawmen and serious tough guy from the early 20th Century. Like many lawmen from that era, Ben was violent and not always a law-abiding citizen. Grandson Blaine has not forgotten the lessons of his grandfather and has little use for crossers, legal

or otherwise. Of all the characters in the book Ben seems to be the most filled-out, the most clearly described by the author. We learn about Ben from an aging cowboy, T.J. Babcock whose interviews give us a glimpse of the Mexican Revolution at the border. But the cast of characters is rather large and extremely varied: The Professor, an agent who works both sides of the border and the law; Yvonne Menendez, a very cold-blooded head of the Agua Prieta cartel who prefers her lovers much younger than herself, and an interesting assortment of Border Patrol agents, Mexican Federal troops of varying degrees of integrity, all of whom Caputo does a great job integrating into a real morality play.

The book frequently raises questions of just what should be done with the border. It is clear that 100 years of what we have been doing is not working, nor will it work anytime soon.

The book frequently raises questions of just what should be done with the border. It is clear that 100 years of what we have been doing is not working, nor will it work anytime soon. And a wall seems least useful of the ideas. Those who cross do the work most Americans won't and they do it for very little pay. An interesting side-note came up in a news story within the past month or so that indicated illegals in the United States have been receiving support money from their families in Mexico and Central America, as opposed to the way it has been for a century or so.

The book strikes a classical question: Are the sins of the fathers held liable to the heirs? Rather than give away too much here, I suggest you read what Caputo thinks about this. You might even learn a few new words in Spanish. And if you are like me, you will look for more books by Philip Caputo.

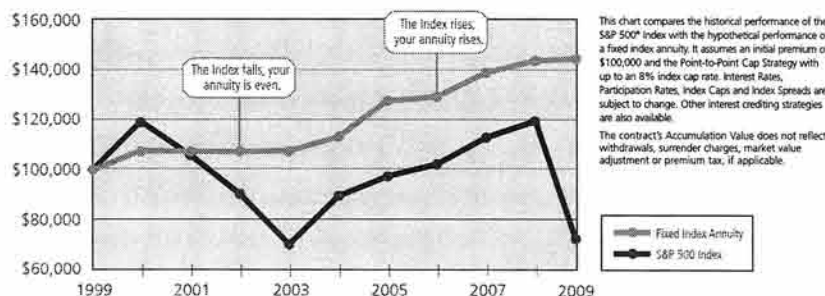
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Ask Mike...the Retiree's Corner

By Mike Hebel
POA Welfare Officer

COLA

Q. Mike, I am a Tier II, new system, retiree of three years. Will there be a supplemental Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) retroactive to July 1, 2009?

A. There will be no supplemental COLA paid in FY 2009-2010. The Retirement System trust fund lost 22% of its value (\$3.475 billion) in FY 2008-2009, and, as a result there will be no supplemental COLA paid in the current fiscal year. (My research shows that the worst loss in the last 70 years occurred in the early 1970's when the trust fund lost 32% in one fiscal year; this was a time when the fund was not well diversified and had most of its holdings in bonds.) Remember that the fund must earn at least 7.75% to create the reserve to pay a supplemental COLA. The good news is that our trust fund's portfolio has rebounded 10% since July 1 and, if it stays in this trend, there will be sufficient reserves for a supplemental COLA in FY 2010-2011. For Tier I, old system, retirees there will be a second COLA payable in this fiscal year. Active members did receive another pay raise effective December 26, 2009; it was a 2% raise. Old system retirees will receive their second COLA adjustment for the current FY as of January 2010. For those of you receiving a monthly Social Security check, there will be no increase in monthly benefits for calendar year 2010. The national cost of living, measured December to December, did not advance, so no COLA is payable.

Blue Shield Health Plan

Q. Mike, I am a member of the Blue Shield of California health plan. I heard rumors at my station that this plan may be discontinued effective July 1, 2010?

A. The rumor does have a foundation. Currently the Health Service System offers 3 health plans for active and retired

members and their dependents/beneficiaries. The 3 are: Blue Shield of California, Kaiser Permanente, and the City Health Plan administered by United Healthcare. Every year, the plans make presentations to the Health Service Board's Rates and Benefits Committee. Blue Shield first proposed a 14.6% premium increase for active and non-Medicare retirees and a 30% to 39.8% increase for Medicare retirees for FY 2010-2011 (effective July 1, 2010). The Rates and Benefits Committee told Blue Shield in very direct terms that this was totally unacceptable. Blue Shield's second proposal was a 13.9% increase for active and non-Medicare retirees and a 24.5% to 39.4% increase for Medicare retirees. The Rates and Benefits Committee is now seeking competitive bids from other providers since the Blue Shield bid will not be considered in its current state. This Committee again meets on January 14, 2010 and will consider any additional bids. If Blue Shield does not lower its bid, it will not be approved and therefore its contract will terminate on June 30, 2010.

Stock Market Performance In 2010

Q. Mike, I am about to do my annual review of my deferred compensation account. I have about 60% of my monies in the Stable Value portfolio earning 3.3% annually. I am considering putting a portion of those monies into the long term portfolio (life style/asset allocation) since I am about 12 years away from starting distribution. What's your forecast for the stock market?

A. I congratulate you on doing an annual review of your holdings. This is a very important process for investors to review their goals, time horizons, risk tolerance, and the manner in which their deferred compensation portfolio (457 Plan) complements their total financial/retirement plan. That said, my forecast for the S&P 500 average (and also the DJI) is a 5% to 7% total return during 2010. As we emerge from the current financial crisis, I see no

reason to be pessimistic about either the U.S. or the world economy. Your consideration of the long-term portfolio is very appropriate given your 12 years to distribution, but remember to consider your risk tolerance for stock market fluctuations since this portfolio has the largest exposure to equities amongst the 3 offered (long term, mid term, and near term). My current favorite story on stock investing pertains to McDonald's. A shareholder who bought 100 shares of this fast-food company at its 1976 public debut paid \$2,500. Twelve stock splits later, by the end of 2008, those original 100 shares had grown to 74,360 shares worth \$4.6 million — without reinvestment of dividends (Barrons, 8-24-09). That is truly the benefit of long term investing.

Rising Health Care Costs

Q. Mike, in your September column you wrote about President Obama's efforts to overhaul health care. At that time you said that you could not tell how our Health Service System would be impacted if such national legislation were passed. Any thoughts now that both the House ("Affordable Health Care for America Act") and Senate (America's Healthy Future Act of 2009") have passed health care measures?

A. Now that both houses have passed a health care reform proposal, it will be up to the House and Senate negotiators to hash out a final bill for final vote by both chambers. It now appears that the Senate's 40% excise tax on high-cost plans ("Cadillac plans" — \$8,000 aggregate value for single individual) will win out over the House's 5.4% sur-tax on wealthy taxpayers (AGI exceeding \$500,000 for individuals and exceeding \$1,000,000 for families) as the method to pay for expanded coverage. If this occurs, our plans will certainly become more expensive and more costly to us. This will adversely hit many middle-income workers and violate President Obama's pledge not to raise taxes on the middle class. Clearly someone will have to absorb the huge



cost of this legislation — \$1.05 trillion over 10 years. In a recent analysis of this legislation conducted by our Health Service System, it concluded: "By 2013 when the excise tax goes into effect all three plan combinations currently offered by the City and County (Kaiser, Blue Shield, City Plan) for covered individuals without Medicare are estimated to exceed the \$8,000 threshold. Retirees who receive Medicare are unlikely to meet this threshold." The analysis also noted that approximately 45% of City retirees who receive Medicare are currently in Medicare Advantage plans which both the House and Senate plans would scale back. This scaling back would have a significant impact: "Plan costs could increase between 39% and 55%, depending on the plan." When finally enacted, this national health care plan will certainly increase the costs of our health care plans and raise our premiums.

Mike Hebel has been the POA's Welfare Officer since January 1974. He is an attorney and a certified financial planner. He has received awards/recognition as a Northern California "super lawyer" and included amongst "America's top financial planners." He represents POA members at the City's Retirement Board and at the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. He also advises on investment matters pertaining to the City's deferred compensation plan. Mike retired from the SFPD in 1994 after a distinguished 28 year career. If you have a question for Mike, send an e-mail to mike@sfpoa.org or call him at 861-0211

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Police Officers In Danger Because Of Court Ruling

Contact Eric Rose or Paul Haney

Los Angeles, December 19, 2009 — In response to a court ruling yesterday overturning an important California law that bans possession of body armor by anyone with a violent felony conviction, Los Angeles Police Protective League President Paul M. Weber issued the following statement:

"It must be nice to be an Appellate Court Judge ruling from on high with scant regard to the real world. In another display of judicial arrogance, the 2nd District Court of Appeals in Los Angeles has overturned an eleven-year-old law that barred those convicted of certain violent felonies from possessing body armor. The Justices who overruled the law were apparently deeply concerned that violent felons would be uncertain as to what constitutes body armor, and therefore the law was ruled constitutionally void for vagueness."

The case arose when LAPD officers stopped convicted murderer Ethan Saleem in 2007 while he was out on parole after serving time for his conviction of voluntary manslaughter. Saleem was wearing a 10-pound military style armored vest that had a label reading "body armor, fragmentation protection," which he was not allowed to wear because of his violent felony conviction.

This eminently sensible law was passed following two famous incidents: the 1994 killing of San Francisco Police Officer James Guelff, murdered by a robber wearing body armor; and the notorious North Hollywood shootout that saw 11 LAPD officers and 6 civilians wounded during a prolonged exchange of gunfire with two bank robbery thugs clad head to toe in homemade body armor.

The law that was invalidated was certainly not overly broad — only those convicted of violent felonies were prohibited from possessing body

armor. In our view — and that of one dissenting Justice — the majority on the Court of Appeals ruled the wrong way. As dissenting Justice Richard Aldrich so plainly and correctly put it: "If a violent felon chooses to possess an item that appears to be body armor and ...the garment is actually body armor ...then there is no reason why the conviction should not stand."

This case further illustrates the message that we have been hammering home the past few months — felon parolees released from prison early pose an avoidable danger to our communities. Certainly Saleem wasn't wearing body armor because he was going to a job interview or going on a date. Like so many parolees before him and, if early prison releases begin, likely to come after him, he was again engaged in criminal activity. Just how many times will innocent people and police officers have to be victimized before the message sinks in that convicted felons are dangerous?

It is troubling enough that convicted felons like Saleem are walking our streets. More troubling is the fact that Justices on our State Appellate Courts invalidate narrowly tailored laws that seek to lessen the danger that these parolees can pose once they are released amongst us. Meanwhile Justices on our Federal Appellate Courts demand the early release of tens of thousands of Ethan Saleems, further endangering not only civilians but also the men and women sworn to protect our communities.

The ruling can be read at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/documents/B204646.PDF>

About the LAPPL: Formed in 1923, the Los Angeles Police Protective League (LAPPL) represents the more than 9,900 dedicated and professional sworn members of the Los Angeles Police Department. The LAPPL can be found on the Web at www.LAPD.com.

Deaths

The POA Journal was notified* of the recent deaths of the following members:

Name of Deceased	Date of Death	Age	Notification by:
Larry MacKenzie	12-23-09	Unk	Mike Williams
Tom Griffin	12-23-09	Unk	Rene LaPrevotte
Richard Estrada	12-22-09	72	Maggie Ortelle
Gerald Shaughnessy	12-27-09	72	Rene LaPrevotte

*Notifications are made by a POA member, family member, or other reliable source. The POA Journal believes the information to be true and correct, however the staff or employees of the SFPOA make no official confirmation.

New POA Journal Feature

It's grim business, but starting with the January 2010 issue of the POA Journal, we are including a regular matrix that lists names of members who have recently died. Any member's name that appears in the matrix will be the result of notification to the POA by another member or reliable source, and not necessarily a result of research by Journal staff. If a member who recently passed away was not listed in the matrix, it would be because the Journal was, or has not yet been, notified. Notifications can be made by Email or US mail. We prefer that notifications not be transmitted by telephone.

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Because this sort of feature has generated a significant amount of anguish in the past ("Why didn't my loved one receive as big a write-up as so-and-so?" or "So-and-so was so beloved by his co-workers, but none of their eulogies appeared in the Journal!" or "Why wasn't his photo included next to his name?"), etc., we are striving to level the field, and treat each loss as significant as the next, by listing each deceased member in the simple, straightforward matrix presented above. No additional information will be provided. This matrix is intended to serve only as an FYI, not an obituary column. Many of the same members listed in the matrix will also be remembered in more detail by Mark Hurley in the Widows & Orphans column, or perhaps by Kevin Martin in This & That, or Al Casciato in Around the Department.

Submitting Obituaries and Memorial Tributes

Any member may submit a separate memorial tribute to a deceased member. Any such piece will not appear in the matrix, but will be placed in the Mail section, or, with prior approval of the editor, as a sidebar piece. The Journal will also accept and publish in the Mail section short letters about a deceased member written by a person in the immediate family.

Any POA or family member may forward to the Journal an Internet link or a clipping from a published obituary of a deceased member. Information from such resources will be used to complete an entry in the matrix. However, the Journal will not reprint obituaries or photos that were published in any other print media, web site, or Internet blog.

Unfortunately, the Journal does not have the staff or resources needed to research a deceased member's career history, obtain photographs, or gather other information. However, any member wishing to write a tribute to a deceased member may access the 40+-year collection of photos and publications in the POA archive. Access to the archive is by appointment only. Please call 415-279-7441 to make an appointment. The archive is housed at the POA building.

Deaths of members killed in the line of duty, or still on active duty at the time of death, will be reported as stand alone notices and are exempt from these parameters.



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Midnight Shift And Health Risks

From The Force Science Research Center, December 18

Officers who predominately work midnights are at greater risk of developing severe health problems than civilians and other cops, especially if they average more than about 90 minutes of overtime per week and have trouble sleeping.

This is established in a new study by an 8-member team of health experts, headed by Dr. John Violanti, a former state trooper and now a research associate professor at the State University of New York-Buffalo.

In an ongoing series of groundbreaking investigations, Violanti and cohorts have previously explored shift work and its relationship to suicidal thoughts and to problems of sleep quality. In one earlier study, they found that retired LEOs in general tend to die some 6 years sooner than other retired civic workers.

"The newest findings confirm one more way that policing endangers those who serve," says Dr. Bill Lewinski, executive director of the Force Science Research Center, which was not involved in the team's discoveries.

"Inescapably, some officers are forced to work undesirable hours, due to the 'round-the-clock nature of law enforcement. Now, knowing their special risks, it becomes all the more important for those on late shifts to rally their personal defenses against the potential assaults on their well-being."

Violanti agrees. "This is the first time that working officers have been examined from this particular perspective," he told Force Science News. "We hope these findings create an awareness of the importance of health education for police. Shift work is not going away. Officers need to learn how to adjust to it and come out alive."

The researchers' test group consisted of 61 male and 37 female volunteers randomly chosen from an eastern city with more than 900 sworn officers. Blood samples, blood pressure readings, and other pertinent data were collected from them at a medical clinic, and their shift assignments and overtime hours were confirmed from payroll records.

Day shift assignments were considered to be those that started between 4 AM and 11:59 AM; afternoon, starting between noon and 7:59 PM; and midnights beginning between 8 PM and 3:59 AM. The officers, who all worked 10-hour shifts, were categorized according to which shift they most often worked during the 5-year period preceding the study.

As a measurement of the officers' health risks, the researchers screened them for abdominal obesity (more than a 40.2-in. waistline in men, 34.6 inches in women); elevated triglycerides (above 150); reduced HDL ("good") cholesterol (less than 40 for men, less than 50 for women); glucose intolerance; and hypertension (blood pressure higher than 130/85).

A combination of any 3 of these "abnormalities" is said to constitute "metabolic syndrome," a condition that carries an increased risk of such health perils as stroke, cardiovascular disease, and Type 2 diabetes.

"In most individual categories, officers in the midnight-shift classification ranked the worst," one of the

researchers, Dr. Bryan Vila, a member of the CJ faculty at Washington State University in Spokane, told FSN.

For example, 55% on midnights showed "elevated waist circumference," more than double the percentage found in the other 2 shifts. Half had sub-desirable levels of "good" cholesterol, compared to 30% on days and 44% on afternoons, and 25% had high blood pressure, compared to 15% on days and 9% on afternoons. (Figures are rounded here to avoid fractions.)

In measurement of triglycerides and glucose intolerance, midnight officers

ing machines that "point them more toward candy, Cokes, coffee, donuts, and fast foods than toward nutritious meals," Vila explains. In short, Violanti notes, "Diet on the night shift basically stinks."

Plus, he says, "Endocrine function and body balance are disturbed by circadian [daily rhythm] disruption. Working nights, especially on a job that's highly stressful, can cause significant wear and tear on the body."

"Sleep times for officers on midnights tend to be outside the normal range," Vila explains, "so they custom-

on the subject, and sleep aids.

Lewinski notes that the National Institutes of Health recommend the following for preventing or managing metabolic syndrome:

- Eating a diet low in fat, with a variety of fruits, vegetables, and whole-grain products
- Getting at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise almost every day
- Losing weight so that your body mass index is less than 25
- Controlling blood pressure and blood sugar
- Not smoking
- Including fish, preferably oily fish, in your diet at least twice a week.

Violanti would like to see law enforcement agencies provide training on diet and sleep, but he points out that "in the end, we are responsible for our own health. We can't depend on an organization to take care of us. Taking our own simple steps to improve lifestyle — eating better, sleeping better, exercising — is the best way to deal with this problem."

With the new metabolic study serving as a baseline, Violanti and his team are planning longer-term monitoring of 460 officers to see if continued exposure to midnight service makes results worse and, hopefully, to pinpoint specific causes of related health problems.

Meanwhile, Vila says, more than a dozen research papers are in development as a part of Violanti's broad-based studies. "We are trying to look one piece at a time at why police work is such an unhealthy profession and what can be done about that."

As more becomes known, Force Science News will keep you updated.

Meanwhile, our strategic partner PoliceOne.com this week posted a news article you may find interesting, concerning a Maryland officer who is suing his county for compensation for heart problems that he claims arose because of his police service.

According to this report, "Maryland law presumes that if public safety officials develop heart diseases, then it was their jobs that caused it and the officials should be eligible for worker's compensation claims, regardless of other possible contributing factors like obesity, smoking habits, and family medical history."

A full report on the newest study, "Atypical Work Hours and Metabolic Syndrome Among Police Officers," appears in the journal Archives of Environmental & Occupational Health, vol. 64, #3, 2009 and is available online for a fee.

Knowing their special risks, it becomes all the more important for those on late shifts to rally their personal defenses against the potential assaults on their well-being.

fared slightly better than their afternoon counterparts, but in no category were late-shift officers found to be in better shape than officers working days.

Over all, 30% of midnight officers had metabolic syndrome, versus 11% on days and about 15% on afternoon shifts.

"This is a very significant finding for a couple of reasons," Vila says. "First of all, studies of the general population have found that about 22% exhibit metabolic syndrome, and that includes sick people, old people, and others who might be expected to have a negative impact on the number. Cops at least have been screened for good overall physical and mental health when they joined the force."

"Besides that, officers in our study who worked midnights tended to be younger than those working days by an average of 6 years. You would expect younger officers to be less susceptible to the risk factors for serious diseases."

The researchers report: "Officers who worked midnight shifts and [averaged] less than 6 hours sleep had a significantly higher mean number of metabolic syndrome components" than those who worked day and afternoon shifts. Indeed, their mean number of risk factors was more than 4 times that of day officers and more than 2 times that of those working afternoons.

Overtime, too, seems to impact midnight officers more negatively than those on other shifts. Among officers averaging more than 1.7 hours of overtime per week, those working midnights had a "significantly higher" mean number of metabolic syndrome factors — more than 4 times higher than day officers and more than twice the number for afternoon shifters.

The study notes in brief: "[S]horter sleep duration and more overtime combined with midnight shift work may be important contributors to the metabolic syndrome."

The researchers did not attempt to document the specific causes of the link between midnights and health dangers, but Violanti and Vila offer observations about a couple of likely suspects: eating habits and sleep patterns.

On late shifts, officers may feel more dependent on restaurants and vend-

arily get not only less sleep but sleep of lesser quality." This produces fatigue and sets up a vicious cycle. Insufficient sleep causes hormonal changes that, in effect, make the body crave quick energy bursts. "This triggers an appetite for the kind of foods that result in weight gain, bad cholesterol, and strain on the organs that help you metabolize sugars. In turn, being overweight makes you more susceptible to sleep apnea and other problems that interfere with restorative sleep."

If midnight officers want assurance of nutritious meals while working, they can pack their own, making sure what they eat is low in processed sugar and high in complex carbohydrates, he suggests.

"You'll sleep better," he says, "if you end vigorous physical activity 2 or more hours before you want to sleep. Minimize your caffeine consumption the last 4 hours of your shift, because it takes about 6 hours to diminish caffeine in the blood to a level where it won't interfere with sleep. And don't eat a big meal just before bedtime." Darkening the room when you have to sleep during daylight hours also helps.

"Make an agreement with your family that sleep for you is an important priority," Violanti suggests, so they can help minimize disturbances.

If you have persistent sleep problems, arrange to be screened for sleep disorders. "More than 40% of cops have serious sleep disorders, and these can usually be treated," Vila says. On the website of the nonprofit National Sleep Foundation [www.sleepfoundation.org] you can locate a sleep professional near you, as well as access helpful tips on better sleeping, books

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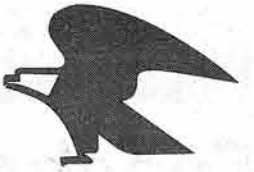
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Carol M. Keane, CPA
wife of John Keane,
Narcotics Division, SFPD



POA MAIL



Dear SFPOA —

Thank you all for the help and consideration shown to our family since Frankie's diagnosis. Wishing you and yours all the blessings of the season.

Ronan, Miriam, Lily, and Frankie Shouldice

Dear SFPOA and all the SFPD members of the —

I want to express my gratitude to the members of the SFPD for their support after the sudden death of my father, Sgt. George "Moose" Koniaris. The e-mails, text and phone messages and cards as well as the kind words from the officers I have seen since I returned to work have been wonderful and are another example of why Moose loved this department so much. My family would also like to thank Corrado Petruzella for all his help in planning my dad's services, coordinating the escorts and being a pall bearer at his funeral. Corrado is one of a kind and has shown our family what true friendship is all about. We'd like to thank Lt. Bob Armanino for the wonderful words and funny stories he shared at Moose's wake. Corrado and Lt. Armanino have been sources of great support for our family. And to all the members of the Solos, my dad was proud to be a part of one of the SFPD's truly elite units. He enjoyed every second he spent riding with you all. My family would like to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for accepting Moose into the special brotherhood that is the Solos. It was an amazing tribute to him and meant so much to my family when you all rode up to our home on the night of his death to escort him to the mortuary. We were speechless at the extreme act of kindness and show of love and respect to Moose. Moose loved riding in escorts and our family was honored by the amazing job the solos did in providing us escorts to and from all the services. Moose never wanted to retire and it was obvious that being a part of the Solos was the main reason why. He loved you all. We would also like to thank the Mounted Unit and the Tac Honor Guard, with a special mention to my dad's great friend Officer Damon Keeve. Thank you to Tenderloin Station, the Solos, the POA and the General Work Detail (now defunct) for the beautiful floral arrangements. We'd like to thank the Command Staff and all the officers active and retired who attended Moose's services. It was quite an honor for our family to see how much Moose was respected and loved by his co-workers and friends. My mother and I would specifically like to mention Chief Gascón, who probably never met Moose, but his presence at the funeral meant a lot to us. The Chief had to be proud of how his department rallied around one of their own families in their time of need. We'd like to extend a special thank you to my good friend, Sgt. Larry Chan, who played the bagpipes so beautifully at Holy Cross. To Gary Delagnes, Kevin Martin and Captain Al Casciato, your beautiful words about Moose in The Journal truly touched our hearts. And to all the men and women behind the scenes who loved Moose and have helped my mother and my family

get through this tough time, I'd like to offer my sincerest thanks. My dad, Moose, spent 41 years in this department. After his family, it was his second love. He enjoyed every day he spent wearing the uniform. He loved his co-workers and made many life long friends. He was respected and loved by those who worked with and for him. He took care of his people and most importantly, he had a great time. I don't think anyone will ever love their job as much as Moose loved his. He was a true legend... and like a true legend, he will always be with us. Stay safe and God Bless.

Sincerely,

The Koniaris Family

Dear POA —

Thank you for the Christmas gift. Thanks for thinking of me at this time.

Melissa Olcomendy

Dear POA —

Thank you for thinking of me during the Christmas season. Happy Holidays to you and your family.

Kristin Olcomendy

Dear POA —

Thank you for the money and for thinking of our family at this time of the year.

Happy Holidays.

Frank Olcomendy

Dear SFPOA —

On behalf of the Filipino-American Law Enforcement Officers Association, I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude for purchasing tickets and donating funds for last year FALEO's Holiday Family Christmas Mixer. Our event was a success and many of our members and guests of the evening appreciated your kind donation. It is good to know that we have support from fellow law enforcement associations.

We look forward to working with the SFPOA in the near future and wish the SFPOA Executive and Board of Directors happy holidays! A special thanks to VP Kevin Martin for helping me coordinate the donation. It should be noted that half of the money raised in the raffle that night will be deposited in the Off. Brian Tuvera / Off. Nick Birco memorial scholarship award fund. Further, toys collected at the door were donated to deserving San Francisco children in the SOMA area.

Sincerely,

William Escobar, President
Filipino-American Law Enforcement Officers Association (FALEO)

Dear SFPOA —

Thank you for selecting me as a recipient for the SFPOA scholarship. It will help me greatly increase my education. I am currently a freshman at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo where I am majoring in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering. Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Roualdes

Dear SFPOA —

With your participation and partnership, the Fourth Annual Knuckles Golf Tournament was very successful, and we raised \$15,000 for the Greater Bay Area Make-A-Wish Foundation bringing our total con-

tributions to \$75,000 over the last four years.

Mark your calendar! The Fifth Annual Knuckles Golf Tournament will be held on July 16, 2010 at the Stone Tree Golf Club in Novato. Hope to see you there.

Cordially,

Scott Vandenberg
General Manager

Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport

Dania Duke

General Manager

Hyatt at Fisherman's Wharf

Hi Kevin —

I wanted to send a quick e-mail, thanking you for the visit from the police officers to the Teen Lounge! The teens seemed to have a great time playing Wii Sports, making bracelets and playing UNO. I am always impressed with the officers' ability to interact with teens and help them to have fun during their visit. Thank you so much for coordinating this visit! Please thank the officers from Ingleside station who shared their time:

Ana Lee

Rob Pedersen

Maris Goldsborough

Scott Heidohrn

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Erin Cambra, MA, CCLS

Child Life Specialist II

UCSF Childrens Hospital

Dear SFPOA —

Thank you for your contribution to the Fund for Union Democracy and Reform. Your generosity helped make our fall fundraisers incredibly successful.

We raised valuable resources for the legal defense of union democracy activists. And, across the nation, supporters like you came together at events in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington DC, Philadelphia and New York to show their support for a powerful, democratic, worker-led union movement.

The Fund for Union Democracy & Reform was set up to strengthen the labor movement by strengthening workers' voices in their unions. Your support will help ensure that workers have that right and that strong voice. Thank you for your solidarity!

In Unity,

The Fund for Union Democracy & Reform

Dear SFPOA —

Thank you for the lovely spray of flowers sent by the SFPOA to our father, Bill Bigarani's recent memorial service. It meant a great deal to our family. Our father was very proud to have been a member of the San Francisco Police Department. He was also proud to have served as Welfare Officer, and Station Representative for the SFPOA during his 25 years with the Department. He enjoyed his time coaching soccer and football for the Police Athletic League as well. Thank you to all the members of the department for the sacrifices you make daily on behalf of the visitors and residents of San Francisco, and for making an important difference. Best wishes to you and your loved ones for a safe and happy holiday season. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Pam Katz and the Bigarani Family

Dear Friends —

Thank you so much for your recent contribution to Project Open Hand of \$250. Your strong commitment and compassionate support enables us to continue nourishing the many men, women and children who rely on Project Open Hand daily to provide healthy and nutritious meals with love. Now, more than ever, your generosity reminds us how fortunate we are to have supportive friends like you.

With your help we provide nearly 2,700 meals and 300 bags of groceries every day to people living with HIV/AIDS, the homebound critically ill and seniors. Our tremendous volunteer support enables us to direct your gifts mainly to covering our enormous food costs and direct client service expenses. We cannot thank you enough for the impact your kindness has on our mission.

Very truly yours,

Bob Brennehan

Director of Development and Marketing
Project Open Hand

Dear POA —

Thank you for your generous donation (\$500) to the Bay Area Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (BALEAF) for BALEAF's 10th Anniversary Celebration. BALEAF also appreciated the use of the POA Building.

I want to especially thank Officer Kevin Martin for all his efforts in making the evening a success. He helped with the organization of the food, the setting up and cleaning up, and arranged for the parking. He is a dedicated officer to the Police Department.

As you know BALEAF provides support to the law enforcement families with members killed in the line of duty, seriously injured, or who have experienced a catastrophic event.

On behalf of the BALEAF Board of directors, please accept our thanks and appreciation for all your support.

Warm regards,

Marilyn Rosekind,
President, BALEAF

Dear SFPOA —

The San Francisco Police Officer's Association's \$2,500 sponsorship of Omega's celebration of our first 150 college graduates is deeply appreciated. As you experienced first hand, the energy that evening was electric, the graduates' stories were inspiring - and we netted over \$150,000 for the Omega Scholarship Fund.

Dr. Marshall and Jack Jacqua started Omega 22 years ago. This year the sons and daughters of some of our first collegians received Omega scholarships to begin work on their own degrees. The first hurdle that all of them surmounted was to stay alive and free from violence and incarceration. Many organizations boast of successes but an impact like Omega's that lasts for generations is very rare.

The San Francisco Police Officers' Association's continuing support helps make it all possible. Thank you for being part of Omega Boys Club.

Sincerely,

Jack R. Soares

Director of Development & Marketing
Omega Boys Club

LRIS News

Facebook Comments Cost Another Officer His Job

From The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, December 9

SANDY SPRINGS, GA — An attorney for a Sandy Springs police officer who was fired for a Facebook posting says what happened to his client could happen to anyone.

"Not only is it a censorship issue that everyone needs to know about," said Mike Puglise. "They are not only saying that you can't write it, but also that they can interpret what the con-

tent means."

O.J. Concepcion, 33, of Morrow says he was fired from a job he held for nearly four years because of comments he posted on the social networking Web site Facebook. Some of those posts included details about his police work, he said, such as the fact he was working with the FBI on a drug case.

One of the posts said, "I'm going to be working in plain clothes tonight," Puglise said. Another post mentioned

that Concepcion was frustrated at work.

But Concepcion said he was just excited about his job, and never released confidential information. He says other officers have posted racially insensitive information, but have not faced any disciplinary action.

"Nothing was derogatory," said Concepcion, who spent seven years with the DeKalb County police force. "I posted that stuff for my friends and family to read, not for the public."

The Sandy Springs police department cannot comment about the incident because it is a personnel issue, according to Lt. Steve Rose and Wendell Willard, the city attorney. The AJC has submitted an Open Records Request to obtain Concepcion's employment file.

Concepcion's Facebook profile is private, meaning only those who are "friends" with him have access to his information. Most of those friends are fellow officers and relatives, he said.

But it was one of the friends, someone Concepcion said he knew prior to working in Sandy Springs, that apparently thought the Facebook postings were not appropriate. That person complained to supervisors, Concepcion said. On Nov. 16, he was placed on administrative leave with pay. On Dec. 2, he was terminated. He was never given a warning about Facebook comments, Concepcion said.

Concepcion will ask for a grievance hearing, according to Puglise, and will likely file an EEOC complaint. Puglise, who spent 16 years as an officer before becoming a lawyer, says Concepcion may also be a victim of racial discrimination, since he is Latino.

Additionally, Puglise said the Sandy Springs police department currently does not have a policy in place addressing social media. Puglise and Concepcion contend the postings were misinterpreted.

Many other metro Atlanta police departments also don't have policies about Facebook-type Web sites. But some are in the process of addressing the issue of social media.

In Gwinnett County, members of the police department are prohibited from posting on a social media site anything that relates him or her to the department, according to Cpl. David Schiralli. The department implemented its policy before any major problems arose from employees using the sites. The Atlanta police department is currently working on a policy to address electronic communication, according to Sgt. Lisa Keyes. The Smyrna police department is also in the process of developing a social media policy, Officer Michael Smith said.

Although there isn't a specific policy regarding Facebook for Marietta police, the release of sensitive information is not allowed, according to Officer Jenny Murphy. Joe Hernandez, Cobb County police spokesman, said the same is true for his force.

But with more and more people relying on sites such as Facebook to share information, employers may have to institute specific policies regarding what individuals are allowed to post online.

"Where do they draw the line?" Concepcion asked. "Everyone is using it."

New Police Schedule Has 16-Hour Days

From The Salem News, December 14

IPSWICH, MA — Ipswich police officers are about to adopt a radical change in their workday. Beginning Jan. 1, they will work longer days — twice as long, in fact — in exchange for longer, more frequent stretches of time off.

The police union suggested the new schedule, which will see most officers working 16 hours straight, followed by eight hours off duty, followed by another 16-hour shift. Then they'll have four days off.

Three officers and the department's four supervising sergeants will work 16 hours, have 32 hours off, work another 16-hour day, then have three days off.

It's complicated enough that you need a graph to see how it works, but in the average pay period, officers will work the same 40 hours they do now, but on a more compressed schedule. The long work shifts, with less than eight hours' sleep in between, however, are raising some questions about fatigue and public safety.

Police officers, firefighters and other public safety workers long ago adopted schedules to assure 24-hour coverage, seven days a week. In Ipswich, as in most other police departments throughout the country, that has meant working four eight-hour days, then having two days off.

It's a proven system that fairly apportioned coveted weekend days off, so why make such a dramatic change?

Police union representative Sgt. Peter Nikas said it was clear the usual annual pay raises wouldn't be on the table this year, when negotiations for a new, three-year contract began. The old contract expired June 30.

"We decided to ask for a quality-of-life issue instead," Nikas said. "Other departments have had raises, but they've also had layoffs, and we didn't want that."

Nikas said that in some parts of the country, particularly the West Coast, law enforcement agencies have adopted a variety of alternative schedules, some of which are similar to this one.

"Is it different? Yes," he said. "But it's not out of the ordinary."

One consideration, he said, is that the Ipswich department has been getting younger for several years. An entire cadre of older officers, including two successive chiefs and the deputy chief, have retired one by one. At 48, Nikas jokes he's now one of "the old guys," while four younger officers' wives have all had babies within the last year.

Those women and other young wives have either gone back to work

or would like to, Nikas said, so the officers are looking to defray some of the expense of child care by being home more often to take care of the kids themselves.

The prospect of police officers working 32 hours in a 48-hour period, however, is bound to raise questions about fatigue, and Town Manager Bob Markel already has them.

"I'm very concerned," Markel said. "Their response was that with detail work, that (16-hour day) is already common."

As one precaution against exhaustion, the new plan prohibits officers from working details or overtime for the eight hours preceding any work shift.

While there are no built-in savings with the new schedule, neither are there any additional costs, Nikas said, and there might be some reduction in overtime and sick pay because it evens out coverage of each shift.

In lean times, that's a lure, but Markel is proceeding cautiously.

"I'm a long way from putting it into the contract language," he said.

So the schedule will be implemented on a trial basis from Jan. 1 through June 30.

In the meantime, both sides have put off signing a new contract until after they see how the new schedule works out.

But selectmen may have something to say about it.

Pat McNally, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, said he didn't learn of the new arrangement until he got a copy of Markel's weekly report last Friday.

In general, McNally said, board members don't meddle in the management of the town; that's what they pay Markel to do. But he's sure selectmen will have tough questions.

He's open to the experiment, McNally said, but some of the arguments made defending the change just don't hold water.

For example, police pointed to the fact that the town's firefighters already work 24-hour shifts.

"That isn't a justification," McNally said. "They (firefighters) don't have to fire a gun or be behind the wheel of a cruiser for 16 hours."

He also doesn't buy the argument that officers are essentially working 16-hour shifts now, because they work lots of private details.

"They're not making traffic stops or going into domestic disputes," McNally said of the details. "They're primarily making sure nobody falls in a hole."

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The continued stability, strength, and long term prosperity of our credit union must be maintained. Despite the current economic crisis affecting financial institutions across the country, the San Francisco Police Credit Union is thriving and prosperous. We need to maintain the successful leadership of the SFPCU, which has served members' needs for so many years.

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Famed actress appearing in SF January 2010

Sharon Gless To Narrate IAWP Video While Performing In San Francisco

By Robin Matthews
EEO Unit

Many of you may have seen my article in last month's *Journal*, but for those of you who may have missed it, I'm thrilled to let you know that multiple award-winning actress, Sharon Gless, has graciously agreed to narrate an upcoming DVD for the International Association of Women Police (IAWP) that will document the history of women in law enforcement, especially as it relates to the IAWP. Retired Lieutenant Lynette Hogue will be putting the DVD together, with the assistance of renowned Bay Area film producer, Shirley Tatum.

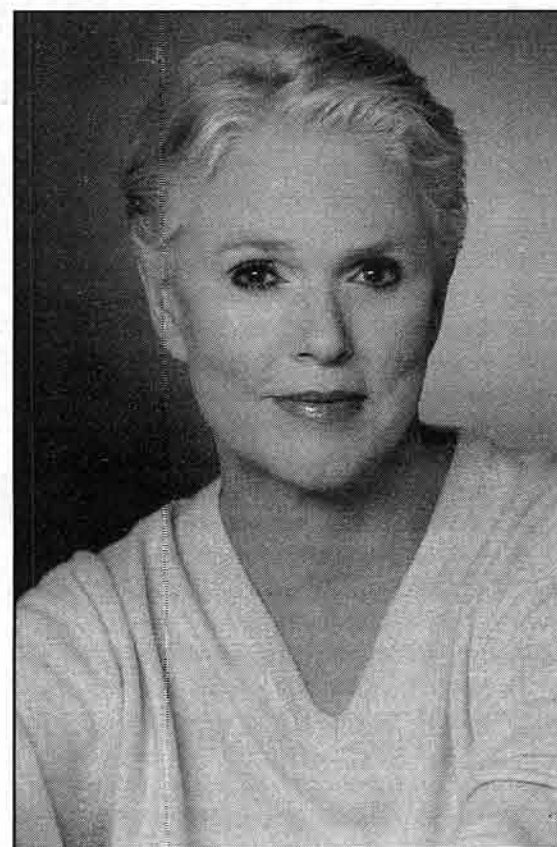
Sharon Gless has long been a supporter of the law enforcement community. She, and her co-star, Tyne Daly, fast became role models for many women in law enforcement when the smash hit drama, "Cagney & Lacey" hit the airways in 1982. Sharon starred in her career-changing role with that program as New York Police Detective Christine Cagney, which garnered her two Emmys, a Golden Globe and six Emmy nominations! The show ended in 1988, much to the dismay of many of us. In 1994 and 1995, however, Gless reunited with Tyne Daly to recreate their title roles in a quartet of critically acclaimed "Cagney & Lacey" television movies. Gless and Daly fondly

refer to these tele-films as their characters' "Menopause Years."

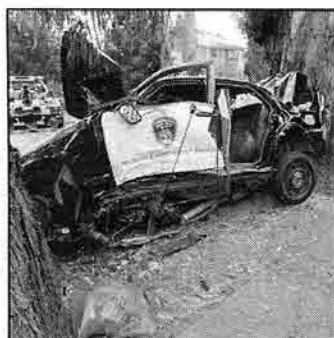
Sharon maybe best known to us in law enforcement for her role as Christine Cagney, however, she has played some amazing performances both on stage and on television over the years, including winning two additional Emmy nominations for the drama series, "The Trials of Rosie O'Neill," starring as the outrageous and funny Debbie Novotny in the groundbreaking Showtimes series "Queer as Folk," receiving rave reviews for her starring role as U.S. Secretary of Defense Lynne Warner in the acclaimed BBC American miniseries, "The State Within," and being an Emmy nominee for Guest Actress in a Drama Series for her chilling performance as Colleen Rose, an ambitious Hollywood agent with a multitude of dark secrets on FX's *Nip/Tuck*, to name just a few. Most recently, Gless completed production on two independent features, "Once Fallen" with Ed Harris and Amy Madigan, and "Hannah Free," in which she stars in the title role as Hannah, a lesbian whose hidden relationship that spans 60 years attempts to reunite with the love of her life one last time. She will also be returning for a fifth hit season on the highest-rated cable series in the U.S., "Burn Notice," where she portrays the chain-smoking, obsessive mother, Madeline Westin.

With Sharon's incredibly busy schedule, it's all the more amazing that she has agreed to donate her time to narrate the IAWP DVD for us! She is currently in San Francisco putting the final touches on the play, "A Round-Heeled Woman," that she will be performing at Theatre Artraud at 450 Florida Street from January 5th through February 7th (tickets can be obtained by calling 800-838-3006 or going to www.zspace.org). The play features an all-star cast of Bay Area actors, and follows the real-life adventures of Jane Juska when she courageously decides, at 66 years old, to place a personal ad in *The New York Review of Books*, that reads, "Before I turn 67, next March, I would like to have a lot of sex with a man I like. If you want to talk first, Trollope works for me..."

We're truly honored that Sharon Gless will be a part of the IAWP DVD on the history of women in law enforcement. I shouldn't be surprised, though; she is SUCH a class act and has been such a supporter of those of us in law enforcement over the years; her enthusiasm for the project and her acceptance to narrate the DVD without hesitation just re-



enforces her support and respect she has for all of us. I'm looking forward to seeing her perform live at Theatre Artraud and encourage everyone to go and support her by seeing it, as well. It will be an easy way for us to give back just a little to her for the support she has always given to us. Hope to see you there!



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Long-Term Investing

Cities' Budget Deficits: Expect Fiscal Cuts and Pain Through 2012

By Edwin K. Stephens,
The Stephens Group

Borrowing from Peter to pay Paul.
— Cicero

*Nothing begins, and nothing ends,
That is not paid with moan;
For we are born in others' pain,
And perish in our own.*
— Francis Thompson, *Daisy*

Will the lack of tax revenues to cities to fund operating budgets within departments compromise the efficiency and productivity of civil service workers?

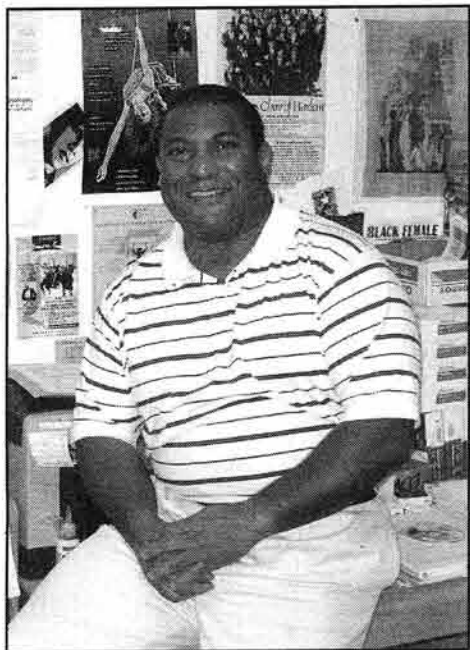
Answer: Possibly. However, department heads will have to judiciously use their limited financial resources to ensure that the civil servants within their charge, can be both successful and productive in carrying out their duties to serve all citizens.

San Francisco/Oakland Fiscal Pain in 2010

On November 17, 2009, Ms. Heather Knight, San Francisco Chronicle Staff Writer noted that San Francisco's lowered home values and high unemployment rates have created another unwelcomed side effect: far less revenue coming into city coffers than expected.

The City of San Francisco's fiscal year for 2009-10 began July 1. The controller's office issued a report that for the fiscal year 2010-11 property tax revenues will likely be \$35 million dollars less than anticipated in the 2009-10 fiscal years, and that payroll tax revenues will probably be \$24.8 million dollars less than expected. San Francisco's total operating budget was \$6.6 billion dollars for the 2009-10 fiscal years. And, \$438 million dollars represented a budget deficit that administrators addressed by laying off employees, reducing city services, and increasing fees for public services as a way to raise revenue.

Mr. Steve Kawa, Mayor Gavin Newsom's chief of staff told Ms. Knight of the San Francisco Chronicle, "next year's budget deficit is likely to top \$400 million dollars." Mr. Kawa said that the forecast could get even worse



with federal stimulus money coming to an end next year and that the state will likely cut money sent to cities and counties in order to balance its own budget. The Mayor's chief of staff further stated, "It's going to be incredibly difficult to find a way to balance next year's 2010-2011 budgets without some severe impacts."

Ms. Carolyn Jones, San Francisco Chronicle Staff Writer noted in the same article that Oakland sank deeper into the financial abyss after officials drastically slashed spending. In June, Oakland officials sliced \$70 million dollars, or about 25 percent, from the city's general fund by cutting salaries 10 percent, eliminating 400 jobs and curtailing dozens of programs and services to balance the budget.

Oakland City Councilwoman Pat Kernighan said of the fiscal problems "It's very dire. We are faced with choices that are unacceptable to most people. But we can't just postpone these decisions." Oakland is projected to have a \$19 million dollars shortfall after the first fiscal quarter. The latest shortfall appears in the general fund budget of \$420 million dollars for the current 2009-10 fiscal years that began July 1.

As cities across the United States brace for even gloomier times in fiscal 2010-11, one has to ask the question: Will department heads have to compromise services to the public due to slimmer budgets?

Department Heads Dilemma

San Francisco writer Heather Knight noted that Mayor Gavin Newsom's chief of staff, Mr. Steve Kawa planned to send out letters to department heads outlining how much spending would need to be cut to balance fiscal 2009-10 year's budget. And, another round of letters will go out to department heads around Thanksgiving Day, 2009 describing how much more will have to be cut for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Public safety is of primary importance. However, it was noted that some city departments are going over budget, including shortfalls of \$5.1 million in the Fire Department, \$4 million in the Sheriff's Department and \$3.2 million in Superior Court. San Francisco is now expected to be in the red by an additional \$28.1 million dollars over the course of this year.

On November 17, 2009, the Oakland City Council held an emergency meeting to receive public input after a report showed the city carrying a \$19 million dollar deficit. Several of Oakland's council members said that they were reluctant to make short-term fixes and would rather address the city's larger budget problems. Oakland Councilwoman Rebecca Kaplan stated, "We need to look at long-term ways to raise revenue that are reasonable next year and the year after and the year after."

Budget Cuts a "Time Bomb" for U.S. Jobs

On November 20, 2009, Reuter's business reporters, Tom Ryan, and Lisa Lambert noted that budget shortfalls pose a direct threat to millions of United States jobs, many in the private sector, as state and local governments lay off workers and cut spending on contracts and other business services.

The Economic Policy Institute, a think tank issued a report that said, "State and local governments will have to raise taxes and cut spending in the current and next two fiscal years to cover shortfalls totaling \$469 billion dollars." The report further said the

United States government must give states and cities \$150 billion dollars in direct budget relief to save between 1.1 million and 1.4 million jobs.


While many economist believe the worst recession in decades ended recently, cities' budget deficits are expected to continue at least through 2012. The Economic Policy Institute noted, "Given the fragility of the economy, already high unemployment and the magnitude of the budget shortfalls, it is clear that we cannot afford inaction." The report concluded that the fiscal gaps are "a ticking time bomb for the economy."

Cities Fiscal Conservatism

Many cities and departments throughout the United States have to resort to "doing more" of the public's business with razor thin budgets. Salary cuts, hiring freezes and other major fiscal reforms, including employee health benefits and retirement systems will require the best and brightest to hunker down and provide viable solutions to managing our cities finances in order to effectively run our cities and counties.

The current economic environment is not expected to change for the better anytime soon, and the fiscal cuts and pain will be felt throughout all departments for several years to come.

Therefore, the mantra of cost-containment, streamlining of projects without compromising of services will be a major challenge for all personnel working in the public sector. And, fiscal Conservatism is not just a catch phrase; it is now a way of life.





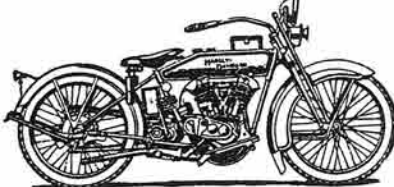
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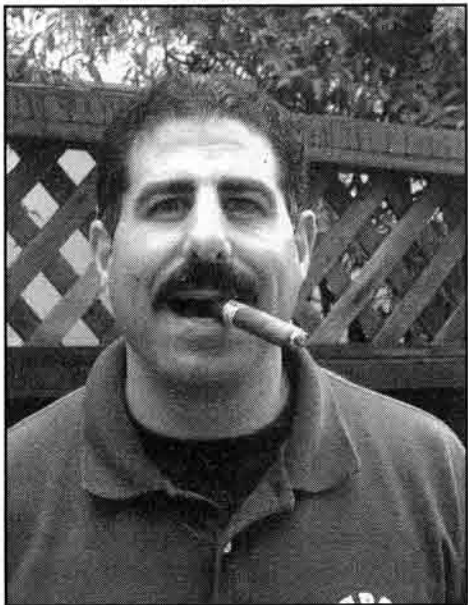


Nick's Notes

By Nick Shihadeh,
Journal Sports Editor

Department Basketball In Full Swing

CHECK IT OUT: I hope everyone's holiday season was a good one with a safe new year; otherwise, I want to get right into details on the police basketball league provided by Commissioner Steve "Yeah, Yeah, Yeah" Coleman. This is a synopsis of league action according to Coleman: The two expansion teams, Mission and Tenderloin, are getting better weekly. It's tough being the "new teams on the block" trying to gain respect and getting favorable calls from the officials. Craig Tiffe and Jason Lynch of Mission, along with Rich Soares of Tenderloin log heavy minutes trying to keep their respective teams in the games. Both teams have played some close games after a couple of early season losses with lopsided scores, but still haven't won any games



at the printing of this column. Bayview, the defending 2008/2009 champs, continue to play well with their forty minutes of full court man on man pressure. Bayview has been able to play that style due to a deep bench; led by sixth man Marvin "The Energizer" Cabuntala. Park Station is one of the favorites to win this season's title with the big three of Tommy Moran, Wil Elieff, and Keith Murphy. Murphy is the early favorite

for Rookie of the Year honors, leading his team in scoring and hustle. Park will also try and ride the experience of second year player Moran, who lead Bayview to last season's championship with clutch three pointers. Northern Station has played solidly with the help of the hard nosed Brian Guiney. They'll be getting stronger with added depth from sharpshooter Quoc "He's on Fire" Do as well as big Brett Thorpe who is a force to be dealt with. CHP again has a solid squad and may be the team to beat — this year they're being led by Trent "S Curve" Cross who has division one college experience.

Jake Fegan and Rod "Fitz" Fitzpatrick are leading a Narcotics team that at one time were the powerhouse league bullies. They've been holding their own during an early season slump and will be looking to make some March Madness noise once the playoffs start. Al Johnson and Nate Chew are steering Ingleside to another playoff appearance like last season. That station team gets the "spirit" award for the early season as they have fourteen players showing up to every game. Ingleside is also the crowd favorites with all the chatter coming from that deep bench of theirs.

Kevin Murray and his GTF teammates have showed lots of heart in the early season staying in games despite playing shorthanded. Daly City is also a team to be reckoned with as they have a solid group of players and an undefeated record at the writing of this column. Central Station is also loaded with talent with players such as Mike Costello and Matt Sullivan; this may be the breakthrough year they've been waiting for to win the "big one." Finally, the newly formed Hall of Justice team is fighting to get in the post season with Rodney Tong pulling the strings.

This season will end up like most where it doesn't matter what seeds the teams are. Once the eight team playoff system gets underway, whoever the hot team is going into post season play will be the one that runs the table. Thanks go to the POA's Gary Delagnes and Steve Johnson for their help in securing St. Mary's Gym for this season. Also, take note of the league standings as well as stat leaders that appear along with this column provided by Commissioner Coleman.

...That's all for now...
So See Ya next month...

SFPD Standings as of 12/28/09

Teams	W	L	GB
Daly City	3	0	—
Park	3	0	—
CHP	3	0	—
Ingleside	3	1	5
Central	2	1	1
HOJ	2	1	1
Bayview	2	2	1.5
Northern	2	2	1.5
Narcotics	1	2	2
TTF	0	4	3.5
GTF	0	4	3.5
Mission	0	4	3.5

League Leaders as of 12/10/09 (mimumum 2 games played)

Total Points

- 59 — Tiffe (Mission)
- 58 — Fong (Bayview)
- 43 — Murphy (Park)
- 40 — Chew (Ingleside)
- 38 — Soares (TTF)

Average Points

- 21.5 — Murphy (Park)
- 19.7 — Tiffe (Mission)
- 19.3 — Fong (Bayview)
- 14.5 — J. Johnson (Bayview)
- 13.5 — Tong (HOJ)
- 13.5 — Larsen (Daly City)
- 13.5 — Barton (Daly City)

FTA

- 17 — Knight (Northern)
- 15 — Tiffe (Mission)
- 14 — Barton (Daly City)
- 13 — Fegan (Narcotics)
- 13 — Chew (Ingleside)

FTM

- 11 — Barton (Daly City)
- 11 — Chew (Ingleside)
- 10 — Moran (Park)
- 9 — Fegan (Narcotics)
- 9 — Nguyen (TTF)
- 9 — Knight (Northern)

FT% (min 9 att.)

- 100% — Nguyen (TTF)
- 85% — Chew (Ingleside)
- 83% — Moran (Park)
- 79% — Barton (Daly City)

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—Matt Mason
Tactical Unit

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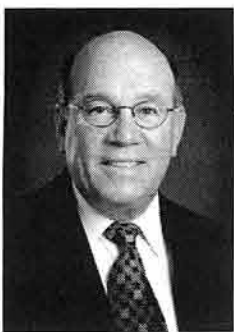
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February	January 21, 2010	August	July 21, 2010
March	February 18, 2010	September	August 23, 2010
April	March 23, 2010	October	September 21, 2010
May	April 21, 2010	November	October 20, 2010
June	May 19, 2010	December	November 19, 2010
July	June 22, 2010	January 2011	December 20, 2010



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Close Encounters

By Steve Johnson,
SFPOA

We've been sitting back waiting and watching to see how our new Police Chief, **George Gascón**, would make his mark and it appears he did so on Sunday, December 6, 2009. **Sergeant Will Escobar**, assigned to a police substation in the Sunnysdale and Hahn neighborhood, was wounded by two suspects engaged in a shoot-out nearby. Fortunately, Sgt. Escobar was not seriously injured. Chief Gascón immediately responded to the scene and made his feelings very clear to the press stating, "I'm very angry...This is clearly something that is of great concern to me. The safety of our police officers is very important not only to me but to the City...We had an officer that was injured and we're going to work very hard to get to the bottom of this."

And he did — arrests were made the next day.

The Chief entered the public arena once again on Saturday, December 26, 2009, when he made it very clear how he felt about an inane court ruling that essentially cleared the way for felons to wear body armor...The Chief petitioned the Attorney General of California, the SF Board of Supervisors, and the SF Police Commission to assist in the reversal of this insane ruling. (Veteran members of this Department clearly remember the role body armor played while trying to disable the suspect who killed Officer James Guelff.)

Looks like we have someone who is not going to stand for his officers being targeted and who is not going to sit back while the courts make stupid decisions. Looks like we have the right guy.

It's the year 1969, when the New York Jets beat the heavily favored Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III after Joe Namath predicted a victory. Mickey Mantle retired from the New York

Yankees and, if you weren't around to watch the premiere of the movie *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* — you need to do so now! It was also when on December 22, 1969, that **Officer George Koniaris**, **Officer John Forbes**, and **Sergeant George Lockhart** "apprehended a mentally deranged man with a gun who had threatened several people before being confronted by the officers. The arrest of this individual saved the lives of many innocent bystanders." For their efforts the officers were awarded a Third Grade Medal of Honor. We specifically mentioned this incident since we recently lost **Sergeant George Koniaris** — a man who was respected for his professionalism and dedication to the people he served. Our condolences to his family — he will be missed.

There was another Third Grade (Bronze) Medal of Honor awarded for an incident that occurred a month earlier on November 13, 1969, involving Park Station members **Sergeant Robert O'Brien**, **Officer Andrew Citizen**, **Officer John McClelland**, and **Officer Peter Seckols**. These officers apprehended not one, but two "mentally deranged persons", one of whom was "acutely homicidal armed with two revolvers and 213 rounds of ammunition when confronted." The officers used teamwork and put their lives on the line to rush and disarm the suspect who was threatening to kill all of them.

It's September, 2009, when **Officer Samuel Fung** and **Officer Frank Pereira** are driving by Geneva and Edinburgh when they see this individual punch another for no apparent reason. The victim is knocked unconscious and the suspect runs. Officer Fung and Officer Pereira chase the suspect and corner him in a driveway. The suspect hides behind a parked car and keeps reaching under his sweatshirt as the officers are ordering him to show his hands. The officers finally decide to rush the suspect and they soon have

him in custody but they also find out why he was refusing to show his hands. The suspect had a fully-loaded, pistol-grip shotgun secured by a black strap hung around his neck.

And it was just last month when **Sergeant Sam Christ** stopped a driver at McAllister and Jones for a minor traffic infraction. The driver had failed to heed the DMV notice he previously received concerning his suspended license and, one thing led to another to the point where Sam relieved him of his fully-loaded, .40 caliber semi-automatic with the 2 extra clips ready to go.

Officer Alvaro Schor and his partner **Officer Dennis Lai** were investigating a suspicious vehicle and occupants in the area of Post and Baker Streets when they decided to arrest the detained individuals for narcotic-related offenses. They asked the driver to step out and he initially refused but finally complied. **Sergeant Chris Breen** arrived at the scene to assist and good thing he did. The suspect had refused to comply with further directions the officers were giving and kept moving his hands towards his waistband which was covered by the baggy sweatshirt he was wearing. The officers had to forcibly restrain the suspect who was now violently resisting. Once in custody they found out why he was so reluctant to cooperate. He was trying to retrieve the fully-loaded, .45 caliber semi-automatic weapon which was ready to go with the hammer cocked back and a round in the chamber.

And, if you're going to be sitting in a van at 4:00 a.m. on the unit block of Turk Street smoking a crack pipe you might want to leave your gun at home. Our suspect opted not to so he was immediately escorted to a jail cell by **Officer Arthur Madrid** and **Officer Robert Forneris** who conducted an outstanding investigation that lead to having another gun and it's owner removed from endangering others.

A citizen noticed a man getting into a car at California and Front Streets with a gun tucked in his waistband and called 9-1-1. **Officer Rene Nielsen**, **Officer Michael Bushnell**, **Officer Nelson Artiga**, and **Officer Eric Valentini** responded. The suspect was ordered to show his hands — he refused and went for his waistband. The officers rushed him and removed

him from the car. The suspect was going for a fully-loaded, 9mm semi-automatic weapon when the officers risked their lives by stopping him. A subsequent investigation revealed that the suspect in custody was also responsible for a robbery that had just taken place in the Northern District. Coordination with members of the Robbery Division resulted in a search warrant being issued and an additional 3 handguns and 6 rifles recovered from the suspect's residence.

Right after taking the sergeant's exam **Officer Rich Jones**, **Officer Eric Mahoney**, and **Officer Maris Goldsborough** were walking through Civic Center Plaza when they saw a suspect rob a woman. The officers gave chase and captured the suspect who was already on parole for theft...

Thought we'd wrap the column up with 2 more from 1969, a year when *Sesame Street* previewed and the *Smothers Brothers Show* was canceled...

It was October 16, 1969, when a robbery suspect armed with a gun was holding one of his victims hostage in an alley next to 510 Shrader Street. **Officer Benjamin McAllister** and **Officer John Ford** responded and, after a long negotiation, persuaded the suspect to surrender.

And, just days later on October 21, 1969, **Officer Richard Leon**, **Officer Richard Wader**, and **Officer Michael Wilcox** were driving by 1880 Page Street when a fight broke out between several individuals. One of the combatants pulled out a gun. The officers were locked in a stand-off with the armed suspect while he threatened to shoot them. It was several minutes until the suspect finally realized that he didn't have a chance to leave the scene standing up so he made the right choice.

It's just amazing how some things have changed and some things just remain the same. There are always going to be members of the criminal element trying to take advantage of the rest of society and, fortunately, there have always been others who have dedicated their careers putting their lives on the line and making sure the criminals are sent where they belong. It doesn't matter whether it's 1969 or 2009, the courage shown by those individuals wearing the SFPD star will always shine through.



Join Us for Warriors Basketball!

vs. the Los Angeles Clippers

Wednesday February 10, 2010, 7:30 pm Oracle Arena

For the 3rd Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Night

Proceeds from ticket sales benefit Bay Area Law Enforcement Assistance Fund and

The California Peace Officers Memorial Foundation and will go directly to the Oakland PD Families

Join us as we honor SFPD Officers Birco & Tuvera

Activities & Ceremonies Include

- ◆ a Memorial Tribute to Northern California Police Officers who have died in the line of duty. Officers from the Highway Patrol, San Jose, Martinez, Richmond, Oakland, East Palo Alto, Yolo, Ripon, Sacramento and San Francisco will be honored
- ◆ a Law Enforcement Basketball Tournament (1- 4 pm)
- ◆ Courtside Shoot Around (6:00 – 6:30 pm) for the first 300 people to purchase tickets
- ◆ Police Color Guard & National Anthem

TICKETS are \$25 & \$85 and can be purchased directly from the Police Officers Association located at 800 Bryant St. (2nd Floor), S.F.

via telephone from the Warriors at (510) 986-2242 via the Internet @ www.gs-warriors.com.

Upper and Lower Level sideline seating available. Ticket price includes a souvenir Warriors Law Enforcement Beanie Cap

Contact Sgt. Bob Guinan, San Francisco Police Dept, for additional information @ (415) 850-5726

