

Meeting Dates & Events

Mon., Feb. 2
Retiree's Meeting

Mon., Feb. 9
Executive Board Meeting

Tue., Feb. 10
East Side L-18 Luncheon at APG

Wed., Feb. 11
West Side Luncheon at Triple Cats

Mon., Feb. 16
Presidents' Day;
FOP Hall Closed

Mon., Feb. 23
Regular FOP Meeting;
Dinner at 5:00; Meeting at 6:30

Wed., Feb. 25
West Side Luncheon at Triple Cats

Thur., May 7
Memorial Parade

Fri., May 8
FOP Awards Dinner

Thur., June 4
FOP Picnic

"Two-Six" STAFF

Editor.....Brent Eve
Retired Info.....Mike Bolte
Photographers.....Jim Brown
Bill Holzman

LODGE OFFICERS

President.....Ken Kober
1st Vice President.....Don Meece
2nd Vice President.....Sean Woods
Financial Secretary.....Jennifer Lane
Treasurer.....Eric Vogelpohl
Recording Secretary.....Ryan Jones
Administrative Asst.....Michelle Comarata
Chaplain.....Austin Lee
Conductor.....Mark McChristian
Outer Guard.....Shannon Heine
Inner Guard.....Tim Lanter
Trustees.....Charles Bell
Frank McGraw
Matt Cornacchione
Building Fund
Administrators.....Bill Vogel
Cliff Bell
Mark Bode
Past President.....Kathy Harrell

STATE OFFICERS

State Treasurer.....Greg Toyeyes
9th District Trustee.....Jon Halusek



Two-Six NEWS



Official publication of F.O.P. Queen City Lodge No. 69
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Editor . . . Brent Eve

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 2

CINCINNATI, OHIO

FEBRUARY 2026

FOP President's Message

Unfortunately, last month I had to make the difficult decision to cancel our monthly membership meeting. This wasn't a decision I took lightly. This was done primarily due to the city declaring a snow emergency. I knew there would be no parking on Central Parkway and ultimately didn't believe risking the safety of the members outweighed having a meeting. With that said, I made every effort to contact all members via email and social media. To those who didn't receive the message and braved the weather, I sincerely apologize. If anyone has a suggestion to increase emergency communication, I am happy to explore this process improvement. We will push back delegate nominations to February and delegate elections to March. Hopefully, this scenario won't occur again anytime soon.

I am happy to report we have sworn in 8 lateral officers and 54 new officers last month. We are happy to have new officers out to help with staffing as we continue to lose experienced officers to retirement.

Finally, thank you to those who have stepped forward to request to serve on various committees for the next year. This organization wouldn't be what it is without our members stepping up. In the coming weeks, Vice-President Meece and I will be selecting the committees and getting that published to the members. Understand, we make every effort to involve as many people in as many committees as possible.

Fraternally,
Ken Kober

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

President Ken Kober – 513-283-3219 (CALL FIRST)
1st Vice President Don Meece – 513-607-5408
2nd Vice President Sean Woods – 513-919-1091

**The regular FOP meeting times have changed.
They will now be held at 6:30pm
with dinner being served at 5:00pm.**

POLICE RETIREES NEWS

By Mike Bolte

Retirees for Cincinnati and Hamilton County Officers Meet the First Monday of the month and begins at 1830 hours, and will be on February 2, 2026. Call Michelle at the FOP Hall, 513-381-2550, to join IF you are not a member.

Luncheons and Breakfasts

All LEO Retirees, Active Officers and Supporters are encouraged to come and have breakfast and/or lunch at these events.

West Side: The West Side luncheon at Triple Cats is the 2nd Wednesday **and** LAST Wednesday of each month. Both are in Harrison and start at noon. The West Side breakfast is EVERY Saturday at Price Hill Chili in the Garden Room and starts at 0800 hrs.

East Side: The East Side L-18 Luncheon is always at the Anderson Pub & Grill at Beechmont/Nagel. The luncheon will be on February 10th. The East Side Saturday breakfast is at the Country Inn located at 910 Ohio Pike, Amelia, Ohio and starts at 8 am.

2026 FOP LEOSA Qualifications

Please contact Carl Rauschenberger by email or by cell phone for information: carler272@yahoo.com or 513-325-8022. Certification course is at the Fairfield Sportsmans Assoc., 6501 River Rd. There is a \$5 guest fee, and a \$40 charge for the qualification with 1 or 2 guns. The dates for training are flexible.

Recent Retirements

Kimberly Kelley Edsel Osborn David Johnston
Charles Zopfi Darris Sneed Darwin Gulley

Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society and The Shield

The Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society and the Shield are always accepting donations. If you are a member of the Cincinnati Police Federal Credit Union, you can fill out a form and make a monthly donation to one or both. It is easy and tax deductible.

CPD Florida Reunion 2026

The CPD Florida Reunion February the 24-26, 2026. It will be held again at Red Lions, Lake Buena Vista, 5150 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Highway, Kissimmee, Florida 34746. To book a room, contact is Eliza Quinones, Head of Sales, or Salha @ 407-997-3224. They have king rooms poolside or 2 queens rooms available at the same price as last year - \$85 a night plus taxes. They also have pet rooms which are \$85 a night plus an additional \$35 a night plus taxes for bringing a pet. If you are thinking or planning to attend next year's reunion, please book a room ASAP!

We are trying to lock down as many rooms as possible at this time. If you came this year (2025), you are already booked for next year with same amount of days. This saves time of you having to call in. If you can't make it, let me know and we will cancel your room. We can also change days or add days to your reservation. Their policy is you have 72 hours before your arrival to cancel your room if you can't make it, without any charges. The fee for the Socials remains the same - \$35 per person.

A check or cash needs to be sent to me, in my name:

Sandy Vickers

10790 Autumnridge Dr

Independence, Ky 41051

Sorry, I do not do Venmo or other things like that. Cell number is 813-382-7171 or home 859-359-0128.

For those golfing, it will be at Kissimmee Bay February 24th and 25th. Tee times will be both days at 10:00 am (please make sure you pay attention to the start up time, since it has changed). Golf and range balls are \$55 each paid at Pro Shop. 12 miles from Red Lions Hotel. Bar is open till 6pm.

The FOP Retiree's Meeting is on February 2nd.

The Legends Party is on February 23rd.

The Executive Board has changed the start time of the Board and Regular Meetings for 2026 to 1830 hours.

The Retirees' Meeting will start at the same time that the Regular Meeting is designated to start.

L-18 EASTSIDE LUNCHEON

William Holzman Facebook

The Eastside Luncheon was held last Tuesday, and attendance was down, as many members stayed home or are enjoying the sunshine in Florida. John Burke handled the announcements, during which we bid a final farewell to Charley Klug. Thank you, Joe Hall, for your kind words and support.

The quiz was the usual fare, highlighted by one of the brothers donating a six-pack, answering a question, and promptly taking his prize home. Good laughs all around.

It was also great to see Satch Collette in attendance. As always, he is a pleasure to talk with and a truly great guy.

Also, I've included a photo from the Eastside Luncheon from 10 years ago. The scene has truly changed!



COMMUNICATIONS COUNSEL

Ryan Stubenrauch / Jamieson Gordon

Notre Dame (and Ohio State) fans, we're going to be taking a look at your football coach for this month's crisis communications in the news! Notre Dame Coach (and former Ohio State Buckeye linebacker) Marcus Freeman was involved in an altercation at his son's wrestling match in Indiana.

Here's the statement the Mishawaka Police Department released on X the other day:

As some of you are aware, there was an incident involving Notre Dame football Head Coach Marcus Freeman on January 3, 2026. This was during the Al Smith wrestling meet at Mishawaka High School. A battery report was filed with one of the Mishawaka Police officers working security at the event. Mr. Freeman was listed as the suspect in the report. This report was investigated further by a detective with our department. That investigation was completed. The results of which were forwarded to the St. Joseph County Prosecutor's Office for their review. Because this case has not yet been resolved, nothing else will be released at this time.

This is not a statement we'd recommend. There's essentially no new information shared from what the public already knew. That's not the problem, though. Often, we'll have stories where we can't share any additional information or comment on the details due to an ongoing investigation or another reason.

But we can always say something, and we should include an aspirational, missional, or procedural statement in those instances. Furthermore, we can always include a future promise of transparency (e.g., pledging to release the video footage after the investigation is completed).

Here's how we would rewrite it:

Notre Dame Football Coach Marcus Freeman was involved in an altercation at the Al Smith wrestling meet at Mishawaka High School on January 3rd. Our department swiftly completed an investigation, including reviewing video surveillance footage, and forwarded the results to the St. Joseph County Prosecutor's Office for their review. While we can't share any additional details until the Prosecutor's Office reviews it, what we can say is that our department is always committed to a full and fair investigation regardless of a person's status or notoriety. We'll release more information about this case, including releasing any surveillance footage, as soon as we can.

Notice how we swapped several of the unnecessary details for the note that they're committed to a full and fair review regardless of status – given some may think Coach Freeman would get off easy due to his popularity. We also dropped a future promise to release the surveillance footage.

Epilogue – After the prosecutor declined to file any charges, the Mishawaka PD did in fact release the video footage from the high school gym. You can see it here

IN MEMORIAM Greater Cincinnati Police Museum

Policewoman Specialist Grace Joan Crawford

Joan was born April 26, 1933. Joan joined the Cincinnati Police Division as a Clerk-Stenographer 3 on June 12, 1960. She was appointed as a Policewoman on February 19, 1961. During December 1965, Cincinnati Civil Service announced that she had successfully passed the examination for the new rank of Policewoman Specialist. She was one of the first group of women promoted to the position on January 2, 1966, and issued Badge PS-87. Throughout her tenure, she served in Juvenile Bureau. She retired on May 25, 1976, with 15 years of service to the City of Cincinnati.

Specialist Crawford, after a short illness, died on December 23, 2025. At 92, she was the last remaining woman to retire as a Policewoman Specialist.

Police Officer Charles Albert "Mutt" Klug

Charlie was born October 10, 1941. Charlie joined the Cincinnati Police Division on May 4, 1969. Police Officer Klug was appointed to the Cincinnati Police Department on May 4, 1969. Throughout his tenure, he served in Districts 2 and 3. He retired on November 16, 1986, with 17 years of service to the City of Cincinnati. He was rehired as a Police Technician on November 30, 1986, and assigned to District 3. He resigned on October 23, 2004, with 35 years of service to the City of Cincinnati.



After 43½ years of fighting, Officer Klug died on January 3, 2026 at the age of 84.

Police Officer Donald R. "Don" Wells

Don was born on August 4, 1940. Don joined the Cincinnati Police Division on September 27, 1964. Throughout his tenure, he served in Districts 3 and 4. He retired on July 4, 1992 with 27 years of service.



Officer Wells died after a lengthy illness on January 18, 2026 at the age of 85.

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Make sure to call the FOP Hall at (513) 381-2550 to notify them of a death of a retired police officer.

If you are notified to respond to Internal or CCA, please notify Michelle at the FOP Hall to schedule a rep. Please give them as much notice as possible.

Please remember to call Michelle Comarata at (513) 381-2550 if you have moved, have gotten married or divorced, have added a child/dependent, and also to check or update your death beneficiaries.

9th DISTRICT TRUSTEE Jon Halusek

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. This year will start off quickly, as we will be holding delegate elections in February. These delegates will represent you for the next year on state issues at the State Conference and will also be available to address local issues from your lodge.

Please note:

Both the Local Board Meetings and Regular Meetings will now begin at 6:30 PM.

I will be attending the State Board Meeting on January 23rd and 24th and will report back at the January meeting. Additionally, I - along with President Kober and Ohio Trustee Toyas - will be attending the National Board Meeting in April.

As outlined in our Constitution and Bylaws, I will continue to keep you informed on political updates and any state issues as they arise.

Upcoming Events

Day on the Hill (Washington, DC): February 2nd–4th

I will not be attending this year due to prior engagements. However, the FOP will be represented by:

- President Kober
- Vice President Woods
- Secretary Woods
- Trustee Bell

Legislative & Government Updates

House Committee on the Judiciary favorably reported the following bills by voice vote. These bills now move to the House floor for consideration:

- H.R. 3497 – Medal of Sacrifice Act
- H.R. 5625 – Cashless Bail Reporting Act
- H.R. 6715 – Child Predators Accountability Act
- H.R. 6719 – Combatting Online Predators Act
- H.R. 6732 – Coercion and Sexual Abuse Free Environment Act

House Committee Hearings:

- Homeland Security: “A Scourge Against Humanity: Addressing Human Trafficking at Mass Gatherings”
- Education and Workforce: “Ensuring Union Leaders Represent Members, Not Agendas”

Senate Actions:

- S. 1049 – Preventing Child Trafficking Act passed unanimously and now awaits action in the House.
- S. 1071 – National Defense Authorization Act passed by a 77–20 vote and was signed into law by President Donald J. Trump. This legislation includes several bills supported by the FOP, including the Honoring Our Fallen Heroes Act.

Presidential Actions:

- Executive Order 14367 – Designating Fentanyl as a

Weapon of Mass Destruction

- Executive Order – Increasing Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol Research, rescheduling marijuana from Schedule I to Schedule III John Hoyt, National 2nd Vice President of the FOP, attended the signing ceremony.
- Proclamation restricting the entry of certain foreign nationals to promote public safety and protect U.S. borders.

State of Ohio Update:

Governor DeWine announced that Ohio has strong safeguards to prevent fraud and misuse of taxpayer dollars within the childcare system. The state has received 125 complaints regarding childcare facilities:

- 68 facilities were required to repay funds
- 12 facilities were forced to close

To report suspected childcare fraud:

- Call 1-844-234-KIDS (5437)
- Visit childrenand youth.ohio.org

As always, please reach out with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

BUCKETHEADS Jim Brown

The 2026 MLK Law Enforcement Luncheon was held at Bucketheads and drew 71 attendees who came together to reminisce, share updates, and attempt to solve all the world's problems. While full solutions may still be pending, the conversation and camaraderie were in strong supply.

Although pennies are no longer being minted, everyone is invited to add their two cents at the Presidents Day Luncheon on Monday, February 16, at Bucketheads. Join us for good food, lively discussion, and plenty of opinions.



Ohio Supreme Court Rules Police Officers Attacked On Duty Are Victims Under Marsy's Law, Identities May Be Concealed From Public

Steve Lazarus, Esq. • Lazarus Law, LLC
SteveLazarus@hlmlaw.com • (513) 607-4455

On November 25, 2025, the Ohio Supreme Court (“Court”) ruled that the Columbus Police Department (“CPD”) and City of Columbus (“City”) lawfully withheld the identities of two Columbus police officers who were involved in a July 2023 shootout against three armed robbers. The Court’s ruling makes clear that police officers who are attacked while on duty are victims of crimes under Marsy’s Law, and as a result, no personal identifying information can be released to the public.

The case originated after the Columbus Dispatch newspaper (“newspaper”) requested unredacted bodycam and dashcam footage of a shootout between two Columbus police officers and three armed robbers following a robbery at a Columbus Porsche dealership. During the vehicle pursuit following the robbery, two of the suspects stopped their car on the I-70 highway and fled. When one of the officers began to chase after the two suspects, an unknown third suspect emerged and shot the first officer five times at close range. The third suspect was later killed after walking towards and aiming a gun at the second officer. The first officer survived the shooting but suffered serious injuries, undergoing at least seven surgeries and long-term rehabilitation.

The City and CPD denied the newspaper’s request for the unredacted footage, citing four public records exceptions, including Marsy’s Law. Marsy’s Law was enacted as an Ohio constitutional amendment in 2017, allowing crime victims to conceal their identifying information from public records requests. The law allows, upon request of the victim, redaction of identifying information such as name, address, and video or audio recordings of the victim from case documents prior to public release.

The newspaper sought a writ of mandamus from the Ohio Supreme Court to force the City to release the unredacted footage. The newspaper argued that police officers who are empowered by the State to use lethal force should be exempt from Marsy’s Law protections

normally afforded to private citizens, arguing that the law never intended to protect police officers performing their public duties. The Court denied the newspaper’s request, holding that the plain definition in the constitution defines a “victim” as any person against whom a criminal offense was committed. In this case, the two police officers were victims of a crime when the suspect committed a criminal act against them. Therefore, under the plain definition of Marsy’s Law, the police officers who were attacked on duty are entitled to victim privacy protections under the law and the bodycam and dashcam footage were properly redacted from public disclosure.

Legal Lesson Learned: In Ohio, a police officer who has a criminal act committed against them is a victim of a crime under Marsy’s Law, even while on duty. As victims of a crime, police officers’ personal identifying information is not subject to public release.



The poster for the Cincinnati Police Summer Cadet Program 2026 features the city of Cincinnati Police logo at the top left. The main title "SUMMER CADET PROGRAM 2026" is prominently displayed in the center. To the right, there are two circular images: the top one shows three young women in blue uniforms smiling, and the bottom one shows a group of cadets in uniform standing in front of a police vehicle. Below the title, the "About Us" section states that the program gives student ages 16 through 18 the opportunity to work part time during the summer for the Cincinnati Police Department. It lists resources and opportunities such as Education, Physical Fitness, Observation with Police Mentors, and Hands-on job specific training. The Cincinnati Police Department Youth Service Unit logo is also present. The address "1201 Stock Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio 45225 -1837" is provided. A QR code is located at the bottom left, and a banner at the bottom right states "Application Opens January 1, 2026".

city of CINCINNATI POLICE

SUMMER CADET PROGRAM 2026

About Us
The Cincinnati Police Summer Cadet Program gives student ages 16 through 18 the opportunity to work part time, during the summer, for the Cincinnati Police Department.

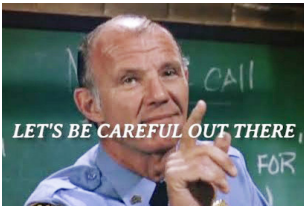
Qualified persons will receive resources and opportunities through:

- Education
- Physical Fitness
- Observation with Police Mentors
- Hands-on job specific training

Cincinnati Police Department Youth Service Unit

1201 Stock Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio
45225 -1837

Application Opens January 1, 2026



ROLL CALL

Brent Eve

December Saturday Breakfast – William Holzman Facebook

The Saturday Breakfast guys had their annual photo taken today by Cary Jodice and, I must admit, the quality is great, but the subject is old.



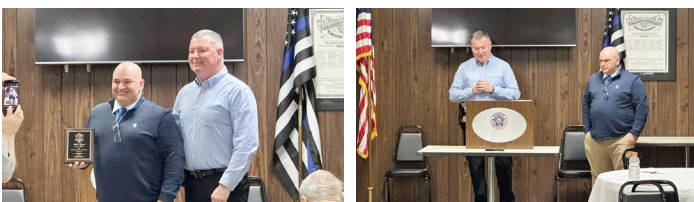
January Saturday Breakfast – GCPHS Facebook

As we lose one fighter, another shows up at the Saturday morning Bestside Breakfast! PO David “Coach” Scherer has been battling a number of ailments and setbacks for two years and has finally progressed far enough to get a 24-hour pass from his assisted living Harrison, Ohio.



Associate Police Captains Award – FOP 69 Facebook Page

Last night, the Associate Police Captains recognized Det. Blank for his work identifying and charging a suspect who viciously attacked a worker in Mt. Adams. Det. Blank approaches every case he is assigned with the utmost professionalism and desire to bring justice to victims of crime. Congrats Det. Blank on this well-deserved recognition.



FOP Retirees Meeting - Dr. Jay – William Holzman Facebook

At the January 5th FOP Retirees Meeting, Joe Hall presented the CPD Flag of Honor to Dr. Jay, the physician who played a vital role as part of the team that saved the lives of Katie Conway and Ron Schaeper.

Dr. Jay spoke about his many tours in Afghanistan, noting, “I’m so glad that’s behind me.” He also shared how deeply connected he feels to the law enforcement and firefighting communities, stating that police officers and firefighters are his family. He emphasized that his phone number will always be available to anyone in the department who needs him.

Dr. Jay was clearly moved by the honor, and his heartfelt gratitude was evident as he expressed his sincere thanks to everyone present.



Cocoa with Cops – CPD Facebook Page

January 14th, Cincinnati Police Department partnered with the Kroger in Over-the-Rhine to host a Cocoa with Cops event.

CPD officers had the pleasure of sharing delicious hot chocolate with the local community, while fostering positive connections.





UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE

Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 69

Thursday, February 12, 2025

9:00 am – 11:15 am & 12:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Blood Drive held at FOP Lodge 69, 1900 Central Parkway

All donors receive a vintage-style Hoxworth sweatshirt!



To sign up to donate, please VISIT
hoxworth.org/groups/fop69,
SCAN the QR code, or
CALL Hoxworth at 513-451-0910



Double Your Impact – Donate Red Cells!

Appointments Encouraged; Walk-ins Welcome as schedule permits!

All Types Welcome.

Hoxworth
BLOOD CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI 

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE
1900 Central Parkway
Cincinnati, OH 45214

NON-PROFIT
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CINCINNATI, OH
PERMIT NO. 7939

2026 ANNUAL MEETING

You're Invited to COPFCU's 2026 Annual Meeting

All COPFCU members are invited to attend our 2026 Annual Meeting to review the credit union's performance during 2025 and the election of Board of Directors nominees.

Tuesday, March 17, 2026
4:00–5:00 PM EST

Registration is required to attend.

Nominees up for re-election: Bill Baumann, Mark Brown & Tom Prem

Scan the QR code or visit copfcu.com/2026Meeting to register and learn more.



Please note: There will be no election or no nominations from the floor when the number of nominees equals the number of positions to be filled. For additional information regarding the Annual Meeting and election of Board Members, please review the [Election Procedures](#) found at copfcu.com/2026meeting. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender.