Two-Six NEWS

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

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 11 **CINCINNATI, OHIO** **NOVEMBER 2026**

Meeting Dates & Events

Mon., Nov. 2
Retiree's Meeting

Tue., Nov. 3
FOPA Meeting

Fri., Nov. 6
Class 119th Graduates

Mon., Nov. 9
Executive Board Meeting

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

Wed., Nov. 11
Veterans Day; FOP Office Closed

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

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

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

Thur. & Fri., Nov. 26 & 27
Thanksgiving; FOP Office Closed

Sat., Dec. 12
FOP Christmas Party

"Two-Six" STAFF

Editor.....Brent Eve
Retired Info.....Brent Eve
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 Toyeas
9th District Trustee.....Jon Halusek

FOP President's Message

Last month was a busy one for the FOP. We began the month by providing breakfast for more than 100 officers who worked the Queen Bee Half marathon, fed the SWAT Team at their annual training out of state, and we wrapped up October by hosting a pancake breakfast at the hall to raise money for Real Men Wear Pink. All these events would not be possible without our volunteers.

The fallen officers memorial golf outing went well again this year. A survey went out about the future of the outing. Please complete the survey so the golf committee has an idea what direction they should be taking the outing.

Once again, the Cops Caring for Cops 5K was a big success. We had nearly 275 runners. This organization does important work raising money to financially support officers who are battling cancer. There are big things ahead for this organization.

For our active officers, make sure you are reviewing your pay checks each pay period. I was notified recently of a software issue that affected pay specifically involving dead time. If you need specifics, please reach out to me and I will explain further.

Finally, the FOP filed a notice to negotiate with the State Employment Relations Board (SERB). This is the first step in the contract negotiation process. The wage team will be meeting the first couple weeks of November so we can get the ball rolling. Our contract expires in April of 2027. We are going to make every effort to have a contract in place by the time the current contract expires so we can avoid retroactivity. We saw the last contract how poorly the city handled repayment. While I am aware surveys were due in September, if anyone has any last-minute suggestions reach out to me directly.

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 Brent Eve

Retirees of Cincinnati and Hamilton County Officers
The Retirees of Cincinnati and Hamilton County Officers meet on the first Monday of each month at 1830 hours. The next meeting will be November 2, 2026.
If you are not currently a member and would like to join, please contact Michelle at the FOP Hall at 513-381-2550.

Luncheons and Breakfasts
All LEO retirees, active officers, and supporters are encouraged to attend these breakfasts and luncheons. Come out, enjoy some good food, and visit with old friends and fellow officers.
West Side Luncheon:
The West Side luncheon at Triple Cats is held on the second **and** last Wednesday of each month. Both luncheons are held in Harrison and begin at 1100 hours.
West Side Breakfast:
The West Side breakfast is held every Saturday at Price Hill Chili in the Garden Room. Breakfast begins at 0800 hours.
East Side L-18 Luncheon:
The East Side L-18 luncheon is always held at Anderson Pub & Grill at Beechmont/Nagel. The luncheon is held on the second Tuesday of each month.
East Side Breakfast:
The East Side breakfast is held every Saturday at the Country Inn, located at 910 Ohio Pike, Amelia, Ohio, and begins at 0800 hours.

2026 FOP LEOSA Qualifications
Carl Rauschenberger has retired from conducting the HR 218 qualification. For new HR 218 qualifications, David Voss, who retired from the Cheviot Police Department as a Colonel, will be conducting future qualifications. For scheduling, contact David at 513-446-3351.

Retired Firearms Qualification at Great Oaks Police Academy
Retired Cincinnati Police officers looking to complete their annual firearms qualification are invited to qualify at the Great Oaks Police Academy.
Qualifications are scheduled by appointment rather than on a fixed monthly date. Once an appointment date is established, other retirees are welcome to join that session if space is available.
Cost: $25.00, which covers qualification with one or two firearms, either semi-automatic pistols or revolvers.
Please note that the full 25-round qualification course of fire is used. The abbreviated 8-round "back-up gun" course is not offered for retiree qualifications.
To schedule an appointment or obtain additional information, contact:
Milt Proctor
Range Master, Great Oaks Police Academy
Phone: 513-612-5796
Email: proctorme@greatoaks.com
Retired officers are encouraged to call or email to arrange a qualification date.

Recent Retirement:
Carlos Robertson

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 organizations. It is easy and tax deductible.

CPD Florida Reunion 2027
Reunion News - Sandy Vickers
The 2027 CPD Florida Reunion will be held February 23rd, 24th, and 25th. The reunion will once again be held at the Radisson Hotel, also known as the Red Lions, in Kissimmee, Florida.
Hotel: Book your room as soon as possible. King rooms and two-Queen rooms are available for $86 per night, plus taxes. For hotel reservations, contact Elisa in the Sales Office at 407-997-3224.
Three-Night Social: The cost is $35 per person. Please send a check made payable to Sandy Vickers. For additional information, contact Sandy at 813-382-7171. NO VENMO.
Golf: Two-day golf will be held at Falcon Fire Golf Course and will be handled by Dave West. Contact Dave at 513-604-1532.
For more information about the reunion, contact Sandy Vickers, coordinator of the CPD Florida reunions.
Upcoming FOP Dates:
- FOP Retirees Meeting: November 2, 2026
- Regular FOP Meeting: November 23, 2026

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.

L-18 EASTSIDE LUNCHEON

William Holzman

Attendance at this month's luncheon was lower than expected, and we encourage members to make an effort to attend future luncheons.

Many members asked about Steve Watt, who underwent triple bypass surgery Monday at Christ Hospital. We are happy to report that Steve is doing well, and we continue to keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

We also celebrated our waitress Jazzman's birthday with a group rendition of "Happy Birthday!"

The meeting's trivia quiz was a success, with the crew answering every question. Special thanks to Steve Eggers for another great round of trivia!

We hope to see everyone at our next luncheon!









IN MEMORIAM

Greater Cincinnati Police Museum

Lieutenant Robert John Hungler



Bob was born January 23, 1943. Police Lieutenant Hungler was appointed to the Cincinnati Police Department on November 19, 1967. He was promoted to Specialist on June 18, 1972, Sergeant on November 5, 1972, and Lieutenant on July 10, 1983. Throughout his tenure, he served in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, Tactical Patrol Section, Equipment Management Section, Records Section, Police Communications Section, and Traffic Section. He retired on January 8, 2011, with 43 years of service to the City of Cincinnati. Lieutenant Hungler died on October 9, 2026 at the age of 83.

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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.

FOPA OFFICERS OF THE MONTH

Jackie Metz

At the most recent Fraternal Order of Police Associates (FOPA) meeting, Lieutenant Pat Caton recognized three members of the Cincinnati Police Department's Mountain Bike Squad for their outstanding police work and dedication to keeping downtown Cincinnati safe.

Police Officer Kurt Wagner, Police Officer Ian Sundberg, and Police Officer Blayne Buckler were honored for their actions during an incident approximately two months ago near 366 Walnut Street.

The incident began when officers observed an adult male riding a bicycle on the sidewalk, a misdemeanor violation. When officers attempted to address the violation, the individual fled. The three bicycle officers quickly caught up with the suspect and conducted an investigation that revealed an outstanding felony arrest warrant from Indiana. Officers also discovered that the individual was in possession of a stolen firearm.

Lieutenant Caton commended the officers for their quick response, proactive enforcement, and commitment to public safety. Their actions demonstrate the important role the Mountain Bike Squad plays in addressing criminal activity throughout Cincinnati's downtown area.

During the recognition, Lieutenant Caton also highlighted the squad's broader accomplishments in reducing violent crime. Approximately 18 months ago, the downtown area experienced 13 shootings and seven homicides. More recently, those numbers have declined to three shootings and two homicides. While many factors contribute to crime reduction, the continued efforts and visible presence of the Mountain Bike Squad's 18 officers have played an important role in the department's public safety initiatives.

The recognition was made even more meaningful by the presence of fellow officers who attended the meeting to show their support and congratulate their colleagues.

Congratulations to Officers Wagner, Sundberg, and Buckler on this well-deserved recognition. Their professionalism, teamwork, and dedication reflect the Cincinnati Police Department's ongoing commitment to protecting the community and making downtown Cincinnati a safer place for residents, businesses, and visitors.



9th DISTRICT TRUSTEE Jon Halusek

Election Time is Here

It's that time of year again—election time! As we all know, it is important to get out and vote. I encourage everyone to review the candidates endorsed by our organization. Each endorsement was interviewed, discussed, and voted on by the floor.

I want to clarify our endorsement process because I have heard from several members who questioned why certain candidates were endorsed, including candidates running against their preferred choice. In some cases, those concerns came from individuals who did not participate in the interview process.

Our process is straightforward. We send notices to candidates in every race multiple times and make phone calls to encourage their participation. Unfortunately, some candidates do not respond or participate in an interview. When that happens, we interview the candidates who are willing to participate. If an interview goes well, a recommendation is made and submitted to the floor for a vote.

Our endorsement process is not perfect; it is a process that works. It gives candidates an opportunity to participate, allows our members to evaluate them, and ultimately leaves the endorsement decision to a vote of the floor.

I encourage every member to get out and vote, stay informed, and keep in mind what is best for our organization and the members we represent.

Ohio Statehouse Update

While the United States House and Senate are in recess until after the election, the Ohio General Assembly has remained busy. Here are a few of the recent developments at the Statehouse.

General Assembly Passes Capital Budget and Medicaid Fraud Prevention Legislation

The General Assembly passed a capital budget and advanced legislation aimed at preventing fraud in Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Legislators also approved a resolution calling for a constitutional amendment addressing voter identification requirements.

Meanwhile, an agreement on regulations governing data centers remains unresolved.

House Passes Medicaid Fraud Prevention Bill

Medicaid fraud prevention has been a significant topic of discussion at the Statehouse over the past several weeks. On Wednesday, the Ohio House passed legislation introducing several reforms.

Among the proposed changes are requirements for home health care providers to clock in and clock out when providing services at a beneficiary's home, as well as requirements to track providers using GPS technology.

These measures are intended to strengthen oversight and accountability in the delivery of Medicaid-funded services.

Voters to Decide on Constitutional Voter ID Requirements

By a vote of 60–34, the Ohio House approved Senate Joint Resolution 10, which had already passed the Senate. The resolution would place a measure on the November ballot asking Ohio voters whether to add the state's existing photo identification requirement for voting to the Ohio Constitution.

The proposal would give voters the opportunity to decide whether that requirement should be constitutionally protected.

Looking Ahead

The Ohio Statehouse is not expected to return to session until after the November 3 general election.

As always, I will continue to keep the 9th District informed about legislative developments and issues that may affect our members and the organization.

Stay informed, stay involved, and remember to vote!

1900 CLUB ENDORSEMENTS

Tom Martin, Chairman / Ryan Lay, Co-Chairman

The 1900 Club voted to endorse the following candidates:

Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas:
Probate Court, Ralph Winkler

Hamilton County Juvenile Court:
Susan Luken

Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas:
Chris McDowell
Katie Casch
Leah Dinkelacker
Dennis Mahoney
Chris Wagner
Betsy Sunderman
Rob Gehring

Hamilton County Commissioner:
Meeka Owens

FOP LODGE 69 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual FOP Children's Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2026 at the FOP Lodge #69 located at 1900 Central Parkway. This year there will be three sessions. The three sessions are as follows:

1. 0930 to 1130 hours
2. 1230 to 1430 hours
3. 1515 to 1715 hours – Designated for children with Sensory Related Challenges, special needs and other family needs (schedule conflicts).

All active and retired Cincinnati Police officers and their family members are invited. Children 10 years of age and under are eligible to receive a Christmas gift.

Reservations to attend must be made no later than Friday, December 4, 2026 by 1600 hours.

You must contact Mrs. Michelle Comarata at 513.381.2550 to reserve a session and time.

Volunteers of all ages are NEEDED. Please advise if available when making reservation or notify Committee Chair Shannon Heine.

Locked Out: An Undercover Officer, a Data Breach, and a City's Immunity

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

In 2024, a ransomware attack on the City of Columbus exposed the personal information of roughly 500,000 people, some of which was later posted on the dark web. Among those affected were public safety employees who had provided that information to the City as a condition of their jobs. Six people affected by the breach, a firefighter, an undercover officer, two police officers, another City employee, and a resident, sued the City on behalf of everyone whose information was compromised.

In July 2024, City technology staff noticed suspicious activity on the network and alerted federal authorities. A Russian-affiliated ransomware group later claimed responsibility. It said it had stolen a large amount of City data, including employee passwords, emergency services systems, and access to City cameras. The City first described the attack as stopped before it could do serious harm. Within days, though, the group was auctioning the stolen data online and soon released part of it. The mayor said the released data was scrambled and unusable. The City eventually reported that about 500,000 people were affected and offered them free credit monitoring.

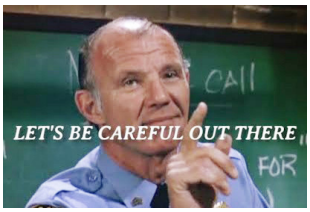
The allegations of the complaint reveal troubling details: the undercover officer's identity was exposed, and he was locked out of his bank account. Two others reported unauthorized purchases and misuse of their Social Security numbers. Two received ransom demands threatening to release their personal information, and one of those messages included a photo of his home. Their complaint alleges several claims, including negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, and invasion of privacy.

The City asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit, and the trial court agreed. The court of appeals reversed that decision. The appeal came down to one question: when the City runs its computer systems, is it acting as a government or as a business? The answer matters because Ohio law generally protects cities from being sued for injuries. That protection disappears when a city acts as a private business, and does it carelessly. If running the network is a government function, the City is protected and the lawsuit ends. If it is more like a business activity, the City can be sued, unless it can show that the problem came from a reasonable judgment call about how to use its resources.

The Tenth District's reversal does two things. First, it allows the complaint to proceed, meaning that the proposed class will be entitled to discovery potentially showing the City knew the extent of the breach and still downplayed its potential impact. Second, the ruling reinforces that political-subdivision immunity has its limits. Specifically, management of certain city systems may be exposed to tort liability in the future.

Legal Lesson Learned: For public-safety employees: your employer holds some of your most sensitive information, and it may not always be safe. If you are notified of a breach, enroll in any credit monitoring offered, consider freezing your credit, and report any threats you receive. For public-safety employers and administrators: follow industry standards and federal guidelines for data security, and do not assume immunity will protect you if you fall short. When a breach occurs, be prompt and honest with affected employees, since downplaying the problem can increase both the harm and your exposure to liability.





ROLL CALL

Brent Eve

CPD Softball – Dan Mitchell

These are some photos from the September CPD & CFD vs. NYPD & NYFD softball game, organized by Ben Williamson.

The New York team is made up of active and retired police officers and firefighters who travel to a different city each year for a day of softball, friendship, and camaraderie. Calvin Johnson served as one of the umpires for the games.

Once the games were over, our New York visitors were looking forward to continuing the fun at Oktoberfest.

A great day of competition, fellowship, and community!





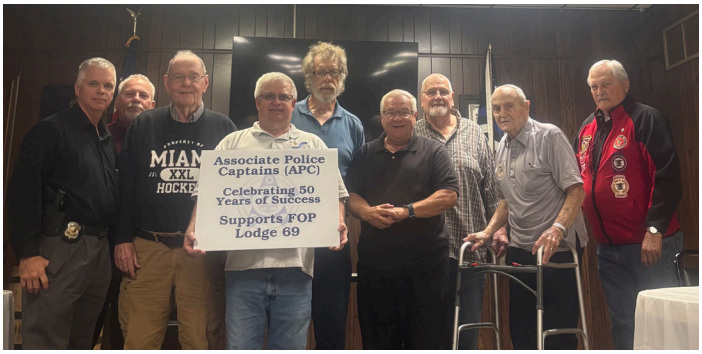






Associate Police Captains Celebrate 50 Years!

The Associate Police Captains recently celebrated their 50th anniversary! They have decided to disband and join forces with the FOPA. We thank them for their many years of support!



Retiree Picnic – Dan Mitchell

The annual Retiree's Picnic was held September 21st at Harvest Home Park in Cheviot. In attendance were about 100 people including retirees and their significant others. There were many door prizes to be had and a split the pot won by Roger Loth, a member of the Hamilton County Pipe and Drum Band. The winner donated half of his winnings to the Police Museum. Good food and fellowship was the theme for the evening. Some of our older members, Bill Vogel, George Rousch and Paul Geiger, were in attendance. It was good to see some of the people who are only able to get together once or twice a year. Eric Kaminsky brought a 1962 Ford Police car for display and it was a hit. Judges Leah Dinkelacker and Pat Dinkelacker were in attendance as was State Representative Cindy Abrams.











Blue Mass



The 2026 Blue Mass was celebrated on Sunday, September 27, at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Peter in Chains. Law enforcement officers, firefighters, their families, friends, and supporters gathered in faith and fellowship to honor all first responders and offer prayers for their safety, service, and well-being.

The ceremony concluded with a solemn roll call honoring our brothers and sisters who passed away over the past 12 months, along with a special remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

The Blue Mass served as a meaningful opportunity to unite in prayer, express gratitude for the dedication and sacrifices of our first responders, and honor the memory of those who will never be forgotten.









2026 FOP Golf Outing

The golf outing was held October 5th at the Western Hills Country Club. Thanks to all who showed up!









Police Museum – Steve Kramer

We have some exciting news to share.

As you know, former United States Attorney, Hamilton County Clerk of Courts, Hamilton County Probate Court Judge James C. Cissell pledged $1,000,000 to the GCPHS if we could match it. So far, we are just short of $100,000 in our efforts to match the million.

However, a building came available and Judge Cissell advanced us $500,000 to help us negotiate a purchase. With our building fund, we were able to make an offer that, as of 6:27 yesterday morning, was approved. There are, as always, contingencies and negotiations of details, but it looks like we finally have a permanent home.

The building is at 10485 Reading Road. Controlled access highways run close to the North, South, East, and West. We will be 2 minutes from I-75 and 8 minutes from I-71. Instead of Over-the-Rhine, we will be in Evendale. Instead of 28 years of snubs by the City of Cincinnati, Evendale is bending over backwards to help us.

We hope to have a purchase contract very soon, a closing by mid-November, and reopening of the existing museum on the 2nd floor by the end of this year – a very aggressive timeline. We hope to have sufficient funds to build a best-of-class museum on the 1st floor beginning January 2029.



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