Dear Survivors,

I hope you all enjoyed the holidays and made memories with your family and friends. Nobody understands the stress and anxiety holidays can bring to families who are missing a loved one better than your fellow survivors. As we begin 2019, please remember to lean on each other and reach out if you need to. Support is just a phone call away!

National Police Week is fast approaching. Invitations have been mailed and online registration is open. I encourage you to register through C.O.P.S. to help alleviate the extra stress that can come with traveling to a city you might not know. Washington, D.C., is a beautiful place with a lot to experience. However, National Police Week is busy with many ceremonies, memorials, conference sessions and special events. Registering with C.O.P.S. provides a more structured schedule, transportation to the main events, support services personnel and hotels where you will be surrounded by other survivors who "get it."

The 2019 Hands-On Programs will begin in April with the Co-Workers for Couples Retreat on April 5-8. Online registration for all programs is open at www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org. If you are new to C.O.P.S., please attend a retreat this year. National Police Week is going to be busy and can be very emotional, but the Hands-On Programs is where you get more one-on-one time with other survivors and counselors, in a relaxed setting, and have the opportunity to do fun activities that challenge you. All dates and locations for this year’s programs are on pages 15-21 of this magazine.

My hope for all of you is that C.O.P.S. is able to bring you just that; HOPE. Grief does not have a time limit and we want you to feel comfortable knowing we are here for you for as long as you need us, and comfortable getting involved at your own pace. One of the most common things we hear is “I wish I would’ve got involved sooner.”

I look forward to seeing you all at National Police Week or at some point throughout the year. Remember, we are always here for you but it is up to you to take the first step.

Cheryl Schultz
C.O.P.S. National President
In This Issue

2  President’s Message  22-23  Paint and Perspective
4  Board Member Contacts  24-27  National Police Week 2019
5  National Board Applications  28  Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
6-7  Chapter Contacts  30-31  National Conference Recap
8-11  News of Note  32-33  Scholarships
12-13  Chapter Chatter  34-36  Special Events
14  Traumas of Law Enforcement Trainings  37  Krawl’n for the Fallen

Mission Statement

Rebuilding shattered lives of survivors and co-workers affected by line-of-duty deaths.

Survivors can seek comfort from C.O.P.S. while awaiting a decision from the following determining agencies: The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Public Safety Officers’ Benefits (PSOB) Program, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) or Fraternal Order of Police (FOP).

Submission Information

Concerns of Police Survivors welcomes the submission of articles, trial updates, survivor news and memorials. Please know that all submissions will be considered, but may not be published. Inclusion of news articles or court documents makes the process much easier for C.O.P.S. When sending photos, please make sure they are high resolution (600KB or higher) or the original files. All submissions can be e-mailed to sara_slone@nationalcops.org with subject line “Newsletter Submission.”

Information for Our Readers

Throughout C.O.P.S. publications, you will find codes that tell how a person is related to an officer who has died in the line of duty. Here is a key for you:

W=Spouse; AC=Adult Child; C= Child; S=Sibling; M=Mother; F=Father; CW= Co-Worker; SM= Step-Mother; SF= Step-Father; SC=Step-Child; GM=Grandmother; GF=Grandfather; GC=Grandchild; FS=Former Spouse; FN=Fiancé; SO=Significant Other; F-IL=Father In-Law; M-IL=Mother In-Law; D-IL=Daughter In-Law; SN-IL=Son In-Law; SS-IL=Sister In-Law; B-IL=Brother In-Law; U=Uncle; A=Aunt; NC=Niece; NP=Nephew; CS=Cousin; FR=Friend
One of the most cherished and important ways to serve other survivors is by running for a Regional Trustee position on the C.O.P.S. National Board. Each trustee serves a one year term, for a maximum of four years. The National President serves a one-year term, for a maximum of two years. To find out more information, our National bylaws can be downloaded from www.concernsofpolicemembers.org/bylaws.

Any survivor seeking to serve on the National Board shall submit a completed application for nomination to the Chair of the Nominations/Election Committee, Brenda Donner (brenda_donner@nationalcops.org), no later than February 20th, 2019.

The application and criteria can be found on our website under the ‘Contact - National Board’ tab.
To enable the C.O.P.S. organization to provide peer support close to home, 55 C.O.P.S. Chapters are functioning and others are in the process of organizing. Below are state or regional chapters that are here to help you through the difficult times:

**Alabama C.O.P.S.**  
Cindy Hatcher-Warren, President  
cindyhwarren@yahoo.com  
(251) 604-0602  
www.alabamacops.org

**Alaska C.O.P.S.**  
Jason Whetsell, President  
akcopspresident@gmail.com  
(907) 317-5264

**Arizona C.O.P.S.**  
Marie Dryer-Kircher, President  
marie.dryer@copsarizona.org  
(602) 228-0643  
www.copsarizona.org

**Arkansas C.O.P.S.**  
Linda Craig, President  
lindasuecraig@gmail.com  
(501) 425-0645  
www.arkansascops.org

**California**  
**Central CAL C.O.P.S.**  
Ron Reid, President  
rreid@stanoes.com  
(209) 652-1837  
www.cencalcops.org

**Southern CAL C.O.P.S.**  
Barb McMurrich, President  
bmmcmurrich.socalcops@gmail.com  
(909) 315-2740  
www.socalcops.org

**Northern CAL C.O.P.S.**  
Susan Moody, President  
k27forever@gmail.com  
(707) 372-1604  
www.norcalcops.org

**Colorado C.O.P.S.**  
Sharon Byrne, President  
sharon.byrne2016@gmail.com  
(720) 253-5174  
www.coloradocops.org

**Connecticut - See New England C.O.P.S.**

**DC C.O.P.S.**  
Cindy Carter, President  
cindycarter911@hotmail.com  
(703) 618-2257  
www.dc-cops.org

**Delaware C.O.P.S.**  
Eleanor Allione, President  
troopersmom4cops@yahoo.com  
(302) 388-2657  
www.delawarecops.org

**Florida**

**Central FL C.O.P.S.**  
Virginia Ricks, President  
centralflcops@gmail.com  
(850) 445-2589  
www.centralfloridaacops.org

**Northeast FL C.O.P.S.**  
Charles Shinhofer, Director  
crshinhofer@hotmail.com  
(904) 771-1827

**South FL C.O.P.S.**  
Terry Miyares-Dias, Trustee  
tmiyares246@hotmail.com  
(786) 473-0483  
www.soflocops.com

**West Central FL C.O.P.S.**  
Stephanie Barnes, President  
sabarnes_01@verizon.net  
(727) 244-1078  
www.westcentralflcops.org

**Georgia C.O.P.S.**  
Roger Parker, Director  
ajollyroge@gmail.com  
(770) 354-8771  
www.gacops.org

**Iowa C.O.P.S.**  
Toni Galetich-Christofferson, Director  
toni@iowacops.org  
(515) 422-6252  
www.iowacops.org

**Idaho C.O.P.S.**  
Eric Anderson, President  
eric_anderson@idahocops.com  
(208) 261-3911  
www.idahocops.com

**Illinois C.O.P.S.**  
Terry Roderick, President  
troderick@ilcops.org  
(844) 245-1915  
www.ilcops.org

**Indiana C.O.P.S.**  
Cindy Winzenread, President  
cwinzenread@fop86.org  
(317) 402-2030  
www.indianacops.org

**Kansas C.O.P.S.**  
Linda Bohlender, President  
loblender@cox.net  
(785) 213-6463  
www.kscops.org

**Kentucky C.O.P.S.**  
Brandy Durman, President  
kentuckycops@gmail.com  
(859) 230-0986  
www.copskentucky.org

**Louisiana C.O.P.S.**  
Kim Stuckey, President  
kstuckeylacsops@gmail.com  
(225) 933-5191  
www.la-cops.org

**Maine - See New England C.O.P.S.**

**Maryland C.O.P.S.**  
Sue Nickerson, Director  
mikie@atlanticbb.net  
(410) 708-1334  
www.mdcops.org

**Massachusetts - See New England C.O.P.S.**

**Michigan C.O.P.S.**  
Andrea Arrington, President  
andreaarrington@att.net  
(586) 945-0882  
www.micops.org

**Minnesota C.O.P.S.**  
Jackie Bergeron, President  
info@mnacops.org  
(651) 295-2314  
www.mncops.org

**Mississippi C.O.P.S.**  
Caroline Turney, President  
carolinemsacops@gmail.com  
(662) 678-3192

**Missouri C.O.P.S.**  
Annette Jansen, President  
ajansen202@gmail.com  
(636) 299-3772  
www.mo-cops.org

Some of the most important work C.O.P.S. does is to help survivors apply for or check on the status of their benefits through the Public Safety Officers’ Benefits Program, as well as other available benefits. If you need assistance with your benefits, please contact Laurie Putnam, Director of Chapter & Survivor Support, at (573) 346-4911.
Montana C.O.P.S.
Joyce Kramer, President
jks44ster@gmail.com
(406) 855-8223
www.montanacops.org

Nebraska C.O.P.S.
Laurie Scott, President
lauriescott77@gmail.com
(402) 578-4039
www.nebraskacops.org

New England C.O.P.S.
Kim McCarthy, Past President
kimmccarthy1616@yahoo.com
(774) 306-2458
www.newenglandcops.org

New Hampshire - See New England C.O.P.S.

New Jersey
NJSP Survivors of the Triangle C.O.P.S.
Michelle Carroll, President
njpsptotcops@aol.com
(732) 208-2611
www.survivorsofthetriangle.org

Garden State C.O.P.S.
John Ciuppa, President
iggyjc@aol.com
(201) 960-5724
www.gardenstatecops.com

New Mexico C.O.P.S.
Krysia Baron, President
copsnewmexico@gmail.com
(505) 934-5677
www.newmexicocops.org

Nevada
Northern Nevada C.O.P.S.
Jennifer Grant-Blount, President
jgrantblount@yahoo.com
(209) 743-2812
www.norrthernnvncops.org

Southern Nevada C.O.P.S.
Stanley Jerlecki, President
snvcoops@gmail.com
(702) 875-3359
www.snvcoops.com

New York
Genesee Valley C.O.P.S.
Ellen Guerdat, Vice President
eellensguerdat@rochester.rr.com
(585) 957-3878
www.geneseevalley.org

Metro NY C.O.P.S.
Eileen Rafferty, President
eileen.rafferty@metronycops.org
(631) 365-1110
www.metronycops.org

Western NY C.O.P.S.
Jeanette Shields, President
cshields56@roadrunner.com
(716) 684-7028

North Carolina C.O.P.S.
Kimberly Murray, President
kimberly62murray@gmail.com
(252) 202-6184
www.nccops.com

Ohio C.O.P.S.
Jean Paris, President
tpr373@aol.com
(440) 865-9516
www.ohiocops.org

Oklahoma C.O.P.S.
Bruce Dees, President
brucedees@reagan.com
(405) 570-5374

Oregon C.O.P.S.
Jim Whitehead, Treasurer
counselor234@msn.com
(503) 465-8082
www.copsoregon.org

Pennsylvania C.O.P.S.
Kim Weigand, Director
kweigand4@verizon.net
(717) 259-6622
www.centralpacs.org

Rhode Island - See New England C.O.P.S.

Carolina C.O.P.S.
Linda Pope, President
bruceandlind256@gmail.com
(843) 521-7306
www.carolinacops.org

Tennessee
Middle and East TN C.O.P.S.
Jennifer Johnson, Treasurer
jenniferjohnson09@att.net
(931) 801-6025
www.middleandeasttncops.org

West TN C.O.P.S.
Andrea Woods, President
wtnconcernsofpolicesorvivors@gmail.com
(901) 412-5782

Texas
West TX C.O.P.S.
Tammy Avent, President
tammy.avent.westtexascops@gmail.com
(915) 920-8220

South Texas C.O.P.S.
Barbara Heckman-Sauer, President
steelercop21223@yahoo.com
(210) 370-7053
www.southtexascops.com

Greater Houston C.O.P.S.
Cheryl Railsback, President
cherylrailsback@yahoo.com
(832) 556-9760
www.greaterhoustoncops.org

Metroplex TX C.O.P.S.
Daniele Story-Stinson, President
danielle.story@metroplexcops.org
(817) 320-2544
www.metroplexcops.org

Utah C.O.P.S.
Max Morgan, President
max.utahcops@gmail.com
(801) 709-8111
www.utahcops.org

Vermont - See New England C.O.P.S.

Virginia C.O.P.S.
Shawn Godfrey, President
smgodfrey@hanovercounty.gov
(804) 305-1512
www.vacops.org

Washington State C.O.P.S.
Penny Brenton, President
info@washingtonstatecops.org
(425) 903-1004
www.washingtonstatecops.org

Wisconsin C.O.P.S.
JoAnn Mignon, President
joannmignon@wicops.org
(920) 875-0506
www.wecops.org

States without an active chapter:
Hawaii
North Dakota
South Dakota
West Virginia
Wyoming

Concerns of Police Survivors Chapters and Contacts
concernsofpolicesurvivors.org
Congratulations to **Greg and Krista Foerster** on the birth of their son, Lucas William, who was born October 2, 2018.

Krista is the surviving daughter of Groton City (CT) Police Officer William Snyder, EOW 1/16/1994. Lucas’s middle name is in honor of his grandfather.

Congratulations to **Daniel and Sara Slone** welcomed their second daughter, Charlie Mae, on September 23, 2018. Charlie weighed 6 lbs, 4 oz, and was 18.5 inches long.

Sara is the Director of Public Relations at the C.O.P.S. National Office in Camdenton, MO.

Congratulations to **Matthew and Kristy Hungerford** on the birth of their daughter, Raina, on December 3, 2018. Raina is the 18th great-grandchild of “Mr. C.O.P.S.”, Charles Shinholser.

Raina is the surviving great-niece of Jacksonville (FL) Sheriff’s Officer Charles “Ray” Shinholser, Jr., EOW 12/14/1988.

Congratulations to **Zachary and Kristin Kohlmeier** on the birth of their daughter, Casey Ann, who was born March 21, 2018.

Little Casey is named after her uncle, Pontiac (IL) Police Officer Casey Kohlmeier, EOW 10/30/2013.
Matthew and Samantha Greener welcomed their first child, Madelynn, on October 20, 2018. Little Madelynn weighed 8 lbs, 12 oz, and was 20 inches long.

Matthew is the surviving son of Fort Lee (NJ) Police Officer Kevin R. Greener, EOW 8/9/1999.

Congratulations goes to the Elliott-Gehle family as they celebrate two huge life events:

**Rhea Danae Elliott and Todd Johnson** were united in marriage on May 2, 2018, at the Villa Vignamaggio in Chianti, Italy. They reside in Columbus, Ohio.

Rhea is the daughter of Miami County, Ohio SO Sgt Robert (Bobby) Elliott EOW 02/25/87 and past C.O.P.S. national board member, Tammie Elliott-Gehle.

**Danielle LeeAnn Gehle** graduated with her Master’s Degree in Graduate Liberal Studies from Duke University on May 12, 2018, in Durham, NC. Danielle is the daughter of C.O.P.S. Past National Trustee, Tammie Elliott-Gehle and Dennis Gehle.

For her Master’s project and thesis, Danielle made a short film on survivors of traumatic brain injury. She is currently raising funds to turn the project into a feature film.

Never Let Them Walk Alone

Some departments go above and beyond for their blue family.

When Newark (NJ) Police Officer Melvin Lisojo was killed in the line of duty in 2003, he left behind three young children. The Newark Fraternal Order of Police remained close with the surviving family, ensuring they received gifts on holidays, birthdays and Officer Lisojo’s EOW.

In January of 2018, surviving daughter Ashley Lisojo, was about to graduate from Keiser University in Florida. She reached out to Newark FOP President James Stewart, Jr., to invite him to stand in for her father.

Detective Stewart booked his flight, put on his Class A uniform and stood by Ashley at her June 9th graduation. He greeted Ashley with a dozen roses; 11 white surrounding one blue to symbolize her father.
Congratulations to Kayla Armstrong Newmyer on her marriage to Brett Newmyer on March 31, 2018.

Kayla is the surviving daughter of Polk County (FL) Master Deputy Joseph Shane Robbins, EOW 4/26/2013.

Pictured left to right: Kayla’s sister Carlie, brother Jacob, Brett and Kayla, mother Alisa, sister Kara and sister Sophie.

Susan Cleaver Shea celebrated a beautiful nautical wedding to Salisbury University (MD) Sergeant Daniel Calhoun on June 30, 2018, at the Lewes Pier in Delaware. Susan’s children Christopher and Elizabeth stood by their mother as groomsman and junior bridesmaid, alongside Daniel's three children.

Susan and her children are the survivors of Delaware State Police Corporal Christopher M. Shea, EOW 7/18/2004.

Congratulations to Kaitlyn Huczko who graduated with her Masters in Teaching of English from Columbia College. Pictured is Kaitlyn with her mother Kathleen her husband, Brian Kirchner.

Kaitlyn is the surviving daughter of Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Officer Stephen Huczko, EOW 9/11/2001.

Kaitlyn credits her academic success to the C.O.P.S. scholarship program stating, “because of your financial help, I was able to dedicate myself fully to my studies and my student-teaching classrooms.”

Ashley Howey graduated from Baker University in December with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She has passed her boards to become a registered nurse and accepted a job in the Cardiothoracic Surgery ICU at the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City.

Ashley is the surviving daughter of Topeka (KS) Police Officer Jeff Howey, EOW 6/13/2000.

In Memoriam


Their mother, Deborah, is an active member of Georgia C.O.P.S. and regularly attends C.O.P.S. Parents Retreat.
Harry French: A True Friend of C.O.P.S.  
1926-2018

C.O.P.S. was deeply saddened to hear of the death of a true friend and supporter on December 7, 2018. Harry French, founder of Streamlight, Inc., died peacefully at the age of 92.

A native of Philadelphia, Harry’s determination and appetite for success began at a young age, graduating Valedictorian from Brown University with a Bachelor’s degree in Engineering, while also serving as Lieutenant in the Navy. He went on to receive his Master of Business Administration from Harvard University. Harry’s interests then led him into the financial field where he worked as an Investment Banker in Philadelphia. During this time, he discovered a struggling company which developed a handheld searchlight. This company became Streamlight Incorporated, founded in 1973 and is now in its 45th year.

In 1994, Harry assumed the title of Chairman and was on site and overseeing the company. At 92 years old, Harry drove to work every day and loved being at Streamlight and interacting with the people there.

C.O.P.S. Co-Founder Suzie Sawyer remembers Harry’s love for his people and said “That love continued down the line to his staff. The entire Streamlight staff has always been good to C.O.P.S.”

Harry had a gregarious personality, making friends everywhere he went. He valued the people in his life, including his many employees, and took responsibility to care for those less fortunate.

Harry enjoyed many hobbies, but above all, his greatest joy was his family. His son, Clayton, has attended numerous COPS Walk events to walk alongside survivors and hear their stories. Together, Harry and Clayton attended National Police Week over the years to meet with members of C.O.P.S., often times announcing large donations they wanted to give.

In 2017, Streamlight announced they were fully funding the C.O.P.S. Garden of Hope at the National Office. The garden serves as a place for survivors to visit, reflect and rebuild their sense of hope and healing. With Harry’s death, it will no doubt serve in part as a legacy of a man who truly supported survivors and cared deeply for the law enforcement community.

“Harry didn’t travel much, but one event that he always enjoyed attending was National Police Week. It gave him a chance to spend some time with some Streamlight employees in a different setting. It also was an opportunity to catch up with the staff from C.O.P.S. and some friends that we had gotten to know through the years.

At the end of the day, or when we returned to Streamlight, we would reflect and recall experiences from NPW. We were always moved when a family member or co-worker would take the time during that challenging and emotional week to personally stop us and thank us for Streamlight’s support of C.O.P.S. or tell us how important their loved one’s Streamlight flashlight was to them.”

-Clayton French

“Harry was a beloved friend of C.O.P.S. The life he lived was not only successful, it was selfless. He created quality products that made officer safety a priority and his dedication and support of law enforcement survivors was above and beyond. We will miss his smile, laughter, and genuine excitement for living life to the fullest. Our thoughts are with the entire French and Streamlight family.”

-Dianne Bernhard, C.O.P.S. Executive Director
Survivors in Montana gathered in early December for the annual Blue Light Ceremony at the Yellowstone Courthouse. Hailey Brown, 9, is pictured hanging an ornament in honor of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. Hailey is the surviving granddaughter of Blaine County Sheriff’s Deputy Josh Rutherford, EOW 5/29/2003.

Billings Police Department Chief Rich St. John and Yellowstone County Sheriff Mike Linder both spoke at the event. “Of all the law enforcement ceremonies, this is the most important of all. It is indeed a sad occasion but one that is beautiful as well. It is a dignified and solemn observance to honor Montana’s fallen and to support those who continue to serve,” St. John said before reading aloud the names of 32 Montana law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

The Alabama C.O.P.S. Chapter enjoyed meeting new survivors from the state, as well as reconnecting with those who have been members for many years, at their annual Christmas party on December 1st in Summerdale (AL).

We are told Santa Claus himself made an appearance and made sure every surviving child had a special gift!

Members of the Michigan C.O.P.S. Chapter were invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument in Lansing, Michigan on October 18th.

Survivors look forward to having a place in their own state dedicated to the sacrifice their loved ones made.
Congratulations to the DC C.O.P.S. Chapter on their 20th anniversary. In 1997, a group of law enforcement survivors gathered in the area after they all suffered tragic losses. They worked hard to form an official chapter and received their charter in November 1998.

Many of those same survivors gathered this past November to celebrate this milestone alongside longtime supporters and law enforcement partners. Your dedication and love for survivors in your area is beyond appreciated by those of the past, present and future.

The Northwest Florida C.O.P.S. Chapter was a recipient of the COPS ROCK event sponsored by Fudpucker’s in Destin, Florida, on September 22.

Fudpuckers invited law enforcement personnel and surviving families to enjoy a day of games, scavenger hunts, alligator photos, magic, music and food for free!

While there, the chapter was presented with a check from Chester Kroeger (Father Fud) and his employees for $1,795.50 from the sales of COPS ROCK T-shirts.
Traumas of Law Enforcement Training

Presented by C.O.P.S.

Dates & Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hershey, PA</td>
<td>February 4-6, 2019</td>
<td>January 10, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riverside, CA</td>
<td>March 4-6, 2019</td>
<td>February 16, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boise, ID</td>
<td>March 18-20, 2019</td>
<td>February 15, 2019</td>
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<td>Mustang, OK</td>
<td>April 1-3, 2019</td>
<td>March 15, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
<td>April 15-17, 2019</td>
<td>March 22, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brooklyn Park, MN</td>
<td>April 29-May 1, 2019</td>
<td>April 2, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>June 3-5, 2019</td>
<td>May 14, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Junction, CO</td>
<td>June 17-19, 2019</td>
<td>May 17, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>August 26-28, 2019</td>
<td>July 25, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Who Should Attend?

Law Enforcement Administrators, Officers and Deputies, Peer Support and Employee Assistance Personnel, Planning and Research, Chaplains, Survivors, and Law Enforcement Spouses

Curriculum

LODD Preparation, PSOB Benefits, Injured Officer & Disability Issues, Law Enforcement Research Findings, General Orders, Implementing Agency Liaisons, Peer Support, Surviving the Law Enforcement Career, Stress & Trauma issues, Survivor Support, Police Suicide, Funeral Planning & Protocol, C.O.P.S. Programs & Resources, and Personal Triumphs

Presenters

Presenters for this training include Survivors, Law Enforcement Officers, Counselors, and experts in the field of Law Enforcement Trauma and Police Suicide.

Peer Support

Peer Support will be on site and will be available for anyone who may be impacted by the discussion topics.
2019
Hands-On Programs

Online registration is now OPEN!
Hands-On Programs through C.O.P.S. are the heart of the organization. It is at these programs that survivors are able to connect with other survivors who can truly relate to the tragic experience each person has endured.

All families are different, but at the programs, you will find at least one person who is experiencing similar setbacks or dynamics. For example, a surviving spouse who lost their husband five years ago may hear “get over it” at home. They often feel like they have to suppress their feelings and not talk about their grief. That’s not the case at C.O.P.S. Spouses Retreat.

That’s not the case at any of the Hands-On Programs. Other survivors understand the struggles each of them go through. For those who prefer a private conversation, licensed mental health professionals are on site to not only lead helpful group sessions, but also provide one-on-one time for any survivor who needs it.

C.O.P.S. Hands-On Programs are intentionally located in remote areas away from the stress of every day life. Each location offers fun activities that challenge individuals to try something new. The supportive peer atmosphere helps to build relationships that will last a lifetime.

Whether you are new to C.O.P.S. or have been attending programs for many years, we hope you will register for your 2019 retreat and find a new sense of hope and healing.
Young Adults Camp
July 29- August 2, 2019

Fiancés & Significant Others Retreat
August 16-19, 2019
Siblings Retreat
September 6-9, 2019

Spouses Retreat
September 20-23, 2019
Co-Workers Retreat
October 4-7, 2019

Extended Family Retreat
October 11-14, 2019
The theme for this year’s Hands-On Programs is “Every Journey Begins With a First Step”, a theme chosen many years ago. It holds special meaning to the entire C.O.P.S. organization as we continue to promise C.O.P.S. will be here for survivors for as long as you need us, however, YOU must be the one to take that first step.

For many of you, National Police Week 2019 will be your opportunity to take that first step. There will be printed information available throughout the week, but please take advantage of getting to know other survivors that will surround you in Washington, D.C., on May 11-17th.

Those other survivors have walked in your shoes. They once believed that all hope was lost. They took that first step, 30 years ago for some, and have found hope again!

Preview videos and pictures are available at concernsofpolicesurvivors.org for you to get a better picture of what the programs have to offer. Please do not hesitate to call the C.O.P.S. National Office if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing you in 2019!
I was doing some research on a few artists one night, and I stumbled across an article about Van Gogh and yellow paint. The article claimed that Van Gogh ate yellow paint because the vibrant color would make him feel internally happy. I did some further research into this and I discovered this isn’t the real reason he ate paint. But, it was still an interesting idea I continued to think about.

While one does not need to (and certainly should not) eat yellow paint to find happiness, one can look for the good in life. When you focus on the good, its vibrance will be able to shine through any darkness. Now I’m fairly certain most of us don’t like the reason we have been brought together, but I’m honored to reflect on some yellow paint that has come from dark days.

C.O.P.S. has blessed me with a few shades of yellow. The first being a youth program in Utah, called Outward Bound®. Us surviving teens dropped our phones and all contact with the outside world to spend a week white-water rafting in the canyonlands. We slept in the sand with what seemed like a million mosquitoes, paddled our rafts from sunshine to sunset, and we had long hikes on long summer days. I’m not going to lie, it was tough, but the tough is what made it great.

Everything we did challenged me past what I thought were my limits. It taught me to depend on myself while simultaneously working with a team. While we worked hard to conquer the river, we still found time to be kids. We pushed each other off the rafts, we buried an instructor from the neck down, and we even turned a raft into a water slide.

The fact that we were able to goof off like that helped each of us remember that even though we needed...
to grow up a little faster than normal, we can still be the kids we are. That week was a chance to drop everything restraining us and to challenge ourselves to a new adventure.

The second yellow paint C.O.P.S. has blessed me with is Tin Star Outdoors, a hunting camp that conservation wardens put together for C.O.P.S. kids. Ever since I was little, I’ve wanted to go hunting, so I was beyond thrilled to start.

There I shot clay pigeons until dusk and I have had various hunts including waterfowls, geese, pheasants, deer, and my personal favorite, turkey. But the hunts don’t stop there. After the camp week is over, the mentors have reached out to me to continue going on hunts during the winter and spring seasons.

I have been with Tin Star for the last three years. This year they asked me to come back, not as a camper, but as a mentor.

Both Tin Star and Outward Bound® have taught me new skills and challenged my limits so I could become a better leader. I would have never received this yellow paint in my life if the C.O.P.S. organization did not exist to give each and every one of our lives a little more yellow paint.

So as I’ve said before, our reason for being here isn’t ideal, but I couldn’t help but notice all of the yellow paint that has been added to my life’s masterpiece. And through life’s black paint, I’ve learned the ability to divide the blend of colors and focus on the yellow paint within the black.

C.O.P.S. Receives Four Stars for 7th Consecutive Year!

C.O.P.S. has earned a Four Star rating through the charity evaluation site “Charity Navigator” again for 2018, highlighting the financial transparency of the organization as a key factor.

C.O.P.S. received a score of 92.2 (out of 100) and reports that it only costs .04 to raise $1.00, an excellent amount for fundraising efficiency that shows donated money goes where it’s supposed to; survivors.

Timothy Greener, surviving son of Fort Lee (NJ) Police Officer Kevin R. Greener, EOW 8/9/1999, was named “Officer of the Month” at Charlotte Correctional Institution in Punta Gorda (FL) for performing life-saving measures on an inmate at the facility.

Tim plans to switch from corrections to law enforcement and follow in his father’s footsteps in the near future. Great work, Tim!
National Police Week 2019

Event Breakdown

National Police Week is held each year in May on the week surrounding May 15, National Peace Officers’ Memorial Day. Families of officers being honored in 2019 will gather in Washington, D.C., at events throughout the dates of May 11-17th. Below is an event breakdown to better prepare you if you plan to attend.

**National Police Week Check-In**
May 11 (3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)
May 12 (10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.)
May 13 (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

Orientation sessions for first-time survivors will be scheduled throughout check-in times at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. **There will be no on-site registration for returning survivors.**

**Law Enforcement United “Road to Hope” Arrival Ceremony**
May 12 (12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
LEU’s Flag Presentation to 2018 Survivors will be held at the ceremony. Busing will be provided from the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center.

**31st Annual Candlelight Vigil**
May 13 (8:00 p.m.)
National Mall between 4th and 7th Streets, NW.

**National Police Survivors’ Conference (DAY 1)**
May 14 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center
The 38th Annual National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service
May 15 (11:00 a.m.)
West Front Lawn of the United States Capitol Building

National Police Survivors’ Conference (DAY 2)
May 16 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

Picnic on the Patio
May 16 (6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)
Hilton Alexandria Mark Center Hotel

C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens Activities
(Must attend both days of program)
C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens Activities are available for surviving children, step-children and siblings (ages K-12) of the fallen officer. Activities will be held Tuesday, May 14, and Thursday, May 16, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. while adults are attending the National Police Survivors’ Conference.

Day Care is also available during the National Police Survivors’ Conference for surviving children, step-children and siblings (infant through pre-school) of the fallen officer.

If you are registered through C.O.P.S., shuttles between C.O.P.S. National Police Week hotels will be available to the above events.

Need a preview of the week?
C.O.P.S. has created preview videos to help prepare you for National Police Week. There is a version for surviving family members, and a version for law enforcement. These videos discuss transportation, registration/check-in, event details, and more information to help answer any questions and concerns you may have.

Follow this link to the videos:
www.concernsofpolicessurvivors.org/previewvideos

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE AT CONCERNSOFPOLICESSURVIVORS.ORG.
You are invited to the 2nd Annual

Blue Honor Gala

Celebrating the 35th anniversary of C.O.P.S. and the 10th anniversary of Law Enforcement United

Tuesday, May 14th
at 7:00 PM

Hyatt Regency Crystal City
2799 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202

Blue or black formal/semi-formal attire is expected, as a tribute to our fallen heroes. Uniforms are acceptable.

$125 per ticket/$1,100 per table of 10
Seating is limited.

To reserve a table or purchase tickets, please register online at concernsofpolicesurvivors.org. For questions, call the C.O.P.S. Development Office at 573-346-4911.

Special return appearance by multi-platinum selling country music star, Mark Wills!
(Sponsored by Streamlight, Inc.)
While family members and co-workers of those fallen officers converge on Washington, D.C., for National Police Week (NPW), there are a number of people traveling in who have a very different mission. These people are the clinicians, counselors, chaplains and peer support personnel that make up Support Services at NPW. Support Services exists to help those attending NPW with the mental, emotional, spiritual and physical hurdles of honoring their fallen officer(s).

The family members, friends and co-workers of those officers who have died in the line of duty coming to NPW will be attempting to navigate a tremendously painful path of grieving their loved one while dealing with the multitude of emotions that are so difficult. The Support Services staff are there to help during this difficult time.

Jack Harris, a frequent counselor to NPW, states, “Support Services is a group of people who care enough to help their brothers and sisters navigate waters that no one should ever have to travel through.”

While attending NPW, many people just need a listening ear or someone standing beside them for a few minutes or maybe a session with a counselor who has experience in dealing with line-of-duty death or possibly assistance in handling difficult family situations.

Susan Green, surviving spouse of Oklahoma Highway Patrol Captain George Green, EOW 10/26/2010, says, “I recommend Support Services because they can help you understand what you are feeling and help you deal with the grief.” Susan added, “They also give clear ideas on how to deal with the trauma of the loss and with family dynamics.”

There is not a “how-to” manual on how to work through the loss of a friend, family member or co-worker. The Support Services staff are ready and available to do just that; support you as you attend the emotional week that is NPW.

“Support Services at NPW are wonderful, caring, compassionate people that really do understand how to deal with the stress, anger, sadness, heartache and other emotions that come with experiencing a line-of-duty loss. I have used their services to help me through one of the darkest times in my life. Now, as a returning survivor in a much better place in my life, I help others seek out their services and recommend them to anyone that may need a little, or like me, a lot of help. Their knowledge and expertise have made such a positive difference in countless lives.”

- Nathan Haupert, Surviving Co-Worker of Rockwell City (IA) Officer Jamie Buenting, EOW 9/13/2013

Support Services is located in the lower foyer of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center during NPW. When you check-in at registration, you will receive an agenda booklet with available times, phone number and details for the week.
The newest endeavor for Law Enforcement Appreciation Day was to roll out the National Blue Blood Drive! C.O.P.S. partnered with the American Red Cross to promote blood drives all across the nation for the month of January, encouraging communities to give blood in honor of law enforcement.

Over 60 locations participated with the planning carried out by C.O.P.S. chapters!

If you would like to plan a drive in your area for January 2020, please contact the C.O.P.S. National Office at (573) 346-4911.

Thank you to all law enforcement officers across our great nation! We appreciate you and the sacrifices you make every day do not go unnoticed.

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Proceeds from your COPS SHOP purchase go towards healing programs and trainings for America’s surviving law enforcement families and co-workers.

Custom Engraved Tumbler

Bracelets too!

Add your officer’s name, EOW and Department.
The 2018 National Conference on Law Enforcement Wellness & Trauma made the move to the Chicago suburb of Oak Brook, Illinois, this year. Attendance at the conference saw an increase from previous years bringing out over 500 people from 45 states, the United Kingdom and Canada!

We hope everyone who attended utilizes the valuable information presented in the sessions to help their departments bring the wellness of their officers to the forefront. If questions remain or more information is needed, please feel free to reach out to the C.O.P.S. Programs Department or any of the presenters from this year’s conference.

The dates for 2019 have been set for November 8-10 and we will return to Oak Brook!

The inaugural Climbing for C.O.P.S. event was a success for the pre-event of the National Conference on Law Enforcement Wellness & Trauma this year.

Participants came out to race up and down 10 flights of stairs, 10 times! Over $5,000 was raised!

Thank you to the sponsors of this event!
Falco’s Pizza
Edward Jones
Wyoming Association Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police
Gary Barnes Re-Max
The Barnes Family
In Memory of Mark Toney and Rodney Miller

*In-Kind donations were made by: M&M Mars, Brookhaven Marketplace, Justice Federal Credit Union, Roselle, and Burr Ridge Police Department*

George Patterson III set the record for the first climb with his first place finish!
Attendees were excited to listen to several special guests including musician Dave Bray and Mike the Cop!

Bray is known for his patriotic entertainment and his song “Last Call” which is a tribute to fallen officers.

Mike the Cop is no stranger to the law enforcement community. He maintains a popular social media presence through his videos and posts showing the satire and “lighter side” of the profession.

C.O.P.S. appreciates both of these guests being a part of the 2018 National Conference and adding special moments for all who attended.
Georgia Androy is a student at Iowa State University, completing her degree in Animal Science. Georgia is the daughter of Deputy Gilbert Androy, EOW 10/15/1997.

Nathalie Caballero-Barjam is a student at Puerto Rico University, completing her degree in general studies. Nathalie is the daughter of Agent Ernesto Caballero-Vega, EOW 4/5/1997.

Nicholas Chapin is a student at University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, completing his degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology. Nicholas is the son of Sergeant James Chapin, EOW 4/2/2011.

Tyler Clardy is a student at University of Massachusetts - Amherst, completing his degree in English and Education. Tyler is the son of Trooper Thomas Clardy, EOW 3/16/2016.

Courtney Diebold is a student at University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa, completing her Pre-Med Studies. Courtney is the daughter of Deputy Constable Mark Diebold, EOW 9/7/2017.

Heather Dodson-Smith is a student at University of North Texas, completing her degree in Library Science. Heather is the spouse of Sergeant Dominique Smith, EOW 1/20/2009.

Keahi Favela is a student at Chapman University, completing his degree in Health Science. Keahi is the son of Police Officer Steve Favela, EOW 11/26/2006.

Melanie Fontanez-Rivera is a student at Universidad Del Turabo, completing her degree in Nursing. Melanie is the daughter of Agent Jose Fontanez-Correa, EOW 5/23/2007.

Caitlin Forgione is a student at University of Kansas, completing her degree in Theatre. Caitlin is the daughter of Deputy Anthony Forgione, EOW 7/22/2008.

Marlise Greene is a student at Wilkes Community College, completing her degree in Nursing. Marlise is the daughter of Master Police Officer John Knapp, EOW 3/4/1999.

Cydni Holloway is a student at Emory University, completing her degree in Finance. Cydni is the daughter of Officer Daryle Holloway, EOW 6/20/2015.

Hayly Johnson is a student at Idaho State University, completing her degree in Nursing. Hayly is the daughter of Sergeant P. Scott Johnson, EOW 5/1/2014.

Gabrielle Leon is a student at Cleveland State University, completing her Masters in Social Work. Gabrielle is the daughter of Officer Wayne Leon, EOW 6/25/2000.

Carolina Martinez is a student at California State University, completing her Graduate Program in Counseling & Guidance. Carolina is the daughter of Officer Saul Martinez, EOW 5/15/1997.

Jacob Martinez is a student at Sam Houston State University, completing his Criminal Justice/Criminology degree. Jacob is the son of Sergeant Alejandro Martinez, EOW 11/21/2014.

Myareoh Martinez is a student at University Texas A&M Kingsville, completing her degree in Science and Pre Physical Therapy. Myareoh is the daughter of Sergeant Alejandro Martinez, EOW 11/21/2014.

Emily Massey is a student at Loyola Marymount University, completing her degree in History. Emily is the daughter of Lieutenant Curtis Massey, EOW 1/28/2009.

Alannah McMaster-Rudduck is a student at Augusta University, completing her degree in Business Finance and Dental Hygiene. Alannah is the daughter of Reserve Officer Robert McMaster, EOW 3/9/1996.
Spring Scholarship Recipients

Celina Miera is a student at New Mexico Highlands University, completing her degree in Clinical Social Work. Celina is the daughter of Deputy Sheriff Dean Miera, EOW 10/29/2010.

Trystan Mohamed is a student at New York University, completing his degree in American Studies. Trystan is the son of Lieutenant Brian Mohamed, EOW 3/25/2009.

Tyler Orr is a student at Brigham Young University, completing his degree in Microbiology and French. Tyler is the son of Detective Corporal Kevin Orr, EOW 11/22/2006.

Sydni Owens is a student at Clark Atlanta University, completing her degree in Media Arts and Journalism. Sydni is the daughter of Officer Derek Owens, EOW 3/1/2008.

Caroline Parry is a student at Loyola University of Maryland, completing her degree in School Counseling. Caroline is the daughter of Sergeant Mark Parry, EOW 1/21/2002.

Nashaly Rivera-Crespo is a student at University of Puerto Rico, completing her degree in Human Resources. Nashaly is the daughter of Agent Carlos Rivera-Vega, EOW 1/21/2014.

Jorge Sanchez is a student at Fisher College, completing his degree in Biology. Jorge is the son of Agent Jorge Sanchez-Santiago, EOW 8/15/2009.

Saurelis Sanchez is a student at Universidad del Este, completing her degree in Sonography. Saurelis is the daughter of Agent Jorge Sanchez-Santiago, EOW 8/15/2009.

Michell Sanchez-Perez is a student at University of Puerto Rico-Carolina, completing her degree in Nursing. Michell is the daughter of Agent Miguel Sanchez-Febo, EOW 1/11/2002.

Payton Selby is a student at Mississippi State University, completing her degree in Marketing and Business. Payton is the daughter of Deputy George Selby, EOW 12/4/2002.

Taylor Selby is a student at Mississippi State University, completing her degree in Biomedical Engineering. Taylor is the daughter of Deputy George Selby, EOW 12/4/2002.

Ranisha Stephens is a student at University of the Virgin Islands, completing her degree in Accounting and Business Administration. Ranisha is the daughter of Deputy Marshall Randy Stephens, EOW 2/16/1998.

Amanda Stuart is a student at Stony Brook University, completing her degree in General Studies. Amanda is the daughter of Officer Walwyn Stuart, EOW 9/11/2001.

Savannah Uhl is a student at University of Arizona, completing her degree in Pre-Veterinarian Sciences. Savannah is the daughter of Rotary Wing Pilot Matthew Uhl, EOW 9/20/2011.

Stephanie Vidal-Echevarria is a student at University of Turabo, completing her degree in Psychology. Stephanie is the daughter of Police Sergeant Nikolai Vidal-Perez, EOW 10/16/2004.

Anthony Walker II is a student at Haverford College, completing his degree in Physics and Engineering. Anthony is the son of Sergeant Anthony Walker, EOW 11/15/2003.

Deadline Dates for Scholarship Applications are as follows:

Summer Semester - April 1
Fall Semester- June 1
Winter/Spring Semesters - October 1

APPLY ONLINE at concernsofpolicesurvivors.org!

C.O.P.S. scholarships are awarded to surviving children and spouses of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty, who wish to pursue a course of study beyond high school. Recipients are determined by an independent scholarship committee. Scholarships are not awarded to survivors who are entitled to a tuition-free education as a state death benefit.
COPS Walk Midwest brings together survivors, friends, and law enforcement to walk 25 miles in two (2) days to honor fallen officers.

All proceeds from this event help fund operations that allow C.O.P.S. to continue its mission to help rebuild shattered lives of America’s law enforcement survivors.

Registration: Click the special events tab located on the C.O.P.S. home page. Choose COPS Walk Midwest where you will find a registration link.

Registration Deadline: May 10th, 2019

To volunteer or for more information, contact Lori Matthes at 573-346-4911 or lori_matthes@nationalcops.org

COPS Walk Southwest is being held February 15-17, 2019, in Buckeye, AZ, along the Verrado Trail. If you are interested in being a late participant, please contact the C.O.P.S. National Office at (573) 346-4911.
October 11-13, 2019
Along the C&O Canal
in Harpers Ferry, WV!

Join C.O.P.S. in celebrating 15 YEARS of the original COPS Walk!
Save the Dates!

C.O.P.S. 13th Annual National Golf Tournament
Sunday, August 4th, 2019, in Camdenton, MO

5th Annual C.O.P.S. Classic
Wednesday, September 25th, 2019
Camdenton, MO
**Krawl’n for the Fallen Raises $105,000 for C.O.P.S.!**

For the fourth year in a row, Krawl’n for the Fallen saw a huge turnout at their annual off-road event over Veterans Day weekend. Over 100 survivors joined 2,000 spectators as over 869 Jeeps drove the trails of the Jeep Ranch in Wildwood, Florida.

Event organizer Chrissy Johnson said, “From the smiles to the tears every minute was worth it.”

This event is organized by Off Road United, a non profit with the mission to aid families of first responders, shape strong municipal alliances, empower youth and bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community.

Chrissy shared she spoke with a law enforcement officer’s wife at the event who said “For the first time in a long time my husband was able to just be himself and not an officer while he was there. He didn’t have to have his head on a swivel and he felt comfortable being there.”

The fifth annual Krawl’n for the Fallen is scheduled for November 8-10, 2019. For more information, visit [www.offroadunitedfoundation.com](http://www.offroadunitedfoundation.com).
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<tr>
<td>Trevor Holmes, WI</td>
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<td>Brian Shannon, DE</td>
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<td>Martin Ryan, OH</td>
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<td>Sean Griffin, MD</td>
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<td>Richard Farrington, TX</td>
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<td>Joel Gabbie, MI</td>
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<td>Dan Abrams, NY</td>
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<td>The Cucci Family Fdtn, DE</td>
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<td>Blue Knights International</td>
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<td>FOP Reading Lodge #9, PA</td>
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<td>The Art Laboe Fdtn, Inc., CA</td>
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<td>Missouri C.O.P.S.</td>
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<td>NJSP Survivors of the Triangle C.O.P.S.</td>
<td>$1,947.41</td>
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<td>South FL C.O.P.S.</td>
<td>$1,930.11</td>
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<td>Moon Joggers, GA</td>
<td>$1,822.06</td>
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<td>Carolina C.O.P.S.</td>
<td>$1,800.00</td>
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Total Donations: $6,025,895.94
Joshua Estes, TX

DuPage County Sheriff's Office

Elizabeth McNeely, VA

State Troopers Superior Officers Assn, NJ

Sea Glass Fine Art Photography, ME

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Springfield Armory, IL

Red Warden, FL

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South Elgin Police Dept, IL

Western Colorado Drag Racing Assn. Inc.

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Scholastic National Service Org, MO

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Paul Durst, SC

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SD Racing LLC, SC

Osage National Golf Holdings, MO

Kam Flynn, VA

Central FL C.O.P.S.

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