



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE //

// JOE ADAMS, PRESIDENT

Welcome, Brothers and Sisters, to another edition of the *FOP Journal* Michigan edition. This year, 2017, is a very different year for the Michigan Fraternal Order of Police. With some previous bylaw changes, this is the first year that we do not have a State Conference; instead, we have a mid-year Summer Board meeting on July 31 in Muskegon. We also do not have elections this summer for your State Board, as terms are now two years. But, as you read this, your office staff of Katie and Mary, Director Dave Hiller and your Executive Board have just finished moving our offices from the Boji Tower in Downtown Lansing to a one-story

office complex located in Okemos, about eight minutes from the Capitol. Although the Boji office had a great view of the Capitol, it was no longer practical. Our rent was set to double and, with increased parking costs and the cost of operations in a downtown environment, we began looking for more cost-effective alternatives. Director Hiller found several locations and presented them to the Board back in February. The Board selected the location, and VP Sauger, Mary, Katie and I all toured the location before the lease was signed. The building not only offers better amenities but is larger, newer and more suited for our operations. We are also located in the same building as the



As of July 1, the MI FOP is located at 3474 Alaiendon Parkway, Suite #500, Okemos, Michigan, 48864.

MEA and the Michigan Chiefs of Police, so the focus on public-sector labor employees is spread throughout the building. Please make sure that you update all of your mailings to our new office as of July 1. **MI FOP**



MICHIGAN FOP LABOR COUNCIL

WELCOME TO THE FOP FAMILY //

// DAVID WILLIS, LABOR COUNCIL CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

I am happy to report that this year started off like last year ended, with new departments joining the Labor Council. I would like to welcome to the FOP family Sumpter Township officers, City of Lincoln Park officers, City of Farmington Hills dispatchers and the executive command of Oceana County Sheriff's Office. The Labor Council has been busy all over the state and has been meeting with several other groups wanting to join the fraternity.

I would like to welcome the FOPLC's newest business agent and Legal Defense Plan coordinator. JL Sumpter has been hired as a business agent for the Northern Michigan area. JL is a retired detective sergeant from the Emmet County Sheriff's Office. JL holds a Master of Science in criminal justice—public administration from Michigan State and is a past adjunct professor in criminal investigations at North Central Michigan College as well as a columnist for *Law and Order* magazine.

JL has a wealth of knowledge in labor, extensive resume in training, and many accomplishments throughout his career.

Claudine Pfeilstucker has been hired as a Legal Defense Plan coordinator. Claudine is a retired senior administrative secretary from the Macomb County Sheriff's Office. She holds a degree in accounting and brings years of experience to the table. Please welcome them both to the Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council. **MI FOP**



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE //

//DAVE HILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Since February, the Governor's Task Force on Responsible Retirement Reform has been meeting to focus on pension and retiree health care reform. This task force was created out of the lame-duck pressure that was applied by the membership back in December. The task force is made up of 20 members from various industries; however, the FOP is very well represented. I was appointed to represent the FOP, but our own State vice president, Mike Sauger, was appointed to represent MAPO. Together, we have worked with our labor director, Dave Willis. This task force had a daunting task of creating legislation that would protect the retirees, not hinder current employees and certainly not cause any bigger recruiting problems for the future. At the time

of this printing, the task force is still meeting; however, we are winding down to our last meeting. I can't predict where things will be when you read this, so please make sure that you are a registered member of our website with a valid email address. We send out updates on all important legislative issues and, as Brother West reported, the grassroots efforts are very important. The first step in that is communication with the members. We will continue to work hard for you in Lansing and Washington.

The second issue that we have been working hard on for several years is the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. I currently represent the Michigan

FOP on the state committee. This has been the major project that the Michigan FOP has supported from the beginning. Each year, our golf outing proceeds as well as additional fundraising go directly to the memorial. Recently, Delta Dental donated \$100,000 to the memorial, in addition to the other local groups that are contributing. We hired a PR firm to develop a video that will help in soliciting funds and raising awareness. The video can be seen at www.mifop.com/memorial. You can also make donations to the memorial by mailing them to our office: Michigan FOP, Re: Memorial, 3474 Alaiedon Parkway, Suite 500, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or online at www.mifop.com/donation. **MI FOP**



NATIONAL TRUSTEE UPDATE //

//HAROLD WEST, NATIONAL TRUSTEE

Here is a recap of issues and concerns discussed at the Spring 2017 National Board of Trustees and State Presidents Meeting held in Peoria, Illinois, March 30 through April 1. A variety of issues were discussed. A motion was made and passed to dedicate the Board meeting to the memory of Texas State President Ken Starrs, who was killed in a tragic car and train accident in November last year.

President Canterbury is calling for a grassroots effort to stop a national "right to work" bill that was introduced in the new Congress. The FOP is asking each State Lodge to contact their member of Congress and ask them to not support HR 785, the National Right-to-Work Act. This

is essentially the same bill as the one that was introduced in the last Congress. The difference this time is that the president is of the same party as those who introduced the bill. The outcome is uncertain at this time, and your help is needed. The National FOP membership currently stands at 332,129, so let's make our voices heard.

There were 144 line-of-duty deaths in 2016, and of that number, 63 were killed by gunfire. The New York State trustee reported 67 officers have died due to the 9/11 cleanup and that it is expected this number will increase substantially over the coming years. The deaths resulting from the 9/11 cleanup will be considered line-of-duty, and their names will be placed on the Memorial Wall. It has been agreed upon that officers killed in the line of duty together will have their names placed on the Memorial Wall

together, as long as their families are in agreement.

National Vice President Jay McDonald provided information regarding an Ohio college that allows FOP members to attend at no cost. There are no out-of-pocket expenses, so it is totally free. For more information, contact National Vice President Jay McDonald or our own vice president, Mike Sauger, who is currently attending.

There was discussion on the floor about waiving the 10% late fee for per capita dues, which stemmed from the FOP's website being hacked in January 2016. A motion was made and passed, and the fee will be temporarily waived.

There was discussion on the floor about providing the *Peace Officer* magazine in both electronic and print copy formats. The motion was made and passed, and the magazine will be delivered in both versions. **MI FOP**



HONORING, REMEMBERING AND SERVING //

//DEBBIE SWOFFORD, STATE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT AND NATIONAL AUXILIARY TRUSTEE

During the month of May, we come together as a law enforcement family to memorialize the fallen, remember the survivors and support those who still serve and protect. From our neighborhoods to the capitols of our states and nation, we gather to fulfill our promise to never forget. Michigan is no exception to this tradition. On Monday, May 1, our state chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors (MI-C.O.P.S.) held the 24th Annual Peace Officers Memorial Service. With less than favorable weather conditions, the ceremony took place inside the rotunda of the Michigan State Capitol Building. Uniformed officers, department and agency representatives, family members, friends and supporters gathered to honor and remember

12 fallen heroes of Michigan. The Michigan Fraternal Order of Police and Auxiliary are proud to continue to support, volunteer and participate in this event.

The State Auxiliary continues to be on call to assist in serving the needs of our state and local parent lodges. We ask that you and your membership seriously consider and discuss adding an auxiliary to your lodge. Organize and charter your family members to assist with your lodge's needs. Along with the growth in our membership, our ability to assist and serve you increases. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or are in need of our help with anything. I can be reached on

my cellphone at (586) 214-3056 or via email at magenta810@comcast.net. **MI FOP**



35TH ANNUAL SUPER RAFFLE //

The tickets for the 2018 Michigan Super Raffle are available to lodges now. The drawings will begin on January 25, 2018. The prize structure remains the same for the 2018 raffle, with 365 daily drawings of \$25, 12 monthly drawings of \$200, grand prize of \$20,000, second prize of \$3,000, third prize of \$2,000, fourth prize of \$1,500 and fifth prize of \$1,000. Each lodge earns a portion of the ticket sales, depending on how many tickets your lodge sells. To order your tickets, contact our office at (517) 367-8000 or visit www.mifop.com for the order form. **MI FOP**

\$20 Per Ticket

35TH No. 0001
ANNUAL
Raffle

STATE LODGE OF MICHIGAN FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

Grand Prize
\$20,000

2nd Place – \$3,000
3rd Place – \$2,000
4th Place – \$1,500
5th Place – \$1,000
365 Daily – \$25 prizes
12 Monthly – \$200 prizes

MID-YEAR SUMMER BOARD MEETING: MONDAY, JULY 31, 2017 //

As requested by our membership, we are moving the 2017 Summer Board meeting to a weekday. The Board meeting will be held Monday, July 31, 2017, at the Holiday Inn Muskegon Harbor, 939 Third Street, Muskegon, Michigan, (231) 722-0100. Charles D. Hammond Lodge #99 is hosting a special hospitality event at their lodge just north of Muskegon on beautiful Twin Lake on Sunday, July 30. Lodge #99 is sponsoring transportation to and from the hospitality event and the hotel. The event includes steak or chicken dinner with all the fixings and complimentary drinks, and is for registered delegates and their guests. Lodge #99 encourages you to come early to check out all that Muskegon has to offer. Go to www.visitmuskegon.org for all the info. If you have questions for Lodge #99, call (231) 335-3220 or email harris7251@gmail.com. Lodge presidents and secretaries have received the registration information. If you have not yet registered, visit www.mifop.com for further details. **MI FOP**

MICHIGAN LEGAL DEFENSE PLAN //

The FOP Labor Council is proud to offer the Legal Defense Plan (LDP), designed specifically to meet the needs of our members. It is available to all law enforcement officers, corrections officers, public safety officers and public safety dispatchers, and offers all of these advantages to our members:

- **Enhanced coverage:** Criminal legal defense coverage is tied to the date of the **actual incident** leading to the member's request for services.
- **Pre-charge and pre-indictment consultation:** FOP LDP members now have up to three hours of paid legal fees for attorney consultation before even being charged.
- **No restrictions on attorneys:** The Michigan FOP LDP has eliminated all network requirements for legal representation. Each member can choose the specific attorney for those times when competent representation is critical.
- **Three coverage options:** You and the attorney can choose between a regular **hourly payment**



plan, a **hybrid** plan where the attorney charges higher rates or, in some circumstances, a **flat fee** arrangement.

- **Statewide transparency:** Unlike some associations that simply **claim** to have a Legal Defense Plan, all Michigan FOP LDP materials are posted on the website of the Fraternal Order of Police State Lodge under the "Labor" tab at www.mifop.com.
- **A members-only plan for FOP Labor Council members:** The Michigan FOP LDP is only available to its collective bargaining units across the state through their monthly union dues. The entire bargaining unit is automatically enrolled in the Legal Defense Plan; there are no individual policies that add more administrative costs. **The plan is included as a part of your monthly union dues automatically.** There are no added or hidden monthly charges. There is only collective strength through unity with the FOP Labor Council.

Visit www.mifop.com for complete details. **MI FOP**



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Did you miss the last state edition?

Archived copies of the *FOP Journal* Michigan special section are available on our website at www.mifop.com. By registering for an account, you will automatically be registered for our newsletters and email updates.

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