



VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE //

// MIKE SAUGER, VICE PRESIDENT

Welcome to another issue of the *FOP Journal*. As the editor of the Michigan insert, I spend quite a bit of time working on each issue. If your lodge has anything they would like to see in the *Journal*, please pass it along. We've had great reviews of this insert, and we've just completed the contract to keep it in the magazine for at least the next two years.

Back in January, I took the oath of office as president of the Christopher M. Wouters Lodge #124. For my lodge, it's been a very difficult 18-month period. It began with a massive flood bringing over six feet of sewage into our lodge basement. Our basement houses all our lodge offices, including files, storage and the boardroom. We lost everything. The good news: We had a rider that covered damages. The bad news: It didn't even cover 20% of the actual costs. A few months after this, we lost Brother Sommers. Most of you know Kevin as a past State president and National trustee for Michigan, but you may not know that Kevin had held every position in our lodge, and upon his tragic death, he was our parliamentarian, retiree-at-large and chairman of several committees.

How did we recover? In response to the flood and the loss, our members came together. Whether wielding shovels and hammers or carrying the torch

on a committee, the brothers and sisters of Christopher M. Wouters Lodge #124, in the most difficult times our lodge has faced, stepped up and showed that we are a family, and that together we can achieve anything. And it wasn't just Lodge #124 members. We received help on the flood cleanup from several other lodges. For Kevin's funeral, we hosted brothers and sisters from around the state and around the country.

As Lodge #124 celebrates our 60th anniversary this year, I wanted to share this story. Each lodge faces adversity at times. Sometimes the easy thing to do is to give up and walk away, but that doesn't always make it the right thing to do. The FOP is a family. We must stick together and work together. If your lodge is facing adversity, reach out — you never know where help may come from. **MI FOP**

LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR WAYNE SCHMIDT //



MI FOP Treasurer Ken Willis, Vice President Mike Sauger, President Joe Adams, Executive Director Dave Hiller and Labor Director Dave Willis presented Senator Wayne Schmidt with the State Lodge's 2016 Legislator of the Year Award.



MICHIGAN FOP LABOR COUNCIL

WHAT TO DO WHEN A CRITICAL INCIDENT OCCURS //

// DAVID WILLIS, LABOR COUNCIL CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

When a critical incident occurs, be sure to stabilize the scene — take custody of violent offenders if needed. Check the officer(s) involved: Are there injuries? What is their mental state? Is there a “thousand-yard stare” or an unusually quiet response, or are they hyper-talkative? Stabilize the officer. Most important: Reassure them that help is coming. **Do not** ask any officer who was directly involved in the incident “What happened?” Try to get the involved

officer(s) to a place of quiet, away from the incident and from the public — **do not** allow bystanders to begin to question or harangue them! Summon medical assistance as needed. Notify your command staff, if dispatch has not already done so. Call your department steward, if you are not the current steward. If the steward is also involved in the incident, treat the steward as you would all other officers who are involved. Call the FOPLC 24/7 contact phone number and stay on the line until the operator patches you in to an FOPLC representative and/or attorney.

That’s how we are different: We don’t call you back; you will be connected directly to the FOPLC representative, FOPLC attorney or both.

It is because of this focus that in every edition we can report new groups joining us. We currently have groups from every corner of the state. I would like to welcome our newest groups to the FOP family: the Cass County Sheriff’s Office Deputies and Dispatchers unit and Corrections Officers unit.

If you want more information on what the FOPLC can do for your group, contact us today. **MI FOP**

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

// BRIAN HARRIS, CHARLES D. HAMMOND LODGE #99 PRESIDENT

As requested by the membership, the 2017 Summer Board Meeting is moving to a weekday: Monday, July 31. Charles D. Hammond Lodge #99 is hosting, and we would like to invite your delegates to Muskegon. We will be staying at the Holiday Inn Muskegon Harbor in downtown Muskegon. You will be within walking distance of Muskegon Lake and its beautiful views. Being downtown, you will also be within walking distance of restaurants, parks, several museums, Hot Rod Harley-Davidson and small specialty shops, along with several local watering holes, including two micro-breweries. Of course, Muskegon has other attractions, like the Silversides submarine, LST Museums, numerous golf courses, Michigan’s Adventure Amusement Park, hiking, biking, boating, charter boat fishing, shopping and miles of beaches along Lake Michigan and around our many inland lakes and rivers.

We highly encourage you to come over to Muskegon on Saturday, July 29, to fully check the area out and see what it has to offer. On Sunday, July 30,

Lodge #99 will be hosting a hospitality event at our lodge on beautiful Twin Lake. We have large lake frontage with a spacious deck. The meal and drinks will be on us as we welcome our broth-

ers and sisters in arms to the area. Go to www.visitmuskegon.org for more info, and feel free to contact me at Brian@fop99.com with questions or for advice on local activities. **MI FOP**



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE //

// DAVE HILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Legislative Issues

As this issue of the magazine goes to press, we are in a waiting game in Lansing. In the lame-duck session of any typical legislature, there is usually an attempt to pass legislation that will not meet great challenges. Normally, we are aware of items that may affect our membership and have a pretty good idea where they may go. This time, however, at 3 p.m. on a Wednesday, we were advised



Director Dave Hiller testifying in committee on House Bill 6074

that a 13-bill package directly aimed at health care for both active and retired public safety members was being introduced. Needless to say, it came without any notice. Furthermore, we were advised that there would be a hearing the very next day.

The FOP and Sandi Jones immediately started to attack the legislation. The FOP was the only law enforcement group that testified the next day and at the same time worked with the other groups to mount a protest on



MI FOP President Joe Adams, VP Mike Sauger, Treasurer Ken Willis and Labor Director Dave Willis at the Lansing rally

the steps of the Capitol. We also asked our members to contact their various representatives and senators; I am happy to note that a great number did so and it had a big impact. The protest brought out a huge crowd, and our voices were heard.

The speaker of the House pulled the bills after meeting in an early morning session with us. We later met with the governor, and he agreed that the lame-duck session is not the right time to talk about something so important to our members. We anticipate further



Director Dave Hiller and Vice President Mike Sauger participating in a roundtable discussion with Senator Hertel

discussion in the upcoming session and have formed a working group to start the process. We will keep you advised — be ready to make those calls again. **MI FOP**

2016 SUPER RAFFLE WINNERS //

On December 22, the grand prize winners were drawn for the 2016 Michigan FOP Super Raffle. A video of the drawing can be found on our Facebook page. On January 20, State President Joe Adams presented the grand prize check at the Hamtramck Police Department to Jack Mallo. Congratulations to all winners:

- **Grand prize (\$20,000):** Jack Mallo, sold by Lodge #109
- **Second prize (\$3,000):** FOP Lodge #136, sold by Bob Zinkil of Lodge #136
- **Third prize (\$2,000):** Stacy Kucharck, sold by C. Stanley of Lodge #189
- **Fourth prize (\$1,500):** Ed Arnold, sold by B. Krompavic of Lodge #102



- **Fifth prize (\$1,000):** Bill Bailey, sold by Jim Boylor of Lodge #189 **MI FOP**

MICHIGAN LEGAL DEFENSE PLAN //

The FOP Labor Council is pleased to announce that its newly created Legal Defense Plan (LDP), designed specifically to meet the needs of our members, is now in operation. 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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Kathy Miller (District 12)

Harold West
National Trustee

Dave Hiller
Executive Director

SAVE THE DATE

MICHIGAN FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, MAY 22, 2017

Wheatfield Valley Golf Course
1600 Linn Road
Williamston, MI 48895

