

December 2014

Sentinel

Chicago Police Lieutenant's Association



President's Message

Dear Lieutenant,

FOIA

The latest FOIA request (by Tribune, et al) seeks all disciplinary action against our members dating back to 1967. Review of these records by several Department members revealed numerous false disciplinary items contained in the data. A grievance has been filed to halt the release of this libelous information. In addition, the FOP and Unit 156A (Sgts) filed suit, which is in front of Judge Peter Flynn, who has ordered the City not to release any of the information sought by the Tribune until he can rule on the City's Motion to Dismiss on December 15, 2014. We have asked our attorneys to include us in this action. The Department's General Counsel sent out notices that said the Department will be releasing some of the requested information anyway. After discussion with the City attorneys, an agreement was reached that the City was going to release only information which is no older than 4 years and does not relate to off duty conduct.

A cursory review of the copy of the information that the City was

going to release revealed a massive amount of data in two different formats. The past year 2000 complaints are sorted by number of complaints and have over 2000 pages of data. Although I haven't searched this document, you can bet it will be posted on line at some point in the future. Unsubstantiated allegations are listed along with sustained allegations, as well as false information. All the harassment complaints because you were doing your job too well

will be subject to an explanation to individuals that really don't understand the imperfect disciplinary process, as well as the apparently flawed book keeping of complaints against Department members. Lawyers for all sworn members are working hard to effect some relief. However, if their efforts fail, be ready to answer to your potential employer, your mother, or child—"Why did you _____?"

CONTRACT

The mayor has signed the agreement with the FOP. Since we have an economic me-too clause with Lodge 7, we have contacted the mayor's office and city attorneys regarding the increase in duty availability. The Lieutenant's agreement also has a health me-too clause with Lodge 7 (ref Sect. 12.1 of the agreement) regarding changes relating to health care (... including, but not limited to, changes in employee contributions, deductibles, etc). This would extend the free health care benefit at 55 yrs until June of 2017, at which



Vice-President Message - Dean Stone

EMAIL & PHONE NUMBERS

Everyone should have received an email from me, via department email, asking for a non-department phone number and email address. We are trying to build a database to send information to our members that is **non-department** related. The PB&PA has also requested this information so they can keep their members informed about benefits and issues that relate to your membership in the PB&PA. Everyone who has responded to this request should have received at least one return email from me. The email will be from VP.cpdmts@gmail.com which I created to respond to questions from the vicepresident@cpdmts.com email address. You can reach me at either email addresses. Some members have not responded and will not receive information, so please respond. The database can also be used to contact you upon your retirement.

Grievances

A grievance was filed regarding the city of Chicago planned release of discipli-

nary information. After reviewing some of the records, numerous errors and untruths were in the records. The release of this false information would be harmful to our members, especially those seeking other employment after retirement.

A class action grievance was filed regarding the city of Chicago Inspector General's office investigating a complaint of our members. Our contract specifically states who can investigate complaints without first obtaining an affidavit.

Under the new contract we have the mediation process for CL numbers. I had several mediations of CL numbers being investigated by IPRA. I have been disappointed with the process. I expected this to be more of a process which involves negotiation, especially when the facts don't support a sustained finding. It appears to be more of a take it or leave it proposal. Fortunately we don't have many of them and I will attempt to make the process more of mediation than all or nothing.

Representation

Our attorney for representation is Thomas Pleines, Esq. His offices are located at:

206 South Jefferson Street, Suite 100 Chicago, IL. 60661. His contact information is: phone number: 1 (312) 655-7660 or email address tom-pleines@gmail.com

Please contact him directly for any requests for representation.

As you are aware the association sends flowers to wakes for the loss of active and retired members and the immediate families of active members. Sometimes we miss the wake because of a short notice then we will send the flowers to the home of the member, but we would prefer to send them to the wake. Therefore, if a member in your unit suffers a loss or you are aware of a death of a retired member, please call me or send me an email.

Fraternally,

Dean Stone
Vice President

News you can Use

Eve Gushes - Secretary

Your current Lieutenant's Association Board members have all agreed to serve another term in their current positions. As there were no contested races and all incumbent members tendered their letters of intent by the filing deadline, there is no need to hold formal elections. Sincere thanks are extended to all current Board members for their continued interest in serving the membership.

2015 calendar books and 2015-2016 Lieutenant's Association Membership Vehicle Stickers will be sent to each member via inter-department mail during the second week of December. Please be advised that in 2012, the Board voted to issue two-year vehicle stickers as a fiscally responsible measure to save money. All members are asked to check the CLEAR system and ensure that your current district or unit of assignment is correct. Books and stickers will be sent using the information available in the CLEAR system as of 01 December 14.

As a reminder, the James Nolan Academic Scholarships will be awarded at the January General Membership Meeting held at Home Run Inn on January 13th, 2014. Scholarship entry forms will be emailed to all members before 18 December 14.



Pension Representative

James Maloney

I want to congratulate all our recent retirees. May you enjoy a long retirement. I would also like to thank the Pension Fund staff for the hard work that they do. . All retirees, please contact Terry McMahon, our retiree representative. retireerep@cpdlts.com

I would like to thank the staff of the Chicago Police Pension for all the work that they do. Two staff members have moved on to other entities. Tony Kiefer has taken a job with Aon Corporation and Maggie O'Grady has retired and taken a position with the Chicago FOP Lodge Seven. I wish them the very best and many thanks for the years of service.

Our Fund's Chief Investment Officer (CIO) has resigned as of Nov. 17, 2014. He has taken a job with the University of California, a ninety billion dollar operation. He will be part of their financial team. I wish him the best. He served our Fund since spring of 2008. The Fund has not yet finalized plans for a new CIO or the hiring process. I have had many meetings and conversations with him prior to his leaving. I will continue to work closely with our Pension Consultant, NEPC, in addressing the many issues in the coming months.

I would also like to thank the Chicago Police Lieutenants Association and the Captains Association for their support. I was unopposed in my recent election, therefore I have been re-elected for an additional term. I would like to congratulate Sgt. Brian Wright on his re-election to another term. Next fall 2015, elections will be held for the Patrolman Rep and Retired Rep.

Here are some numbers, as of this article: Retirees so far for 2014 total 350, the total retirees for 2013 were 406 and for 2012 there were 570.

As of October 31, 2014, there were 12,021 sworn officers paying into the Pension Fund. This number includes all ti-

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time subsequent retiring members will pay the 2% of annuity contribution.

PENSION

The pension funding issue has potential to have the greatest impact on future, present, and past sworn members of the CPD. Sangamon County Judge John Belz has ruled unconstitutional a plan to reduce state employees' retirement benefits. Judge Belz cited the State Constitutional guarantee in which retirement benefits cannot be diminished or impaired. While this decision echoes the earlier IL Supreme Court decision to uphold health care benefits for retirees, don't plan the parade yet. The pension funding issue has yet to be resolved.

CPLA ELECTIONS

Since there weren't any contested positions, the need to hold an election was unnecessary. It's hard to imagine why more Lieutenants don't get involved in the active guardianship of benefits for our rank. We have seen a lot of changes and need good people to step up now. Since many current Board members are close to retirement, a little experience will come in handy when the time comes for others to take the CPLA forward. A good time to start will be at our next General Membership/Holiday meeting on 13 January, 2015 at 6pm to be held at Home Run Inn Pizza- 4254 W 31st St. Hope to see you there.

I trust everyone will have wonderful holiday season with plenty of time for friends and family. Let's do our best to protect our people so that they may do the same.

Continued from Page 3 - James Maloney, Pension Representative

tle codes.

Recently, Sangamon County Circuit Court Judge John Belz sided with employee and retiree organizations that had argued that the pension reform law, passed Dec. 3, 2013, violates the state's constitutional clause that pension benefits "shall not be diminished or impaired." We all fully expect that this decision will be challenged by Illinois politicians. We shall wait and see.

On Nov. 19, 2014, the Illinois House voted to give the attorney general (currently Lisa Madigan) the ability to go to court to stop cases in which a pension is being paid to a convicted public official even if the retirement board approved payments. This is the Legislature's response to the Jon Burge decision. Burge was never convicted of a Felony in relation to his tenure as a member of the Chicago Police Department. He was convicted of perjury and obstruction of justice in a civil matter. The Pension Board deadlocked in a 4-4 vote to take away Burge's pension. This was done properly and according to Law by the elected Trustees. Some of the opposing Trustees even related that they did not agree with the Law. Well the Law is the Law. The Illinois House passed this bill by 99-14. These are our elected officials. Currently there is a Law that addresses Pensions and Felony convictions and this has been in force for many years that is what we based our decision upon.

Myself and others have met with many State of Illinois elected Representatives. We have answered their questions and have also enlightened them on many issues relating to the Chicago Police Pension. I am on a committee with the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association (IPPFA). Our goal is to educate and meet with elected State Legislators in regard to the health and preservation of our Pension Funds.

As I have said in the past and I will continue to stress, it is extremely important for all of us to be in contact with our Representatives. Know who your Representatives are, meet them at their office or other public events.

In some upcoming elections, there may be Law Enforcement Officers running for public office. We need to support our fellow Officers when they run for public office. Get out and vote, make sure your friends and family are signed up to vote and get everyone out to the polls on Election Day.

Lt. Jim Maloney
Pension Trustee

Blogging Worldwide by Robert Kero

Recently I was on the Internet looking for police related articles. I stumbled upon a blog from the United Kingdom titled, "The Thin Blue Line." Quite interestingly, it was almost a mirror image of Second City Cop. It contains threads relating to current topics followed by postings, some positive and informative, some just plain embarrassing. The only significant difference was that this blog also puts up articles relating to current policing issues. I found one on there that was quite interesting. It was titled, "What Are the 5 Biggest Challenges Facing Police Forces Today?" I think you will find the following summary quite interesting.

The first issue was that of "governance." They talked about the power of the local government, the police department itself and the head of the department, in their case the constable and how these three units may have varying ideas of what the police should be doing and how they should be performing their jobs.

They bring up the internal fighting between the various bosses of the department and the "empires and fiefdoms." They also point out the large number of administrative bosses compared to the people in the field.

The next issue was that of costs and cutting. They address the issues related to cost cutting but they also go on to give ideas to achieve some cost cutting without impacting the labor force. They brought up the point of consolidating purchasing as well as sharing of resources. One benefit that they cite is that of showing the public that the police themselves are strong on value and low on waste. Such an example could lead to a better public perception of the police force.

The third issue was the utilization of resources. They use the example of the top heavy structure and how at any one time there are only roughly 11% of the departments' employees out on the street working at crime prevention and criminal follow up. This was followed up by a long list of positions that were either not needed or redundant.

The fourth issue was what really caught my eye. They addressed "Crime and Prevention." Like us, they look at the number of crimes vs the number of arrests, etc. Then then went into the practice of "gaming." Just another term for cooking the books! They also listed the names given to each practice. Here they are:

CUFFING: Making crimes disappear by recording them as either false reports or by downgrading them to less serious crimes.

STITCHING: Charging the suspect with a more serious crime than the facts support only to make it appear that the crime has been solved.

SKEWING: This where police activity is directed at easier to solve crimes so as to raise the number of arrests relative to the reported crime.

NODDING: Here is where they persuade convicted offenders to admit to other crimes that they have not committed just to increase the clearance rate.

They have even gone so far as to give this overall practice an unofficial name, "good house-keeping."

Here are a couple of examples: A man was robbed in the "red light" district of the city. The detective told him that he could not report the crime unless they informed his wife. He decided not to report the robbery. In another example, an offender fired several shots at a man but missed. However, a window beyond the target was broken. It was reported as criminal damage instead of an attempted murder.

Even after studies and reports of many such instances, no one in charge was ever called to task on these practices. They continue to occur and are unofficially condoned by the powers that be.

The final issue they listed was that of operational priorities. Here they went back to Sir Robert Peel and summarized this entire issue by citing Peel's philosophy on modern policing. It is time to refocus the priorities of policing where the emphasis should always be the protection of life and property and the prevention and detection of

Reducing Crime by Robert Stasch

The Chicago Police Department is on pace to have a banner year in the area of crime reduction. If the current trends continue to the first of the year, crime should be down not only in the high profile murder category, but in the index crimes as well.

At the budget hearings we heard from the Superintendent that although manpower won't be increased for the coming 2015, overtime for VRI and VRE would continue. The "boxes" for VRI as well as Operation Impact appear to be working.

But what about the increase in people shot? The number of actual people shot. That number and percentage has to date increased over last year. There's still work to do there. And we can't do it alone.

There are a lot of factors that influence crime rates. In today's modern medical world the utilization of ALS ambulances, highly trained paramedics and outstanding hospital trauma center have to be thanked and congratulated for saving a lot of lives. In many ways they can be called unsung heroes. They've reduced the murder rate simply by doing their jobs effectively. If someone is critically injured and they make it to a trauma center in a CFD ambulance, their survival rate is astronomical.

How about the weather? If this hasn't been one of the craziest years for weird weather phenomenon then I don't know of another year that could take its place. I think we can all admit when we're working the best partner to have on your side is Officer Heavy Rain; Officer Deep Snow and Officer Freezing cold. No one wants to work alongside Officer Sunny N. Hot.

Then there are close to 100,000 Illinois citizens now carrying guns with lawful concealed carry permits. A July 2014 study by the Crime Prevention Research Center found that 11.1 million Americans nationally have permits to carry concealed weapons, a 147% increase from 4.5

million permit holders seven years. Meanwhile over the same time frame, homicide and other violent crime dropped by nearly 22%. "There's a lot of academic research that's been done on this, and if you look at the peer reviewed studies, the bottom line is that a large majority find a benefit of concealed carry on crime rates," said John Lott, President of the Crime Prevention Research Center located in Pennsylvania.

And when the bad guys do get arrested, a lot more are being charged with felonies by the State Attorneys and a lot more are doing prison time. Sure, there are still some problems with early release, parole and probation and low bonds, but a lot of people who should be locked up are getting locked up. Many cops believe to get a bad guy off the street, no matter for how long, provides one less victim or offender for the statistics.

So maybe it is not only the CPD's tactics and strategies that are reducing crime. Although a major part of it, there are a lot of outside influences that also play a part.

Next year when you discuss crime and violence with the troops, give them a pat on the back and a thank you for a hard job well done. But also to remember to throw out some thanks to the CFD paramedics, the trauma centers, the weather, involved citizens and the prosecutors and corrections people for all that they did and do to contribute to reducing crime.

It's a collaborative effort. And everyone is doing one hell of a job. Thank you – to all.



James L. O'Neill & Timothy Nolan
2015
Scholarship Drawing

PURPOSE

To recognize the tremendous efforts made by Lt.s O'Neill & Nolan that led us from a fraternal organization to a Labor Union. The benefits derived from this have greatly improved the lives of all our members and will continue to benefit all future Lieutenants.

RULES

Only Active, full dues paying members are eligible

Children must be in grades 1-16

The Association Secretary must receive letter of Verification of Enrollment from the winner's school before checks will be issued.

Only one (1) entry per member.

Applications are to be forwarded to Lt Eve Gushes, Unit 007 to arrive **No Later Than 09 January 2015**. Drawing will be held at the January General Membership meeting 13 January 2015.

JAMES L. O'NEILL and TIMOTHY NOLAN 2015 SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING

NAME _____ **STAR#** _____ **UNIT** _____

CHILDS NAME _____ **GRADE** _____

SCHOOL ATTENDING _____

SIGNATURE _____

4 WINNERS, \$500 each

**Applications must be sent to
Lt. Eve Gushes, Unit 007
Or can be brought to the
January Membership Meeting**

SENTINEL

December 2014

Standing Watch for Chicago Police Lieutenants



24 hour Emergency Number
Phone: 312-332-7432

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Join us at the next
General Membership Meeting
For Our
After Christmas Celebration

Dinner will be served

13 January 2014

6:00 PM

Home Run Inn

4254 W. 31st Street

Chicago, Il.