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COVID-19 Law Enforcement Deaths

- Tracking the deaths of 475 "officers"
- 176 deaths acknowledged as LODD by agency
- 299 deaths pending decision
- Correctional officers are highly impacted

 A map of the United States showing the number of COVID-19 Law Enforcement Deaths (LODD) by state. The map is titled 'CURRENT YEAR LODDS' and 'Source: ODMP.org'. The states are shaded in different colors, with darker shades of blue indicating higher counts. The map includes a legend on the left with a scale bar and a source note.

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COVID-19 Impact

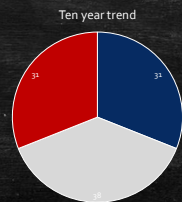
- Line of duty death in 2020 is 354 - COVID is 64%
- PSOB Statement
- First Responder's act-Aug. 2020



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Ten years of LODD Statistics

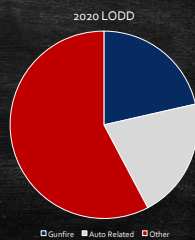
- 31% Gunfire
- 38% Auto Related
- 31% All others



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2020 LODD Statistics

- 15% Gunfire (45)
- 16% (47) Auto Related
- 69% (204) All others



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Impact of COVID-19 for C.O.P.S.

- Overwhelming increased need for services from National C.O.P.S. and Chapters
- 50% increase in the number of families needing support from a "normal" year
- State Memorials are going to be a lot larger (Texas for example)
- Getting benefits/workman's comp in some states is a problem
- Uncertainty on whether COVID should be considered LODD or not
- Increased number of agencies needing help and direction



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Missouri LODD Statistics

- 694 Total LODD's
 - 408 Gunfire
 - 158 Auto/Motor Related
 - 29 Heart Attack
 - 4 COVID-19
- December is Deadliest Month

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OFFICER MOLLY BOWDEN

Columbia Police Department
EOW: 2-10-2005



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General Orders

General Orders on the response to officer deaths and injury are needed to prevent agencies from reacting chaotically and causing severe emotional secondary injuries.



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General Orders

- ▣ Notification
- ▣ Liaison Officer
- ▣ Funeral Protocol
- ▣ Benefits
- ▣ Agencies to contact
- ▣ Care of family survivors and co-workers



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Death Notification

- Emergency notification paperwork readily available
- The race is on.....
- It's not my news to share....
- Notify spouse, parents, and adult children
- Send uniformed officer
- Notifying co-workers



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Emergency Paperwork

- ❑ Two sets
- ❑ Who to notify/contact information
- ❑ Funeral Preferences
- ❑ Benefits/PSOB Designation
- ❑ Update annually at evaluation time
- ❑ Samples available at Concernsofpolicesurvivors.org



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Assigning a Liaison Officer

- ❑ Train Liaison officers in advance/have policy
- ❑ Assign a Liaison Officer to the spouse and parents
- ❑ Long time commitment that will often impact work
- ❑ Must be available within the first 24 hours
- ❑ Close friend of the officer or not?
- ❑ SELF CARE and ROTATION!



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Funeral Protocol

What type of honors do we afford fallen officers?



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Fundraisers



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Family Follow-Up

- Recognition of Fallen Officer
- Once a month calls to survivor(s) for first year
- EOW Anniversaries
- Always invite the family but don't be upset if they decline



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Support For Co-Workers

- Losing a co-worker is a life-altering experience
- Mandatory Debriefings for affected co-workers
- Peer support teams, professional **law enforcement** counseling at department expense, follow-up support
- Police chaplains can be highly effective
- Consider a C.O.P.S. Co-Workers Retreat



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Support for Co-Workers

- Survivor Guilt
- Getting too close
- Disenfranchised Grief
- Behavior changes
- Shutting down



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REGISTER NOW!
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 11, 2021

C.O.P.S. NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAW ENFORCEMENT WELLNESS & TRAUMA
NOVEMBER 12-14, 2021 OKLAHOMA CITY

EMPOWERED BY **STRAIGHTLIGHT**

Putting the focus on YOU, to bring you home to THEM!

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REMAINING TRAUMAS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT 2021 LOCATIONS

Lexington, KY	March 22-24	Registration deadline has passed.
Madison, WI	April 19-21	Registration Deadline: March 10, 2021
Savannah, GA	June 14-16	Registration Deadline: May 10, 2021
Fairbanks, AK	July 12-14	Registration Deadline: June 5, 2021
Greenville, SC	August 9-11	Registration Deadline: July 1, 2021
Providence, RI	August 30-Sept. 1	Registration Deadline: July 30, 2021
Albuquerque, NM	September 13-15	Registration Deadline: August 15, 2021
Birmingham, AL	September 27-29	Registration Deadline: August 15, 2021

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, PSQB Benefits, Injured Officer & Disability Issues, Law Enforcement Research Findings, General Orders, Implementing agency lessons, 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 thoughts

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Public Safety Officers' Benefit: PSOB

\$370,376

U.S. Department of Justice, Public Safety
Officers Benefit occurring on or after Oct. 1,
2020

Educational benefits of \$1265.00 per month



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Eligible Survivors

1. If no children, surviving spouse.
2. If there is a spouse and child(ren), 50% to spouse and 50% to be divided by the number of "eligible" children.
 - Natural, illegitimate, adopted, posthumous child or step-child
 - 18 years old or under
 - 19-22 years old if a full-time student
 - 19 and older, and incapable of self-support due to a physical or mental disability
3. If no spouse, and children only, all the child(ren) in equal shares.

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Eligible Survivors - *continued*

4. If no spouse or eligible children, to the beneficiary on the PSOB designation form or the fully executed life insurance policy on file at the agency.
5. If no beneficiary, to surviving parent(s) in equal shares.
6. If no living parents, payable to adult children in equal shares (effective with Dale Long Act).
7. If no eligible survivors, the payment is not made.

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Possible Reasons for Denial

- ❑ Intentional misconduct or suicide
- ❑ Voluntary intoxication
- ❑ Officer was performing in a grossly negligent manner
- ❑ A claimant contributed to the officer's death
- ❑ Military death

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When A Death Occurs, Contact...

1. Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. (C.O.P.S.)
2. Officer Down Memorial page (ODMP)
3. Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program (PSOB)
4. National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOMF)

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National Police Week

An estimated 5,000 survivors and surviving co-workers register through C.O.P.S.



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National Police Week

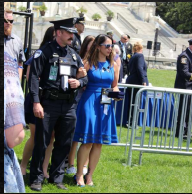
NLEOMF—National Candlelight Vigil



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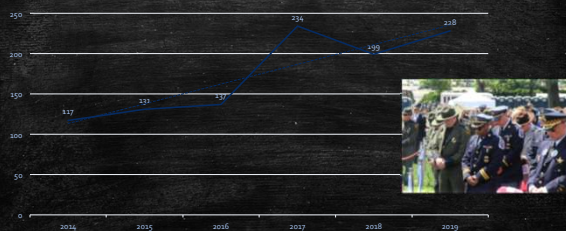
National Police Week

FOP—National Peace Officers' Memorial Service



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Officers honored by year at the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service



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Impact of COVID-19 on National Police Week 2020, 2021 and Beyond...

- Working together with FOP and NLEOMF is crucial
- Increased number of families and co-workers
- What impact will uncertainty play?
- Airport Capacity
- Restrictions?
- CDC and Local Guidelines
- Civil Unrest?



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Funeral Protocol: Suicide and Non-LODD

- Should develop a policy on Suicide/Non-LODD.
- Ensures consistency.



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Introducing...



**Survivors of
Blue Suicide Foundation**

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C.O.P.S. Law Enforcement Services



- ❖ Co-Workers/Spouses Retreats
- ❖ Traumas of Law enforcement Training
- ❖ National Police Week Co-Worker sessions
- ❖ National Conference on Wellness and Trauma
- ❖ Professional law enforcement counseling referrals
- ❖ Peer support referrals

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