

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

GETTING YOUR RENEWAL IN ON TIME

Brothers & Sisters, frequently I get inquiries regarding the status of a member's FOP cards and decals. I thought that an explanation of how the renewal process works would help the membership understand why it's to your advantage to submit your renewal on time. Each year the State FOP gives us a deadline as to when our Lodge renewal package is due. All the members who have renewed by this date are included in this package. When the State receives all the renewal packages from the lodges, they prepare what's called an "export" (a list of all the paid-up members) and sends this export to the National FOP. The National FOP then prepares the National FOP cards and sends those cards to each lodge secretary (usually late December). The State then sends us a corresponding number of decals and courtesy cards. We then place all the received cards and decals in our Winter newsletter which is sent out in January. OK – now why you should renew on time. If you are late with your renewal you will not be included in the first export. Your renewal will go to the National in a subsequent export based on when you renewed. The later you renew, the later the export. The later the export, the longer you will have to wait for your cards and decals. Further, if you are entitled to the Survivor Benefit and the Death or Dismemberment Insurance, and you are 63 or over, if you do not renew before January 1st of the renewal year you will lose these benefits forever. So in conclusion, renew on time to get your cards and decals on time and to protect the benefits to which you are entitled. Hope this helps.

Fraternally, Bob. Lodge 997 STRONGER | BIGGER | BETTER CONNECTED



PSA 3 Reunion

A small gathering of former PSA 3 personnel got together this summer to talk about old times and rehash stories from their time on the job.

L to R

Gordon Nash, Ed. Hensen, Naomi Fredrich, Tommy Mitchell, Kevin Hourihan, Bobby Genco, Jimmy Hunt, Wendy Unger.

visit our website at www.fop997.org

ROBERT NERO
PRESIDENT

DEWEY FONG
1st VICE PRESIDENT

BRUCE RAHEB
2nd VICE PRESIDENT

FRANK REID
DIRECTOR

GORDON NASH
DIRECTOR

NICHOLAS CAPEZZA
DIRECTOR

MICHELLE MALANGA
DIRECTOR

DENISE MOORE
NYS LODGE TRUSTEE

ANNA TORTORICI
TREASURER

PASQUALE CIRINCIONE
SECRETARY

JOHN DOHERTY
RECORDING SECRETARY

A. RICHARD AGOSTA
Membership Chairman

JAMES OSGOOD
FACEBOOK ADMINISTRATOR

EDWARD IP
CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR

WILLIAM MENENDEZ
RETIREE COORDINATOR

RUDY TOOLASPRASHAD
SPECIAL ADVISOR

Leroy Hendricks
SPECIAL ADVISOR

ANDY MELILLO
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

RABBI LEONARD BLANK
CHAPLAIN

BARTON L. SLAVIN
Lodge Counsel

LODGE ELECTION MEETING SCHEDULED

Our election meeting will be held on Thursday, November 6th, 2025, at 1230 hours, at the VFW Post #1896 Meeting Hall, located at 110-02 Merrick, Blvd, Queens, NY 11433 (the corner of 110th Ave – also known as Brinkerhoff Ave – and Merrick Blvd). At his meeting we will elect our Executive Board members who will lead our Lodge for the next two years. All Executive Board positions (except Lodge State Trustee) will be up for election. The positions are: **PRESIDENT, 1ST VP, 2ND VP, TREASURER, SECRETARY, RECORDING SECRETARY, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, AND 4 DIRECTOR POSITIONS.** These positions will be for a term of 2 years. Note: there are several other positions on the Board, however, they are positions of specific need and they are appointed positions and filled at the discretion of the President. In order to provide the membership with the greatest opportunity to seek one of the Board positions, requests for nominations will be taken directly from the floor at the meeting. However, if you cannot attend the meeting but wish to be considered for a position, you may submit a communication naming the position sought in lieu of personally appearing at the meeting. The communication can either be mailed or emailed to Pat Cirincione, Lodge Secretary, at 5 Rita Crescent, Commack, NY 11725, or patcfop997@aol.com. All such communications must be received by Monday, November 3rd, 2025. Any ACTIVE Member, who had been a member of our Lodge for at least 6 months is eligible to run for office. This is your chance to become part of the decision making process in our Lodge. Come to the meeting and let your voice be heard. As usual, food and beverages will be served. Frat. Pat

COSTCO RENEWAL 2025

For our current Costco Club members and anyone else contemplating joining our Costco Club, our current club membership expires at the end of September 2025. If you are renewing your membership, or interested in joining our club, the membership cost is **\$71.00 (\$65 for membership + tax)** for 2 cards at the same address. (Note: The names on the cards can be different, but the individuals must be from the same household and use the same mailing address. Costco will ask you for ID before issuing a card.

Some additional info for prospective members – Costco does not allow for single membership. That's why you get 2 cards. If you're interested, please legibly PRINT the names and address that you wish to use and submit with your check or money order, made payable to FOP LODGE #997, and mail it to FOP Lodge #997 at 5 Rita Crescent, Commack, NY, 11725. All payments must be received by September 17th, 2025. If you have any questions contact me at patcfop997@aol.com. Good luck – Fraternally, Pat Cirincione.

DEATHS REPORTED: It is our sad duty to report the passing of the following Members of our Lodge and former Members of the HPD: **ALBERT BROWN, VINNIE GALLUZZO, TOM HUTCHINSON, RUE STEWARD, MATTHEW WOODS, RICHARD FRANCONERI, FRANK MANZI, BRIAN LAVIN.** MAY OUR DEPARTED BROTHERS REST IN ETERNAL PEACE.

For more information and news on what's happening with the FOP visit the following websites:

National FOP
www.fop.net
State FOP

**RE
MEM
BER**



STATE FOP LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL

Each year, on the first Saturday in May, the NYS FOP has its annual Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony at State FOP Headquarters. This year 73 additional names have been added to the Memorial Wall. Of the 73 officers being honored this year 4 lost their lives in the Line Of Duty, 2 died in auto accidents, 1 lost his life to COVID-19, and 66 succumbed to 9-11 related illnesses. This year's ceremony was personal to us because one of our long time members, Chief of Brooklyn North, Gerald Nelson, was memorialized with his name added to the Memorial Wall. In addition to Jerry's family being present at the ceremony, we were also represented by Pres. Bob Nero, 1st VP Dewey Fong, Sec. Pat Cirincione, Rec. Sec. John Doherty, Lodge Trustee Denise Moore, Director Frank Reid, and members Doug Zeigler, Charlie Kammerdener, Jerry Suppes, Tony Loffredo, Lou Ciavarella, and Tom Jeans. (Note: There was a very large turnout – if you were there and I missed you – mea culpa.) Below find the names of the officers who made the ultimate sacrifice serving the citizens of NYS:

WILLIAM WILSON JR, MICHAEL TORRISI, STEPHEN MULLEN, THOMAS WATERMAN, JORGE GONZALES, JEWEL TODERMAN-PHILLIP, RONALD OWEN, ERICK CONTRERAS, CLIFF ACOSTA, BERNARD ROBERTS, WILLIAM CLANCY, JAMES WARD, JAMES DELANEY, BRENDAN McGARRY, JOSEPH PONZI, BRIAN RUTHERFORD, DENIS RYAN JR, EDWIN RODRIGUEZ, JOSEPH CORDARO, RANDY VAN NAME, STEPHEN LIELL, JAMES BUEBENDORF, GERALD COGGINS SR, THOMAS MILLER, LOUIS HAARSTICK II, RONALD RASKIN, SALVATORE BERTOCCI, HARRY STAFILIAS, JOHN WELCH, HECTOR SANTIAGO, RAYMOND BUZZO, ADAM JANGEL, STEVEN PAVEGLIO, PETER GRIMALSKI, JOSEPH GESCHWIND, YOLANDA CARBERRY, STEVEN GALAN, MICHAEL ANSBRO, CHARLES AFANASEWICZ, JACK SANTORA, SCOTT McKENNA, KURT JONES, CARLO KERCIC, THERESA FOILES, WANDA NEGRON, LEONARD DAVIS, BRAULIO ROSARIO, WILLIAM McNAUGHTON, DANIEL DiDATO, CHRISTOPHER CIZMARIK, WILLIAM BURKEL, HERBERT FONSECA, DAVID McSHANE, STEVEN TYRRELL, PAUL HARGROVE, THOMAS SANFRATELLO, JOSEPH STILITANO, FRANK CIMMINO, JONATHAN DILLER, ALFRED WILLIAMS, MICHAEL HOOSOCK, MICHAEL JENSEN, JOHN KILPATRICK, JOHN COLLINS, WILLIAM McLEAN III, BENEDICTO ALBIZU JR, GERALD NELSON, KEVIN CANAVAN, KENNETH CAMPBELL, STEVEN BILODEAU, CAILEE CAMPBELL, JOHN CARY, and PHILIP SCHIFINI.

THEIR NAMES ENSHRINED ON OUR MEMORIAL WALL, AND ON THE MEMORIAL WALL IN WASHINGTON, DC. MAY THEY REST IN ETERNAL PEACE. WE WILL NEVER FORGET!!!

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY

We know it's a long way off, but National LEO Appreciation Day is Friday, January 9th, 2026, - mark it on your calendar. On that day, show your support for law enforcement by wearing blue clothing, or displaying a blue light in your home or on your property. Remember, as LEO's we are not Black, White, or any other color – WE ARE ALL BLUE!!!

TUNNEL TO TOWERS 5K RUN & WALK – The Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Walk fund raiser is scheduled for Sunday, September 28th, 2025, at 0930 hrs. Our Brother, Bill McNamara, is very involved with this organization and will be participating in this fund raising event. Our Lodge has made a generous donation to this organization supporting Bill. If you would like to support Bill, or participate in this event go to their web site – t2t.org, or email Bill at billmac301@yahoo.com – for more info. Dig deep Brothers & Sisters and support Bill and this worthy organization.

RECRUITMENT DRIVE – Brothers & Sisters, our recruitment drive is underway. Remember, the Member who recruits the most new members by December 31, 2025, will have his/her dues for 2026 refunded. Our numbers have declined in the last few years through attrition and we need new blood to revitalize our Lodge. All new members count – both Active and Associate. Do your part and you may be rewarded with a free membership for 2026.

visit our website at www.fop997.org

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

Brothers & Sisters, while reviewing our membership rolls I noticed that we have several, doctors, lawyers and business owners in our lodge. These professionals and business owners may be able to provide personal services to our members. If you are a doctor, lawyer, or business owner who would be willing to provide personal professional services to our members and would like to be listed in our Professional Services Directory please provide your name, professional services or business specialty, and contact info (telephone number or email address) by emailing that info to Secretary Cirincione at patcfop997@aol.com. We will review each submission and provide our Professional Services Directory in an upcoming newsletter.



Housing Police Reunion Cruise

Celebrity **X** Cruises

Once again our Housing Police Family is invited to join the HPD Reunion at Sea celebrating all commands, all graduating classes. Sail on Celebrity Cruise Line's Eclipse departing Fort Lauderdale March 22, 2026 and returning March 28th. Ports of call include: Costa Mya Mexico, Cozumel Mexico, George Town—Cayman Islands plus 2 days at sea. Cost is \$2,549.50 for two people, double occupancy in a balcony cabin. (Price includes drink package and internet package for two) A refundable \$500 deposit is required with the balance due by 12/09/25. If interested email Gordon Nash at gnash100@aol.com or call Tony the travel agent directly at 954-258-0088. Looking forward to seeing everyone onboard!



**FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE
NYC HOUSING POLICE
SILVER & GOLD LODGE #997
5 Rita Crescent
Commack, NY 11725**