

RECORD



RUMORS

Spring, 2026

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POLICE SILVER & GOLD LODGE # 997
www.fop997.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Season's greetings to all active and associate members of Lodge 997. For those living in the greater New York area, we say goodbye to the chaos of the harsh winter and look forward to the pleasant days of Spring and Summer in the months ahead. To update those not able to attend our past President Bob Nero's funeral services this past January 15, 2026, the event was standing room only. Many of our Lodge's Executive Board along with active and associate members were present to pay their respects, and say goodbye to an old friend. Rev. Denise Moore (Lodge Trustee) did an outstanding job performing the religious services at the funeral home, after which the NYPD Ceremonial Unit Detail was present as an Honor Guard and Pall Bearers to escort Bob to his eternal rest. Many speakers came forward to reflect on Bob's dedicated military duty and community service, as well as his life accomplishments. The day following the funeral, a United States flag was flown over the U.S. Capitol Building in memorial of Detective Robert V. Nero. This flag will be presented to the Nero family at our next scheduled Lodge function. It was certainly a grand event for a deserving unique man loved by family and friends.

As your new President to fill Bob's shoes, I pledge to serve the members of Lodge 997 and the communities in which we reside to the best of my ability. In order to promote more camaraderie among our members and fund raise for our Lodge to offset expenses, we have scheduled a Spring Luncheon Reunion Meeting for the first week of June, 2026. Please check our website or read additional information regarding this long awaited get-together in this newsletter.

In closing, I thank everyone of the members for their support and wish to personally greet all at our upcoming Spring reunion. Furthermore, I want to thank the members of the Executive Board for their confidence in allowing me to serve as your President. Together, we will be stronger and better for the benefit of the Lodge.

Fraternally,

Dewey Fong, President Lodge 997

visit our website at www.fop997.org

DEWEY FONG
PRESIDENT

FRANK REID
1st VICE PRESIDENT

BRUCE RAHEB
2nd VICE PRESIDENT

WILLIAM MENENDEZ
DIRECTOR

GORDON NASH
DIRECTOR

NICHOLAS CAPEZZA
DIRECTOR

MICHELLE MALANGA
DIRECTOR

DENISE MOORE
NYS LODGE TRUSTEE

ANNA TORTORICI
TREASURER

PASQUALE CIRINCIONE
SECRETARY

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A. RICHARD AGOSTA
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

KAREN JY XIE
ASSOCIATE MEMBER
CHAIR

JAMES OSGOOD
FACEBOOK
ADMINISTRATOR

EDWARD IP
CHIEF TECHNICAL
ADVISOR

RUDY TOOLASPRASHAD
SPECIAL ADVISOR

LEROY HENDRICKS
SPECIAL ADVISOR

Bob Nero *
IMMEDIATE
PAST PRESIDENT

RABBI LEONARD BLANK
CHAPLAIN

BARTON L. SLAVIN
LODGE COUNSEL

*Deceased

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SPRING LUNCHEON – Our Spring Luncheon Meeting is set for Tuesday, June 2nd, 2026, at 1200hrs (note earlier time), at the Mizumi Buffet Restaurant, located at 231-10 Northern Blvd., Little Neck, Queens, on Northern Blvd, just east of the Cross Island Parkway. The menu will include the buffet, sushi, hot entrees, raw bar, and desserts. The cost is \$50 in advance, and \$55 at the door. Flyer with reservation coupon elsewhere in this newsletter. Print out the flyer and submit it with your payment to reserve your spot for this unique luncheon. Hope to see you there. The Executive Board.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION –To honor our past President, Bob Nero, President Dewey Fong had made arrangements with Senator Chuck Schumer’s office to have an American flag flown over the US Capital the day after Bob’s memorial on January 15th. President Fong now has that flag, a letter from Senator Schumer, and a certificate attesting that the flag had, indeed, been flown over the US Capital. President Fong will be presenting the flag and documents to Bob’s wife, Barbara Nero, and Bob’s children, Monique Nero, and Bob Nero Jr, at our luncheon mentioned above. Try to be at the luncheon to honor Bob’s memory.

FOP ID CARDS – For the benefit of all our members, and especially our new members, requests for FOP ID cards (new or renewal) are to be sent to the NYS FOP at 911 Police Plaza, Hicksville, NY 11801, NOT TO OUR LODGE! For more info and applications visit the State FOP website (nysfop.org) and scroll down to “member forms” and click on the form you need.

NEW AND REINSTATED MEMBERS

Jingxuan Feng
Piao Feng
Derek J. Short
James Trotta
Richard Lewis
Christine L. Pilgrim
Yue Kit Chiu
Jennifer J. Fan
Biao Gao
Chao Hui Jiang
Shukwan Michael Lee
Eric X. Li
Thomas Li
Bing Yao Ma
Jie Ping Ma
Minisjon Mardonov
Samuel Moldovan
Namik Niftaliyev
Lewis Pang
John V. Ramnauth
Rommel R. Robertson
Fan Bin Tseng
Canney S. Yang
Hui Liang Zeng
Erkang Zhao

TO ALL OUR NEW AND REINSTATED MEMBERS

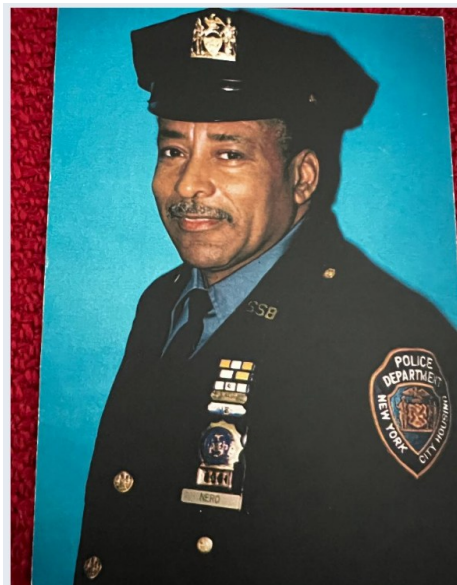
WE SAY “WELCOME ABOARD”

visit our website at www.fop997.org

A TRIBUTE TO BOB NERO



1966



1994

Bob was my friend for over 50 years. I came on the job in March of 1966, Bob was in the next class – June 1966. I was assigned to the Bronx-Queens Division, but Bob was assigned to the Manhattan Division, so our paths did not cross until later in our careers. By that time Bob was assigned to the Support Services Bureau and was the person to see when you needed something. Short of lockers? Call Bob Nero. Short of desks or chairs? Call Bob Nero. Bob and his cohorts from “the hole” can and did know how to get you what you needed. If you knew Bob in those days you’ll remember that he always had an enormous ring of keys with him. I called him our resident burglar. There wasn’t a door he couldn’t get through nor a lock he couldn’t open. But all of this was done for the betterment of the cops and the HPD as a whole. Bob was also the consummate organization man serving for many years in various capacities with the HPBA, the Guardians, the NYPD PBA, and many community organizations. After Bob retired from the job he continued his serving ways. One problem Bob had was that he didn’t know how to say “no.” After my and Andy Melillo’s tenure as President of FOP Lodge #997, we looked around for a worthy successor and we both agreed that it should be Bob. We approached Bob and asked him to run for the position and he readily agreed. Bob was elected and he served as our President for over 17 years. During his tenure he ran for election 8 times and never once did anyone challenge him! They knew that Bob was doing an outstanding job and that they didn’t stand a chance to defeat him – so why try. Even with all his duties from our lodge and the various community groups, when asked by the State FOP to assume the Presidency of the NYS FOP Foundation, the charitable arm of the State FOP, Bob, of course, accepted. Bob held that position for several years, advancing the concept that law enforcement was and is a partner in our communities. But all good things come to an end, even for good people, and on December 22, 2025, the grind caught up with Bob and he entered the hospital for the last time. I spoke with him many times during his stay and, as usual, he always sounded upbeat and expressed a desire to go home, but it was not to be. Bob passed on December 31st, 2025. I’ll always treasure the memories I have of our adventures in the HPD, and of our times together advancing the FOP and our Lodge.

REST IN PEACE OLD FRIEND! YOU WILL BE MISSED, BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN!!!

Fraternally, Pat Cirincione, and all your friends from the HPD and FOP Lodge #997.

visit our website at www.fop997.org



Spring Luncheon



- **TUESDAY, JUNE 2nd, 2026 @ 12:00 NOON**
- **MIZUMI BUFFET RESTAURANT**
- **231-10 Northern Blvd. Little Neck, Queens**
- **\$50 in Advance \$55 at the Door**
- **Includes Buffet, Sushi, Hot Entrees, Raw Bar, & Desserts**
 - **free parking**
 - **Casual dress, display HAPD paraphernalia.**

RESERVATION FORM FOR SPRING MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY MAY 29th, 2026

YOUR NAME _____ GUEST #1 _____

GUEST #2 _____ GUEST #3 _____

GUEST #4 _____ GUEST #5 _____

TO HELP US PROPERLY PLAN OUR SPRING MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON,
KINDLY COMPLETE THIS COUPON AND RETURN IT WITH YOUR
REMITTANCE OF \$50 PER PERSON PAYABLE TO "FOP LODGE 997"
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 29th AND MAIL TO:

FOP Lodge #997 - 5 Rita Crescent, Commack, NY 11725

REMEMBER: MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "FOP LODGE 997"

visit our website at www.fop997.org

“A COP ON THE TAKE”

First, **he takes** the oath.
Now look at all **he takes**—

He takes it in stride when people call him a pig.
He takes time to stop and talk to children.
He takes your verbal abuse while giving you a ticket you really deserve.
He takes on creeps you would be afraid to even look at.
He takes time away from his family to keep you safe.
He takes your injured children to the hospital.
He takes the late tour without complaint because it's his turn.
He takes his life in his hands daily.
He takes you home when your car breaks down.
He takes the job no one else wants – telling you a loved one has died.
He takes criminals to jail.
He takes in sights that would make you cry.
Sometimes he cries too, but **He takes** it anyway because someone has to.
If he's lucky, **He takes** retirement.
He takes memories to bed each night that you couldn't bear for even one day.
Sometimes, **He takes** a bullet.
And, yes, occasionally **he may take** a free cup of coffee.
Then one day he pays for all **he has taken**,
And **God takes him**.

A poem by Wayne A. Linney, with special thanks to Officer Scott White, of the
Portsmouth, VA, Police Department