

Dear Members and Supporters,

Police Memorial Week:

Well another Police Memorial Week was held from May 13-17th across the nation. The Dallas Police Department held its own memorial and the presentation was great as always. I would like to commend the police choir, command staff, city council members and the hundreds of officers who represented the department. A special recognition also goes out to the Honor Guard, if you have not had an opportunity to see these men/women you are missing out. They led the march through downtown followed by the command staff and let me tell you, "They looked sharp". Those who went to Washington D.C. during Police Memorial Week, dressed in their new uniforms and representing the department, made a strong showing with over 140 Dallas Police Officers in attendance.

The Dallas men's running team, headed by Gilbert Arrevalo, took 1st place defeating the Secret Service team and brought home the Gold. The Dallas women's team did a fantastic job also. Congratulations to our men and women.

Many LPOA members, along with members of other associations, made the trip- some on special assignment and some using their own time. Many used their own money while others were sponsored to go. It does not matter what you wore or what officer you went to honor. The point is WHO CARES as long as YOU understand why YOU were there. I spent some personal time at the wall honoring the memories of my close friends Patrick Metzler, Victor Lozada and Henry Brown, while other officers I was with were honoring John Chase and David Galvan. I can only imagine how big the turnout will be next year when the name of Norman "Normando" Smith will be added to the wall.

Budget:

Many of you have heard the city had to eliminate the \$10,000 signing bonus for recruits and that civilian employees will be given two non-paid furloughs during the year. Several city council members were opposed to the idea but I do not see how the bonuses could have continued. The department wants to hire 400 officers, multiply that by \$10k and we are talking about \$4 million towards hiring bonuses. I spoke to Mary Suhm, Mayor Leppert and several city council members and they assured me that if sales taxes/receipts pick up the bonus would be revisited. I personally do not see that happening. Good thing is that the Personnel Division has over 400 applicant files in background, which is a first for the Division. Now the challenge is to process as many files as possible before the applicants are picked up by other departments.

Annual Banquet:

The 19th Annual Dinner & Awards Banquet is set and ready to go. In the past we have had guest speakers such as State Representative Rafael Anchia, Former President George W. Bush, Texas Governor Rick Perry, Former U. S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez, Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert, and Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott just to name a few. This year's gala promises to be even bigger and will be held on **Friday, September 18, 2009 at the Palomar Hotel**. So make your plans now and ask for your time off. You haven't been to a party until you've been to an LPOA party.

NLPOA National Convention:

The National Convention will be held in Austin, Texas in October 2010 and the NLPOA-Greater Dallas Chapter has just been awarded the 2012 National Convention. Stay tuned for more details.

Promotions:

There appear to be several more Sgt. promotions coming in July followed by more Sr. Cpl. promotions in the next fiscal budget beginning in October. Many of our members are on the bubble to be promoted. Keep you IAD resumes clean, don't give anyone ammunition to pass you over because of past or current discipline. If you feel that you may be to far down on the list to promote, then my advice to you is to start studying now for the next test. Don't wait until 30 days out and think its going to happen.

Membership:

In the last 3 months, our membership has grown tremendously. Maybe, because our dues remain the lowest. Maybe, because we continue to represent our members one member at a time. Whatever the reason is, tell a friend about us and the things we do. Our association is made up of all races, religions, genders and opinions. Get with your station rep if you need a recruiting packet.

Discipline:

If this portion of the newsletter applies to you then read it, then read it again, cut it out and place it on your visor in your squad car. Just last month I wrote a small article regarding Good Decisions-vs-Bad Decisions. Many of you gave positive responses so I will speak on this again. **CAMERAS ARE EVERYWHERE**. The media just aired a story on two officers being investigated on an excessive force complaint at Detox. One officer is even accused of looking around to see if there was a camera watching. Always assume that there is! Someone is always out there with a video camera, camera phone, not to mention AVL etc. etc. Do the right thing. The hook, thief, dope dealer or even your partner will not put

groceries on your table. They will not provide you with an attorney, protect you from embarrassment nor will they offer to pay your bills. Again, when you are called to IAD or PIU, they are not calling you to share a Coke or Dr. Pepper. Do not go in there lying and make it worse. Take it, man up and move on.

“Never put Passion before Principle”

Until next time, support each other and always cover one another.

George Aranda
President
NLPOA-Greater Dallas Chapter