



GENDARME

St. Louis Police Officers Association



The Official Publication of the ST. LOUIS POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE - Lodge 68

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April 2021

SLPOA TO CITY: STOP BAD-FAITH UNION-BUSTING

By Jeff Roorda

After eighteen months of on-again-off-again negotiations with the St. Louis Police Officers Association over the renewal of our Police Officer and Police Sergeant collective bargaining agreements, the City of St. Louis walked away from the table without ever making a good-faith offer on our contract renewal.

That sort of union-busting conduct is strictly forbidden by the law and by our existing contracts.

Article I, Section 29 of the Missouri Constitution provides, "Employees shall have the right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing." The Missouri Supreme Court has found that this Constitutional provision, "...inherently includes the obligation that public employers act in good faith."

Likewise, our existing PO and Sergeant CBA's both include identical language that establish, "This Agreement shall remain in effect until a new or amended Agreement is entered into or until a good-faith bargaining impasse has been reached."

None of those things have happened yet. No new agreement. No amended agreement. No good-faith impasse.

So, what does all of this mean?

It means that our CBA's remain in full force and effect until the City returns to the bargaining table and engages in good-faith negotiations.

Of course, the Police Department and the City don't see it this way.

They've declared a so-called "bargaining impasse" even though they've never made the required good-faith effort to reach an agreement on the renewal of our contract. They've also proclaimed that the CBA's have been terminated and they no longer have to abide by the agreements. Not that this Police Chief ever followed the CBA's before they declared impasse. This anti-employee, anti-union Chief and his inept inner circle want to gig you for any perceived violation – no matter how minor – of the



voluminous rules and regulations that apply to you as a police employee but he has proven himself utterly unwilling or unable to follow any rules himself, most certainly, the rules in the union contract.

We've been able to force the Chief to comply with the CBA by "going over his head" with union grievances that have caused his superiors to repeatedly reverse his non-compliant orders and actions.

He didn't like that much. So, the Chief sent his union-busting lackeys to the bargaining table with specific instructions to sabotage contract negotiations.

And they did. Or, at least, they tried to.

Our business manager sent a correspondence to the Police Department's lawyer on March 27 putting her on notice that the employer was not

meeting its good-faith obligation under the law.

Instead of changing its posture and meeting its legal duty to try to reach an agreement, the City immediately transmitted a take-it-or-leave-it final offer three days later that completely gutted our current agreement and amounted to nothing more than a restatement of management rights and City rules.

When we tried to salvage the negotiations by offering some major concessions in the interest of reaching an accord, the City "took its toys and went home," withdrawing its final offer and unilaterally declaring an impasse that they had no lawful authority to declare.

The Association turned to the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service – a cabinet-level agency charged with working to resolve labor disputes – and asked them to intercede. The FMCS wrote to the City and offered to provide free mediation services in a last ditch effort to avoid a labor-management stand-off between our union and the City.

Just forty-five minutes after the appeal for a return to the bargaining table by the feds, the City told FMCS (and our 1,300 members) to buzz off.

This leaves us with precious few

options.

In Missouri, public employees are prohibited from engaging in most work actions, such as: strikes, walk-outs, slow-downs and work-to-rule campaigns.

Now that the Police Department and the City have thumbed their nose at the law and at the feds, we're left only with litigation.

We have turned the matter over to two of our top attorneys who are in the process of preparing a lawsuit.

But the prospects that cooler heads prevail are dim.

Unless the City decides to do the right thing and comeback to the bargaining room, it looks like we're heading for the courtroom.

Gendarme
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See
Calendar
Page 16

Watch Your 6 !

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Saint Louis
Police Officers
who have made the
Ultimate Sacrifice”
DURING THE
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No Picture Available

**John Sturdy
1863**



**Terrence Donnelly
1902**



**William Dillon
1916**



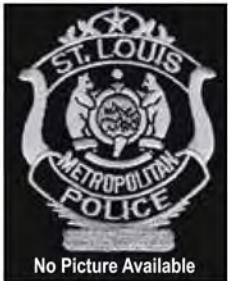
**John McKenna
1916**



**Terence McFarland
1920**



**Bernard Mengel
1922**



No Picture Available

**Michael O'Conner
1922**



No Picture Available

**Harry Wise
1925**



**Joseph Meier
1929**



**George Schrammeyer
1932**



**Neal Courtney
1946**



**Thomas Mulrooney
1956**



**John Summers
1973**



**Claude Smith
1974**



**Daryl Hall
2011**

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
May 26
June 30
7 p.m.

E-BOARD MEETING
May 26
June 30
4:30 p.m.

VETERAN'S MEETING
May 12
June 9
11:30 p.m.

POLICE WIVES MEETING
May 12
June 9
7 p.m.

GENDARME

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Guidelines for Letters to the Editor: All letters to the editor must be signed and verifiable by phone or personal contact. Freedom of expression is guaranteed within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space. Upon request the author's name may be withheld from publication and confidentiality assured. The Gendarme takes no responsibility for the content of the letters in this section.

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"The objective of the Saint Louis Police Officers Association shall be to advance the moral, social and material standing of the members of the Association by honorable and lawful means. As a labor organization the Association shall endeavor to achieve Collective Bargaining with Binding Arbitration." (Preamble of the Association's Constitution and By-Laws)

MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

IT'S NOT EASY BEING BLUE



Jeff Roorda
SLPOA Business Manager

The Mayor's election is finally finished.

So... are we finished too?

I don't think so, not by a longshot.

But, that begs the question, "Where do we go from here?"

The same place, I suppose, we've always gone when we stand together: Forward.

We are in a tough spot but, we are used to adversity as a police union. Life isn't simple for us. Many conservatives don't like us because we are a union and most liberals don't like us because we are the police.

To paraphrase the great philosopher, Kermit D. Frog, "It's not easy being blue."

But, nothing you do is easy.

You are charged with patrolling the streets of the deadliest city in America and one of the deadliest cities in the world. Bogotá, Mogadishu and Beirut ain't got nothin' on us.

Yet, still, you prevail.

You are required to do so with broke-down police cars and barely functioning equipment.

Yet, still, you prevail.

You are bombarded with criticisms – and rock, bricks, Molotov cocktails, and bullets – by anti-police protestors without any support or planning from the Police Chief or his administration.

Yet, still, you prevail.

You've been exposed to one of the deadliest virus strains in the history of this planet, very often without proper equipment or safeguards, without any fanfare. Even though you are eighteen times more likely to die of Covid than American healthcare workers and even though healthcare workers in this country are 250 times more likely to take a human life than cops, you've watched quietly as healthcare workers were heralded as heroes during this pandemic (as well they should have been, given their sacrifice) while you were called baby killers.

Yet, still, you prevail.

You are grossly underpaid compared to surrounding police agencies and you have to patrol a community where police are assaulted more frequently than in any other city in America, all the while being critically understaffed by an average of 215 officers as your Police Chief misleads the media about the manpower crisis and your new mayor angles to slash the police budget and make deep cuts to staffing.



Yet, still, you prevail.

You've endured the last mayor and her bumbling Police Chief trying to sabotage your collective bargaining agreement, while the new mayor has proclaimed she won't honor her Constitutional duty to bargain in good faith with your chosen representative.

Yet, still, you prevail.

No, it's not easy being blue.

Not at all.

But, you will prevail.

Only, though, if we stand together.

In unity, we will prevail. Because, we always have.

We have no other choice.

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BEWARE OF DECEPTIVE, DE-FUND PETITION

The "De-Fund the Police" crowd is at it again.

This time, they are trying to undermine democracy to give them an unfair advantage in re-drawing Aldermanic districts as we go from 29 Aldermen to 15 Aldermen in the next election.

Please, DO NOT SIGN THEIR PETITION. The de-funders have been gathering signatures outside of Schnuck's and Target and other public places and grossly misrepresenting what their petition does.

Their sinister plan is meant to take the authority for drawing ward lines away from duly elected officials, the majority of whom are pro-police, and hand it over to a special "commission" stacked with anti-police activists who are intent on subverting the will of the people and using this petition initiative to bamboozle voters into punishing pro-police elected officials.

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN.

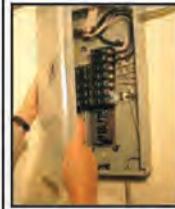
This petition is being pushed by Soros-funded showmeintegrity.org and reformstlouis.org, the same activist group that circulated the Prop D petition that instituted a new confusing, undemocratic primary system in St. Louis Mayoral elections that created an unfair, undemocratic advantage for anti-police candidates.

Don't be fooled by this charade.

PLEASE, SAY NO TO THIS PETITION!

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CONTRACT CORNER

LABOR ACTIONS ARE PROHIBITED, FIGHTING BACK IS NOT SO BE A “CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR”

By Jeff Roorda

As you read on the front page of this issue, we strongly believe our union contracts are still in effect until a judge says otherwise.

So, we plan to continue to honor our commitments under the CBA's even though the Police Department and the City have said they won't.

Ultimately, a court will determine whether our contract remains in full force and decide whether the employer is required to come back to the bargaining table and discontinue its unconstitutional, bad-faith tactics designed to break our union and deny you of your basic rights to organize and to seek fair compensation, fair treatment and due process.

One of the conditions in the union contract that we absolutely intend to honor is the “No Strike/No Lockout” clause (Article 6 of the CBA).

That clause severely limits our ability to picket for better treatment. It also prohibits the union or our members from engaging in labor actions such as: strikes; blue flu campaigns; work stoppages; work slow-downs; or, “work-to-rule” actions.

Work-to-rule actions, if you've never heard of them, are most commonly used by unionized workers in a factory or mining setting. They are designed to slow-down production by following written procedures so meticulously that it disrupts the assembly line or delays digging the next tunnel.



You can just imagine the havoc you as our members could wreak by strictly adhering to the myriad rules of an employer who has so many regulations, special orders and directives that they would be taller than any cop on the force if you stacked them on top of each other.

But we cannot and will not condone any work-to-rule action or any

other prohibited labor action so long as we believe our contract to be in effect.

If a judge determines that the contract has been lawfully terminated – a finding we highly doubt any jurist would reach – then we will consult with our attorneys to determine what labor actions we can lawfully engage in.

Contrary to popular belief, there is no statute in Missouri that expressly prohibits police officers from striking our engaging in other labor actions. Only our contract – the very same contract that the employer wants to dissolve – expressly prohibits strikes and other labor actions.

There is, however, a Missouri Court of Appeals decision from the mid-70's involving a public employee union which held that a teachers strike was prohibited under common law. It is unclear in examining the canon of case law pertaining to public employees who are not regulated by Chapter 105 of the Missouri Statutes – like police officers – what labor actions are and aren't prohibited by common law.

But, it is clear what sort of conduct is not prohibited by state statutes, common law or our union contract.

And, that is voluntary, uncompensated conduct.

Our members are great employees who always go the extra mile for this City and this Police Department, very often on their own time

or at their own expense.

In a word, you are highly “conscientious” employees.

You don't work for a “conscientious” employer though. Our incompetent, anti-employee Police Chief has weaponized the Inspectors Office and the Internal Affairs Division against his own police officers and vowed to “bankrupt” and “destroy” our union.

The Chief has made good on that promise by free-casing one solid police officer after another with contrived allegations and underhanded tricks designed to “make an example” out of any perceived dissenters in the ranks. And, he and the stooges he sent to the bargaining table (Mike Sack, JD McCloskey and Will Brown) have repeatedly engaged in undisguised acts of bad-faith and sabotage that have resulted in a show-down over the status of our union contract that seems certain to be headed to a courtroom.

This Chief has declared war on our union and our members. Anybody who doesn't see that needs to wake-up and take stock of what's going on around them.

Though we can't condone any labor action while the status of our contract is at controversy, what I'm asking you to do is stop being so conscientious toward an employer who has declared war on you. Stop doing things unpaid on your own time for the betterment of this place. Stop using your own equipment or property to try to salvage the operations of this ill-equipped, dangerously understaffed police department. Stop going the extra mile when you're not compensated to do so.

In other words, be a “conscientious objector.”

Don't confuse my use of this term with the Vietnam War era application of conscientious objector used to describe military draftees who refused to serve.

I still expect you to serve the people of this City and to do so valiantly, as you always have. Continue to be kind and sympathetic to citizens and to crime victims but, stop being so nice to a Chief who hates you and wants your head mounted on the wall of the Internal Affairs office.

Object to your bad treatment.

Stop being so kind to an employer who has shown you no kindness. No respect. No fairness.

Be a conscientious objector!

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SCHATZ, SLPOA MAN OF THE YEAR, IS AWARDED STATESMAN OF THE YEAR

You'll recall that Senator Dave Schatz, the President Pro-Tem of the Missouri Senate, was one of four Missouri lawmakers to recently be awarded the 2020 SLPOA Legislator of the Year award for his tireless support of law enforcement and our organization.

Sen. Schatz seemed genuinely humbled when we presented him with a chrome-plated replica SLMPD badge to hang on the wall of his senate office.

But the recognition of his hard work on behalf of Missourians didn't stop there.



"Courtesy of the Missouri Times"



On March 30, Sen. Schatz was again honored for his service, this time with the coveted Missouri Times Statesman of the Year Award. Sen. Schatz was singled-out for the honor at a banquet at *The Millbottom* in Jefferson City in a very well-attended event.

Sen. Schatz is in some pretty exclusive company in receiving this high honor. Past recipients of the accolade include Missouri Governor Mike Parson and Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe (shown in the inset photo flanking Sen. Schatz).

Former Missouri Governor and longtime US

Senator Christopher "Kit" Bond was the first recipient of the award.

SLPOA lobbyist Jane Dueker and business manager Jeff Roorda (shown in inset photo with Sen. Schatz) were also on-hand for the festivities.

Roorda previously served in the Missouri House of Representatives with Schatz and described him to the Gendarme as a "courageous legislator."

"The very first piece of legislation Dave and I worked on together was a bill to crack down on

Methamphetamine cooks by restricting and monitoring access to pseudoephedrine. He broke ranks with his own party to do the right thing to fight the scourge of Meth that was destroying lives in his county (Franklin) and mine (Jefferson)," Roorda recalled. "I was immediately impressed by his tenacity and devotion to his principles. And, I've never stopped being impressed with Dave."

Sen. Schatz represents the 26th Senate District which covers parts of Franklin and St. Louis Counties. He was elected to his second, and final, term in the Senate in 2018 due to term-limits.



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January 8, 2021

Dear Fellow Members:

As many of you are aware, Trustee Gary Wiegert has used social media to make accusations that fraud is being perpetrated by The Police Retirement System of St. Louis.

Trustee Wiegert was asked by his fellow Trustees to disclose the exact nature of this fraud and who is committing it. Unfortunately, Trustee Wiegert has not come forward with any information, thus preventing an investigation of his claims.

The Police Retirement System of St. Louis is audited annually, and that report is posted on the PRS website or can be read at the Pension office. No fraudulent or criminal activity have been uncovered.

Each Trustee takes an oath as described in Section 86.220 RSMo which states in part...the trustee will diligently and honestly administer the affairs of the said board, and will not knowingly violate or willingly permit to be violated any of the provisions of the law applicable to the retirement system. A Trustee who withholds information regarding a crime or makes false accusation of a crime may violate their fiduciary duty to their fellow pension system members.

The Board of Trustees takes this accusation seriously and stands ready to fully investigate any credible allegation. The Trustees encourage anyone with pertinent information to contact the Executive Director at (314) 241-0800.

Respectfully submitted,

Wallace K. Leopold Chairman, Board of Trustees

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THE CRUSTY TRUSTEE

OPINION

You've probably seen the letter accompanying this editorial that was signed by eight out of the nine Police Retirement System trustees disputing the claims of fraud and mismanagement made by the ninth trustee, retired Sergeant Gary Wiegert.

Likely, you wonder, as we do, why a trustee with a sworn fiduciary duty to the pension fund would make such serious accusations yet not produce the evidence he purportedly possesses in support of his very significant claims.

We'll leave it to the trustees to investigate Wiegert's claims and to determine what the appropriate course is should they find his claims to be spurious.

But, we wanted to make sure our members are armed with the facts about Mr. Wiegert's sordid past.

Wiegert served as the President of the St. Louis Police Officers Association during some of its most tumultuous times. Always at odds with fellow Executive Board members and much of the rank-and-file, Wiegert's time in office was peppered with controversy and in-fighting. The organization suffered greatly during his time at the helm.

Ultimately, a coalition of members worked to unseat the controversial Wiegert and right-the-ship in the wake of his disastrous term in office.

Since then, Wiegert has tried to be a constant thorn in the side of the Association, lobbying against legislation that we pursued for the betterment of our members and opposing pro-police candidates simply because we had endorsed them.

His misconduct as a member in violation of our by-laws became so pervasive and egregious that an investigative committee was empaneled in 2011 and they returned a thirteen count allegation of misconduct against Wiegert that ultimately resulted in Wiegert being the first - and only - member of this organization in its 53-year history to ever be expelled from the order. In fact, to our knowledge, he is one of only three Missourians to have ever been expelled from the Fraternal Order of Police.

You can read Wiegert's claims about the pension system in any of the multiple emails and social media rants he has made and decide for yourself the veracity of his assertions.

But, you shouldn't do so without being armed with knowledge of Mr. Wiegert's troubled history as a disgraced former president of the St. Louis Police Officers Association.

Knowledge is power.

Use it wisely.



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SGT Lawrence John "Larry" Flowers

Birth 28 Feb 1943
Death 11 Mar 2021 (aged 78)

SLMPD-2021-15

Sergeant Lawrence J. "Larry" Flowers, DSN 5820, was commissioned as a Police Officer on 10/25/1965. After graduation from the academy Sergeant Flowers served in the following districts and divisions through his career. They were the 4th, 6th, Police Academy (Instructor), and the 6th district. On 08/14/1977 he was promoted to the command rank of Sergeant. In this capacity he served as a "Line Platoon Supervisor" in the 6th, 2nd, 5th, and finally the 8th district. Sergeant Flowers was the recipient of 1 Chief's Letter of Commendation on 06/12/1981 for police work above and beyond the call of duty. Sergeant Flowers retired on 10/02/1995 and served a total of 29.94 years of faithful and dedicated service to the St. Louis Police Metropolitan Police Department.

Sergeant Flowers was predeceased by his parents Mr. & Mrs. Leo J. and Laura (nee Heberer) Flowers.

Direct cremation.



Willis H. Crook

Birth 10 Feb 1943
Death 20 Mar 2021 (aged 78)

SLMPD-2021-16

Officer Willis H. Crook, DSN 6078, was appointed on 05/23/1966, and entered the police academy. Upon completion of the academy Officer Crook served in the following districts and specialized divisions through out his career. They were the 3rd, Mobile Reserve Unit, Tactical Anti-Crime Unit (T.A.C.T), 3rd, Crimes Against Property Section, Major Theft/Fraud Unit, Crimes Against Property, 3rd, Auto Theft Unit, Crimes Against Property Section, Sex Crimes/Child Abuse Section, 3rd, Sex Crimes/Child Abuse Section, 3rd, Sex Crimes/Child Abuse Section, 9th, Special Services, 9th, and finally the Communication's Division. Officer Crook was the recipient of many department awards. They were 3 Exceptional Performance of Duty awards on 12/01/1971, 05/24/1978, 12/21/1986; 2 Chief's Letters of Commendation on 04/25/1975, and 06/07/1976; 2 Meritorious Service Citations on 11/01/1967, and 12/05/1986. All of these previous awards were for police work above and beyond the call of duty. Officer Crook also received the departments highest award "The Medal of Valor" on 11/19/1987, for extraordinary bravery intelligently performed in "The Line of Duty" at imminent and personal danger to life for conspicuous bravery or heroism above and beyond the normal demands of police service. To be awarded the Medal of Valor, an officer would have performed an act displaying extreme courage while consciously facing imminent peril. Officer Crook



(Cont. on pg. 9)

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(Cont. from pg. 8)

retired on 07/02/2001 having served 35.11 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department.

Officer Crook was also a veteran of the United States Army and served from 08/01/1961 to 08/01/1964. He achieved the rank of Specialist 5th Class.

Dearest son of the late Mr. & Mrs. John N. and Bernice J. (nee Ellis) Crook.

Beloved husband of Barbara (nee Shinkle) Crook for 55 years; dearest father of Tim (Jeanne) and Jeff Crook; dear grandfather of Kaitlyn and Chloe Crook; brother of Carolyn (the late Cleveland) Smith; brother-in-law of Jim (Debbie Cambre) Shinkle and Jeanne (the late Darrel) Johnston; our dear uncle, cousin and friend of many.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to Backstoppers, Inc.

CROOK, WILLIS H
 SP5 U.S. ARMY
 DATE OF BIRTH: 02/10/1943
 DATE OF DEATH: 03/20/2021

BURIED AT: Section Number 1X, Grave Number 12
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 2900 SHERIDAN ROAD
 ST. LOUIS, MO.
 63125

Donald Gene Irby Sr.

Birth 13 Dec 1937
 Death 23 Mar 2021 (aged 83)

SLMPD-2021-17



Officer Donald G. Irby, DSN 7202, received his commission on 01/13/1969 and entered the academy. Officer Irby served in the 7th, Traffic Safety Division (T.S.D.), Area III (no designation of assignment on H.R. file), Public Affairs/Public Information Office, 6th, Area III, Correspondence Investigation Division (C.I.D.), and finally the Warrant and Fugitive Section. Officer Irby retired on 03/01/1999 with 30.13 years of dedicated and faithful service to the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department.

Officer Irby was a veteran on the United States Marines Corps and achieved the rank of Private 1st Class which is an E-2.

Officer Donald G. Irby's son Officer Vincent Carr, DSN 2564, followed his father into the law enforcement field and also joined the ranks of the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department to become a 2nd generation member of the family to do so. Other extended members of his family who also work in the field of law enforcement are his nephew former SLMPD Officer Byron Irby, DSN 3345, who also joined the ranks of the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department in 1989. Officer Byron Irby resigned his commission in May of 2002 to take a position with DHS, and is currently the Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Air Marshal Service-Dallas Field Office. Officer Donald G. Irby's great-nephew, Officer Derek Mosby, DSN 6574, is also with the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department, and is attached to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Division.

Dearest son of the late Mr. & Mrs. Joseph C. and Mrs. Fern K. Williams.

IRBY, DONALD GENE
 PFC U.S. MARINE CORPS

DATE OF BIRTH: 12/13/1937
 DATE OF DEATH: 03/23/2021

BURIED AT: SECTION R SITE 288
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 2900 SHERIDAN ROAD
 ST. LOUIS, MO.
 63125

(Cont. on pg. 10)



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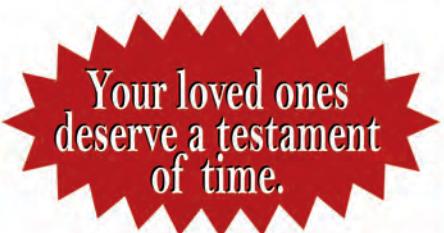
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(Cont. from pg. 9)

Michael Washington Sr.

Birth 5 May 1949
Death 25 Mar 2021 (aged 71)

SLMPD-2021-18

Detective Michael Washington, DSN 0298, received his commission on 04/29/1974. Detective Washington served in the following districts and specialized divisions through out his career. They were the Bureau of Investigation, Mobile Reserve Section, 5th, Mobile Reserve Section, Mounted Police Unit, Juvenile Division, Word Processing Unit, Juvenile Division, 8th, Sex Crimes/Child Abuse Unit. Detective Washington was the recipient of 1 letter of Exceptional Performance of Duty on 02/21/1986 for police work above the call of duty. Detective Washington retired on 08/22/1994, having served 20.31 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department.

Detective Washington was a veteran of the United States Army, and served during the Viet Nam War. He achieved the rank of Specialist 5th Class, which is an E-5.

No obituary could be located.

WASHINGTON, MICHAEL SR
SP5 U.S. ARMY
VIETNAM

DATE OF BIRTH: 05/05/1949
DATE OF DEATH: 03/25/2021

BURIED AT: SECTION 1Y SITE 86
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2900 SHERIDAN ROAD
ST. LOUIS, MO.
63125



Donald Robert "Don" Frazier Sr.

Birth 29 Sep 1942
Death 11 Apr 2021 (aged 78)

SLMPD-2021-19

Officer Donald R. Frazier, DSN 5192, received his commission on 06/15/1964. Officer Frazier served in the 4th, and the Mobile Reserved Section, and then left the department on 06/25/1966 to seek gainful employment in the private sector. Officer Frazier returned on 11/02/1970, and was temporarily assigned to the Bureau of Field Operations before he was transferred to the 6th district. Officer Frazier subsequently served in the Auto Theft Unit, 6th, 7th, Area III, and finally the 7th district. During his career he was awarded 1 letter for Exceptional Performance of Duty on 02/27/1980 for police work above the call of duty. Officer Frazier retired on 06/17/1991 with 22.65 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department.

Officer Frazier was a veteran of the United States Air Force and achieved the rank of Airman First Class, which is an E-3.

Donald Robert Frazier, Sr., of Farmington and formerly of Van Buren, passed away April 11, 2021 at the age of 78. He was born in Van Buren, Missouri to the late James Martell Frazier and Grace (Edwards) Frazier. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Bud Frazier and a sister, Lilla Cook.

After graduating high school in Van Buren, Donald went into the United States Air Force where he proudly served his country. When he returned to civilian life he was a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. He later served on the Police Force for St. Louis City before returning to his home town of Van Buren where he was Chief of Police. An avid sports fan, Donald enjoyed playing golf and watching football and baseball. He was a St. Louis Cardinals fan through and through. He was a member of the Farmington Elks Lodge.

His only son, Rob, will remember Donald as a great guy who was always there for his family and a better father there could not have been.



(Cont. on pg. 11)

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Survivors include his son, Donald Robert "Rob" Frazier, Jr.; grandchildren, Tyler Frazier and Caelan Frazier; great grandson, Tanner; and a good friend who was always like a brother to him, Paul Towner.

No services are planned at this time.
Share your condolences at cozeanfuneralhome.com.

SGT Raymond Louis "Ray" Ghrist

Birth 15 Jun 1943
Death 10 Apr 2021 (aged 77)

SLMPD-2021-20



Sergeant Raymond L. Ghrist, DSN 5868, received his commission on 12/06/1965. Upon completion of the department academy Sergeant Ray Ghrist served in the following districts and specialized divisions through out his career. They were the 7th, Mobile Reserve Section, Juvenile Division, Sex Crime/Child Abuse Unit, Crimes Against Persons Unit, and the Homicide Section. On 09/25/1991 he was promoted to the command rank of Sergeant and sent to the 8th district as a "Line Platoon Supervisor." Sergeant Ghrist finished his career in the Internal Affairs Division (I.A.D.) at Police Headquarters. During his career he was awarded 1 Chief's Letter of Commendation on 09/27/1978 for police work above and beyond the call of duty. Sergeant Ghrist retired on 03/01/2001 and served 35.23 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department.

Sergeant Ray Ghrist was predeceased by his lovely wife of 57 years, Mrs. Judith M. (nee Crawford) Ghrist. He is survived by his children Jerri, Tony & Cory; daughter-in-law, Kim; grandchildren, Josh, Jewel, Jenny, Julie, Joey, Jade, Jett; great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Direct cremation.

Paul F. Rea

Birth 7 Nov 1943
Death 13 Apr 2021 (aged 77)

SLMPD-2021-21



Officer Paul F. Rea, DSN 5598, received his commission on 05/10/1965. After the academy Officer Rea served in the following districts during his career. They were the 4th, 5th, 4th, 5th, 3rd, 8th, 1st, 3rd, and finally the 7th district. During his career he was awarded 1 Honorable Mention on 05/01/1968, 3 Chief's Letters of Commendation on 02/01/1968, 07/01/1968, and 08/02/1985. All of the aforementioned awards were for police work above and beyond the call of duty. In addition to the previous awards Officer Rea also was the recipient of a Meritorious Service Citation on 06/17/1981. This award is for extraordinary bravery intelligently performed in the Line of Duty at imminent and personal danger to life. Officer Rea retired on 05/12/1986 having served 19.99 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department.

Officer Rea was a veteran of the United States Navy and achieved the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class which is an E-4.

Arrangements will be under the direction of the Baue Funeral Home, with a direct cremation.

(Cont. on pg. 12)

Fade Outs

The following officers retired during the month of March

		EFFECTIVE
PO Lorenza Clark	306	03/14/21
PO Edward D. Slade	302	03/14/21
SGT Gary W. Foster	302	03/28/21

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To: Members of the Police Retirement System of St. Louis
 Re: *Charles Lane and Johnny E. McCrary v. Police Retirement System of St. Louis, City of St. Louis and State of Missouri*, Cause No. 2122-CC000751

Dear Members:

This letter is to advise you of a lawsuit filed by Charles A. Lane and Johnny McCrary ("Plaintiffs") against the Police Retirement System ("PRS"), the City of St. Louis ("City") and the State of Missouri ("State"). A PDF of the lawsuit is on the PRS website, www.stlouisprs.org.

In the lawsuit, the Plaintiffs seek an order from the Court declaring five (5) state statutes that provide and/or enhance benefits to members of the PRS as unconstitutional. These provisions are:

- A. the refund of member contributions to the System (*i.e.*, the "lump sum"), § 86.253(4), RSMo;
- B. institution of the DROP program, §§ 86.320(4) and 86.251, RSMo;
- C. an increase in the maximum cost of living allowance from twenty-five percent (25%) to thirty percent (30%), § 86.253(3), RSMo;
- D. an increase in the maximum service retirement allowance from seventy percent (70%) to seventy-five percent (75%), § 86.253(1), RSMo; and
- E. a change in the formula for average final compensation serving as the basis for calculating pensions from three (3) years to two (2) years, § 86.200(3), RSMo.

The Plaintiffs also seek declarations and orders from the Court that, in essence, the State and not the City must pay for these benefits and that the State must reimburse the City for the City's prior payments, over an unstated time period, that funded the PRS to provide these benefits.

The Board of Trustees of the PRS believes it is *not* in the best interests of its members for a Court to declare the above cited statutes unconstitutional. Further, the Board believes there are strong and viable defenses to the constitutional challenges brought by the Plaintiffs.

While for obvious reasons the Board cannot discuss publicly its legal theories or strategies in relation to this suit, the Board intends to vigorously pursue on its members' behalf all claims and defenses that support the constitutionality of these statutes and the important benefits they provide to those who have protected and served the citizens of the City.

Respectfully,

Wallace K. Leopold, Chair, Board of Trustees
 Police Retirement System of St. Louis

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(Cont. from pg. 11)

Michael Patrick Wiber

Birth 20 Aug 1968
 Death 4 Apr 2021 (aged 52)



SLMPD-2021-CIV.-1

Communications Specialist Michael P. Wiber, DSN 2707, of the Communications Division was appointed as a part-time Communication's Specialist I on 04/06/1987. On 06/08/1987 he was hired as a full time Communication's Specialist I. He was promoted to a Specialist II on 07/01/1989. During his career he held many positions within the Communications Division such as complaint evaluation, or other different radio consoles for the districts or specialized divisions. Mr. Wiber was promoted to Communications Supervisor on 06/01/1997. Mr. Wiber was the recipient of the departments highest award "The Medal of Valor" on 11/15/2007 for extraordinary bravery intelligently performed in "The Line of Duty" at imminent and personal danger to life for conspicuous bravery or heroism above and beyond the normal demands of police service. Mr. Wiber retired on 04/ 17/2009, having served a total of 21.86 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Michael followed in the footsteps of his father Officer Thomas C. Wiber, DSN 7777, and became a 2Nd generation family member to serve with the department, along with his sister Officer Michelle (nee Wiber) Lammert, DSN 1660, SLMPD, who retired out of C.I.D. (Criminal Investigation Division).

Wiber, Michael P.

52. Loving son of Nancy Wiber (nee Bresnahan) and the late Thomas C. Wiber. Dear brother of Suzanne Benoist and Michele Lammert. Uncle of Hannah, Tim, Riley and Sam. Friend to many,

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Two Police Officers and Their Story

The following story was told to me by two police officers.

My partner and I were on patrol along the outskirts of our jurisdiction. The road that we were on was seldom used, and this day was no different. Usually, there was very little vehicle traffic on this road and never any pedestrian traffic. However, as we came around a bend in the road, in the distance, we both saw a person standing on the side of the road. We knew that we had to stop and ask this person what was going on.

We pulled over, approached the person, and immediately realized that it was a woman. She turned and looked at us, and we saw that she was injured. She was bleeding from a gash on her forehead and from other cuts on her face and arms.

We ran toward her and asked what happened. She did not say a word, but she turned and pointed down the steep hill. I looked down the hill, but could not see anything. I again asked her what had happened, but all she did was to point down the hill.

My partner called in our location and requested an ambulance. I told my partner that I was going to go down the hill and investigate. He said OK, and said that he would get the first aid kit from the back of the car and attend to the lady's wounds until the paramedics arrived.

I started down the hill which was very rocky, and I had to take my time and be careful so that I would not slip and fall down. I still could not see anything until I got over a little rise. Then a car was visible. It

was upright and on its wheels, but it was obvious that the car had rolled because I could see the extensive damage. I asked myself, "I wonder if someone is trapped in the car? There must be someone in there. Why would the woman keep pointing down the hill if no one else was involved in the crash?"

As I got closer to the car, I heard the sound of a baby crying. I quickened my pace in order to rescue the baby. When I got to the car, the rear passenger door was ajar. I looked in and saw the crying baby still strapped in his car seat. There was no blood on him, and he appeared unharmed. I knew that I had to get the baby out and reunite him with the woman who I assumed was his Mom. I also wanted to have the paramedics check out the baby to see if he sustained any injuries. I looked in the front seat and saw a man and a woman, and neither was moving.

I got the baby out of the car, and he stopped crying. I turned to start up the hill, and there stood my partner. "What are you doing here," I asked? "I thought you were going to stay with the woman and wait until the ambulance arrived."

My partner replied, "I sat the woman down in the police car and then went to get the first kit. When I got back, the woman was running down the hill after you. So I ran after her, but I lost sight of her and did not see her again. Where did she go?"

"I did not see her, and she did not come here. I don't know where she went," I replied.

I gave the baby to my partner and went to check on the people in the front seat of the car. They both were strapped into the seats but neither had a pulse and appeared to be dead. I called dispatch and told them that we had a double, fatal car accident with one survivor, and we needed another ambulance. (The officers found out later that the two dead people were indeed the baby's parents. The baby now lives with relatives and has no memory of his parents or the

accident.)

I told my partner to take the baby up the hill, and I said that I would look around and try to find the injured woman.

As my partner began to climb up the hill, I looked into the car. Wait a minute! No, it can't be! I must be seeing things! I said to my partner, "Look at this!"

He turned, peered in at the dead woman in the car, and then his jaw dropped. He looked at me and said, "I don't believe this. This can't be real."

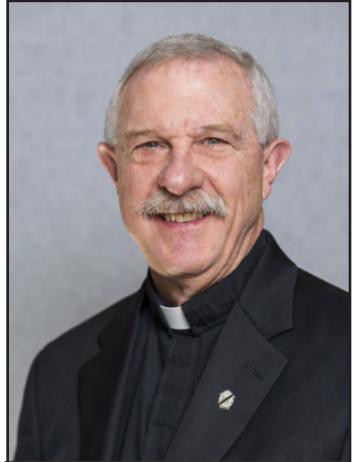
The dead woman in the front seat of the car was the same woman who the officers saw on the side of the road motioning for them to go down the hill. But how can a dead woman be standing at the top of the hill? Both officers saw her there. Both officers spoke with her. The wrecked car was not visible from the side of the road, and the only reason that the officers stopped their patrol car was because they saw the woman standing on the edge of the road. But how did she get back into the car and have her seat belt buckled? To this day, they are still mystified. They have no explanation.

So what happened here? Was this a miracle of God? Who was that woman at the top of the hill? Was it the dead woman's spirit? Was it an angel directing the officers to investigate and save the baby?

I do not know who that woman was, and I cannot explain what happened. I do know that God works in mysterious ways, ways that we are unable to rationalize. But our faith leads us to God and proves to us that events like the one described here can and do happen.

The Covid pandemic is still prevalent, but there are signs that it is decreasing. Sadly, the civil unrest and the homicide numbers continue to rise. Please know that you officers and your families are in my daily prayers. My thanks to you officers for your dedication and service to others.

May God bless you.



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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI
EN BANC



IN RE:)
)
 KIMBERLY M. GARDNER) Case No.: DHP-21-005
)
 MBE# 56780) OCDC File No.: 18-1095-XI
)
 Respondent.)

INFORMATION

COMES NOW the Chief Disciplinary Counsel, pursuant to Missouri Supreme Court Rule 5, and states and alleges as follows:

Introduction

1. Informant is the Chief Disciplinary Counsel appointed by this Court pursuant to Rule 5.06.
2. Informant has determined, pursuant to Rule 5.11, that probable cause exists to believe that Respondent is guilty of professional misconduct.
3. Respondent is a duly licensed attorney admitted to practice in and before all courts of this State and is a member of the Bar of the State of Missouri. Respondent's Missouri Bar number is 56780 and she has been licensed to practice law in Missouri since September 29, 2004.
4. During all times relevant to the allegations set forth herein Respondent was the Circuit Attorney for the City of St. Louis and engaged in the practice of law at 1114 Market Street St. Louis, Missouri 63101.
5. Respondent's license is currently in good standing.

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NEW



2021 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LS
SIGN AND DRIVE
39MO.
PAYMENTS AS LOW AS
\$199 PER MO.

Stock #210201

Disclosure : Sign and Drive. Low mileage lease. 10k per year. No money down. Lease conquest. 39 mo.

NEW



2021 CHEVY EQUINOX LS
SIGN AND DRIVE
39MO.
PAYMENTS AS LOW AS
\$209 PER MO.

Stock #210113

Disclosure : Sign and Drive. Low mileage lease. 10k per year. No money down. Lease conquest. 39 mo.

NEW



2021 CHEVY SILVERADO
Crew Cab, 4x4.
SIGN AND DRIVE
39MO.
PAYMENTS AS LOW AS
\$399 PER MO.

Stock #210209

Disclosure : Sign and Drive. Low mileage lease. 10k per year. No money down. Lease conquest. 39 mo.



2018 JEEP RENEGADE
2.4L, Only 12K miles.
\$17,642



2017 FORD EXPLORER
Silver, 3.5L, Only 61K miles.
\$22,085



2019 FORD MUSTANG
5.0L, Only 20K miles.
\$29,796



2020 CHEVY SILVERADO
5.3L4x4, LT, Crew Cab, Only 6K miles.
\$39,911



2016 RAM 1500 REBEL
Crew Cab, 5.7L, 4WD.
\$29,954



2019 CHEVY EQUINOX
19 to Choose From Your Choice
\$18,995

Don Brown Deal!

PERKS

no charge with vehicle purchase

-  **FREE** Waterway Car Wash with Service
-  **LIFETIME** Parts Warranty
-  **FREE** 1st Maintenance
-  **FREE** Electric Vehicle Charging
-  **30 Day** Lowest Price Tire **GUARANTEE**
-  **10% OFF** Accessories and Install Labor
-  **FREE** Shuttle Service
-  **FREE** Every 4th Oil Change
-  **1/2 PRICE** Missouri State Inspections
-  **4 DAY** Exchange on All Pre-Owned
-  **Referral Rewards \$100** per Purchase
-  **New Vehicle** Parts and Service **REWARDS**

*EZ BUY call dealer for details.

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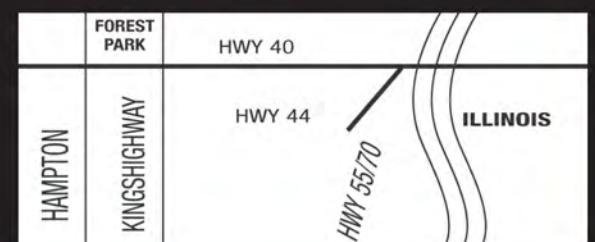
DON BROWN CHEVROLET

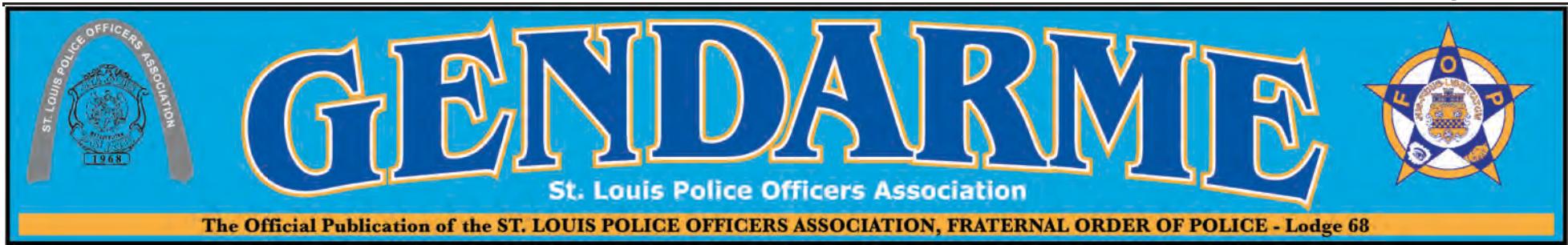
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MAY 2021							
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
						1 Missouri Police Memorial Ceremony	
2	3	4	5 CPD MTG 7PM	6	7	8	
9 Mother's Day	POLICE WEEK EVENTS POSTPONED TO OCTOBER 13-17					14 PAYDAY	15
16	17	18	19 Emerald Society 7pm	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG 7 PM E-BOARD MTG 4:30 PM	27	28 PAYDAY	29	
30	31 Memorial Day						

JUNE 2021						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 CPD MTG 7PM	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 VETERANS MTG 11:30 AM POLICE WIVES 7 PM	10	11 PAYDAY	12
13	14 Flag Day June 14	15	16 Emerald Society 7pm	17	18	19
20 Happy Father's Day	21	22	23	24	25 PAYDAY	26
27	28	29	30 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG 7 PM E-BOARD MTG 4:30 PM	28		

JULY 2021						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					2	3
4 Happy 4th of July	5	6	7 CPD MTG 7PM	8	9 PAYDAY	10
11	12	13	14 VETERANS MTG 11:30 AM POLICE WIVES 7 PM	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Emerald Society 7pm	22	23 PAYDAY	24
25	26	27	28 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG 7 PM E-BOARD MTG 4:30 PM	29	30	31