



OHIO ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, INC.

Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police Line of Duty Death Committee Report

Submitted By:
Chief Michael Harnishfeger, CLEE
Ada Police Department

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On June 5, 2007 the Executive Board of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police adopted the Line of Duty Death Response Policy to honor Ohio's Fallen Police Officers. As part of this policy, each year Ohio's Police Chiefs have committed to honor our fallen officers at the annual conference.

This year we honor and remember the following Ohio Peace Officers who have fallen since our last conference.

Police Officer Mathew J. Mazany (41), Mentor Police Department – End of Watch: June 24, 2018

Police Officer Mathew Mazany was struck and killed by a hit-and-run driver while assisting another officer during a traffic stop on Route 2, near Route 306, at approximately 1:00 a.m.

The vehicle that had been stopped contained a subject wanted in another jurisdiction. As the officers began to approach the car to take the person into custody another vehicle entered the area and struck Officer Mazany. The vehicle fled the scene after striking Officer Mazany but was located several hours later and the driver was taken into custody.

On March 1, 2019, the 25-year-old driver was convicted of aggravated vehicular homicide, DWI, and several other charges.

Officer Mazany had served with the Mentor Police Department for 14 years. He is survived by his wife, son, brother, sister and his father who was a police officer for 34 years.

Police Officer Vu X. Nguyen (50), Cleveland Police Department – End of Watch: July 6, 2018

Police Officer Vu Nguyen passed away four days after collapsing during a 1.5-mile timed run that was part of the agency's canine handler eligibility process.

He and other candidates were participating in the physical fitness portion of the process in 90+ degree heat when he collapsed during the run on July 2nd, 2018. He was transported to MetroHealth where his condition continued to worsen. He was flown to Cleveland Clinic where he passed away on July 6th, 2018.

Officer Nguyen had served with the Cleveland Division of Police for over 20 years and had previously served with the Cleveland Division of Corrections for four years. He is survived by his wife and two children.

Police Officer Dale James Woods (46), Colerain Police Department – End of Watch: January 7, 2019

Police Officer Dale Woods succumbed to injuries sustained three days earlier while moving traffic control devices at the scene of a previous crash on Colerain Avenue near Harry Lee Lane.

The initial crash involved a vehicle striking a utility pole during a period of rain, requiring the utility company to respond to make repairs. Officer Woods was moving a traffic cone as part of the road closure when a pickup truck struck him.

He was transported to Cincinnati Medical Center where he passed away. His organs were donated following his death.

Officer Woods had served with the Colerain Township Police Department for 15 years. He is survived by his three children.

Detective William Lee Brewer (42), Clermont County Sheriff's Office – End of Watch: February 2, 2019

Detective Bill Brewer was shot and killed after responding to call from a suicidal man armed with a gun at an apartment complex.

Shortly before 7:00 pm the Clermont County Sheriff's Office received a call from the man who initially stated that someone had broken into his home. The same man later told 911 dispatchers that he was suicidal and armed with a gun. When officers arrived, they couldn't contact the man who had barricaded himself inside his apartment.

Several minutes later the man fired several shots prompting officers from several agencies to respond and begin to negotiate with him. At 10:30 p.m. the man again opened fire from his apartment. The shots struck and killed Detective Brewer and wounded a second deputy.

The man was taken into custody inside of the apartment by members of the SWAT Team a short time later.

Detective Brewer had served with the Clermont County Sheriff's Office for 20 years. He is survived by his wife and 5-year-old son.

Since we last met we have lost 8 of our brother police chiefs:

Chief Mathew Vedra (retired), Rossford PD, EOW: March 8, 2019

Chief Dennis Rees (retired), Loveland PD, EOW: October 26, 2018

Chief Thomas Kulp (retired), Upper Arlington PD, EOW: October 9, 2018

Chief Val Young (retired), Galion PD, EOW: August 24, 2018

Chief Russell Gatrell (retired), Marlboro PD, EOW: July 21, 2018

Chief Russell Dwyer (retired), Middletown PD, EOW: April 23, 2018

Chief Harold Wayne May (retired), Fairfield Township PD, EOW: May 13, 2018

Chief Robert D. Pieper (retired), Sycamore Township PD and Carlisle PD, EOW: May 4, 2018

Police K9's

K9 Benzi, Columbus Police Department – End of Watch: September 1, 2018.

K9 Benzi was shot after attacking his handler at the agency's canine facility. Benzi's handler was correcting his behavior with verbal commands when the dog attacked him, causing serious wounds to his handler's arm. Benzi continued to disobey his handler's command to release, giving his handler no other option except to shoot him. Benzi was taken to a local veterinary hospital where he was humanely euthanized due to the wound.

K9 Benzi had served with the Columbus Division of Police for two years.

Please rise and join me in a moment of silence to honor our fallen brothers.

Let us pray that God will keep His hand on our law enforcement brothers and sisters as we work to keep the peace for those we serve.

At this time, I would like to remind our members that the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police desire to quickly respond to Line of Duty Deaths in Ohio and that it is very important for our members to relay information to the association offices or your district representative for our quick response. If you have any questions on our policy, please do not hesitate to contact your representative.

Finally, each year the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police solicits our members to donate to Ohio Concerns of Police Survivors with a monetary gift to be sent in with your dues. Please consider making a donation to this most worthy organization.

God Bless and Keep the Men and Women of Law Enforcement.