

Rappahannock Area Lodge #15
Neil J. Hornung
Director



The History of the Fraternal of the Police.

- In 1915 the courage and wisdom of two Pittsburgh patrol officers. Martin Toole and Delbert Nagle knew they must first organize police officers, like other labor interests, if they were to be successful in making life better for themselves and their fellow police officers.
- On **May 14, 1915**, and held the first meeting of the Fraternal Order of Police. They formed Fort Pitt Lodge #1. They decided on this name due to the anti-union sentiment of the time.
- A tradition of police officers representing police officers. The Fraternal Order of Police was given life by two dedicated police officers determined to better their profession and those who choose to protect and serve our communities, our states and our country.
- Fraternal Order of Police "strong influence in the legislatures in various states...their considerate and charitable efforts" on behalf of the officers in need and the FOP's "efforts at increasing the public confidence toward the police to the benefit of the peace, as well as the public."
- Today, the tradition that was first envisioned over 105 years ago lives on with more than **2,100 local lodges** and more than **356,000 members** in the United States.
- ☐ The Fraternal Order of Police has become the largest professional police organization in the country.
- The Fraternal Order of Police are proud professionals working on behalf of law enforcement officers from all ranks and levels of government.

The emblem adopted by the National Fraternal Order of Police is designed to remind the membership of the duties that are expected of them as a citizen, a police officer and a member of the lodge. The five-cornered star tends to remind us of the allegiance we owe to our flag and is a symbol of the authority with which we are entrusted. It is an honor the people we serve bestow upon us. They place their confidence and trust in us; serve them provides

Midway between the points and center the points are of gold, which indicates the thin blue line protecting those we serve. The points are of gold, which indicates the position under which we are now serving. The background is white, the unstained color representing the purity with which we should serve. We shall not let anything corrupt be injected into our order. Therefore, our colors are blue, gold and white.

The open eye is the eye of vigilance, ever looking for danger and protecting all those under its care while they sleep or while awake. The clasped hands denote friendship. The hand of friendship is always extended to those in need of our comfort.

The circle surrounding the star midway indicates our never-ending efforts to promote the welfare and advancement of this order. Within the half-circle over the centerpiece is our motto, "Jus, Fidus, Libertatum," which translated means "Law Is a Safeguard of Freedom."

Legislation we support.

- **H.R. 72** (Buchanan, R-FL), the "Thin Blue Line Act," which would expand the list of statutory aggravating factors in death penalty determinations to also include killing or targeting a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or other first responder;
- **TOP PRIORITY H.R. 82** (*Davis, R-IL*), the "Social Security Fairness Act," which would repeal both the "Windfall Elimination Provision" and the "Government Pension Offset" in current Social Security law;
- **H.R. 263** (Quigley, D-IL), the "Big Cats Public Safety Act," which would strengthen existing restrictions on the possession and exhibition of big cats, including restricting direct contact between the public and these animals;
- H.R. 288 (Banks, R-IN), which would codify the existing qualified immunity doctrine as established and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court;
- PASSED H.R. 305 (Crist, D-FL), which would award a Congressional Gold Medal to U.S. Capitol Police Officer Eugene Goodman for his selfless acts of bravery in protecting Members of Congress on 6 January 2021;
- **H.R. 483** (*Ruiz*, *D-CA*), the "Heroes Lesley Zerebney and Gilbert Vega First Responders Survivors Support Act," which would increase the amount of the death benefit provided by the Public Safety Officers' benefits (PSOB) program as well as other benefits administered by the PSOB;
- **H.R. 521** (Connolly, D-VA), the "Fair Return for Employees on Their Initial Retirement Earned (RETIRE) Act," which would allow Federal law enforcement officers, who were severely injured in the line of duty, to maintain their 6(c) early retirement if they take a civil service position after their injury;
- H.R. 649 (Emmer, R-MN), the "Abby Honold Act," which would promote the use of trauma-informed techniques by law enforcement when responding to sexual assault crimes;
- **H.R. 929** (Deutch, D-FL), which would provide a technical fix to the Elderly Home Detention Pilot program established by the First Step Act;
- **TOP PRIORITY H.R. 962** (*Pascrell, D-NJ*), the "Law Enforcement Officers' Equity Act," which would expand the definition of "law enforcement officer" for salary and retirement benefits to include all Federal law enforcement officers;
- S. 119 (Klobuchar, D-MN), the "Abby Honold Act," which would promote the use of trauma-informed techniques by law enforcement when responding to sexual assault crimes;
- **S. 129** (*Tester, D-MT*), the "Fair Return for Employees on Their Initial Retirement Earned (RETIRE) Act," which would allow Federal law enforcement officers, who were severely injured in the line of duty, to maintain their 6(c) early retirement if they take a civil service position after their injury;
- **S. 391** (*Grassley, R-IA*), the "EAGLES Act," which would reauthorize the National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and expand the program by including a new school safety initiative;
- **S. 466** (Moran, R-KS), the "Kelsey Smith Act," which would require telephone companies and wireless carriers to disclose cell-site location data without a warrant in certain exigent circumstances;
- **S. 662** (*Fischer, R-NE*), the "Achieving Thorough Transparency and Accessibility for Information Navigation on (ATTAIN) Mental Health Act," which would establish an online dashboard for Federal resources related to mental health programs;
- **S.** 675 (Coons, D-DE), the "NICS Denial Notification Act," which would require the U.S. Department of Justice to notify State and local law enforcement agencies if a prohibited person attempts to purchase a firearm in their jurisdiction;
- S. 774 (Tillis, R-NC), the "Protect and Serve Act," which would make it a Federal crime to target a law enforcement officer with an assault that results in serious bodily harm or death;
- **S. 878** (*Leahy, D-VT*), the "Stop Illegal Trafficking in Firearms Act," which would criminalize the practice of "straw purchasers"—individuals who are not prohibited from buying firearms only to transfer those weapons to persons who are unable to lawfully obtain guns;

https://fop.net/about-the-fop/history-of-the-fop/

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