



R•C•P•A Newsletter

RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

February 2023

IF YOU RECEIVED A YELLOW NEWSLETTER, YOUR 2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED, APPLICATION FORM IS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. IF YOU RECEIVE A WHITE NEWSLETTER, YOUR DUES ARE PAID.

Upon receipt of your 2023 dues, we will send you a membership card and auto decal.

President's Message

Harold Brown

The next meeting of the Retired Chicago Police Association will be held on February 26, 2023 at 1:00 PM. It will be held at the FOP hall, 1412 W Washington Blvd

As provided by state statute, a cost of living adjustment (COLA) of 3% will be reflected in your annuity check on the last working day of January 2022. This increase only applies to retirees who have attained the age of 55 years of age and have been retired at least 13 months and were born before January 1, 1976.

Retired public safety officers, do not forget the \$3000 benefit that you are provided under the helps provision under the pension protective act of 2017. As this benefit allows for tax deferred deductions of insurance premiums such as healthcare, dental, optical, and long term care if the premiums are deducted from your pension check. Check with your tax consultant. The \$500 (13) check was sent late; it will be sent after Christmas. This check is sent to

annuitants receiving the minimum monthly annuity.

The FOP is having an election this year, ballots will be mailed to FOP members this month. Vote for only 17 Trustees; if you vote for more than 17 your ballot will be invalid.



RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

5310 N. Harlem Avenue • Chicago, IL 60656

Phone: 773-763-5310

www.retiredchicagopoliceassoc.com

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REGULAR MEETING
Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 1:00 PM
at FOP
1412 W Washington Blvd.

Organized in 1888 as an Association to protect the Police Pension Fund and the welfare of Police Pensioners, their widows and children.

Just A Thought.....
By Russ Schaefer 1st Vice President, RCPA

In May of 1983 I was assigned to the Mass Transit Tactical Team on the 1st Watch. This Team was special as we were the HBT (Swat) Team for the entire City. As a Sniper and HBT team member I was required to attend regular training which was done at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, near Waukegan, Illinois. On FRIDAY, the 13th of May (get it?) I was training in a hostage scenario equipped with a Universal 30 Caliber Carbine Rifle when I received a gunshot wound to my face and right eye. This weapon experienced a failure to feed or as we call it, a Slam Fire. In short the cartridge case failed to go entirely into battery and the primer was struck by the bolt and the cartridge exploded sending hot gas, burning powder and metal debris back into my face and both eyes. Besides the bleeding to my forehead my right eye was severely damaged with metal debris having entered behind my right eye socket. I was taken to Victory Memorial Hospital and two Surgeons were flown in from Northwestern Hospital by the Navy to begin the surgery to remove the metal debris. Although my right optic nerve was damaged, I was assured that there was no damage to the brain.

After many months on IOD I was notified that I was going to be placed on Duty Disability and kicked out the door even though I begged to work light duty until my condition improved which the Physicians I was working with said it would and the CPD was provided that documentation.

At that point I proceeded to climb the ladder of rank asking for assistance in stopping this action against me. The general response was "So sorry but this is out of my hands". Frustrated, I got on the "L" and traveled downtown to the Mayor's office. One of his staff was kind enough to sit with me and look at my documentation but again, it was out of their hands. No one would listen to me!!

As I was leaving the buildings I saw the office of Alderman Edward Burke, Head of the Committee on Finance who was certainly one of the most important persons in City government and so I entered the office as a last resort. I explained at the front desk my reason for wanting to see Mr. Burke and I was directed to have a seat. Sitting there I saw many people enter and leave the office and finally

Mr. Burke came out and invited me to sit with him. For once I was sitting with a person who listened to me, asked questions and appeared to be truly interested in my situation. I left copies of the medical information with him and Mr. Burke said that he would look into it and get back to me. Less than a week later I met again with Mr. Burke and he said that the Medical Section was reviewing my case and that they would contact me soon. When the Medical Section contacted me I was told that I had to qualify with my service revolver before this case could be decided possibly in my favor. I went to the Range and easily qualified. After review by the Medical Section, I was told that I would remain active and months later returned to Duty.

Had it not been for Mr. Burke I would have not remained at a job that I loved and given the opportunity to climb a few ranks. I think what I most importantly learned from this experience and practiced, especially as a supervisor was not to discount the issues that my fellow officers would come to me with but most importantly to "listen" and focus on them because that's the only way you could help them. And finally... Thank you Mr. Burke for listening to me and supporting me as you did. Your support allowed me to return to a job I loved for over 32 years, even though I never worked another Friday the 13th !!

With the elections over, I am wondering why the Board of Elections sends things out in multiple languages? In many other countries you cannot become a citizen until you speak their language. If you don't understand the English, you should not have the right to vote in the U.S.A. because the things that define a country are its borders, language and culture. If voting instructions are printed in a language other than that of the one in which they are voting, it seems there is something terrible wrong. If a person wants to vote, they should be able to read and understand a candidate's positions, history and character.

I recently learned of our procedures for early voting by someone who did so. They were not asked for identification. They gave a name, it was checked, and they voted. How did the election official know the voter was who he/she claimed to be? What if that person was fraudulent and was paid to vote a certain way with a turkey, half pint or cash? They could be voting for a person who refused or was unable to vote or worse, they voted using a dead person's name. (I've heard that happens in Chicago.) Am I wrong? If I am unable to vote in person, I request an absentee ballot. If you must vote early, then you must show a state Id. Anything else leads to fraud!

The following is sound advice someone suggested to me. Make it a yearly routine to check with your savings institutions, trusts, and other investment assets to ensure that they have your correct beneficiary listed and always have a secondary or contingent beneficiary listed. Institutions change names, and ownership and

it is not uncommon to have your instructions lost or confused in the transitions. A phone call or trip to your financial institution is all it takes.

The world is a mess. The government trades a merchant of death for a woke basketball player. It allows illegal aliens to invade our Country, and expects the U.S. taxpayers to support them. Think about how most of us were raised. We had similar values that were consistent with the America's culture and our Constitution. Men were men; women were women. Now, even one of our Supreme Court Justices and most politicians cannot tell the difference. They say anything goes. Children are taught about sex starting in lower grades by teachers, often contrary to their families' values, expectations and religious beliefs. This causes confusion for many, so much that too many teens make irreversible life changing decisions and research confirms these confused children have higher rates of suicide and attempts than other demographics. Will there be families with a mother, father, sister, and brother? I'm blaming the government, but what about the media, entertainment industry and Hollywood. Have you seen today's commercials and programing? They no longer promote a normal family life style, yet we buy their products and watch their shows. Wake up! Check out Balenciaga and its satanic and twisted messages they send. Most have never heard of this, but it is real and more widespread than anyone believes. Consider subscribing to Jeff Childers, Coffee& Covid. It is an enlightening daily read. *(continued on page 4)*

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Perhaps you wonder how this effects our pension. Today few stay around to max out their pensions; not good for us. Years ago, you had to drag someone out the door when they turned 63, but times have changed. It is understandable why so many are pulling the plug as soon as they can.

Few in the media, politics and police leadership as well as many citizens in areas that most need law enforcers, support cops on the line today. Cops cannot do the job absent public backing. The politicians stripping the tools necessary for police to function effectively, just as they are punishing those who remain on the job. The public loses, they are dying and being victims in unprecedented numbers and they do not know what to do, nor how to vote the criminals responsible out, partly because they have not assimilated to our borders, language and culture. And, how about CPD's suicide numbers?

Few in Chicago are applying for police jobs, and standards are lower than ever, guaranteeing cops that cannot think for themselves and will do the bidding of leadership that have proven their interests are not good for the rank and file or the citizens. Many unemployed today are not looking for jobs. Why should they when the government pays them with our tax dollars to stay at home? You cannot make a change starting at the top of government; it must start at the bottom but given the last election that seems improbable. 2023 may change some as inflation rages and the economy worsens, depriving many of their chicken in every pot

and the ease to which they are accustomed. I wonder if it is too late for Illinois. What do you think? For those still stuck here, remember there are elections in the end of February and again in the fall. Take the time and do what is right; vote based on competency and forget party affiliations or any other foolish criterion like DEI.

Stay safe, keep your head on swivel and powder dry.

Donald Januszyk,
Retired Sergeant
RCPA Trustee





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or visit us at
7789 W Talcott • Chicago, IL 60631



Woman's Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers

Meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of every month.

1300 W. Jackson Room 201 from 1600-1800 hours.

Join us for some sweets & fellowship!

Please contact Jean Flynn @ [773-848-5359](tel:773-848-5359) or chicagofcpo@gmail.com


VISION
 20 **&** 23 *Voice*
 2023 **VOICE FOR OUR MEMBERSHIP**




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2nd Vice President
Daniel Gorman 610/541

3rd Vice President
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Sgt. At Arms
Michael Collins 191/022
Nenad "Marko" Markovich Ret.
Humberto "Bert" Munguia 011

(Only vote for 17) Trustees (Only vote for 17)

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Harold Brown Ret.
John T. Capparelli Ret.
Maurice Daniel 005
Dave DiSanti 017
Pat Duckhorn Ret.
Fernando Flores 541
Kenyatta Gaines 441
Eslil Kilponen 014
Tom Lonergan Ret.

Jose Martinez 009/543
Brock Merck 650
Marikay O'Brien 050/017
Steve Olsen 010
Bill Papastefan 016
Brandon Rambert 007
Frank Roman 610
Jose Sanchez 015
Ron Shogren Ret.
Carlos Yanez Jr. 007



Happy New Year to all. I hope you were able to spend time with family and friends over the holiday season. The state of the FOP has never been better. We enter this new year with the determination to change the look of the city council dramatically. We made a clear decision when we took over to focus greatly on politics. Just this past November, in races where we gave financial support, we won 59 out of 66 races. The support given to many of those politicians was the first they had ever received from the FOP. To say they were surprised and grateful is an understatement. Much of that credit goes to our new PAC director, Mike Cosentino, and lobbyist, Dave Sullivan.

Now our focus turns to City Hall. This mayoral election has the opportunity to bring positive change to our members (retired and active) more than any election I can recall in recent memory. We are all aware of just how bad the city we love has become. Each of us has a roll to play to make it better. If you live in the city, be sure to vote the FOP recommended candidates and press your family and friends to do the same. If you moved away, you can still push others in the right direction who still reside in the city. Chicago can be saved. The ball is in our court. Our recommendations can be found on the FOP website and Facebook page as well as an email blast. If you are not getting emails blasts from FOP go to our website and sign up. Please consider signing up to be an election judge or call the Lodge to volunteer time for our endorsed candidates.

Other elections are upon us as well. The FOP election season is here. Ballots will go out by Feb 10th and count day is March 3rd which also brings the option of in-person voting. The same politicians mentioned above pay attention to our vote participation. Please make sure to return

your ballot when it arrives.

This cycle presents something new for the FOP. A retired president seeking election. Let me explain what is currently going on there. When the department moved to have me fired, we immediately filed an unfair labor complaint with the Illinois Labor Board. There are several arbitration awards which clearly rule the city CANNOT discipline sitting Lodge 7 union officials. Yet they moved to do it anyway. Knowing the fix was in, it was decided the city should never have the ability to say they fired the FOP President, and I formally retired. The labor board complaint went forward. We had two days of hearing last month and a final 3rd day is scheduled for February 2nd thanks to the city dragging this out. The goal is not only to definitively win, but force the city to reinstate me to active status. Updates will come as warranted. This is a fight that has to be fought and won, not only for the FOP but all labor unions across the board.

Lastly, we will be conducting health screening in April and May. They will be for active members only at this time. The goal is to get mass participation to stop an automatic Healthcare increases from kicking in on Jan 1 2024. The long-term goal is a Philadelphia FOP model of FREE Healthcare for ALL active and retired members administered by a new agency created by the FOP and the city. If participation from active members is low, we will open up opportunities for retirees.

Have a blessed 2023 and stay healthy.

John Catanzara Jr
President Lodge 7 Chicago

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Tom Tuohy is the grandson of a CPD Chief and son of a CPD Detective

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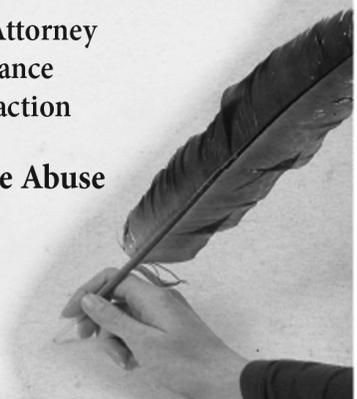
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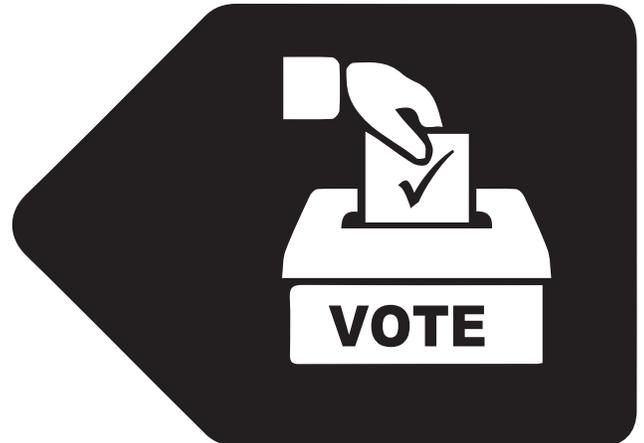
ATTENTION

It is time to elect the FOP Board of Directors. The ballots will be mailed to your homes on February 6, 2023 to be returned by March 3, 2023. Below is a list of RCPA members running for the Board of Directors.

Sergeant- at Arms: Bob Baikie, John Delanty, Nenad Marko Markovich

The following members are running for trustee:

Harold Brown, Kathleen Gahagan, Michael Garza, Robert Hansen Jr., Gary Hudik, Allen Jaglowski, Rick King, Thomas Lonergan, Steven Marchfield, Ronald Shogren



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The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 7 Chicago continues to provide access to Group Voluntary Retiree Healthcare options for Annuitants and Surviving Spouses of the Chicago Police Department.

If I was on the Metlife Dental and/or Vision Plan in 2022. What do I have to do in 2023 with the Aetna Dental and/or Vision Plan?

Enrollment into the Aetna dental & vision plans is automatic and based on your past enrollment and plan elections. You do not need to do anything to have coverage under the new Aetna plans.

Will I receive new dental and/or Vision cards from Aetna?

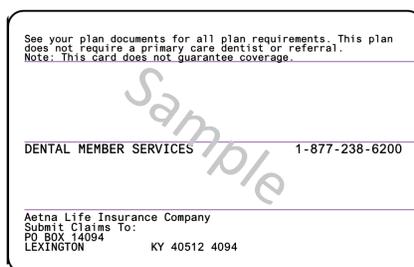
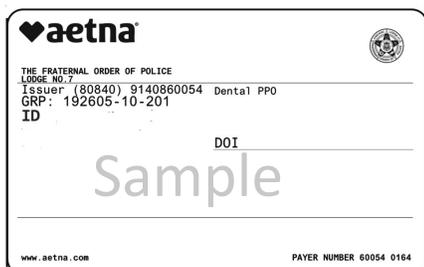
Yes, Aetna mailed you new dental and vision ID cards separately. However, you can print your membership card online or via Aetna Healthsmart app.

Text the word "**DENTAL**" to 90156 to receive a link to download the Aetna Health app or visit [Aetna.com/aetnahealthapp](https://www.aetna.com/aetnahealthapp) for more information.

How many Aetna cards will I have in 2023?

Members could have upwards to 3 cards for all of their Aetna Plans.

- (1) If you participate in the Aetna MAPD plan Sponsored by The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 7 Chicago you will continue to use that card for Medical coverage
- (2) If you participate in the Aetna Dental plan you should have already received your Dental ID card directly from Aetna.



To request a replacement Dental card from Aetna:
877-238-6200

- 3) If you participate in the Aetna Vision plan you should have received your Vision ID Card from Aetna/Eyemed



To get a copy of your Vision card from Aetna:
Go to [www.https://www.aetnavision.com/aetna/en/register](https://www.aetnavision.com/aetna/en/register)
Create an account and you can print your ID Card.
If you don't have internet access call 877-973-3238

What if I have additional questions on the plans being offered by Aetna?

Please call your designated Source 1 Benefits "Helpline" 844-466-0883 and a Retiree Advocate will assist you with your questions.



OCTOBER TERMINATIONS 2022

KEVIN BERRY	MICHAEL FERA	JAMES KARNICK	NICHOLAS REIGER
SHARON BLAKE	SAM GAMBINO	CASMIER KOZLOWSKI	EDMOND RIORDAN
JOHN BOBKO	LUTHER GAWANS	SUSAN MACKROLA	LEROY ROSEN
JACK BROGAN	SEBASTIAN INGRAFFIA	PATRICK MARTIN	JOHN SALMASSI
CHARLES BROWN	JUDY ISAAC	DENNIS MUSHOL	JT THOMAS
KENT COLLIER	JAMES JACKSON	WALTER MUSZNSKI	LARRIE THOMAS
MARTHA DEPRIEST	EDWARD KALETA	DENNIS NOVAK	LARRIE VILES
		STEVE PIZZELLO	RICHARD WATSON
			ROBERT ZEMAITIS

NOVEMBER TERMINATIONS 2022

JESSE ACOSTA	WILLIAM FIELDS	VITO JACOBELLIUS	FRANK PERRY
FRANK AMATO	EDWARD FREEMAN	CLARENCE JUNKINS	JOSEPH ROKAS
YVONNE BLAKELY	ROBERT GORMAN	RAYMOND KARLIK	STEVEN SANFILIPPO
RONALD BRAMBORA	CRAIG GROTH	AL LINDAHL	WILLIAM STACHULA
PHILLIP DORE	ALONZO HAYES	SALVATORE LODOLCE	JAMES WIESNIEWSKI
JAMES ESPOSITO	MICHAEL HOURIHANE	ROBERT MC KNABB	

DECEMBER TERMINATIONS 2022

RICHARD ADAMSKI	JAMES ESPOSITO	ANTHONY MASLANKA	THOMAS PEEBLES
TERRY BIBEL	THEODORE GOLAB	WILLIAM MC GARRY	PATRICK SHANNON
PEDRO BODINO	THOMAS GROTZ	MICHAEL MC MAHON	EDWARD VETH
LAWRENCE BUTLER	DAVID HERRERA	JAMES MORALES	AUSTIN SIMS
DONALDCENTNAROWICZ	CEDRIC KELLEY	MAUREEN O'NEIL	COURTNEY TURNER
WILLIAM COTY	ROBERT KELLY	ELIZABETH OLSEN	JOHN VANEK
DENNIS DRYGAL	SAMUEL LOW	FRED OSLEBER	

CUT-OFF AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

If you are reading a yellow-colored newsletter
2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$20.00

Please return this cut-off with your CHECK or MONEY ORDER made out to:
THE RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION

Please check the imprint of your name, address and annuity number on the reverse side of this newsletter. Make corrections if necessary, including apt. #, route #, etc. if applicable.

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RETIRED CHICAGO POLICE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Treasurer's Message *By Ronald Topczewski*

If you received a WHITE NEWSLETTER, your 2023 dues are paid. If you received a YELLOW NEWSLETTER, your dues are NOT PAID and are now due. Please use the **YELLOW APPLICATION**. This is the only way to tell our members if dues are paid or not. Upon receipt of your 2023 dues, we will send you your membership card and auto decals. If you move, please notify our office and the pension office (312-744-3891) as soon as possible; provide your new address and phone number.

If any retiree groups would like to put an article in our newsletter regarding their meetings, please contact us.

Las Vegas Henderson Nevada Retiree's Breakfast

Every Friday morning at 8:30 a.m. • Willow's Golf Course - 2300 E. Horizon Ridge Ave., Henderson, Nevada

1st Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.
Cop Shop, Cape Coral, Florida - 822 S.E. 46th Lane
Tom Faragoi 239-770-7896

HAROLD BROWN
President

Twin Lakes Arkansas Retiree's Monthly Luncheon
3rd Friday each month at noon.
Elks Lodge, Hwy 62, Mountain Home, Arkansas
Bruce Powell 870-405-3777

1st. Monday Of month Breakfast Club
Kappy's - 7200 West Dempster
9:00 A.M.

Ron "TOPPER" TOPCZEWSKI
Treasurer

SOUTH

2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.
Jedi Garden Restaurant
9266 S. Cicero Avenue