



FBINAA Chapter Chat

Chapter Chat is a monthly communication bringing you all updates submitted by members and chapters!

Please submit each month what's happening among your fellow Chapter and Session mates such as Chapter News, Retrainers, Promotions, Retirements, Awards, and Passings.

May 2025 By Our FBINAA Members

Alaska Chapter News



2023 Battle with the Blue Participants: Lt. Brent Johnson, NA Session 288, and Capt. Andrew Merrill, NA Session 257

On April 13, 2024, the Alaska State Troopers, with the Support and Sponsorship of 907 Paintball, raised \$3,000 for Special Olympics Alaska with the live auction experience package "Battle with the Blue". This experience allows the winner to bring six (6) people to 907 Paintball located in Anchorage, Alaska, and "battle" with Alaska State Troopers, Anchorage Police Department, and other law enforcement officers in multiple paintball games. The effort was spearheaded by AST Captain **Andrew Merrill, NA Session 257**.



Retirements



Luis Soto, NA Session 284

Luis Soto, NA Session 284, retired in May 2024 from the Anchorage Police Department after almost 24 years of service. Luis started in 1996 with APD and was promoted to Sergeant in 2013 and Lieutenant in 2020. He worked in the Training Unit, SAU, Vice, CAP, SRO, and SWAT. Luis received multiple awards and commendations to include two Meritorious Conduct awards.



Richard "Rick" Roberts, NA Session 270

Richard "Rick" Roberts, NA Session 270, retired from the Alaska State Troopers this September 2024. Rick started with DPS in May 1997 as a Fish and Wildlife Protection Aide in Bethel. He attended the DPS Training Academy in Sitka in the fall of 1997, graduating from ALET 18 as a self-pay student. In February 1998, he was commissioned as an Alaska State Trooper and assigned to the Fairbanks Post.

Captain Roberts has received numerous awards, including:

- Detachment Trooper of the Year in 2002, 2004, and 2013
- AST Division Supervisor of the Year in 2021
- DPS Commissioner's Honorable Service Commendation in 2019
- AST Director's Honorable Service Commendations in 2001 and 2006

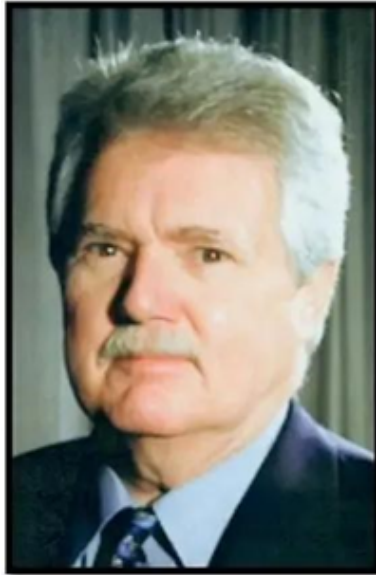
He is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officers Course (Session 132) and the FBI National Academy Session 270. We wish him well in his new endeavors.



Lonnie Gonzales, NA Session 255

Lonnie Gonzales, NA Session 255, retired after more than thirty-two years of working for the State of Alaska on September 1, 2024. Lonnie started as a Fish and Wildlife aid, then became a Trooper with Wildlife, and finished his career with AST in the YK Delta, Western Alaska. We wish him the best in his future endeavors on the high seas.

Passings



Delbert Smith, NA Session 122

It is with sadness that we report that former DPS Commissioner **Delbert Smith, NA Session 122**, passed away on May 2, 2024. Del was a committed and formidable public servant with a legacy in Alaska law enforcement. Del came to Alaska in 1963 with the US Air Force as a military police officer. In 1968, he was hired by the Anchorage Police Department, where he retired in 1988. He began his APD career as a patrol officer and continued as a community relations officer, polygraph specialist, detective, detective lieutenant, captain of administrative services, detective captain, and deputy chief of operations. In 1994, he was appointed Deputy Commissioner of Public Safety and eventually Commissioner from July 2002 to February 2003. In 2002, Del was hired by 5 Star to manage the Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) project. During this time, he also served as a government affairs consultant for the Anchorage Police Department Employees Association.

Del was widely known as the Christmas popcorn man when he made his mother's special red and green popcorn balls and delivered them annually to over 300 friends, family, and public safety employees during the holiday season. He will be greatly missed.



James "Scooter" Welch, NA Session 168

James Lyman "Scooter" Welch, NA Session 168, passed away at his home in Fairbanks, Alaska, on Tuesday, Aug. 20.

Scooter's professional life was one of service. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, a police officer with the Waco Police Department for 12 years, Alyeska Security for two years, at the Fairbanks Police Department for 20 years, and at the Resource Center for Parents and Children for 10 years.

He was sworn in as an FPD officer in 1985. One of his most notable initiatives was establishing the K-9 program, a testament to his innovative approach to policing. While at the Fairbanks Police Department, Scooter rose from officer to sergeant, lieutenant, and deputy chief, retiring at the rank of chief. He also obtained a TTY device for dispatch and reestablished the police motorcycle program. He was an advisor for the Police Explorer Post and coordinator for the Cadet Program. In 1992, Scooter graduated from the prestigious FBI National Training Academy.

Scooter was not just a professional but a leader and mentor. His commitment to community policing and building strong relationships within Fairbanks was a testament to his leadership. He was able to pull together the consensus of business and community leaders, social service organizations, and legislators, obtaining sufficient money to build a modern and functional police station. His leadership and efforts are forever memorialized in the lobby of the Fairbanks police station.

Arizona Chapter News

Promotions



Matthew Thomas, NA Session 261



Blair Barfuss, NA Session 265



John Thompson, NA Session 283



Corey Doggett, NA Session 269



Jim Gallagher, NA Session 245



Jason Leonard, NA Session 283

The Arizona Chapter is pleased to recognize the recent promotions of several chapter members: Former Pinal County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy, **Matthew Thomas, NA Session 261**, was selected as the new Police Chief for the Florence (AZ) Police Department.

Former Chief of Police at Utah Tech University, Utah State University, and Riverton City, **Blair Barfuss, NA Session 265**, was selected to serve as the Police Chief for the Maricopa Community College Police Department.

Promoted up through the ranks, **John Thompson, NA Session 283**, was selected to serve as the Police Chief of the Arizona State University Police Department.

Former Tucson (AZ) Police Department Captain, **Corey Doggett, NA Session 269**, was selected to serve as the Deputy Chief for the University of Arizona Police Department.

Current 2nd Vice President of the FBINAA National Board and, among other positions, former Commander for the Phoenix (AZ) Police Department, **Jim Gallagher, NA Session 245**, was selected to serve as Assistant Chief of Police for the Maricopa Community College Police Department.

Former Arizona Department of Public Safety Lt. Colonel **Jason Leonard, NA Session 283**, was recently promoted to the Assistant Director of the Criminal Investigations Division.

Congratulations to all. We wish them good luck with their new positions!

Asia Pacific Chapter News

Promotions



Normah Ishak, NA Session 221

Congratulations to Malaysian Graduate, Police Commissioner **Normah Ishak, NA Session 221**! Normah has recently been promoted to the position of Deputy Director II of the Royal Malaysian Police Special Branch. Before her promotion, she was the Assistant Director for Counter Terrorism in Malaysia. In her previous role, she was actively involved in many forums and activities locally and abroad on counterterrorism and nuclear security, including those organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

California Chapter News



Kevin Jensen, NA Session 222

Congratulations to one of our California Chapter Past Presidents, **Kevin Jensen, NA Session 222**, who has been selected to the National Board as the next FBINAA Chaplain. Bless you, Kevin!

Promotions



Sean Thuilliez, NA Session 245



Greg Ferrero, NA Session 253

Congratulations to **Sean Thuilliez, NA Session 245**, who was recently appointed as the Chief of Police for Tustin PD. Chief Thuilliez started his career as a Police Explorer with the Redlands Police Dept. before lateraling to the Beaumont Police Department, where he spent 18 years, 9 of those as the Beaumont Chief of Police.

On 7th January, 2025, California Highway Patrol Captain (Ret.) **Greg Ferrero, NA Session 253**, was sworn in as the District 1 Supervisor for El Dorado County, CA. We wish Greg much success in his new position.



Christopher Williams, NA Session 273

Many congratulations to our own 3rd VP of the Los Angeles Division, **Christopher Williams, NA Session 273**, who has been named as the next Police Chief for the Santa Maria PD. Chris will be leaving Oxnard PD and taking up his new position on April 28th. We wish him every success .

Retirements



Jennifer Gonzales, NA Session 271

Congratulations to Napa PD Police Chief **Jennifer Gonzales, NA Session 271**, who announced her upcoming retirement. Jennifer was appointed the Chief of Police in Napa, CA, in August 2021. We wish her well in her next chapter.



Kenneth Binder, NA Session 248

Congratulations to Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office UnderSheriff **Kenneth Binder, NA Session 248**, who retired at the end of 2024. Thank you, Ken, for your service to the Community and your department. We wish you all the best in your retirement and look forward to seeing you at FBINAA luncheons and events.



Ronald Lawrence, NA Session 230



Damon Wasson, NA Session 265

Congratulations to Costa Mesa Police Chief **Ronald Lawrence, NA Session 230**, who has announced he will be retiring this summer. We wish him well in his next chapter.

Congratulations to Soledad Police Chief **Damon Wasson, NA Session 265**, who has retired after 36 years in law enforcement, 17 of those with Soledad PD. We thank you for your service to both the community and the department.

Passings



Ron Seden, NA Session 134



John Frederick Duffy, NA Session 84

March 12th, 2025, San Diego PD retired Lieutenant, **Ron Seden, NA Session 134**, passed away peacefully. He was surrounded by family and members of the SDPD Command Staff. Ron was loved by all and will be sorely missed. Our condolences to his family, friends, and the SDPD family.

Our belated sympathies go out to the family and friends of **John Frederick Duffy, NA Session 84**, who we recently found out had passed on March 21st, 1993.

Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter News

*Executive Board Swearing In**Session 292**Session 293*

On March 27, 2025, the Executive Board was sworn in during the welcome back event held at Philadelphia Police FOP Lodge 5. Board members were sworn in by Magisterial District Judge Michael Gallagher from Bucks County, PA.

On March 27, 2025, the chapter held a welcome back where attendees were presented with information on how to prepare financially for retirement. We also welcomed back NA Sessions 292 and 293. Congratulations to the recent graduates, and we hope you stay engaged with the chapter.

On April 12, 2025, chapter members attended a Philadelphia Flyers game as guests of Harry's Heroes, which is an organization dedicated to supporting first responders, military, and veterans. It was a great time had by all who attended, and we are appreciative of the hospitality of Harry's Heroes founders, Harry and Donna. If you are looking for a worthy cause to donate to, please consider Harry's Heroes, <https://www.asuiteforharrysheroes.com/>.



Philadelphia Flyers Game

Florida Chapter News



Fry, Fire & Supply Event

On April 23, 2025, the Florida FBI National Academy Associates hosted the Fry, Fire & Supply event at the Wakulla County Community Center. Co-sponsored by Federal Eastern International and Laser Shot, the afternoon brought together 19 NA members and law enforcement professionals for hands-on training, networking, and a classic southern fish fry. Attendees tested the Laser Shot simulation training system and explored the latest gear showcased by Federal Eastern. The event was a great success, blending professional development with camaraderie and great food.



HR218 (LEOSA) Firearms Qualification Course

The Florida Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates (FBINAA), in collaboration with the Society of Retired FBI Special Agents and the FBI Fort Pierce Resident Office, held a successful HR218 (LEOSA) firearms qualification course at the Sergeant Gary Morales Training Facility.

The event, hosted by St. Lucie County Sheriff Richard Deltoro, drew 83 attendees, including 72 law enforcement retirees who participated in the HR218 qualification—a federally mandated standard that allows retired officers to carry concealed firearms nationwide under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA).

Promotions



Brad Mock, NA Session 247

Brad Mock, NA Session 247, was named the Coral Springs Police Chief in January 2025.

Passings



Paul Canady, NA Session 159

Retired Captain **Paul Canady, NA Session 159**, of the Collier County Sheriff's Office, passed away recently after a recent illness.

Captain Canady began his CCSO career on 8/29/72, where he worked in many areas of the agency, including Lieutenant of the Youth Relations Bureau and the Marco Island substation. Captain Canady was also on the front lines combating South

Florida's drug smuggling operations during the 70s and 80s, and was a key member in Operation Everglades. He retired on 3/26/02 from the Vice Narcotics Bureau.

Hawaii Chapter News



Pictured: (L to R) Kevin Lima, Historian; Robert Cravalho, Secretary/Treasurer; Thomas Shopay III, 1st Vice President; Innah Hernandez, FBI Training and Civics Liaison Specialist; David Porter, FBI SAC; Roland Turner, Past President; Bradon Ogata, 2nd Vice President; Wade Maeda, President; and Mark Hoff, FBI Special Agent.

On April 9th, 2025, the FBI National Academy Associates Hawaii Chapter hosted a welcoming for the new FBI Honolulu Division SAC David Porter and his training staff at Assagio's Italian Restaurant in Kapolei, Honolulu.

Louisiana Chapter News



The Louisiana Chapter Board and Members of the National Board in attendance.

The Louisiana Chapter of the FBINAA hosted a highly successful annual conference at the beautiful Lauberge Resort in Lake Charles, Louisiana, from April 13th to 17th. The event kicked off with a warm welcome during the member and vendor reception, setting the tone for a productive and engaging week. Attendees participated in two full days of training sessions focused on leadership, retirement planning, and health and wellness in law enforcement—key topics that support the professional and personal growth of members. The exhibition hall featured an impressive 43 vendors, showcasing the latest in public safety technology and services. Guest events were well-received, including lively Mimosa Brunches, casino table game classes, and the empowering "Be Your Own Defender" class presented by ASP.

Monday evening brought high energy and fun with a performance by the popular New Orleans-based band, Bag of Donuts. The conference concluded on Wednesday with a meaningful Memorial Breakfast and the Chapter's annual business meeting. During the meeting, Chip Wale was sworn in as Chapter President, and Jason DiMarco was elected to the Board of Governors.

Looking ahead, the Louisiana Chapter is excited to return to Lauberge Resort for next year's conference, scheduled for June 7–10, 2026, with plans already underway for family-friendly guest events to enhance the experience.



ASP "Be Your Own Defender" Participants



Bag of Donuts playing at the venue



Member/Vendor Reception

Beginning May 27th, there will be a Southeastern Louisiana luncheon at noon on the 4th Tuesday of every month at Copeland's Restaurant. The restaurant address is 1001 South Clearview Parkway in Metairie. All members are invited to attend, if you have any questions, please contact Larry Dyess at (504)415-3072.

Anyone wishing to start hosting events in their area is encouraged to contact Chapter President Chip Wale at (504)382-6589 or email training@FBINAA-LA.com so we can get the word out.

Nebraska Chapter News



Nebraska Chapter Donation at CLS to National Academy Charitable Foundation

On behalf of the Nebraska Chapter, 2nd VP **Kevin Thompson, NA Session 283**, and Secretary-Treasurer **John Shelton, NA Session 229**, proudly presented a donation to Chairman Doug Muldoon of the National Academy Charitable Foundation. This contribution supports the foundation's mission to assist law enforcement families in times of need. We're honored to be part of such an impactful cause and continue our commitment to supporting those who serve.



Gabriel Walz, NA Session 293

Please join the Nebraska Chapter in congratulating Lieutenant **Gabriel Walz** of the Chadron Police Department on his graduation from the FBI National Academy Session 293! A 17-year law enforcement veteran and current Operations Commander for CPD, Lt. Walz described the prestigious 10-week training as one of the most impactful experiences of his career. He found the program's real-world applications invaluable and is eager to bring his knowledge and skills back to Chadron, Nebraska.

Beyond the coursework, Lt. Walz appreciated the opportunity to network with law enforcement professionals from across the country and around the world, gaining fresh perspectives that will enhance his leadership and service. Congratulations, Lt. Walz, on this outstanding achievement!

Retirements



Pictured L-R: Cpt. Kevin Griger, NA Session 238, Chapter 1st VP, ASAC Clint Nafey, Chief Ken Kanger, Chapter President, NA Session 262, SSA Jordon Filippi, Lt. Preston Maas, NA Session 292, TCLS Dorinda Young, Cpt. Max Hubka, NA Session 294, Cpt. John Wells, NA Session 294, Lt. Andrew Phipps, NA Session 291, Cpt. Matt Core, Upcoming NA Session 297, Sgt. Ray Harrod, Upcoming NA Session 296

Congratulations to **Dorinda Young** on Her Retirement from the FBI. After an incredible 33 ½ years of dedicated service, we celebrate the retirement of Dorinda Young, who most recently served as the Training and Civic Liaison Specialist for the FBI. Throughout her distinguished career, she has made a lasting impact in numerous roles, including working on the cyber squad, white-collar crime squad, and within the executive office for the SAC & ASAC. In her role as Training and Civic Liaison Specialist, Mrs. Young played a vital part in shaping the future of law enforcement, helping over 50 professionals from the region attend the prestigious FBI National Academy. She considers this one of the most rewarding aspects of her career, along with building strong relationships with state and local partners and attending Chapter Re-Trainers and National Conferences. A proud Omaha native, Mrs. Young is looking forward to an exciting new chapter of life. She and her husband, Artez, plan to travel more and spend quality time with their two children, Aaron and Danielle, and their beloved cat, Cinnamon. On behalf of all your colleagues in Nebraska and beyond—congratulations, Dorinda! We are grateful for your years of service and wish you a fulfilling and joyful retirement.

New England Chapter News

Passings



Stanley Piawlock, NA Session 95

The New England Chapter is sad to announce the passing of **Stanley Piawlock, NA Session 95**. Stanley was born in Portland, Maine. After serving in the United States Navy, he joined the Portland, Maine, Police Department in 1959. Stanley attended the 95th session of the FBINA in 1973. He retired from PPD in 1981. He went on to be Chief of Security for Bates College and served as a U.S. Marshal in the Portland Courthouse. He is survived by his wife Judith of 66 years, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

New Jersey Chapter News



Chapter Leaders Attend the Chapter Leadership Summit

Our New Jersey Chapter Leadership had a fantastic experience at the Chapter Leadership Summit, where we collaborated with peers from around the world to exchange best practices, strengthen our network, and explore new ways to enhance our association. Representing our chapter were President **Ted Wittke**, 1st Vice President **Joe Murphy**, Technology Committee Lead **Jeff Angermeyer**, and Past President **John DeVoe**.

A special highlight of the summit was Jeff Angermeyer's invitation to present on how he and the tech team successfully established the New Jersey Chapter's social media presence. His insights helped showcase the impact of leveraging technology to strengthen engagement within our association. We're excited to bring back fresh ideas and strengthened connections to continue making our chapter and the FBINAA community even stronger.



Christopher Whiting, NA Session 293, who follows in the footsteps of his father, Lawrence Whiting, NA Session 126

The FBINAA New Jersey Chapter is proud to highlight recent graduate **Christopher Whiting, NA Session 293**, who follows in the footsteps of his father, **Lawrence Whiting, NA Session 126**. This father-son duo joins a special group of legacy graduates in our chapter. **Sean Smith, NA Session 275**, and his father, **Thomas Smith, NA Session 100**, are another proud example of FBINA legacy and continued commitment to our mission. "As a chapter, we are incredibly proud of our legacy families. They represent the values of leadership, service, and tradition that define the FBINAA," said Chapter President Ted Wittke.



The FBINAA NJ Chapter co-hosted the Second Annual Leadership Seminar with the FBI Newark Field Office on Thursday, April 17, 2025.

The FBINAA NJ Chapter co-hosted the Second Annual Leadership Seminar with the FBI Newark Field Office on Thursday, April 17, 2025. This seminar offered law enforcement professionals an opportunity to engage in discussions on leadership, strategy, and best practices. Distinguished speakers included Gregory Ehrie, Chief Security Officer of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and Scott Goodale, Head Wrestling Coach at Rutgers University. The event also highlighted the FBI National Academy program and the National Academy Associates – NJ Chapter, providing valuable networking opportunities.

We are excited to announce that Brian O'Hara, Chief of the Minneapolis Police Department, will be a featured speaker at our Training Conference, taking place October 5–7, 2025, at the Ocean Casino Resort in Atlantic City.

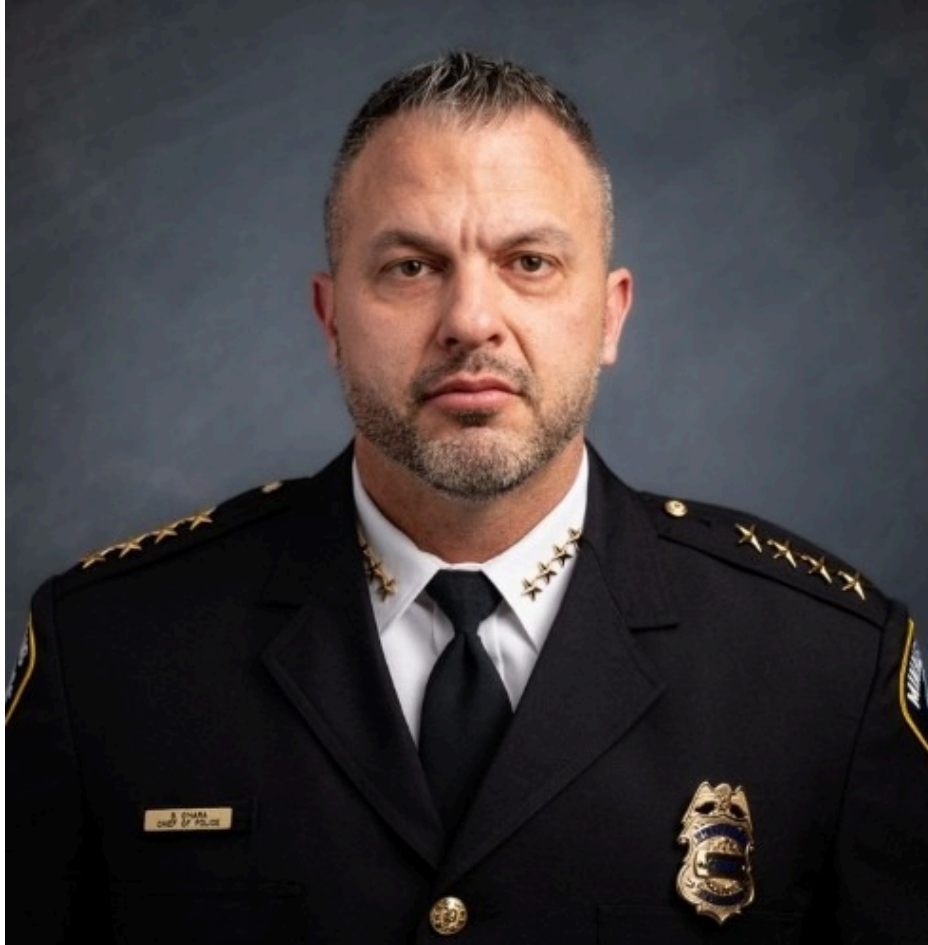
The first outsider appointed to lead the department in 16 years, O'Hara was sworn in as the 54th Chief of the Minneapolis Police Department in 2022. He is also the first chief selected in Minneapolis following the murder of George Floyd. One of his major initiatives has been to curb the use of force by the department, while also leading transformative reforms focused on reducing crime, rebuilding trust, and strengthening accountability and transparency.

Prior to his role in Minneapolis, O'Hara served as Newark's Deputy Mayor and Public Safety Director, overseeing nearly 2,000 public safety personnel and driving major citywide reform initiatives. A veteran of law enforcement

since 2001, he played a key role in Newark's compliance with a federal consent decree and led efforts to advance internal accountability.

O'Hara holds degrees from Rutgers University–Newark and is a graduate of top leadership programs including the FBI National Academy and Harvard Kennedy School's Senior Executives Program. He also serves as a regular featured speaker at the MPD's DC Police Leadership Academy.

We look forward to welcoming Chief O'Hara to Atlantic City this fall.



Brian O'Hara, Chief of the Minneapolis Police Department

Ohio Chapter News



Carl Roark and Thomas Wells at CLS

In March, Chapter Treasurer Carl Roark and 2nd VP Thomas Wells attended the FBINAA Chapter Leadership Summit. The programs were innovative and, as usual, there was great sharing of best practices and idea exchange. We were honored to also represent our Chapter president, Chief Matt Fisher of Wooster, Ohio PD, who experienced a brain aneurysm on February 25th. He had made tremendous strides and will be going home soon. He has a long recovery ahead, but knows that everyone is pulling for him and his family. If you want to help, please contact Assistant Chief Scott Rotolo at 330-464-7836.



Chief Matt Fisher of Wooster, Ohio PD, who suffered an aneurysm on Feb 25.

Oregon Chapter News



Oregon Students in NA Session 294



Spring Training



Spring Training

On April 9, 2025, the Oregon Chapter Hosted Retired Arizona Police Officer Lindsay McCall Long's "What Happens when it's quiet?" for our annual Spring Training at the Oregon Police Academy. 54 Oregon Law Enforcement Personnel attended this excellent presentation from Officer McCall-Long's traumatic event being shot in the line of duty. Officer McCall-Long is pictured with Redmond Police Captain and Oregon Chapter First Vice-President **Jesse Petersen, NA Session 279**, Linn County Undersheriff and Oregon Chapter Second Vice-President **Micah Smith, NA Session 285**, St. Helens Interim Police Chief and Past President **Joe Hogue, NA Session 266**, Washington County Chief Deputy and Oregon Chapter President **Erroll McCrea, NA Session 282**, Silverton Police Chief and Oregon Chapter 3rd Vice President **Todd Engstrom, NA Session 287** and retired Marion County Undersheriff and Oregon Chapter Secretary/Treasurer **Greg Olson, NA Session 174**.

Eagle Point Police Lieutenant Mike Anselmi, St. Helens Police Sergeant **Jose Castilleja**, and Silverton Police Captain **Mark Gaither, NA Session 294**, enjoying their time at the National Academy!

The Oregon Chapter's next hosted event will be our Annual "Pig Out"- Thursday, August 7th in Wilsonville Memorial Park – River Shelter at 8300 Memorial Drive.



Jim Hamilton, NA Session 270

Eagle Point Chief **Jim Hamilton, NA Session 270**, was awarded the first-ever Oregon Association Chiefs of Police "OACP Chief of the Year Award" on April 24, 2025. The Chief of the Year Award was created to recognize law

enforcement professionals who have made significant contributions to public safety, who have demonstrated exceptional service to their communities, and who have played a vital role in advancing the mission and work of the OACP itself. Chief Jim Hamilton was honored with the prestigious OACP Police Chief of the Year Award. Chief Hamilton has been at the helm of the Eagle Point Police Department for nearly two years, during which time he has demonstrated exceptional leadership, dedication, and innovation.

Chief Hamilton has not only been a mentor and inspiration to all members of the Eagle Point Police Department, but he has also re-established positive relationships with partnering agencies in the region. His infectious work ethic and energy have propelled the Department to new heights, leading to the successful orchestration of several grants for improved safety and traffic equipment.

Under Chief Hamilton's guidance, officer training has been prioritized with a focus on leadership and professional development. He has worked diligently to embed himself with the Medford Area Drug and Gang Enforcement team, showcasing his commitment to collaborative efforts in combating crime.

Furthermore, Chief Hamilton has taken proactive steps to promote the well-being of Department members by contracting with a behavioral health provider to offer critical incident follow-up and debriefing. His efforts to revive the Region 5 Training Council have provided invaluable training opportunities for smaller agencies, demonstrating his commitment to the growth and development of law enforcement professionals.

Chief Hamilton's dedication and forward-thinking approach have not gone unnoticed within the community. He is highly respected by the City Council, his peers, and coworkers for his innovative and collaborative leadership style. His initiatives to update the Eagle Point Police Department's Core Values, performance evaluation process, job descriptions, and Department policies have set a new standard for excellence within the Department.

Chief Hamilton's relentless pursuit of excellence and his unwavering commitment to the betterment of his team have solidified his reputation as a visionary leader. The Eagle Point Police Department is honored to have Chief Jim Hamilton at the helm, and we congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition.



Southern Oregon Regional Lunch at the Lake of the Woods

On April 7, 2025, the Rogue River Police Department and the Klamath Falls Police Department hosted the Southern Oregon Regional Lunch at the Lake of the Woods Resort in Klamath County! The luncheon was well attended and a fun event for all. In attendance were: FBI Field Officer-Portland SAC Doug Olson, Retired Jackson County Lieutenant **Paul Rowland, NA Session 142**, Redmond Police Captain and 1st Vice President **Jesse Peterson, NA Session 279**, Retired Marion County Undersheriff and Chapter Secretary/Treasurer **Greg Olson, NA Session 174**, Retired Klamath Falls Police Chief **Dave Henslee, NA Session 247**, Eagle Point Police Chief **Jim Hamilton, NA Session 270**, Retired Keizer Police Deputy Chief **Jeff Kuhns, NA Session 220**, Retired Tigard Police Assistant Chief **Jim deSully, NA Session 235**, Rogue River Police Chief **Dave Rash, NA Session 246**, Klamath Falls Police Chief **Rob Dentiger, NA Session 264**, Retired Oregon State Police Captain **John Downey, NA Session 165**, Klamath Falls Police Captain **Rob Reynolds, NA Session 283**, Retired Medford Police Deputy Chief **Tim Doney, NA Session 235**, and Medford Police Deputy Chief **Trevor Arnold, NA Session 289**.



Major Erickson with "A Little Grace"

Where are they now...This month's feature is retired Oregon State Police Major **Lee Erickson, NA Session 157**. Major Erickson started his law enforcement career as an Oregon State Police Cadet in 1970. He was hired as an Oregon State Trooper in 1971. Major Erickson promoted through the ranks as a sergeant, detective sergeant, lieutenant, captain, to his final position of major. Just before being promoted to captain, Major Erickson attended NA Session 157. Some of the highlights of his career with the Oregon State Police were he was the captain in charge of identification when the AFIS system was implemented, he was involved in the first study of persons purchasing firearms utilizing fingerprint system which was published in a national periodical, and he was part of the task force in Oregon who were investigating possible homicides committed in our state by Ted Bundy.

Major Erickson has been an active member of the Oregon Chapter since his retirement in 2000. He served as the Oregon Chapter's President in 2007. Soon after Major Erickson retired, 9/11 occurred. Major Erickson developed a public safety operations plan. He went to Portland State University and completed his master's degree in training and development. He did consulting work with Western Policy Consultants. Major Erickson also taught Leadership Courses at the FBI National Academy for 18 years.

Major Erickson and his wife Connie have been married for 17 years. Major Erickson has two sons from a previous marriage and three grandchildren. He stated that even though his sons didn't go into law enforcement, he has a granddaughter who is interested! Major Erickson and his wife own Ruah Ranch in Sublimity, Oregon, and their specialty is training thoroughbred horses. They also have a five-star Airbnb and a few camping spots on their ranch. They will be spending a lot of time at Emerald Downs in Aberdeen, Washington, along with other thoroughbred venues throughout the year. Pictured with Major Erickson is a brood mare, "A Little Grace" by American Pharaoh, who won the Triple Crown and the Breeders' Cup Classic.

Major Erickson is a regular at our fall training and other Oregon Chapter Events!

Promotions



Jason Jones, NA Session 287

Please Join the Oregon Chapter as we congratulate **Jason Jones, NA Session 287**, as he was promoted to Captain with the Portland Police Bureau on January 3, 2025!

Rocky Mountain Chapter News



L-R: Eric Sperber (Mesa County SO), Jason Heathman (Boulder County SO), Chase Leonard (Canon City PD), and Joey Spangler (Alamosa PD).

Welcome aboard NA Session 294 Rocky Mountain Chapter attendees: Eric Sperber (Mesa County SO), Jason Heathman (Boulder County SO), Chase Leonard (Canon City PD), and Joey Spangler (Alamosa PD).



Speaker Drew Dix



Luncheon at Twenty-One Steak

We had a great luncheon in Pueblo on April 24th at the Center for American Culture. Medal of Honor recipient, Drew Dix, gave an inspirational speech.

Washington Chapter News



Spring Leadership Training

The Spring Leadership event was held on April 23, 2025, in Bellevue, WA, hosted by sponsor T-Mobile. The speaker was Kawika Lau (U.S. Army Ret.), who gave an excellent presentation on multiple leadership topics. Kawika shared his personal experiences and resiliency, overcoming catastrophic injuries and life challenges associated with significant combat experience.

Save the Date! The Washington Fall conference is scheduled for September 7-10, 2025 in Walla Walla, WA.

Retirements

Deputy Chief **Sam Costello, NA Session 282**, Olympia Police Department, retired from Olympia PD in February 2025 and was appointed Chief of Police in Gunnison, CO. Sam served 27 years with Olympia PD.

Passings



Myra Harmon, NA Session 117



Attendees at Myra Harmon's service

It is with great sadness that the chapter announces the passing of longtime chapter member **Myra Harmon, NA Session 117**, who passed away in January 2025. Her service was held on March 29, 2025, in Des Moines, WA. The service was attended by many chapter members and LE colleagues. Past Chapter President and National Historian, Cindy Reed, Session 134, spoke eloquently at the service and shared memories of Myra. Myra retired from the Port of Seattle Police Department after 30+ years of service and was an active member of the chapter, serving as Chapter Historian. Myra was also an active member of the International Association of Women Police and other organizations and was a mentor and role model to women in the LE profession.



Cindy Reed, NA Session 134, Memorial Speaker

Want to share updates from your Chapter?
Submit chapter news on the [Chapter Chat Submission Form](#) by the 25th of every month to be in the next edition.
Please attach to the email high-resolution digital .png, .jpg or .tif photos to:
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