

Ohio Police



May 2025

www.fopohio.org

Issue #9

FOP Demands Online Fundraising Platform **Stop!**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 5, 2025

OHIO FOP DEMANDS GOFUNDME REMOVE FUNDRAISER FOR COP-KILLER WHO TAUNTED DEPUTIES AT ARRAIGNMENT

CINCINNATI, OH – Ohio FOP President Jay McDonald demanded that the online fundraising platform GoFundMe immediately remove multiple fundraisers supporting Rodney Hinton Jr., the man charged with intentionally murdering a Hamilton County Sheriff's Deputy on May 2nd. Hinton's son was killed by Cincinnati police the previous day after pointing a loaded semiautomatic handgun at a police officer during a foot chase.

"Rodney Hinton Jr. intentionally murdered a recently retired deputy who was working special duty at a graduation just because he was a police officer," Queen City FOP 69 President Ken Kober said. "His heinous and cowardly act shouldn't be rewarded and celebrated like it is right now by GoFundMe. On behalf of all law enforcement officers, we demand that GoFundMe stop honoring and profiting from a cop-killer who taunted deputies about the murder at his arraignment."

"This is absolutely outrageous, to fundraise off the assassination of a law enforcement officer. The 23,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio demand that GoFundMe take these appeals down immediately," said FOP of Ohio President Jay McDonald.

More than a dozen fundraisers for Rodney Hinton Jr. are currently active on GoFundMe. The most active has raised more \$5,000.

Worse yet, GoFundMe has removed and/or made it difficult in the past for funds to be raised for cops killed in the line of duty. To allow fundraisers for a cop killer is just over the line.

The Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio is the state's largest law enforcement organization representing police officers at the local, county, state, and federal level.

###

FOP of Ohio Spring Board Meeting



FOP Honors Hero!

On June 24, 2024, Carroll County Sheriff's Deputy Ken Wohlheter responded to a well-being check on an individual just outside the Village of Minerva.

When Deputies arrived, the subject of this well-being check opened fire on them with an AR-15 rifle and a 12-gauge shotgun.

Deputy Wohlheter was within inches of being struck in the head from this gunfire and was able to take cover behind his patrol vehicle. As the rounds were beginning to penetrate the cruisers, Deputy Wohlheter had the presence of mind to take command of the situation and direct his fellow Deputies to cover, thus preventing them from being struck before tactical units arrived with armored vehicles.

Deputy Wohlheter maintained discipline and composure under fire as he aided his fellow Deputies with life saving tactics to keep them from being killed or seriously injured from this barrage of gunfire.

Deputy Wohlheter is truly a hero. Please join us in congratulating Deputy Ken Wohlheter on his courage, composure and valor while under fire.



Preliminary Qualified Immunity Plan

Proponents of eliminating Qualified Immunity need 413,487 valid signatures from at least 44 counties and are aiming for the 2026 ballot. They have not filed a campaign finance report, indicating that they have not raised substantial revenue. They do not have an established group with political muscle backing them as of now.

Follow the playbook from Senate Bill 5

1. Build coalitions - Unions; Police and Fire groups; Mayor's Alliance; elected officials and others have all reached out to work with us to defeat proposal

2. Engage Experts - Communications Counsel and Bob Paduchik remain on our team

· **Lodges should be building social media; gathering emails/phone numbers; begin to think about financial resources; making sure members are registered to vote**

1. FOP of Ohio War Chest has funds that have been building since SB 5

2. FOP of Ohio will begin Social Media Efforts to build more followers

3. FOP of Ohio will work with local lodges to build bigger email/app database

· **MESSAGING:** Until we get direction saying otherwise informed by polling/testing, we are using:

*** Eliminating Qualified Immunity will raise taxes, increase crime and devastate the number of people willing to serve their community.**

*** Eliminating Qualified Immunity hurts not just law enforcement, it targets those who educate our children, care for our elderly, and all other public employees**

§ Two kinds of messaging;

· To members, tell how it impacts them so they understand the risk

· To the public and on our social media/in press, laser focus on how it impacts the community as a whole and not on us

On May 3, 2025, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to begin the process of ending the marketing relationship the FOP of Ohio has with Thin Blue Line Benefits. On May 5th, an email with delivery confirmation was sent to give 30 days notice of the cancellation of our agreement, as required by the agreement.

The Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund issued the following letter about Thin Blue Line Benefits:

OP&F offers guidance to Thin Blue Line members

OP&F has had calls from retirees who are concerned with Thin Blue Line health care, which has plans available to pre-Medicare members. As members may recall, this plan is part of the "open HRA" which pre-65 members specifically requested so that they could make their own health care decisions based on their personal circumstances. The concerns with Thin Blue Line are about non- payment of medical bills.

OP&F's Board of Trustees discussed the issues at their March and April meetings. The Ohio Fraternal Order of Police has indicated that they are working with Thin Blue Line on non-payment issues.

In order to change plans outside of open enrollment, a member would need a Special Enrollment Period. If Thin Blue Line has failed to pay any medical bills in 2024 or 2025, OP&F and Alight may be able to assist in obtaining a Special Enrollment Period notice that would allow Thin Blue Line members to change plans.

Please do not unenroll from Thin Blue Line insurance without receiving a Notice of Special Enrollment Period. Doing so may jeopardize your health care stipend. Contact Alight to inquire about a Special Enrollment Period.

OP&F continues to monitor if a Special Enrollment Period notice that allows Thin Blue Line members to change plans will occur. OP&F will still provide a stipend to members who receive the notice of special enrollment. Upon notice of a Special Enrollment Period, members have 60 days to enroll in another health care plan and will still be eligible for the balance of the OP&F stipend for 2025. In the meantime, members must direct their calls about non-payment to Thin Blue Line.

posted 05/01/2025

Important Information on the National Memorial

If you plan to attend armed, you must be in uniform and you must have two forms of ID like your drivers license and department ID.

If you are not in uniform, you cannot be armed.

These are the rules of the Secret Service and Capitol Police.



Ohio Memorial Motorcade

The FOP of Ohio held our annual Memorial Motorcade traveling from our office in Columbus to the Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial in London. This year, it was held on May 8, 2025. There were many agencies in attendance to honor our fallen and hear remarks from Lt. Gov. Jim Tressel. Please plan now to attend next year's event to honor Ohio's Peace Officers.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR **POLICE WEEK** **2025**



Schedule of Events

- May 6 - Blue Mass
- May 8 - Ohio Law Enforcement Memorial Service and Memorial Motorcade
- May 10 - Police Week 5K
- May 11 - Police K9 Memorial Service
- May 13- Candlelight Vigil
- May 13-15 - Tent City
- May 14 - Steve Young Honor Guard and Pipe Band Tribute
- May 15 - National Peace Officers' Memorial Service

FOP of Ohio Legislative Report

Mike Weinman - Director of
Governmental Affairs



The Ohio Senate now has HB 96/State Operating Appropriations for FY 2026-27 after it was voted out of the Ohio House of Representatives by a vote of 60-39. After receiving it from Governor DeWine, the House made hundreds of changes to the Budget. The Senate will make more changes, and if that happens, the bill will go to a Conference Committee, where an equal number of select senators and representatives will work on the differences between the Senate and House versions. Both chambers will have to accept the committee's work before the bill is sent to Governor DeWine, who will then make additional changes through line-item vetoes. As of this writing, the House version includes \$30M in fiscal year 2026 and \$35M in fiscal year 2027 for continuing police training. It requires state attorneys to represent state law enforcement officers in the use-of-force cases if the officer wants their services. And it allows recreational marijuana tax dollars to support law enforcement. The marijuana tax dollar language is a bit vague, however.

Capital City Lodge #9 President Brian Steel testified before the House Finance Committee on a provision in the Budget that would require parental approval for the use of certain applications. The provision did not make it into the Budget but was introduced as a stand-alone bill.

The Lodge continues to fight for our legislative priorities to be included in the Budget, such as the OPERS-LE service credit fix, OP&F employer contribution increase, arming of State special police officers, and OPERS-LE DROP.

Secretary Travis Parker testified on SB 114/Police Arrest and Ticket Quotas before the Senate Judiciary Committee, and I testified against HB 5/Enact the Repeat Offender Act before the House Judiciary Committee. It may seem odd that I testified against a bill titled Enact the Repeat Offender Act, but the bill lowered penalties on weapons with a disability. And after five years, records for most F-4s, F-5s, and misdemeanors would be sealed or expunged. Essentially, there would be very few career criminals.

FOP of Ohio Needs to be able to communicate with you

FOP of Ohio Pushes out App

We have quite a lot going on at the State Lodge. We have hit the ground running and have been working hard. One of our ongoing initiatives is to ensure that we are getting information out to the membership in as real time as possible. Several of these initiatives will be better served with your participation.

If you have not already done so, we are asking each FOP member from Ohio to please go to www.fopohio.org and create an account. This is a fairly simple process and does not take up a lot of time. Once you have your account created, please go to your Apple or Google Play Store on your phone and download the app titled "FOP Ohio":

Once you install the app and sign in, your smartphone app will be linked to the FOP of Ohio website.

Creating your account will not only allow us to send you important information on a real time basis but it also helps to solve our ongoing issue about keeping up-to-date contact information (member's email address and phone #) on file with the state lodge.

Please push this out to all of your members and encourage them to create their account. Keeping our members as informed as possible does nothing but benefit our organization."



www.facebook.com/fopohio

The FOP of Ohio is looking to keep all of its members updated on important happenings in our organization. Is your private (non-work) email on file with the state lodge? Does your local lodge president and secretary have their contact info on file with the FOP? Are you following the FOP social media?



Follow us on X

@FOPofOhio



Register here



for training

SUNDAY
JULY 13, 2025

Both Classes are certified for two hours of CPT

2025 FOP State Conference Training

Pre-incident Education

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

This training is designed to familiarize officers with the common reactions to cumulative and traumatic stress, with an emphasis on helpful coping strategies and self-care.

Deirdre is an ICISF Approved Instructor in both Group Crisis Intervention and Assisting Individuals in Crisis. Deirdre received her OPOTA instructor certification in 1992. She instructs on peer support training throughout the state. Deirdre is retired from the Blue Ash Police Department.



Deirdre DeLong
Director of Critical Incident
Response Services

Legal Updates

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This presentation will provide the latest legal updates in an engaging, interactive format. Learn how up-to-date case law impacts Ohio law enforcement and gain the knowledge needed to make informed, legally sound decisions when you are at the B-Pillar, threshold of the doorway or when the suspect decides you must use force.

Bob Meader is an attorney, retired Columbus Police Commander, USAF veteran and adjunct college professor. Bob continues to be a proud member of the FOP for 35 years.



Bob Meader, Esq
Attorney

Delta Hotel by Marriott
11320 Chester Road, Cincinnati, OH 45246

Save the Date!

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE
GREAT LAKES AREA COALITION



**LABOR,
LEADERSHIP, &
LEGISLATIVE
TRAINING**

OCTOBER 9-10, 2025

**FOUR WINDS CASINO & RESORT
NEW BUFFALO, MICHIGAN**



FOPGLAC.COM

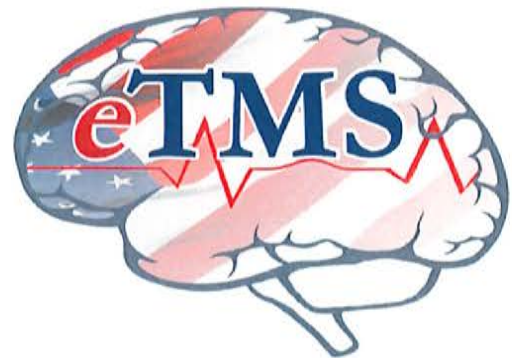
Best training for the money in the FOP!

Innovative Clinical Trial Seeks to Improve Mental Health Care for Veterans and First Responders

A groundbreaking new clinical trial is underway, aimed at expanding access to a promising non-invasive brain stimulation therapy known as eTMS (Electromagnetic Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation). The trial, titled eTMS FDA, is focused on evaluating the safety and efficacy of eTMS in treating mental health conditions such as PTSD among Veterans, First Responders, and Law Enforcement Personnel.

Led by a team of dedicated clinicians, this trial is designed to help bring eTMS one step closer to FDA approval. Unlike traditional rTMS, eTMS utilizes an individualized, precision-based approach that targets specific areas of the brain to support healing and improve overall cognitive function.

Participants in the study receive treatment at no cost, and many have already reported life-changing results. The eTMS FDA trial represents not just a scientific breakthrough, but a mission-driven commitment to serving those who have served us.



For more
information or to
see if you qualify,
visit
www.etmsfda.com



FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE OF OHIO, INC.

222 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4611

(614) 224-5700 Fax (614) 224-5775

www.fopohio.org



Mayor Shammias Malik
166 S High St# 200
Akron, OH 44308

Dear Mayor Malik,

As you know, civilian oversight boards of police departments are controversial, often politicizing public safety. Where oversight boards continue to operate, we believe maximum transparency and community involvement are key to positive outcomes. That includes the process by which members of the oversight board are selected.

A civilian oversight board exists to serve the public, not its own interests. We've learned that current Akron civilian oversight board members, notably Chairman Kemp Boyd, seek to participate in the interview process for new candidates for appointment.

This process is supposed to involve the people, not the existing oversight board members. That's why the charter gives the responsibility of making appointments to the City Council and you as mayor. You are elected by the people and are, therefore, accountable to the people. The board isn't accountable to the people and may, therefore, have a very different vision, which shouldn't be layered into the appointment process.

We understand that the city council has exercised its right to undertake the appointment process without the board's involvement but that you intend to do your own process, including Chairman Boyd. We understand this might slow down the process and add multiple interviews because of the different processes undertaken. We further understand that Akron FOP Lodge #7 asked to join the process, but you refused. Surely, if you're interested in getting outside input from the board, outside input from the police would be just as valuable.

We cannot help but notice a disconnect between your rhetoric and actions. You speak about how public safety is your top priority. Yet, you consistently and unfairly target law enforcement, neglecting to defend your officers and refusing to include them in public safety discussions. The board was promoted as a means to bridge the gap between the community and the police department, but the divide has never been wider. Your actions undermine the very objectives you've communicated to Akron residents you wish to achieve.

For the civilian review board to be credible, its members must be chosen independently or with the full involvement of all interested parties.

Jay McDonald

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay McDonald".

President, Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio

Housing info for NFOP Conference

We have secured our hotel accommodations for the National Conference August 2-8, 2025 in Miami, Florida. Ohio delegates will be staying at the Marriott Biscayne Bay. The hotel is located at 1633 North Bayshore Drive, Miami, FL 33132. The cost of the rooms are listed below. The prices include resort fees and taxes.

Run of House Room	Grand Total - \$257.27
City View Queen	Grand Total - \$268.57
Bay View King	Grand Total - \$279.87

The link to book your room is here:
<https://book.passkey.com/go/FOP2025Conference>

If you are parking a vehicle, there is a \$42 overnight parking fee per night as well. The Convention will be held at the Miami Beach Convention Center. There will be busses which will transport our delegates back and forth from the hotel to the convention center.

We have 150 rooms held at this hotel. This is less than we have used in the past. Our room cut-off date is June 2, 2025, however because we have less rooms than we have held traditionally, we would encourage you to book early.



RETIREMENT DOESN'T MEAN STEPPING AWAY FROM THE BROTHERHOOD.

**JOIN THE NATION'S LARGEST POLICE
ORGANIZATION.**



To all retired law enforcement members, we are proud to offer our concealed carry legal protection through the FOP Legal Defense Fund for only \$75 a year! You can learn more at <https://foplegal.com/>.

If you know a retired law enforcement who is interested in joining the nation's Largest Police Organization contact Rob Hawley at rhawley@fopohio.org.

TENTATIVE AGENDA (some times could vary on site)

89th Conference

Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Inc.

Delta Hotel – Sharonville, Ohio

Saturday, July 12

FOP, FOPA and Auxiliary Registration 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

FOP Foundation Spaghetti/Bourbon Dinner 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (Under tent at hotel)

Sunday, July 13

FOP, FOPA & Auxiliary Registration 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Auxiliary Pre-Conference Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. (tentative)

FOP Merchandise 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

FOP Seminars (all welcome) 11:30-1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

FOP Expo 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

FOPA Executive Session 2:30 p.m.

FOPA Audit Committee Meeting 3:00 p.m.

FOPA Roundtable Discussion 3:30 p.m.

OLC Board Meeting 3:00 p.m.

FOP Pre-Conference Board Meeting 4:00 p.m.

Tailgate 5:30 p.m.

Hospitality 8:00 p.m.-Midnight

Monday, July 14

FOP, FOPA & Auxiliary Registration 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

FOP Expo 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

FOP Merchandise 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Opening Ceremonies 9:00 a.m.

FOP Business Session 10:00 a.m.

FOPA Business Session 11:00 a.m.

FOPA Pres/Sec Workshop 2:00 p.m.

Auxiliary Business Session 45 min after close of opening ceremonies

Taste of Cincinnati 5:30 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.

Hospitality 8:45 p.m. - Midnight

Tuesday, July 15

FOP, FOPA & Auxiliary Registration 8:00 a.m.– 9:00 a.m.

FOP Expo 8:00 a.m. - Noon

FOP Business Session 9:00 a.m.

FOPA Business Session 9:00 a.m.

Auxiliary Business Session 9:00 a.m.

FOP Post Conference Board Meeting ½ hour after close of business

FOPA Post Conference Board Meeting ½ hour after close of business

FOP of Ohio-89th Annual State Conference
FOP-FOPA –FOP Auxiliary
July 13-15 2025
Events Registration Form
Forms must be submitted no later than July 1, 2025

Lodge Name: _____ Lodge No.: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please Check One: FOP _____ FOPA _____ FOP Aux _____ Vendor/Other

Number of Delegates _____

Number of Alternates _____

Number of Guests _____

Both Events Total Registration Number _____ X \$100 =

Registration includes tailgate (Sunday), Taste of Cincinnati (Monday) and a gift.

Extra Tailgate Tickets

Extra Tailgate Tickets _____ X \$50 = \$ _____

Extra Taste of Cincinnati Tickets _____ X \$50 = \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Add both events' registration, extra tailgate and taste of Cincinnati tickets together

Make all checks payable to: FOP Queen City Lodge 69

Mail checks and registration forms to:

FOP Queen City Lodge 69

1900 Central Parkway

Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

89th FOP of Ohio State Conference Registration

Lodge Name: _____

Lodge No: _____

Please type names, and put in alphabetical order. Names provided will be used for nametags
so they must be legible. Thanks!

There will be no banquet, and both of the events will be held outside under the tent.

Any Questions call Queen City Lodge 69 at 513-381-2550.

You can buy at
<https://unionly.io/o/fopohfoundation/store/products/>

FOP of Ohio SPAGHETTI and Bourbon Bar Dinner

To Benefit the FOP of Ohio Foundation

SATURDAY
July
12

Join us under the tent at the
State FOP Conference in
Cincinnati from 5PM - 7 PM



Tickets are \$30.00
per person.

Tickets will not be
sold after June 30 2025

MORE INFO: 614-224-5700 EXT. 1150 RHAWLEY@FOPOHIO.ORG

FOP of Ohio has t-shirts you can order for NFOP conference



You can order the t-shirts before June 13 and you can pick them up at the State Conference to wear in Miami

<https://uniononly.io/o/fopohfoundation/store/products>



Do you know
someone who
“BACKS THE
BLUE”? The FOPA
is the organization
for them!

The FOPA Ohio is a civilian affiliate of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, Inc. Our members are friends and families of law enforcement Officers, responsible and respected business persons, professional men and women, and citizens from all walks of life—people willing to devote a portion of their time and efforts toward assisting the various law enforcement agencies of our communities, states and nation.

The FOPA Ohio is an organization formed for the purpose of increasing our understanding of the rights, duties and problems of law enforcement officers; of fostering respect for them; and of bettering conditions under which they serve society. We accomplish this through public relations, as well as legislative and educational efforts. It is our aim and objective to support law enforcement throughout Ohio in every way possible. We believe that Law is the safeguard to freedom, and it is our duty to defend it.

We all need to help the FOPA help us, by recruiting a member or two to join the FOPA. If you need information on the FOPA, please email alodgeupdate@gmail.com

**SAVINGS FOR SERVICE
YOU DESERVE MORE
THAN A THANK YOU**
Support for your service. Benefits for your family.

**CROSSCOUNTRY
MORTGAGE™**
AFFINITY LENDING DIVISION

833-724-8700
unlon@ccm.com

Liberty Mutual
INSURANCE

trust & will
Estate planning
made easy.

HEROES
vacation club

Inside
About the City of Chicago

American Police Beat

Real-time Intelligence
Revolving around public response

False confessions
What every police officer should know

Patrol officers don't patrol
To make a week shift through it, something's got to give



NATIONAL

POLICE CREDIT UNION
A DIVISION OF CHICAGO PATROLMEN'S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**LEGAL
DEFENSE
PLAN**

FOP JOURNAL

Congress Passes the Social Security Fairness Act!

WEP GPO

**NATIONAL FRATERNAL
ORDER OF POLICE**

ID Theft Assist™
One Call. One Solution.

College AVE®
STUDENT LOANS

FOPOhio and FOPA Ohio License Plate Form:
<https://www.fopohio.org/LicensePlates>
These benefits and many more can be found at:
<https://fop.net/member-benefits/>

Ohio Police

Important Dates

May 13-15, 2025 Police Week - Washington D.C.

May 21, 2025 Mini-Lobby Day - Ohio Statehouse

July 13-15, 2025 Ohio FOP State Conference - Cincinnati

August 2-8, 2025 National FOP Conference - Miami

October 8-10 Great Lakes Training - New Buffalo, MI

