Delaware says Good-bye to One of their Own:  
Lieutenant Steven R. Floyd Sr.  
EOW:  February 2, 2017

Lieutenant Floyd, a Sergeant at the time of his murder, was promoted posthumously, on Friday, February 3, 2017.
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Note: Many Representatives bring the CPO Foundation to one or more other States in addition to their home State.

To request catastrophic assistance for a Correctional Officer or Staff at your prison, jail or office, email: char@cpof.org. Please provide your full name, institution, rank and cell phone number (or other phone number where you can be reached). Thank you for assisting us in “Taking Care of Our Own.”

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COVER:

4 Lieutenant Steven R. Floyd Sr.

Hundreds of Uniform Staff attended Lt. Floyd’s Memorial Service.

CPOF Board Member Jim Brown (center) was among those in attendance. CPOF Board Member Don Dease also attended.

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Back Cover:
An Old Friend is Standing Tall

54 A New Lifetime Corporate Sponsor receives their CPOF Plaque at the January 2017 ACA Convention in San Antonio, Texas
As Reverend Dr. LaBarron McAdoo shared on Saturday, February 11, 2017, there were Honor Guards in attendance all the way from Canada and from as far west as Oregon, Washington and California to pay their respects to Lieutenant Steven R. Floyd Sr. of James T. Vaughn Correctional Center. Lieutenant Floyd was killed in the line of duty on February 2, 2017.

Honor Guards starting lining up at 6:00 am for a noon start service. Although we were blessed with clear dry weather it was rather cold at 6:00 am -- a mere 16 degrees. The Honor Guards, being the true professionals that they are, stood tall. Fortunately, when I arrived with CPOF Board of Directors members Don Dease and Jim Brown it had warmed up considerably to almost 50 degrees.

As I looked around I was in awe of the sight of so many, many Honor Guards. I knew many of the HG teams but of course not all. As Don, Jim and I entered the Delaware State University Memorial Hall I was surprised to see even more uniform staff sitting in the bleachers.

At 11:00 am the Floyd family was escorted in and shortly afterward ALL uniform staff started entering the Memorial Hall, one team after another stopping briefly at the casket to salute their fallen comrade. As they walked around us sitting in chairs on the floor, many stopped when they could to give me a hug or kiss and to give good strong handshakes to Jim and Don. When they couldn’t step out of line they nodded and mouthed, “thank you.” I felt even more pride when the CPOF National Honor Guard Team, 19 strong, passed by Lieutenant Steven Floyd and saluted.

New Jersey Correctional Staff were over 60 strong, and from New York, both City and State, there were far too many to mention. But when I saw the Honor Guard from Attica parade by I smiled and, later after the service ended, I went up to the Attica team and gave each member a hug.

As I mentioned earlier there were many uniform staff, probably upward of 1,000, maybe more. The CPOF Honor Guard includes three pipers and they chose to walk with ALL the other 50 + pipers in attendance. A pretty spectacular-looking/sounding group! Then, there were many other law enforcement agencies in attendance, showing that when one of us loses “one of our own” we ALL WALK TOGETHER. Not surprisingly, the State of Delaware had the most law enforcement agencies in attendance. The bleachers
were filled from one end to the other on both sides and the back bleachers were filled as well. Special tributes were made by Steven Floyd Jr. and the brothers of Alpha Phi Fraternity.

I was carrying tissue around with me, but wonderful, caring words from Reverend McAdoo kept me strong and “tear free.”

The farewell ceremony continued after the service when we all walked outside. I saw a five-man team on horseback and -- I am guessing -- over 80 motorcycle cops. Once the family of Lieutenant Floyd walked by the motorcycles started up. That took my breath away along with all the uniform staff now flanking the walkway. A farewell service for a HERO.

Lieutenant Steven R. Floyd Sr. was born in Lewis, Delaware, served in the United States Army and was in the Delaware Department of Corrections for 16 years. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 28 years, Saundra; daughters, Candyss Floyd-White (Tyree) and Chyvante; son, Steven Jr.; and two grandsons, Bryson and Caison. He is also survived by his grandmother, Gladys; parents, Sharon and Steven; and many other family members.

-- Charleene Corby

The photos on these and the next two pages are courtesy of Lieutenant Tony Ruvalcaba, longtime employee of Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville, Oregon, and a member of the CPOF National Honor Guard. Thank you very much, Tony.
Cover story continued
Lieutenant Steven Floyd was killed during a 20-hour hostage situation at the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center in Smyrna, Delaware. A large group of inmates took Lieutenant Floyd and three other prison employees hostage during a riot in Building C. A tactical response team made entry into the prison approximately 20 hours later and located Lieutenant Floyd’s body. The other prison employees were rescued. Approximately 120 inmates housed in Building C at the time remained in custody.

Lieutenant Floyd had served with the Delaware Department of Correction for 16 years. He was posthumously promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on Friday, February 3, 2017.

from Char:

As I reviewed this publication before we went to press, and reviewed a number of past issues as well, I felt compelled at this time to discuss our handbook entitled *Family Preparedness for Greater Security*.

We encourage you to download and read this *Family Preparedness* handbook. It is available on our website: cprof.org. It is our hope that you will find its contents informative and useful. Almost all of the information, suggestions and guidelines – and certainly the forms – are applicable and of value to just about everyone.

On the next page, taken from the *Family Preparedness* handbook, we discuss “Dealing with A Violent Death.” As noted, dealing with the violent death of a loved one, or indeed with a death that was not violent, can take months, if not years. “Dealing with A Violent Death” offers excellent advice for all who find themselves grieving and facing many intense, sometimes conflicting, emotions.

For more about the *Family Preparedness* handbook, with emphasis on the importance of Estate Planning and how to safeguard your personal information, see the inside back cover of this issue.
DEALING WITH A VIOLENT DEATH  
by Jennifer Donaldson Davis

• Generally, it takes 18 to 24 months just to stabilize after the death of a family member. It can take even longer when the death was a violent one. Recognize the length of the mourning process. Beware of developing unrealistic expectations of yourself.

• Your worst times usually are not at the same time, or immediately after, a tragic event takes place. This is because you are almost always numb, in a state of shock. Often you slide into depression four to seven months after the event. Ironically, and this is something that is hard to cope with, when you are depressed at this stage and tempted to despair, it is at this very point that many people expect you to be close to “getting over” your loss.

• When people ask you how you are doing, don’t always automatically say, “fine.” Share your feelings as often as circumstances allow and depending on how well you know the person inquiring. If you are feeling sad and bad, it’s all right to say so.

• Talking with a true friend or with others who have experienced the same loss can be very helpful. Those who have “been there” in particular can speak your language. When they say, “I know how you feel,” you believe it because they really do know how you feel, and you know you are not alone.

• Depression can be a cover for anger. Learn not to bottle up your feelings, or to mask them, and try to find appropriate ways to release your pent-up emotions. One of these emotions often is real rage. Among other reasons, what you’re going through seems so unfair and unjust.

• Take time to grieve and to experience being a victim. It may be necessary to spend some time feeling sorry for yourself. "Pity parties" with others in the same situation, or very close to it, sometimes are helpful and actually can be very therapeutic.

• It’s all right to cry, to question, to be weak. Beware of letting yourself be “put on a pedestal” by others who tell you what an inspiration you are because of your ability to cope so well. (If they only knew …)

• Remember, you are almost certainly a “rookie” at what you’re experiencing. This is probably the first violent death you have had to cope with (and we all hope it will be the last). You’re new at this and don’t know what to do or how to act. You need help, and there is nothing wrong with that. Even if you are dealing with a non-violent passing, it is no less sad and you deserve to mourn on your own terms as well.

• Reach out and try to help others in some small way. This little, easy-to-take step forward may prevent you from dwelling too much on yourself and your situation.

• Many times of crisis ultimately can become times of opportunity. Strangely, your faith in yourself and in others can be deepened as a result of going through a crisis. Seek out people who can help and serve as a symbol of hope to you.
Sergeant Shannon Siota, a Supporting Member at Centinela State Prison, suffered a heart attack in January 2017. She has undergone two surgeries and had five stints inserted. Sgt. Siota is pictured at right with her family.

C/O Ernie Castro Jr of California Substance Abuse and Treatment Facility (CSATF) was in an auto accident on January 18, 2017. He is pictured at left with his family.

Retired Rockie Gonsalves passed away from lung cancer on December 26, 2016. His widow, Kathy, pictured at left with Rockie, received bereavement assistance from the CPOF.

On January 10, 2017, C/O Richard Patterson of Chuckawalla Valley State Prison contacted us about his wife, Janet, saying, “Janet has been fighting cancer for a number of years. She went through treatments in L.A. in August. She is in the hospital now, and the doctor is saying that her quality of life is not going to come back. Doctors are unable to help her moving forward.” When called for an update several weeks later Officer Patterson informed us that Janet had passed away on February 8. Our condolences to Richard on his loss.

C/O Ricardo Zamora of CSP Corcoran was killed on December 6, 2016 in an auto accident on his way home from work. He is pictured above with his family.
To: CPOF

Thank you very much [for the bereavement assistance]. Enclosed are pictures of Sherwina and me on my birthday. She died the next day.

Thank you again.
Denney Conley,
West Plains, MO

Retired Sergeant and Supporting Member Denney Conley, formerly of Pelican Bay State Prison, now lives in Missouri. His wife, Sherwina, passed away from cancer on July 5, 2016. The Conleys had been married for 56 years.

Captain Robert Ries, a Supporting Member at Central California Women’s Facility, contracted MRSA in his left ear at work. This led to meningitis and he underwent emergency surgery. He received IV antibiotics for eight weeks, was released and then had to be readmitted and transferred to Stanford for an additional five days. He lost all hearing in his left ear. As of mid September 2016 Captain Ries’s doctors had not released him to return to work.

We thank Captain Ries for sending us this lovely picture of his family, complete with their faithful four-legged friend.

To the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation:

In March of 2016, I was diagnosed with Stage III breast cancer, with a 7 cm tumor and some spreading to my lymph nodes. As you can imagine, it was devastating news to receive. All I knew was that I had to fight not only for myself but for those who love me. I started to receive treatment at one of the best hospitals, City of Hope in Duarte, California. On September 20, 2016, I completed four months/six rounds of chemotherapy treatments. And I am happy to report that my latest MRI showed NO CANCER present. I had a 100% response to the chemotherapy. I still have a long road of surgery, radiation and reconstruction to go but I’m headed in the right direction.

It is people like you that gave me the strength to endure these treatments and keep a smile on my face. On behalf of myself and my family, I would like to thank you for your financial assistance. This selfless act has shown that there are still good, kind people in this world. We wholeheartedly appreciate you and all that your Foundation does for families in this type of situation. Please enjoy the pictures enclosed.

Respectfully,
Melissa Littlewhirlwind and Family, Fontana, CA

Fire Captain Joseph Littlewhirlwind, Melissa’s husband, works at Calipatria State Prison.

Left: Melissa with a very special poster; above, the Littlewhirlwind family.
C/O Ernie Garcia Jr. is a Supporting Member at San Quentin State Prison. His wife, Linda, was killed in a car accident on October 21, 2016. We are pleased to share this photo that Ernie sent us of his family on a vacation in Hawaii. Linda was a lovely lady indeed.

Dear Christina & CPOF,

We are so very grateful for your gracious contribution to Kayla’s care. With all the fear and hardship that comes with a cancer diagnosis, we find tremendous comfort in loving and caring people like you.

Thank you,
The Adams Family, Bakersfield, CA

David Adams is retired from the CDCR. His daughter, Kayla, 22, was diagnosed with Hodgkins lymphoma in September of 2016. She has been through two rounds of chemotherapy so far. She will need to undergo eight rounds of chemo in all and probably radiation treatments after that. She was in college at the time of her diagnosis but had to leave and move back home to get round-the-clock care from her family.

Above is a photo of the Adams family, and one of Kayla while in treatment. She is a beautiful young lady no matter what the circumstances, and we wish her all the best.

Sergeant Joshua Simmons is a Supporting Member at Pelican Bay State Prison. Josh “blew out” his knee on April 21, 2015 while trying to gain control of a combative inmate. He had an unsuccessful surgery in February of 2016. His doctors approved him to return to work on August 15, 2016. Unfortunately, on his first day back at work while at baton re-certification he blew out his knee again. He lost months of work as a result of this injury.

Above, a photo of Sgt. Simmons’s big family -- the best “support system” anyone can have!

This beautiful thank-you card is from Abby Dunn, daughter of CC II William Dunn, a Supporting Member at California Correctional Center. In early November 2016, Abby was transported to UC Davis where she was diagnosed with Transverse Myelitis (inflammation of the spinal cord around the middle of the back). She is paralyzed from the waist down and is looking at a long recovery. It is unknown if the paralysis is temporary or long term. We wish Abby all the best with her recovery, and hope for an eventual good outcome.

Left: California’s Field Representatives Connie Summers and Charlie Bennett.
C/O Andrew Sullivan of Smith State Prison received a CPOF assistance check when his baby daughter was hospitalized in September 2016 with multiple medical issues and had to be taken to Ohio to get examined by a specialist. The baby has a large cleft palate and micrognaethia (undersized jaw), a condition that interferes with an infant’s feeding and breathing. Thus, she has a tracheal tube in her throat so that she can breathe, and a “G tube” in her stomach that allows her to be fed directly into her stomach.

Dearest CPO Foundation:

I would like to express my deepest thanks to the CPOF for your heartfelt contributions during my time of need and especially during the holidays. It is truly a wonderful feeling to know that your exceptional organization thought of and cared for me during my challenging period of adversity.

Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated. God bless you!

Sincerely,

Kyra Gundy, Sopeton, GA

Teacher Kyra Gundy is a Supporting Member at Eastman State Prison. On July 31, 2016 she fell and tore her left ACL and meniscus (protective cartilage) which required reconstructive surgery and physical therapy. Ms. Fundy lost many weeks of work as a result of her surgeries and subsequent treatments.

Lieutenant Cleo White, a Supporting Member at Lee State Prison, passed away from double pneumonia. Her husband, Bobby, received a CPOF bereavement check. Cleo and Bobby are pictured here.

Christina, Thank you and all who were involved in the process for this most thoughtful and needed gift. My family was permanently displaced and had to relocate. This is so helpful ... I feel very blessed to have my GDC Family and CPOF Family behind me and praying for me.

Thanks again!

Sincerely,

Cammie Smith, Baconton, GA

Administrative Support

II Cammie Smith, a Supporting Member at Lee State Prison, received a CPOF assistance check after trees fell through the roof of her house, causing irreparable damage to the structure. The house was deemed a total loss. Cammie is pictured here with her son, Chase.
NEW YORK

To the CPO Foundation,

On behalf of Patrick Hannon and family, your generosity and thoughtfulness were indescribable. I will be forever grateful and proud that he was a Corrections Officer.

Thank you again,
Julie Hannon, West Seneca, NY

C/O Pat Hannon, a Supporting Member at Gowanda Correctional Facility, was diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer in July 2016. Sadly, he passed away on September 11, 2016. Julie is his widow, and is pictured here receiving a CPOF bereavement assistance check.

CPOF New York Representative Jay West (left) presented an assistance check to C/O David Thorn, a Supporting Member at Green Haven CF, while C/O Thorn was being treated for melanoma. Also pictured is David’s wife, Shannon.

Jay West presented a check to Lt. Jim Spinner, a Supporting Member at Upstate CF, whose daughter, Cassidy, in the summer of 2016 had to go to University of Vermont Children’s Hospital in Burlington for continuous treatment and surgery due to an earlier kidney transplant. In addition to Cassidy’s medical condition, Lt. Spinner’s son, Aiden, was hospitalized for an extended period of time in the fall of 2016 due to severe asthma. Pictured: Upstate CF CPOF contact C/O Brandy Smith; Mrs. Spinner (Lori); Cassidy; Lt. Spinner; Aiden; and Jay.

To my husband’s new family of co-workers,

THANK YOU! Your gift to my family helped ease some of our financial worries and let my husband focus on healing! He is back to work now, of course, and looks forward to returning the favor and hopefully joining your Foundation when we are able.

Sincerely,
Jill Newman
Lyndonville, NY

C/O Kyle Newman of Five Points CF started having severe abdominal pain while on the way home from work one day last fall. He immediately went to the ER and after several tests was told that he needed to have an emergency appendectomy. The surgery resulted in C/O Newman’s having to be off work for a considerable time, which caused financial hardship. C/O Newman received a CPOF assistance check in late October of 2016. He and wife Jill are pictured at left with their two children, Claire and Connor.

continued next page
Dear Kim,

I am writing to give my deepest thanks for the beautiful letter you sent offering your condolences of the passing of my husband, Sergeant Kerry Winters Sr. I also want to thank you for the donation you made to my family in his honor. I am so sorry it has taken me so long to write you this letter, but this has been an extremely difficult time for all of us. Kerry was a wonderful husband and father and we will miss him every day for the rest of our lives. He was a man of integrity and he was very proud of the 30 years he worked for the Ulster County Sheriff’s Department, Corrections Division. For many reasons, he will always be our hero.

I also want to thank you for sending me a copy of your publication. I had never heard of your Foundation before my husband’s passing, and I must tell you I am very impressed with all that you do. I can tell that the people who are involved in your Foundation truly care for all of those working in the Corrections Profession.

I cannot thank you enough for taking the time to honor my husband. My family and I will always remember your kindness.

Sincerely,
Michele Winters

Sergeant Kerry Winters, Sr. of the Ulster County Sheriff’s Office drowned on September 22, 2016 during an In-Water Rescue Team training exercise.

Dear CPO Foundation,

Thank you for being there in my time of need. God bless you and your families.

Correction Officer Teresa Dickinson
Buffalo, NY

C/O Teresa Dickinson, a Supporting Member at Albion CF, was diagnosed with breast cancer in May 2016 and underwent radiation and other treatments at Roswell Cancer Center in Buffalo.
Jay West presented a check to C/O Randy Harkness, a Supporting Member at Franklin CF, who has disc degenerative disease. At the time of this presentation, Officer Harkness had had three laser spinal surgeries, with a fourth scheduled at Gulf Coast Ortho Center in Hudson, Florida. Also pictured: Randy’s wife, Meagan, and Bare Hill CF CPOF contact C/O Mike O’Hare.

Jay presented a check to C/O Patti Williams, a Supporting Member at Upstate CF, whose husband, Dave, had a series of “mini” strokes in late 2016. Treatments involved extensive travel and related expenses. Also pictured (left): Upstate CPOF contact C/O Brandy Smith.

Jay presented a check to C/O Chris Kelly, a Supporting Member at Bare Hill CF, whose wife, Angela, had some complications with her pregnancy and the birth of their son, Owen. Angela was hospitalized before Owen was born prematurely. Owen himself was hospitalized for an additional two months, causing the family to incur extensive medical and travel costs. Also pictured (right): Bare Hill CPOF contact C/O Brandy Smith.

The CPO Foundation has over 3,650 Supporting Members in the State of New York. Thanks to ALL for helping us “take care of our own!”

CF C/O Don Molino, CPOF contact at Albion CF, presented a CPOF check to Supporting Member Sgt. Yoppie Sudira, whose young son, Maxwell (9 months old as of October 2016), was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia and was being treated at Cleveland Clinic in Ohio. Also pictured: C/O Mark Greene, Union Steward.
C/C II Jeffrey Rude is a Supporting Member at Airway Heights Correctional Center. Jeffrey’s wife, Christine, was diagnosed with cancer and underwent abdominal surgery on June 18, 2016. She spent five days in the hospital and was scheduled to undergo four to six months of chemotherapy. East Washington State CPOF Representative Bridgett Bolinger followed up with Christine and gave us the good news that as of December 1, 2016 Christine’s recovery was going well. Christine is pictured here with Jeffrey.

C/O Amanda Severino-Radimecky, also of AHCC, suffered losses in an apartment fire. She is pictured above (left) with Bridgett Bolinger, who recommended a CPOF assistance check for C/O Severino-Radimecky

C/O II Glenda Barron, a Supporting Member at Washington State Penitentiary, suffered heart, kidney and liver failure caused by atrial fibrillation and thyroid disease. She underwent surgery and received assistance from the CPOF to help with her many out-of-pocket medical expenses. C/O I Barron is pictured here with Michael Seefeldt, Eastern Oregon CPOF Representative, who also helps out as needed in Washington.

To CPOF,
Thank you so very much for the financial help when my husband passed. I was not prepared for the expense of it all, and then in walked our Superintendent with a huge grin as he presented your check with best wishes attached. Our Correctional family is bigger than just Monroe Correctional Complex in Washington State. I am so proud to be part of it all!
Sincerely,
Susan Plouff, Monroe, WA
Administrative Assistant 3 Susan Plouff’s husband, Leonard, passed away on October 14, 2016.

Did you know?
Washington is the second State, after California, in which the CPOF achieved a payroll deduction slot!

Dear Stephanie,
Thank you for the check to help with Stephen DeClue’s funeral expenses. I will put it toward a headstone for him. Thank you again. This was unexpected and appreciated.
Jane DeClue

Jane is the mother of C/O II Stephen DeClue of Washington State Penitentiary who passed away on November 18, 2016 from cardiac arrest. In this photo, Lt. J. Salvadore Lugo accepts the assistance check on Mrs. DeClue’s behalf. Michael Seefeldt is also pictured.
To: Ms. Barone

On behalf of the TDCJ-Hobby Unit and Robin Shoesmith, Commissary Manager, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for the support shown to her by the CPO Foundation to her and her children during this difficult time. One cannot imagine the grief this family is experiencing after losing a husband and father so tragically. The holidays were exceptionally difficult; however, your assistance and additional card to her were so welcomed and a source of comfort. Ms. Shoesmith was touched and very grateful for the support shown to her by the CPO Foundation.

Thank you again for all that you do for the Correctional Officers of TDCJ.

Respectfully,

Warden Vikki Wright, Hobby/Marlin Complex

Commissary Manager Robin Shoesmith is a Supporting Member at Hobby Unit. Her husband, Michael Brenegar, passed away from injuries sustained in a car accident on October 22, 2016. Above: Warden Wright and CM Shoesmith.

On Monday, March 20, 2017 Sergeant Richard Pustka (top right) was presented a check from the CPOF at the W.J. Estelle Unit by Captain Jody Vincent and Cathy Stokes. Sgt. Pustka is currently on medical leave due to a horse accident.

That same day, Officer Johnny Peavey (lower right) was presented a check from the CPOF by Captain Lee Martinez and Cathy Stokes. The assistance was to help cover funeral expenses due to the sudden death of his son, Andrew, in late February 2017.

Sergeant Pustka and Officer Peavey were both extremely grateful for the CPOF assistance checks. We also extend a thank you to the CPO Foundation for the assistance and continued support you provide to the Correctional Community.

Shelly Crossland, Admin. II, Warden’s Office Sgt. Pustka and Officer Peavey are both Supporting Members at Estelle Unit. On January 3, 2017, Sgt. Pustka was thrown from a horse. The horse fell on top of him, resulting in Sgt. Pustka suffering a broken hip requiring the insertion of several screws and metal plates.

To CPOF,

My family and I would like to thank you all for your assistance. It came at a time when we certainly needed the help! We can’t begin to express all we feel. Thank each and every one of you! May you all be blessed as you have blessed us.

Gratefully,

Mark Best, Vidor, TX

C/O V Mark Best is a Supporting Member at Gist Unit. He was in a motorcycle accident on October 14, 2016, sustaining facial, back and pelvic fractures and injuries to his left leg so severe that the leg had to be amputated below the knee.
Sergeant Joey Burleyson is a Supporting Member at Byrd Unit. He and his family suffered severe damage to their home in a fire. Photo: CPOF Texas Representative Cathy Stokes, Sgt. Burleyson and Byrd Unit Warden Steven Miller.

Clerk IV Kristie Robertson, a Supporting Member in the TDCJ Contracts and Procurements Department, is pictured here receiving an assistance check from Cathy Stokes. At right is Team Leader Purchaser IV Brittany Hall. Ms. Robertson’s daughter, Allison, was diagnosed last August at the age of five with precocious puberty caused by a tumor between the hypothalamus and pituitary glands in her brain. Treatments including shots and tests required monthly doctor’s appointments in Houston (approx. 77 miles one way) ever since. At the time of this photograph, Allison was scheduled to have surgery in March to block hormone growth.

Dear Ms. Barone,

On behalf of my husband, Jim Hall, and daughter, Tracie Mills, we would like to thank you and the CPO Foundation for thinking of our family during the holidays. The financial gift was an unexpected blessing that could not have come at a better time. It was surely put to good use. Thanks again for all you do. My husband and daughter are still hanging in there, taking one day at a time.

Sincerely,

Theresa Hall, Trinity, TX

Inv/Store Specialist Theresa Hall is a Supporting Member at Estelle Unit. Theresa’s husband was hospitalized in late 2016 with terminal esophageal cancer at the same time that her daughter was fighting terminal cancer. Theresa is pictured above with Sr. Warden Christopher Carter and Assistant Warden C. Prestwood.

Administrative Assistant III Carla Hollis, Facilities Division, TDCJ suffered severe damage to her home last year when a tree fell through it. She is pictured above with Manager III Larry Kent and Bryan Buster.

Above: Lieutenant Kathryn Pinkston, C/O Anthony Taylor of Cole Unit and Captain Jimmy Sisson. C/O Taylor’s wife, Deana, was diagnosed in mid January 2017 with multiple brain aneurysms. The Taylors had to travel to Duncan Regional Hospital in Duncan, Oklahoma, over 150 miles each way, for Deana’s medical treatments.
Dear Ms. Barone,

The Huntsville Unit would like to thank you and your Foundation for the check that was presented to Laundry Manager III Ms. Margaret Johnson after the tragic loss of her son, Torrey.

You will never know in these times of sorrow how something like this meant to her and our Unit Family.

Again, we sincerely thank you,
James Jones, Senior Warden, Huntsville Unit

Ms. Johnson is a Supporting Member. Her son was killed in an auto accident on September 16, 2016.

C/O I Emmanuel Nwaokobia, a Supporting Member at Terrell Unit, died from injuries he sustained in a car accident. His sister, Bobbie Chukwurah (second from left), was responsible for his funeral and received a CPOF check to help with expenses.

Dear Stephanie,

On behalf of our employees, C/O V Debra Modisette and C/O V Michael Modisette, the Staff of the O.B. Ellis Unit and I wish to express our appreciation to the CPOF Foundation for the assistance you provided these employees. Debra Modisette has been off work due to illness and the CPOF financial assistance will go a long way to helping this family through a difficult time. I know that the Modisette family appreciates your assistance.

It is a great encouragement to all of us to know that there is an organization in place whose primary mission is to assist Correctional Employees in times of need. Again, I cannot say enough about how much the help you have provided is appreciated. You really make a difference in the lives of many people at a time when it is needed most.

Enclosed is a picture of C/O V Michael Modisette receiving the CPOF assistance check from Assistant Warden Charles Landis.

The O.B. Ellis Unit will continue to support and promote the mission of the CPOF at every opportunity.

Sincerely,

Michael Roesler, Warden II, O.B. Ellis Unit

C/O V Debra Modisette, wife of C/O V Michael Modisette, a Supporting Member, was diagnosed with cancer in the fall of 2016.

C/O IV Steve Rossiak (center), a Supporting Member at Boyd Unit, was assaulted on November 15, 2016 and broke his hip when he fell to the concrete. He received an assistance check to help with extra expenses while he recovered.

Baysinger receives a CPOF assistance check from Texas Representative Eileen Kennedy; at right is Stringfellow Unit Warden McMullen.
Good Afternoon,

Lumberton Correctional Institution would like to thank the CPO Foundation Board of Directors, Coordinators, and Supporting Members for their monetary assistance towards our employees during their time of bereavement. Here are pictures of the recipients being presented their CPO Foundation assistance checks by Superintendent Harvey Clay.

Again, we thank you for your support.

Shalonda T. McKoy, Administrative Secretary II/SSA, Lumberton Correctional Institution, Lumberton, NC

Ms. Brooke Bullard, widow of Captain Davy Bullard, a Supporting Member who died on August 5, 2016 as a result of a motorcycle accident on July 29, 2016. Captain Bullard was airlifted to Myrtle Beach and put on life support but passed away a few days later.

Assistant Superintendent Mary Locklear, also a Supporting Member, whose son, Aaron Jones, 19, passed away on August 19, 2016 from an accidental gunshot wound.

C/O Terry Jacobs, whose son, Nakoma, passed away on August 28, 2016 from an accidental shooting.

Left: C/O William Terry, a Supporting Member at Morrison CI, fell on July 30, 2016 and fractured two vertebrae in his neck. This severe spinal cord injury has left him paralyzed on his left side and lower extremities. In this photo, Officer Terry’s wife, Tanya, is receiving a CPOF assistance check from Morrison CI Superintendent Peter Buchholtz.

Administrative Assistant II Ronald McKinney of Avery Mitchell CI was diagnosed with throat cancer in June 2016 and underwent treatments. With AA II McKinney are Asst. Supt./Custody Gregory “Peck” Taylor and Special Affairs Capt. Brian Watson.

Dear Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc.,

My family and I extend our sincere appreciation for the assistance that was offered to us after our recent traumatic event. When I became a CPOF member a few years ago, I did so to support my co-workers whom I greatly admire and respect for the work they do. I never would have thought that I or one of my family members would need such help, but when tragedy did occur, we were so grateful for the assistance. Thank you for what you do to make such a positive impact in the lives of so many.

Sincerely,
Ruth-Anne Beaver
Title I Reading Teacher
School Educator Ruth-Anne Beaver is a Supporting Member at Foot-Hills CI. Ruth-Anne and her husband, Jeff, who is also a NCDPS employee, were involved in a boating accident on September 16, 2016. Mr. Beaver was airlifted to a hospital where he was in critical condition for some time. His injuries required amputation of one of his arms below the elbow. He also sustained back injuries and lacerations.
Dear Ms. Labio:

Words cannot express the appreciation of the assistance my staff and I received from the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF). The fact that within a couple of days after Hurricane Matthew, two CPOF representatives were on site to give some immediate assistance and then follow up with the much larger assistance checks for the seven staff affected by Hurricane Matthew at Craven Correctional Institution speaks volumes for the CPO Foundation. I have supported the CPOF since it was introduced at Craven Correctional Institution and will continue to be a strong supporter and advocate for the CPOF.

I would like to close with a quote from one of the recipients of the assistance: “I don’t believe this, how do I sign up?” He did follow up that day and completed the application. WOW!! -- and thanks for all the assistance in our State of North Carolina and this great nation.

Sincerely,

Larry Dail, Correctional Facility Administrator, Craven Correctional Institution, NC

Pictured from left to right: C/O II George Whitney, C/O II Kevin Taft, C/Sgt. II Lori Uzzell; Correctional Facility Administrator Larry Dail, C/O II Robert Stotler, C/O II Michael Jones and C/O II Phillip Huffman.

Good afternoon, Ms. Labio,

I really appreciate the assistance that the Foundation gave to my staff [who suffered considerable damage to their homes from flooding caused by Hurricane Matthew]. It is a blessing. I presented them with their checks today (November 21, 2016) personally. I met with each of them and talked with them about the Foundation and its purpose and the good work that it does.

I again want to say thank you to each and every one of you that helped in this gift to my staff. They were very thankful. Also, thanks to Mr. Ricky Anderson for his guidance in this process and his assistance.

God bless all of you and the CPOF organization.

Major George Kenworthy
Robeson County Detention Center, NC

More Hurricane Matthew assists:

Processing Assistant Casey Dorman, Harnett CI (center), received her CPOF check from Administrator Cynthia Thornton.

C/O II Maceo Wilkins (right), Maury CI, with Administrator Dennis Daniels.

Sergeant Channing Locklear, Cumberland County Detention Center (on the right), with Captain Frederick Hastie, Deputy Jail Administrator.

Above left: Detention Officer David Thompson; above: Detention Officer Cedell Hammonds; left: Detention Officer Dakota Dimery, all with Major George Kenworthy.

continued next page
North Carolina

This column: More Hurricane Matthew assists:

Detention Officer Roderick Smith, Cumberland County Detention Center (on the left), with Captain Fred Hastie, Deputy Jail Administrator.

Below, four Tyrrell CI recipients of Hurricane Matthew assistance checks, including Tyrrell CI Superintendent Fentress Bryant Jr. himself (bottom right). Other photos: Superintendent Bryant with, top left, C/O Jeremy Leary; top right, Processing Assistant Renée Mangum; and, bottom left, C/O Sandra Morton.

To the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation:

Words cannot express my gratitude and thoughtfulness during this emotional time in my life. Your donation will be used wisely to help with costs of finishing repairs to my home’s interior and exterior. I am so proud to be part of NCDPS and a member of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. I am so thankful to belong to an organization that believes in taking care of its own.

Once again, please accept my heartfelt thanks and gratitude.

Sincerely,

Gail Collins, Assistant Superintendent of Programs
Eastern Correctional Institution, Maury, NC

Asst. Supt. Collins, a Supporting Member; Gail’s suffered severe damages to her home and property from Hurricane Matthew.

To: Correctional Peace Officers Foundation,
We can’t find the words to express our gratitude for your participation in the October 6, 2016 Matty-Brenner Memorial Golf Tournament. The “goody bags” were a great hit, you guys supported us by being Tournament sponsors, then you showed up to play alongside us as we raised money to give back to such an incredible organization. We are so fortunate to have the opportunity to partner with CPOF. So, thank you again. We couldn’t have done it without you!

The Matty-Brenner Memorial Golf Tournament Committee

This Tournament is sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Public Safety Community Corrections 3rd Division. It was started in memory of Jim Matty, North Carolina Probation Parole Officer in Surry County, who died in 2013. This year, the Tournament Committee decided to also memorialize Richard Brenner, Cabarrus County Probation Parole Officer, who passed away in April of this year. We honor the service these men provided to their communities and to the State of North Carolina by helping others. Proceeds from this tournament go to the North Carolina Law Enforcement Assistance Program and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation.

Below: C/O II Gregory Anderson, a Supporting Member at Hyde CI, had a stroke while on the job on October 2, 2016 and had to be airlifted to Greenville for treatment. He was paralyzed on the left side and spent time in In-Patient Rehab. With Gregory in this photo are his wife, Darlene, and Administrator Joe Solano.
Major Ruth Wilson, a former Supporting Member at Fremont Correctional Facility, retired from the Colorado DOC in 2009 and moved to Oklahoma. She passed away due to organ failure. Her son, Doug, and daughter-in-law both work for the Department. The family had to travel to Oklahoma to help with the funeral and Colorado CPOF Representative Guy Edmonds recommended them for bereavement assistance.

CM III Dave Deets, a Supporting Member at Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center, was first diagnosed with cancer in 2013. On August 8, 2016 he learned the cancer had returned. Dave's doctors gave him six to eight months to live. He went for a second opinion, and underwent experimental surgery in which bags of chemo were inserted inside him. If this treatment works he may have three to five years to live. During this time his wife fell and broke her leg. The family faced financial hardship as a result of Dave's LWOP status and incurred extensive out of pocket medical expenses. Dave is pictured here with his wife, Wynne, Guy Edmonds, and the Deets family dog.

Pre-Release Specialist Mary Jackson of the Paroles Division was in a severe rollover accident on October 18, 2016 in which she was ejected from her car. She sustained several injuries that required surgery and hospitalization at Parkview Medical Center in Pueblo. She was off work for a considerable time while recovering.

C/O I Michael Silguero is a Supporting Member at Buena Vista Correctional Complex. Michael's daughter, one-and-a-half-year-old Bellamae, fell while walking. She was limping, so the Silgueros took her to the ER to have X-rays done. They were faced with large out of pocket medical bills that created a hardship, as Michael is the only source of income. Also, the family had just relocated when Michael transferred to Buena Vista CC. Michael is pictured here with his wife, Amy.

C/O Hevia Woods, a Supporting Member at Limon Correctional Facility, experienced complications toward the end of her pregnancy in 2016 and was unable to work for several months.

Good Morning,

Just a quick note to thank the Members and Organization for the help with my expenses. Having been a Member for over nine years I, of course, was aware and appreciated the type of work and help that is given. However, until I was contacted by Guy Edmonds I didn't realize that my situation warranted financial help. What a pleasant and welcome surprise for myself and family. Truly something to be thankful and grateful for.

continued next page
Once again, on behalf of the entire Mann clan – thank you and keep up the great work.

C/O I Christopher Mann, Salida, CO
C/O I Christopher Mann, a Supporting Member at Buena Vista Correctional Complex, and his entire family were in a rollover vehicle accident while en route to Christopher’s father’s funeral. The family was transported to the hospital via ambulance. Everyone suffered minor injuries and were released the next day. However, the family was faced with many out of pocket medical expenses.

Dear Kim,

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to thank you and the CPOF for the financial assistance check. I have been a Supporting Member since 2001. On September 20, 2016, I was admitted to the hospital for a serious kidney infection. I had three surgeries and was off work for almost two months. The financial burden was overwhelming, but thanks to Guy Edmonds and the CPOF, I, along with my family, was able to get through a difficult time. Again, I want to thank you and the CPOF for the help.

Sincerely,
Sergeant John Coll
Denver Complex Correctional Facility

Sergeant John Coll was unable to return to work for a considerable time after his surgeries due to complications, infections and treatments. He exhausted all his time on the books and was on LWOP.

To the CPOF,

Wow! We are so touched by your generous gift and thoughtfulness.

Thank you,
Marilyn & Scott Bushong, Matheson, CO
Administrative Assistant III Marilyn Bushong, a Supporting Member at Limon CF, was assaulted in July 2016 by an inmate who struck her in the head several times, causing her to fall and hit her head on the ground, knocking her out. She was transported by ambulance to the hospital. She was treated for jaw injury, concussion and back injury; and underwent physical therapy thereafter. The hospital, doctors and PT facility are in Colorado Springs, 70 miles from home. AA III Bushong had to make over 10 trips to and from Colorado Springs.
Dear Kim and CPOF Members,

Thank you for the monetary gift you provided following the car accident that nearly took my left (dominant) hand. My recovery is going well. I hope to return to work at BVCC soon.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Volz, Hartsel, CO

Coordinator Rebecca Volz is a Supporting Member at BVCC. On December 4, 2016 she was driving when she hit a patch of ice, lost control of her truck and rolled down an embankment. The truck landed upside down, totaled. Rebecca was able to climb out and tried her cell phone but had no reception. She climbed the embankment, still found no cell reception, and walked until she was able to call her daughter, then 911. Her broken hand was bleeding heavily, with the skin and muscles peeled back to the bone. First responders applied a tourniquet and Rebecca was life-flighted to Penrose Hospital in Colorado Springs to be treated by a hand specialty surgical team. The surgery involved the replacement of muscles, nerves, tendons and skin. A pin was inserted to hold the broken bone in place; it was to be removed in about four weeks. Rebecca, who could not work for those four weeks, received help with her extra, medically-related expenses.

Dear Correctional Peace Officers Foundation,

There are absolutely no words to describe how blessed our family has been in the past three months! We wanted to say thank you to everyone involved for the support and generosity our family has been shown by the CPOF family! We never expected Brylee to face all the challenges that she had at only three months. She has overcome so many obstacles and left many doctors confused with what happened, as well as the complete turnaround she has made. Brylee has filled the missing piece in our puzzle and has a smile that can light up even the darkest room!

Brylee was released from the orthopedic hip surgeon and is better than they ever expected. Another appointment and chapter closed in her life. She has been temporarily released from physical/ massage therapy until she is six months old. She is completely off of oxygen and is growing and changing so fast.

Our oldest daughter Taylor loves being a big sister! When we received the money and the gifts you sent the girls at “Christmas we both fell apart! You have absolutely no idea how much it meant to our family. Our five-year-old continuously goes up to anyone wearing a uniform, asking “Do you work with my daddy?” When they reply (usually no) she says “Well, that’s too bad. I wanted to say thank you for my and my sister’s gifts. We love them!” You have all made such an enormous impact on our lives and it means the world to our family!

Above is a picture of our family -- Taylor is five and Brylee is three months.

Thank you again for everything you have done for our family. God bless you all!

Zachary, Kassundra, Taylor and Brylee Tracy, Texas Creek, CO

*See a photo of Taylor and Brylee in this issue's Christmas section.

C/O Zachary Tracy is a Supporting Member at Fremont CF. Zachary’s daughter, Brylee, was born in late October 2016 with many complications. She was life-flighted from Canon City to Colorado Springs where she was in the NICU for over a week. The family incurred many extra expenses as a result of traveling weekly to Denver (145 miles one way) and to Colorado Springs (75 miles one way) for Brylee’s treatments and follow up appointments.

C/O Dale Duzenack of the Canon Minimum Centers received a late diagnosis of cancer not long before his planned retirement. Sadly, he passed away just prior to his retirement date. Pictured at left is Dale’s widow, Susan, with a CPOF bereavement assistance check.
Sergeant Donna Sherbondy, a Supporting Member at Snake River Correctional Institution, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check when her husband, James, passed away due to complications from diabetes.

I had the privilege of presenting Correctional Officer Richard Holcomb of Eastern Oregon CI with a catastrophic assistance check from the CPOF on December 20, 2016. Richard and his family suffered a devastating house fire this month, resulting in a total loss. Richard’s friend, Sergeant Rene Roberts of Two Rivers CI, notified me and referred Richard for assistance.

Here is one photo of the fire as well as a photo of the check presentation. With Richard is his lovely wife, Roxanne; and their dogs, Copper (with blond fur), and Ashley (with darker colored fur).

Thank you,
Michael Seefeldt, Eastern Oregon CPOF Representative

Counselor Heather Demos, a Supporting Member at Two Rivers CI was off work starting December 12, 2016 battling several health problems. She had to have multiple chest tubes inserted, and had lung surgery on January 16, 2017 at a hospital out of town. She incurred many out-of-pocket expenses during this time. Counselor Demos is pictured at right with the CPOF assistance check she received at the recommendation of Michael Seefeldt.

OREGON continued on page 30
Thank you all at CPOF for keeping my family afloat in our time of need. Our gratitude goes out to you and yours. I will continue to donate for all the remaining years that I walk my beat so that you can continue to help other Officers in need.

Officer Daniel Gresock and Family
Reynoldsburg, PA

C/O Dan Gresock, a Supporting Member at Jefferson County Jail, had back surgery on August 5, 2016 for a herniated disc. He was off work for well over two months and underwent extensive physical therapy. Above, Dan displays his upbeat attitude in this great picture of him with his wife and the family dogs.

On December 4, 2016, the son of C/O Michael Dixon of SCI Benner, named Hunter, was born prematurely at 23 weeks and weighed 1 pound, 5.2 ounces. Sadly, Hunter passed away on December 19, 2016. C/O Dixon received a bereavement assistance check, as pictured here.

C/O Christopher Slodysko of SCI Frackville passed away from to a massive heart attack on October 7, 2016. Christopher was on duty and at his desk when the attack took place. His widow, Jennifer, received a bereavement assistance check as pictured above. At left is Ray Stender, CPOF Representative in Eastern Pennsylvania.

C/O Tory Coyle, a Supporting Member at the Butler County Sheriff’s Department, received an assistance check to help with extra expenses when his wife, Andrea, gave birth two months early to their baby, Connor, in December 2016. Connor was in WIC for a month.

Guidance Counselor Lynn Sill of SCI Albion suffered some liver damage and had a liver transplant. She received a CPOF check to assist with extra expenses during her recovery.
Dear Christina Labio (CPOF),

Thank you so much for the kindness you have shown our family. We are so grateful and we are finding the Foundation very helpful with providing for our boys. Have a very Merry Christmas and God Bless.

Thanks from the Zachary Peck family, Malone, NY.
C/O Zachary Peck is a Supporting Member at Bare Hill Correctional Facility in New York.

To the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation,

Thank you for the gift card -- it will help out very much.

Thoughts and Prayers,
Michelle Fulare, Coal Port, PA
C/O Michelle Fulare works at SCI Houtzdale in Pennsylvania.

Taylor and Brylee Tracy, daughters of C/O Zachary Tracy, a Supporting Member at Fremont Correctional Facility in Colorado.

To the kind people of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation:

We, the Reichert family, are sincerely grateful for the help and generosity the Foundation has provided our family in our time of need. When our baby, Eden Ray Beichert, was born with tracheoesophageal fistula (TEF) and atrial septal defect (ASD) God challenged us in more way then one. The CPOF has helped relieve our financial burden. Eden will continue to have monthly procedures for her TEF, and in the future she will need to have surgery to correct her ASD. As of now, all of Eden's doctors are pleased with her progress. Eden is happy and continues to stay strong.

Sincerely,
The Reicherts, Bakersfield, CA
C/O Christopher Reichart is a Supporting Member at Wasco State Prison-Reception Center in California.
Christmas Thank-You Letters

To the CPO Foundation,
Your generous gift this Christmas meant so much to us! You will never know what an answer to prayers you are to us. Thank you! God Bless the Foundation!

Doug and Andrea Lemon, Somerset, KY
Doug (given first name is Stephen) is Chief Psychologist and a Supporting Member at USP McCreary in Kentucky. This photo is of the four Lemon children.
See page 32 in this issue's Federal News section for more from Chief Psychologist Lemon, who has lung cancer.

Dear CPOF,
I have never been more proud to be part of this wonderful organization! I have happily contributed for many years, never expecting to receive anything in return. My daughter, Jenna, has been diagnosed with scoliosis and prescribed to wear a custom brace for a period of about two years. When I learned that my colleagues nominated me for assistance for her medical expenses, I was so touched it brought me to tears. When I received a check and gift card from you, I knew it was a Christmas miracle. Extraordinarily, Jenna received a note and gift card addressed specifically to her. My family and I cannot thank you enough for your assistance and we are blessed to have such generosity and kindness bestowed upon us!

Sincerely,
Margaret (Kathy) Goodson, Dodge, TX
Accountant II Goodson, a Supporting Member, works at TDCJ headquarters in Huntsville, Texas.

Dear Kim,
I wanted to take the time and say thank you from the bottom of my heart for the hospitality you have given my family and me during a time of need. The money that was donated helped us more than I can explain and for that we will be forever grateful. Thank you for the check and gift cards for Christmas. They were very appreciated and brought a huge smile to our faces.

Once again, thank you, CPOF, for all you have done for us.

Lauren, Ashley, and Ryder Hall, Abbeville, LA
Sr. C/O Lauren Hall is a Supporting Member at FCC Oakdale in Louisiana.

Thank you so much for the Christmas gifts! It really means a lot to my wife and me and we are very grateful for all the help you have provided. Evan is now 15 lbs! He has begun eating solid food by mouth and is doing very well. We anticipate his feeding tube will be fully removed sometime in April 2017.

Again, thank you for everything and have a Merry Christmas. Here is a Christmas photo of Evan we hope you enjoy.

Matthew Schwartz,
Atwater, CA
Case Manager Matthew Schwartz is a Supporting Member at USP Atwater in California.
Dear Kim and CPOF,

I want to thank you all for your love and support during this very stressful and exhausting time in my life. Your assistance check will go far in helping me keep up with unexpected medical costs while my fight with stage 4 kidney cancer continues. Thank you again!

Love,
Marc L. Lane and Family, Stayton, OR

Correctional Officer Marc Lane is a Supporting Member at Oregon State Penitentiary. In early December 2016 Marc was diagnosed with Stage IV renal papillary carcinoma that spread to his lungs, liver, diaphragm and lymph nodes. He has a four-inch mass in his left kidney but the lung issues are limiting surgical options. Fluid is continually accumulating between his right lung and chest cavity, collapsing the left lung. Officer Lane has been unable to work since December 6, 2016.

RN Debbie Runnion of Eastern Oregon CI had surgery on November 9, 2016 due to a meniscus (protective cartilage) tear injury she suffered in October. She was off work for a considerable time. RN Runnion is pictured above receiving a CPOF assistance check from CPOF Eastern Oregon Representative Michael Seefeldt.

Dear Christina,

I would like to send this little note to thank you and the CPOF, and everyone else involved. I am very grateful for the assistance I received from the CPOF. It was a great help in my time of need. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Ron Rosengrant, Lakersville, PA

C/O Ron Rosengrant, a Supporting Member at SCI Retreat, was involved in a car accident in the fall of 2016 and suffered a broken hip. He was off work for several months.

Dear Christina,

C/O Brandon Cherry of SCI Muncy has a little daughter, Georgianna, who was diagnosed at the end of 2016 with a life-threatening health condition: a hemangioma vascular tumor of the liver. He and his wife, Seanese, pictured here with Georgianna and their son, Landon, are traveling long distances to take her to specialists for treatments. C/O Cherry received an assistance check to help with the many extra expenses incurred by these medically necessary trips.

Right: Wendy Baur, CPOF Representative in Pennsylvania.
Dear Kim and the entire CPOF
Family,

I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for the assistance you provided during the unexpected passing of my wife, Angela.

September 30, 2016 started as a day like most others as I kissed Angela goodbye and went to work for a Friday shift. I soon realized this would not be just another day once I received a frantic phone call from Angela. I rushed home to find my wife – and best friend -- struggling. She had suffered a ruptured brain aneurysm.

The days following comprised the most difficult time in not only my life, but in the lives of our son, Dyllan, and daughter, Tia. Angela underwent emergency surgery for the aneurysm, and while staying optimistic I knew Angela faced the hardest battle of her life.

It was determined after many tests that the unthinkable outcome was in fact inevitable. As a family, many decisions needed to be made prior to Angela’s passing on October 7, 2016. As a family, we determined that in view of Angela’s love for all she would want to give life to others through the donation of her organs. Ultimately, she was able to give three others the gift of life.

Through this difficult time I have experienced so much love from CPOF and my dear Bureau of Prisons family, which has brought so much comfort. As Tia, Dyllan and I begin establishing the “new normal” in our family, please know the love and support of CPOF has given us strength and continues to do so.

We know that we are surrounded by amazing friends, many of whom we have never met. Thank you all for the kindness you have shown us. I could never in a million years repay you for the comfort it has provided.

Sincerely,
Paul Klein, Hermantown, MN
Mr. Klein is Associate Warden of FPC Duluth in Minnesota. He is also a Supporting Member.

Dear Kim and the CPOF,

I would like to say thank you for the generous monetary gift my family received from the CPO Foundation. My 13-year-old daughter, Chloé, was recently diagnosed with Crohn’s Disease. She is receiving treatment at Children’s Hospital in New Orleans, 108 miles from home. Chloé is getting stronger every day and is learning to manage her disease.

Once again, thank you for all the prayers and financial support during this time.

Sincerely,
Cody Williams, Pitkin, LA
Mr. Williams is a Maintenance Worker Supervisor and Supporting Member at FCC Oakdale in Louisiana.

Dear Kim,

I would like to take this time to thank you and the CPO Foundation for the generous Christmas gifts. It was such a surprise and blessing!! I am truly thankful you have brightened the smiles on my children’s faces and helped make their Christmas a little better.

Thanks for the support and phone calls -- they have really kept me going. I am walking a little now and getting better each day. I still have a long way to go.

Sincerely,

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Federal News

go but with God’s help and everyone’s prayers I will recover.

Thanks again for all your phone calls and generosity. They are truly appreciated!!!

Sincerely,
Shannon Ramsey, Burnsville, WV

Secretary Shannon Ramsey is a Supporting Member at FCI Gilmer in West Virginia. In July 2016 she fell off the roof of her house and suffered very serious injuries to her leg. The tibia and fibula bones were broken, and her ankle and heel were shattered. She underwent several surgeries over the next few months.

Dear CPOF,

On July 25, 2016, our lives changed forever. My husband, Doug was diagnosed with lung cancer. His having never been a smoker, we were shocked! It has been the scariest thing we have ever faced as a couple and a family. Needless to say, we have all adjusted to our “new normal.” Our church family and friends have been very encouraging and helpful. But your gift to help with our medical bills has been amazing! Doug has been a hard worker all his life: committed and loyal to being the best psychologist for the Bureau as can be. And what a blessing you have been, and they have been, during this new season of life! We are all so very thankful. Please continue to pray for Doug as he battles this cancer. He is getting good treatment and we are very hopeful. Once again, thank you!

Doug, Andrea, Michael, Christian, Hayley and Clark Lemon, Somerset, KY

Chief Psychologist Doug Lemon is a Supporting Member at USP McCreary in Kentucky. See his Christmas thank-you note on page 29.

AFGE Local 1007/3957, FCC Oakdale presented their $5,000 check to become a Lifetime Sponsor of the CPOF at the August 2016 Council of Prison Locals Convention. Accepting with great pleasure were CPOF CEO Charlene Corby (third from left) and CPOF Federal Coordinator Kim Blakley (third from right).

My name is Angela Johnson and I am a Correctional Officer, CCT who works for the Bureau of Prisons. I am currently located in Grand Prairie, Texas at the DSCC and I am a member of AFGE Local 1036. I’m writing to thank you from the bottom of my heart for providing support to my family and me during this time in our lives. We were preparing for Easter Sunday [2016], and the night before our gas barbecue grill exploded and the fire spread to the house. I am still out of my home while it’s being repaired but I want to tell you that I am so blessed to have my CPOF family be there for me during this long journey back to normal. I am forever grateful to be a part of such a great organization and I can now say from experience that you’re “on top” with your response to those who are in need once the call is made and the need is known. From the Johnson family, who are also a Veteran family who know what it means and how it feels to “take care of our own,” we love and thank you all!

CTT Angela Johnson is a Supporting Member. The barbecue grill explosion caused a fire that severely damaged her house’s north side, the kitchen and the master bedroom.
To Kim Blakley:

I am writing to thank you for everything you and the CPOF have done for our family. You have truly been a blessing to our family in many ways, from the greeting cards to gifts for our children to helping us with extra expenses while my wife, Donna, was admitted to the hospital for care. We wanted to share Donna’s story with everyone and thank you, Kim, for being by our side during this journey.

Donna has been an emergency/ trauma nurse for 15 years and we have three wonderful boys. On July 2, 2016 Donna was blessed with the gift of a new liver after a five-year battle with Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Cancer. … Some background: In 2011 Donna was 13 weeks pregnant and became very sick. She was sent to the ER by her doctor to get blood work done and receive fluids, or so we thought. She ended up being told she was in renal failure with her electrolytes completely out of whack! After multiple tests, scans, etc., and eventually losing our baby, we had our diagnosis. It was the hardest thing we ever had to deal with. I was at Donna’s bedside and our son Seth (three years old at the time) was on Donna’s lap when our doctor gave us the news. This was our first cancer diagnosis. Donna endured a 12-hour surgery to remove a 20 cm tumor. She remained cancer free for over a year and actually ran her first half marathon as well as having our second son, Jax. During the pregnancy Donna did not have any PET scans or MRIs so that there would be no radiation exposure to Jax. Jax was six weeks old when Donna had both an MRI and PET scan. The results were that she had multiple tumors in her liver. New treatments started from there. During this time our doctor encouraged us to think of the possibility of a transplant. Donna and I traveled to Indianapolis for the first time in December 2013. One of the tests required for the transplant work-up was a mammogram. Donna was 36 at the time and was not due for her first mammogram until age 40 or so.

On January 9, 2014 Donna received the second cancer diagnosis: Ducal Carcinoma In Situ (DCIS) in her left breast, cancer in the ductal system, Grade 3/3 with necrosis already present, very aggressive. She had a lumpectomy followed by weeks of radiation treatment. Donna’s doctor discussed with us about Donna having a mastectomy, and she decided with no doubt in her mind to have a bilateral mastectomy. If Donna had waited until she was in her 40s for her first mammogram the breast cancer would have been very advanced. The silver lining in all this is that her breast cancer was caught very early, thanks to the need for early testing. We have been personally touched with the importance of early diagnostic testing. If Donna’s story inspires even one person who has been hesitant about getting checked for breast cancer to do so, this experience will be a success.

I highly recommend becoming a member of the CPOF. Even if you do not require assistance there are many who do and are truly grateful to all who donate. Thank you everyone who had a hand in the Bowen family journey.

-- C/O Patrick Bowen, FCI Elkton, Ohio
CPO Foundation:

I would like to thank you and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation members for the generous assistance you provided me during my recovery due to a tumor found in my neck near my spine. The assistance will absolutely help my family and me with the financial difficulties we experienced due to my medical condition. I can honestly say I am proud to be a Supporting Member of the CPO Foundation and now am fortunate to be a beneficiary of the CPO Foundation as well.

Thank you again for your kind generosity.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant Chris Porylo, Northern Correctional Institution, CT

Lt. Chris Porylo underwent surgery on his neck due to a large mass. He was off work for about two months. He is the only source of income for his family. Lt. Porylo is pictured here receiving his CPOF check; at left is Captain Ned McCormick who referred Lt. Porylo for assistance.

Counselor Vincent Moore of Cheshire CI was diagnosed with prostate cancer and lost considerable time from work while being treated. At the same time his wife was home on a medical leave. Pictured at right: Deputy Warden Richard Laffargue, Counselor Vincent Moore and Correction Officer Mike Hanis.

C/O Adam Rivera, also of Cheshire CI, was diagnosed with cancer in his right kidney. He had surgery and lost much time from work while undergoing post-surgery treatment. Officer Rivera is pictured at left with Warden Scott Erfe.

C/O William Harrington of Bridgeport CC was diagnosed with lymphoma and lymphoplasmacytic cancer. He was first admitted to the hospital on April 6, 2016 for a stem cell transplant and afterward received chemotherapy. He was being seen by a specialist every two weeks thereafter and was not expected to be able to return to work until possibly the end of December 2016.
Dear Mr. Richard Loud,

While attending the [Correctional] Peace Officers Memorial Service in June 2016, I was very moved by the focus and compassion given towards the children by the Correctional Peace Officer Foundation staff. As a result, the staff of MacDougall Walker Correctional Institution and I raised funds in support of the children. On behalf of the staff of the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution and me please accept this donation of Legos in support of the fallen heroes and their families.

Sincerely,

Carol Chapdelaine, Warden

Thank you so much, Warden Chapdelaine and your staff, for this excellent gift! The Legos are now in a toy box designated for the Kids’ Room at Project 2000.

C/O Keith Russell of New Haven CC was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor in late 2016. He had surgery to remove the tumor but suffered numerous complications afterward. He was expected to be off work for five months.

Above: Keith with his assistance check, surrounded by New Haven CC administrators and staff.

PHILADELPHIA PRISON SYSTEM

On Thursday, August 18, 2016, CO Shawn Brubaker, a supporting member from the Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center was presented with the generous assistance check from CPOF. CO Brubaker was assaulted by an inmate resulting in a broken eye socket. He has recovered and has returned to work.

Thank you to CPOF from CO Brubaker and his family.

C/O Thomas Molinets of Walton Correctional Institution was killed in a motorcycle accident on August 23, 2016. Lieutenant Mark Forehand recommended bereavement assistance for Thomas’s widow, Leslie. Leslie is pictured at left with Lt. Forehand.

To the CPO Foundation:

I would like to extend an immeasurable amount of gratitude to the CPOF organization. My wife and my two new sons would like to thank you as well. It has been hard making changes in our home, going from no children in the house to two children in one day’s change of events.

Having extended the care and compassion that you have blessed us with, I am glad to be a member of the Correctional Peace Officer’s Foundation and will continue to be throughout my career. Again, my family thanks you.

God Bless,

Sergeant Tony Tillis/Environmental Health and Safety

Sgt. Tony Tillis is a Supporting Member at Hardee CI. Tony and his wife gained custody of Tony’s two very young nephews, Justin and James.

Dear Ms. Barone:

Please accept my apologies for my delayed response to the Foundation’s generous donation. While Kevin’s incident was nearly fatal, he is rebounding quite well. He does still have a long road ahead of him, though. Again, many thanks.

Jessica Tyson, Sanford, FL

C/O Kevin Gonzalez, a Supporting Member at Central Florida Reception Center, was hospitalized last year at Orlando Regional Medical Center in the ICU in a semi-vegetative state due to a blockage on the brain. Jessica Tyson is his wife.

Sergeant Edgar White of Union CI was diagnosed with cancer in the fall of 2016 and underwent treatments in Jacksonville. Lieutenant Tina Morgan and Jim Freeman, one of the CPOF’s three Florida Representatives, recommended assistance for Sgt. White, seen above receiving his check.

C/O Larry Jones of Union CI was killed in an auto accident on November 16, 2016. At left, Larry’s widow, Patricia, receives a CPOF bereavement assistance check.

C/O Stephanie Justus of Columbia CI was killed in an auto accident on December 12, 2016. Her father, C/O Babis Karamolengos, also works at Columbia CI.
C/O Bernadine Holmes is a Supporting Member at Lowell CI. Her 18-year-old son, Jarve, was shot six times on April 28, 2016, leaving him partially paralyzed. He was released from the hospital on June 5, 2016 and underwent physical therapy twice a week for several months. C/O Holmes had to pay for transportation for Jarve to and from appointments, causing financial hardship for her. She also was off work for over a month while Jarve was in the hospital. Above: C/O Holmes receiving a CPOF assistance check from Jim Freeman. At C/O Holmes’s right is Lowell CI Warden Hope Gartman.

Larissa Turner, wife of Sergeant Keith Turner of Lowell CI (pictured above center with his CPOF assistance check), was first diagnosed with breast cancer in October of 2015 and underwent a double mastectomy. Due to complications, she had to have both implants removed and had to undergo numerous surgeries since. Larissa’s last surgery took place in November of 2016.

To the CPO Foundation:
I pray God’s blessing on all of you -- I love you all. You have been a big blessing to me and my family.
Juanita Legree, Bushnell, FL
C/O Juanita Legree of Sumter CI was off work for some time to care for her son who was diagnosed with a rare neurological disorder requiring round-the-clock care. Above: C/O Legree with CPOF Florida Representative Gerard Van Der Ham (right) and Sergeant Mary Schoenauer.

Dear Stephanie,
On behalf of the Thaxton family, we just would like to thank you and your organization for the assistance. My husband, Kenneth, dedicated his life to serving our community and keeping the citizens in our circuit safe. He was very passionate about his service and the community. Our family truly misses him -- his passing has left a huge void. So, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for all you guys do.
Dana Thaxton and Family
Panama City, FL
PPO Kenneth Thaxton died on November 13, 2016. Region I Deputy Director James Perdue recommended assistance for Mrs. Thaxton.
Oklahoma

Food Service Specialist Sabrena Brown of Eddie Warrior Correctional Center was pregnant with twins but miscarried one of them in late August 2016. Her doctors put her on bed rest until her due date which was in December. FSS Brown is a single mother and had to go on LWOP status. She is pictured above receiving a CPOF assistance check from EWCC Warden Sharon McCoy.

Dear Sirs:

I want to thank you for helping me during this difficult time in my life. I’ve never experienced anything like this before. My mom passed, and then my husband passed. Then I myself had a heart attack in the parking lot coming to work on July 1, 2016. My life has been turned upside down, emotionally and financially.

With all this going on, I ran out of leave time, so when I was taken off work after suffering the heart attack, I was forced to take leave without pay. But thanks to your Organization, I can make it a little further. Your check came just in time! I really appreciate all your help. I believe I am a member, but if I’m not, I am definitely going to become one, so that I will be a part of good people helping others in their times of need. God bless you, and thank you again.

Sincerely,

Portia Graham, CFSM I

Food Service Specialist Portia Graham of Eddie Warrior CC received a CPOF assistance check and is pictured here with EWCC Warden Sharon McCoy. Portia’s husband passed away in April 2016 and Portia was on leave until June 6, 2016. On July 1 she suffered a severe cardiac abnormality while at work and was taken to the hospital via ambulance.

To the CPOF,

I would like to give you my sincere thanks for the donation! Your generous, heartfelt attention to the loss of my wife has touched me. Thanks again,

Sergeant Mark Silverthorn
Jackie Brannon CC

Mark’s wife, Joetta Lynn, passed away on August 13, 2016. Mark had been taking time off work to take his wife to and from medical treatments. Mark’s mother had also passed away recently and he had to travel and take care of the funeral.

CSM I Kearrian Ridens, a Supporting Member at William Key CC, received a CPOF assistance check to help with medically-related travel expenses when he had to travel to Oklahoma City, OK (223 miles each way) to have a brain tumor removed.
Administrative Program Officer I Samantha Robb of Lexington Assessment and Reception Center is pictured here with, left to right, Oklahoma Honor Guard Member Charles Black, Acting Warden Natalie Cooper, Ms. Debbie Moore and Chief of Security Romon Jones. Samantha’s husband, William, was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor in July 2016; sadly, he passed away on August 18, 2016.

CMA I Rance McKee of James Crabtree CC was on his way to work on December 27, 2016 when he was struck by another vehicle. He was pronounced dead at the scene. In this photo, Warden Jason Bryant presents a bereavement check to Rance’s widow, Robin.

To CPOF,
Thank you so much! Nothing can express our thankfulness.
The White Family, Paden, OK
C/O Starsky White, a Supporting Member at John Lilley CC, and his family lost everything, including their cars, in a house fire at the end of November 2016. The family barely escaped the fire.

Dear Stephanie,
Thank you so much for the condolences and the check from the CPO Foundation. That was very sweet and unexpected during the Christmas season. I know that Michael loved his “family” at the prison in Sandy Hook.
Jan McMillen, Catlettsburg, KY
Sergeant Michael McMillen of Little Sandy Correctional Complex passed away on November 29, 2016 from cancer.

C/O Ronald “Drake” Adams, a Supporting Member at Little Sandy Correctional Complex, and his family were displaced from their home in November 2016 due to a house fire. The kitchen was a complete loss and the remainder of the house was severely damaged from smoke and water.

C/O Alan Carson of Roederer Correctional Complex suffered a fatal heart attack on December 3, 2016. His son, Alan Carson, Jr., received a CPOF bereavement assistance check as shown in this photo.
LPN Brandy Blackburn, a Supporting Member at Broad River Correctional Institution, received an assistance check after her home suffered severe damage in a house fire. Brandy is a single mother to her five-year-old son, Gage.

C/O Veronica Wadley, another Supporting Member at Broad River CI, was on FMLA after having surgery on her right foot. As with LPN Blackburn, South Carolina CPOF Representative Gary Evans recommended Officer Wadley for assistance from the CPOF.

Corporal Niccole Sheppard, a Supporting Member at Lee CI, is pictured here with her family. Their home suffered damages during Hurricane Matthew.

Dear Mrs. Labio,

On behalf of my sister and me, we would like to thank you very much for your assistance. We are also greatly appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,
Angelon Graves
HR Specialist Graves’s home is located in an area that was evacuated because of severe damages caused by Hurricane Matthew. She is employed at Lee CI.

To my CPOF Family,

I want to thank you for all the thoughts, prayers and monetary assistance. It feels so good to know my wife is loved by so many.

Lt. Ronald Snyder, Aiken, SC

Lieutenant Ronald Snyder is a Supporting Member at Trenton CI. His wife, Gloria, was diagnosed with cancer and underwent lengthy chemotherapy treatments. We are saddened to report that Gloria passed away on December 24, 2016.
Dear CPOF,

I am writing this on behalf of my husband Christopher Connelly. We were astonished to receive your generous offering a couple weeks ago.

I just sat down for a few moments between tasks to peruse your magazine and couldn’t help but feel a deep sense of gratitude when I read of terrible assaults sustained by our brothers in other states. My husband was beaten on the head nine times with padlocks tied to the ends of belts by two inmates barely over 20 from behind in the dark and sustained injuries requiring nine staples in the head. His hand was broken, and a small piece of his ear had to be sewn back into place. But when I see how much worse others have had it, I can only conclude that St. Michael truly does have my husband’s back. For many years, Chris has worn his St. Michaels scapular every day. How else can you explain why he received no concussion or even hit the ground? In fact, he went back to work the next day just long enough to address 2nd shift guard mount to encourage his crew and to show the inmates that they hadn’t gotten to him as they had hoped.

So my prayers go out to all of our family in uniform and we will never forget how fortunate we are that it wasn’t as bad for us as it has been for many others.

God Bless you and your wonderful ministry.

Rosanna Connelly and Family, Panama, NE

Intelligence Officer Captain Christopher Connelly is a Supporting Member at Tecumseh State Correctional Institution. In the photo: CPOF Nebraska Representative April Brulling-June, Captain Connelly and Tecumseh SCI Warden Brad Hansen.

Case Worker Michael Carr, also a Supporting Member at Tecumseh SCI, was assaulted by an inmate who hit Michael in the head multiple times. Note from Case Worker Carr: “Thank you for your prayers, service and gift. Bless you!” And, from April Bulling-June, in an email: “Thank you once again for assisting our staff in their time of need. You guys truly are AMAZING and we are grateful to be a part of your wonderful organization!”

C/O Heath Klassen of Nebraska State Prison was punched several times in the face by an inmate last August. He was taken to the hospital for treatment. C/O Klassen is pictured above with NSP Administrators.

NEBRASKA continued on page 42
To the CPOF,

My wife was in the hospital in Greenwood having heart surgery at the same time my mother was battling cancer in a different hospital in Greenville, about an hour's distance between the two. My mother recently passed. Thank you so much for the check. It has come in handy.

God bless CPOF.

Duane Birchmore, Mountville, SC

LPN Duane Birchmore is a Supporting Member at Tyger River CI.

Patrick Gibbons, a Supporting Member from 1999 to 2015 when he retired from the South Carolina DOC, passed away on July 18, 2016 after a very short diagnosis of cancer. Patrick was a close friend of Gary Evans. (Patrick's wife, Michelle, also was a Supporting Member from 1999 to 2016.) At left: Patrick and Gary.

Dear Alyssa Franchini and Correctional Peace Officers Foundation:

Thank you so much for the assistance given to me on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 by Warden Fred Britten of Lincoln Correctional Center (LCC), Training Specialist Ladena Koch, Deputy Warden Cathy Sheain, and CPOF Representative April Bulling-June. It absolutely could not have happened at a better time!! I am a Caseworker at LCC, and my husband, Rudy Fiedler, is a Caseworker at Nebraska State Penitentiary. The night before the check presentation to me, Monday, December 12, 2016, my husband was in a tractor accident and suffered a concussion, a six-inch cut on his head to the skull and three broken ribs. You and your Foundation are a true blessing that we are all very proud of.

Jacqueline M. Fiedler, Lincoln, NE

Caseworker Jacqueline Fiedler was involved in a staff assault on August 24, 2016. She responded to an ERT call to help a fellow staff member and upon arrival an inmate struck Jacqueline in the head, causing a softball-sized hematoma that required stitches. Jacqueline was off work for months because of this injury.

Caseworker Rudy Fiedler lost six weeks of work recovering from his injuries. He is pictured below receiving his CPOF assistance check from Deputy Warden Michele Capps.

Lieutenant Audra Wright of Palmer Pre-Release Center suffered a house fire on December 21, 2016 with total fire damage to the kitchen and living room, and water/smoke damage to the rest of the house. All personal belongings were lost or destroyed, and the house was determined to be a total loss. Above: Lt. Wright receives a CPOF assistance check. With her are HR Liaison Natasha C. P. Sprattling, Warden Aaron Joyner and Captain Willie Mae Graham.

Taking Care of Our Own
Dear Ms. Franchini:

On behalf of the East Moline Correctional Center, we want to thank you for the generous gifts to all of our employees. Without the help and support of CPOF, these individuals would have had a harder time recovering from their situations. It is so comforting to know that CPOF exists for our correctional families during their most difficult times.

This organization has helped several employees at East Moline Correctional Center suffering from serious illness to struggling with the loss of a loved one. Your support has made a difference in their lives.

We have several current members of CPOF, and we all feel honored to have become a member of such a giving organization. Please thank everyone at CPOF for “Taking Care of Our Own!!”

Sincerely,
Christine Brannon, Warden
East Moline Correctional Center, IL

Warden’s Assistant Theresa Severts-gaard of East Moline Correctional Center is pictured here with Warden Christine Brannon. Theresa’s husband, John, passed away due to kidney failure/infection in July of 2016 after a long battle.

Office Associate Tammy Parkhill, a Supporting Member at IYC Harrisburg, had to have a hysterectomy due to a large tumor being found. She is the sole provider for her family and was on leave without pay for some time following her surgery. OA Parkhill is pictured here with Business/ Administrative Specialist Krista Hasty.

JJS Paul Fisher, another Supporting Member at IYC Harrisburg, was in an auto accident on February 17, 2016 and suffered severe injuries to his back that required multiple surgeries. He traveled back and forth to three different hospitals in Missouri for these surgeries over the course of the year. He also had to have shoulder surgery on January 9, 2017 due to an injury he suffered on September 1, 2015. JJS Fisher is pictured here holding his CPOF assistance check.

C/O Brian Duvall of Robinson Correctional Center has a little daughter, Gabby, who was diagnosed with a neuroblastoma (tumor of the adrenal glands) at 10 months of age. Gabby underwent numerous treatments and surgeries and eventually the doctors found that the cancer had spread to her lungs. Gabby began aggressive chemo treatments in Peoria on September 16, 2016. C/O Duvall received an assistance check to help with extra expenses, and is pictured at right (center) with Warden David Rains and Angela Frapp, Executive Secretary III.
Dear Ms. Barone,

As you know, beginning on August 12, 2016, an unnamed storm remained nearly stationary over Baton Rouge and the surrounding parishes for several days and dumped over 31 inches of water into many areas. The results were devastating and unprecedented. Nearly 150,000 homes were damaged including those belonging to many of our employees.

As always, the CPOF Foundation quickly responded to requests for assistance and offered financial relief to those that lost all of their possessions. I’m not sure if mere words can adequate express our gratitude for your support during this most difficult time. Thank you.

Sincerely,
James M. LeBlanc, Secretary
Louisiana Corrections Services

Dear Ms. Barone,

My family and I would like to sincerely thank you, Colonel Paul Payne and the entire CPOF Foundation for your generous gift following the August 2016 flooding of our home. We cannot express enough appreciation for the generosity shown by so many people, especially those of you in the CPOF Foundation. We very much appreciate your assistance during this difficult time.

Thank you,
Lieutenant Michael Molaison and Family, Slaughter, LA
Lt. Molaison is a Supporting Member at Dixon Correctional Institute. His entire home was flooded and he and his family lost everything.

To the CPOF,

Thank you for your support!! The assistance for my family has been very humbling. I promise I will not forget it and I will support you, the CPOF Foundation, in the near future.

Craig Berteau
Prairieville, LA
Probation & Parole
Officer Craig Berteau and his family, like so many others, were severely affected by the August 2016 floods in Louisiana, losing their home and all belongings.

Lieutenant Achshah Harris, a Supporting Member at Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women, and his family also lost everything due to the floods that took place in Louisiana in August 2016.
Virginia

Thank you to the CPO Foundation and Stephanie Barone for this honor (bereavement assistance). Remembering Durward this way will forever be remembered by the Narramore family. Enclosed is a picture of Durward. Once again, thank you for the assistance. We thank God for caring people like you. The Narramore Family

C/O Durward Narramore of Red Onion State Prison passed away on October 28, 2016 from complications of liver cancer.

Dear Stephanie Barone!

Thank you very much for the support from the Foundation. It was a lifeline. Corrections Officers from every state and territory support their own. Once again, thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely,
Sergeant Timothy Stinnette

Sgt. Timothy Stinnette of Sussex I State Prison was diagnosed with leukemia in September 2016 and received treatments over a period of about three months. We are pleased to report that he has returned to work full time.

West Virginia

I wanted to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Stephanie Barone, Ray Wagoner and to everyone who helped make the check I received possible. I am very thankful. I thought I was off for a well-deserved vacation but it turned into the most difficult time I ever had. This assistance will go a long way to help me and I greatly appreciate it.

Thanks so much!!

Terry Butcher, Office Assistant, Clarksburg Parole (Office/District), WV

Office Assistant Terry Butcher was visiting Myrtle Beach, SC and started to feel unwell. She was able to make it to Charleston, WV (107 miles from home) before being admitted to CAMC Hospital where she was treated for a collapsed lung.
ADW William Theodore of ASPC Lewis and his wife, Rachel, were in a car accident last June. William suffered serious injuries to his wrist and leg that required surgery. Both William and Rachel work for the DOC. Pictured at left are ADW Theodore and his four-year-old son, Maximus, with CPOF Arizona Representative Liz Shaffer-Smith.

Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office Detention Officer Austin Sidler’s home was damaged in a house fire on December 27, 2016. Above: Sergeant Terrance Rose, Liz Shaffer-Smith, D/O Sidler, Captain Campanaro, Curtis Smith and Lieutenant Grimm.

C/O II Brian Gutierrez of ASPC Perryville (center) was diagnosed with lymphoma in the fall of 2016 and underwent chemotherapy treatments. He is the sole provider for his family. He exhausted all his time on the books because of the chemo treatment schedule. With C/O II Gutierrez in this photo are: Curtis Smith, DW Cindy Neese, Liz Shaffer-Smith, C/O IV Abbot and C/O III Flint.

C/O II Israel Calderon of ASPC Phoenix was in a 12-car pileup accident on his way home from work on December 28, 2016. C/O Calderon was critically injured. He was hospitalized and comatose with brain and spinal cord injuries as well as severe facial lacerations. At right, Mrs. Calderon (Gloria) holding her CPOF assistance check; with her are Director Charles Ryan, Liz Shaffer-Smith, Vanessa English and ASPC Phoenix Warden Robert Patton.

C/O II Robert Romero of ASPC Winslow was assaulted by an inmate on January 12, 2017. C/O II Romero suffered serious head injuries and a broken jaw that had to be wired shut for several weeks. At left, C/O II Robert Romero with his assistance check and Lieutenant Karen Hayden.
To Correctional Peace Officers Foundation Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all members for your support during my time of need. In our profession it is easy to reach out to the communities we serve and the people we work with every day. However, many of us find ourselves in situations where we can’t or won’t ask for help because of our careers and our dedication to helping others. Luckily we have each other and our Corrections family that we can count on to recognize when someone is struggling within our organization. I can’t begin to express my appreciation to my brothers and sisters for help when I really needed it the most after two major surgeries in six months took me down. I am slowly recovering, but your assistance today helps me to remain focused and motivated. Thank you and thank you again from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,
Chris Jensen
Sr. PPO, District II Probation & Parole
Idaho DOC

Senior PPO Christine Jensen was injured on June 19, 2016 when she fell out of her truck. She had two surgeries, one on August 19, 2016 to fuse her L3 and L4 vertebrae and the other on November 22, 2016 on her hip. She was off work for eight weeks with the first surgery and after the second was off work for another eight weeks. She incurred extensive out of pocket medical bills.

Montana

Driver’s License Coordinator Bradley Walter of Montana Correctional Enterprises received a CPOF check in January 2017 to help with unexpected expenses when his wife, Winter, was air lifted to St. Vincent Hospital in Billings with a twist in her colon. Pictured left to right: MCE Agriculture Director Ross Wagner, MCE Administrator Gayle Butler, Bradley Walter, MCE Training Development Director/CPOF Representative Lisa Hunter and MCE Vocational Educational Director Larry Burke.

Arkansas

The father of Teacher’s Aide Albert Rogers of East Arkansas Regional Unit passed away and Albert was responsible for the funeral expenses. Albert was in need of financial assistance because he had been unable to work for some time due to his own serious health complications from a blood disorder.

Pictured above: Utility Captain Rodney Ford; HR Assistant/Specialist Kimyata Randall; HR Manager Raja Rogers, Albert’s wife, accepting a CPOF assistance check; Deputy Warden Moses Jackson; and Arkansas CPOF Representative Annie Norman.

Instructor William Andrews of East Arkansas Regional Unit was diagnosed with cancer in the autumn of 2016 and underwent chemotherapy treatments. Photo: Instructor Andrews (center) with Major Deen, Utility Captain Rodney Ford, Deputy Warden Dycus and Mrs. Rogers.
To CPOF, Kim and Manny,

I want to thank the CPOF, Kim and Manny for being there for me in my time of need. I never would have thought that one day I would need the CPOF. I have supported them and their mission from day one without ever giving it a second thought that I may one day need them. The financial assistance provided to me during my recovery has lessened my worry and burden in trying to keep my bills paid. I greatly appreciate Kim and Manny for their dedication and their wonderful attitudes towards me while I go through this rough spot in my life. Thank you so much.

Humbly and gratefully,

Lee Brierly, Warwick, RI

C/O Brierly, a Supporting Member in the Women’s Division, has been unable to work since January 2016 due to complications with scoliosis, subsequent surgeries and lengthy physical therapy. She is pictured here receiving a CPOF assistance check from Rhode Island CPOF Representative Manny Leander.

C/O James Mendes, a Supporting Member at Maximum Security Facility, passed away unexpectedly on October 17, 2016 while getting ready for work. His adult son, Nicholas Mendes, was responsible for the funeral. In this photo, Manny Leander presents Nicholas with a bereavement assistance check. Also pictured: Nicholas’s daughter and Kim Blakley, CPOF Catastrophic Assistance Coordinator for Rhode Island.

C/O Alfred Zannini, a Supporting Member at High Security Facility, was assaulted in December 2016 by an inmate while Officer Zannini was escorting him to take a shower. The inmate hit Alfred repeatedly until help arrived. Alfred suffered head trauma, a right arm triceps muscle tear and a shoulder injury. He received 12 stitches in his head and treatment for his triceps tear and the shoulder injury. At left, Officer Zannini receives a CPOF assistance check from Manny Leander.

Officer James Faulkner, a Supporting Member at Medium Security Facility, has been unable to return to work since suffering a severe shoulder injury in 2014. The injury was the result of Officer Faulkner’s slipping and falling while responding to a body alarm. He has undergone five different surgeries, the most recent being on his neck in July 2016. The loss of income while off work put a severe strain on him financially. At right, Manny Leander presents Officer Faulkner with a CPOF assistance check.
The Wisconsin Jail Association (WJA) Spring Training Conference was held at the Radisson Conference Center in La Crosse March 13-17, 2017.

Our trip to La Crosse started out on a bright, sunny Sunday morning. We drove for several hours and were glad to reach the Radisson where we quickly checked out the conference room.

What was supposed to be a rather large turnout wasn’t quite so much -- the weather probably changed some minds. Although snow (eight inches on Monday) did keep some away, Robert and I love the snow and made the trip.

The WJA gave Robert and me the chance, again, to VSUHDGWKHJRRGZRUNWKH&RUUHFWLRQDO3HDFH2I¿FHUVFoundation (CPOF) does. We lost our daughter, Constance Schultz (pictured below right), in the line of duty on December 20, 1998. Connie was a C/O at Ellsworth Correctional Center. The CPOF contacted us immediately after Connie’s passing and invited us to Project 2000 X in Washington, D.C. in June of 1999 where Connie was honored. From that moment on we have been addressing Correctional Staff in Wisconsin about the CPOF. We also can often be found at Health Fairs and would be happy to address more Correctional Staff if invited.

As you can tell by reading this publication, the CPO Foundation is national in scope and we are proud to be the contacts here in Wisconsin. To those who are Supporting Members through the Wisconsin State Employees Campaign (WSEC), I see our numbers are growing, thank you! The Fall Campaign will be here before we know it – so please share CPOF with your co-workers and encourage them to become Supporting Members.

Note: The photo of Robert and me, above, was taken at a recent Project 2000 gathering. As Wisconsin Representatives for the CPOF, we attend Project every year, of course, and we also are proud to be in charge of the donation table, as shown.
Dear CPOF Friends,

God bless you all for your acts of generosity and expressions of sympathy in our great loss. We sincerely appreciate the token of love you have provided; it means so much to our family. As you know, this is a very difficult time for us but having your support certainly helps. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.

With love,

The Christopher Engel Family, Auburn, MA

Training Officer Christopher Engel of Worcester County passed away on November 23, 2016 from esophageal cancer that had spread to his liver and lymph nodes.

To the CPO Foundation:

Thank you very much for your kind gift at this difficult time in honor of my son, Lt. Jason Earls, for his daughters. It means more than you will ever know how much we feel your caring thoughts from the heart.

Thank you again. We will never forget.
Always,
Suzanne Earls and Family, Attleboro, MA

C/O III Dane Cullen of Oahu Community Correctional Center was found unresponsive at home on the morning of January 12, 2017. He was rushed to the hospital where he was determined to be brain dead. He passed away shortly thereafter. Sergeant Roger Sherman, CPOF Representative in Hawaii (at left in this photo), recommended a bereavement assistance check for Officer Cullen’s widow, Raelani.

The family of Officer Russell W. Cox Jr. wholeheartedly thank the CPO Organization for the donation and kindness that was shown during our time of bereavement.

Thank you.
Russell and Latrina Cox and Family

Cadet Russell Cox of Mississippi State Penitentiary was killed in an auto accident while on his way to work. Warden Sonja Stanciel recommended bereavement assistance for his mother, Latrina.

C/O III Jason Earls of MCI-Cedar Junction, passed away on October 1, 2016 from hypertensive heart failure.

The family of Officer Russell W. Cox Jr. wholeheartedly thank the CPO Organization for the donation and kindness that was shown during our time of bereavement.

Thank you.
Russell and Latrina Cox and Family

Cadet Russell Cox of Mississippi State Penitentiary was killed in an auto accident while on his way to work. Warden Sonja Stanciel recommended bereavement assistance for his mother, Latrina.

Mississippi

C/O I James Tonoco of Kansas City Re-entry Center passed away on January 30, 2017. Executive II Spencer Colliatie requested a bereavement assistance check for his mother, Marina Tonoco, pictured above (center) with Executive II Colliatie and Warden Lily Angelo.
Letters and Photos from States “All Over”

Nevada

Correctional LPN III Paul Edge of Northern Nevada Correctional Center was hospitalized for 37 days last summer due to an infection caused by a dog bite. The infection was then complicated by diabetes. LPN Edge had to have his big toe amputated, then infection became worse, and sepsis and Strep Bacteremia set in. LPN Edge had to undergo additional surgery involving the amputation of his foot. He lost a great deal of time from work during this ordeal and after exhausting all of the time he had on the books entered LWOP status. Above: CPOF Nevada Representative Nickey Brooks presents LPN Edge with an assistance check. On Paul’s lap is his daughter, Amelia.

Dear Kim,

I want to thank you so very much for your work in coordinating the financial assistance the Foundation has given me. The check arrived with perfect timing among a stack of bills from hospitals and doctors. It did give me a big smile.

I also very much appreciate the thoughts and prayers on my behalf.

Sincerely,

Virginia Pinkston, RN

Nurse Virginia Pinkston of Lovelock Correctional Center was diagnosed on December 20, 2016 with myeloma cancer. She was hospitalized in Reno, 166 miles from her home in Winnemucca. Her care was then transferred to Carson City, 195 miles away, where she underwent her series of chemotherapy treatments.

Tennessee

To: CPO Foundation

The check I received from the Foundation really helped me in many ways. I’m so thankful and blessed to be a member of an organization that helps so many in need. I work in Corrections here in Memphis, Tennessee. I’m spreading the news to my co-workers who don’t know about you to get on board.

Thanks, CPOF!
Officer Larry A. Branch
Correctional Officer
Shelby County Sheriff Department
P.S. Thanks again and God Bless.

Officer Larry Branch, a Supporting Member, suffered an outbreak of shingles last year and had to take some time off work for treatment and management of the condition. He had also been having regular checkups due to renal failure which caused him to incur many out of pocket medically-related expenses.

Utah

Correctional Officer Ladislao Tinoco of Central Utah Correctional Facility and his family lost their home in a fire in early December 2016. Pictured above: C/O Tinoco with CUCF Warden Alfred “Chuck” Bigelow and Deputy Warden Shane Nielsen.
LIFETIME SPONSORS
of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation

We proudly present our Lifetime Sponsors and thank them all very much for their belief in the mission and goals of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation.

Lifetime Corporate/Organization Sponsors

- AFGE - Council of Prison Locals - 33
- AFGE - Local 171, FTC Oklahoma City/FCI El Reno, OK
- AFGE - Local 506, FCC Coleman, FL
- AFGE - Local 720, FCC Terre Haute, IN
- AFGE - Local 817, FMC Lexington, KY
- AFGE - Local 1007/3957, FCC Oakdale, LA
  - AFGE - Local 1405, USP Lee, VA
  - AFGE - Local 3969, FCC Victorville, CA
  - AFGE - Local 3979, FCI Sheridan, OR
- American Correctional Association
  - ARAMARK
- Arizona Corrections Association
- Association of Oregon Corrections Employees
  - Buford Satellite Systems
  - CenturyLink
  - Dome Building, Regional Office, Oregon Department of Corrections, OR
- Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency
  - FDGlobal
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  - Sierra Steel Company
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Lifetime Sponsors from Departments of Corrections and Correctional Facilities

- Benton Unit, Benton, AR
- Grimes Unit, Newport, AR
- Cummins Unit, Grady, AR
- Tucker Unit, Tucker, AR
- Mule Creek State Prison, Ione, CA
- Wasco State Prison, Wasco, CA
- Heman G. Stark School (YTS), Chino, CA
- Central California Womens’ Facility, Chowchilla, CA
- California Medical Facility, Vacaville, CA
- California Rehabilitation Center, Norco, CA
- Calipatria State Prison, Calipatria, CA
- High Desert State Prison, Susanville, CA
- Valley State Prison for Women, Chowchilla, CA
- California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison, Corcoran, CA
- California State Prison, Corcoran, CA
- Denver Complex, CO
- Connecticut Department of Correction Honor Guard Unit, CT
  - Sumter Correctional Institution, Bushnell, FL
  - Central Florida Reception Center, Orlando, FL
  - Baker Correctional Institution, Sanderson, FL
  - Hamilton Correctional Institution, Jasper, FL
  - Columbia Correctional Institution, Lake City, FL
Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Lifetime Sponsors

- Allred Unit
- Beta I Unit
- Boyd Unit
- Brasco Unit
- Byrd Unit
- Choice Moore Transfer Facility
- Clemens Unit
- Clements Unit
- Coffield Unit
- Cole State Jail
- Connally Unit
- Dalhart Unit
- Daniel Unit
- Darrington Unit
- Dominguez State Jail
- Duncan Unit
- Eastham Unit
- Ellis I Unit
- Estelle Unit
- Ferguson Unit
- Formby State Jail
- Garza East Transfer Facility
- Garza West Transfer Facility
- Gist State Jail
- Glossbrenner SAFPF
- Goodman Transfer Facility
- Goree Unit
- Gurney Transfer Facility
- Halbert Unit
- Havins Unit
- Hightower Unit
- Hilltop Unit
- Hobby Unit
- Holliday Transfer Facility
- Hughes Unit
- Huntsville IPO
- Huntsville Pardon & Parole Office
- Huntsville Unit
- Hutchins State Jail
- Jester I SAFPF
- Jester III Unit
- Johnston SAFPF
- Laundry & Food Service Division
- Lewis Unit
- Lopez State Jail
- Luther Unit
- Lychner State Jail
- McConnell Unit
- Michael Unit
- Middleton Transfer Facility
- Montford Psychiatric Unit
- Mountain View Unit
- Murray Unit
- Neal Unit
- Pack Unit
- Plane State Jail
- Polunsky Unit
- Powledge Unit
- Ramsey Unit
- Region I Director’s Office
- Region II Director’s Office
- Region VI Honor Guard
- Roach Unit
- Robertson Unit
- Rudd Transfer Facility
- Sanchez State Jail
- Sayle SAFPF
- Segovia Unit
- Smith Unit
- Stevenson Unit
- Stiles Unit
- Stringfellow Unit
- TDCJ Correctional Training
- TDCJ Department of Classification and Records Staff Development
- TDCJ Western Region Transportation
- Telford Unit
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- Wheeler SAFPF
- Woodman State Jail
- Wynne Unit
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- John and Carey Mendiboure
- Ms. Pamela Omelson
- The Garcia Family in Memory of Correctional Officer Eligio Garcia, Jr.
- Donna Davis in Memory of Correctional Officer Christopher Davis

**Important Information regarding Lifetime Facility Sponsors:**
- A Lifetime Facility Sponsorship does not equal or replace Supporting Membership in the CPO Foundation by an individual Correctional Officer or Corrections Professional employed at the Facility in question.

Four CPO Foundation Board Members presented **Buford Satellite Systems**, one of our newest Lifetime Corporate Sponsors, with their CPOF Plaque at the January 2017 ACA Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

The CPO Foundation Booth at the January 2017 ACA Conference.

The ACA has been a Lifetime Corporate Sponsor of the CPO Foundation for many years.

**To learn how to become a Lifetime Sponsor of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, please visit our website -- cpof.org -- and click on the Sponsorship button.**

**YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS: DO WE HAVE IT?**

Was this magazine forwarded to you? Or, even though you’re a Supporting Member, does the copy you’re reading belong to a friend because you didn’t get your own in the mail? If you answered yes to either question, it means we don’t have your current and correct address! **PLEASE** email Alyssa Franchini -- **alyssa@cpof.org** -- at the CPOF’s Sacramento headquarters and give her your current address.

If you are planning to move and know what your new address will be, likewise email Alyssa with the new information. This applies even if all you’re doing is moving to a new unit in your apartment building.

**THANK YOU** for keeping us up to date on your current whereabouts, so that we can keep you up to date with the **CPO Family** and other CPO Foundation mailings.
WE WOULD like to draw your attention to Estate Planning. Essentially, this means making a will. When my husband was diagnosed with cancer we had time to prepare, i.e., to take a look at our existing will and see if any changes needed to be made; not everyone is so blessed to be able to do this. Remember: Without a written will or trust, the laws of your State will control your Estate.

So, please be sure that you have a will! If you do not currently have a will, please make one, or have one made, after you have downloaded and read the Family Preparedness handbook.

Also, be sure to complete the forms, now, when you have the time to do so and can access the information you need (insurance policy and bank account numbers, addresses, phone numbers, etc.) while not hurried, stressed or distracted.

CAUTION: Do NOT keep the Family Preparedness handbook with its completed forms in a safe deposit box. Instead, keep it with your other vital documents at home in a container that is water resistant, fireproof, portable and readily accessible. Include a form of picture ID and some cash. Go online to search for such secure containers, remembering that your key words are Fireproof - Waterproof (or at least water resistant) - Portable.

You have read about house fires, flooding and other natural disasters in this and other issues of the CPO Family. Having such a secure container will give you great peace of mind, meaning that if you are not at home if a natural disaster strikes, or if you are and can seize the container at a moment’s notice, you know your vital documents are safe.

On behalf of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, we wish you and your family Safety, Security and Sensible Preparedness.

-- Char
On November 19, 1993, Correctional Officer Robert Barchey was killed in a vehicle crash while transporting 22 prisoners from the State Prison Complex in Phoenix, Arizona. The prison transport bus was struck head on by a semi truck. His partner, Correctional Officer Dennis Grant, pictured at left in this photo, survived the accident but lost both his legs above the knee. He spent many years in a wheelchair, never losing his spirit, wit and sense of humor. Today, thanks to modern advances in prosthetic techniques and surgery, Dennis is now standing tall! In the middle is Dennis’s wife, Gayle, and at right is their son, Brandon.

We have many Correctional Staff that have lost limbs throughout the years and we appreciate it very much when they keep the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation informed on their progress.

As is often said, a picture is worth a thousand words and this picture speaks volumes. Thank you, Dennis, for sending it to us.