

# CPO FAMILY

Autumn 2016

A Publication of The CPO Foundation

Vol. 26, No. 2

## ***Bravery "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty"***

Every year at Project 2000, we recognize several Corrections Professionals who have acted "above and beyond the call of duty" on or off the job, thus bringing particular credit to themselves, their institutions and the Corrections profession as a whole.

Here are this year's "above and beyond" honorees.



**Correctional Officer  
Robert Apodaca**  
Trinidad Correctional Facility, CO

**Correctional Officer Robert Apodaca**  
**Trinidad Correctional Facility, Colorado:**  
On December 19, 2015, off-duty Correctional Officer Robert Apodaca assisted a Trinidad Police Officer involved in a fight with a suspect on Officer Apodaca's street. Officer Apodaca got the suspect into a joint-wrist lock that he held until backup ...  
*(continued on back cover)*



**Officer David Church and  
Supervising Registered Nurse  
Craig Phillips**  
High Desert State Prison, CA

**Sergeant Benny Diaz**  
**Pleasant Valley State Prison, California**  
Sergeant Benny Diaz was off duty when he witnessed a gunman walking up to vehicles and shooting motorists. Sergeant Diaz and another armed civilian approached the shooter, and Sergeant Diaz shot and wounded the gunman who fled in a stolen SUV ...  
*(continued on back cover)*



**Sergeant Benny Diaz**  
Pleasant Valley State  
Prison, CA

**Captain Rob Gamberg, Correctional Officer David Church and Supervising Registered Nurse Craig Phillips, High Desert State Prison, California**  
When acting Captain Rob Gamberg came upon the scene of a two-car accident, he saw a fellow High Desert State Prison employee already hard at work helping the victims. Correctional Officer David ...  
*(continued on back cover)*



**Corrections Officer Jeff Keafer**  
State Correctional Institution  
Somerset, PA

**Corrections Officer Jeff Keafer**  
**State Correctional Institution Somerset - Pennsylvania**  
On February 29, 2016, Corrections Officer Jeff Keafer was on his way to work when he saw a Somerset Borough Police Officer in an altercation with ...  
*(continued on back cover)*

**Inside, starting on page 4: PROJECT 2000 XXVII**  
**June 9-12, 2016, Pittsburgh, PA**

# CPO FAMILY

The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation  
 1346 N. Market Blvd. • Sacramento, CA 95834  
 P. O. Box 348390 • Sacramento, CA 95834-8390  
 916.928.0061 • 800.800.CPOF  
 cpof.org

## Directors of The CPO Foundation

Glenn Mueller	Chairman/National Director
Edgar W. Barcliff, Jr.	Vice Chairman/National Director
Don Dease	Secretary/National Director
Richard Waldo	Treasurer/National Director
Salvador Osuna	National Director
Jim Brown	National Director
Kim Potter-Blair	National Director

## Chaplains of The CPO Foundation

Rev. Gary R. Evans	Batesburg-Leesville, SC
Pastor Tony Askew	Brundidge, AL

## Honor Guard Commanders of The CPO Foundation

Captain Steve Dizmon (Ret.)	California DOC
Dave Wedzina (Ret.)	New York DOCS

## CPOF Staff

Charleene Corby	Chief Executive Officer
Rachel Lee	Office Administrator
Patricia Bjorklund	Executive Assistant
Cindy Wahlquist	Bookkeeper
Stephanie Barone	Catastrophic Coordinator
Christina Labio	Catastrophic Coordinator
Kim Blakley	Catastrophic Coordinator/Research Analyst

## Field Representatives

Jennifer Donaldson Davis	Alabama
Carolyn Kelley	Alabama
Ned Entwisle	Alaska
Liz Shaffer-Smith	Arizona

*To request catastrophic assistance for a Correctional Officer or Staff at your prison, jail or office, email: [char@cpof.org](mailto: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."*

*Note: Many Representatives bring the CPO Foundation to one or more other States in addition to their home State.*

The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt charity registered with the Internal Revenue Service under IRC 501(c)(3), 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), ID number 68-0023302.

## Field Representatives

Annie Norman	Arkansas
Connie Summers	California
Charlie Bennett	California
Guy Edmonds	Colorado
Ned McCormick	Connecticut
Kim Blakley	Federal
George Meshko	Federal
Laura Phillips	Federal
John Williams	Florida
Donald Almeter	Florida
Jim Freeman	Florida
Vanessa O'Donnell	Georgia
Rose Williams	Georgia
Roger Sherman	Hawaii
Sue Davison	Illinois
Sherwin Kia Miles	Illinois
Adrain Brewer	Indiana
Wayne Bowdry	Kentucky
David Monreal	Massachusetts
Vanessa Lee	Mississippi
Ora Starks	Mississippi
Lisa Hunter	Montana
April Bulling-June	Nebraska
Tania Arguello	Nevada
Nickey Brooks	Nevada
Todd McConnell	New Jersey
Dave Wedzina	New York
Jay West	North New York
Laura Matthews	North Carolina
Ricky Anderson	North Carolina
Sarah Haynes	Ohio
Howard Dowdell	Ohio
Ann Tandy	Oklahoma
Marty Conway	Oklahoma
Dan Weber	West Oregon
Michael Seefeldt	East Oregon
Wendy Baur	Pennsylvania
Jim Giles	Pennsylvania
Larry Bottner	Philadelphia Prison System
Manny Leander	Rhode Island
Richard Loud	Rhode Island
Gary Evans	South Carolina
Cheryl Thorpe	Tennessee
Cathy Stokes	Texas
Eileen Kennedy	Texas
Carol Manning	Utah
Christy House	Utah
Ray Wagoner	West Virginia
Darren Feiler	West Washington
Bridgett Bolinger	East Washington
Evelyn Schultz	Wisconsin
Sharon Crerar	Wyoming

The CPO FAMILY is the official publication of The Correctional Peace Officers (CPO) Foundation. \$5.00 of each Supporting Member's annual donation is allocated for the CPO FAMILY subscription. Any item submitted for publication must contain the true name, address and telephone number or email address of the author. *The Editor reserves the right to edit for space considerations or for other reasons as deemed appropriate by the Editor.* © 2016 Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc.

# CPO FAMILY

Autumn 2016

A Publication of The CPO Foundation

Vol. 26, No. 2

## **COVER:** *Bravery "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty"*

This year's Award Recipients and their Stories

- 4 **Project 2000 XXVII ~ June 9-12, 2016**
- 5-9 **The Corrections Professionals of Project 2000 XXVII honored on Friday, June 19, 2015**
- 10 **Project 2000 XXVII Overview**
- 11 ***Thank You!* Donations to the CPOF made at Project 2000 XXVII**
- 12-13 **The *Honored Families* of Project 2000 XXVII**
- 14-18 ***Honor Guards* of Project 2000 XXVII**
- 19 **Project 2000 XXVII Correspondence**
- 20-21 **Project 2000 XXVII Kids & Teens**
- 22-24 ***Survivors of Assaults***
- 39-41 **Federal News**
- 51 **Letters & Photos from States "All Over"**
- 52-53 ***Lifetime Sponsors of the CPO Foundation***

## STATES' NEWS

- 25 California
- 27 New York
- 30 Rhode Island
- 30 Kentucky
- 31 Texas
- 36 Colorado
- 38 Georgia
- 42 Oregon
- 43 Oklahoma
- 44 North Carolina
- 46 Arizona
- 47 Pennsylvania
- 48 Nevada
- 49 Florida
- 50 Connecticut
- 50 Nebraska



PROJECT 2000 XXVII Annual National Memorial Ceremony, North Shore Riverfront Park, Pittsburgh, PA

- 34 **A Texas Officer is Laid to Rest**
- 34 **Pennsylvania Corrections Loses One of their Own**
- 35 **Alabama Officer Dies from Stabbing Attack**

- 54 **West Virginia: Flood Assistance to WV Correctional Families**
- 55 **Washington: 2016 Walk of Remembrance Ceremony**

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to ALL of our Correctional Brothers and Sisters affected by Hurricane Matthew. We are here for you!*

*1.800.800.CPOF ~ cpo.org*

*"Taking Care of Our Own"*

# PROJECT 2000 XXVII

June 9-12, 2016 ~ Pittsburgh, PA

Over 700 Corrections Professionals, families, friends and guests came to **Project 2000 XXVII** held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on June 9 through 12, 2016. That number swelled impressively to over 800 at the Friday, June 10 Memorial Ceremony at North Shore Riverfront Park by the attendance of many local and area Corrections and other law enforcement Officers, Administrators and dignitaries. And the weather was close to perfect!

Starting on page 5 at right are the photographs of the nine Corrections Professionals who were honored at the **Project 2000 XXVII** Memorial Ceremony, together with descriptions of the incidents that led to their deaths in the line of duty.

We give many thanks and much appreciation to the CPOF National Honor Guard and all the Honor Guards from across the nation who participated in the Ceremony. We also were delighted to welcome four members of the Western Canada Honor Guard.

Pittsburgh proved to be an outstanding host city for **Project 2000 XXVII**. The city's annual Three Rivers Arts Festival was happening -- literally -- all around us; restaurants to fit every budget and just about every food preference were within easy walking distance from our host hotel; and the Pirates were in town playing three consecutive games against the St. Louis Cardinals (one game of which was this year's "Teen Night Out" event). Our Kids and Teens visited Pittsburgh's highly regarded Zoo & PPG Aquarium, and many of our attendees enjoyed the Three Rivers Boat Tour that indeed includes the Allegheny, Ohio and Monongahela Rivers and glides under an amazing number of bridges. Altogether, this was a very successful and memorable **Project 2000** gathering.



*Ready to March:  
The Memorial Ceremony Begins*

*The Annual National Memorial Ceremony is the highlight of every Project 2000 gathering. Here is the complete list of the events and activities of Project 2000 XXVII:*

**Thursday --**

- *The Annual Welcome Buffet Dinner*

**Friday --**

- *The Annual Memorial Luncheon (follows immediately after the Memorial Ceremony)*
- *Kids & Teens Lunch*
- *Seminar: Women in Corrections Today*
- *Seminar: Homegrown Violent Extremists*
- *Youth Counseling Session*

**Saturday --**

- *Seminar: Gangs in Prisons*
- *Seminar: Stress Management in Corrections*
- *Seminar: Repeat of Homegrown Violent Extremists*
- *"Time for You" Informal Session for Fallen Family members*
- *The Annual Recognition Luncheon*
- *Kids & Teens Offsite Lunch & Excursion*
- *Seminar: Repeat of Women in Corrections Today*
- *Seminar: Repeat of Gangs in Prisons*
- *Special Session for Survivors of Assaults and their family members*
- *Pizza and Ice Cream Sundae Party for Kids 12 and under*
- *"Teen Night Out"*

**Sunday --**

- *The Annual "Closing Event" Buffet Breakfast, featuring the Project Kids & Teens "Songfest"*

# The Corrections Professionals of **PROJECT 2000 XXVII**

*Honored on Friday, June 10, 2016 in Pittsburgh, PA*



**Correctional Officer Adam Conrad**  
**Marion County Sheriff's Office - Illinois**  
**End of Watch: January 20, 2016**

Correctional Officer Adam Conrad was transporting a juvenile inmate when the transport van he was driving struck a patch of snow and ice and slid out of control. The van was struck by a tractor trailer heading in the opposite direction.

Officer Conrad and the juvenile prisoner were both transported to area hospitals. Officer Conrad succumbed to his injuries.

Correctional Officer Conrad had served with the Marion County Sheriff's Office for one and a half years. He was also a volunteer firefighter. He is survived by his parents, Charles and Beverly; and his brother, Andy.

**Detention Officer Tronoski Jones**  
**Harris County Sheriff's Office - Texas**  
**End of Watch: August 20, 2015**



Detention Officer Tronoski Jones was escorting an inmate back to his cell when the inmate became combative and refused to reenter his cell.

A call for assistance was made. Once the on-duty Sergeant arrived he ordered the inmate to lie down. The inmate refused the order and continued his aggressive posture. The Sergeant gave the order, "Let's go and take control of him."

The team advanced up the stairwell as the inmate became more aggressive. Detention Officer Jones was first to reach the top stair at which time the inmate lunged at Officer Jones. Officer Jones and another Officer took the inmate to the floor. The inmate continued to struggle and pepper spray was dispersed. The inmate was unfazed so a second round of pepper spray was dispersed.

The team was able to gain control of the inmate. Once under control, the inmate was taken to medical.

While in medical, Officer Jones suddenly collapsed to the floor. Medical staff administered first aid and called for outside medical assistance.

Officer Jones was transported to the hospital where he passed away.

Detention Officer Jones had served with the Harris County Sheriff's Office for four years. He is survived by his wife, Amillia; and two sons, five-year-old Ivan and three-year-old Khadyn.

*continued next page*

The Corrections Professionals of  
**PROJECT 2000 XXVII**

*Honored on Friday, June 10, 2016 in Pittsburgh, PA*



**Correctional Officer II Timothy Davison**  
**Telford Unit, Texas Department of Criminal Justice**  
**End of Watch: July 15, 2015**

Correctional Officer Timothy Davison was escorting an inmate to his cell. When they arrived at the inmate's cell, the inmate began to assault Officer Davison. The inmate got a hold of Officer Davison's food slot bar and began striking Officer Davison multiple times in the head and face.

Officer Davison was flown to a hospital in Texarkana where he succumbed to his injuries a short time later.

Correctional Officer Davison had served with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for eight months. He is survived by his two daughters, 17-year-old Stefanie and nine-year-old Maya; two brothers, Ken (who also works for TDCJ at the Telford Unit), and Richard; two sisters, Ruth Ann and Cherylin; and two sisters-in-law, Deborah and Susan.

---

**Sergeant James McCrystal Sr.**  
**Phillips State Prison, Georgia Department of Corrections**  
**End of Watch: July 14, 2015**



Sergeant James McCrystal was en route to the Atlanta Medical Center to assume shift OIC (Officer in Charge) duties. A short time later the institution received a phone call stating that there had been a hit and run accident involving Sgt. McCrystal, and that he had not survived the accident.

The police investigation determined that another vehicle had crossed over into Sgt. McCrystal's lane, sideswiping his vehicle and causing it to overturn. Sgt. McCrystal was ejected from the vehicle. The other driver fled the scene, but was eventually arrested and charged with vehicular homicide.

Sergeant McCrystal had served with the Georgia Department of Corrections for three years. Prior to that he was a Probation Officer, and prior to that he worked for the New Jersey Department of Corrections where he served for 14 years. He is survived by his wife, Theresa; and six children, the youngest of whom are nine-year-old daughter, Erin and seven-year-old son, James Jr.

The Corrections Professionals of  
**PROJECT 2000 XXVII**  
*Honored on Friday, June 10, 2016 in Pittsburgh, PA*

**Correctional Officer/Maintenance Worker Gregory Mitchell**  
**Hays State Prison, Georgia Department of Corrections**  
**End of Watch: July 7, 2015**



Correctional Officer Gregory Mitchell and three other Officers were in a maintenance golf cart performing maintenance duties at the prison. Officer Mitchell and Officer Kenneth Nix were both riding in the back seat of the cart when they were knocked off the cart by a ladder. Officer Mitchell struck his head on the ground and suffered fatal injuries as a result of the accident. Correctional Officer Mitchell had served with the Georgia Department of Corrections for 25 years. He is survived by his wife, Angela; adult daughter, Stephanie; and three grandchildren, ten-year-old Jillian, nine-year-old David and eight-year-old Lylah.



**Sergeant Iris Smith**  
**South Mississippi Correctional Institution**  
**Mississippi Department of Corrections**  
**End of Watch: May 25, 2015**

Sergeant Iris Smith was providing an armed escort for an ambulance that was en route to the hospital with an inmate. Sgt. Smith was traveling north when her MDOC van was hit by an 18-wheeler and trailer. Sgt. Smith was killed upon impact.

Sergeant Smith had served with the Mississippi Department of Corrections for 15 years. She is survived by her adult daughter, Jessica; mother, Norma; and nine-year-old grandson, Jordan.



*Left to right: Lobby Welcome Table; Registration Team; Honor Guard Registration Table*

*continued next page*

The Corrections Professionals of  
**PROJECT 2000 XXVII**  
*Honored on Friday, June 10, 2016 in Pittsburgh, PA*



**Correctional Officer V Eligio Garcia Jr.**  
**Western Region Offender Transportation**  
**Texas Department of Criminal Justice**  
**End of Watch: January 14, 2015**

Correctional Officers Eligio Garcia Jr. and Christopher Davis were killed in a prison bus crash. The bus was transporting 12 inmates when the bus struck a guard rail, causing it to leave the highway and become airborne. The bus hit the ground and went down an embankment. It was then struck by a passing train and finally hit a bridge pillar.

Correctional Officer Garcia and Correctional Officer Davis, along with eight inmates, suffered fatal injuries at the scene.

Correctional Officer Garcia Jr. had served with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for 22 years. He is survived by two daughters, 13-year-old Larson and 11-year-old Ansleigh; his parents, Eligio and Belia; two sisters, Lillian and Yolanda; two brothers, Michael and Jamie (who also works for TDCJ at the Robertson Unit); sister-in-law, Kristen; and niece, 16-year-old Renya.

*\* Correctional Officer Christopher Davis was honored at last year's Project 2000 XXVI in Jacksonville, FL.*



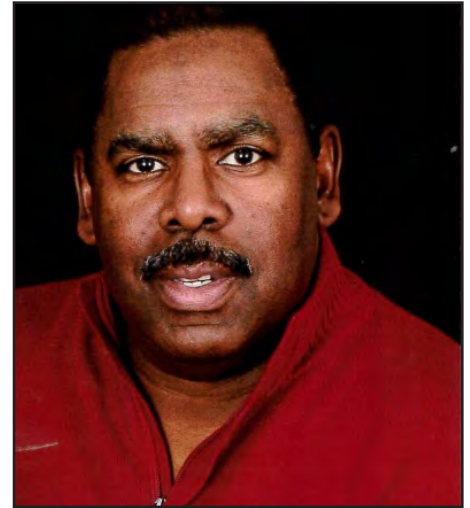
*Photos, clockwise from top left: The plaques and framed flags (one American Flag and one of the Honoree's State Flag) for each Honored Family; the Ceremonial Bell; the Memorial Wreath; and the Missing Officer Table.*



The Corrections Professionals of  
**PROJECT 2000 XXVII**  
*FROM THE PAST*

*Honored on Friday, June 10, 2016 in Pittsburgh, PA*

**Correctional Officer Keith Smith**  
**Harnett Correctional Institution**  
**North Carolina Department of Public Safety**  
**End of Watch: December 1, 2012**



On October 9, 2012 Officer Keith Smith was bringing the food cart into the Segregation Unit. Upon arriving at the unit the cart's wheels got stuck. The cart tipped over, catching Officer Smith on his right leg, cutting him and causing a large laceration just below the knee. Officer Smith was sent to outside medical treatment. A few days later the wound became infected. Officer Smith was admitted to the hospital for five days, then sent home to continue treatments. The infection continued to spread.

Officer Smith was re-admitted to the hospital ICU for 16 days. He was again sent home but the infection continued to spread and sepsis set in. Officer Smith was re-admitted to the ICU and one day later passed away from septic shock. Correctional Officer Keith Smith had served with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety for 14 years. He is survived by his wife, Rosalyn; adult daughters Danielle and Ashley; and two-year-old grandson, Levi.



**Correctional Officer Tracy Cooper**  
**Stateville Correctional Center, Illinois Department of Corrections**  
**End of Watch: September 29, 2010**

Correctional Officer Tracy Cooper died from complications during a corrective surgery he underwent to repair an injury suffered while stopping an escape attempt.

Correctional Officer Cooper had escorted a convicted felon to a court appearance. The judge ordered the inmate's restraints be removed during the hearing. Upon their removal, the inmate attempted to escape from the courtroom. Officer Cooper intervened and struggled with the inmate. During the altercation Officer Cooper and the inmate fell to the floor and Officer Cooper suffered a torn left rotator cuff.

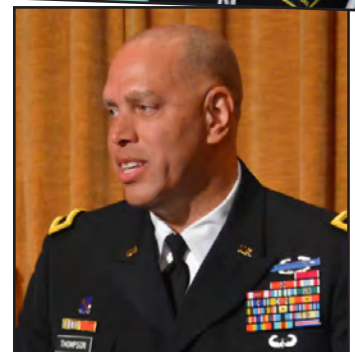
Eight months later, Officer Cooper underwent surgery to repair the injury and never regained consciousness, passing away the following day.

Correctional Officer Cooper had served with the Illinois Department of Corrections for 15 years. He is survived by his wife, Gloria; 23-year-old daughter, Melissa; 21-year-old daughter, Crystal; 19-year-old son, Christopher; and one-year-old grandson, Edward.

# Project 2000 XXVII Overview



The Wall of Honor separate panel with the photographs of the Project 2000 XXVII honorees.



***HEARTFELT THANKS to All of these wonderful people, facilities, groups, organizations and entities for their generous donations made at Project 2000 XXVII!***

<i>AFGE-Local 817, FMC Lexington, KY *</i>	\$500.00
<i>City of New York Department of Correction Pipe Band **</i>	\$1,000.00
<i>Francisco Charriez</i>	\$500.00
<i>Charles Conrad</i>	\$1,000.00
<i>Correction Captains Association, Inc.</i>	\$2,000.00
<i>AFGE Council of Prison Locals 33 *</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>The Family of Correctional Officer Eligio Garcia, Jr. ±</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Donna Davis In Loving Memory of Correctional Officer Christopher Davis ±</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Detention Center, Philadelphia Prison System ±</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center, Philadelphia Prison System ±</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>Philadelphia Prison System #</i>	\$2,000.00
<i>PBA Local 105, Trenton, NJ *</i>	\$2,500.00
<i>Yolanda Stapp, sister of Correctional Officer Eligio Garcia, Jr.</i>	\$500.00
<i>State of Connecticut Department of Correction North District Office ±</i>	\$5,000.00
<i>State of Connecticut Department of Correction North District Office ± ±</i>	\$500.00
<i>State of North Carolina Department of Public Safety §</i>	\$1,000.00
<i>Texas Department of Criminal Justice Western Region Transportation ±</i>	\$5,000.00

\* *Current Lifetime Sponsor additional donation*

\*\* *Donation for the "Kids & Teens Room"*

# *Current Lifetime Sponsor additional donation for the "Kids & Teens Room"*

± *New Lifetime Sponsor*

± ± *New Lifetime Sponsor additional donation for the "Kids & Teens Room"*

§ *Toward a Lifetime Sponsorship*



# *The Honored Families of Project 2000 XXVII*



*Family Members of  
Correctional Officer Adam Conrad ~ Illinois*



*Family Members of  
Correctional Officer II Timothy Davison ~ Texas*



*Lieutenant A. Rosado and CPOF Texas Representative  
Cathy Stokes accepted the plaque and flag on behalf of the  
family of Detention Officer Tronoski Jones ~ Texas*



*Family Members of  
Correctional Sergeant James McCrystal Sr. ~ Georgia*



*Family Members of Correctional Officer/  
Maintenance Worker Gregory Mitchell ~ Georgia*



*At every Project 2000 event, each Honored Family is  
provided with a personal uniformed escort for the  
duration of the gathering.*

# *The Honored Families of Project 2000 XXVII*



*Family Members of  
Correctional Sergeant Iris Smith ~ Mississippi*



*Family Members of  
Correctional Officer V Eligio Garcia Jr. ~ Texas*



*Family Members of  
Correctional Officer Keith Smith ~ North Carolina*



*Family Members of  
Correctional Officer Tracy Cooper ~ Illinois*



*Honored Families take their seats for the  
National Annual Memorial Ceremony.*



*Each Honored Family receives three mounted spent  
shell casings representing the shots fired in the 21-  
gun rifle volley at the Memorial Ceremony.*

# Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVII



# Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVII



*continued*

# Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVII





# Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVII



*continued*

# Honor Guards of Project 2000 XXVII



## PROJECT 2000 XXVII Correspondence



Dear Ms. Kim Blakley,

Thank you and the CPO Foundation for all the help provided to my family and me. We are very grateful for that help and for the financial assistance we received. It truly has helped me so much with my grandma and my sweet son, Jordan. We believe that mama Iris is still watching over us, and that God sent you and this beautiful organization to help us.

Once again, thank you and the CPO Foundation. God bless you very much.

With all our love,

Jessica Duran, daughter of Sergeant Iris Smith of Southern Mississippi Correctional Institution, MS, and family  
*Sergeant Iris Smith was honored this year at Project 2000 XXVII. See page 7. Jessica is pictured above with her grandmother, Norma Valle; son, Jordan; and their personal uniformed escort, Corrections Officer Jennifer Fay of Woodbourne Correctional Facility, NY.*



Hello everyone!

My name is Helen Andujar de Albarati. I'm the widow of Lt. Osvaldo Albarati who was a Federal Correctional Officer at MDC Guaynabo in Puerto Rico. My husband was killed in the line of duty on February 26, 2013.

After such a destroying event in our lives I was contacted by CPOF. Amazingly, one of the few organizations that is still here for me and my family, giving their love and understanding.

One of the events that marked our lives forever was **Project 2000**. My daughters and I attended our first one in 2014 and we have been coming back ever since. My girls look forward to it every year. Through social media and phone calls they are able to stay in contact with the many friends they've made, who know what they

have gone through. As for me, I've met incredible people with whom I still keep in touch, some daily.

I thank God for putting CPOF in my life!! I encourage everyone to look into CPOF and get to know what they do for families like mine...even years later. The love and especially the hugs given -- I just don't know what I would've done without them, especially from Kim Blakley. My true and awesome hero!!! We love you, Kim, Char, and all those in CPOF!

*Photo: Helen with her husband's plaque at Project 2000 XXV in Seattle, WA, 2014.*

To CPOF,

We want to thank you for all you did for us in Pittsburgh. We are grateful and thankful for all the love that we received. It has meant a lot to our family for our beloved Tracy Cooper to be honored by the CPOF.

Gloria Cooper, widow of C/O Tracy Cooper of Statesville Correctional Institution, IL

P. S. With great love we thank you.

Christopher Cooper, Crystal Bonilla and Melissa Nolasco (adult children of C/O Cooper)

*C/O Tracy Cooper was honored this year at Project 2000 XXVII. See page 9.*

# PROJECT 2000 XXVII KIDS & TEENS

Once again, another **Project** has come and gone. As always, I had the great privilege of being with the young people in the CPOF Kids & Teens Room. Now that the songs have been sung and the friends have been made, I find myself trying to put into words this unique and beautiful experience.

Our new friends began to arrive on Thursday. Our awesome group of volunteers had everything set up beautifully. The returning kids and teens eagerly welcomed the first timers and before we knew it, kids were running around acting as if they'd known everyone forever. The dinner on Thursday night was great, but the highlight was the bag presentation by Mr. Kevin Murphy and the Deputy Wardens Association. Each new surviving child was given a wheeled

travel bag filled to the brim with toys and games. While deep down everyone in attendance knew that the reason these children were there wasn't a happy one, I think they also knew they were in for a weekend filled with hope and even some fun.

After the beautiful Memorial Ceremony on Friday morning, the children and teens gathered outside the Kids & Teens Room,

ready and eager for lunch and some fun activities. We spent the day doing arts and crafts, playing video games, practicing for Sunday morning's "group sing," and making what in many cases will become lifetime friendships. Late Friday afternoon, former CPOF "kids" Christy House and Jason Baker came to help lead our youth counseling session along with Pastor Gary Evans and me. Jason, Christy and I shared our stories, even breaking down a little, showing these

children that even though time goes on, you'll always remember your mom or dad who was lost in the line of duty. After the adults shared, every single kid and teen bravely shared their own stories, creating bonds with each other and learning that it's ok to grieve and remember. Tears were shed and hugs were given.

Saturday was a much brighter day! As soon as we had everyone gathered in the Kids & Teens Room, we loaded the buses and headed to the Pittsburgh Zoo. We saw all different kinds of animals. We even had a tiger come right up to the screen! We also visited the PPG Aquarium at the zoo that made



*Mr. Kevin Murphy, VP of the U.S. Deputy Wardens Association, gives out wheeled carry-on travel bags crammed with toys, games, stuffed animals and many other fun items to this year's kids and teens. These bags are generously donated every year by the U.S. DWA, and are always a big hit!*



# PROJECT 2000 XXVII KIDS & TEENS



*“Teen Night Out” this year was on June 11 at PNC Park where the Pirates played the St. Louis Cardinals. Note the gracious “Welcome” electronic salute!*



for some fun shark watching while cooling off from the heat. When we got back from the zoo, the teenagers changed clothes and loaded the buses again to head to the Hard Rock Cafe and the Pittsburgh Pirates Game. The food at Hard Rock was delicious and the game was a blast, even if the home team lost. What made it even more exciting was the beautiful fireworks show after the game. It was the perfect night. The younger children stayed back and had a blast with Rene and Daryl Pollard jumping in the jump house and eating pizza and ice cream.

The next morning, we all met down in the Kids & Teens Room to practice our songs one more time. Mr. Jim Giles led the kids in a march into the ballroom to the Closing Breakfast. The children sang and danced with all their might and were met with a standing ovation. Then they all went to the “kids only” tables and got FIRST DIBS on the breakfast buffet. Sunday is always so bittersweet. I looked around and saw the children at each other’s tables, taking selfies and exchanging phone numbers, promising to keep in touch and that they’d be back next year. The bond that is created among the children at CPOF is unlike any other. I know because I was reminded of my own bonds with old friends this year. No matter how much time goes by or how many miles are between you, you will never forget that you are family with your fellow survivors. God bless our law enforcement heroes and God bless their children.

*-- Mandy Donaldson Burmester*



*Anybody ready to eat?*

Once again, we sincerely thank ALL who volunteer and contribute in so many ways to the “Kids & Teens Room,” as well as the many generous groups and organizations that donate funds to the Kids and Teens activities.



*The traditional and always delightful “Group Sing” by the Kids and Teens at the Sunday Closing Breakfast.*

## Survivors of Assaults

At the Project 2000 Recognition Luncheon each year, we recognize certain Corrections Professionals who have survived savage inmate assaults and Corrections Professionals who have acted “above and beyond the call of duty.”

Our “above and beyond” honorees are featured on the front cover of this issue.

Here, we are proud to present this year’s Assault Survivor award recipients.



**Left: Correctional Officer Randy Thomas, California Medical Facility, CA.**

On August 18, 2015 Officer Thomas suffered lacerations to his head when an inmate struck him with an object wrapped inside the inmate’s hand.

**Right: Correctional Officers Felicia Jones and Kenyadia McLaurin, Pasquotank Correctional Institution, NC.**

Officers Jones and McLaurin suffered serious injuries after both were attacked



by two inmates on March 13, 2015. Officer Jones had to have surgeries to insert a plate in her jaw and pins in her right arm, hand and fingers. Officer McLaurin suffered facial abrasions and a broken nose that required surgery.

**Right: Correctional Officer Herbert Yates, Green River Correctional Complex, KY.**

Officer Yates was attacked on August 12, 2015 while off duty pumping gas at a local gas station. He was stabbed in the arm by a former inmate who pulled up next to Officer Yates’ s vehicle at the station.

The stab wounds to Officer Yates’s arm caused severe nerve damage that required two surgeries. Officer Yates also had to undergo extensive physical therapy.



**Left: State Correctional Institution Mahanoy, PA Honor Guard members Nathan Wynder and Mary Jo Wall accepted the award for Corrections Officer Jared Mausteller of SCI Mahanoy.**



On November 21, 2015 Officer Mausteller was assaulted by an inmate who slashed Officer Mausteller in the face from his ear to the middle of his neck with a razor blade, missing his jugular vein by millimeters. The inmate also slashed Officer Mausteller in the

arm. Officer Mausteller underwent two surgeries to repair his face wounds, and had to have many stitches on his neck and arm, both externally and internally.



**Left: Correctional Officer Cody Washburn and Senior Officer Specialist Larry Avitia, Federal Correctional Complex Coleman, FL.**

Officers Washburn and Avitia suffered stab wounds in a violent altercation

with an inmate on September 18, 2015. Officer Washburn was first to be attacked by the inmate with a prison-made knife that the inmate had tied to his wrist. Sr. Officer Avitia came to Officer Washburn’s assistance. He was stabbed in the hand and had a few other injuries, while Officer Washburn ended up with a broken hand and was stabbed in the back of his neck. Stabs to his abdomen were largely ineffective due to the protective vest Officer Washburn was wearing.

**Right: Correctional Officer John King, Valdosta State Prison, GA**

Officer King was attacked by an inmate on September 12, 2015. The inmate slashed Officer King in the left forearm with a razor blade attached to a toothbrush. Officer King had to be treated with stitches and staples, and suffered serious nerve damage.



## Survivors of Assaults



**Left: Licensed Practical Nurse Kristen Hildebrand, Kirkland Correctional Institution, SC.**

Nurse Hildebrand was one of two nurses held hostage for eight hours in a housing unit pill room by two inmates in search of drugs. The inmates in fact crushed, snorted and ingested many controlled substances during the eight-hour period, and forced Nurse Hildebrand to give them

injections of other drugs. During

the entire time Nurse Hildebrand retained her composure, and assisted the hostage negotiators with de-escalating the situation. When the time came, she also convinced the inmates to release the other nurse first, as this nurse was badly injured.

**Right: Correctional Counselor I Cynthia Sparks, Mount Olive Correctional Complex, WV.**

Counselor Sparks was beaten by an inmate on November 14, 2015. The inmate assaulted her in retaliation for Counselor Sparks having written him up for an infraction. Counselor Sparks suffered injuries including a broken eye socket, other broken bones around her eye and a crushed sinus cavity.



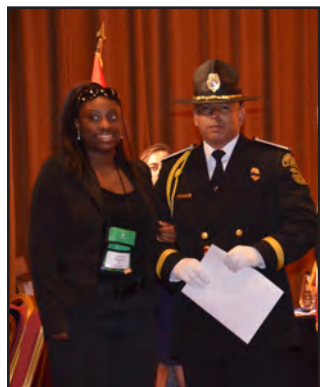
**Left: Corrections Officer Francisco Charriez, State Correctional Institution Coal Township, PA.**

On August 24, 2014 Officer Charriez was in the yard surrounded by inmates when an inmate attacked him by slashing him in the face through his eyelid into the socket and down his neck and back. Officer Charriez has not been able to return to work due to the extent of his injuries.

**Right: Correctional Officers David Manly, Jacob Flathers and Dessah Shaw, Perry Correctional Institution, SC.**

All three Officers suffered puncture stab wounds during a violent altercation with three inmates on November 4, 2015.

Officers Manly, Flathers and Shaw had begun locking the cell doors on the top tier of a dorm when two inmates ran up the tier and began assaulting Officers Manly and Flathers. Officer Shaw was cornered at the end of the dorm hall and attacked by another inmate wielding a homemade blade and an ice pick.



**Above: Correctional Officer Jasmine Stephens, Caswell Correctional Center, NC.**

Officer Stephens was attacked on January 15, 2016 by an inmate who was upset that Officer Stephens was going to write him up for a chargeable offence. The inmate stabbed Officer Stephens in the upper jaw near her eye, piercing her skull. Officer Stephens spent three days in a hospital ICU. She was able to return to work two weeks later.



**Left: State Correctional Institution Greene, PA Superintendent Robert Gilmore accepted the award for Corrections Officer I Rodney Walters of SCI Greene.**

On November 19, 2015 Officer Walters was attacked by an inmate with a homemade weapon who stabbed Officer Walters repeatedly in the head, neck, shoulder and back. As of June 2016 Officer Walters had not returned to work.

**Right: Correctional Officer Marvin Garris, Jr., Bertie Correctional Institution, NC.**

Officer Garris was assaulted on May 2, 2015 by an inmate using a weapon the

inmate had made from a soft drink bottle that had been melted and formed into a knife. Officer Garris suffered several eye and facial injuries, and numerous stab wounds on his neck, leg and back.



*continued next page*

## Survivors of Assaults



**Left :** Lee Correctional Institution, SC Warden Cecilia Reynolds accepted the award on behalf of Lieutenant Jack Brown, Jr. of Lee CI.

On February 26, 2015 Lt. Brown was stabbed by an inmate with a homemade knife during an altercation in the cafeteria involving several staff and Officers, and a number of inmates.

**Right:** Lieutenant Ronald Carter, St. Clair Correctional Facility, AL.

Lt. Carter was attacked by inmates on April 17, 2015. He suffered multiple stab wounds on his back, legs and right side; other injuries caused major swelling and bruising.



**Right:** Corrections Officer Tamatha Carter, Broad River Correctional Institution, SC.

Officer Carter was attacked by an inmate who stabbed her in the face, upper body, left arm and left hand. She also suffered severe bruising on her face and the right side of her back.



**Left:** Mr. Larry Blackwell, Western Region VP of PSCOA, accepted the awards on behalf of Lieutenant Brian Sheesley; Sergeants John Ames II and Seth Burggraf; and Corrections Officers Wesley Davis and Ralph Dickson of State Correctional Institution Houtzdale, PA.

All five of the named Correctional Staff suffered significant injuries during a

major and lengthy incident involving many inmates and Correctional Staff in the SCI Houtzdale south recreation yard on April 28, 2015. The injuries of all five of the named Correctional Staff were so severe that as of June 2016 none had returned to work.



**Left:** State Correctional Institution Dallas, PA Superintendent Larry Mahally accepted the award on behalf of Corrections Officer Robert Lewis of SCI Dallas.

On January 20, 2015 Officer Lewis was attacked by an inmate who struck Officer Lewis in the face and head with a combination lock attached to a laundry loop.

Officer Lewis underwent surgery to repair injuries to his orbital socket.

**Right:** Sergeant Gregory Trueheart, and Correctional Officers Richard Hull and Bruce Sowell of Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center, Philadelphia, PA.



All three of these Correctional Staff suffered stab wounds during an altercation with an inmate on November 27, 2015.

Sgt. Trueheart was stabbed over his left eye. Officer Hull was stabbed in the head, side and back. Officer Sowell was stabbed in his right hand.

*These are, regrettably, just a few of our Correctional Staff that have been assaulted. Many others appear in this magazine on their State's page(s), as well as in past issues of the CPO Family. The CPOF Board of Directors and I would like to give our prayers and well wishes for full recoveries in every case.*

*We would also like to extend these prayers to the spouse and children of every assault survivor, as when a family member is injured they all feel the hurt.*

*Stay safe,  
Glenn Mueller  
CPOF Chairman*



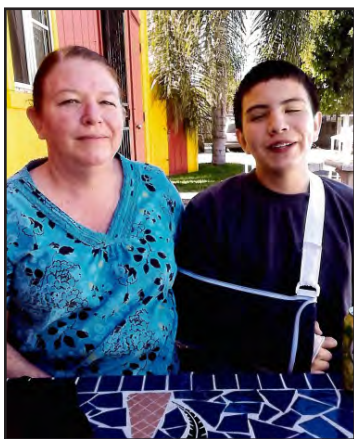
## California



C/O Bobby "Scott" Plunkett was a Supporting Member at Centinela State Prison where he was employed for over 18 years. Very sadly, Bobby was killed in an off road accident on April 9, 2016. He is pictured at left with his beautiful family.

Joshua Luck, who worked at Calipatria State Prison from 2006 to 2010 before moving to Arizona, was murdered by a neighbor on November 25, 2015. Josh's father also worked for the CDCR and was a Supporting Member.

Calipatria SP C/O Jeff Wysocki recommended bereavement assistance for the family following Josh's murder. Pictured at right are Josh with Gabriella; son, Jasaih; and twin daughters, Aaliyah and Riannah.



Cook Margarita Guerrero of Calipatria State Prison was involved in a vehicle accident on March 3, 2016 on her way home from work. Her vehicle was "t-boned" by a semi truck. Margarita was life flighted to a hospital where she was admitted to the ICU, suffering from bleeding on her brain. Margarita passed away on March 18, 2016. Pictured at left are Margarita and her son, Valentin Guerrero. Margarita also leaves a daughter, Margaria.

### To the CPO Foundation,

Our family wants to let you know that we appreciate the kindness you have given us.

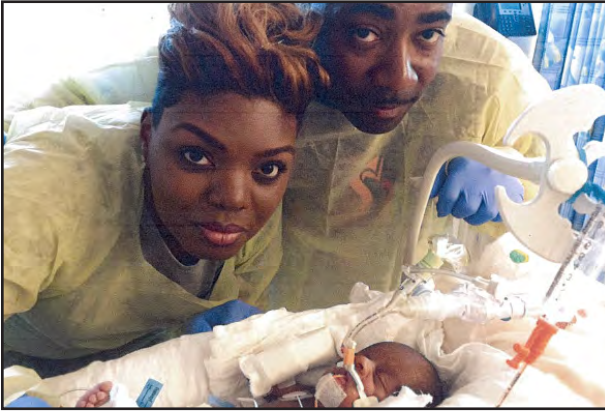
The Hicks , Crescent City, CA

C/O Matthew Hicks works at Pelican Bay State Prison. His wife, Kathleen, was diagnosed with breast cancer and is undergoing treatment.

C/O Simon Chavez Jr. is a Supporting Member at Sierra Conservation Center. His daughter, Khloe, passed away on July 2, 2016 of sudden heart failure at the age of 9-1/2 months. Khloe is pictured at right.



## California



C/O Clinton Fortson II, is a Supporting Member at California State Prison – Los Angeles County in Lancaster. His baby son, Britan, passed away on July 22, 2016.

Britan was born on February 13, 2016 at 22 weeks gestation. He was



in the hospital NICU until July 18 when he was released to go

home. Clinton and his wife, Healani, noticed Britan was having difficulty breathing so they took him to the doctor a few times over the next few days. On July 22 Clinton and Healani took Britan in for a breathing treatment after which the doctors sent the Fortsons home. After about 45 minutes at home Britan stopped breathing and, sadly, was unable to be revived.

### To CPOF,

This letter is to thank everyone in the organization from my family and me. The assistance has helped us out so much. The loss of my child, Gabriel, was financially hard on our family. There were many reasons it was difficult.

First, my child was in the cardiac ICU for a month at the children's hospital located in San Diego. It was a three-hour trip one way to the hospital.

Next, after a month my child was placed under hospice care at our home. We had to buy special food and change his entire room around for his care. We had to make it comfortable for him as soon as we got the okay from the doctors to send him home. Many changes came in a matter of days: new medical equipment for his care; and expenses for baby wipes, clothing, food, sheets, emergency room co-pays and electricity bills.

Third was making arrangements for the funeral services for my child.

My child passed away in the morning when I was getting ready to go to work. My child from college was home visiting her brother, and the smallest child was home for summer vacation. My family is still grieving the loss of Gabriel and it is going to take us some time.

We thank you so much, and I believe helping your fellow human will be returned in some way in the future.

Sincerely,

C/O Jose I. Rodriguez, Brawley, CA

*C/O Jose Rodriguez is a Supporting Member at Calipatria State Prison. Jose's son, Gabriel, was born with Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy. Jose described him as a "happy and loving child with a smile always on his face no matter what he felt." Sadly, Gabriel's condition worsened over the years and he passed away on June 27, 2016 at the age of 15.*

# NEW YORK



CPOF New York Representative Jay West (standing at right) presented a CPOF assistance check to C/O Aaron Lemay, a Supporting Member at Clinton CF\* who was diagnosed with neuroendocrine carcinoma (cellular cancer) and must travel to doctors in Maryland to see a specialist. This is a lifelong condition; however, C/O Lemay is able to work a light duty schedule.



Alex, Russell and Zach Igras, sons of Supporting Member C/O Ed Igras of Coxsackie CF, sporting smiles and CPOF hats as they attend a benefit held on facility grounds to ease some of the burdens the Igras family is facing after the loss of wife and mother, Debbie, to cancer. Debbie was diagnosed in February 2016 and, sadly, passed away on June 6.

Jay presented a check to C/O Breck Isch of Washington CF whose home and car were heavily damaged from a lightning storm in April. As of mid May, the repairs of both were works in progress.



Jay presented a check to C/O Jim Burch, a Supporting Member at Washington CF whose wife, Nicole, has breast cancer. The Burch's teenage daughter, Chloe, also has bone cancer. Both must make frequent visits to their doctors for treatments. In this photo: C/O Rebekah McMillan, CPOF contact at Washington CF; C/O Burch; James Jr.; and Jay.



C/O Alethia Smith, a Supporting Member at Sing Sing CF, had complications due to end stage renal disease and was being treated at New York Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital. She was placed on a kidney transplant list and received a CPOF check to help with extra expenses incurred by her treatments. (Jay apologized for not realizing he was holding the envelope upside down, but it's what was inside that really mattered!)

*Below is Alethia's thank-you letter:*

**Dear Correctional Peace Officers Foundation,**

First a big thank-you!

I'm so grateful for the check I received from you. It really helped my family and me out in many ways. In my time of need it was great to have a helping hand. From deep down in our hearts we thank you and appreciate your help. Your organization is the best and I am truly grateful.

Lots of love and be safe.

C/O Alethia Smith, Sing Sing CF, Ossining, NY

\*CF = Correctional Facility

*continued next page*

# NEW YORK



C/O William Rivera of Green Haven CF and his family had a house fire in February and lost all their possessions. Thankfully, there were no injuries. Pictured: Jay West; Officer Rivera; his wife, Corene; daughter, Ava; and son, Gian.



Dear Ms. Labio;

On behalf of my husband and our family, I would like to thank you and your organization for the recent check we received to assist us.

My husband, Kevin, had a rupture brain aneurysm on April 4, 2016. He was in the ICU for two weeks and in the hospital for a total of three and a half weeks. Because of his situation, he retired as of April 29, 2016 – a little earlier than planned. He had to have a permanent shunt put in to assist his body in recovery. Though he almost died and has been through a tremendous ordeal, the doctors expect him to eventually make a full recovery. He is not able to drive or do much physical activity at this time, but he is recovering slowly and getting a little better each day. He was actually doing well enough to attend his daughter's college graduation in Rochester recently. He did need the assistance of a wheelchair because he can't walk for long distances, but we are grateful he was able to be there.

Seventy-five percent of the people who have a brain aneurysm die before they can be treated. No matter what lies ahead, we are blessed that Kevin survived and is doing as well as he is.

Your check will assist us in many ways, including all the medical and transportation expenses we have incurred and will be incurring. We have had a lot for support and are very grateful. Thank you most of all for keeping our family in your thoughts and prayers!

Thank you again and God bless you!

Sincerely,

Annette Wojcinski, Lockport, NY

Lt. Kevin Wojcinski worked at Albion CF.

## To the CPO Foundation,

We would like to thank the CPO Foundation for the generous assistance check. We are so blessed to have met Jay West, our NYS Representative and his wife, when they hand delivered the gift. It is very much appreciated at this stressful time of our daughter's accident.

Sincerely,

Robert and Beth Brown

Franklin Correctional Facility, Malone, NY

*C/O Robert Brown is a Supporting Member at Franklin CF. His daughter, Sarah, was involved in a serious auto accident; she was transported to the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington, Vermont. She suffered numerous injuries to her lower extremities. With Jay in this photo are Robert, Beth and Sarah.*



Jay presented a check to C/O Darrell LaBombard, also of Franklin CF, who was diagnosed with non Hodgkin's lymphoma. C/O LaBombard will require treatment on a continued basis involving frequent trips to doctors and treatment centers. C/O Brandy Smith is also pictured.

# NEW YORK



Jay presented a check to C/O Laurie Fobare, a Supporting Member at Bare Hill CF who has had two surgeries in attempts to remove blood clots in her lungs. Another surgery is being considered. Also pictured is Laurie's granddaughter, Emma.



Check presentation to C/O David Beitz, a Supporting Member at Bare Hill CF whose wife, Linda (also a C/O at Bare Hill), has endured three surgeries in attempts to re-construct her left knee.



Check presentation to C/O Zach Peck, a Supporting Member at Barehill CF whose wife, Karen, gave birth to twins John and Gordon in March, seven weeks prematurely. After a stay in the NIC Unit at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington, Vermont, mother and babies are all in excellent health!



Jay presented a check to C/O Joseph Arcet, a Supporting Member at Franklin CF whose wife, Paige, had a successful kidney transplant in June. The surgery had to be done in Albany, a considerable distance from the Arcets' home.



C/O Ken Wilson is a Supporting Member at Upstate CF who has degenerative disc disease. C/O Wilson has endured several surgeries attempting to control this disease. Also pictured: Ken's wife, Sherrie, and C/O Brandy Smith, the CPOF's Upstate CF contact.



Jay presented a check to C/O and Supporting Member Jamie Willette of Upstate CF who, like C/O Ken Wilson, was diagnosed with degenerative disc disease. At the time of the check presentation C/O Willette was scheduled for future surgery. C/O Brandy Smith is also pictured.

Jay presented a check to C/O Dan Rondeau, another Supporting Member at Upstate CF, whose daughter, Kerrigan, recently had a cardiac ablation performed at Burlington Hospital in Vermont. Also pictured are Dan's other daughter Caydence; son, Noah; wife, Heather; and C/O Brandy Smith.



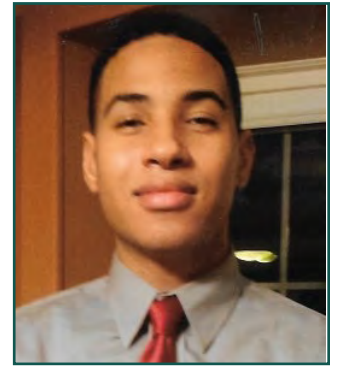
---

## Rhode Island



C/O William Clapper, a Supporting Member at the Rhode Island DOC Intake Service Center, suffered a house fire in mid June 2016. The house was deemed a total loss. Rhode Island Representative Manny Leander recommended assistance for Officer Clapper, and both are pictured at left.

C/O Anthony Bomba Jr., a Supporting Member, is pictured at right with Manny Leander receiving a CPOF scholarship check on behalf of his son, Anthony Bomba III.



Anthony III, pictured at far right, will be attending Brown University in Providence, RI in the fall of 2016.



C/O Michael Conti is a Supporting Member at High Security Center. His 19-year-old son, Joshua, is a volunteer peer counselor at a local youth center. While at the center in early January 2016 Joshua was shot by a gang member who apparently was actually targeting the young man that Joshua was counseling at the time. Joshua's wounds have caused him to be paralyzed from the waist down. He was hospitalized for a month and a half, and, once home, underwent extensive physical therapy. Officer Conti is pictured at left receiving a CPOF assistance check.

---

## Kentucky



Do these two gentlemen look familiar? They are C/O D. Scott Jones and Warden Aaron B. Smith, and they appeared in the Spring 2016 issue of the *CPO Family* on page 34. We printed their very gracious thank-you letters in appreciation of our assistance to Officer Jones after the passing of his wife, Catherine, from organ failure.

At that time we mistakenly stated that Officer Jones and Warden Smith work at Kentucky State Penitentiary. In fact, both are proud employees at Kentucky State **Reformatory**. We sincerely regret the misinformation, and -- did we mention gracious? -- thank Warden Smith and Officer Jones very much for being so kind when they pointed out our error.



Sergeant Loren Lewis of Little Sandy Correctional Center passed away from liver cancer on August 3, 2016. He had battled the disease for 16 months. His widow, Dedra, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check, and is pictured here with Deputy Warden Danny McGraw and Warden Joseph Meko.

# TEXAS



## To the CPO Foundation:

Here [left] is a photo of myself, Senior Warden John P. Werner, presenting Sgt. William Southern Jr. with the bereavement assistance check from your organization. Sgt. Southern tragically lost his son and mother, all within a 12-day time period. He was very appreciative of the check and we were grateful to be able to present it to him.

Thank you again for your continued support of our Officers in their times of need.

Sincerely,

John P. Werner, Senior Warden, Alfred D. Hughes Unit

*Sergeant William Southern, Jr. is a Supporting Member at Hughes Unit. Sgt. Southern's 28-year-old son was murdered on February 18, 2016. And, as Warden Werner mentions, Sgt. Southern's mother had died shortly before his son was killed.*



## To: Correctional Peace Officers Foundation

From: Kelli R. Forrester, Warden, Travis County State Jail

On the behalf of Laundry Manager III Foday Dumbuya, the Travis County State Jail and myself, I want to extend a sincere thank you for the very generous assistance received from the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. Mr. Dumbuya's wife, Fatima, had battled cancer for over eight years, finally succumbing to the illness on March 23, 2016 and

leaving behind her husband and three children ages 12, 16 and 22.

Here [above] is a photo of the presentation of the check by myself, Warden Kelli R. Forrester, to Laundry Manager III Foday Dumbuya, who is a CPOF Supporting Member.

Thank you again. I know that the Dumbuya family will be very blessed by these funds to help with expenses incurred over the recent months.

Sincerely,

Kelli R. Forrester



C/O IV Krystal Williams is a Supporting Member at Duncan Unit. Krystal's seven-month-old daughter passed away on March 15, 2016. She is pictured here with her CPOF bereavement assistance check. With her are Captain J. Lodini and Lieutenant M. Foisie.

## Dear Ms. Barone:

On Thursday, April 21, 2016, Captain Ernest Cooke was presented a check from the CPO Foundation at the James V. Allred Unit by myself, Sr. Warden Richard Wathen [photo at right]. Capt. Cooke and his family are very appreciative of the Foundation's contribution and the financial assistance provided. Please extend a sincere thank you to CPOF and their support from Capt. Cooke and the Allred Unit Administration and staff.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Wathen, Senior Warden, James V. Allred Unit

*Captain Earnest Cooke is a Supporting Member. His 22-year-old daughter, Maci, passed away due to injuries she sustained in a car accident.*



## Dear CPOF ,

My heart is filled with appreciation and gratitude at your generosity. I'm so thankful and blessed to be a member of an organization that helps so many in need. I'm sending God's angels to stand and watch over you.

Much love,

Debbie Mathis, Huntsville, TX  
*Accountant II Deborah Mathis is a Supporting Member in the Payroll Dept. of the TDCJ. She was diagnosed with triple negative metastatic breast cancer on September 14, 2015 and was undergoing chemo treatments.*

*continued next page*

# TEXAS

## Dear Stephanie;

I'm writing to express my sincerest thanks and humble gratitude to you, CPOF and my friend and former co-worker, Wendy Smelley, who submitted my name for assistance.

You can't know what a timely blessing you have bestowed upon me. Thank you also for your words of condolence. My loss is overwhelmingly sorrowful and I lean on my Heavenly Father to journey through. I believe in CPOF and all its wonderful works; which is why I continued to give even after retirement. I never expected to be a recipient in post-employment. Thank you, and God Bless!

Sharon Simms

*C/O V Sharon Simms is a Retired Supporting Member from Hodge Unit. Her husband, James Simms Sr., passed away on April 11, 2016.*

C/O IV Delores McCraw, a Supporting Member at Goree Unit, underwent hip surgery on March 7, 2016. Following the surgery, C/O McCraw had to travel 100 miles twice a week for physical therapy for a considerable time. C/O McCraw is pictured at right with Lieutenant Terry Graeter and Captain Erin Davidson.



## Dear Ms. Barone,

On Wednesday, April 19, 2016, Officer Bobbi Vossbrink was presented a check from the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation at the James V. Allred Unit by myself, Sr. Warden Richard Wathen. Officer Vossbrink was very appreciative of the Foundation's contribution and the financial assistance provided. She has requested we extend a sincere thank you to CPOF for their support of all correctional staff.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Wathen, Senior Warden  
James V. Allred Unit

*Laundry Manager III Bobbi Vossbrink is a Supporting Member at Allred Unit. Her 26-year-old son, Zachary Henson, passed away and Bobbi was responsible for the funeral expenses. LM III Vossbrink is pictured here with Sr. Warden Wathen.*



Officer Ronald Slocum, a Supporting Member at Havins Unit, was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis and as of early July 2016 was on oxygen and a costly antifibrotic agent. Officer Slocum is pictured above with his CPOF assistance check accompanied by Lieutenant Joseph Clark and Warden David Lofton.

## To the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation,

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the assistance that the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation extended to Officer Christopher Johnson. It is comforting to know that the CPOF exists to assist Correctional Staff during difficult life challenges. Officer Johnson's wife just started another round of radiation and chemotherapy so this will assist with getting her back and forth to her appointments.

Officer Johnson expressed genuine gratitude for the assistance and asked that I relay this to CPOF.

We are very grateful for everything that the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation does to support all of the dedicated and wonderful Correctional Officers across the United States

Thank you,

Steven Sperry, Senior Warden, Gurney Unit

*C/O Christopher Johnson is a Supporting Member at Gurney Unit. His wife, Donna, was diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer.*





C/O IV Adam McGinty, a Supporting Member at Wynne Unit, lost most of his possessions in the east Texas floods of June 2016. He received a CPOF assistance check to help with replacing basic items. Pictured at left: Assistant Warden Smith, Officer McGinty, CPOF Texas Representative Cathy Stokes and Assistant Warden McClarin.

Beto Unit Warden Norris Jackson presented C/O V William Pitman, a Supporting Member at Beto Unit, with a CPOF check. C/O Pitman's house suffered extensive damage in the flooding that occurred in east Texas in May/June 2016.



**Dear Ms. Barone and the CPO Foundation:**

Thank you so much for your generous support during the loss of my beloved son. He was taken from this life on May 8 in a tragic auto accident at the age of 27. It did my heart good to have the support of the CPO Foundation. Your generosity in assisting with the burial expenses for my son will not be forgotten. Through this tragedy, CPO has come forward to ease the pressure.

Thank you for your assistance during this time of bereavement. My family has been blessed by your donation.

Lieutenant Lonnie G. Douglas,  
Rosharon, TX

*Lieutenant Douglas is a Supporting Member at Terrell Unit.*

**Dear Ms. Barone:**

On Thursday, June 23, 2016, Officer Michael Whitmire was presented a check from the CPO Foundation at the James V Allred Unit by myself, Sr. Warden Richard Wathen. Officer Whitmire was very appreciative of the Foundation's contribution and the financial assistance provided. He has requested we extend a sincere thank you to CPOF and their support of all correctional staff.



Sincerely,

Richard E. Wathen, Senior Warden, James V Allred Unit  
*C/O IV Michael Whitmire is a Supporting Member at Allred Unit. His wife, Ann Marie, was diagnosed with lung cancer and they had to travel 375 miles to MD Anderson for treatments.*

**Dear CPO Foundation:**

I would like to take this time to thank you. It really means a lot to know people care. My family and I are grateful for your show of love and support.

Lisa Asberry Davis,  
Palestine, Texas

*C/O Davis is a Supporting Member at Gurney Unit. She lost five family members who drowned in flooding caused by the severe rainstorm in the Palestine area in late April 2016. She also lost her home and all belongings.*



Maintenance Supervisor Arthur Garcia, a Supporting Member at Smith Unit, passed away on June 2, 2016 from cancer, kidney failure and pneumonia. His widow, Connie, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check. Pictured at left: HR Hernandez, HR Salinas, Connie Garcia, Maintenance Supervisor Juan Ramirez and Assistant Warden Jennifer Cozby.

## *A Texas Officer is Laid to Rest*



July 16, 2016 is a date that will not soon be forgotten, if ever, by the Staff at the French Robertson Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). At approximately 3:00 am, Officer Mari Anne Johnson went to the storage area near the Food Service room to retrieve supplies in preparation for the breakfast meal. When she had not returned within a few minutes another Officer went to look for her and found Officer Johnson unresponsive on the floor. The facility medical staff was notified and medical attention was given until Officer Johnson could be transferred to Hendricks Medical Center in Abilene. There, she was pronounced dead.

On Thursday, July 21, 2016 visitation was held for Officer Johnson at the Skyvue Funeral Home in Mansfield, Texas with the CPO Foundation Honor Guard present to provide casket watch.

Friday, July 22, 2016, the Celebration of Life was held at the First Baptist Church in Mansfield where the CPOF Honor Guard presented the Colors and Honor Guards from around the State stood watch over the service.

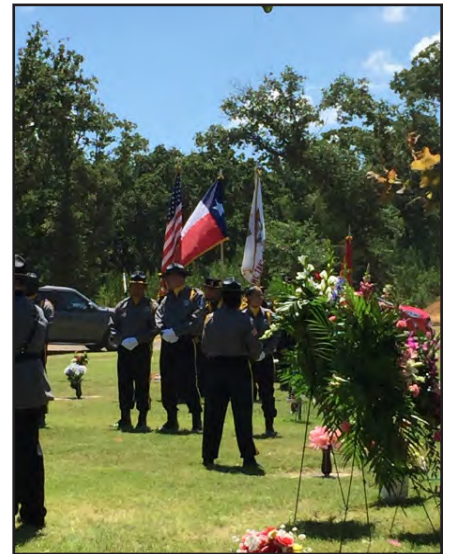
Approximately 1,000 Correctional staff, Administration and Honor Guards

from across the State attended, as well as Correctional Staff and Administration from other States. Burial followed at the Skyvue Funeral Home and Cemetery.

Officer Johnson was an avid Green Bay Packers fan! Her casket and vault were proudly painted in "Green Bay Green and Gold!" It was very apparent that she was a lady much loved by all who knew her. Many expressed that when she entered a room her smile and personality would light it up, and that she truly cared for anyone she met.

Officer Johnson is survived by her sons, Thomas Vierra and Nick Johnson; mother, Christel Allmendinger; father, Albert Vierra; sisters, Margaret Vierra and Leni Atkinson; and grandchildren, Corrine, Madison, Cassandra and Collin.

*-- Cathy Stokes, CPO Foundation Texas Representative*



---

## *Pennsylvania Corrections Loses One of their Own*



### **Corrections Officer Kristopher Moules: EOW 7/18/2016**

On July 18, 2016, Officer Kris Moules was on duty at Luzerne County Correctional Facility in Wilkes Barre, PA. Little did he know that this day -- and shift -- was to be his last "tour of duty" as a Corrections Officer. Moules was assigned to and working on the 5th floor of the Luzerne County Correctional Facility. At approximately 1800 hours Officer Moules and an inmate started having words. Then the exchange escalated as the inmate began fighting with Officer Moules. As the fight continued, both Officer Moules and the inmate were slammed into the closed door of an elevator that was in the vicinity of the fight. The elevator door suddenly opened, and both Officer Moules and the inmate fell approximately 70 feet down the shaft to their deaths,

landing on top of an elevator car that was coming up from the first floor.

Officer Kris Moules was 25 years old and had been a Corrections Officer at Luzerne County Correctional Facility for approximately 10 months.

-- Ray Stender, CPOF Eastern Pennsylvania Representative



Luzerne County Correctional Facility personnel enter Wyoming Valley West High School in Plymouth for the viewing of Kristopher Moules

---

## *Alabama Officer dies from Stabbing Attack*



It is a heartbreaking time for the family and staff of Correctional Officer Kenneth Bettis from the William C. Holman Correctional Facility in Atmore, Alabama. Officer Bettis was stabbed multiple times on September 1, 2016 by an inmate after he denied the inmate an extra tray of food in the dining hall. Officer Bettis was flown to a local hospital where he remained until he succumbed to his stab wounds on September 16, 2016 with family by his side.

Commissioner Jeff Dunn said, "Officer Bettis was known among his colleagues as a firm but fair Correctional Officer, and was highly respected for his work ethic and dedicated service to his profession."

Correctional Officer Kenneth Bettis was a veteran of the Alabama Army National Guard. He received the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal and Southwest Asia Service Medal as well as a Bronze Service Star for his service in Iraq. He had been a Correctional Officer at Holman Correctional Facility since 2009. Officer Bettis is survived by his wife, three children and many friends and family.

# COLORADO



Sergeant Anthony Tafoya, a Supporting Member at Arrowhead Correctional Center, was diagnosed with kidney cancer and has had multiple surgeries at the Denver VA Hospital (116 miles from home). He is pictured here (left) receiving a CPOF assistance check from Guy Edmonds, CPOF Representative in Colorado.



C/O II Steven Loghry, a Supporting Member at Fremont CF, was feeling strange while driving and pulled over at a school crossing. The crossing guard saw him and determined that C/O Loghry was having a seizure. He was taken to a nearby hospital and after his initial examination was transferred from Cañon City to Colorado Springs. Tests revealed 21 tumors in his head/brain and he was diagnosed with Stage IV melanoma. His cancer is one of the rare forms that does not respond to treatment. Steve's eldest son, age 25, moved back home to help out after his father was diagnosed. With the seizure disorder C/O Loghry is unable to drive or work. He is pictured above receiving an assistance check from Guy Edmonds.

C/O I Cassandra Windham is a Supporting Member at Denver Womens CF. She suffered a "mini stroke" on July 1, 2016, and was hospitalized for a week. This was followed by visits to speech and physical therapists several times a week for a considerable time. C/O Windham is pictured here with Guy Edmonds, holding the CPOF check she received to help with extra expenses incurred by her treatment schedule.



C/O I Robert Himschoot is a Supporting Member at Buena Vista Correctional Complex. Robert injured his back while at work on January 15, 2016. He has been off work for several months and as of mid October 2016 it was unknown when he would be able to return to work. Officer Himschoot is pictured above with his wife, Tonja.



Left: C/O II Daniel Houston of Arkansas Valley CF. Daniel was diagnosed with CML and ALL, two forms of leukemia. He was unable to work due to being hospitalized and undergoing treatments from January 5 – March 7, 2016 in Denver, CO (131 miles from home). He is currently working while he waits for a transplant.

C/O Patrick Hill works at Sterling Correctional Facility. His four-year-old daughter, Olivia, is suffering from an auto immune system defect, causing major complications and hospitalizations in Denver over 110 miles one way. They make weekly trips to Denver for treatments. Because of her condition Olivia is also suffering from a lung infection requiring IV antibiotics through a PIC line. Olivia's medications are very costly, and many are not covered by insurance. Guy Edmonds recommended CPOF assistance for Officer Hill, who is pictured above with Olivia.



### Correctional Peace Officer Foundation,

Thank you for the heartfelt condolences from everyone at C.P.O. . . . May you all know that the monetary assistance has helped ease some of the burdens.

With gratitude,  
The John Bongirno Family  
Colorado Springs, CO

*Captain John Bongirno, a Supporting Member at Colorado Correctional Center, was diagnosed with cancer on June 18, 2016 after over a month and a half of deteriorating health for which doctors could not determine the cause. Three days later, John's wife, Alice, was assisting him when she fell and broke her arm and hip. Alice had surgery on her arm that day and on her hip on June 24. John's cancer was too far advanced for anything to be done by the time he was diagnosed, and he passed away on June 26, 2016.*

### To the CPO Foundation,

Grief is like wading in the ocean as the tide comes in. You feel the sand shift under your feet, but you keep trying to move further on. Suddenly a large wave washes over you and you struggle to the surface to breathe again and try to continue on.

The kindness and the support that the Delta Correctional Center staff and co-workers, and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, have provided to me and our children is truly a life raft. You have helped and continue to help us move through this grief. We are very grateful that John was a member of such an exceptional organization.

Sincerely,

Barbara Jackson and Family, Delta, CO

*We thank Mrs. Jackson very much for her eloquent letter. She is the widow of CSTS I John Jackson, a Supporting Member at Delta Correctional Center. After a courageous battle with lung cancer John passed away on April 30, 2016. Barbara is pictured above right with Captain Bill Hunt; sons John "Cody" Jackson and Travis Jackson; and Delta CF Warden Steve Green.*



***CSTS I John Jackson receiving an assistance check from Warden Green and Captain Hunt earlier this year.***

# Georgia

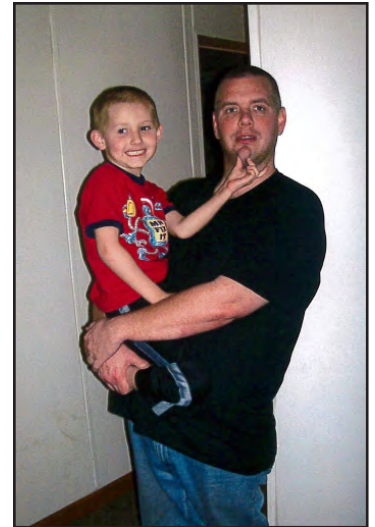


We were honored to welcome Mr. Homer Bryson, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Corrections, to **Project 2000 XXVII**.

Commissioner Bryson is pictured above with his wife, Elizabeth (on the left) and Georgia CPOF Representative Vanessa O'Donnell.

C/O John King, a Supporting Member at Valdosta State Prison, was stabbed by an inmate on September 12, 2015. He was doing a count on the lockdown unit, and as he was closing a cell the inmate reached out and stabbed him twice in the left forearm. C/O King had to have three stitches and seven staples to treat the wounds. Injuries were such that in the following weeks he had to go to several nerve specialists for treatment.

C/O King is pictured at right with his son, Peyton.



C/O Kamala Hayward of Autry State Prison is a Supporting Member whose 15-year-old son, Charles, went in for oral surgery on April 21, 2016. Two tumors were discovered inside his mouth that were causing his teeth to grow into his jawbone. C/O Hayward received a CPOF assistance check (photo at left) to help with medical costs not covered by insurance. Autry SP Warden Marty Allen presented the check.

LPN Antoinette Lawrence, also of Autry State Prison, is pictured at right receiving a CPOF assistance check. Antoinette's husband, Jim, was in a car accident in April 2016. He was hospitalized for several weeks and had surgery for his injuries followed by rehabilitation in Atlanta.



## To the CPO Foundation:

Your help came at a time when I didn't know what I was going to do! Your help made my prayers come true. I thank all the members of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation from the bottom of my heart.

Frankie Cascella and Family,  
Lafayette, GA

*Frankie Cascella works in Food Service at Walker State Prison. Her husband, Kevin, passed away shortly after being diagnosed with cancer. HR Technician Rebecca Johnson recommended bereavement assistance for the Cascella family.*

C/O II Marilyn Cutliff-Fields, also of Autry State Prison, suffered an on-the-job injury on August 13, 2014 and had to have knee surgery. C/O Cutliff-Fields was taken off work on June 2, 2015. Her financial situation was seriously affected. She cannot walk or sit for too long, and her doctor is recommending another surgery. At right: Autry SP Warden Marty Allen presents C/O Cutliff-Fields with a CPOF assistance check.



# Federal News

On May 31, 2016 Warden Calvin Johnson of FCC Victorville was assaulted by an inmate using a shank that the inmate had tied to his hand. Warden Johnson fought back but suffered slash wounds to his side and upper abdomen that required nearly 100 staples. His injuries would have been much more severe had not Special Investigative Services Lieutenant Timothy Wallace and Captain John Lewis come to Warden Johnson's aid during the attack. SIS Lt. Wallace and Captain Lewis both suffered stab wounds in this incident, and received CPOF assistance checks to help during their periods of recovery.

**Below and at right: Letters and family photos from SIS Lt. Wallace and Captain Lewis.**



## Miss Blakley,

This is Captain John Lewis from FCC Victorville. I wanted to thank you and the CPOF for your letter and the very generous check after the recent incident that I was involved in

here during my tour of duty. I have always recognized from the very beginning what a much needed and worthwhile organization the CPOF is. In my eyes you and CPOF are "top notch" and I will continue to support and talk up the CPOF every chance I get.

I look forward to seeing you during your next visit.

Captain John Lewis, FCC Victorville, CA

*Pictured: Captain Lewis with his sons, Jeremiah and Mark, and his wife, Yollie.*

## Kim,

On behalf of the entire Mack family, we thank you for the kindness and support provided to us during this very difficult time. The financial assistance before, during and still has been so helpful, and we are grateful for all of it! The outpouring of love and support has been tremendous!

Katheryn Mack and Family, Rincon, GA

*Supervisor of Education Katheryn Mack is a Supporting Member at FCI Estill in South Carolina. Her husband, Greg, passed on February 19, 2016 after a long battle with cancer. Katheryn sent us this photo of her adult children at Greg's funeral: Patrick (20), Dustin (30), Madison (18), Bradley (26), and Christopher (22).*



## Dear Kim,

I wanted to take the time to thank you and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, for your wonderful letter and generous award for the incident that occurred on May 31, 2016, at FCI Victorville II. I am happy to relay that Warden Johnson, Captain Lewis and I are making a full recovery. I also wanted to relay to you the fantastic job Frank Melendez and Ginger Hodges do at FCC Victorville in regards to promoting and keeping staff aware of this wonderful Foundation. I am proud to say I am a Supporting Member of this wonderful organization and will continue to be. In this day and age we are the forgotten in the law enforcement community, but we know we are an instrumental part of keeping society safe. The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation truly does take care of their own. Once again thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support.

Sincerely;

Timothy Wallace

Special Investigative Services Lieutenant  
FCI Victorville II, CA

*Pictured: SIS Lieutenant Wallace with his son, Riley, and wife, Riley.*



## To:

### Kim Blakley:

On behalf of my family and me, I want to extend our gratitude for the monetary gift from your organization. It has been a difficult time for us, but with the help and support of great people and organizations like yours, it eases some of the burden. Logan is currently [mid July 2016] in a rehabilitation hospital. Thanks again for all you do.

James Hile, Lewisburg, PA

*VT Instructor James Hile, a Supporting Member at USP Lewisburg in Pennsylvania, has a 15-year-old son, Logan, who was "life flighted" in mid June 2016 to Hershey Medical Center with a rare strain of influenza. His organs began to shut down and he was placed on breathing/dialysis machines. The Hile family incurred many extra expenses traveling 75 miles each way to and from the hospital and staying in hotels. Photo: Acting Warden Thahesha Jusino, Instructor Hile, Andy Kline and Andy Bloom.*



# Federal News

## Dear Ms. Blakley & Everyone at CPOF,

Thank you so very much for your thoughtful, caring, and generous gift to my family and me in our time of need! It is a huge help to us during my fight with colon cancer as we watch medical expenses roll in. It has been a stressful, scary, and at times depressing battle for us, but as my chemo treatments have begun I am still fighting, smiling, and staying strong. I thank you sincerely for your thoughts, encouragement, and selfless service! You are a part of a wonderful organization and my family and I wish you all the best! Thank you so much!!

Sincerely,

Andrew Everitt, USP Canaan, Waymart, PA

*ISO Everitt, a Supporting Member, was diagnosed with Stage III colon cancer on December 15, 2015 and underwent a colonoscopy at Wilkes Barre, PA Medical Center. He was then transferred to Hershey Medical Center (105 miles away) and underwent multiple surgeries to remove the cancer, and another surgery to have a "portacath" installed. Andrew then received chemo every two weeks for the next six months. Andrew is pictured at right receiving a CPOF assistance check from Mr. George Meshko.*



Clinical Technician Christine Nixon, a Supporting Member at FCC Tucson, was diagnosed with leukemia in mid May 2016 and underwent chemotherapy. Severe side effects rendered her unable to work for months; her RTW may

be in mid December 2016. She is pictured here receiving a CPOF check from Jesus Corchudo, CPOF liaison.

C/O Brandon Mullins, a Supporting Member at USP Lee in Virginia, suffered severe burns to his face, neck and left hand during a brush fire at his home that caused him to be off work for over two months. He is pictured here receiving a CPOF



assistance check from Local President Brian Shoemaker.



CPOF Federal Representative Laura Phillips visited FCI Talladega in Alabama in late February 2016 to make CPOF assistance check presentations to two Supporting Members at that facility.

At top left is Lieutenant Terrance Reynolds (center) whose wife, Crystal, suffered a subarachnoid hemorrhage on December 11, 2015 that required her to have multiple surgeries. She was discharged 10 days later but then had to travel to see her doctor (65 miles one way) several times a week after that. Lt. Reynolds was off work for many weeks to care for his wife.

Below left: C/O Brian Myrick whose wife, Karen, lost a five-year battle with cancer on February 16, 2016.



## Dear Kim,

This is the picture of the CPOF check presentation to Correctional Counselor Kevin Gemberling that we were able to do at a recall and read your letter in front of a large group of Staff. Left to right: Counselor Gemberling, accepting the check on behalf of his 22-year-old son, Tyler, who was in a very serious car accident in which he suffered severe head trauma and other injuries to many other parts of his body; Andy Kline, CPL 33, Local 148 President; Trust Fund Specialist Lynn Wintersteen; and USP Lewisburg, Warden David Ebbert.

Lynn Wintersteen  
USP Lewisburg, PA



## FCC Oakdale, LA Fundraiser

by David Woodham, CPOF Volunteer Liaison

On July 23 the Staff and AFGE Locals 1007/3957 at FCC Oakdale in Louisiana held an “incrediball” baseball tournament. The goal: to raise enough funds so that FCC Oakdale, along with AFGE Locals 1007/3957, can become one of the few Federal Prisons/Union Locals that are Lifetime Sponsors of CPOF.\*

Since 2003, CPOF has come to the aid of over 100 FCC Oakdale Staff in need during a catastrophic event in their lives, for a total of \$63,650 in assistance given just to our FCC Oakdale Staff.

Our goal is to give back to CPOF and show our



support by assisting them in continuing to help our people in need, not just locally but nationally.

At the tournament there was lots of cooking and wonderful food, a great ball game and staff/family fellowship. I'm proud to say that



FCC Oakdale came together for a common cause and raised over \$2,162 (and donations are still coming in).

I would like to thank all Staff who participated, played and donated. We had a great turnout!! We do **take care of our own!**



I would also like to thank the following specific people:

- Groundskeepers Brook Ardion and Chester Lilley
  - Concession Stand Workers Julie Perkins, Randy Fox and their Families
  - Cooks George Guice and Anthony Harmon
  - Scorekeepers Rodena Drodty and Freda Woodham
- Umpires Boo Melder, Paul Lemeiux, Ronald Morris, Jared Carrier, Justin Guillory, Randy Fox, Joe Ardion and Jeremy Drodty
- Jamie Dubroc of O&B Vans for supplying all our concession stand food and drinks for the day

\*A check for \$5,000 was given to CPOF for this purpose during the CPL Convention in August 2016.



We at FCC Oakdale greatly appreciate the scholarships awarded to the children of six of our Staff members. This is the most scholarships we have ever received from the CPOF in a given year. Thank you again.

In this photo: Back row, left to right: CPOF Volunteer Liaison David Woodham, Jeffrey Chamberlain, Willie Larry, Paul Lemieux and Stephen Willis. Front row, left to right: CPOF Volunteer Representative Vanessa Gautreaux, Debra Johnson and Julie Perkins.



AW Secretary Brigitte Harper, a Supporting Member at FCC Oakdale, is pictured at left with her 18-year-old daughter, Harper, and her 15-year-old grandson, Camryn Bullock. Below is her thank you note for our assistance.

### To the CPOF:

On February 9, 2016, I had open heart surgery (mitral valve repair) and was home recovering for eight weeks. My family and I would like to thank the CPO Foundation for the assistance check. It has helped greatly with expenses during this time.

Brigitte Harper, Oakdale, LA

---

---

# Oregon



C/O Jonathan Garrett is a Supporting Member at Two Rivers Correctional Institution. Jonathan's five-year-old son, Logan, was admitted to Kadlec Regional Medical Center on April 16, 2016 after battling an undetermined illness. There he was diagnosed with Kawasaki disease. He was released from the hospital three days later, and was scheduled to see a cardiologist every two weeks until further evaluation by his doctors.



On June 15, 2016 CPOF Eastern Oregon Representative Michael Seefeldt reported that Officer Garrett's 13-year-old son, Tyler, had an accident in which he suffered blunt force trauma to his left leg. This injury required 29 staples, to be followed by three months of physical therapy. Officer Garrett received assistance from the CPO Foundation to help with the many extra expenses that have arisen due to these serious situations involving both of his sons. Officer Garrett is pictured in the photo at left with Tyler and Logan; Michael Seefeldt, Logan and Officer Garrett are in the photo at right.

---

*From Michael Seefeldt:*

It was my privilege to present Christy McMillen, Two Rivers Correctional Institution Office Specialist II, with catastrophic assistance from the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation following her sudden serious illness that resulted in extended medical leave and multiple doctor visits. Christy had surgery to repair/fuse disks in her neck on July 1, 2016, which caused her to be off work for an extended period of time. O/S II McMillen is pictured with me at right.



Michael Seefeldt also presented a CPO Foundation catastrophic assistance check to Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution (EOCI) C/O Darin McGlothan on July 18, 2016. Darin was diagnosed with a serious condition that severely limits the range of motion in his shoulder and is very painful. Pictured at left: Darin's fiancée, Cori Quesada; C/O Darin McGlothan; and Darin's cousin, Otis Hopkins.

Pictured at right: CPOF Western Oregon Representative Dan Weber and Counselor Brian Petersen of Oregon State Penitentiary. In mid June 2016 Brian's 12-year-old son, Bryce, was experiencing constant stomach pain that led to multiple doctor appointments and a great deal of lab work. Counselor Petersen received an assistance check to help with mounting extra expenses incurred by these appointments and tests.



# Oregon

## **Correctional Peace Officers Foundation and all who are part of the organization:**

I would like to offer a deep-felt thank you for your generosity and commitment to look after your own in time of need.

I do this on behalf of Michael R. Keepers who passed away June 16, 2016. Michael was blessed to know there were so many, including his co-workers, who cared for him in so many ways. Thank you again for your service and commitment to others.

Warm regards,  
Laura Kellenbarger

POA & Guardian for Michael Keepers  
*O/S II Michael Keepers worked at Oregon State Penitentiary. He had undergone chemotherapy for cancer for a long period of time. His last round of chemo had affected him very badly and he was admitted, unconscious, to Salem Hospital ICU on January 20, 2016. O/S II Keepers passed away in mid July 2016.*

*From Michael Seefeldt:*

I had the distinct privilege of presenting EOCI acting Lieutenant Justin McLouth and his wife, Kelsey, with assistance from the CPO



Foundation on August 17, 2016, as pictured above. The McLouths' baby boy, Ridge, was born prematurely and developed serious respiratory problems. This required him to be transported via air ambulance to the NICU in a Portland, Oregon, area children's hospital. The McLouths spent three weeks with Ridge in the hospital.

I am happy to report that, as of the day of the check presentation, Ridge was improving well. On behalf of the CPO Foundation, we wish Ridge a full and speedy recovery.



*Left: Ridge at three months of age.*

# Oklahoma

## **Ms. Blakley,**

I have always been proud to be associated with such a fine organization and I have seen firsthand what a blessing the Foundation has been to Officers and their families. I never imagined that one day I would be the one in need of assistance and prayers, but when the time came, this wonderful Foundation answered the call.

It has truly been an honor to be a part of CPO Foundation "Projects" with the Oklahoma Honor Guard and working alongside other Honor Guards and Foundation staff at the Annual National Memorial Ceremony. It is humbling to have the opportunity to honor others and see the generosity of the Foundation.

Once again, thank you for your prayers and support. We will always consider the CPO Foundation as part of our family and we are in turn thankful to be part of the CPO Foundation family.

Hopefully, I will be up and walking soon!

Sincerely,

Kevin Angel, Atoka, OK

*In April 2016, Lieutenant Kevin Angel, a Supporting Member at McLeod CC, fell off a ladder, breaking his heel in multiple places that required surgery. He incurred many medical/travel expenses due to his injury. C/O Angel is pictured here with his wife, Joye, and their daughters, Hope and Shaye.*



---

# North Carolina



## **Good Afternoon, Mrs. Matthews,**

We received the check from the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for Officer Miguel Cruz, and presented it to him on June 16, 2016. Officer Cruz was very touched and thankful about receiving the check.

In this photo from left to right are: Kevin Barnes (Facility Administrator), Susan Carter (Admin. Secretary & Site Security Coordinator), Officer Cruz, Thomas Buchanan (Personnel Tech), and Shirley Bennett (Asst. Superintendent).

Susan C. Carter, Admin. Secretary II & Site Security Coordinator  
Warren Correctional Institution  
NC Department of Public Safety - Prisons

*Officer Cruz's wife, Tiffany, became ill while they were visiting family in Florida in February 2016. Tiffany was diagnosed as having multiple blood clots in her lungs and could not return home owing to her serious*

*medical condition. C/O Cruz traveled out of state over a period of several months to visit and care for his wife. The medical and travel costs associated with his wife's medical condition placed a severe financial burden on C/O Cruz.*

---

C/O David Shook is a Supporting Member at Lincoln Correctional Center. He is the primary care giver for his disabled wife, Joyce. During an unrelated surgical procedure, Joyce was diagnosed with cancer. The day she was released from the hospital, Joyce fell and broke her hip. While she was recovering at a rehabilitation center, C/O Shook had a heart attack that required him to have quadruple bypass surgery. C/O Shook is pictured at right receiving a CPOF assistance check from Lincoln Correctional Center Assistant Superintendent Jeff Teague.



## **To the CPOF,**

We would like to thank you for remembering our family during this difficult time. We greatly appreciate your monetary gift to our family.

Thank you,

Rex Shirley, Jr. and Family, Hookerton, NC

*Sergeant Rex Shirley Jr. is a Supporting Member at Greene Correctional Institution. His wife, Belinda, passed away at home on April 7, 2016 from undetermined causes. Sgt. Shirley sent us the photo at left of his family.*

---

C/O II Maceo Wilkins is a Supporting Member at Maury CI. His daughter, Jaylay, is battling osteosarcoma, a fast growing bone cancer. The family has incurred extensive medical expenses and travel expenses going to and from the medical facility where Jaylay receives treatments. C/O Wilkins is pictured at right with Mr. Roderick Watson, Assistant Superintendent for Custody & Operations.

*Note: We are very sad to report that Jaylay passed away on September 7, 2016.*



## North Carolina

C/O Kenneth Davis of Morrison CI had cancer and passed away on May 20, 2016. Before his death he had had to travel from North Carolina to Georgia on several different occasions for treatment. That travel, along with his death, caused a severe financial hardship on his wife, Dorothea.

CPOF North Carolina Representative Ricky Anderson recommended assistance for Mrs. Davis, and she is pictured here accompanied by Administrator Peter Buckholtz on the right and Assistant Superintendent for Custody Michael Scarboro on the left.



Captain Walter Ward is a Supporting Member at Columbus CI. Walter's 25-year-old son, Quentin, passed away on March 8, 2016. Quentin was disabled and in the care of his parents at home. Captain Ward sent us this photo of his family.

### To the CPOF,

Thank you for the generous gift. It has helped with our numerous medical expenses. Thank you for thinking of our family and others during times of hardship!

The Spruill Family  
Sergeant William Spruill of Caldwell CI was involved in a very serious car accident on January 20, 2016 resulting in his having to be cut from the wreckage. At the hospital he had to be put on a ventilator. CPOF North Carolina Representative Laura Matthews recommended assistance for Sgt. Spruill to help with the many extra expenses his family incurred following the accident.



Unit Manager Jason Farmer (center) of NCCIW (North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women) was awarded a CPOF scholarship check. Unit Manager Farmer plans to take courses at American Military University to further his Criminal Justice education and credentials. With Unit Manager Farmer are Warden Kenneth Royster and CPOF North Carolina Representative Ricky Anderson.

# Arizona



Left: CPOF assistance check presentation to C/O II Elisa Ramirez of ASPC Perryville. Elisa's mother, father and sister were killed in a car accident on March 26, 2016. Elisa was off work for three weeks; she did not qualify for FMLA because she is a new Officer, and needed help with travel/funeral expenses.

Photo: Back row: C/O IV Karen Abbott and C/O III Allen Flint. Front row: CPOF Arizona Representative Liz Shaffer-Smith, DW Cindy Neese, and C/O II Ramirez.

**Dear Kim,**

I would like to thank the CPO Foundation for all your thoughts, prayers and the financial contribution in my time of need. It is truly appreciated when these times of medical expense and such can put a strain on oneself. It is always nice to know that there are others out there who care and can make the time to help. Your Foundation has helped many and I hope you can continue to help others like me in their times of need.

Sincerely,

Detention Officer Larry Miller,  
Maricopa County 4th Avenue Jail,  
Phoenix, AZ

*D/O Miller was diagnosed with cancer and Non Hodgkin's lymphoma. He was off work starting October 1, 2015 and fell into LWOP status on October 15. As of April 27, 2016, a return to work date still had not been set.*

Right: Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) Lieutenant Jenny Jenkins accepted a CPOF assistance check on behalf of MCSO Detention Officer Robert Kampe, who was diagnosed with brain cancer on December 21, 2015. After surgery, he began a lengthy chemotherapy and radiation treatment program. D/O Kampe was not well enough for Lt. Jenkins and Liz Shaffer-Smith (pictured) to be able to see him and present his check to him in person.



MCSO Lieutenant Brandon Jones accepted a CPOF assistance check on behalf of MCSO Officer Irma Kane. At the time, Officer Kane was going through rigorous treatment for breast cancer and was not well enough to be present. With Lt. Jones is Arizona Representative Liz Shaffer-Smith.

In October of 2015 Captain Tarah Ausburn was diagnosed with Stage 3C invasive breast cancer. She had a mastectomy on February 24, 2016. Capt. Ausburn is undergoing aggressive treatments that cause



her to miss a great deal of work due to risk of infection, illness, etc. Liz Shaffer-Smith presented Capt. Ausburn with a CPOF check, as seen in this photo.

Right: CPOF assistance check presentation to D/O Virginia Rockford of



the MCSO "Inmate Medical" Division, with Liz Shaffer-Smith and Sergeant Jonathon Bromme. D/O Rockford was diagnosed with a MRSA infection in her knee. She underwent multiple needle aspirations and IV antibiotics, followed by physical therapy. D/O Rockford has been unable to work since February 2016, thereby compounding many out of pocket medical bills.

# Pennsylvania



Officer Heidi Warner, a Supporting Member at Butler County Prison, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check following the passing of her daughter, Cheyenne. Pictured above: Captain David Winters, Warden Joe Demore, Captain Quintin Grey, C/O Warner, Treatment Supervisor Justin Baptise and Deputy Warden Jennifer Passarelli.

**Dear Christina,**

On behalf of the entire Polisi family, thank you and the Foundation so much for the generous gift. My brother John "Jack" Polisi was proud to be a Corrections Officer and we were so proud of him and his commitment. We miss him so much.

Sincerely,

Donna Polisi Cleary

*C/O John Polisi was a Supporting Member at SCI Graterford. John passed away of cardiovascular disease on December 17, 2015. Mrs. Cleary, John's sister, was responsible for the funeral expenses.*

In the photo at right, Officer Gladfelter is presenting Officer Tyler Dell, both from SCI Smithfield, with an assistance check from the CPOF. Officer Dell was in a motorcycle accident in September 2015. His right leg suffered severe muscle and tissue damage in the accident. He also broke his ankle. Officer Dell had to have two surgeries, and was off work for a considerable time recovering.



The Philadelphia Prison System was a strong presence at **Project 2000 XXVII**. The System is also a very strong supporter of the CPO Foundation: The Philadelphia Prison System itself is a Lifetime Sponsor, and as of \$5,000 donations made at **Project 2000 XXVII**, the System's Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center and its Detention Center each also became Lifetime Sponsors! And, the Philadelphia Prison System made an additional donation of \$2,000 at **Project XXVII**. (See page 11.) We are so grateful for the PPS' generosity and commitment.



C/O David Morant, a Supporting Member at SCI Pittsburgh, was off work for a considerable time due to a torn rotator cuff. Pictured above: Superintendent Mark V. Capozza, Officer Morant, Officer Williamson, Deputy Zetwo and Deputy Cole.

# Nevada



**Kim,**

Here [left] is a photo of Correctional Officer Trainee Desiree Gray receiving her assistance package. On May 5, 2016 C/OT Gray's husband was at a park when he collapsed from a life-threatening condition. I am happy to say, on behalf of the Gray family that Mr. Gray is home and recovering well.

In the photo: Associate Warden Bruce Stroud, Correctional Officer Trainee Desiree Gray, and Lieutenant Keith McKeehan.

Thank you.

Lt. Keith McKeehan, MJM, CPM

Honor Guard Commander - South, High Desert State Prison, NV

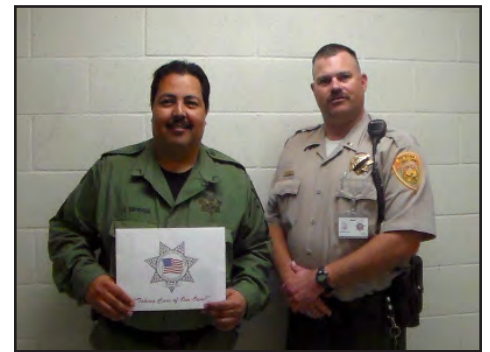
*Desiree's note:*

**To: Keith McKeehan and Kim Blakley**

My husband, Steven, and I would like to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support through everything. We are eternally grateful for the help. Thank you.

Respectfully,

C/OT Desiree Gray, High Desert State Prison, NV



Two other Staff at High Desert State Prison recently received CPOF assistance checks. At left is Officer Paul Araujo, pictured with Sergeant Jay Barth. Paul's newborn baby, two days old, passed away at home from SIDS.

Above right: C/O Enrique Estrada, a Supporting Member at HDSP, suffered a stroke on April 26, 2016, causing him to be on leave without pay for two months. He received his CPOF assistance check at the recommendation of Lieutenant Keith McKeehan.

Correctional Nurse Steve Ballantyne of Lovelock Correctional Center received an assistance check to help after his house suffered severe damages due to a fire in early May 2016. Steve's wife, Diane, is also a nurse at Lovelock CC. Steve is pictured at right with Director of Nursing Kathy Hegge, Correctional Nurse Diane Ballantyne and Associate Warden Tara Carpenter.



C/O William Kablitz, also of Lovelock CC, is pictured at left with Associate Warden William Sandie and Sergeant Aaron Harroun. William's wife, Leslie, was diagnosed with breast cancer. She had to undergo several procedures, and received treatments in Reno, 63 miles each way from the Kablitz home.



## Florida



Sergeant Lawrence Vereb Jr., a Supporting Member at Hernando Correctional Institution, had back surgery and was off work from March 5 to May 1, 2016. He fell into LWOP status, causing financial hardship. He is pictured here with Julie Beasley, who recommended Sergeant Vereb for an assistance check, and CPOF Florida Representative Gerard Van Der Ham.

### from Jim Freeman:

Correctional Peace Officers Foundation Florida Representative Jim Freeman presented a check to C/O Lieutenant Donnie Cole of Suwannee Correctional Institution. Donnie's daughter and future daughter-in-law lost their lives in a tragic motor vehicle accident. Pictured above right are: Major Tommy Boston, Jim Freeman, Lt. Donnie Cole, Warden Walker Clemmons, Colonel Ronnie Morgan and Major Jeffrey Brannen.

We will continue to keep Lt. Cole and his wife, Fran, in our thoughts and prayers.



### Dear CPOF, Inc.

As a result of a DOC vehicle accident, I received injuries and have been unable to move in position as a Records Analyst for the Florida DOC. But today Jim Freeman surprisingly gave me a check from your Foundation to assist with expenses. I am so thankful there are organizations that reach out to help those in need. I know I am recovering every day and there are others that are in far worse condition than I, but I am forever thankful for the gift. May God continue to bless your organization and its efforts.

Thank you,

Karen Moorhous

FDOC Records Analyst, Region II Office  
*Records Analyst Karen Moorhous and three other employees were traveling back to Karen's office after picking up personnel files from Central Office when their departmental van blew a tire and rolled several times. Karen sustained a severe laceration to her head and a fractured bone in her neck that required her to wear a neck brace. Jim Freeman is one of the CPO Foundation's Representatives in Florida.*

### To the CPOF,

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone for the generous donation. It will help relieve some of the financial burdens that my family will endure during this life saving treatment for my husband. I'm so grateful to be a part of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation Family.

Much love,

Officer Patricia Hicks, Ocala, FL

*C/O Patricia Hicks is a Supporting Member at Florida Womens Reception Center. Patricia's husband, Donald, suffers from secondary progressive multiple sclerosis. He had the opportunity to receive a stem cell transplant by a specialist in Chicago. While there they incurred many out of pocket expenses, and received a CPOF check to help with these.*

---

## Connecticut



C/O Gregory McCormack of Hartford Correctional Center was assaulted by an inmate on December 28, 2015. While Officer McCormack was conducting chow hall relief and directing the inmates back to their cells an inmate came up and started assaulting him, punching him in the face several times. Officer McCormack defended himself and struggled with the inmate, eventually gaining control of the inmate and taking him to the ground. In the process of taking the inmate to the ground Officer McCormack suffered a severe left leg break that required surgery. As of the end of June 2016 Officer McCormack still had not been able to return to work.



C/O William Boupvahan of Garner Correctional Institution was assaulted by an inmate on July 14, 2016. He sustained injuries to his left eye and head after an inmate became combative and started punching Officer Boupvahan repeatedly in the face, eye and head. Officer Boupvahan was unable to return to work for several weeks due to the severity of his injuries. Pictured above: Counselor Supervisor Sandra Wynkoop, C/O Boupvahan and Warden Henry Falcone.

---

## Nebraska



Corporal Brandon Petet, a Supporting Member at Tecumseh State Correctional Institution, received a CPOF assistance check after he was assaulted by an inmate and sustained a concussion and severe bruising on his face. He had to have 14 stitches in his mouth. Corporal Petet is pictured above with TSCI Acting Associate Warden April Bulling-June (far right) and Pearle, Corporal Petet's wife.



Supply Worker Nancy Niebrugge of Tecumseh State CI was injured at work. She tripped on a pallet and fell directly on her knees. Her face was also hit, and her two front teeth were cracked. TSCI AAW April Bulling-June recommended assistance for SW Niebrugge, who is pictured above (center) with AAW Bulling-June; her husband, Kent; and their daughter, Maggie.

# Letters and Photos from States "All Over"

## Idaho

Dear Codi,

Thank you for everything the CPO Foundation has done for Amo and me. If he were still here he would be telling everyone how awesome you guys are.

I can't tell you all how much your donations have helped. The last check you sent was a Godsend; it really was and is helping so much.

With many thanks,

April Angeletti, Caldwell, ID

*Lt. Amo Angeletti was a Supporting Member at ISCC. In April of 2015 a 3x4 cm mass was discovered on his brain. Amo underwent chemotherapy for a year before passing away on April 28, 2016.*

flood damage to their homes in April 2016. SCY Director Richard I. Robinson, M.Ed. is at left in each photo; JJS-3 Franklin is at right.



Bottom of left column: JJS Victor Gardner. Above center: JJS Krista Wade. Above right: JJS Shonta Mock.

## Illinois

Dear Alyssa,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the CPO Foundation for sending Frank and me the check. We cannot express how grateful we are.

God bless you and the CPO Foundation.

Penny Poole, Tunnel Hill, IL Supply Supervisor Penny Poole works at the Dixon Springs Impact Incarceration Program. Her husband, Frank, was diagnosed with Inclusion

*Body Myopathy. He has had four surgeries and is unable to work. Penny has been taking time off work to care for him and take him to doctor's appointments.*

C/O Joshua Grunder of East Moline Correctional Center died on May 15, 2016 in a drowning accident. His widow, Jill, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check.

## Louisiana

Juvenile Justice Specialist-3 Otisstein Franklin, CPOF Volunteer in Louisiana, sent us these pictures of three Supporting Members at Swanson Center for Youth in Monroe, LA. Each received an assistance check after suffering



## Mississippi

C/O Oscar Lewis is a Supporting Member at Southern

Mississippi CI. Oscar and family were affected by the flooding in March 2016.



C/O I Markita Ross, a Supporting Member at Central Mississippi CF, lost her home and all belongings in a March 7, 2016 fire.

## Montana

C/O Jody Williams is a Supporting Member at Montana State Prison. Jody's husband, Bryan, passed away due to liver failure.



## Wyoming

Hi Codi,

Thank you so much for the help. I will continue to support the Foundation after I retire; I encourage all new Officers to support this organization.

The help I received when my oldest daughter passed away was so heartfelt. It will be eight years on August 5 since she passed. It did mean so much to me. God bless you all, keep up all you do! It is appreciated.

N. Darline Combs, Rawlins, WY

*C/O Darline Combs, is a Supporting Member at WSP. Darline was helping a nurse with an inmate that was having a seizure when she hurt her shoulder. She had surgery and was off work without pay for several weeks.*

## **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
  - CenturyLink
  - Dome Building, Regional Office, Oregon Department of Corrections, OR
- Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency
  - FDGlobal
- Fraternal Order of Police Labor Committee, Department of Correction, Washington, D.C.
  - Global Tel\*Link
  - HKS, Inc.
- Johnson Controls
- The Nakamoto Group, Inc.
- National Major Gang Task Force
- Nevada Corrections Association
- New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association (NYSCOPBA)
  - Norix Group, Inc.
  - Norment Security Group
  - PBA Local 105, Trenton, NJ
  - Retired Chapter of CCPOA
  - Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officers
  - Sierra Steel Company
- Southern Folger Detention Equipment Company
- State of Connecticut Department of Correction North District Office
- Suffolk County Correction Officers Association, NY
  - Trussbilt, Inc.
- Union Supply Company & Food Express USA
  - U.S. Deputy Wardens Association
  - Zoom-A-Lube of Chester, VA

### *Lifetime Sponsors from 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
- 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
  - Mississippi State Penitentiary, MS
  - Attica Correctional Facility, NY
  - Livingston Correctional Facility, NY
- Wyoming Correctional Facility Honor Guard, NY
  - Gowanda Correctional Facility, NY
  - Chillicothe Correctional Institution, OH

# **LIFETIME SPONSORS of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation**

## *Lifetime Sponsors from Correctional Facilities (cont.)*

- Snake River Correctional Institution, Ontario, OR
  - Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, OR
  - Oregon State Penitentiary, OR
  - Two Rivers Correctional Institution, OR
- Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution, OR
  - Powder River Correctional Institution, OR
  - Oregon State Correctional Institution, OR
- Warner Creek Correctional Facility, OR
  - Philadelphia Prison System, PA
  - Curran Fromhold Correctional Facility, PA
- House of Correction, Philadelphia Prison System, PA
  - Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center, Philadelphia Prison System, PA
  - Detention Center, Philadelphia Prison System, PA

## *Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Lifetime Sponsors*

- Allred Unit
- Beta I Unit
- Boyd Unit
- Briscoe 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
  - 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
  - Terrell Unit
  - Torres Unit
- Travis County State Jail
  - Vance Unit

- Wallace Unit
- Ware Unit
- Wheeler SAFPF
- Woodman State Jail
  - Wynne Unit

## *Lifetime Individual Sponsors*

- Mrs. Lucile G. Plane
- The Eric Autobee Family and Ms. Yolanda Floyd
  - David & Ruthie Reeves in Honor of SSG Jason A. Reeves
    - Mr. Eric Spierer
- Mr. Dan M. Reynolds and Family
  - John and Carey Mendiboure
    - Ms. Pamela Omelson
  - The Eligio Garcia, Jr. Family
- Donna Davis in Loving Memory of Christopher Davis

### *Important Information regarding Lifetime Facility Sponsors:*

• A Correctional Facility desiring to be a Lifetime Sponsor of the CPO Foundation is to raise the \$5000 required by holding fundraising events on its own, i.e., events are to be organized and conducted by Staff of the Facility itself and not by outside entities that are not affiliated with the Facility.

• 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.

# West Virginia

## *Flood Assistance to West Virginia Correctional Families*

Thursday, June 23, 2016, 10 inches of rain fell in six to eight hours in parts of West Virginia causing a devastating flood. This flood damaged 30 schools, hundreds of homes, and took the lives of 24 people.



supplies for the flood victims. I spent the next two days visiting local retail stores and businesses including JB Lube, Lowes, Home Depot and Dollar General Store,

purchasing supplies and receiving donations.

To begin my effort to provide assistance to those folks impacted by the flood, I contacted the Division of Corrections, the Regional Jail Authority and the Division of Juvenile Services to determine how many Correctional Staff members had been affected by the flood. There were a total of 30 staff members at Anthony Correctional Center, five at Mt. Olive Correctional Center (photo above), five at Central Regional Jail and one at Juvenile Services.

JB Lube donated the use of a Budget truck, and on Tuesday, July 5, Bill Davidson (my brother-in-law) and I began our trip delivering approximately \$3,500 worth of supplies. We extend a special “thank you” to JB Lube, Lowes, Home Depot, Dollar General Store and everyone that donated to the flood victims.

Char Corby contacted me and let me know that the CPO Foundation would provide approximately \$2,000 to buy much-needed

Bill and I took to the road again on Monday, July 11, with 20 checks providing monetary assistance for Correctional Staff. Nine hundred twenty-two miles later we had delivered all the checks and supplies that we hope helped the victims because that is what we do:

***Take Care of Our Own.***

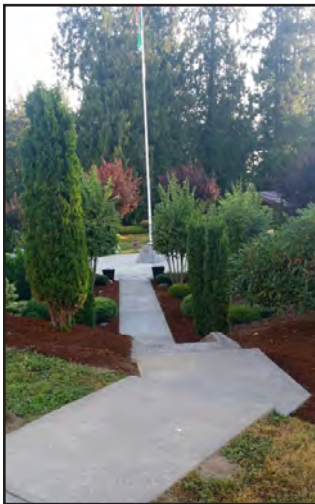
-- Ray Wagoner, CPOF Representative, West Virginia



# Washington: 2016 Walk of Remembrance Ceremony



The Walk of Remembrance (WOR) held its 3rd Remembrance Ceremony on Friday, August 19, 2016 at the Washington State Reformatory memorial grounds. This year we memorialized nine staff that passed away in the last two years. Their names and memories held in our trust: Mary Davis, David Wilcox,



Andrea Scott, Fred Stobb, Craig Robinett, Charles Fuentes, Galen Richardson, Donald Adkins and Howard Durant. Their sacrifices and selfless work will not be forgotten. They served in the cell houses, kitchens and hospital, supporting other staff for many years. We, at the Walk of Remembrance memorial, will make sure that these nine and the others that went before them will always be remembered. We will not fall into the proverbial "out of sight, out of mind" condition for these men and women who performed difficult work, sometimes under extreme conditions in hostile environments, yet always kept their chins up and rendered their services without regard to themselves. Shoulder to shoulder, those of us left behind will continue in their footsteps and make sure that our communities and fellow staff are kept safe, for the task is always present and there is no rest for the weary. The WOR motto is simple:



**"LEST WE FORGET"**

-- Officer Edwin Gonzalez-Lebron  
HONOR GUARD ATL, WOR CEREMONIAL  
COMMANDER, WSRU Watch II



Members of the CPOF National Honor Guard (yellow gloves), along with CPOF CEO Charleene Corby, were proud to attend and participate in the Walk of Remembrance 3rd Remembrance Ceremony.



## CPO Foundation

P. O. Box 348390, Sacramento, CA 95834-8390

### CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

---

#### Continued from front cover

##### **Correctional Officer Robert Apodaca:**

... Trinidad Police Officers arrived and detained the suspect.

Officer Apodaca had previously called 911 to report the altercation, as the Police Officer's radio battery had become dislodged while he was jumping fences in pursuit of the individual and therefore failed to relay the Police Officer's call for assistance.

Officer Apodaca acted bravely and without hesitation to assist a fellow law enforcement professional that day.

##### **Sergeant Benny Diaz:**

... that crashed a short time later. The gunman later died of his wounds. Sergeant Diaz credits his actions to his training during his 16 years with CDCR and four years as a U.S. Marine. Sergeant Diaz displayed great courage and risked his life to protect the civilians under attack and around him on the street.

##### **Captain Rob Gamberg, Correctional Officer David Church and Supervising Registered Nurse Craig Phillips:**

... Church had pulled both victims from their vehicles and moved them to the side of the highway where he was

rendering assistance. While Officer Church worked on one victim, Captain Gamberg began to calm the other. At this time another High Desert employee, Supervising Registered Nurse Craig Phillips, arrived on the scene and began to provide medical treatment to both victims. Officer Church and Captain Gamberg directed traffic around the disabled cars that were blocking traffic until CHP arrived.

*Note: Captain Gamberg is not in the photo on the front cover because he was not able to attend **Project 2000 XXVII**.*

##### **Corrections Officer Jeff Keafer State Correctional Institution Somerset - Pennsylvania:**

... the driver of what turned out to be a stolen vehicle. The Somerset Borough Police Chief stated, "We are very grateful. We have to hand it to Officer Keafer. He witnessed a violent struggle between an Officer and a subject, and he put aside concerns for his own safety to render aid." SCI Somercet Superintendent Trevor Wingard was quoted saying, "It was a selfless act; he put himself in danger. We have a lot of great employees here, but Keafer goes above and beyond in his work here and in the community."