

# CPO FAMILY

SPRING-SUMMER 2021

A Publication of The CPO Foundation

Vol . 31 No. 1

## FIFTY YEARS AGO

This year will mark the 50th anniversary of two deadly prison riots, one on the West Coast and the other on the East. At San Quentin State Prison in California, a violent uprising took place on August 21, 1971. Less than a month later, on September 9, 1971, a bloody inmate rebellion began at Attica Correctional Facility, New York. The Attica incident lasted four days. Following are the stories of these events by two stalwart survivors who can describe what happened as few others can. Thank you, Dick Nelson and Donny Almeter!



### Bastille by The Bay

by Patti Sewall\*

When I was told that former Correctional Lt. Dick Nelson had passed away in January, 2021, I immediately felt sadness, of course, but also disappointment. I was disappointed that my friend, and the author of the 2019 book *Into Harm's Way*, wouldn't be able to join his colleagues in commemorating the 50th anniversary of the deadly August 1971 riot at San Quentin.

It's an extraordinarily significant date in our state's history – not only for the Department and its officers but for everyone who values public safety. I know Dick was looking forward to finally getting back to life “post-Covid,” as we all are, and to promoting his book about his storied career at San Quentin and his role in stopping the riot that killed three officers and severely

\*Patti Sewall collaborated with Dick Nelson on writing *Into Harm's Way*.

*BASTILLE continued on page 4*

### ATTICA ...

by Donny Almeter

A small town in western New York about 40 miles from Buffalo and 40 from Rochester.

In 1971, about 1500 people. Everyone knew everyone and the kids all grew up together.

Most of the businesses in town were family owned. The only factory was Westinghouse, a foundry making molds. It closed in the early 80s.

Attica Correctional Facility was the major employer. It housed 2500 inmates. It was built in 1931.

I grew up eight miles from the prison. I went to Attica High School, graduating in June 1965.

By January 1966 I was in the Marine Corps at Paris Island (“hoo-rah”). After a year in the States I was given orders for Viet Nam. In December 1967 I



*ATTICA continued on page 6*



***Salvador Manuel Osuna Jr.***  
***November 18, 1945 – October 30, 2020***

Mr. Salvador Osuna passed away at his California residence at the age of 74 years.

Mr. Osuna, a founding Director of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, began his Correctional career in 1972 with the California Department of Corrections as a Correctional Officer at Folsom State Prison, Represa, California. Over the years, Mr. Osuna was responsible for supervising various fund-raisers such as circuses, variety shows and NASCAR races,\* raising thousands of dollars for the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. Sal was also a longtime member of CCPOA and assisted with the union’s annual conventions. He retired in

2001 with more than 30 years of State service.

*\*(Sal was, in fact, an avid enthusiast of auto racing of all kinds.)*

During his retirement years Sal was a frequent visitor to the CPO Foundation’s headquarters in Sacramento, California. Sal was a very kind and thoughtful man, and the office staff was always happy to see him. *(A bonus: From time to time Sal brought with him a pan of homemade lasagna!)*

Sal was born and raised in Sacramento, California to parents Salvador Sr. and Agnes. He was brother to Dennis, Roberta, Jerry and Eva.

Sal married Anita Oreb with whom he shared 38 years. Sal and Anita were devoted parents of Maria and Salvador III, and later grandparents of Anthony, Dominic, Gabriel and Sarah.

Sal was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Anita; and sister, Roberta. He is survived by his two children, as well as grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

He is much missed.



***Sal with Folsom State Prison’s famous East Gate in the background. Sal spent his entire Correctional career at Folsom.***



***Sal and Anita on a trip to Hawaii***

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Above left: A closer look at the Attica Memorial engraved with the names of the Officers who lost their lives during the September 1971 riot. Below left: A ceremony held at San Quentin to honor California Correctional Officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

## 50th Anniversary of San Quentin and Attica Prison Riots

### *BASTILLE BY THE BAY continued*



**Officer Frank DeLeon**



**Officer Paul Krasenes**



**Sergeant Jere Graham**

wounded three others. Late last year, we had talked about scheduling a special book signing at San Quentin for the 50th anniversary, and we discussed ordering plenty of books, special bookmarks and other mementos for the event.

But more than that, I know Dick was eager to reconnect with fellow officers – young and old – who share a fondness for the profession and the prison.

To know San Quentin, truly know “The Q,” one must do a little historical research. Believe me, it will be time well spent. Dick loved history of all kinds, and he was especially drawn to the chronicles of one of California’s most iconic Correctional institutions.

Dubbed the Bastille by the Bay, San Quentin is known for many things, thanks in part to Hollywood. Like many other prominent prisons across the country – Folsom, Attica, Joliet, Huntsville – San Quentin is a place most people have only learned about through Hollywood’s dramatic, though not always authentic, portrayals of Correctional facilities and the folk who live and work there.

As we talked for hours in our many meetings while writing the book, I could tell by the look on Dick’s face and the energy in his voice that he could talk about San Quentin ‘til the cows came home. It was like a college history course for me every time we met. He shared funny tales of thick-headed convicts who had no chance for redemption, along with inspiring stories of officers and administrators he admired through the years. Here is an excerpt from the book about one such leader:

“San Quentin Warden Louis ‘Red’ Nelson (no relation to Dick) was a former

Marine, Alcatraz correctional officer, and a straight shooter who always cut to the chase. I remember one day he asked me and a captain to meet him by his vehicle at 1 p.m. to travel into the city for an appointment. I arrived at 12:55 p.m., and at 1 p.m. the Warden came outside to meet us. But he and I waited another ten or fifteen minutes before the captain finally showed up, awkwardly offering a lame excuse for his tardiness.

“Warden Nelson walked over to him and sized him up and down as if he were his tailor. ‘Captain,’ he stated, ‘when you work in my prison, you’ll either be an on-time captain or a late lieutenant. Your choice.’”

But perhaps the most notable chapter in the history of San Quentin is the event that changed the entire profession for good. Like a sinister oncoming storm sends out a warning in the form of dark menacing cloud formations, incidents involving the max-security inmates in the Lockup started appearing like blazing red flags.

Finally, on the afternoon of August 21, 1971, Adjustment Center inmate George Jackson pulled a gun out from under a wig he wore on his return from the Visitor Center, and quickly took control of the unit housing the most violent inmates in the state. He ordered an officer to open all the cells, setting off a frantic, bloody siege that left three officers dead (see their photos at left), three seriously wounded, and woke the sleeping giant of indifference in Corrections in

## 50th Anniversary of San Quentin and Attica Prison Riots

California.

Dick was fiercely proud of his law enforcement career and achievements, but never considered himself a hero for his actions that fateful day. It was simply what he was trained to do. Standing on his front lawn on prison grounds, Dick heard gunshots coming from inside the prison, and immediately sprang into action. He knew order had to be restored quickly, and he knew just how to do it, as this excerpt from the book explains:

“Sprinting toward the armory to get a weapon, I had only one thought: do whatever it takes to stop Jackson. If he had one weapon, he surely could have more than that – and ample ammunition. I ran faster down the hill about a block and a half and burst into the armory. The

information I didn’t have weighed heavier on my mind than the few facts I did know. Was Jackson acting alone? How did he get out of the Lockup? How many weapons did he have? How much ammunition? Though I still didn’t know what we were up against, I knew I could be successful with the firepower of a machine gun.”

Thankfully, he was right. Because of his courage that day, working in a prison in California is safer. Because Dick Nelson and other line staff had the sense of duty to run into the thick of it that August afternoon Corrections and government officials ordered many long overdue security and policy improvements statewide.

**I’d say it’s a sure bet that when Dick Nelson arrived at the**

**Pearly Gates earlier this year, he received a hero’s welcome from San Quentin Officers Frank DeLeon and Paul Krasenes, and Sgt. Jere Graham, for putting the safety of his fellow officers above his own 50 years ago.**



*Young Dick Nelson. About this picture, he wrote, “My first official uniform photo for the Department. Here we go!”*

**Later in his career, Dick Nelson promoted to Associate Warden. He also became the Curator of the San Quentin Prison Museum.**

**Read on:**

*Dick Nelson, San Quentin Museum Curator:*

*In the summer of 1992 the San Quentin Prison Museum opened. It was the “brainchild” of Associate Warden Dick Nelson and several others. As Dick explained to reporters at the time, “The museum’s main purpose is education, but we also hope it has a role in crime prevention. Kids do come in here and find it pretty distasteful.” Exhibits depict some of SQ’s most famous inmates and escape attempts, sample cell blocks, everyday life at the prison through the years, and (perhaps the most “distasteful”) a death penalty wing. One exhibit is a tribute to the Correctional Officers who fought the prisoners in 1971 during the uprising begun by George Jackson’s escape attempt including the semiautomatic carbine that Dick Nelson himself used to retake the cell block.*

*-- Condensed from November 1992 NY Times story*

## 50th Anniversary of San Quentin and Attica Prison Riots

### *ATTICA continued*

was discharged and went back home. Went to work in the family business (auto repair shop, towing, wrecking yard, etc.) Married in 1968 and first son was born.

After working in the family business for two years, two guys that were guards at the prison and hung out at our shop said they had put my name on the list for a test being given for prison guards.

Took the test, passed it, and was offered a job. Letter came in the mail saying I could start and where would I like to do so. After being in Viet Nam for a year I wanted to be close to home. Was told the only place would be Greenhaven Prison in Dutchess County near NYC.

I took the job, for benefits and a possible retirement. Never would have guessed that 30 years later and surviving one of the worst prison riots in history at Attica CF, both of those came true.



**Herbert Jones**

Got back to Attica in the summer of 1970. Worked all shifts and jobs and got to know the rest of the prison guards.

The years 1970 and 1971 were the worst up to that point for prisons nationwide.

Auburn 1970: Guards taken hostage and gasoline poured on them. State police went in and secured the prison. San Quentin 1971: George Jackson smuggled a gun during a lawyer visit and took it to special housing. Killing officers and then running out onto the rec yard. He was shot and killed by a tower officer.



**John Monteleone**

September 9, 1971: Inmates gained control of half of Attica CF. Pushing on gates at the central control room, aka "Times Square," returning from morning chow. Gates broke, and Officer Quinn at work in Times Square was

overtaken and beaten so badly that he died that Friday night (Sept. 10).

The inmates had managed to get keys to most of the housing blocks.

Commissioner Russell G. Oswald had been given the written demands of the inmates in August and had agreed to come to Attica and meet with them. He didn't. He sent a taped message to be played over the inmate radio system. That really pissed the cons off!



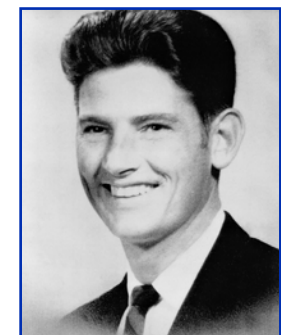
**John D'Arcangelo**



**Richard Lewis**

After September 9 and the cons being in control of half of the prison, Oswald was notified and did come to Attica, agreeing to meet the leaders. Several of us guards had been taken hostage and stripped of our uniforms; non-uniformed staff were stripped of their clothing. We were tied up and blindfolded. But now with the news that Oswald was coming

in, the cons gave us inmate clothing. After some negotiations and in view of the death of Officer Quinn, Oswald ordered the release of hostages. The convicts refused and on Monday, September 13, all hostages were assigned an executioner. Then – heard helicopter, smelled gas, and then the shooting started. The first guy "on" me was shot and a second guy grabbed me. He also was shot. When all was done, we were taken out of the hostage circle and escorted out of the yard to a waiting ambulance. Taken to hospital, released and went home.



**Ronald Werner**

After going to 11 funerals,

## 50th Anniversary of San Quentin and Attica Prison Riots



**William Quinn**

then the Grand Jury and further court hearings, I took some time off from work.

Second son born December 1971. Went back to work in January 1972.

1974: Two inmates were convicted for the death of Officer Quinn. Sentenced!

1975: Word came about prosecuting guards and troopers for the death of inmates during

the assault. The unions that represented the guards and troopers fought the indictments. Then Governor Carey stated that no charges would be brought against any guards or troopers. *Also: no charges against any convicts involved, and the two sentences for Quinn's death would be commuted.* Of course, so that you know, the reason for these decisions was that (former) NY State Governor was by then the Vice President of the United States.

1983: A medium-security prison was built right behind Attica CF. Houses about 2000 inmates.

In the year 2000, inmates won a \$12 million "award" for abuses and brutality after Attica was retaken on September 13, 1971. For Widows and survivors: **\$0.**

Widows were forced to sign to get their husbands' September checks, thereby exhausting any

other means to get compensation for their husbands' deaths.

Widows and survivors formed the "Forgotten Victims of Attica." On board were Gary Horton, Public Defender from the next county over from Attica (doing this *pro bono*); the Guards (now Corrections Officers) Union; and Don Novey, one of the five original founders of the CPOF.

2001: New York Governor George Pataki agreed to come to Attica on September 13, 2001. Then "911" happened. But true to his word, Governor Pataki held

hearings in Rochester (not far from Attica, as noted above) and awarded \$12 million to the Attica riot widows and survivors. Only wish that the CPOF Foundation had been around in 1971. The CPOF didn't form until 1984.

Met CPOF in 2000. Larry Corby, another of the CPOF's original founders, asked me to come and work with the Foundation. Said, "Hell, no! Did 30 years – no more!" Larry said, "You survived the assault, so you could tell the story." I said, "Okay, I'll give it a shot."

I've been a Volunteer for the CPOF for 10 years now. Their motto -- "Taking Care of Our Own" – how true it is! An organization of people who care about the job done by corrections staff.

In closing, during those five days at Attica in 1971 I remember thinking, "If this riot doesn't end well and an attack is planned for saving the hostages, will we all make it out alive? Or will some of us not be so fortunate? After doing a year in Viet Nam and coming safely home from that, I might die now, just eight miles from where I was raised."

**But I was one of the lucky ones.**



**Carl Valone**



**Elmer Hardie**



**Donny Almeter (left) with John Stockholm, also a survivor of the Attica uprising. As you know from reading this article it took place 50 years ago. The two gentlemen are still good friends.**

## Five this Year have Fallen

by Kim Blakley

2020 was a rough year for so many, and unfortunately 2021 has started off also very roughly and sadly for many. This is especially true for the families of Fallen Lieutenant Eugene Lasco, Correctional Officer Robert McFarland, Correctional Nurse Lorena Schulte, Corporal Kyle Davis and Deputy Sheriff Christopher Knight.



**Lt. Eugene Lasco**

On Sunday, February 28, 2021 eight members of the CPOF National Honor Guard Team made their way to Michigan City, Indiana to help honor Lieutenant Eugene Lasco of Indiana State Prison, Indiana Department of Correction, who just a few days earlier on February 21 had been killed in the line of duty. That day, Sergeant Padrick Schmitt was being attacked and stabbed by an inmate when Lt. Lasco saw this happening and ran toward the danger to assist, as so many in Corrections do almost every day. Heartbreakingly, Lt. Lasco was stabbed multiple times during his attempt to assist and died from his injuries. Lt. Lasco had served the Department for 11-½ years and is survived by his wife, five adult children and nine grandchildren. Sergeant Padrick Schmitt is still recovering from his injuries.

On Tuesday, March 23 Corrections tragically lost two more: Correctional Officer Robert McFarland and Correctional Nurse Lorena Schulte from the Anamosa State Penitentiary in Iowa.

Two inmates in the infirmary tried to escape, having gained access to the infirmary by claiming they were part of the prison repair program. Once inside, they attacked both Officer McFarland and Nurse Schulte with hammers, inflicting fatal skull fractures to both.

Correctional Officer Robert McFarland had served the Iowa Department of Corrections for 13 years and is survived by his wife and three children. Correctional Nurse Lorena Schulte had served the department for 14 years and is survived by her parents and three siblings. *(Please see related article from CPOF Honor Guard Sergeant Robert Dunn on next page.)*

Two days later tragedy struck again, this time at the Washington County Sheriff's Office in Oklahoma. On Thursday, March 25, as Corporal Kyle Davis was booking in prisoners who had been arrested as part of a large multiagency narcotics investigation, one of the inmates began to struggle and fight with other Officers. When Corporal



**Corporal Kyle Davis**

Davis came to the aid of these Officers the inmate struck Corporal Davis in the chest with such force that it caused a ruptured aorta. Corporal Davis was transported to the hospital where he died a short time later. Corporal Kyle Davis had served the Washington County Sheriff's Office for 13 years and is survived by his wife and two children. The CPOF was honored to be able to send a few of our CPOF National Honor Guard Team members to the memorial service for Corporal Davis.

Twelve days later at the Bibb County Sheriff's Office in Georgia, on Tuesday April 6, Deputy Sheriff Christopher Knight would go to work that morning but heartbreakingly not return home. That fateful day, as Deputy Christopher Knight and another Deputy were moving an inmate for suicide watch, that inmate attacked and stabbed both Deputies multiple times. The wounds inflicted on Deputy

Knight were fatal. As 150 people gathered to mourn his loss, including his mother and two-year-old daughter, our CPOF Honor Guard was there to show support and respect, and to lend a helping hand wherever needed. Deputy Sheriff Christopher Knight had served the Bibb County Sheriff's Office for three years.



**Officer Robert McFarland**



**Nurse Lorena Schulte**



**Deputy Sheriff Christopher Knight**



On a sunny Sunday morning I found myself and eight other CPOF Honor Guard Members from across the country on an early morning flight to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to honor two Anamosa State Penitentiary staff members who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the State of Iowa. Robert McFarland was a 46-year-old Correction Officer and Lorena Schulte was a 50-year-old Registered Nurse. They were killed at the hands of two convicted felons during a failed escape attempt.

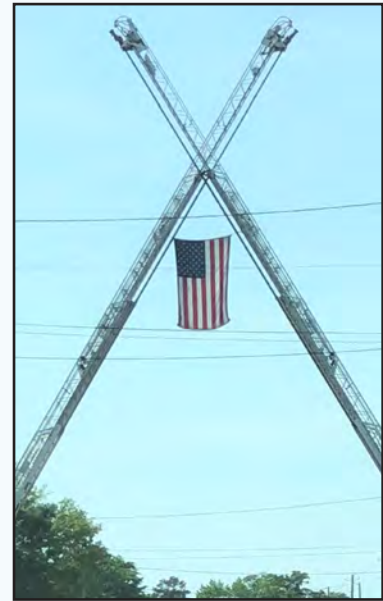
As I sat on the plane, I found myself reflecting on my 25-year career as a Correction Officer, and all the encounters that had put me and my fellow Officers' safety in jeopardy. Then my thoughts turned to Robert and Lorena and their stories behind the headlines. On a Tuesday morning they both left their homes intending to return once their shifts were completed. But on that day two convicted felons changed everything. Little did Robert and Lorena know that they would never see their loved ones again.

Robert McFarland was a 46-year-old husband to Sarah. They had three children, one of their own, Casen; and two stepchildren, Colton and Zach, who Robert raised and loved as his own. Family time was very important to him. He always loved having his family around him. Robert was also a Third Lieutenant for the Ely Fire Department.

Robert called the firehouse his second home.

Lorena Schulte was a 50-year-old Registered Nurse. She was born in Salvador, El Salvador. She was adopted by Stephanie and George Schulte in 1982 and brought to the United States. She had a degree in criminal justice and earned her RN from Kirkwood College. Lorena was a lifelong learner, enjoyed cooking and had a green thumb.

Both will be truly missed by family, friends, Anamosa staff, Ely Fire Department personnel and Correction Officers nationwide. Everyone's life changed forever on that day.



As our CPOF Team departed, and I on my flight home to Massachusetts, I had some time to reflect on the past two days. I had seen tears, smiles, compassion, praise, love and honor. There were family, friends, government dignitaries, prison officials, fellow staff members from Anamosa State Penitentiary, local police, state police, sheriff departments, the fire department and Honor Guard members from around the nation, all paying respect for their brother and sister Correctional professionals. They shall never be forgotten, as CPOF continues "Taking Care of Our Own."

Robert Dunn  
Sergeant, CPOF Honor Guard



# California



C/O Luis Ibietatorremendia works at CMF. His wife, Molly, passed away in August of 2020 after a long battle with cancer. At left: Luis with children Max, Alex (holding a photo of Molly) and Cameryn.



C/O Nick Pike of CSP Solano and his family lost their home in the LNU Complex Fire in August of 2020. They left literally with only the clothes on their backs.

**Photos:** (1) Above right, the Pike's former house, burned to the ground. (2) Right: the Pike Family: Nick; wife, Shannon; and children, Cameron, Alyssa, Natalie and Nicolas.



C/O Peter Paluck, a Supporting Member at CTF, passed away while on a hike with his wife, Suzanne. (Possibly heart attack or aneurysm, pending autopsy.) Suzanne received a bereavement assistance check. At left: The Paluck family at the beach: Suzanne, Peter, and their two children, Shayne (13) and Evret (8).

# California

**Thank you so much to CPOF,**

My wife, Clara, and I both came down with COVID 19. We are still fighting the good fight. My wife was medically retired back in 2014 at which time we both worked at Ironwood State Prison. I since transferred to CRC/Patton State Hospital. Thank you for all the calls and messages. Our nine-year-old daughter, Emily, stepped up and took care of both of us. She says she wants to be in law enforcement like mommy and daddy.

Again, thank you for your help, CPOF. You did as you say: you took care of your own.

Gary Gomez and Family

C/O Gary Gomez is a Supporting Member. We wish both Gary and Clara full recoveries. At right: Emily and Gary.



C/O Renato Benitez of CIM passed away on January 17, 2021 due to complications from COVID-19. He is pictured (left) at Christmastime with his wife, Norma, and their sons, Christopher (11) and Andy (15). Norma received a CPOF bereavement assistance check.



C/O Yolanda Gonzalez is a Supporting Member at CRC. Her son, Marcelino (above), passed away on December 29, 2020 of kidney failure. He and his children lived with Yolanda, and she cared for Marcelino while he was ill. Yolanda is now keeping custody of the children. She received a CPOF bereavement check to help with the burial expenses.



*Dear Char,*

*I am deeply grateful to you for your part in our honoring my husband with a beautiful memorial. Our grief found an immediate outlet in focusing our energy on honoring the person Steve Brodeur always will be to us.*

*Sincerely,*

*Virginia Brodeur and daughters Serena, Sarah and Stephanie*

Steve Brodeur served as a Correctional Officer from 1989 until his medical retirement from CCI in 2006. Steve passed away on February 3, 2021. Virginia is his widow.

# NEW YORK



C/O Richard Gonyea, a Retired Supporting Member formerly employed at Adirondack CF, had a 12-hour surgery in September of 2020 to treat serious problems with abdominal organs. The procedure included the placement of a stent that was to be removed at a later date. CPOF New York Representative Jay West recommended C/O Gonyea for a CPOF assistance check to help cover extra expenses. At left: Retired C/O Gonyea with his check and his wife, Joy.



At right: C/O Nick Laino, CPOF contact for Downstate CF, presented a CPOF check to Supporting Member Sgt. Elvis Salazar who had three surgeries during the summer of 2020. One of these was to remove an abdominal abscess. It is a pleasure to report that Sgt. Salazar recovered and was able to return to duty.



C/O Rob Benware, a Supporting Member at Clinton CF, is pictured at left with the CPOF check he received after he sustained serious injuries in an off-duty accident. He went on to donate half of the check amount to a local Food Bank and the other half to "Toys for Tots."



C/O Brandon Stutts, a Supporting Member at Hudson CF, was in a motorcycle accident in June of 2020. He suffered multiple injuries and had to have a below-the-knee amputation. In mid-January of 2021, Jay West provided this update on Brandon: "He has been fitted for a prosthetic and is receiving physical therapy. His positive attitude will go far

in his complete recovery." Above: C/O Stutts with his CPOF check to help with his many medically-related extra expenses.



C/O David Ruzycki is a Supporting Member at Gowanda CF. He had an accident that caused a hand laceration, resulting in surgery to repair

damaged nerves and tendons. He was off work for several months in recovery. Above: C/O Sherri Malek, CPOF contact at Gowanda CF, and Officer Ruzycki.

# NEW YORK

C/O Erik Lawton, CPOF contact for Green Haven CF, presented a check to C/O Albert Alvarez who on April 19, 2021 lost all possessions in a house fire. Thankfully, there were no injuries. Jay says: "Much luck to Al with the rebuilding process."



C/O Gregory Ott was a Supporting Member at Groveland CF. Greg passed away from liver cancer on August 21, 2020. His widow, Jennifer, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check. Greg and Jennifer are pictured at left with their daughter, Cameron, and family dog, Otter.



C/O Cliff Berg of Clinton CF had surgery to remove his possibly cancerous thyroid gland. At left: C/O Berg with the CPOF check he received to help with the extra expenses incurred following his surgery; and his wife, Missy; daughter, Eden; and son, Grayson.

C/O David Johnson, a Supporting Member at Watertown CF, received a CPOF check to help with out-of-pocket expenses when his wife, Debra, was undergoing radiation treatments for breast cancer. Above: Daughter, Cassie; C/O Johnson; and Debra.

C/O Nathan Locke is a Supporting Member at Upstate CF. While his wife, Jessica, was pregnant last August, she had to see a specialist in Vermont to monitor a mass detected in the baby's abdomen. Happily, all eventually went well, as can be seen in this photo of Jessica holding the newborn, Alexis, with Nathan and their oldest daughter, three-year-old Bailey.



*NEW YORK continued next page*

# NEW YORK



C/O Betty Stover of Wende CF passed away on September 27, 2020. Her mother, Tiffany, received a CPOF bereavement check to help with funeral expenses. At left: Betty and Tiffany.



Teacher Barbara Fiore of Greene CF passed away from complications with cancer on October 17, 2020. Her husband, Frank, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check.



C/O David Kelly, a Supporting Member at Marcy CF, suffered from several deteriorating and herniated disks in his back. This caused numbness in his right leg and inability to flex his calf so that he was unable to stand up. C/O Kelly had microdiscectomy surgery in early October of 2020. Although there was still numbness in his right leg he was able to return to work on light duty. At left: C/O Kelly receiving an assistance check from Joe Spina,, CPOF contact at Marcy CF.

CPOF contact for Upstate CF C/O Brandy Smith presented a check to C/O Andrew McCarthy whose son, Callaghan (3 months), was born with serious breathing problems and was being seen by several specialists. The family had been traveling to Vermont seeking treatment and possible surgery options.



To date, the CPO Foundation has assisted over 43,000 Corrections Professionals nationwide. Of those, assistance has been provided to 1,760 New York Correctional Staff.

## Federal News



Shane & Geona Fausey are both Supporting Members since 2008 at FCC Allenwood in Pennsylvania. On September 26, 2019 their 24-year old son, Kaelen, was in a fatal head-on car collision. Both Kaelen and the other driver were killed upon impact.

At left: The Fausey Family. Below: Kaelen Fausey.



CPOF,  
We are so grateful & humbled  
by your caring, concern &  
very generous donation in  
memory of our son Kaelen!  
It is an honor to be a member  
of such an amazing, caring  
foundation! We are blessed  
by all of you!  
Thank you  
Shane, Geona, Morgan  
Our Beloved Kaelen & Mason Fausey

our beloved Kaelen  
is the man in the  
back behind his  
sister, beside their  
dad! ♡



Senior Officer Specialist Jennifer Stein is a Supporting Member at USP Canaan in Pennsylvania. Her 26-year-old son, Tyler, passed away unexpectedly on October 23, 2020. Officer Stein received a bereavement assistance check to use for the funeral expenses. At left: Officer Stein and Tyler.

**FEDERAL NEWS**  
*continued next page*

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## Federal News



Hello, Ms. Blakely,

My name is Darren Simpson. I wanted to send my sincere thanks to you and the Correctional Peace Officer Foundation for the generous bereavement assistance check to me and my sons, Brodie and Garrett. We cannot begin to express our gratitude to you and to my dear friend, Christine Phipps, for arranging this for us. We greatly appreciate all the generous donations, love and support we have received during this devastating time.

Sincerely,

Darren, Brodie, and Garrett

P. S. I have attached a photo of Brodie, Garrett and me.

Thanks again, Darren

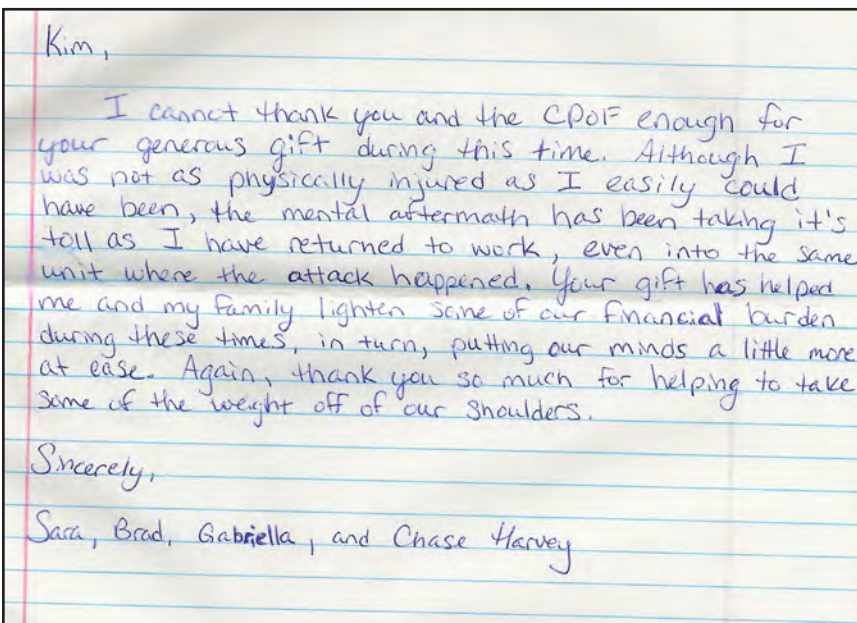
Drug Treatment Specialist (DTS) Darren Simpson is a Supporting Member at FCI Beckley in West Virginia. His wife, Sonya, passed away on January 3, 2021 from complications with COVID-19. His colleague Christine Phipps is also a DTS and a Supporting Member of the CPOF.

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Senior Officer Sara Harvey is employed at USP Allenwood. On December 7, 2020, Sr. Officer Dale Franquet was attacked by an inmate with a homemade shank, stabbing him multiple times including in the eye. Sr. C/O Sara Harvey came to Officer Franquet's aid and sprayed the inmate with pepper spray. The inmate then attacked her, *stabbing the pepper spray can so hard that the shank went through the can and into her hand*. Officer Franquet, although seriously wounded, jumped up and tackled the inmate until responding staff arrived.

Above: Sr. C/O Sara Harvey and her family; at lower right, Sr. C/O Dale Franquet and his family (and dog).



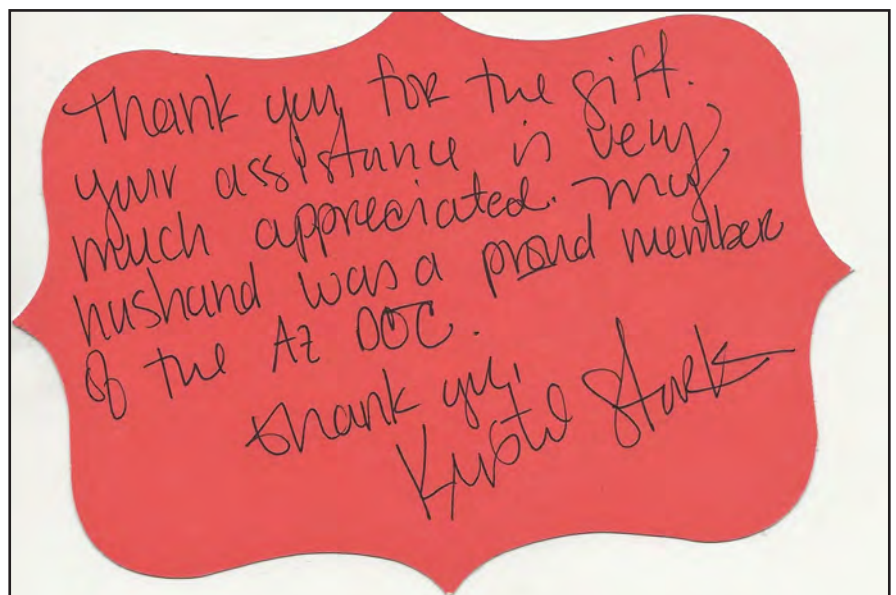


Budget Analyst Lani Gonzales is a Supporting Member at FCI Safford in Arizona. Her husband, Gregory, was diagnosed with ALS in November of 2018. Gregory underwent many treatments and several hospitalizations over the next two years to make his ordeal as manageable as possible. There is no cure for ALS and Gregory passed away on December 11, 2020. Lani received a bereavement check to help with the funeral expenses and with outstanding medical bills from treatments and the rental of medical equipment for the Gonzales home. At right: Lani with Gregory (center); daughter, Alyssa; son, Michael; daughter-in-law, Samantha; and grandchildren: Adrian (9), Dean (3), Michaela (7) and Audrina (10).



In October of 2020 Senior Officer Jonathon Mooney of FCI Oxford in Wisconsin was found at work on the ground suffering from a seizure. He was taken to the hospital where it was determined that he had suffered serious left brain trauma. Officer Mooney underwent an emergency left decompressive craniotomy and was in a medically-induced coma for six days. The Mooney family received an assistance check to help with extra expenses. At left: Sr. Officer Mooney; his wife, Tiffany; and their daughters, Madison and Brooklyn.

## ARIZONA



Thomas Stark, Community Corrections Officer with Mesa, Arizona Parole, passed away unexpectedly on February 7, 2021. His widow, Kristal, received help from the CPOF with funeral expenses. Left: Thomas Stark. Above: Kristal's thank-you note..

## West Virginia



Dear Ms. Barone:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the assistance you recently provided to Correctional Officer III Timothy White after the passing of his wife. As Superintendent of Northern Regional Jail and Correctional Center, I take pride in knowing there are dedicated Foundations such as this one that are willing to assist in times of difficulty.

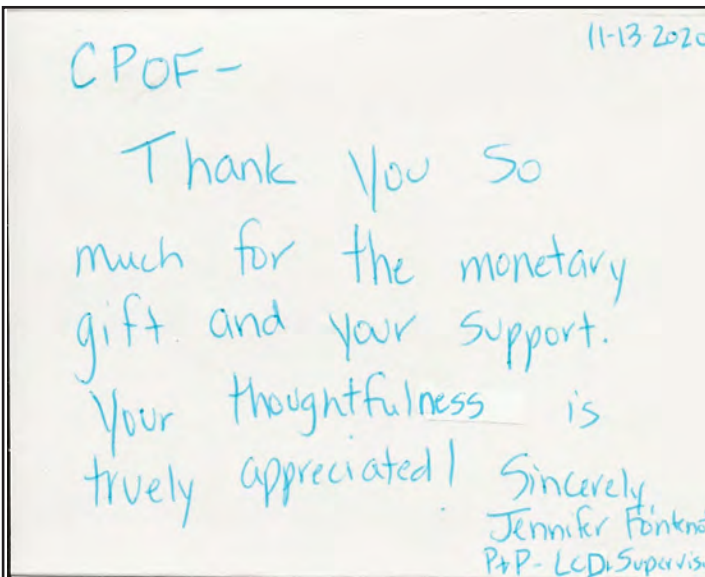
Once again, on behalf of myself and Correctional Officer III Timothy White, thank you for all of your assistance.

Sincerely,

Shawn T. Straughn, Superintendent

Correctional Officer III Timothy White is a Supporting Member at Northern Regional Jail and Correctional Center. His wife, Randi, passed away on October 28, 2020. Above left: C/O III White (center) with his CPOF check.

## Louisiana



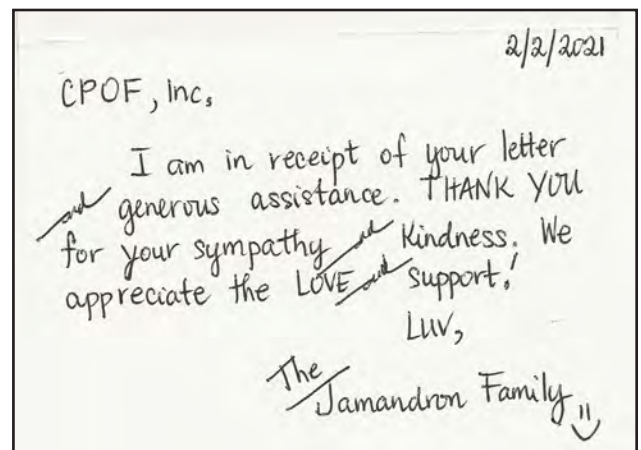
P/O Jennifer Fontenot is a Supporting Member in the Probation & Paroles office in Lake Charles Louisiana. Her house was severely damaged by Hurricane Laura and Hurricane Delta.

C/O Edward Jamandron of East Jersey State Prison passed away on January 15, 2021 from complications due to COVID-19. His widow, Lynn, received a CPOF check to help with funeral expenses. At right is her thank-you note:

## New Jersey



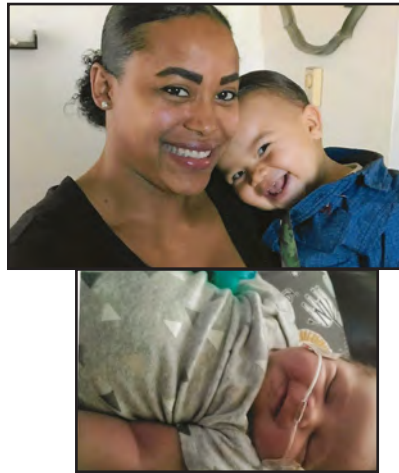
C/O Ebony Ellis works at Northern State Prison. Her house caught on fire in December of 2020. C/O Ellis, pictured at left with her daughter, received a CPOF check to help with expenses while she was displaced from her home.



# COLORADO



C/O I Marie Carter, a Supporting Member at LaVista CF, underwent knee surgery in July of 2020 and then had a second knee surgery in September. As of late November, it was hoped that she would be able to return to work sometime in January. She exhausted all her time on the books and had to go on LWOP. At left: C/O I Marie Carter with the CPOF assistance check requested for her by Guy Edmonds, CPOF Representative in Colorado.

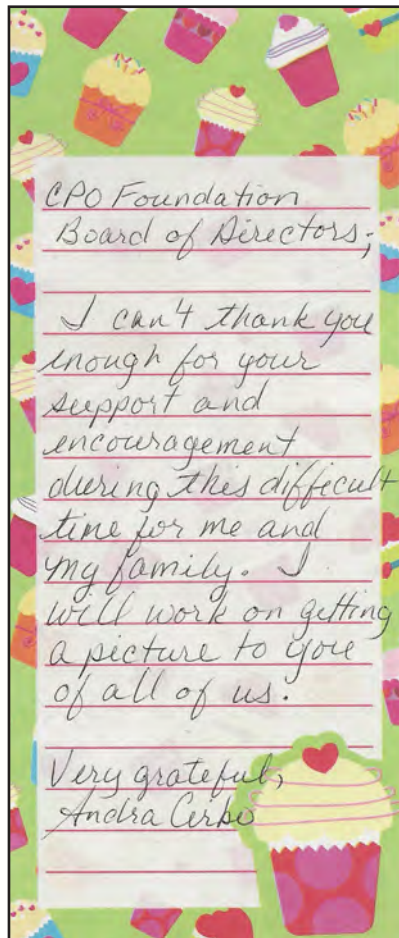


Lt. Monique Dohm, a Supporting Member at Buena Vista CF, was off work starting on May 1, 2020 due to complications with her pregnancy. She had a C-section on June 1 and suffered complications requiring surgery on August 10. Then a hematoma on the incision developed which needed treatment. Altogether, Lt. Dohm lost many weeks of work. Guy Edmonds recommended her for an assistance check. At left: (1) Monique and two-year-old son, Augustus; and (2) two-month-old son, Julius.



C/O Darian Stauffer, a Supporting Member at Canon Minimum Centers, had surgery to remove a cyst and then suffered complications. She had to be off work for many weeks and used all her time on the books. She is pictured above holding her CPO assistance check and her little son, Ryland.

*Note:* Darian's father, Wesley Wilson, works at San Carlos CF and has been a CPOF Supporting Member since 2009.



Captain Roger Gaalaas, a Supporting Member at Buena Vista CF, in February of 2021 was having chest pains and was taken to a nearby ER. Once there it was determined he needed to be sent to Pueblo on a flight-for-life air ambulance. In a Pueblo hospital he underwent surgery to have a stent inserted in his heart. He may need additional surgery in future. Captain Gaalass had to make several trips back to the hospital (200 miles round trip) for follow up care. He is pictured here with Guy Edmonds receiving a CPOF assistance check.



DRDC Supervisor Andra Cirbo, a Supporting Member, was diagnosed with breast cancer in October 2020. She had a mastectomy and surgical removal of 11 lymph nodes. Capt. Cirbo has undergone chemotherapy and radiation.

*COLORADO continued next page*

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## COLORADO

Sergeant Bobby Story is a Supporting Member at Canon Minimum Centers. Bobby's wife, Lynn, has been extremely ill for the past several years without a diagnosis. She had to medically retire from the Colorado DOC. After being sent to the Mayo Clinic to see a specialist, Lynn was diagnosed with *Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome*, a disabling and complex illness. In December of 2019 Lynn received a diagnosis of cancer. Since then, Sgt. Story has been taking time off work every month to take Lynn to Denver for chemo and radiation treatments, a 240-mile round trip. At right: Bobby and Lynn with a CPOF assistance check to help with out-of-pocket medical and medical travel expenses.



C/O I Alex Grine is a Supporting Member at Trinidad CF. In March of 2020 Alex's wife, Janice, suffered a mini stroke due to a blocked artery. She had to undergo surgery in Colorado Springs, a 250-mile round trip from home. Then Janice had to undergo surgery in Colorado Springs due to a breast cancer diagnosis. After her surgery, Janice underwent followup treatments in Pueblo, a 175-mile round trip. The Grines were faced with compounding medical bills and travel expenses. Alex and Janice are pictured at left, with Alex holding the letter that accompanied his CPOF assistance check.



Major Arlo Padilla from Rifle Correctional Center and his wife, LeAnne, were expecting their first child when LeAnne developed complications. She had to be hospitalized and was put on total bedrest for the remainder of her pregnancy. Above: LeAnne, Arlo and their baby, Grayson.



C/O Fernando Vasquez is a Supporting Member at Colorado Territorial CF. In March of 2020 he began having chest pains. He was transported to the hospital where he spent five days. C/O Vasquez was a recent rehire and had no time on the books. Above: Guy Edmonds and C/O Vasquez with his CPOF assistance check.

# COLORADO



Correctional Officer Michael Vigil, a Supporting Member, works at Four Mile Correctional Center. His wife, Samantha, was pregnant with twins when she developed complications and was hospitalized. At 20 weeks one of the babies was born early and, sadly, shortly passed away. A month later Samantha delivered baby Adrian, who spent three months in the NICU. Photos: Samantha, Michael and baby Adrian.



C/O Patrick Parker, a Supporting Member at Canon Minimum Centers, was hit by a drunk driver on October 3, 2020 while riding his motorcycle. He sustained multiple serious injuries, including broken bones and bleeding in his brain, and had to have several surgeries. As a result, he was off work for many weeks. C/O Parker received much-needed assistance from the CPOF, and he is pictured at left, holding his check, with his wife, Sierra, and baby, Patrick Parker III.



Teacher Mari Jo Brown, a Supporting Member at Trinidad CF, was diagnosed with breast cancer and had surgery on January 17, 2021. She underwent chemotherapy afterward which continued for several months. The treatments involve

traveling weekly to Pueblo (175 miles round trip) As of April 14, Mari Jo had not been able to return to work and had exhausted all time on the books. She received a CPOF assistance check, as pictured above.

C/O I Lucio Reyes is a Supporting Member at Fremont CF. His 24-year-old daughter, Yesenia (right), passed away from complications with skin cancer. C/O I Reyes received a CPOF check to help with the funeral expenses. Below: The Reyes family.



# Oklahoma



CSO III Jeff Losh is a Supporting Member at John Lilley CC. Jeff's young son, Jaden, passed away in September of 2020 after a long struggle with bacterial meningitis. Jaden also had a stroke that severely affected his hearing, among other impairments. At left: Jeff and Unit Manager Chris Lee, who presented Jeff with a CPOF bereavement assistance check.

Below:

Sgt. James Martin of Oklahoma State Prison passed away from COVID-19. He had served the Oklahoma DOC for over 46 years. CPOF Oklahoma Volunteer Representative Debbie Moore presented Sgt. Martin's widow, Phyllis, with a CPOF bereavement assistance check.



CSO IV David Jenkins is employed at North East Oklahoma CC. His wife, Ramona, passed away on September 23, 2020 from complications with COVID-19. At right: Chief of Security Anthony Clayton, Sgt. Jenkins with his CPOF assistance check and Warden Casey Hamilton.



C /O Racheal Pebworth of Mack Alford CC was in a car accident on March 27, 2020. She suffered a crushed ankle and other serious injuries. Over the next few months she had to have several surgeries. C/O Pebworth, a single parent, tried to work light duty whenever possible between her many surgeries. However, eventually she exhausted all her time on the books. At left: *Warden Jim Farris*, C/O Pebworth and Debbie Moore.

Account Tech Charlotte Johnson of OCI passed away from lung cancer in September of 2020. Oklahoma Volunteer Representative Debbie Moore requested assistance for her daughter, Hillary Haworth, with funeral expenses. At right: OCI Comptroller Janet Bolton; Business Manager Glen Jenkins; Hillary's half-sister, Victoria Baskeyfield; Hillary Haworth; and Debbie Moore. (Victoria and Hillary are sisters through their father.)



# Oklahoma

CSO IV Joel Makinde is a Supporting Member at Lexington Assessment and Reception Center. He was diagnosed with cancer in October of 2019 and has been off work ever since. Chemotherapy treatments have compromised his immune system and he is unable to return to work because of COVID-19. CSO IV Makinde received a CPOF check to help with medical bills and medically-related travel expenses. He is pictured here with his grandson, Oluremi.



Region One PPO III Carrie Teel was in an off-duty car accident on December 3, 2020. She suffered a fractured neck vertebra and spent several days being treated in the hospital. She was sent home to recover from her injuries. On December 13, PPO III Teel fell and broke her ankle, thus extending the time she could return to work. She received a CPOF check to help with out-of-pocket medical expenses. At left: Carrie Teel and Team Supervisor Mike Evans.



CSO III Dennis Smith, a Supporting Member at JCCC, and another Officer were in a car accident when their vehicle suddenly lost traction on icy roads and crashed. C/O Smith passed away from injuries sustained in the resulting accident. His parents, now raising Dennis's eight-year-old son, were responsible for the funeral expenses. The CPOF provided a bereavement assistance check to help. Above: Warden Scott Nunn and parents, Rose and Dennis Smith.



Training Specialist Megan Wilbur is employed at Clara Waters CC. Her husband, Damon, who had been Chief of Security at Clara Waters, passed away on December 15, 2020 from complications with COVID-19. Specialist Wilbur received a bereavement assistance check to help with the funeral expenses. Above left: Megan Wilbur and Training Manager Joe Koerner. Above right: Damon Wilbur. Specialist Wilbur has become a Supporting Member.

**OKLAHOMA continued next page**

# Oklahoma



Case Manager Robert Jaggars, a Supporting Member at John Lilley CC, passed away on July 28, 2020. He was mowing his lawn when he suddenly had a stroke caused by the release of blood clot.

*Per email from Debbie Moore::*

I met Robert Jaggars's parents, Michael and Sheryl Jaggars, at their home and presented the assistance check. Such sweet and kind people. They were so very appreciative of the assistance. They have had a terrible year on top of all the things we are all going through. They lost their son and then Robert Jaggars's youngest grandson fell off a tractor and the brush hog ran over him and cut his leg off. He has a prosthetic and seems to be bouncing back.

At left: Michael Jaggars, Sheryl Jaggars and then me! -- Debbie Moore



Chief of Security Jesse Barker, a Supporting Member at JCCC, passed away on November 28, 2020 from complications with COVID-19. The CPOF provided a bereavement assistance check to Brandi Barker, Jesse's wife, to help with the funeral expenses. At right: Warden Scott Nunn and Brandi Barker.

The CPOF provided a bereavement assistance check to Brandi Barker, Jesse's wife, to help with the funeral expenses. At right: Warden Scott Nunn and Brandi Barker.



C/O Misty Posas is a Supporting Member at Oklahoma State Reformatory. She is married to Gilberto. Their son, Tyler, was in a car accident and suffered serious brain injuries. He was life-flighted to Oklahoma City (120 miles away) where he was put in ICU and placed in a drug induced coma on a ventilator for several days. As of April 6, he was taken off the ventilator but remained in ICU. During Tyler's days in the ICU, Misty and Gilberto stayed in a hotel near the hospital and took turns being at Tyler's bedside. Misty received a CPOF assistance check at the recommendation of OSR Warden Dwayne Janis.

*We hope that all of our Supporting Members nationwide enjoy reading the CPO Family. We encourage our Members to share the CPO Family with co-workers and others they may know with close ties to the Corrections profession so that they may learn in depth how the CPO Foundation "takes care of our own."*

*Not yet a Supporting Member? To join the CPO Foundation family, just visit our website -- [cpof.org](http://cpof.org) -- click "Membership" and take it from there. We look forward to welcoming you soon!*



# Oregon



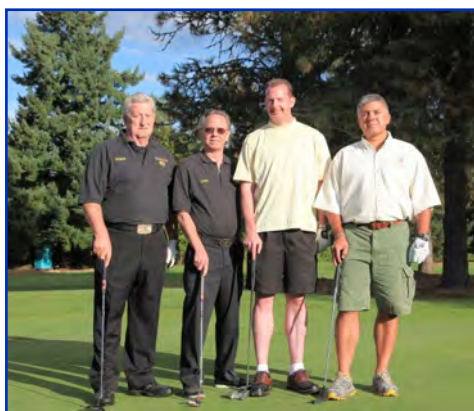
Hi, Kim,

Thank you so much to you and the rest of the CPOF. The assistance was tremendously helpful and couldn't have come at a better time. The CPOF's generosity kept the lights on and the kids full!

Again, thank you for blessing our family.

C/O Nate Parker, Oregon State Penitentiary  
OSP SWAT & OSP ESS

*C/O Nate Parker is a Supporting Member at OSP. In September of 2020 he suffered a seizure while hunting. He had to be taken to an ER for treatment. He was unable to return to work for many weeks. Above: The Nate Parker Family -- Braxton (14), wife Brittany, Nate, twins Olivia and Kate (4), daughter Addison (9) and Bristol (5).*



**The CPOF's foursome at a past Oregon Fundraising Golf Tournament. The team: Steve Dizmon (Ret. from the CA DOC and at the time the CPOF National Honor Guard Commander); Larry Corby (Ret. from the CA DOC and a "Founding Father" of the CPOF); Capt. Gary Russell (now a lead for OR DOC for Emergency Management); and Tony Ruvalcaba (Sergeant with the OR DOC and former Squad Leader of the CPOF Honor Guard).**



C/O Tori Ash (pictured top left), was a Supporting Member at Coffee Creek CI. She passed away on December 20, 2020. Her spouse, Martha (left), received a bereavement assistance check to help with the funeral expenses. At top right: C/O Tori Ash holding her Officer of the 3rd Quarter for 2020 Award.



C/O Gregory Brown, a Supporting Member at EOCI, was diagnosed with metastatic cancer in December of 2020.

He underwent a series of chemotherapy treatments in Walla Walla, Washington (55 miles each way) and for several months had to travel every third Monday for six hours of infusions. It was projected by C/O Brown's medical team that he might be able to return to work in June 2021. Above C/O Brown holding his CPOF assistance check with a group of his supporters.

# Florida



From Jim Freeman, CPOF Florida Field Representative:

This **photo** is of Franklin CI Warden Conner presenting Secretary Specialist Cally Higginbotham with a CPOF assistance check. Cally immediately signed up to be a Supporting Member.

Ms. Higginbotham had a kidney transplant on September 13, 2020 at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville. She had to stay in Jacksonville for the next four weeks for frequent testing and clinic visits, followed by weekly lab work.

## Mr. Freeman,

On behalf of the staff at Polk CI and Sgt. A. Watson, we would like to say Thank You to the CPOF for their support in Sgt. Watson's time of sorrow.

Amy Frizzell  
Warden, Polk Correctional Institution  
*Sergeant Watson's son passed away in early November of 2020.*

*At right: Major Richard Ferguson, Sgt. Antonio Watson, Lt. Matthew Strawder and Warden Amy Frizzell.*



From Jim Freeman:

On behalf of the CPOF Board of Directors and its supporting members, I was honored to present an assistance check to Kori Wieder, daughter of Lawley CI Lt Steven Johnson. Lt Johnson recently lost his year-long battle with cancer. At left: Jim Freeman, Kori Wieder, Warden Barry Reddish and Sgt. Wade Morris



From Jim Freeman:

On behalf of the CPOF Board of Directors and its Supporting Members, we were honored to present an assistance check to Lowell CI Sgt. Michael Schramm. Sgt. Schramm has been dealing with medical issues that have kept him from work for an extended period of time, and he has exhausted his leave balance.

Mike is looking forward to returning to work in the near future.

**Above:** Lowell CI Asst. Warden Staci Tosi, Sgt. Michael Schramm and Asst. Warden Michael Quimby.

Mr. Daniel Gronik is pictured here receiving a CPOF bereavement assistance check from Tomoka CI Warden Daiquiri Duncan.

Mr. Gronik is the husband of Tina Gronik, General Service Specialist and a Supporting Member at Tomoka CI. Tina had been battling cancer and passed away on January 16, 2021.



Chaplain Octavious Tooke of Madison CI passed away on December 17, 2020 from COVID-19. His widow, Pearl, herself has COVID-19, and Officer Mary Ware, their “adopted” daughter, took a CPOF assistance check to her since Pearl was not able to have outside company. This assistance was requested by Madison CI Warden Glenn Young. Thank you, Mary.

Sheila Kelley, Staff Assistant, Madison Correctional Institution  
At right: Pearl and Octavious Tookes.



On behalf of the CPOF Board of Directors and its Supporting Members, we were honored to present an assistance check to Gwendolyn Scott (at right), wife of Supporting Member Leo Scott. Leo was a Classification Officer at Marion CI who had recently lost his battle with cancer. Also pictured: Marion CI Warden Shannon Varnes (left) and Leo's daughter, Amanda, a Correctional Officer at Marion CI.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for the financial assistance that me and my family received for our tragic loss of our home. Words cannot express the love and appreciation we have in our hearts for what you have done. Thank you, thank you and thank you.

T. George, Senior  
Classification Officer,  
Gainesville Work Camp

*Above: Jim Freeman, Tina  
George and Lawtey CI  
Warden Barry Reddish*



We were honored to present a bereavement assistance check to Mrs. James LaRue (Chenavia), widow of Seminole County Detention Deputy James LaRue. Sgt. LaRue died from complications as the result of contracting COVID-19.

Sgt. LaRue was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and had served with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office for 21 years. In addition to Chenavia, he is survived by four children. At left: Chief of Corrections Laura Bedard, Mrs. LaRue and Lt. Gatzey.



On behalf of the CPOF Board of Directors and its Supporting Members, I (Jim Freeman) was honored to present an assistance check to Union CI C/O Jonathan Crump. Officer Crump injured his knee and was scheduled for surgery on March 26, 2021. An update on C/O Crump's status will be provided once it is known. At left: C/O Crump (with his son, Triston) and Jim Freeman.

# TEXAS

## Dear Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, Inc.:

On behalf of myself, Michael Southerland, and my family I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for your generous bereavement assistance during this tragic time in losing our loved one, Charles Luke Sherburne. Words can't express the gratitude felt by my family and me for your assistance.

I am a proud member of this Foundation and firmly believe in "Taking Care of Our Own." Thank you for taking care of us. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Michael Southerland

Correctional Officer 5, Hughes Unit  
C/O5 Southerland's son, Charles, passed away on December 1, 2020.

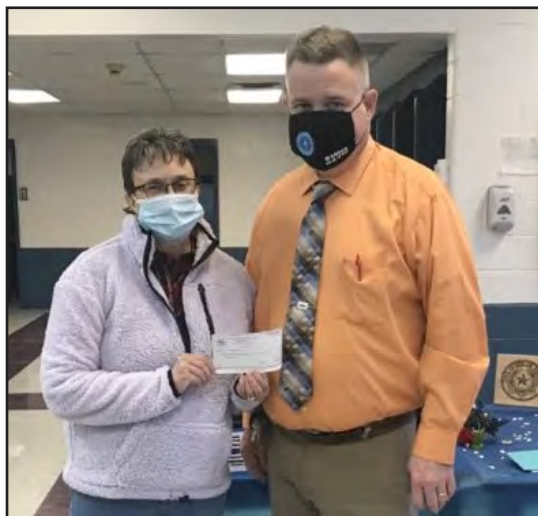


*from Eileen Kennedy:*

Hi! I delivered a check to C/O IV Victor Gonzales (pictured at left), a Supporting Member at the Garza West Unit. I also picked up eight applications for new Members and dropped off more magazines at the Academy in Beeville.

Below: Garza West Warden Joel Guana, who recommended assistance for Victor; C/O IV Gonzales; and Eileen.

*In December 2020, C/O IV Victor Gonzales' daughter, Victoria, suffered burns over 27% of her body. Victoria was transferred to Shriners Hospital in Galveston, Texas (approx. 227 miles one way from home). She received wound care, and for a considerable time was in a pediatric clinic for medication management, occupational therapy and psychological services.*



CO V Phillip Holbert of Formby State Jail was a Supporting Member. He passed away on December 27, 2020 from COVID-19. His widow, Stephanie, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check that was presented to her by Formby Unit Warden Gregory David.



In keeping with its size and with a large number of Corrections Units spread throughout the state, the CPO Foundation has three Representatives to help Texas Correctional Officers and Staff in need of catastrophic assistance. They are Cathy Stokes, Eileen Kennedy and Kelli Forrester. We are very proud to have these dedicated (and well-traveled) women on our team!

Sergeant Elbert Manor, a Supporting Member at Boyd Unit, passed away due to kidney problems on January 13, 2021. HRS IV Pamela Washington notified us of Sgt. Manor's death. His widow, Nina, received a bereavement assistance check to use for funeral expenses. At right is Nina's thank-you note:

Thank you for the generous assistance for our family in the loss of our beloved husband, father and grandfather.  
We greatly appreciate your condolences in our time of sorrow!  
Nina Manor & family



Stephanie, I delivered the check to LaJuana Shadle (on behalf of Amanda Shadle). She was very appreciative and do not be surprised if you get a letter or email from her.

Thank you, Tonya Curry,

HRS IV Wynne Unit Human Resources

*Resources Clerk II Amanda Shadle, a Supporting Member at Wynne Unit, passed away on February 11, 2021 from heart issues. At left: HRS IV Tonya Curry and LaJuana Shadle with her bereavement assistance check.*

Dear Ms. Stephanie Barone and the entire CPOF Team,

I have been a member of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for many years! I have witnessed, first-hand throughout the years, the unwavering support and assistance CPOF shows to our correctional staff in times of need.

For years, as a supervisor and now in my role as a Warden, I have been honored to present countless letters of support along side your representatives to our staff in need. Now, as my family experienced a difficult time, you were there for us! CPOF continues to exemplify the motto of "Taking Care of Our Own." We are truly grateful for all your help and support! God bless you all!

Timothy Fitzpatrick, Warden I, Pack Unit

*Warden I Fitzpatrick and his family experienced a natural disaster to their home that caused approximately 10 pipes to burst and collapse in the ceiling. Five thousand to \$10,000 worth of damage to personal belongings resulted.*

# North Carolina



Administrative Associate II Paulette Murphy is a Supporting Member at Craven CI. In September of 2020, her home sustained damages from Hurricane Isaias. Also, her husband, Charlie, was in a serious vehicular accident the same day. He is a truck driver, and AAII Murphy had to fly to his location on the road to help with his treatments. At left: AAII Murphy receiving a CPOF assistance check.

## To the CPO Foundation,

Thank you so much for your generosity. We are truly grateful. The work that this Foundation does is awesome and a blessing.

Thank you again,  
Brenda German,  
Fayetteville, NC

*Sgt. Michael McDougald of Scotland CI was killed in a motorcycle accident in June of 2020. His mother, Berlina German, received a bereavement assistance check to help with funeral expenses.*



C/O III Allen Deese III works at Anson CI. In December of 2020, a fire destroyed the Deese family's home and all belongings. C/O III Deese received a CPOF check to help with expenses while the family was displaced. At left: Mrs. Deese (Shannon); C/O III Deese; and their sons, Aiden and Allen Deese IV.

# South Carolina



Dear CPOF:

A sincere heartfelt thank you to the CPO Foundation for the monetary gift in the passing of our mother, Shirley. It was a devastating experience for us to receive the call that our mother had been involved in a fatal car accident. The words shared in your letter to our family meant the world

to us. It is organizations like the Foundation that let us know there are people who help to soften the impact of life's tragedies. My family and I are grateful for your act of kindness.

Ieashia, Shrecca, Hakeem and Meoshia

JCO Shirley Cornelius, a Supporting Member at Midlands CF, was killed by a drunk driver in October of 2020. Her daughter, Ieashia, received a CPOF bereavement assistance check to help with funeral expenses. Above: Shirley's son-in-law, Ieashia Cornelius and Administrator Leon Morell.



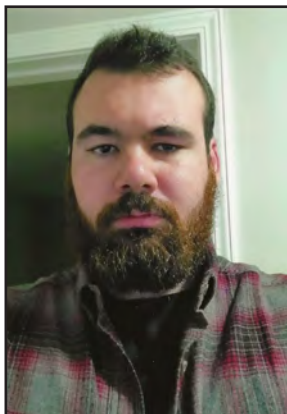
Lt. Veronica Stroman (above) of Camille Graham CI passed away on January 6, 2021 of a sudden heart attack. This occurred shortly after she and three other staff members had been in an altercation with a combative inmate.

Lt. Stroman's sister, Victoria, was responsible for the burial expenses and received a CPOF bereavement assistance check.

# North Carolina

OCT 12, 2020  
To all the people of Correctional Peace Office Foundation, I don't have the words to say how much the check that your Foundation sent me and my family in our time of need.  
I WAS diagnosed with Kidney Cancer last October with brain metastases, it's been a tough road for me and my family, I have been a correctional officer for twenty plus years and I have always felt that we was all one big family no matter where we worked at or what state we worked in that we have always supported each other in time of need, and it shows with your Foundation how much we are loved for the job we do, I just want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for what you have done for me and my family and all the thoughts and prayers have been such a blessing.  
Once again thank you so so much for all you do may God bless each and everyone and I will keep all of you in my prayers  
Sincerely  
Johnny Lyons  
Marion, North Carolina

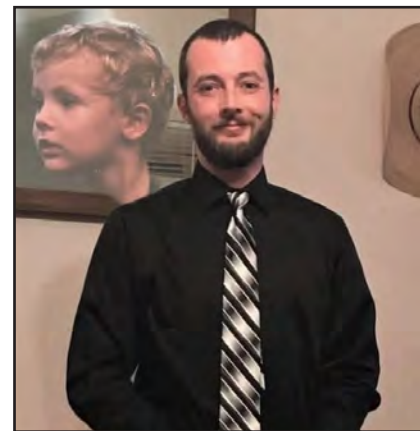
C/O III Johnny Lyons works at Marion CI. C/O III Lyons was diagnosed with brain and kidney cancer in late November of 2019, resulting in surgeries and chemotherapy. For much of 2020 he had been undergoing treatments for lung cancer.



C/O III Michael Gerbitz of Alexander CI was assaulted by an inmate during a medication distribution in July of 2020. C/O Gerbitz was transported by EMS to a hospital where he received multiple stitches.  
At left: C/O III Gerbitz



C/O II Joseph Greinke, a Supporting Member at Pender CI, passed away from COVID-related complications. His mother was responsible for his funeral and received a CPOF bereavement check to help with expenses. Above: On a happy family outing: Katie (32), Joseph (34), mother Cindy Koffen, Stephanie (29) and Daniel (17).



C/O III Matthew Brown of Maury CI passed away in December of 2020 from cancer.

Matthew's mother, Christina, was responsible for his funeral expenses.

Below: A little note from Christina --

Thank you. I appreciate the check. It has been given to pay on his service  
Christina M. Clift

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# Georgia

Dear Correctional Peace  
Officers Foundation,

We, the Wells family, would like to thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness for the assistance package during the time of my wife's death. It really relieved some stress off the family. We love you, and do keep helping families in need.

Sincerely,

David Wells and family

*David Wells is a Supporting Member who is now retired from Baldwin SP. His wife, Virginia, passed away on August 28, 2020. Mr. Wells received a bereavement assistance check to help with burial expenses.*

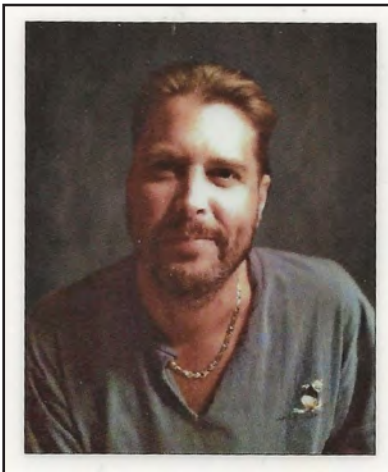


C/O Devon Brown, a Supporting Member at Smith SP, had a house fire on October 27, 2020. He received a CPOF check to help with immediate expenses incurred after the fire. Above: The Brown Family: Devon; wife, Mercedes; and children Elijah, Tymiah, Isaiah and Braydon.

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# Massachusetts



C/O I Dana Bosworth worked at the MDC Treatment Center. Dana passed away from complications with multiple myeloma cancer after a battle of 16 years. His mother, Ruth Bosworth, received a bereavement assistance check to help with funeral expenses.

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# Maine



Captain Mark James, a Supporting Member at Maine Correctional Center, suffered a stroke on May 31, 2020 while at work. He is still recovering from the stroke and has not been able to return to work. Captain John Paskewicz, Jr. requested assistance for

Captain James during his long period of LWOP status. Captain James is pictured above with his daughter, Leah.

*Note:* Captain Paskewicz is the son of Sr. C/O Captain John Paskewicz, Sr. who died in the line of duty on November 16, 2010 and was honored at **Project XXII** in San Antonio, Texas.



## Connecticut

In December of 2020 C/O John Lahda, employed at MacDougall-Walker CI, suffered a minor heart attack shortly after returning home from work. He fell down a flight of stairs where he remained for 14 hours before being found. C/O Lahda suffered a collapsed lung and “compartment syndrome” (a painful cramp caused by compression of a group of muscles) from being on the ground for such a prolonged period of time. His arm muscle had begun to die and surgery was needed to remove all unsalvageable muscle. Since his heart attack/fall, he has undergone three surgeries and suffered from kidney failure, requiring dialysis and multiple blood transfusions. At right: C/S Brian Stanley, who referred C/O Lahda for assistance, and C/O Lahda holding his CPOF check.



**Dear Ms. Blakley,**

*On behalf of my family and myself, I wanted to send this thank-you to the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for your thoughtfulness and generosity during the recent loss of my wife, Kristin, to Inflammatory Breast Cancer.*

*I have supported CPOF for the last few years by donating to a charitable organization that supports law enforcement staff. It is such a vital function. And then to be remembered by that same organization at such a difficult time was very moving.*

*I have had the pleasure of interacting with our Field Representative, Rich Loud, over the years and now having firsthand knowledge' to be able to bring back to my staff how this organization takes care of its own has been very powerful.*

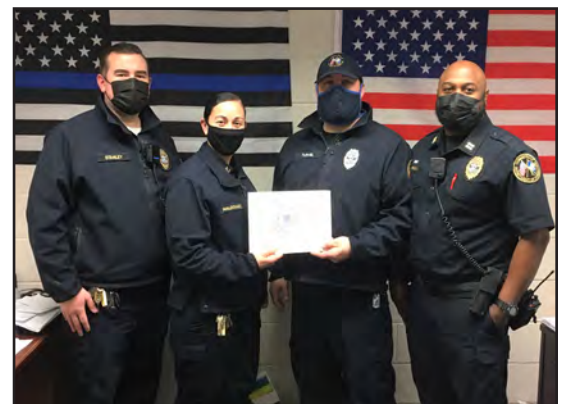
*Thank you again for the professionalism and consideration you have shown not only to my family but to thousands of families across the country during difficult times. Remain healthy and safe.*

*Sincerely, David Snyder, Deputy Warden, Garner CI*

DW Snyder received a bereavement check to assist with funeral expenses. Above left: C/S Brian Stanley, DW David Snyder, Warden Amonda Hannah and Deputy Warden Thomas Kenny.

**Correctional Staff in Connecticut:  
If you would like to become a Supporting Member of the CPO Foundation, please email [kim@cpof.org](mailto:kim@cpof.org)**

Early this year C/O Ronald Turner of Macdougall-Walker CI and his family were displaced from their home when a fire that started in the chimney spread to the attic and the entire second story. The house sustained considerable smoke and water damage. At right: C/S Brian Stanley, Deputy Warden Jeanette Maldonado, C/O Ronald Turner and Captain Seneca Spruill.



## Rhode Island



Lieutenant Russell K. Freeman was a Supporting Member at the Womens' Division of the RIDOC's Adult Correctional Institution. He was hospitalized in November of 2020 due to complications from COVID-19. He was placed on a ventilator on December 10 and, sadly, passed away two days later. His wife, Lisa, is also a C/O

for RIDOC and has been a CPOF Supporting Member since 2002. She received a bereavement assistance check to use for the funeral expenses.

Here is a letter written on behalf of the Russell and Favino families from son Stone Freeman:

*Ms. Kim Blakley,*

*Our mother, Lisa D. Favino-Freeman, is also a Correctional Officer and member of the CPOF. She has been employed at Medium Security at the Adult Correctional Institution in Cranston, RI for 30 years. Our aunt, Paula Favino, is also an ACI Correctional Officer, and our grandfather, Paul Favino, is a retired Correctional Officer/Nurse at ACI.*

*Dad had spent time working in all six securities at the ACI. He held various positions including Correctional Officer, Special Investigations Unit Investigator and Crisis Intervention Team Leader. In 2014 Dad earned the role as Lieutenant, a title that he held up until God called him home. Throughout his career he spent time on the executive board of the*



**Ingrid, Lisa, Quinn, Stone and Russell**



**Left to right -- Standing: Stone Freeman (Russell's son), Lt. Russell K. Freeman, C/O Lisa D. Favino-Freeman (Russell's wife), Quinn Freeman (Russell's daughter), Ingrid Freeman (Russell's daughter), C/O Paula Favino (Russell's sister-in-law) and Jarred Favino (Russell's nephew and godson).**

**Sitting: Retired C/O / Nurse Paul Favino (Russell's father-in-law) and Dawn Favino (Russell's mother-in-law).**

*Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officers and was the union's recording secretary earlier in his career.*

*Dad's education was centered on criminal justice, having received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Norwich University in 1990 and his master's degree in criminal justice from Anna Maria College in 2005.*

*Our family sends a sincere and heartfelt thank you and appreciation to the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation for its commitment to the Correctional Officer position.*

*With this letter we are sending pictures to show both the family and professional side of Lt. Russell K. Freeman, a.k.a. "Big Russ."*

*With the highest regard,*

*Stone Freeman & the entire Freeman and Favino families.*

## Rhode Island



C/O Luis Dias is a Supporting Member at Intake. His wife, Alisa, suffered from Cystic Fibrosis for many months. Alisa was undergoing treatments and taking medications, resulting in many out-of-pocket expenses. On January 6, 2021, Luis received a call while at work from Alisa, saying she was throwing up blood. Luis rushed home and when he arrived EMS were there performing CPR on Alisa. Sadly, while on the way to the hospital Alisa passed away. C/O Dias received a CPOF bereavement assistance check to use for funeral expenses. This beautiful family Christmas photo includes Alisa, Luis, sons Caleb and Noah; and the two family dogs.

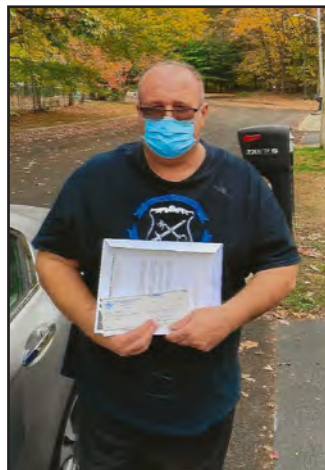
### Dear Kim,

On behalf of my family and myself I would like to thank the CPO Foundation for all their generosity and kindness. Your support and thoughtfulness are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Officer John Menard  
C/O Menard (right), a  
Supporting Member at  
Minimum was unable to

work for many months. He had complications with a kidney transplant, resulting in a compromised immune system.



## Florida continued

C/O William Perez of Dade CI died from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. His partner, Kourtney Carr, received a bereavement assistance check as recommended by Warden Marie Boan. Assistant Warden Augusto Martinez presented the check to Ms. Carr as pictured above right. Ms. Carr is holding their (camera shy?) son, Logan Perez.



Sergeant Justin Surles of Madison CI and his family were in a tragic vehicle accident on February 13, 2021. Justin's wife, Nicole, and their unborn child, Sawyer, lost their lives in the accident. Justin and two of his other children, Ashlynn and Everlee, were hospitalized and treated for their injuries. Madison CI Amelia Hill recommended assistance for Sgt. Surles, and presented the check to him as seen above.

## UTAH



C/O Riley Smith works at Central Utah CF. His wife, Brittany (above), was diagnosed with Stage 4 kidney cancer. She underwent kidney removal surgery followed by chemo treatments.

Brittany passed away on December 11, 2020 at home.

To whom it may concern,

I sincerely appreciate your contribution to my family. Unfortunately, this story does not end well. My wife suddenly and tragically passed away on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020. She collapsed in our home and despite mine and my father in laws best attempts to revive her through CPR, she passed away in my arms. It has left a huge hole in the lives of me and my two stepsons but the check provided by your foundation will still be used to assist in the purchase of my wife's headstone. She was 100% blue line family until the end.

Sincerely and with deepest gratitude,

Officer Riley M. Smith

### To the CPO Foundation,

Thank you for your generous donation and your kind thoughts for our sweet boy, who had a rough start into the world but is doing so great now! "Thank you" doesn't feel like enough and I'm grateful and proud to be a part of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation family.

Amber Jarvis, Sterling, Utah

Case Manager Amber Jarvis is a Supporting Member at Central Utah CF. Her grandson spent several weeks in NICU last fall. Her daughter was not working at the time and the daughter's spouse was unemployed. CM Jarvis received a CPOF check to help with her daughter's medical expenses.

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## Kentucky



**Dear Correctional Peace Officers Foundation,**

My family and I want to thank you so very much for helping us during this hard time. It is people like you that give us hope and let us know that everything is going to be okay. My wife and I both donate to the CPOF each month and we are happy to do so, knowing that it is for a good cause and can make a difference in someone's life who is truly in need of assistance.

In this case it was I who needed the help. So, thank you all for your kindness and generosity, and for thinking of my family.

Yours truly,

Recreational Leader Kenneth Hager

Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex

*On September 11, 2020, 3.5" of rain fell on West Liberty, causing Kenneth and Justina Hager to lose four cars and one boat. Their garage and all contents were washed away in the flooding. Above: Justina Hager with a CPOF assistance check, as requested for the Hagers by Brandi Vogel, HR Specialist.*

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## Washington

**Dear Ms. Stephanie Barone,**

I would like to thank you and the CPO Foundation for the help you provided for my family and me. I've been a member of the CPOF since 1999 when I met Ms. Jean.\* She was a great person.

Every time she came to WCCW I always helped her sign up new members. When we lost her, I realized how much I missed seeing her smiling face.

I am so glad I joined the CPOF and I am so proud to be part of the WCCW Honor Guard.

I really appreciate the support you have given my family and me. Thank you very much,  
Deborah Roan, Marcus Roan and Family

*C/O Deborah Roan underwent left knee replacement surgery in November of 2020. Darren Feiler, CPOF Representative for West Washington, and C/O Kay Coleman recommended assistance for C/O Roan with extra expenses following her surgery.*

*\* "Ms. Jean" is Jean Smith, one of the CPO Foundation's very first volunteers. Jean served the Foundation tirelessly for many years, and was highly respected and loved by all CPOF staff and volunteers. She was greatly instrumental in achieving payroll deduction for the convenience of Supporting Members in the State of Washington. Jean passed away in 2006.*

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**Have you moved recently? If so, have you notified us? If not, please do so right away.**

**Call us at 800.800.CPOF (2763). Or send us an email: [mail@cpof.org](mailto:mail@cpof.org)**

***THANK YOU!***

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## Missouri



### Stephanie Barone,

I hope all is well is with you. Here is a picture from the presentation of the CPOF's assistance check to C/O I Rodney Buttz. I truly appreciate the help that CPOF has provided to C/O I Buttz. When I presented the check to him, he got very emotional as he was not expecting it at all. Incidentally, he was chosen as our Employee of the Month for December 2020 and I presented him with that certificate also.

Again, I want to thank you and CPOF for all that you do. I, as a member, greatly appreciate you and CPOF and all that you do!

Spencer Colliatie, Deputy Warden - Kansas City Reentry Center  
*On 11/6/20 C/O Rodney Buttz of KCRC was posted outside the hospital room of a hospitalized inmate at a local Kansas City Hospital when he was assaulted by the inmate who was attempting*

*to escape. Above: C/O Buttz receiving his CPOF check from Deputy Warden Colliate.*



Maintenance Worker Brian Shewmaker of Tipton (facility) experienced a house fire caused by a short in the electrical wiring. Everything was lost. Above: Brian was presented with his CPOF check by Warden Brock Van Loo. Meckenzie Hayes, Employee Trauma Specialist, recommended Worker Shewmaker for assistance.

### To the CPOF,

Thank you for your kind letter and generous donation. Your thoughtfulness was very touching.

Sincerely,

Betty Barnhart

*C/O Richard Barnhart of MECC passed away on November 26, 2020 due to complications from surgery. Betty (Mrs. Barnhart) received a CPOF check to help with funeral expenses. Meckenzie Hayes, Employee Trauma Specialist, referred Mrs. Barnhart for assistance.*

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C/O I Nathen Smith works at WMCC. His wife, Jessica, died on February 25, 2021 from a rollover car accident. At right: Warden Chris Brewer presented Nathen with his CPOF check. Chris Brownlee, Acting Chief of Custody, recommended C/O I Smith for assistance.



# CPO FAMILY

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### *Announcing ...*

**Oregon's 13th Annual End of Watch  
Memorial Golf Tournament**  
**Chehalem Glen Golf Course, Newberg, Oregon**  
**Saturday, August 21, 2021 ~ Shotgun Start: 9:00 am**  
**For complete information, visit**  
*orendofwatchmf.org*  
**or cpof.org: golf tournaments**

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

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

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# CPO Foundation

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



*No matter the color of the uniform,  
no matter the home state, no matter  
the rank or Department, we all  
stand together.*

*Members of the CPO Foundation  
National Honor Guard attend the  
Memorial Ceremony for fallen  
Indiana Lieutenant Eugene Lasco.*

