

CPO FAMILY

TAKING CARE OF OUR OWN

Standing shoulder-to-shoulder to support each other through every challenge so no one in our corrections family faces hardship alone.

**PROJECT 2000
XXXVI**

HONORING THE FALLEN

**HOW YOU CAN BE A
PART OF CPOF**

www.cpof.org





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THIS IS WHY WE SERVE

The primary mission of the CPO Foundation is to support the families of Correctional Professionals who have tragically lost their lives in the line of duty. Each year, we come together to formally remember and honor these heroes at the CPO Foundation's National Memorial Ceremony, the centerpiece of our annual gathering known as PROJECT 2000. Our 2025 memorial in Minneapolis, Minnesota, provided a poignant opportunity to honor one of our founders and true pioneer, Glenn Mueller, in his home state, alongside the families of several fallen heroes, who you will read about in this magazine.

As our foundation staff, volunteers, board and honor guard teams prepare for each Project, it resembles a blend of an American-made, well-oiled machine and Santa's workshop. The CPOF teams are doing a hero's work. The teams are tireless, selfless and beyond reproach. Every detail is infused with talent, heart, strategy, and love. Our Honor Guard team demands perfection, and the CPOF Board, along with our volunteers and headquarters staff, ensures that we deliver excellence. Our fallen families deserve nothing less.

We acknowledge that the past year has been unimaginably difficult and unfair. While the future should be bright and full of hope, it can often feel painful and uncertain. Yet, during our brief time together at the memorial, we live in the moment, standing in solidarity, surrounded by love, and honoring the lives of our fallen heroes—our brothers and sisters who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

My journey in Corrections and the CPOF began

in January 2003. On my second day at the Richard McGee Correctional Academy, I met Rachel Lee, Char Corby, and Carol Novey. These remarkable women spoke passionately about the CPO Foundation and how its membership provides vital financial support to correctional families during their most challenging times. My optimistic memory tells me that every cadet in that academy signed up to be a member after their heartfelt presentation. It was clear that those ladies believed in their mission and would not take “no” for an answer. To their point and to this day, I firmly believe there is no excuse for anyone affiliated with corrections across this great nation not to be a supporting member. We all bleed blue; we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers. Together, we can achieve more, serve a greater purpose, and provide financial assistance, healing, and lifelong honors for our resolute partners killed in the line of duty. The CPOF is the only national foundation dedicated solely to correctional professionals in the United States and beyond.

Fast forward to 2006, when I was a Correctional Officer at High Desert State Prison, and tragedy struck. I was asked to attend memorial services as an Honor Guard Team Member due to a shortage of members to fulfill the ceremonial duties of flag folding, taps, the 21-gun salute, pallbearers, honor watch, family escorts, and to represent our beloved department in the sacred vigils that symbolize unwavering respect, solidarity, and remembrance for the surviving family members. My Sergeant and Honor Guard Co-Commander lent me her duty oxfords to wear, which were about half a size too small. The prison's IST department provided me with the necessary leathers and brass, because I did not yet have my own. It was made clear to me early on that having a perfect uniform, shiny shoes, and being in perfect step and formation was not optional, it was expected and mandatory. I learned that proper honor and respect demanded representation, and from that day forward, I committed to living by that principle. It was a humbling and eye-opening experience. We showed up and represented well. I vividly remember Correctional Lieutenant Robbie Gamberg presenting the flag to the widow, tears streaming down his face. A guy with a command performance that I dumbly thought was not capable of such emotions. That moment took my breath away, taught me a life lesson, and the memory still resonates with me. I

also recall the emotional outpouring during the debrief after the memorial. We all showed emotions I did not think were allowed in a prison. I was obviously very wrong. My senior partners, Ben and Sharline tried to discreetly check on my well-being afterward and still do to this day. I felt a whirlwind of emotions—proud, strong, sad, stoic, and mostly humble and appreciative that our selfless Honor Guard volunteers showed up for this family, ensuring they knew their loved one was part of a noble cause and that they belonged to something greater than themselves. I was very proud to be asked to join their team. I was also grateful to my department and superiors for allowing us the privilege to serve in that capacity. The greatest takeaway from that experience is this: we must never waver in our commitment to show up when duty calls. Step up when called upon. There is no greater privilege than being part of the healing and honorary process within our beloved departments when we face the challenges of a partner's death. That is why we serve and, quite frankly, why our foundation exists. These sentiments are what PROJECT 2000 are all about.

In 2013, as the Correctional Sergeant and Co-Commander of the joint CCC and HDSP Honor Guard Teams, we tirelessly sought approval from our administrators to attend the CPOF Project in Reno, Nevada. During that project, both Larry Corby and Glenn Mueller shared invaluable insights about expectations regarding my future and career within our beloved—and sometimes challenging—department. Their words have stayed with me, resonating deeply throughout my career. It was something from a scene of the movie “A Few Good Men”. Yes, I was given the truth! What still reverberates within me today is how both Larry and Glenn made me feel like family, encouraged my promotional path and basically told me not to take any...., well you know...., anything too serious :) I still sought out the advice of Glenn as I promoted to Associate Warden during my tenure with CDCR at every subsequent opportunity. I am steadfast in my belief in their original mission and I never ever wanted to let them down in their expectations and that rings true today. My beliefs will never change as long as I have a voice and breath. We will always believe in honoring the vision and upholding the legacy of our humble founders. Taking Care of Our own. That is why I serve.

The true testament to our foundation's relentless outreach is most evident in the faces of our honoree children. When we see them feel safe, dance to the YMCA,

swim, sing, and bond over meals, golf, and movies, we find peace in knowing our promises are kept. We promise to never forget their sacrifice, to take the watch from here on out, and to always take care of our own. This was proven during ceremonies when some of the children of our fallen families and members were awarded scholarships during PROJECT 2000 in June.

The annual memorial intentionally honors assault survivors and courageous correctional staff who go above and beyond the call of duty. We prioritize providing sanctuary space for children in the “Kid's Room” and on heavily guarded field trips. In years past, I have spent time in the Kid's Room as a chaperone and in the Family Room as a Fallen Family liaison. I can only explain those experiences as some of the most humbling, rewarding and solemn privileges in my entire life and career. Those sacred moments shared shall be carried in my heart and life always. It's a constant reminder to always serve with an attitude of gratitude as tomorrow is not promised.

We also honored Don and Judy Dease with the dedication and ribbon-cutting of the Judy and Don Dease Wellness Room, a peaceful sanctuary for attendees for many years to come. I will forever cherish the moment Don and Judy christened the room with their loving dance to “My Girl.” I have the photos! The joy of that moment is only rivaled by the way the children light up when Don entertains them with his rendition of the YMCA dance moves. Don gracefully announced his retirement from the CPOF Board position, but he remains an Emeritus and will always be a part of this foundation. The farewell breakfast was his announcement and he appropriately concluded the message with his awesome rendition of his carefully curated version of the YMCA dance.

My biggest takeaway from my experiences at PROJECTS is the resilience, courage, and strength of our fallen families, especially the children. They are proof that our future is bright and that hope floats. I must also mention the camaraderie and bonding are very fulfilling and necessary. And, of course, the CPOF National Honor Guard Team combined with the National Pipe Band performances. They are the absolute best in our noble trade and our great nation. Hands Down, the best.

Together with God's grace, we will continue to honor our fallen heroes and support their families, ensuring that their sacrifices are never forgotten. This is why we serve.



PROJECT 2000 XXXVI: A Continuing Legacy of Honor, Unity, and Action

Every June, correctional professionals, family members, volunteers, and community supporters will converge once again for PROJECT 2000, the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation's (CPOF) annual Memorial Ceremony and professional gathering. As CPOF marks its 36th iteration this year, PROJECT 2000 remains the embodiment of its founding promise: to take care of our own, today and always.

From Capitol Beginnings to a Nationwide Journey

The story of PROJECT 2000 began in June 1990 on the grounds of our Nation's capitol, where the inaugural gatherings honored those who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. For the next five years, CPOF returned each June to Washington, D.C., cementing a tradition of

remembrance and solidarity in the heart of national government.

Since the mid-1990s, CPOF has taken PROJECT 2000 on the road—selecting host cities across the country to ensure correctional professionals from every region can attend both the Memorial Ceremony and the surrounding events. From the Atlantic coast to the Pacific Northwest, each host city has lent its own unique spirit, enriching the program while forging new bonds across state lines. Along the way, Honor Guard teams from across the nation have joined us, marching in unison to demonstrate that, no matter where we serve, our commitment to one another transcends geography.

The Heart of PROJECT 2000: Ceremony, Fellowship, and Recognition

While each year brings local flair and minor programmatic tweaks, the core of PROJECT 2000 includes:

Welcome Dinner (Thursday Night): Bagpipes signal the start of the gathering, their plaintive notes weaving through the banquet hall as honorees and families take their seats. The highlight: children of the fallen are called forward to receive gift-filled backpacks—symbols of hope amid sorrow and a testament to CPOF’s unwavering support for survivors.

Memorial Ceremony (Friday Morning): Donning uniforms and civilian attire alike, attendees walk or ride buses to a nearby park for the solemn ceremony. A reader intones each name of colleagues lost in the previous calendar year alongside their “End of Watch” date, followed by a tolling bell from the National Honor Guard Team. The ceremony concludes with a 21-gun salute and a stirring rendition of “Taps” by Honor Guard member Gil Arizmendi—moments that bind the community in collective tribute.

Memorial Luncheon: Returning to the host hotel, families receive the spent shells from the salute as a keepsake and are individually recognized by department. This intimate gathering fosters personal connection, reminding us that behind every name is a story of service and sacrifice.

Breakout Sessions (Friday Afternoon & Saturday Morning): From presentations on officer wellness and mental-health strategies to panels on leadership development and policy advocacy, these workshops empower attendees to tailor PROJECT 2000 to their professional passions and bring new insights back to their departments.

Friday Night Fellowship: A laid-back BBQ—sometimes featuring regional cuisine—provides the perfect backdrop for informal conversation. Over plates of food and shared laughter, new friendships are forged and old bonds are strengthened.

Survivors of Serious Assaults Luncheon

(Saturday Midday): At this special luncheon, CPOF honors correctional professionals who have survived serious line-of-duty assaults and those whose service has gone above and beyond the call of duty. Each survivor is recognized by name as colleagues and loved ones look on. Guest presentations—firsthand accounts of resilience and recovery—follow, offering inspiration and camaraderie. This year, for the first time, CPOF presented battle streamers to every Honor Guard team in attendance—a visual reminder of the shared strength and solidarity that unite us all.

Saturday Afternoon Breakouts: After lunch, additional sessions delve deeper into specialized topics, from crisis-response coordination to volunteer engagement strategies, ensuring every attendee finds content that resonates with their role and interests.

Farewell Breakfast (Sunday Morning): Before departure, families, friends, and colleagues gather one final time. Children perform short presentations, voices blending in hope and remembrance, and attendees share personal reflections—closing PROJECT 2000 with heartfelt “see you next time” promises.

A Beacon of Remembrance, Unity, and Action
PROJECT 2000 stands as an annual beacon of remembrance, unity, and action. For those who attend, it is a solemn obligation; for families who have lost a colleague, it is a measure of collective grief; and for CPOF, it is the very embodiment of its enduring vow: to take care of our own, today and always.

Honoring This Year’s Fallen

In the pages that follow, we will share the names, stories, and service details of the correctional staff honored at PROJECT 2000 this year. Their dedication and sacrifice serve as powerful reminders of why we gather each June—to remember, to support one another, and to reaffirm our commitment to take care of our own, today and always.



CHARLES RIVETTE / EOW 02/21/2024



CHARLES RIVETTE

DEPUTY SHERIFF

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S

OFFICE, TEXAS

EOW - 02/21/2024

On the evening of February 21, 2024, the Montgomery County community was shaken by the tragic loss of Deputy Sheriff Charles Rivette. While transporting an inmate from Oklahoma to Montgomery County, Deputy Rivette's vehicle struck from a freightliner at approximately 10:30 p.m. Seated in the passenger seat, he was ejected upon impact and, in a cruel twist of fate, struck by an oncoming vehicle. He was pronounced dead at the scene, leaving behind a grieving department, a loving family, and countless friends and colleagues who admired him.

For 18 years, Deputy Rivette served with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, upholding the law with quiet strength, professionalism, and an unwavering sense of duty. Colleagues remember him not only as a dedicated public servant but as a man of deep compassion and character. Whether de-escalating tense situations on the job or offering a steadying presence to those in crisis, he exemplified the true spirit of service under the badge.

Outside of his uniform, Charles was a devoted husband to Jenyfer and a loving father to Tyler, Adilynn, and Ava. He took every opportunity to be present in their lives—coaching little league games, building backyard projects together, and sharing daily moments of humor and warmth. His family was his greatest pride, and he carried their love with him in every shift he worked.

CPOF was proud to have his wife Jenyfer, and his three children, Tyler, Addie, and Ava join us at PROJECT 2000. Attending on behalf of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office was Sgt Daniel Whitworth, who also acted as the escort to the Rivette family.

Though his absence is deeply felt, the impact of Deputy Rivette's life endures in every corner of the community he protected. His legacy lives on in the safer streets he helped maintain, the deputies he mentored, and the family he cherished. May we remember him not only for how he served, but for how he loved, how he led, and how he lived.



RODNEY OSBORNE

LIEUTENANT

SOUTHERN OHIO CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION & CORRECTION

EOW - 04/09/2024

During a training exercise at the Corrections Training Academy, Lieutenant Rodney Osborne tragically lost his life. While participating in a tactical firearms drill, an instructor demonstrating a weapon draw discharged a live round. Lt. Osborne was struck in the chest just above his protective vest, sustaining fatal injuries to his ribs and right lung. His passing sent shockwaves through the correctional community, underscoring the risks officers face even in training settings.

For 13 years, Lt. Osborne served with honor and dedication at the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. An esteemed member of the Honor Guard, the Special Response Team, and the Statewide Special Tactics and Response Team, he embodied professionalism and commitment at every level. Just one week before his passing, he was named Employee of the Year—a testament not only to his outstanding service, but to the deep respect and admiration he earned from peers and supervisors alike.

Those who knew Lt. Osborne remember him for the energy and heart he brought into every room. Always the first to volunteer, he balanced demanding duties with humor—his signature order of Dr Pepper with grenadine and

Little Debbie cakes became legendary among colleagues. Whether defusing high-stress scenarios in the field or lightening the mood in the break room, Rodney's presence was a source of strength and camaraderie.

Above all, Rodney was a devoted family man. He is survived by his beloved wife, Bobbie, and his three children—Chasen, Lillian, and Jozef—who were the pride of his life. His stories, laughter, and unwavering love will continue to shape their lives and the many others he inspired.

Thank you to his wife Bobbie and his children Lilly and Jozef for joining us. Correctional Officers Alexander Stowall and April Duckworth acted as escorts with the family. Attending on behalf of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction was Ernie Moore, Deputy Director of Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Though his time with us was far too short, the legacy of Lt. Rodney Osborne endures in the lives he protected, the teams he led, and the family he cherished.

May we remember him for how he served—with courage, compassion, and humor—and for how he lived—with devotion, warmth, and unwavering dedication.





RODNEY OSBORNE / EOW 04/09/2024

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WILLIAM ALDEN ELLIOTT / EOW 04/29/2024



WILLIAM ALDEN ELLIOTT

TASK FORCE OFFICER

APPREHENSION UNIT

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ADULT CORRECTION

EOW - 04/29/2024

From a young age, William Alden Elliot stood out for his remarkable intellect, boundless generosity, and effortless humor. Whether repairing a broken engine, solving a complex puzzle, or lightening the mood with a perfectly timed one-liner, Alden brought insight and laughter into every moment. His humility and bravery were as defining as his quick wit, and those qualities shone in both his personal life and his career.

On the evening of April 29, 2024, Task Force Officers Alden Elliott and Samuel Poloche faced a deadly ambush while serving a felony warrant on a convicted felon. As they approached to carry out the warrant, the suspect opened fire with a high-powered rifle. In the ensuing gun battle, both officers sustained fatal wounds. The suspect was also killed during the incident, and two individuals were taken into custody for questioning.

For 14 years, Officer Elliott served with distinction in the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction's Special Operations and Intelligence Unit. His peers admired his steadfast professionalism, his calm decisiveness under pressure, and his unwavering commitment to public safety. Just one week before his passing, Alden was recognized by his unit for exemplary leadership in a high-risk operation—another

testament to the respect and admiration he earned among colleagues.

Away from the intensity of duty, Alden was a devoted husband to Justine and a loving father to Theo. He approached fatherhood with the same creativity and warmth that characterized every aspect of his life—building backyard forts with Theo, coaching impromptu basketball games, and sharing nightly bedtime stories that transformed ordinary moments into treasured memories. To his friends, he was the first to lend a hand or a listening ear; to his family, he was their unwavering rock.

Though our hearts are heavy with his loss, Alden's legacy lives on in the countless lives he protected, the laughter he inspired, and the quiet strength he demonstrated each day. He will be remembered as someone who was thoroughly genuine, eternally humble, permanently brave, and infinitely generous.

Attending on behalf of the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction was Anthony Smith, Director of Internal Affairs and Apprehension. Thank you to Officer Shonda Kincaid for escorting Mr. Smith. May we honor William Alden Elliott by carrying forward his spirit of service, compassion, and courage—and by living each day with the same generosity and grace he exemplified.



SAMUEL POLOCHE

TASK FORCE OFFICER

APPREHENSION UNIT

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ADULT CORRECTION

EOW - 04/29/2024

After arriving in the United States from Venezuela at just nine months old, Samuel Poloché built a life defined by honor, bravery, and quiet fortitude. A man of many talents and deeper values, Sam combined a patient, kind spirit with a keen aptitude for technology and craftsmanship—whether he was working leather into bespoke creations, exploring new places, or sharing his latest tech discovery with friends.

Above all, Sam was a family man. Alongside his beloved wife Cielo, he raised two sons—Xavier and Gavin—whose every milestone filled him with immense pride and uncontrollable joy. His devotion as a father was evident in every bedtime story, every soccer game on the backyard lawn, and every word of encouragement he offered. Grounded by his faith, Sam lived out the love of Jesus not only in his words but through caring for others, serving his community, and loving his family unconditionally.

On April 29, 2024, Task Force Officers William Alden Elliott and Samuel Poloché faced a deadly ambush while serving a felony warrant on a convicted felon. As they approached to carry out the warrant, the suspect opened fire with a high-powered rifle. In the prolonged gun battle that followed, both officers sustained fatal wounds and were tragically killed in the line of duty. The suspect was also killed

during the incident, and two individuals were taken into custody for questioning.

For 14 years, Sam served with distinction in the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction's Special Operations and Intelligence Unit. His peers admired his unwavering professionalism, his calm decisiveness under pressure, and his steadfast commitment to public safety. Just one week before the ambush, Sam and his partner were recognized for exceptional bravery during a high-risk operation—another testament to the respect and admiration he earned among those he served.

Though our hearts are heavy with his loss, the legacy of Task Force Officer Samuel Poloché endures in the lives he safeguarded, the colleagues he inspired, and the family he adored. He will be remembered as a man who was thoroughly genuine, eternally humble, permanently brave, and infinitely generous.

Attending on behalf of the North Carolina Department of Adult Correction was Operations Chief of Internal Affairs & Apprehension, Jeff Sipes. Thank you to Officer Amy Schwartz for escorting Mr. Sipes. May we honor Samuel Poloché by carrying forward his spirit of service, compassion, and courage—and by living each day with the same gentleness, strength, and grace he exemplified.





SAMUEL POLOCHE / EOW 04/29/2024



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DAVIS MARTINEZ / EOW 05/31/2024



DAVIS MARTINEZ

PAROLE & PROBATION AGENT

SILVER SPRING FIELD OFFICE

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICE

EOW - 05/31/2024

On May 31, 2024, the Maryland Division of Parole and Probation and the broader corrections community were struck by tragedy when Agent Davis Martinez failed to return from a routine home visit. After notifying his supervisor of the visit and missing his midday check-in, coworkers conducted a welfare check. Responding officers discovered his vehicle at the residence and, following the sound of his cell phone, located his body wrapped in plastic beneath a bed. Agent Martinez had been brutally beaten and stabbed multiple times. The suspect fled but was apprehended the next day and charged with second-degree murder.

For six years, Agent Martinez served at the Silver Spring Field Office with unwavering professionalism and dedication to community safety. He approached every assignment—whether routine supervision or crisis intervention—with diligence and empathy, earning the respect of colleagues and clients alike.

Beyond his service, Davis was a beacon of warmth and perseverance. A proud Salvadoran, he carried his heritage with pride—often displaying the Salvadoran flag as a tribute to his roots and the values they instilled. He made history in his family as the first college graduate, earning a degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice and inspiring his siblings with his example of perseverance and purpose.

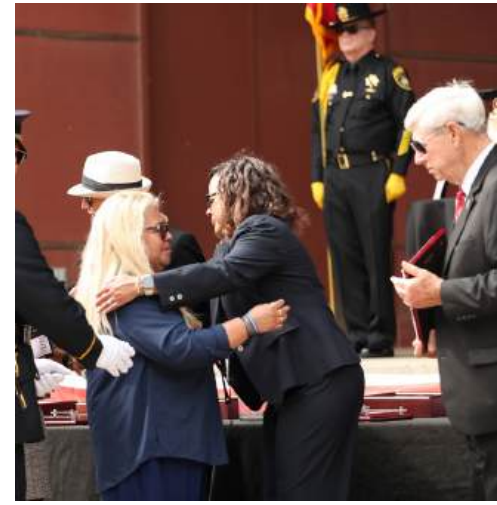
Davis found solace in nature and joy in simple adventures—Saturday drives in his Jeep with his brothers Michael and Joseph became a cherished ritual. At home, he was deeply devoted to his mother, Blanca Garcia, and his sister, Elvia. His capacity to make others feel seen, valued, and cared for defined every interaction, whether sharing a quiet moment or offering a joke to lift a friend's spirits.

Though his life was cut far too short, Agent Martinez's impact endures—in the safer communities he helped build, in the colleagues he mentored, and in the family he loved so fiercely. His legacy of courage, compassion, and joy will continue to inspire all who carry his story forward.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Blanca Garcia, whose strength and grace remind us of Davis's unwavering love for his family; to Senior Level Advisor LaVonya Moody, whose presence honored his dedication to the Division; and to Correctional Officer II Edward Reagan, who served as caring escort for the family—thank you for standing with Agent Martinez's loved ones and helping us celebrate his memory.

May we remember Agent Davis Martinez not only for how he served, but for how he lived—with intention, love, and a light that continues to guide us.

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COREY PROULX

YOUTH COUNSELOR

LINCOLN HILL SCHOOL FOR BOYS

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

EOW - 06/25/2024



Counselor Corey Proulx lived a life defined by boundless curiosity, deep compassion, and an unwavering love for the outdoors. From childhood, he felt most at home among the pines—hunting, fishing, and exploring the woods with an adventurous spirit and profound respect for nature’s rhythms. That spirit endured throughout his life, guiding him on journeys near and far, always met with enthusiasm and an open heart. Whether navigating backcountry trails or casting a line from his boat, Corey found peace and purpose in the simple wonder of the natural world.

Beyond his love of wilderness, Corey’s greatest devotion was to his family. As a caring father to his daughter, Hanna, and a devoted fiancé to Deann, he poured his heart into every moment they shared—coaching little league games, telling campfire stories, and planning family fishing trips that became treasured traditions. His warmth, generosity, and steady presence touched everyone fortunate enough to know him.

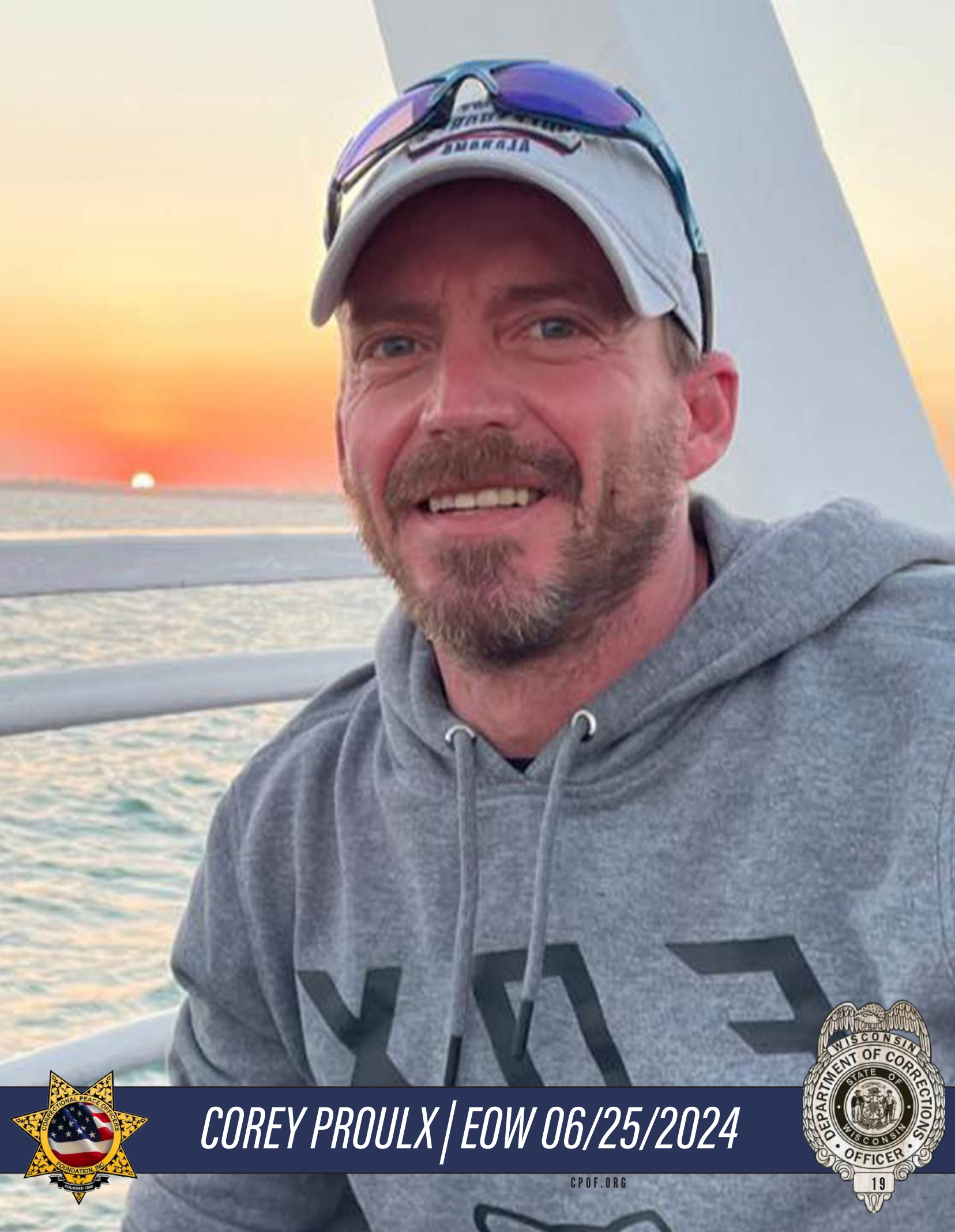
On the evening of June 24, 2024, Counselor Proulx answered the call of duty at Lincoln Hills School, responding without hesitation when a resident fled during a violent incident. In his courageous pursuit to restore safety, he was struck multiple times and sustained life-threatening injuries. Airlifted to the hospital, Corey was declared brain dead

the following day. In his final act of selflessness, he honored his wish to donate his organs—extending the gift of life to others even beyond his own.

Though Corey’s time with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections was brief—just 15 months—his impact was profound. His compassion, integrity, and commitment to the rehabilitation and care of youth in custody set a high standard for colleagues and left an enduring mark on the facility community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to those who stood with Corey’s loved ones during this difficult time: his daughter, Hanna Harris, his fiancé, Deann Roble, and his parents, Ed & Kathy Proulx, whose love and strength honored his memory; to DOC DJC Administrator Lance Horozewski & CIRT Coordinator Kristy Baumgart, whose presence represented the Department’s gratitude; and to Supervising Youth Counselor II Jared Tomany, who served as devoted family escort—thank you for embodying Corey’s spirit of service and solidarity.

Corey may have left the trail, but his footprints remain—in the lives he touched, the family he cherished, and the wild places he loved. May we honor his legacy by seeking beauty in the everyday, exploring with open eyes, and loving with full hearts.



COREY PROULX / EOW 06/25/2024

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MARC FISCHER / EOW 08/09/2024



MARC FISCHER

SUPERVISORY CORRECTIONAL SYSTEMS SPECIALIST

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS - USP ATWATER, CA

EOW - 08/09/2024

Specialist Marc Fischer was a man defined by devotion—to his family, his faith, and his country. From 1989 to 2000, he proudly served in the United States Coast Guard, and for more than 23 years thereafter, he wore a different uniform as a dedicated member of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Through both careers, Marc's loyalty, humility, and kindness never wavered. He had an uncanny knack for brightening any room—whether by quietly listening to a colleague in need or by showcasing his legendary ability to name any 1980s song and artist within seconds, earning him instant “Name That Tune” champion status.

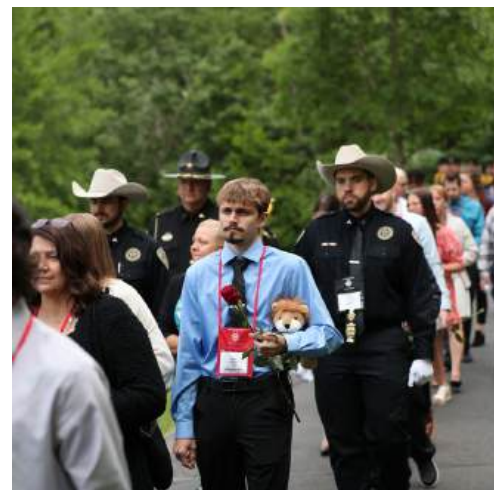
At home, Marc was a loving husband to Tammy and a proud father to Cassidy and Ryan. He coached his daughter's soccer team with boundless heart and patience, and on weekends could often be found walking the neighborhood with his faithful dog, Bosco, and a pocket speaker blasting his favorite mixtapes. To know Marc was to feel seen and to smile a little more; his generous spirit and steady presence left an indelible mark on everyone he met.

On August 9, 2024, while performing his duties in the mailroom at USP Atwater, Specialist Fischer made a routine decision that exemplified his professionalism: he opened a piece of legal mail suspected

of being compromised. When the inmate recipient became agitated and returned to his cell, Marc proceeded to copy the documents. Moments later, while washing his hands, he and a fellow officer began experiencing disorientation and distress. Recognizing the emergency, Marc requested medical assistance—yet despite the swift response of first responders, he was pronounced deceased at 2:14 p.m. Subsequent testing of the mail confirmed the presence of hazardous substances, including amphetamine, BGD, nicotinamide, and fentanyl, likely absorbed through incidental exposure.

Though his sudden passing was a profound loss, Specialist Fischer's legacy endures in the lives he safeguarded, the colleagues he mentored, and the family he adored. He will be remembered for the laughter he shared, the quiet strength he embodied, and the unwavering devotion with which he served both country and community.

We extend our deepest gratitude to his wife Tammy and children Ryan and Cassidy for attending PROJECT 2000. Representing the Federal Bureau of Prisons and acting as the family escort was Warden Jacob Doerer. Thank you for honoring Specialist Fischer's memory with your presence and support.



MICHELLE QUINTERO

MAJOR

MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NORTH CAROLINA

EOW - 09/27/2024



Major Michelle Quintero—a leader whose courage and compassion defined her 17 years of service with the Madison County Sheriff's Office. Though her name joined those honored in the solemn Memorial Ceremony, it was her life's story—of selfless devotion to duty, family, and community—that truly resonated with everyone present.

On September 27, 2024, as Hurricane Helene bore down on Western North Carolina, Major Quintero sprang into action to lead emergency operations at the Madison County Detention Center. Clad in uniform and determined to protect others, she made her way toward her patrol vehicle when a nearby dam failed. A sudden wall of floodwater and debris swept her away, entrapping her in fencing. Despite exhaustive rescue efforts, she did not resurface until the waters receded. Her passing marked the ultimate sacrifice—running toward danger when others were told to flee.

Throughout her distinguished career, Michelle rose to the rank of Jail Administrator and earned certifications as both a deputy and detention officer. She was the bedrock of her department—admired for her encyclopedic knowledge ("If Michelle doesn't know it, it's not worth knowing"), her steady leadership, and her genuine warmth. Colleagues remember her as selfless, affectionate, and—when

needed—a perfectly timed dose of sass. She cared deeply for her staff, ensuring they felt supported and seen, and led every operation with integrity and resolve.

Beyond her badge, Michelle was the heart of a proud law-enforcement family. She and her husband, Isaac Quintero, a supporting member at Avery Mitchell Correctional Institution in North Carolina, shared a partnership grounded in service and faith. Their children, Ashlynn and Sylvester, carry forward their mother's legacy through their own roles within the Sheriff's Office. To her family, Michelle was not only a matriarch but also a friend to their friends—known simply as "Mom" to many of the young people she mentored.

Though her light was extinguished too soon, Major Quintero's legacy of faith, strength, and love endures in every life she touched. We extend our deepest gratitude to Isaac Quintero, Ashlynn Quintero and Sylvester Hunter, whose pride in her service will inspire them always; and to Deputy Sheriff Daniel Porche, whose role as department representative and family escort embodied the solidarity Michelle herself fostered.

May we continue to honor Major Michelle Quintero not only for her bravery in the face of disaster but for the grace, knowledge, and unwavering devotion she brought to every aspect of her remarkable life.



MICHELLE QUINTERO / EOW 09/27/2024

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LOUIS PEPE / EOW 11/24/2024



LOUIS PEPE

SENIOR OFFICER SPECIALIST

METROPOLITAN CORRECTIONAL CENTER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS

EOW - 11/24/2024

Senior Officer Specialist Louis Pepe embodied both extraordinary bravery and profound compassion throughout his 15 years with the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Respected by peers and inmates alike, Pepe's gentle spirit and steady smile reflected a belief that true strength is found in kindness and dignity.

On November 1, 2000, while escorting an inmate awaiting trial for acts of terrorism at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in New York, Officer Pepe was ambushed. Inmates blinded him with hot sauce and then used makeshift weapons to stab him in the left eye. Over the course of an hour, they attempted to overpower him and seize his keys to facilitate a violent escape. Despite catastrophic injuries—blindness, brain trauma, and paralysis—Pepe refused to surrender his keys, preventing further bloodshed and protecting countless lives.

Following 2½ years of intensive rehabilitation, Pepe remained in a wheelchair and required continuous care, yet his courage never

wavered. He retired in 2014, but his legacy of steadfast resolve and heartfelt service endured. Though he outlived all his immediate family, Pepe was never alone—he forged a different kind of family through enduring friendships, unwavering compassion, and the loyalty of his longtime caregiver, who stood by his side for 15 years.

At PROJECT 2000, we honored Officer Pepe's remarkable life and sacrifices. Representing the Federal Bureau of Prisons was Field Representative Wayne Bowdry, and escorting him during the ceremony was newest Honor Guard member, Federal Officer Emmitt Landry. Their presence paid tribute to Pepe's dual legacy of heroism and humanity.

Officer Pepe's life reminds us that a true legacy is measured not by titles or possessions but by the kindness we show, the respect we give, and the relationships we nurture. Though he is gone, the warmth he brought to this world—and the courage he displayed in its darkest moments—lives on.



ISAIAH BIAS

DETENTION OFFICER

ELLIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

TEXAS

EOW - 12/16/2024

Detention Officer Isaiah Patrick Bias was celebrated this year at PROJECT 2000 for a life defined by exceptional talent, boundless compassion, and ultimate sacrifice. Born July 6, 1996, in Moriarty, New Mexico, and raised across Texas, Isaiah was the second oldest of eleven children. Homeschooled with a hands-on curriculum, he mastered a remarkable range of skills—art, music, metal- and woodworking, animal husbandry, cooking, chess, and archery—graduating early and earning top scores at Navarro College. A self-taught musician, he composed praise songs for his church and recorded every part himself. His entrepreneurial spirit shone through in a small business crafting and selling intricately designed swords to friends and family.

At 14, Isaiah joined the Ellis County Explorers program, where he forged lifelong bonds, excelled in competitions, and inspired four of his siblings to follow in his footsteps. By 19, he had returned as a Detention Officer with the Ellis County Sheriff's Office. Colleagues admired his steady wisdom, compassionate listening ear, and his gift for helping others navigate challenges and grow stronger.

Outside of work, Isaiah's warmth and creativity enriched every setting. He delighted in teaching his nieces and nephews new games, and his inventive 3-D printed creations and computer-generated art brought joy to fellow officers. Whether mentoring a fellow Explorer or sharing a quiet conversation after a shift, he made everyone feel valued and heard.

On December 16, 2024, while escorting an inmate back to his cell, Isaiah was ambushed and sustained fatal injuries. His fellow officers administered lifesaving measures until EMS arrived, but he succumbed to his wounds. Throughout his six-year tenure, Isaiah's dedication to public safety, his mentorship of new staff, and his genuine care for everyone he encountered set a high standard for service.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Natalie Barr, who represented his family with grace; and to Detention Officer Thomas De Palma and Detention Officer Matthew Falls, who stood by her side as department representatives and family escorts. Detention Officer Bias's legacy of creativity, kindness, and unwavering devotion will continue to inspire and guide all who knew him.





ISAIAH BIAS / EOW 12/16/2024

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ANDREW LANSING / EOW 12/25/2024



ANDREW LANSING

CORRECTION OFFICER

ROSS CORRECTIONAL CENTER

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND CORRECTION

EOW - 12/25/2024

Officer Andrew Lansing embodied dedication, heart, and unwavering pride in service throughout his 24 years with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. Born in France in 1962, Andrew's warm smile and generous spirit made everyone around him feel respected and valued. A mentor and leader, he set high standards for himself and inspired others to do the same.

After nine years in the U.S. Army, Andrew brought that same duty and courage to corrections—serving in many capacities, including the Special Response Team. His commitment extended beyond the badge: he was an active member of Orient Masonic Lodge and the Pike County Shrine Club, always finding ways to give back to his community.

At Ross Correctional Institution, Andrew's impact was so profound that, following his passing, the Roll Call room was posthumously renamed the "Andrew Lansing Roll Call Room," ensuring his leadership continues to guide every shift. In May 2025, he was further honored as the Ronald C. Marshall Correction Officer of the Year, recognizing his lifetime of selfless service.

On Christmas Day, while working an overtime shift so colleagues could be home with their families, Officer Lansing was stationed in the guard shack when an inmate suddenly attacked him. He sustained fatal blunt-force injuries and later passed away at a medical center. His final act of service—volunteering on a holiday—speaks to his extraordinary character.

Above all, Andrew was a loving husband to Chun Lansing, devoted father to Edward Lansing and Kimberly Lansing, and cherished uncle to Erin Lansing. His family was his pride and greatest joy.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to his family representatives—Chun Lansing, Edward Lansing, and Erin Lansing—and to Warden William Cool and Deputy Director Ernie Moore, who joined as department representatives. Special thanks to Correctional Officers Joshua Carver and Cameron Snodgrass for escorting the family with honor and support.

Officer Lansing's legacy of dedication, sacrifice, and generosity will never be forgotten—and his memory will continue to inspire all who serve.



JOEL LEGASPI

CORRECTIONS OFFICER

INDIAN CREEK CORRECTIONAL CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, VIRGINIA

EOW - 01/21/2018



Correctional Officer Joel A. Legaspi was celebrated this year at PROJECT 2000 for a life marked by steadfast service, deep faith, and unwavering devotion to family and community.

Joel's journey began in the Army National Guard, where he learned the values of discipline and teamwork that would guide him throughout his career. After transitioning to corrections, he joined the Virginia Department of Corrections at Indian Creek, serving honorably for 11 years. Known for his calm demeanor under pressure, Joel routinely led facility-wide searches—once coordinating a near-overnight operation to locate a missing piece of kitchen equipment believed to be a potential weapon. Colleagues recall his steady leadership and willingness to mentor new officers, setting a standard of professionalism and care.

On January 19, 2018, following a demanding 14-hour shift of mandatory overtime, Joel complained of a severe headache. He returned to work the next morning but was clearly unwell. After being sent home, he tragically succumbed to a subarachnoid hemorrhage—a stark reminder of the hidden toll that extended duty can take on those

who protect us.

Beyond his duties as an officer, Joel was a pillar of his church community. Elected Deacon at Calvary Virginia Beach, he embodied his faith through acts of kindness, from coordinating community outreach events to offering quiet counsel to those in need. His warm humor—always ready with a joke or a friendly greeting—lifted spirits both on and off duty.

At home, Joel was a devoted husband to Amanda Legaspi and a loving father to Kyle Legaspi. He treasured family adventures—camping beneath the stars, gathering around bonfires, and exploring mountain trails—and found balance and renewal in the outdoors.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to his family representatives—Amanda Legaspi and Kyle Legaspi—for sharing Joel's story; to Assistant Warden Alfrazier Charity, who represented the department; and to Corrections Officer Caroline Olsen, who escorted the family with compassion and respect.

Joel Legaspi's legacy of faith, courage, and joy will continue to inspire all who knew him—a lasting testament to a life lived in heartfelt service to others.



JOEL LEGASPI / EOW 01/21/2018

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PROJECT 2000 XXXVI

MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Under the summer sky at Bloomington's Normandale Lake Bandshell, the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) gathered for its annual Memorial Ceremony as part of PROJECT 2000, led by National Director Bill Hutto. This year's event not only honored the memory of fallen heroes, but also marked a special dedication to our late colleague, Glenn Mueller.

A Reverent Gathering

Hundreds of attendees—including active and retired correctional professionals, family members, volunteers, and community supporters—filled the Bandshell lawn the morning of Friday, June 6, 2025. Honor Guard Teams from across the nation marched in over the hills to their place in the ceremony. Opening remarks by Bill Hutto reflected both the solemnity and solidarity that define the CPOF mission: “Today, we stand together to remember those who gave their lives in service, and to reaffirm our promise to take care of our own.”

Honoring the Fallen

The ceremony wove personal remembrances with the timeless traditions of PROJECT 2000. A lone bugler's “Taps” resonated across the water, following the reading of each name lost in the past year. Family members stepped forward to lay roses at the foot of the stage, each bloom symbolizing a life of dedication. Many paused afterward to share stories, photograph name plaques, or simply embrace one another in quiet support.

A Bench for Glenn Mueller

In a touching tribute, CPOF unveiled a commemorative bench overlooking Normandale Lake, dedicated to Glenn Mueller—an unwavering advocate for peer support and outreach within our ranks. Glenn's family joined the audience as the bench was unveiled and a

“Hoo-Rah” followed.

Reflections and Remembrance

Throughout the morning, volunteers from CPOF's Honor Guard displayed ceremonial rifles and flags, punctuating the event with precise, dignified movements. Chaplain Gary Evans offered an invocation, reminding all that remembrance propels compassion into action: “As we honor those who fell, let us recommit to the values they embodied—service, integrity, and community.”

Looking Ahead

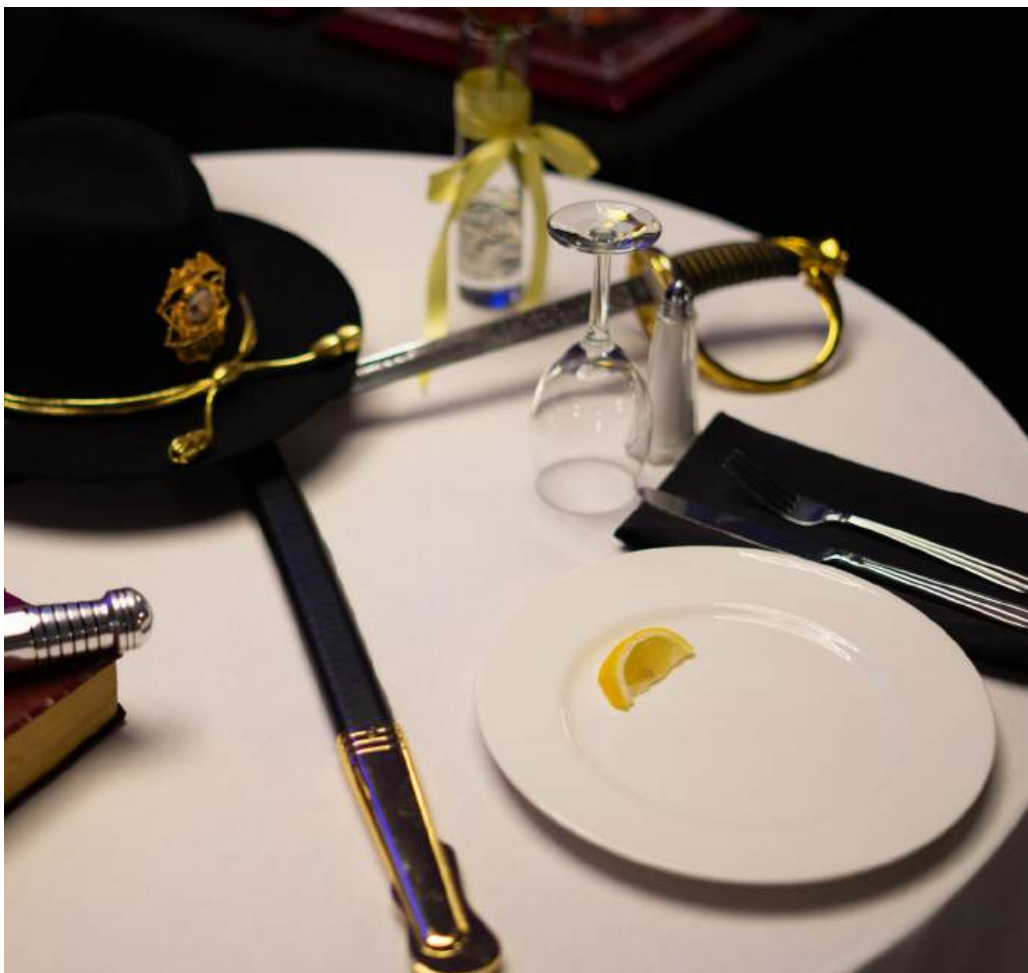
As the ceremony concluded, Hutto invited everyone to join CPOF back at the hotel for our annual Memorial Luncheon. The dedication of Glenn's bench served as a tangible reminder of the individual lives at the heart of these endeavors.

In closing, Hutto emphasized the dual nature of PROJECT 2000: “We mourn together, and we move forward together. Every story we tell, every memory we honor, strengthens the backbone of our community.”

A Place to Remember

The new bench will remain a lasting fixture at Normandale Lake, offering a place of respite for visitors and a symbol of enduring gratitude. Whether pausing after a morning jog or attending next year's ceremony, all who pass by will be invited to reflect on Glenn Mueller's legacy—and the sacrifices made by correctional peace officers everywhere.

By uniting remembrance with purpose, this year's CPOF Memorial Ceremony once again affirmed that honoring the fallen is not an end, but the beginning of renewed commitment to service and solidarity.



HONORING LEGACY AND HOPE: THE PROJECT 2000 MEMORIAL LUNCHEON

This year's PROJECT 2000 Memorial Luncheon—graciously hosted by Director Jeff Washington—brought together correctional professionals, families, and community partners to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Set in the stately dining hall, the event balanced solemn remembrance with a spirit of support and renewal.

The Missing Officer Table, solemnly posted by the National Honor Guard Team, stood as a poignant reminder of those still unaccounted for in the line of duty.

Each participating facility was presented with a department plaque, inscribed with the names of their fallen colleagues. These plaques will stand in their home institutions as daily reminders of service and solidarity. In a deeply moving gesture, families of the fallen

received spent shotgun shell displays, each casing engraved with their loved one's name and "End of Watch" date—tangible symbols of courage and sacrifice.

The luncheon also celebrated the future their parents safeguarded: scholarship awards were presented to the children of fallen correctional professionals, providing tuition assistance and honoring their parents' dedication to public safety. Smiles and tears mingled as young recipients accepted their awards, supported by a room full of mentors and friends.

Director Washington closed the luncheon by reaffirming CPOF's ongoing commitment to "take care of our own," emphasizing that remembrance must always be paired with action—through memorials, support for families, and investment in the next generation.

HONORING RESILIENCE AND VALOR RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

At this year's PROJECT 2000 gathering, the Recognition Luncheon stood as a powerful testament to resilience, gratitude, and the unbreakable bonds of the corrections community. Held on Saturday midday in the grand ballroom of the host hotel, the luncheon brought together survivors of serious line-of-duty assaults alongside officers recognized for going above and beyond the call of duty, uniting them in acknowledgment and respect.

The program opened with welcoming remarks by Secretary Kim Potter-Blair, whose warm yet authoritative presence set the tone for the afternoon. Drawing on her own experience in corrections administration, Secretary Potter-Blair spoke of the unique courage required to face danger head-on and the vital importance of honoring those who return stronger and more determined.

Following her address, National Director Chevi Amrein took the podium to read detailed accounts of the incidents that brought our honorees together. With measured eloquence, Director Amrein recounted each survivor's story: the ambushes that nearly claimed lives, the split-second decisions that saved colleagues, and the extraordinary bravery shown when retreat was the easier choice. Her readings highlighted the unshakeable spirit that defines the CPOF family.

Our special guest speaker was Gary Bell from Georgia—a dedicated advocate for CPOF since 2015. Over the past decade, Gary has raised thousands of dollars for lifetime memberships and worked tirelessly to promote CPOF's mission throughout the Georgia DOC. He has coordinated Honor Guard teams, championed statewide initiatives, and ensured staff and families in crisis are never left behind. With more than 22 years of service in the Georgia Department of Corrections,

rising from Correctional Officer to Operations Manager, Gary's career has spanned roles demanding discipline, skill, and compassion: Probation Officer, Tactical Team Commander, Instructor, and Hostage Negotiator. His remarks underscored the power of advocacy and unity in supporting those who serve.

As the luncheon progressed, each survivor was invited forward to receive a clear glass statuette—an enduring symbol of their dedication to service and triumph over adversity. Two officers honored for acts of extraordinary bravery “above and beyond the call of duty” received medals recognizing their selfless courage.

In the pages that follow, you'll meet these remarkable individuals—read their stories in full, learn how they overcame unimaginable challenges, and discover the strength that carries them forward.

The lunch concluded with a stirring presentation of Battle Streamers to the attending Honor Guard teams, led by Commander Ray Gonsalves, symbolizing solidarity and mutual support. Finally, department plaques were presented to those facilities that became new CPOF sponsors during the prior calendar year—an acknowledgment of the institutional commitment that underpins our mission.

By its end, the Recognition Luncheon had woven together narratives of survival, service, and solidarity into a collective pledge: to stand by one another, to celebrate every triumph over adversity, and to honor courage in all its forms. As attendees dispersed, the echoes of applause and the warmth of shared commitment lingered—testament to a community that not only remembers sacrifice but stands united in hope and gratitude.

HONORING RESILIENCE RECOGNITION LUNCHEON



Corrections Officer I Jordan Wheatley
Jefferson City Correctional Center, Missouri

On February 29, 2024, upon opening the food service port, an offender forcibly jabbed a prison-made weapon into the abdomen of Officer Wheatley. Officer Wheatley has since returned to work.

Correctional Officer Daniel Lopez, Correctional Officer Elijah Jackson, and Corporal Christopher Wilske
Idaho Maximum Security Institution, Idaho

On March 19, 2024, these officers were ambushed when taking an inmate to an emergency medical transport. When the inmate was discharged from the hospital, an unknown man opened fire to help the inmate escape. The two suspects were apprehended shortly after.



Sergeant Leonard White
Century Correctional Institution, Florida

April 15, 2024, Sergeant White was assaulted when an inmate struck him several times in the face and head with a lock wrapped in a piece of clothing. Sergeant White received several injuries but has returned to work.



Correctional Officer Daniel Kadaraitis
New Jersey State Prison, New Jersey

Officer Kadaraitis was supervising the tier when an inmate ambushed him and attacked him with a prison-made weapon. Officer Kadaraitis radioed for help and was taken by ambulance to the hospital for treatment.



AND VALOR



Sergeant Tyeler Wallace
State Correctional Institution, Greene,
Pennsylvania

Sergeant Wallace responded to a group of inmates refusing orders when an inmate approached him and struck him on the side of his head, knocking him into a phone on the wall. The impact was so severe that he lost his vision and suffered a severe concussion along with severe head trauma.

Sergeant Josiah Buckner
Correctional Officer V William McAdams
Coffield Unit, Texas

On July 13, while removing an inmate from Restrictive Housing for medical care, the inmate lunged out, striking Officer McAdams in the head with a padlock and restraint box. McAdams fell as Sergeant Buckner shoved the inmate back and shut the door; but the inmate grabbed the keys and attacked through the food port with a makeshift weapon.

McAdams regained his footing, initiated the Incident Command System, and subdued the inmate.



Corrections Officer James Jenner
State Correctional Institution, Phoenix,
Pennsylvania

On July 29, Officer Jenner was escorting an inmate from the showers to his cell. When Officer Jenner removed his handcuffs, the inmate turned around and began to strike Officer Jenner with a prison-made weapon, continuously striking him when he fell to the floor. Responding staff subdued the inmate and escorted Officer Jenner to outside medical.

Correctional Officer Daniel Rand
Valdosta State Prison, Georgia

On September 11, 2024, Officer Rand was assisting the nurse in charge with a pill call. Three inmates ran into the sally port and began attacking Officer Rand with a metal weapon. Responding staff arrived and sprayed the inmates with OC spray to gain positive control of the situation. Officer Rand was then sent to outside medical for treatment of multiple injuries.





Correctional Officer IV Kamoru Akinniyi Coffield Unit, Texas

On September 21, 2024, Officer Akinniyi was assigned to the restrictive housing and was conducting security checks when an inmate exited his cell with a prison-made weapon and began attacking Officer Akinniyi. Officer Akinniyi was able to break free from the inmate and secure himself in the sallyport. Officer Akinniyi sustained serious injuries that required treatment at an outside hospital.

Captain Ashley Hughes Bertie Correctional Institution, North Carolina

On December 7, 2024, Captain Hughes responded to an alarm and found an inmate banging on the door with a broom. Captain Hughes gave an order for the inmate to submit to handcuffs, but the inmate refused and stabbed Captain Hughes with a piece of the broom. Additional staff responded and were able to gain control of the inmate. Captain Hughes was air flighted to the hospital for serious injuries.



Captain Oliver Huff Eastern Regional Diagnostic Correctional Center, Missouri

Captain Oliver Huff was placing an inmate in wrist restraints behind his back when the inmate began resisting, so he was placed in front-cuff restraints. While waiting for medical to conduct an assessment, the offender removed a prison-made weapon from his waistband and attacked Captain Huff. Captain Huff was transported to the hospital and treated for his injuries.



Correctional Officer Anthony Rivera Pelican Bay State Prison, California

On January 30, 2025, the morning meal was ending when three inmates attacked Officer Rivera. He was severely injured and required extensive treatment, which he is still undergoing.



RISING ABOVE: CELEBRATING THE “ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY” RECIPIENTS

In corrections, every day tests your courage, resilience, and resolve. Yet some individuals transcend those challenges—bringing not only expert skill to their duties, but unwavering compassion, unbreakable strength, and inspiring leadership.

On Saturday, June 7, during the Recognition Luncheon at PROJECT 2000, we paused to honor these exceptional professionals with the “Above and Beyond the Call of Duty” awards. Against the backdrop of heartfelt remembrance and solidarity, each recipient was celebrated for moments of split-second heroism, steady guidance under pressure, and quiet acts of care that saved lives and uplifted colleagues.

To our awardees: this moment is for you. You embody the very essence of service—acting with bravery in the face of danger and compassion in every interaction. Your dedication reminds us that true courage is not the absence of fear, but the determination to act despite it.

On behalf of your colleagues, your leadership, and your community: thank you. Your example lifts us all, serving as a beacon of excellence and a powerful reminder that greatness lies in both action and empathy. Congratulations to our honorees—your legacy of service will inspire generations to come.



RHU Sergeant D1 Walter Meadows
Perry Correctional Institution, SC

On July 14, 2024, after a 12-hour hospital shift, Sergeant Meadows spotted a stalled SUV with a distressed family. A child in his mother’s arms was choking. Sgt Meadows sprang into action—placing the boy in the recovery position, clearing his airway, and restoring his breathing. The child began to cry, a sign of life. Quiet about his heroism, Sgt Meadows later said, “I have a son his age—I’d hope someone would do the same.” With over four years at the South Carolina Department of Corrections, he’s known for humility and leadership.



Sergeant Charles Davis
Pelican Bay State Prison, CA

On a Friday afternoon in August 2023, after a double shift, Sergeant Charles Davis spotted a house ablaze in Crescent City. He rushed inside, was bitten by several dogs, yet pressed on to find a heavily sedated young man asleep in a back bedroom—too impaired to wake. Sgt Davis carried him to safety, then returned to rescue three dogs before the fire consumed the home. The young man was unknowingly the nephew of a fellow Pelican Bay State Prison sergeant. For his courage and selflessness, Sgt Davis received CDCR’s 2024 Medal of Valor.

THE JUDY & DON DEASE WELLNESS ROOM

A Space to Breathe: The Judy and Don Dease Wellness Room at PROJECT 2000 XXXVI

At PROJECT 2000 XXXVI, amidst a weekend filled with remembrance, connection, and healing, attendees found a peaceful place to rest, reflect, and recharge—the Judy and Don Dease Wellness Room.

Named in honor of longtime Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) supporters Judy and Don Dease, the wellness room offered more than just a quiet space—it embodied the spirit of compassion, community, and care that the Deases have long exemplified. Their legacy of service and support made the naming of this room a fitting tribute to lives spent “Taking Care of Our Own.”

A Space of Comfort and Connection

Throughout the event, the Judy and Don Dease Wellness Room became a sanctuary for attendees seeking moments of calm or opportunities to reconnect. Designed to promote emotional well-being and meaningful togetherness, the room featured a variety of activities and offerings:

- * Chaplain and South Carolina Field Representative Gary Evans, who was available for prayer, conversation, and spiritual support
- * Puzzles and crafts to encourage creativity and quiet reflection
- * Mini golf, bringing a lighthearted moment of fun and connection
- * Coloring and artistic activities, offering a calming outlet for attendees of all ages
- * Moments of brotherhood and sisterhood, allowing time for correctional families to simply be present with one another.

More than just a place to unwind, the Wellness



Room was a reminder that healing often comes through community—and that support can take many forms, whether it's a shared laugh over mini golf, a quiet talk with a chaplain, or the peaceful focus of a coloring page.

A Lasting Impact

The Judy and Don Dease Wellness Room was a highlight of PROJECT 2000 XXXVI, offering attendees the space to breathe amidst the emotions of the weekend. Many visitors expressed appreciation for the opportunity to reflect, reconnect, and simply be—together.

CPOF extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped bring the wellness room to life, and to Judy and Don Dease, whose enduring legacy reminds us all of the importance of caring for one another—body, mind, and spirit.



AN IMPACTFUL START: PROJECT 2000 WELCOME DINNER

The PROJECT 2000 Welcome Dinner, hosted by Chairman Ron Barnes, set a tone of solemn unity and hopeful camaraderie. As guests rose, the National Honor Guard Team, led by Commander Gonsalves, posted the colors—followed by the Pledge of Allegiance—reminding everyone of the shared ideals that bind the corrections community.

In his opening remarks, Chairman Barnes greeted correctional professionals, families, and friends, emphasizing the evening's purpose: to honor fallen colleagues and stand with the families whose lives they forever changed. He spoke of courage behind prison walls, the unwavering support of loved ones at home, and the Foundation's commitment to stand by these families always.

Next, Commissioner Paul Schnell of the Minnesota Department of Corrections shared insights from his three decades of public-safety leadership, praising the strength and innovation vital to effective justice and rehabilitation. Chaplain Gary Evans then led a moment of prayer, followed by a moving performance of "God Bless America" by Arthur Comer of the Massachusetts Honor Guard.

A rich tradition came alive when Chairman Barnes introduced the

CPOF Pipe and Drum Band. He traced their roots to military ceremonies, where bagpipes and drums rallied troops and honored the fallen—a tradition now embraced by public-safety agencies nationwide. The band's stirring music underscored the bonds of service and sacrifice shared by all present.

Chairman Barnes then unveiled the faces and names of the correctional staff to be honored this weekend, setting the stage for PROJECT 2000's core Memorial Ceremony. A welcome video followed, offering an inside look at CPOF's mission, history, and the work ahead.

Before the evening concluded, Chairman Barnes invited Kevin Murphy of the U.S. Deputy Wardens Association to the stage. Kevin thanked his team for providing "KIDS Bags"—backpacks filled with games and comfort items—for the children of honored guests. Scholarship recipient Aidden Rossini was also recognized, symbolizing hope for future generations.

The Welcome Dinner wove tradition, tribute, and community into one unforgettable evening—reminding everyone that at PROJECT 2000, we gather not only to remember but to uplift and support one another.



A MORNING OF HOPE: PROJECT 2000 FAREWELL BREAKFAST & KIDS' PRESENTATION



As PROJECT 2000 drew to a poignant close, correctional professionals, families, and friends gathered Sunday morning for the Farewell Breakfast—a final opportunity to share fellowship before returning home. Hosted by CPOF Treasurer and National Director Perry Speth, the event began with warm words of gratitude.

“Thank you for your presence, your stories, your strength—and, most of all, your trust,” Speth told the audience. “Over the past days, we have honored the fallen, celebrated courage, and come together as one extended family. This breakfast marks not the end, but the continuation of relationships, support, and healing that have grown here.”

Following these remarks, Speth invited the youngest members of the CPOF family to the stage: the CPOF Kids, under the nurturing guidance of Esther Gonsalves. The children, many of whom had lost a parent in the line of duty, stepped forward with remarkable poise. They opened with a heartfelt song—eyes bright, voices clear—honoring their parents’ memory. Their performance continued with recitations of short poems they had written about bravery and love, each line a testament to resilience beyond their years.

Between presentations, the screen behind them displayed a slideshow of the children with their parents in happier times: a glimpse of birthday parties, family vacations, and casual evenings at home. As the final slide—a group photo from the Welcome Dinner—faded, the room fell silent, then erupted in appreciative applause.

Chaplain Lieutenant Tony Mosby followed with a blessing, asking for ongoing comfort

and unity. As breakfast was served, attendees shared stories of moments both sorrowful and inspiring. Plates of scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, and warm pastries fueled conversations about the sessions, the ceremonies, and the connections forged.

During the meal, a video montage played on side screens, weaving together highlights from the weekend: the solemn Memorial Ceremony, the Recognition Luncheon’s stirring honors, and the camaraderie of Friday night’s fellowship. Smiles and tears mingled as colleagues recalled moments of laughter and remembrance.

Next, Perry Speth introduced Don Dease, whose decades of service to CPOF culminated that morning in a surprise retirement tribute. Dease’s reflections reminded everyone that the work of remembrance demands compassion and continuity: “When you feel alone,” he said, “remember this room, this family, and know you carry our hearts with you.”

Finally, Utah Department of Corrections Honor Guard Commander Amber Jarvis previewed PROJECT 2000 XXXVII in Salt Lake City, June 2026, setting hopeful expectations for next year’s gathering. As a last act, Commander Ray Gonsalves led the Honor Guard in retiring the Missing Officer Table, folding its flag and escorting it from the hall with dignity.

With hugs shared and eyes wet with emotion, attendees rose from their tables. The Farewell Breakfast closed with the echo of children’s voices and the promise that, although they parted ways, the bonds formed at PROJECT 2000 would endure—reminding all that even in grief, there is hope, unity, and the unbreakable spirit of family.



JOY AND ADVENTURE IN THE CPOF KIDS' ROOM

PROJECT 2000 isn't just for adults—this year's Kids' Room transformed the gathering into a family-friendly celebration of fun and friendship. Under the caring oversight of Esther Gonsalves and her dedicated volunteer team, children of correctional professionals enjoyed a weekend packed with memorable experiences.

Early Saturday morning, the Kids' Room organized two field trips: a visit to the local children's museum, where interactive exhibits sparked curiosity and laughter, and a nature walk through a nearby botanical garden, complete with scavenger hunts and storytelling beneath towering oaks. Back at headquarters, arts & crafts stations buzzed with color as friends created friendship bracelets and decorated keepsake frames.

Teenagers weren't left out. On Saturday evening,

they headed off-site for a "Teen Night Out"—bowling, pizza, and arcade games—where new bonds formed over strikes, high scores, and shared playlists. Returning late, they compared selfies and swapped contact info, ensuring these friendships will continue long after PROJECT 2000 ends.

Throughout the weekend, the Kids' Room remained a hive of joy: board games in the lounge, impromptu talent shows on the mini-stage, and quiet corners for reading and reflection. From toddlers to teens, every child found something to smile about.

By blending adventure, creativity, and peer connection, the CPOF Kids' Room proved that even amid solemn remembrance, there is space for laughter and growth—giving families a bright reminder that community care extends to the youngest among us.



2025 SCHOLARS

CPOF Scholarship Program Breaks Record in 2025

Each year, the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation is proud to support the educational goals of members, their children, grandchildren and spouses through our scholarship program. These scholarships represent more than just financial assistance; they are a symbol of our commitment to “Taking Care of Our Own” by investing in the futures of correctional families across the country.

We are thrilled to announce that this year, CPOF awarded a record number of scholarships; the most in the history of our organization. This milestone is a direct result of our growing membership and the generosity of our supporters, and it reinforces the importance of what we do together as a Foundation.

On the following pages, you'll find the list of this year's scholarship recipients. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to each student and family. Your hard work, dedication, and resilience have inspired us, and we are honored to play a role in your academic journey.

Congratulations to the 2025 recipients!

Isabella Actis, Mother: Janice Actis, Wasco, CA
Rosemary Adamson, Father: Robert Adamson, OSP, OR
Raheem Adebola, Mother: Fabienne Adebola, Taconic, NY
Camillia Aguilar, Spouse: Edson Aguilar, CCI, CA
Quareebah Anifowoshe, Mother: Mulikat Alaka, Dominguez State Jail, TX
Zainab Anifowoshe, Mother: Mulikat Alaka, Dominguez State Jail, TX
Alyssa Annis, Father: Jason Annis, CTF, CA
Jose Armenta, Mother: Korie Erickson, Powder River, OR
Mackenzie Arnold, Mother: Jennifer Arnold, FCI Texarkana, TX
Johnathan Asadoorian, Father: John Asadoorian, Lancaster, CA
Lauren Ashley, Father: Scott Ashley, Snake River, OR
Alexis Ayala, Father: Genaro Ayala, FCI Seagoville, TX
Khate Baile, Step father: Miguel Lopez, Region IV, TX
Khaye Baile, Step father: Miguel Lopez, Region IV, TX
Owen Bales, Father: Bradley Bales, Red Onion, VA
Lily Baltazar, Father: Paul Baltazar, Paroles, CA
Annie Barker, Father: Billy Barker, Academy of Staff Development, VA
Olivia Baron, Father: Timothy Baron, USP Canaan, PA
Gabriella Bartz, Father: Anthony Bartz, Wyoming, NY
Rosalynn Bashaw, Father: Glen Bashaw, FCC Forrest City, AR
Morgan Basiliere, Father: Shane Basiliere, High Security, RI
Belen Bastida, Father: Juan Bastida, Calipatria, CA
Balin Bell, Father: Gary Bell, Central Office, GA
Aliyah Biller, Father: Todd Biller, FCI Gilmer, WV
Daniel Black, Father: Scott Black, USP Canaan, PA
Samantha Black, Father: Scott Black, USP Canaan, PA
Aven Blair, Mother: Kim Potter-Blair, DOC, KY
Anna Bocook, Father: Gabriel Bocook, Little Sandy, KY
Aliou Bojang, Father: Musa Bojang, Treatment Center, MA
Sophia Bonham, Father: Kurt Bonham, CCI, CA
Brock Bownds, Father: Michael Bownds, North Kern, CA
Broderick Bownds, Father: Michael Bownds, North Kern, CA
Morgan Branconnier, Father: Kirk Branconnier, FCI Ray Brook, NY
David Brannon, Mother: Izetta Brannon, FCI Gilmer, WV
Kevion Brazile, Father: Kevin Brazile, FCC Forrest City, AR
Xavier Briggs, Mother: Natasha Briggs, FCI Texarkana, TX
Austin Brooks, Father: Andrew Brooks, FCC Beaumont, TX

Allison Brown, Father: Daniel Brown, CHCF, CA
Jade Buchanan, Father: Clifton Buchanan, Luther, TX
Matthew Butler, Father: Paul Butler, Intake, RI
Viktoriya Butler, Grandfather: James Milligan, Retired, MT
Nathen Camargo, Father: Daniel Camargo, Centinela, CA
Brooklyn Carpenter, Mother: Stephanie Carpenter, Headquarters, CA
Jennah Caswell, Father: Mark Caswell, CIW, CA
Brady Chula, Mother: Michelle Chula, FMC Lexington, KY
Cassidy Clark, Father: Douglas Clark, SCI Huntingdon, PA
Katalina Cohn, Father: Joel Cohn, Central Office, FED OH
Ahryauna Comer, Mother: Holly Comer, IYC Harrisburg, IL
Eason Comer, Mother: Holly Comer, IYC Harrisburg, IL
Allie Conover, Mother: Janet Conover, Central Office, KY
Amaya Contreras, Father: Robert Contreras, CMC, CA
Jordan Cooper, Mother: Maria Cooper, FCI Bennettsville, SC
Landon Coutinho, Father: Robert Coutinho, Medium, RI
Kailee Cox, Father: James Cox, CMF, CA
Landon Cox, Father: Jason Cox, ISCI, ID
Parker Craig, Father: Russell Craig, CMC, CA
Hallie Creamer, Father: Arvin Creamer, FCI Marianna, FL
Hunter Crigger, Father: Robert Crigger, River North, VA
Jaxton Crisp, Father: Jeramie Crisp, IYC Harrisburg, IL
Alexis Cruz-Hernandez, Father: Jesus Cruz, Donovan, CA
Makayla Curtice, Father: Benjamin Curtice, Valley State, CA
Brenna Daniels, Father: Michael Daniels, High Security, RI
Lance Davis, Father: Lance Davis, CHCF, CA
Mia Davitt, Mother: Stacy Davitt, USP Canaan, PA
Krystle Deadner, Self: Krystle Deadner, Telford, TX
Mandi Deason, Mother: Tiffany Deshotel, FCC Oakdale, LA
Rory Decker, Father: Andrew Decker, FCC Pollock, LA
Payton Dennis, Mother: Pamela Dennis, MCFP, Springfield, MO
Ezekiel DeWitt, Father: Jeffery DeWitt, FCC Forrest City, AR
Ansley Dial, Father: Neil Dial, FCI Edgefield, SC
Daniel Diaz, Mother: Shelly Diaz, FCI Three Rivers, TX
Shelby Dickerson, Father: Daniel Dickerson, Region I Office, TX
Isiah Dickey, Father: Derrick Dickey, FCI Estill, SC
Brandon Diep, Father: Tommy Diep, CHCF, CA
Russell Dimmock, Mother: Velda Dimmock, FCC Beaumont, TX

HIP RECIPIENTS

Audrey Dodson, Father: Evan Dodson, North Kern, CA
James Donlin, Father: Edward Donlin
FCC Allenwood, PA
Jenna Duron, Father: Patricio Duran, Wasco, CA
Megan Dykes, Father: Elwood Dykes, Keen Mountain, VA
Michael Egan, Self, St. Anthony Work Camp, ID
Cheryl Elam, Father: Brandon Elam, Wise, VA
Lydia Elam, Father: Brandon Elam, Wise, VA
Ian Elder, Father: Jeremy Elder, Lincoln, NE
Hannah Ellery, Father: Scott Ellery, Retired, CA
Camryn Elliot, Father: Christopher Elliot
San Quentin, CA
Sanaa Elmore, Mother: Shana Henderson, Tabor, NC
Reese Eslinger, Grandfather: Jeffery Crone, Intake, RI
Alyssen Esparza, Father: Miguel Esparza
Segovia Unit, TX
Reese Espinoza, Father: Ruben Espinoza, Avenal, CA
Zahmiya Estes, Mother: Nastassi Estes, SMCI, MS
Amber Ezparza, Father: Miguel Esparza
Segovia Unit, TX
Olivia Facey, Mother: Dawn Facey, MDC Brooklyn, NY
Aadam Fakir, Father: Abdelghafour Fakir, Upstate, NY
Noah Fakir, Father: Abdelghafour Fakir, Upstate, NY
Bryce Ferguson, Mother: Faith Ferguson
Moose Lake , MN
Gizelle Figueroa, Father: Juan Figueroa, Retired, CA
Rocky Foreman, Mother: Roshunda Foreman
Saline County, AR
Emma Fortner, Father: Johnny Fortner, USP Lee, VA
John Fremin, Mother: Stephanie Fremin, Training, OK
Dalton Frye, Mother: Melissa Johnston
FCI Gilmer, WV
Logan Gabriel, Father: David Gabriel, FCI McKean, PA
Braelyn Gaertner, Father: Jeremy Gaertner
FMC Lexington, FED KY
Jolie Gaines, Mother: Darla Gaines, Amarillo IPO, TX
Donald Gaines IV, Father: Donald Gaines III,
Lancaster, CA
Aleena Galvan, Father: Daniel Galvan, Lancaster, CA
Shadavia Gamble, Mother: Shaleshia Alston
FCI Williamsburg, SC
Zoey Gann, Mother: Marjorie Gann
FCC Forrest City, AR
Hannah Garcia, Father: Daniel Garcia, Avenal, CA
Kalei Garcia, Father: Robert Garcia, Avenal, CA
Kolbe Gautney, Father: Robert Gautney, Retired, CA
Rachaurie George, Mother: Linda Carey, Waymart, PA
Morgan Gilmore, Mother: Chrissy Mobley-Gilmore,
Tyger River, SC

Madelynne Godina, Father: Raudel Godina, Folsom, CA
Joshua Gonzales, Father: Michael Gonzales
FCI Three Rivers, TX
Clarissa Gonzalez, Father: Juan Gonzalez, CSATF, CA
Hannah Gore, Father: Shane Gore, FCC Oakdale, LA
Brianna Gough, Father: Kenneth Gough
CWC East Boise, ID
Karina Grajeda, Father: Eduardo Grajeda, CMF , CA
Avionna Grigsby, Father: Jarod Grigsby
FTC Oklahoma City, OK
Abigail Guerrero, Father: Luis Guerrero, CCI, CA
Miah Gutierrez, Father: Matthew Gutierrez
San Quentin, CA
Sienna Hagen, Father: Matthew Hagen
MCFP Springfield, MO
Madison Hale, Father: James Hale, Corr Adult Comm, VA
Shea Hannah, Mother: Tamera Anderson-Hanna
FCI Miami, FL
Adriana Hansen, Mother: Crystal Hansen
Moose Lake, MN
Ahviana Harris, Father: Bryan Harris, Youth CC, ND
Taitum Harris, Father: Bradley Harris, USP McCreary, KY
Apollo Hasan, Mother: Starlyn Malone, San Quentin, CA
Hope Hatton, Step mother: Bethany Amos
Western Region, VA
Michael Hayes Jr. , Father: Michael Hayes Sr.
FCI Williamsburg, SC
Taylor Hendricks, Father: Brian Hendricks
Headquarters, CA
Julia Hernandez, Mother: Esperanza Hernandez
Stevenson, TX
Madyson Herrera, Father: Benjamin Ledesma
North Kern, CA
Ethan Hirons, Father: Jason Hirons, FCC Forrest City, AR
Siler Holbrook, Father: Kevin Holbrook
FCC Forrest City, AR
Luke Holem, Father: Stephen Holem, FCI Marion, IL
Tobie Holem, Father: Stephen Holem, FCI Marion, IL
Abby Hopkins, Mother: Robyn Hopkins
FCC Forrest City, AR
Cecilia Horton, Self, Health Services, TX
Olivia Howe, Father: Brandon Howe FCI Greenville, IL
Angeline Hsu, Father: Joe Hsu, Salinas Valley, CA
Madden Hurd, Father: Mark Hurd, Hamilton, TX
Jakeb Hurley, Father: Clint Hurley, USP McCreary, KY
Loraleah Inman, Spouse: Joshua Inman, Allred, TX
Madison Jansen, Father: James Jansen, Omaha, NE

Emily Jenkins, Father: Kenny Jenkins, Pelican Bay, CA
Ashlen Johnson, Grandfather: Ronald Johnson, SDSP, SD
Ashley Johnson, Father: Craig Johnson, Marion, VA
Beau Johnson, Father: Kenward Johnson, Clemens, TX
Lauren Jones, Father: Joseph Jones, FCC Forrest City, AR
Alexander Kaminsky, Father: Russ Kaminsky
FCI Oxford, WI
Olivia Kaminsky, Father: Russ Kaminsky
FCI Oxford, WI
Genesis Kellerman, Father: Jeffery Kellerman, Retired, CA
Morgan Kelly, Mother: Theresa Kelly, Mahanoy, PA
Madilynn Kennedy, Mother: Crystal Kennedy
Sentence Administration, OK
Stormy Kenney, Grandfather: Gene Stokes, Retired, TX
Marrion Kimber, Mother: Carla Lofton, MSP, MS
Jacey Kleotzer, Father: Todd Kleotzer, Collins, NY
Jake Kleotzer, Father: Todd Kleotzer, Collin, NY
Bella Klitzke, Father: Mel Klitzke, FCI Oxford, WI
Daniel Kloke, Mother: Sara Kloke, Kirkland, SC
Nadirrah Lacy, Grandfather: Alan Arnold, Retired, CA
Kelly Lamb, Father: Christopher Lamb, MSP, MT
Taryn Lamb, Father: Christopher Lamb, MSP, MT
Holden Langley, Father: Richard Langley, Retired, TX
Kahealani Lee, Father: Malcolm Lee Jr.
Oahu Community Correctional Center, HI
Elizabeth Leija, Grandmother: Delia Gutierrez, Ney, TX
Evan LeVasseur, Father: Paul LeVasseur, Intake, RI
Briannah Lilly, Grandmother: Jill Campbell
Health Services, TX
Emma Lucca, Mother: Raquel Lucca, Sierra CC, CA
Tayden Lucero, Mother: Melissa Barlow, Brannon, OK
Zachary Lucia, Father: Eric Lucia, Clinton, NY
Emily Macias, Father: Salvador Macias, Valley State , CA
Emma Madrid, Grandfather: Raymond Madrid
CSATF, CA
Alexia Marquez, Mother: Sonia Marquez, North Kern, CA
Aubree Martin, Mother: Tracy Martin, FCC Oakdale, LA
Jacob Martin, Father: Jacob Martin, FCC Oakdale, LA
Marissa Martin, Father: Robert Martin, FCI Ray Brook, NY
Ryan Martin, Father: Christopher Martin
Probation & Paroles, NC
Bwefuk Masok, Father: Peter Mafwal, Hobby, TX
Fuky Masok, Father: Peter Mafwal, Hobby, TX
Kyra Mason, Father: Joseph Mason, OSCI, OR
Britney Mattera, Father: Salvatore Mattera
Medium Security, RI
Cayden McCollough, Father: James McCollough
FCC Oakdale, LA

Emily McConnell, Father: Chad McConnell FCI Elkton, OH	Amanda Payton, Self: Amanda Payton FCC Terre Haute, IN	Jaskirat Sangha, Father: Harnek Sangha, Wasco, CA
Matthew McCormack, Father: Matthew McCormack San Quentin, CA	Brynnen Pendergraft, Father: Brian Pendergraft USP Lee, LA	Gianna Santagata, Father: John Santagata, High Security, RI
Thania McGowan, Mother: Marolynn McGowan, Byrd, TX	Barbara Perez, Self: Barbara Perez, Hilltop, TX	Isabel Saumell, Mother: Jill Saumell, Walker County Juv, TX
Thaniah McGowan, Mother: Marolynn McGowan Byrd, TX	Miranda Perez, Father: Gerardo Perez, Ironwood, CA	Annamarie Schober, Father: Matthew Schober, NNCC, NV
Olivia Messer, Father: Richard Messer FCI Manchester, KY	Elahna Perry, Mother: Christina Hardiman, FCI Pekin, IL	Ryan Schober, Father: Matthew Schober, NNCC, NV
Dylan Middleton-Bolling, Father: James Middleton Red Onion, VA	Damiyen Piper, Mother: Alacyn Frenzel FCI Cumberland, MD	Jacob Schuyler, Mother: Tracy Schuyler, CCI, CA
Mallory Miles, Mother: Melissa Miles Training Academy, NY	Solomon Polanco, Father: David Polanco, Ney, TX	Tallyn Seitz, Father: Terry Seitz, Womens, IA
Keslyn Mitchell, Mother: Kanava Martin, BOP, GA	Sophia Pollard, Step father: Thomas Motley Walton County, FL	Eisley Shepherd, Father: Michael Shepherd, Marion, NC
Chrissy Mobley-Gilmore, Self: Chrissy Mobley-Gilmore Tyger River, SC	Cash Pontious, Father: Jason Pontious, Calipatria, CA	Ethan Short, Father: Little Short, FCI Bennettsville, SC
Kaitlyn Molino, Father: Donald Molino, Retired, NY	Misty Posas, Self: Misty Posas, Reformatory, OK	Star Shoup, Mother: Kyrie Kenyon, Washington County, PA
Jasiah Morales, Mother: Angelina Janssen, San Carlos, CO	Anjali Prieto, Mother: Beatrice Gaudynski, Wasco, CA	Jillian Shreve, Father: John Shreve, Keen Mountain, VA
Alyssa Moreno, Father: Esmerejildo Moreno, Connally, TX	Logan Quinn, Mother: Mitzi Quinn, Retired, NC	Daniel Silva, Father: Nestor Silva, Headquarters, CA
Paris Moreno, Father: Jorge Moreno, Headquarters, CA	Carter Rabalais, Father: Derek Rabalais, FCC Oakdale, LA	Kierra Simmons, Mother: Annalyn Simmons, Sterling, CO
Ellie Mosier, Mother: Cheryl Gray, Health Services, TX	Olivia Rabalais, Father: Derek Rabalais, FCC Oakdale, LA	Emily Singleton, Father: Jimmy Singleton Mountain View, NC
Evin Mueller, Grandfather: Glenn Mueller Retired, CPOF Board, CA	Alyssa Ramirez, Father: Jose Ramirez, North Kern, CA	Trevor Sliwinski, Father: Brian Sliwinski, Retired, CA
Rachel Mullings, Father: Ray Mullings, Draper, UT	Jaelyn Ramos, Father: Michael Ramos, CIM, CA	Samuel Sluss, Father: Michael Sluss, Wallens Ridge, VA
Reilly Myers, Mother: Trina Myers, FCC Terre Haute, IN	Jerry Rangel, Father: Jerry Rangel, Valley State, CA	Colton Smith, Grandmother: Tami Dees, Health Services, TX
Klarissa Nabor, Father: Jonathan Nabor, CTF, CA	Joshua Rapini, Father: Andrew Rapini, Attica, NY	Grace Solevilla-Moreno, Father: Daniel Moreno FCC Victorville, CA
Delaney Nagtalon, Father: Darren Nagtalon, Folsom, CA	Josephine Rausch, Father: Timothy Rausch, CCI, CA	Hailey Spaich, Father: Jon Spaich, CMF, CA
Connor NeSmith, Father: Christopher NeSmith FCI Williamsburg, SC	Sean Rayfield, Mother: Catina Brice, Health Services, TX	Noah Speir, Father: Joseph Speir, Pelican Bay, CA
William Nguyen, Father: Nguyen Nguyen San Quentin, CA	Enzo Riccione, Father: Paul Riccione, Attica, NY	Zayyiah Spikes, Mother: Rachel Brown, FCC Oakdale, LA
McKenzie Nierman, Mother: Jessica Nierman FMC Rochester, MN	Izabella Riccione, Father: Paul Riccione, Attica, NY	Madison Stacy, Father: Christopher Stacy Wallens Ridge, VA
Kosisochi Nweke, Father: Emeka Nweke Luther, TX	Aidan Rice, Grandfather: Robert Rice Jr, Pelican Bay, CA	Sophia Stallard, Mother: Sharon Velisa Stallard Wallens Ridge, VA
Shalom Okeleke, Mother: Margaret Okeleke Terrell, TX	Lillian Riopel, Father: Jesse Riopel FCC Florence, CO	Preston Stanley, Father: Ronald Stanley, Red Onion, VA
Alex Orellano-Pajulio, Father: Exequiel Pajulio Retired, CA	Robert Rios, Father: Torivio Rios III, Torres, TX	Elisha Steemer, Father: Elijah Steemer III, Stevenson, TX
Aurora Orlowski, Father: Thomas Orlowski, Attica, NY	Niaja Robinson, Mother: Nikeita Boulware FCI Williamsburg, SC	Rowdy Stokes, Grandfather: Gene Stokes, Retired, TX
Brylynn Ormiston, Father: Jeff Ormiston, FCI El Reno, OK	Kaleb Rodriguez, Mother: Delia Villarreal Glossbrenner, TX	Stacy Stokes, Spouse: William Stokes, FCC Tucson, AZ
Kayla Ortega, Father: Carlos Ortega, Calipatria, CA	Lillyana Rodriguez, Father: Felix Rodriguez FCC Victorville, CA	Hunter Swindall, Mother: Shurrie Swindall, Hughes, TX
Joseph Owens, Father: Joseph Owens, Red Onion, VA	Aidden Rossini, Grandfather: Kevin Murphy, Retired, AR	Dyanne Tapia, Father: Jorge Tapia, Centinela, CA
Makinley Owens, Father: Joseph Owens, Red Onion, VA	Hailey Rousseau, Father: Steven Rousseau MCI Norfolk, MA	Ian Tarr, Mother: Erin Tarr, NCCW, NE
Rebecca Paczkowski, Father: Scott Paczkowski Okaloosa County, FL	Preston Rumery, Father: Mark Rumery, Tecumseh, NE	Abi Taylor, Father: Daniel Taylor, FCC Oakdale, LA
Maile Padilla, Father: Adan Padilla, Centinela, CA	Maykayla Saelee, Father: Jeff Saelee, Headquarters, CA	Cain Thibault, Father: Jeffrey Thibault, Retired, NY
Sean Pailma, Father: Pacifico Pailma, Avenal, CA	Orlando Salas, Father: Christopher Salas, Paroles, CA	Grayson Thomason, Father: Charles Thomason FCC Forrest City, AR
Brooke Pawelski, Father: Chet Pawelski, USP Canaan, PA	Jada Salgado, Step father: Andy Rodriguez, Centinela, CA	Payton Thomason, Father: Charles Thomason FCC Forrest City, FED AR
	Jaycob Salinas, Father: Josh Salinas, Wasco, CA	Nicholas Tichy, Mother: Kimberly Paul, FCC Oakdale, LA
	Joshua Salinas, Father: Josh Salinas, Wasco, CA	Nylah Tolliver, Father: Walter Tolliver, DWCC, LA
	Alina Sanchez, Father: Richard Sanchez FCI Three Rivers, TX	Alejandra Torres, Step father: Jaime Lopez, Avenal, CA
	Ariella Sanchez, Father: Ariella Sanchez, Folsom, CA	Gabriel Torres, Step father: Robert Williamson Eastern, NY
	Soccora Sandoval, Father: Stephan Sandoval, Retired, CA	Faith Trevino, Mother: Adelaida Adams, Torres, TX
		Parker Trovillion, Father: Patrick Trovillion USP Marion, IL

Avana Urbietta, Father: Isidro Urbietta, Avenal, CA
 Kennedy Usher, Mother: Jaqueline Usher, Corcoran, CA
 Jasmin Valbuena, Father: Marco Valbuena
 San Quentin, CA
 Crystal Valdez, Mother: Blanca Valdez, Kern Valley, CA
 Jake Vance, Father: William Vance III
 FCC Forrest City, AR
 Regan Varnes, Father: Shannon Varnes, Lancaster, FL
 Halee Vaughan, Father: Charles Vaughan, Goree, TX
 T.J. Vincent, Step father: Malcolm Vuksich
 FCI Beaumont, TX
 Rebecca Waldo, Grandfather: Richard Waldo
 Retired/CPOF Board, CA
 Mali Wallis, Mother: Hannah Wallis
 FCC Forrest City, AR
 Avery Ward, Father: Daniel Ward, Paroles, CO
 Amariya Warfield, Grandmother: Demetria Perkins
 Dominguez, TX
 Emmelia Warner, Father: Casey Warner
 Arkansas Valley, CO
 Ayana Watson, Mother: Shafae Booker
 Monroe County, AR
 Emma Welch, Father: Charles Welch, FCC Oakdale, LA
 Hailey Wheeler, Father: James Wheeler
 FCC Florence, CO
 Mary Whitaker, Father: Kevin Whitaker
 FCI Williamsburg, SC
 Ava Wilke, Father: Braden Wilke, Polk, FL
 Chloe Williams, Father: Cody Williams
 FCC Oakdale, LA
 Jacob Williams, Mother: Betty Jo Williams
 Central Office, NE
 Lakenya Williams, Father: Kent Nutt, FCI Texarkana, TX
 Latoris Willis, Self: Latoris Willis, Norris Unit, AR
 Kennedy Willison, Father: Brett Willison
 FPC Morgantown, WV
 Hannah Wilson, Mother: Jessica Wilson
 FCC Yazoo City, MS
 Laila Wilson, Father: Jonathan Wilson, NNTH, NV
 Samantha Winslow, Father: Shane Winslow
 San Quentin, CA
 Jazmine Wood, Mother: Lori Wood, Forsyth County, NC
 Rian Woodard, Father: Jerry Woodard, Two Rivers, OR
 William Wright, Father: William Wright
 FCC Forrest City, AR
 Abram Wydra, Father: Jared Wydra, FCI Berlin, NH
 Caden Younce, Mother: Angela Younce, Red Onion, VA



Gianna Santagata, daughter of John Santagata of High Security in Rhode Island. Photographed with Rhode Island Volunteer Joe Menezes.



I would love to thank all of you with the CPOF for this generous opportunity and assistance to further my academics. I will be using this scholarship to help with my freshman year at Southwestern University in Weatherford, OK. My goal is to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and to later complete the requirements to become a Physician Assistant.

My father is Jeff Ormiston who is currently a Recreation Specialist in his 19th year with the BOP at FCI EL Reno, OK. I wanted to again thank you for your scholarship and I will be sending a photo at a later date hopefully with a letter of achievement for the Dean's Honor Roll.

Go SWOSU Bulldogs

Brylynn Ormiston, daughter of Jeff Ormiston, FCI El Reno, FBOP – OK



TWO WORDS, ONE MISSION: HONORING THE FALLEN

written by: Antonio Perez of the National Honor Guard Team

“Honor Guard”... Each one of those two words individually have a strong significance. “Honor”, a word used frequently in reference with respect and pride. Honor can be given; honor can be earned, it can also be displayed. Among the law enforcement family, honor is a word used to describe the best of us. “Guard” is a word more commonly used in reference with protection, and in this instance the very thing being protected is the honor of an individual. Together, those two words carry deep meaning for a lot of people, law enforcement and civilian alike. The perspective of an honor guard team is much different from an active team member, to a person watching or receiving the honors given. The words honor guard cover a wide range of meaning, emotion, and even definition from either perspective.

To define honor guard, we can start with the individuals who make up the different teams who serve in a wide range of duties. These individuals are trained and well versed in carrying out all the solemn duties that are synonymous with an honor guard team to include, but not limited to a color guard, casket watch, and firing party. An honor guard member has a deep understanding for sacrifice and what it means to properly and professionally give honor to a member of our law enforcement family that may have paid the ultimate sacrifice. Honor guard members are all too familiar with every aspect of a funeral service dedicated to pay last respects to a fallen member of law enforcement or military. Those final moments, though painful for the family, can be a lasting image of pride during a long road to healing.

The main objective of an honor guard team is tied to those final moments when the family is watching their loved one be honored. The dedication to make those moments as memorable as possible is relentless. As a team, we work around last minute changes, all types of weather, logistical challenges, personal time management, family requests, department policies, traveling, etc... It is often talked about amongst honor guard members how versatile a team has to be. Our dedication to team perfection is driven by the call to duty, and nothing will hinder the team from its objective: Honoring the fallen. Sometimes that means early mornings will turn into late nights of shining leather, polishing brass, and ironing sharp creases. The smell of shoe polish is a stark reminder that the coming days will be difficult at times, but necessary.

The CPOF honor guard team consists of members from all over the country that understand how necessary our role can be. Each member

comes from a team of their own and brings experience and knowledge that only strengthens the versatility needed to achieve the task at hand. A hard truth is accepting that there will always be a need for an honor guard team to bring a dignified tribute to possibly a decorated veteran, or a rookie on the job, both taken too soon. The CPOF team takes pride in being able to bring a deeply rooted commitment of solidarity to corrections during the hardest moments in our profession.

Whether you are watching an honor guard for the first time, or folding a flag to present to a loved one for the 10th time... It is an experience you will hold dear forever. Those two words, again, hold a special place in our hearts for various reasons. "Honor Guard": the team that creates lasting memories for loved ones, dedicates time and effort to perfect their duty, understands the never ending effort for perfection, and will always achieve the goal of honoring a fallen member of our family.



With each solemn note and stirring cadence, the CPOF National Pipe Band brings unmatched reverence and tradition to every event they attend. At PROJECT 2000 XXXVI, their presence was not just heard—it was deeply felt.

Leading processions, honoring the fallen, and offering reflective moments of music, the band shaped the emotional tone of the weekend. For families, correctional staff, and supporters gathered to pay tribute, they stood—visibly and audibly—as symbols of respect, dignity, and timeless tradition.

A TRADITION OF HONOR

Pipe bands trace their origins to the Scottish Highlands, where bagpipes were central to military and ceremonial life. By the 19th century, formal military pipe bands emerged, and their role expanded into police, fire, and law enforcement ceremonies worldwide. In the U.S., they became fixtures at line-of-duty funerals, National Police Week, and public safety memorials. The sound—haunting and steeped in history—speaks directly to the soul, conveying what words cannot.

CARRYING THE LEGACY FORWARD

The CPOF National Pipe Band continues this proud tradition within the correctional profession. Made up of skilled pipers and drummers from across the country, they play a central role in PROJECT 2000 memorial ceremonies, services for fallen officers, and other Foundation events.

At PROJECT 2000 XXXVI, their music infused the Friday Memorial Ceremony with deep emotional resonance, marking each name read, each rose placed, and each tribute given. Their sound became both an introduction and a farewell—an embrace of shared mourning and unity.

MORE THAN MUSIC

The band's mission is not performance alone, but presence. They are part of the CPOF family, giving their time and talent to honor lives and support surviving families. Their commitment reflects the very mission of the Correctional

Peace Officers Foundation.

A LEGACY THAT LIVES ON

As the pipes echoed across the hills of Bloomington, they reminded us that those we honor are never truly gone. Their memory endures in each cadence, each note, and in the unity of a community that refuses to forget. Through their music, the National Pipe Band helps carry forward the legacy of those who gave all—ensuring every step of honor is made with grace, reverence, and strength.



Sergeant Aaron Gill, a proud member of the MCOFU Pipe and Drum Band, was known for his steadfast dedication to honoring the fallen. Whether leading with his pipes at memorials or standing shoulder to shoulder with the CPOF National Pipe and Drum Band, Aaron's presence brought dignity, comfort, and unity to every service. His passing on July 20, 2025, is deeply felt by all who served alongside him, and his legacy will live on in the music, the camaraderie, and the traditions he so faithfully upheld.

ECHOES OF HONOR: THE CPOF NATIONAL PIPE BAND



WHEN CRISIS CPOF'S CATASTROPHIC ASSISTANCE



STANDING WITH OFFICER ROBERT COOK

At San Quentin State Prison, Correctional Officer Robert Cook and his family suddenly faced overwhelming medical bills while he underwent intensive treatment for a serious condition. Referred to CPOF by fellow officer Arnold Daniel, Cook found himself juggling life-saving care alongside rent, utilities, and everyday expenses. In response, the Catastrophic Assistance team moved quickly—issuing a direct grant that helped with housing costs, transportation to medical appointments, and essential living expenses.

This timely support not only eased financial burdens but also provided peace of mind, allowing Officer Cook to focus fully on his recovery and spend precious moments with loved ones—knowing his CPOF family had his back when it mattered most.

HONORING FAMILY AND MEMORY

In late June, Officer Thomas Wasson of Maryville Treatment Center in Missouri endured the heartbreaking loss of his wife, Bonnie Mary Margaret Wasson, at age 43. Bonnie's vibrant spirit—expressed through heartfelt poetry, spontaneous family adventures, and devoted care for her nieces and nephews—left an indelible mark on all who knew her.

When funeral expenses and daily costs began to mount, CPOF's Catastrophic Assistance Program provided an immediate grant to ease the financial burden. We will never forget Bonnie's legacy—and we remain here for Officer Wasson and his family, today and always.



These stories—among many others—underscore the impact of CPOF's Catastrophic Assistance Program. Jeffrey, and the countless families we've supported. Their journeys remind us that in a profession defined by

Whether through one-time grants or ongoing outreach, CPOF stands ready to respond. If you're a member, no officer, no family, should face hardship alone.

STRIKES:

PROGRAM LENDS A LIFELINE



RECOVERY AFTER VIOLENCE

Assigned to Maury Correctional Institution in North Carolina, Officer III Juan Bermudez Ramos faced a brutal, unprovoked assault during a routine cell search when an inmate slipped free of his restraints. The attack left him with facial lacerations, a broken nose, and the trauma of facing violence in the line of duty.

In a show of solidarity, Unit Manager Dominique Sherman, Warden Stephen Waddell, and Associate Wardens Bradley Fields and John Gray personally presented Officer Bermudez with a catastrophic assistance packet. This immediate financial support covered his medical bills and essential household expenses, embodying CPOF's promise that no correctional professional stands alone in times of crisis.

WHEN HEALTH BATTLES CONTINUE

Since January 2025, Correctional Officer Jeffrey Jacobus, of Santa Rosa Correctional Institution, has endured back-to-back heart surgeries and the mounting stress of relentless medical bills. Placed on Leave Without Pay until his anticipated June 30 return, Jeffrey worried about providing for his spouse and children while his income was paused. Recognizing both his service and his sacrifice, CPOF Field Representative John Kolodziej personally coordinated a catastrophic assistance grant. This timely support bridged the gap between crisis and recovery—covering crucial living expenses and healthcare costs—so Officer Jacobus could focus on rehabilitation, cardiac care, and spending much-needed time with his family, rather than navigating financial paperwork. In true CPOF spirit, no officer faces hardship alone.



In the following pages, you'll find in-depth narratives and photographs of Robert, Thomas, Juan, and others. Guided by service to others, we must not forget those who serve us first.

Member, thank you for making these lifelines possible. If you're not yet a member, join us in our mission:



JOIN CPOF: TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN

Every day, correctional professionals step into challenging environments to keep our communities safe. Yet behind each uniform is a family—facing physical risks, mental stress, and unexpected crises. The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) exists to take care of our own when duty pulls them through the toughest moments.

For just \$5 a month, you can become part of this life-saving network. Sign up at cpof.org

Why join?

Immediate Support: Your membership directly funds the Catastrophic Assistance Program, offering grants to officers and families facing illness, injury, or personal tragedy.

Scholarships & Resources: CPOF awards educational scholarships to children, grandchildren, spouses, and members of CPOF.

Community & Recognition: Membership means standing shoulder-to-shoulder with colleagues who share your commitment to service and compassion.

Spread the word. Ask your fellow officers, field reps, and support staff to become CPOF members. Every new voice, every monthly contribution, amplifies our ability to respond when one of us needs help most.

Don't wait. Join today at cpof.org and encourage your friends to do the same—because when we stand together, no one faces hardship alone.



STAY CONNECTED: RETIRE WITH CPOF

Retirement may mean hanging up your badge, but your bond with fellow correctional professionals doesn't end there. By continuing your CPOF membership at just \$5 a month, you ensure that the support network you've relied on remains strong—and that you can still benefit from it in life's next chapter. Simply switch from payroll deduction to a convenient credit-card payment at cpof.org, and you'll continue fueling the Catastrophic Assistance Program, scholarship awards, and training resources that protect our correctional family.

Your experience and mentorship are invaluable—encourage fellow retirees to stay on board, too. Together, we honor our legacy of service, safeguard one another in times of need, and keep "Taking Care of Our Own" alive well beyond active duty. Join or renew today!

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Taking Care of Our Own



Join our email list and stay up to date
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