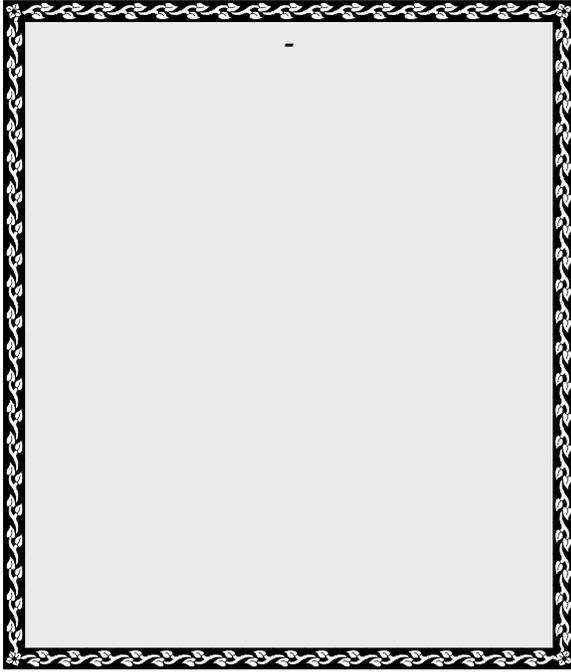




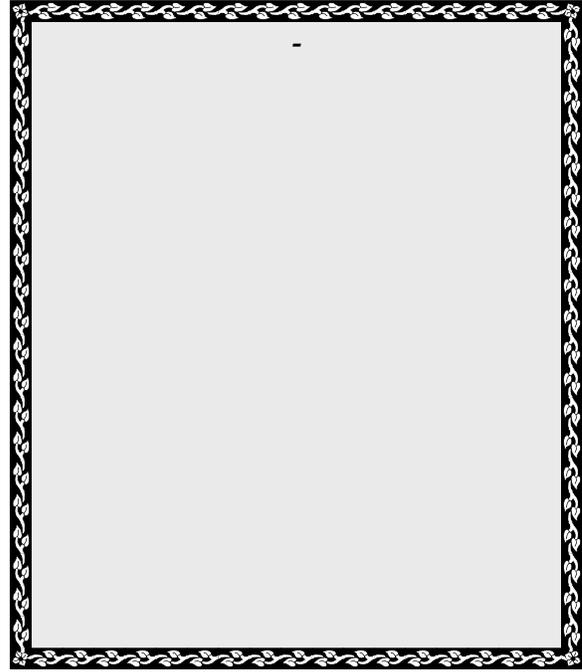
The Fourword

Volume 45 Number 5

May 2017



Pictured above: County Executive Kevin Kamenetz at the Baltimore County Police Department Promotion Ceremony held at Loch Raven High School on April 10, 2017.



Pictured above: County Executive Kevin Kamenetz at the Baltimore County Police Foundation 37th Annual Award Ceremony held at Delta Hotel, Hunt Valley on April 25, 2017

During the month of April two significant events took place recognizing the personal and professional achievements of our members. The promotion of eighteen of our members on April 10th, 2017 and the professional achievements of nine of our members at the 37th Annual Police Foundation Awards Ceremony on April 25th, 2017.

The decision to seek additional responsibility and participate in the promotional process takes a sincere commitment on behalf of the member and often the candidate's family as well. Positions are based on limited vacancies which contribute to the uncertainty of the process and the satisfaction when you have actually been selected.

We are very fortunate to have an active and attentive Police Foundation. They volunteer their time to serve and have contributed greatly to the success of the police department. In addition to the financial support they provide, they hold a signature event recognizing the achievements of our membership in the categories of Community Service, Crime Prevention, Distinguished Contribution, Exceptional Performance, Rookie of the Year, and Valor.

You might have thought that the Executive's calendar could have accommodated his attendance to show support to these exemplary officers and their families.



Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





**MEETING MINUTES
April 2017**

- The April General Business meeting was held on April 24, 2017 at FOP Lodge 4. President Weston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Brother Tony DiCara gave the invocation. President Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

- Brother Rommel was on vacation, all other Officers and Legal Advisor Mike Marshall were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- A motion was made by Brother Grumbach to accept the minutes of the March General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother King. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

~ PRESIDENT WESTON ~

- March 29– Addressed the In-Service training class.
- April 4– Attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- April 5– Addressed the In-Service training class and visited the funeral home with the Vinson family.
- April 8– Attended the quarterly

meeting of the Maryland State FOP in Ocean City.

- April 10– Attended the Police Department Promotion Ceremony.
- April 11– Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
- April 12– Responded to a Police Involved shooting in PC-06 and addressed the In-Service training class.
- April 13– Attended the Baltimore County Executive’s Budget Message.
- April 17– Attended the FOP Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- April 18– Attended the Bill signing for HB-100, the Public Safety Retiree Pension Subtraction Modification in Annapolis and addressed the Enhanced Supervisor School.
- April 24– Chaired the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

~ 1st V. P. COMEGNA ~

- March 29– Attended the required Phase I Range Qualification.
- April 4– Attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- April 10– Attended the Police Department Promotion Ceremony.
- April 13– Attended the monthly meeting of the Police Assistance and Relief Fund (P.A.R.) and attended the Baltimore County Executive’s Budget Message.
- April 17– Attended a meeting of the Political Action Committee and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.

LODGE 4 OFFICE

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ELECTED OFFICERS

Cole B. Weston
President
(443) 956-2679

Steven G. Comegna
1st Vice President
F.O.P. Lodge 4
(410) 409-0293

David M. Rose
2nd Vice President
F.O.P. Lodge 4
(443) 956-2643

Donna M. Patterson
Lodge Secretary
PC-12
(410) 365-8481

Robert W. Caskey
Treasurer
CIB-Robbery
(443) 956-2615

W. Don Patterson
State Trustee
Retired

Ryan Massey
Sergeant at Arms
CIB - Homicide

Anthony DiCara
Chaplain
PC-8

L. Timothy Caslin
Past President
Retired

EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS

Kenneth F. Schubert
Chairman
Retired
(410) 404-2788

Mike DiCara
Vice Chairman
PC-4

Thomas G. Scally
Retired

Kathy Kraemer
PC-6

David Sweren
PC-6

Chris Hodnicki
CIB-GET

James P. Rommel, Jr.
PC-3

Ryan Franks
CIB-Property

Robert Graff
PC-6

Patrick Zito
Retired

LODGE STAFF

Nancy Skinner—Administrative Assistant

LEGAL ADVISORS

Schlachman, Belsky & Weiner, P.A.
Phone (410) 685-2022
IAS Cases Michael Marshall

The Fourword is the official monthly publication of Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 4.

***Fourword* Editors**

Donna Patterson
Don Patterson

The Fourword

- April 24– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

~2nd V. P. ROSE~

- March 29– Met with a member to discuss retirement options.
- March 30– Attended the draft for upcoming promotions and met with the family of deceased member Stephen Matthews.
- March 31 – Presented the mileage grievance at step #3.
- April 4– Met with the Legal Director for the Police Department to discuss upcoming hearing boards and attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- April 5 – Met with 2 members to discuss IAS cases and met with a member to discuss a performance evaluation appeal.
- April 7 – Attended a performance evaluation appeal.
- April 11 – Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting and met with a member to discuss an upcoming hearing board.
- April 13 – Attended the Baltimore County Executive's Budget Message.
- April 17– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors.
- April 18– Addressed the Enhanced Supervisors School.
- April 19– Met with OHR Director George Gay to discuss a grievance and addressed the In-Service training class.
- April 20– Met with a member to discuss retirement options and met with the Secretary of Appointments in Annapolis.
- April 21– Responded to a Police Involved shooting in PC-04.
- April 24– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

SECRETARY PATTERSON

- March 31 –Attended the retirement celebration for Brother Tom Scally.
- April 8– Attended the quarterly meeting of the Maryland State FOP in Ocean City.
- April 17– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- April 24– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

~TRUSTEE PATTERSON~

- March 31 –Attended the retirement celebration for Brother Tom Scally.
- April 8– Attended the quarterly meeting of the Maryland State FOP in Ocean City.
- April 17– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- April 24– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.
- At the State Meeting there were several guests in attendance. They included National President Canterbury and National Treasurer Penozza. There were representatives for National Vice President Neri and National Secretary Yoes. Also in attendance was Keith Turney who is running for National Sgt-at-Arms.
- State President Canales talked about the legislative session that just ended and how it was productive specifically HB-100 the Pension Subtraction Modification Bill.
- Treasurer Kratch thanked everyone for their support of the COPS Ride.
- Chaplain Merkle reminded everyone of the upcoming Memorial services throughout the state and the Nation.
- Past President Bartlett thanked

- the EBOD and the Legislative Committee for their hardwork to get the Pension Bill passed.
- Secretary McIntyre advised that at the National Conference all delegates are going to need their FOP ID cards as well as a drivers license for all events.
- The next state meeting will be held in Frederick on November 4, 2017.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT ~ Ken Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors meeting was held on April 17, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. Brothers Caskey, Graff, Scally, Zito and Sweren were working. All other board members were in attendance. Legal Advisor Mike Marshall was excused.
- Motions that were made, after receiving a proper second, were discussed, voted upon, and appear in this issue under the appropriate committee reports.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE ~Don Patterson~

- The Lodge #4 Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, August 18, 2017. The start time will be 8:00am at Rocky Point Golf Course in Essex. The cost of the tournament will be \$100. Call the lodge to reserve your foursome.



New Additions

*Anna Elizabeth Scott,
Daughter of Sister Ashley
Scott*

*Scarlett Braun, Daughter of
Brother Eric Braun*

*Ezra Triplett, Son of Brother
Kevin Triplett*

*Caleb Patrick Burns, Son of
Brother Patrick Burns*

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE
~Tim Caslin~

- Brother Tom Scally submitted a proposed change to Article IV of the Constitution. The proposed change was read at the April 2017 General Membership meeting and is posted in this issue of the Fourword. It will be read again and discussed at the May 2017 General Membership meeting. It will be voted on at the June 2017 General Membership meeting and must be passed by 2/3 majority of the members in attendance.

DONATION REVIEW COMMITTEE
~Mike DiCara~

- The Donation Review Committee met and discussed the following motions:
- To donate \$2,500.00 for the Fallen Heroes Memorial Day to be held May 5, 2017 at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens.
- To donate \$500.00 to the Maryland Law Hockey team.
- To donate \$1,500 to sponsor the Law Enforcement Torch Run to be held on June 8, 2017.
- To purchase 10 tickets at \$40.00

each for a total of \$400.00 for FOP Lodge #70 annual fundraiser for Fallen Officers.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE
~Dave Rose~

- On March 9, 2016, we filed a notice of intent to arbitrate as per Article 8, Section 8.3, step #4 paragraph (b) of the MOU in our healthcare subsidy grievance. On June 15, 2016, we met with our labor attorney and healthcare consultant to discuss and prepare for the grievance as we move forward into arbitration. We have tried to arrange a meeting with the County Administration to try and resolve the issue outside of arbitration but the County has not expressed a desire to do so. We have obtained a list of arbitrators from the AAA. The County has communicated to us that they have declined to participate in the arbitration of this grievance. We will move forward with the selection of an arbitrator and proceed with the process.
- We have filed our notice of intent to arbitrate the Section 6.1c class grievance. On April 19, 2017, I met with OHR Director George Gay to discuss the settlement options for the grievance. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was apparent there was not going to be a settlement. I then requested he communicate with our counsel to proceed in the selection of an arbitrator so we can proceed with a hearing.
- A step #3 hearing was held on March 31, 2017 for the Section 11.1 mileage grievance. Hearing Officer Stahl issued his decision on April 9, 2017 denying the grievance. Our labor attorney is reviewing it to opine as to whether we should appeal to step #4.

**Association of
Baltimore County
Retired Police
Meetings 2017**

**September 5
November 7**

**All meetings are held at
Parkville Heritage Gardens
at 7:30 p.m.**

LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
~Dave Rose~

- Pfc. Spivey's case was transferred to Circuit Court by Assistant State's Attorney Coffin. It is tentatively scheduled for September 12, 2017.
- The Erica Schneider appeal of her discontinued spousal death benefit has not been scheduled.
- The Federal District Court hearing for the Preliminary Injunction in the Flanary case concluded after a third day of testimony on March 21, 2017. At the conclusion of the hearing, Judge Catherine Blake stated she would have a written decision in April.
- Mike Marshall and his staff are working on the Marvin Haw pension appeal to the Office of Administrative Hearings. At this time, there is no date set.
- We currently have four (4) hearing boards scheduled from June through August. These are pending because there will be showcase petitions filed in at least 2 of them. This could affect the hearing dates causing them to be rescheduled. These are the first hearing dates since January of 2013.

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Retirements

*Paul Lee
Darlene Peters
Victor Dunaway
Joseph Michael
Kenneth Shipley
Bryn Blackburn
Stephen McNutt
Dawn Willett*

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ~Cole Weston~

- The legislative session ended April 10, 2017. It turned out to be a very productive session for the FOP.
- A special thanks goes out to the Maryland State FOP Legislative Committee for their hard work.
- A summary of the key bills from this session is posted in this issue of the Fourword.

NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE ~Cole Weston~

- Last best final offers were presented and post hearing briefs were submitted. Arbitrator Javitz ruled in favor of the County.

PENSION COMMITTEE ~Dave Rose~

- At the April 11, 2017 Pension Board of Trustees meeting, the Trustees approved seventy-three (73) retirements, twelve (12) from the police department.
- Stephen Matthews spouse Donna was approved for his ordinary death benefit, pending review for LOD under presumption. The County has the death certificate and autopsy report.

- Justin Mueller's appeal of his disability and rating has been withdrawn.

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE ~Dave Rose~

- The committee members reviewed one (1) new or revised policy this month. There were no bargaining issues identified.

Bereavements

*Retired Brother August G.
Miler*

*Rose Marie Tarr, Mother of
Retired Brother Oscar Ray*

*Robert A. Krach, Father of
Retired Brother John Krach*

*Naoma E. Strasbaugh, Mother
of Sister Debra Miller*

*Mary Ellen Schott, Grand-
mother of Brother Pearin
Dwayne Holt*

*Dr. Artemio Arciaga, Father
of Brother Noel Arciaga*

*Charles Allan, Father of Re-
tired Brother Charles Allan*

*Purcell Joines, Father of
Sister Crystal Joines*

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE ~Steve Comegna~

- The Political Action Committee met on Monday, April 17, 2017. The committee brought forth one recommendation for expenditure. That motion was as follows:
- To donate \$50.00 to a campaign event for State Delegate Bob Long (District 6) on Saturday, May 6, 2017.

The Executive Board of Directors approved this expenditure on Monday, April 17, 2017. The expenditure was approved by the membership on Monday, April 24, 2017.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- During the month of April, FOP Lodge #4 sent six (6) cards and flower arrangements to bereaving members. Four (4) donations were made in lieu of flowers. Nine (9) thank you cards were received.
- Promotions were held on April 10, 2017.

Promotions

Lieutenant

*Matthew T. Jackson
John M. Keeney
Christopher P. Morgan*

Sergeant

*Steven M. Ellingsworth
Sundia Gaynor
Doug C. Jess
Robert Vicosa
Robert M. Walsh
Matthew W. Wilking
Kyle J. Woodward*

Corporal

*Joseph Barresi
Christopher D. Cullip
Greg A. Czajkowski
Pearin D. Holt II
Gregory N. Huber
Bruce W. Kindervater Jr.
Michael A. Lyon
Michael B. Salamone*



A proposed change to the Constitution and Bylaws of Baltimore County Lodge #4 of the Fraternal Order of Police, Incorporated.

Whereas: The Baltimore County, MD Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4 was formed to represent the active members of the Baltimore County, Maryland Police Department, it is in the Lodge's best interest to have 100% membership and

Whereas: The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4 allows membership to retired members of the Baltimore County Police Department at a reduced rate and

Whereas: The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4 is a fraternal organization encompassing all of our Brothers and Sisters who are or were active members of the Baltimore County, Maryland Police Department who left in good standing with the organization.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Article IV of the current Constitution of the Fraternal Order of Police Baltimore County, Maryland Lodge #4 be repealed and replaced with:

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1:

The membership in this Lodge shall consist of full-time law enforcement officers who are employed by the Baltimore County, Maryland Police Department, or persons who have been honorably retired from such employment because of length of service or disability, but not to include persons who have ceased to perform police work for any other reason. No person shall be denied membership because of race, sex, creed, color, or national origin.

SECTION 2:

Any member who servers his/her membership with the Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4 for any reason, may be reinstated, upon payment in full, of any assessments of which he/she may be in arrears, **not with-standing any amnesty period that may be granted by the Executive Board of Directors upon majority vote**, and can only be reinstated as a member upon 2/3 vote of the membership present at a monthly meeting. A member may only sever his/her membership and be reinstated one (1) time.

SECTION 3:

Any member who leaves the LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSION and later returns to the Baltimore County, Maryland Police Department may reapply for membership in this Lodge only as a new applicant and will not be required to pay back dues.

(Proposed changes are in bold)

The Fourword
2017 Legislative Session

The 437th session of General Assembly convened in Annapolis, Maryland January 11 - April 10, 2017. At the end of this session there were approximately 100 bills in the House and Senate that could have an effect on law enforcement / public safety personnel in the state of Maryland. Each session the State Legislative Committee introduces bills in the House and the Senate as "Agenda Bills". These are bills that we deem priority legislation that are felt to be most important to the Fraternal Order of Police. During the session, there are bills introduced to the legislature that are not in the best interest of law enforcement and the Fraternal Order of Police. The legislative committee spends a large amount of the time fighting these "bad" bills. The following numbered bills are those of the Legislative Committee's Agenda Bills;

- Hometown Heroes HB-100 / SB-597

This bill allows retirement income to qualify for the State pension exclusion if the individual is at least 55 years old and the retirement income is attributable to employment as a law enforcement officer or as fire, rescue, or emergency services personnel of the United States, the State, or a local jurisdiction. Emergency services personnel includes emergency medical technicians and paramedics. The maximum exclusion in the tax year is limited to \$15,000.

(Supported with testimony- The bill takes effect July 1, 2017, and applies to tax year 2017 and beyond.)

- Police Protection Act HB-25 / HB-19 / SB-42 / SB-120

These bills add law enforcement officers and first responders to the protected classes under State hate crime statutes pertaining to harassment/destruction of property and damage to an associated building. The bill defines a "first responder" as a person engaged in providing emergency medical care or rescue services, including a firefighter, an emergency medical technician, or a rescue squad member.

(Supported with testimony – these bills did not make it out of their respective committees)

-ACLU (Public Information Act) HB-698 / SB-362

This bill specifies that a record related to a formal complaint of job-related misconduct against a "law enforcement officer," including an investigation record or record of any discipline imposed, is not a personnel record under the Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA), making such a record subject to disclosure, except under specified conditions

(Opposed with testimony - this bill did not make it out of committee)

-Property Tax Credit - Disabled or Fallen Law Enforcement Officers and Rescue Workers – Alterations

This bill authorizes county and municipal governments to expand a local property tax credit for a dwelling owned by the surviving spouse of a specified fallen law enforcement officer or rescue worker to include the cohabitant of a specified fallen law enforcement officer or rescue worker. The bill repeals similar provisions of current law pertaining to Harford County. In addition, the bill increases the number of years, from 2 to 10, within which a disabled law enforcement officer or rescue worker or the surviving spouse of a fallen law enforcement officer or rescue worker must have acquired specified residential property in order to qualify for a specified local option property tax credit.

In addition to the above illustrated bills, there were numerous bills dealing with the monitoring and reporting on the use and information obtained from Law Enforcement electronic surveillance. These bills were very detrimental to criminal investigations and were fought diligently and defeated by the State FO.P. Legislative Committee.

The June

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
June 26, 2017
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road

The July

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
July 24, 2017
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road