



The Fourword

Volume 53 Number 1

January 2025



President's Message

A Look Back at 2024: A Year of Challenges and Achievements

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we reflect on the past year, it is clear that 2024 presented us with numerous challenges. However, we rose to meet each one with determination and unity. Below is a summary of some of the key events and accomplishments of the year.

The year began with significant activity in the General Assembly, where we were deeply involved in lobbying for several bills. In addition, we worked quickly to assemble a negotiating team, retain legal representation, and prepare proposals as the impasse date of February 1, 2024, approached.

Our members faced unprecedented situations with the in-custody death and officer-involved shooting in Precinct 4 on consecutive days. During this time, we were also notified of a pending Grand Jury proceeding and eventual indictment of several of our members in Precinct 1 related to an incident in Baltimore City. We acted swiftly to secure separate counsel for each involved officer.

Baltimore County experienced the collapse of the Key Bridge. Many of our members were on the front lines, participating in search and rescue operations during this critical event.

Several members were involved in a fatal pursuit in Precinct 2. During this time, we were also in the process of negotiating settlements for the COVID and Military grievances. Despite the challenges, we successfully ratified a new Memorandum of Understanding, which will guide our efforts in the future.

We celebrated the department's 150th Anniversary in grand fashion at Big Truck Brewery. This was a major event that brought our members together and showcased the strength of our agency.

As we moved into the fall, we faced legal battles when our first officer went to trial in Baltimore City. After a 6-day bench trial, the officer was found not guilty on all charges, and shortly thereafter, charges against three other officers were dismissed. Though the legal and expert fees for these cases totaled over \$230,000, I'm proud to say that these costs were covered in full within our 2024 budget. Additionally, the Attorney General's reports regarding incidents earlier in the year confirmed that all officers acted appropriately and lawfully.

We also had the trial in Baltimore County for the man who was charged with four counts of attempted murder for an incident in Cockeysville in February 2023, where one of our members was shot. At the conclusion of the trial, he was found guilty on those charges. Sentencing will be in 2025.

Looking Ahead to 2025:

As 2024 came to a close, we shifted our focus to 2025. We began preparing for contract negotiations and worked diligently to secure sponsors and support for critical legislation in both the 2025 General Assembly and local county legislation. Our goal is to finally resolve the Military grievance once and for all.

Throughout this year, your lodge leadership, executive board, and many committee members worked tirelessly on behalf of our membership. In 2025, we will strive to be even more effective and efficient. While we know there will be challenges and disagreements ahead, we will face them together, and we will overcome them as we always have.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. Together, we will make 2025 another successful year.

Fraternally,
Dave Rose
President

Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County



DECEMBER 2024 GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police was held on Monday, December 16, 2024, 4:00 p.m. at Lodge #4. President Rose called the meeting to Order. Chaplain Kraemer led the membership in prayer and President Rose led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of officers was conducted, Past President Folderauer, Brother Jess, Brother Sweren, and, Brother Scally were all excused. All other board members were present as was Legal Advisor, Mike Davey. A motion was made by Brother Zito to accept the minutes from the November meeting. The motion was seconded by Sister Kraemer.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President Dave Rose

November 26- Attended the County Council meeting in reference to the military pension credit bill.
December 2- Attended the County Council meeting for the vote on the military pension credit bill.
December 3- Attended a Legal Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the legal counsel retainer.
December 4- Met with Delegate Stein to discuss the upcoming legislative session and FOP priorities.
December 6- Attended a pension consultant workgroup meeting.
December 9- Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting.
December 10- Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
December 11- Attended a negotiation meeting with the county administration.
December 12- Met with a member to discuss retirement options.
December 14- Attended the Lodge #34 holiday party.
December 16- Attended the General Membership Meeting.

First Vice President Mike DiCara

December 2- Spoke to the Department's PAR Fund liaison about a member's recent request for assistance.
December 3- Attended a meeting of the Legal Advisory Committee.
December 4- Met with State Delegate Dana Stein in reference to pending legislation in the General Assembly.
December 5- Represented the Lodge at the Department's promotional transfer draft.
Attended a meeting with Police Human Resources.
December 9- Attended the December meeting of the Executive Board of Directors.
December 11- Attended a contract negotiations session with representatives of Baltimore County Government.
December 12- Attended the quarterly meeting of the County's Healthcare Review Committee.
December 16- Attended a meeting of the Executive Board of Directors.
Attended the December General Membership Meeting.
December 17- Attended the bi-monthly meeting between the Lodge and Chief McCullough.
Attended the County Council's Spending Affordability Meeting.

Second Vice President Ryan Massey

- December 9- Attended monthly Executive Board meeting.
- December 11- Negotiation meeting with County Administration.
- December 16- Attended monthly General Membership meeting.
- December 17- Attended Executive Board meeting with Chief McCullough.

Lodge Secretary Donna Patterson

- No Report.

Treasurer Caskey

- Reported on Lodge Finances.

State Trustee Don Patterson

- The next meeting of the Maryland State Lodge is in Cambridge on January 18, 2025.

Executive Board of Directors Chair Steve Comegna

- The Executive Board of Directors met on December 9th and 16th.
- There was one motion from the Legislative Committee brought before the Board during the meeting, it passed.
- Four motions will be under the PAC committee report.
- A motion was made by Brother Speed and seconded by Brother Caskey, to approve the reports of Officers. The motion passed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Bullroast - Don Patterson

- Tickets are now on sale for this year's Bullroast. It will be on Sunday, March 30, 2025, 1-5 p.m. at the Boumi Temple, 5050 King Avenue, Rosedale, MD. \$55 per person.

Bylaws - Ryan Franks

- No report.

Donation Review - Ryan Franks

- No report.

Events - Don Patterson

- The FOP Lodge 4 golf tournament is September 5, 2025 at Rocky Point Golf Course.

Expenditure Review - Matt Krauch

- No Report.

Finance - Bob Caskey

- No report.

Grievance - Mike DiCara

- The Sean Brennan promotional grievance is still pending at Step 4.
- The legislation needed to settle the Military Pension Credit Grievance was passed by the County Council at their December session. The final settlement agreement based on these legislative changes will now be drafted and sent to the County Office of Law.

Healthcare Review Committee - Mike DiCara

- The quarterly meeting of the County's Healthcare Review Committee was held on December 12th.
- The recent, undisclosed changes to the Cigna Surround Medicare plan were discussed. The County believes these changes were needed to control costs while still offering a high-quality plan. Labor's consultant agreed that these changes were reasonable, but we requested more transparency in the future so that our membership can be informed prior to open enrollment.
- The County asked us to remind our active members about the new medical clinic for County Employees located at 305 Washington Avenue. It is on the model of an "urgent care" with two exam rooms and an on-site lab. It is totally free for County employees and insurance isn't billed, which allows all County employees to use it, even those who don't have County insurance.

Legal Advisory - Ryan Massey

Pending Trial Boards

- Britton (1-7-25)
- S. Jones (1-21-25)
- Baldwin Jr. (pending)
- Small (pending)

Legislative - Ryan Massey

- Chairman Massey made a motion and second to donate \$1,000.00 to the Maryland State Lodge planned reception for the members of Maryland's Senate and House Judicial Committees. This motion passed.

Membership - Matt Krauch

- No report.

Memorial - Donna Patterson

- No report.

Military Affairs - Mahindra Saywack and Dave Rose

- Report filed under Grievance committee report.

Negotiations - Dave Rose

- Several meetings are on the calendar with the County for the month of January.

Pension - Dave Rose

- The Pension Board of Trustees met in December and a total of 33 retirements were approved, 8 were from the police department.

Policy Review - Mike DiCara

The Policy Review Committee received the following projects for review:

- Command Review P21-32, IID Investigations: Several bargaining issues were discovered in this draft and will be discussed with the Department when the final version of the policy is drafted.
- Command Review P21-60, Duty-Related Psychological Injury: Bargaining issues were identified in this policy and were discussed with the Department. Changes were made which will be reflected in the final version of the policy.
- Command Review P24-74 Stabilization: This draft policy was cancelled by the Department prior to completion.

Political Action- Mike DiCara

The following motions were passed by the Committee and brought forth to the Executive Board of Directors:

- Motion to purchase a \$500 Sponsorship to an event on January 3, 2025 for Baltimore County Councilman Julian Jones.
- Motion to purchase a \$250 sponsorship to an event on January 3, 2025 for State Delegate Carl Jackson (D) District 8.
- Motion to purchase a \$250 Sponsorship to an event on January 4, 2025 for State Delegate Robin Grammer (R) District 6.
- Motion to purchase a \$500 Sponsorship to an event on January 7, 2025 for Baltimore County Council Chair Izzy Patoka.

These motions were passed by the EBOD and the General Membership.

Retiree Matters - Carroll Bollinger

- The HR 82 bill was passed in the Senate.

Scholarship - Tim Caslin

- College scholarship applications for Active and Retired members' children are available on-line through the website and app or please contact the Lodge office at 410-668-0004.

Uniforms/Equipment– Joe Brzozowski and Kevin Jobe

- No report.

Wellness - Rob Graff

- The next Peer to Peer meeting will be February 20th at 4:30.
- A motion was made by Brother Caskey and seconded by Brother Saylor to approve the Reports of Committees. The motion passed unanimously.

Report from Legal Counsel-Mike Davey

- General Assembly starts January the 8th and ends April 7th. The State lodge along with Lodge 4 are trying to have several bills passed.

Old Business

- Workday has numerous issues.

New Business

- None.

Good of the Order

- Tax time is upon us. If you know a business that would wish to make a donation to the Scholarship Fund, the donations are tax deductible under our 501C3. Reach out to the lodge for more information.

Sick and or in Distress

- None.

This issue of the Fourword will be the last printed newsletter for active members. Retired members will be April 2025. Please use the QR code to update your information so we can send you the newsletter and other information electronically. This will enable us to communicate with the membership more efficiently. To receive a digital copy, we need your email address in our database. Please use your phone to scan the QR code below and enter your updated information. Thank you for assisting us in this transition.



LODGE 4 OFFICE

9304 Harford Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21234
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www.foplodge4.org

ELECTED OFFICERS

David M. Rose
President
(443) 956-2643

Mike DiCara 1st Vice President <i>FOP Lodge#4</i> (410) 299-8835	Ryan Massey 2nd Vice President <i>CIB Homicide</i> (443) 865-0237
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Donna M. Patterson Lodge Secretary <i>Retired</i> (410) 365-8481	Robert W. Caskey Treasurer <i>Retired</i> (443) 956-2615
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W. Don Patterson State Trustee <i>Retired</i>	Matt Gonzalez Sergeant at Arms <i>Training</i>
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Kathy Kraemer Chaplain <i>Retired</i>	Dave Folderauer Past President <i>Retired</i>
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EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steven Comegna Chairman 410-409-0293	Ryan Franks Vice Chairman <i>OSS</i>
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Thomas G. Scally <i>Retired</i>	Doug Jess <i>PC-3</i>
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Dave Sweren <i>SOD/TAC</i>	Carroll Bollinger <i>Retired</i>
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Joe Peach <i>PC-11</i>	Matt Krauch <i>CIB-CACU</i>
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Ken Schubert <i>Retired</i>	Joe Brzozowski <i>PC-8</i>
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LODGE STAFF

Nancy Skinner — Administrative Assistant

LEGAL ADVISORS

Schlachman, Belsky, Weiner And Davey
IAS Cases Michael Davey
Phone (410) 685-2022

FORWARD EDITOR

Kathy Kraemer

BEREAVEMENTS

Brother Edgar J. Herman

Anna Mary Risdorfer
Mother of Brother Rick Hearn

Richard Burinsky
Brother-in-law of Larry Gick

Robert R. McDonnell

Harry M. Ensor

RETIREMENTS

Stephen Duley

Barry Jordan

Jean Slattery

James Rice

Darrin Kelly

Candice Jennings

Carlos Selvi

John Sappington



Fraternal Order of Police
Baltimore County Lodge #4
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Change of Address Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Assignment: _____ Zip Code: _____
Home Phone: (____) _____

The February
**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**
will be held on
**Monday,
February 24, 2024
4:00 p.m.**
at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road

The March
**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**
will be held on
**Monday,
March 24, 2025
4:00 p.m.**
at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road