

# LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED BY FELONIOUS ASSAULT IN 2011



National Center for the  
**PREVENTION**  
of Violence Against the Police



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In 2011, 72 law enforcement officers lost their lives to felonious assault. Each of these 72 left behind agencies, families, colleagues, and friends struggling to come to grips with this sad reality. The questions following such a tragic event are unrelenting and many answers may never be found. However, there is one question that must resonate with every executive across this nation: could this have been prevented? What steps can we take as executives to further improve the safety of the nearly 800,000 law enforcement officers who police our country's streets so that they arrive home safely to their families and loved ones?

This report is an important first step in assuming this prevention stance. We must not only honor those who have fallen but also begin a critical examination of these incidents. *Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Felonious Assault 2011*, provides a glimpse into each one of these events. I can say with much certainty that many of the factors surrounding each incident are sadly familiar to those who have made the commitment to protect our communities. From robberies to domestic violence to traffic stops these are the calls we respond to every day in the execution of our duty. It therefore falls upon us as police leaders to examine these incidents more closely to understand how each tragic outcome occurred.

IACP is committed to the issue of officer safety. When I was sworn in as President of this association I vowed to continue our comprehensive officer safety strategy which was begun through our SafeShield initiative and enhanced by the efforts of the National Center for the Prevention of Violence Against the Police. Officer safety will remain a top priority of the field and the IACP long past my tenure. However a culture shift needs to occur if we are going to make prevention our singular focus. In the end, we must both honor the fallen, and at the same time learn as much as we can from each incident. I challenge each of you to join us in this life saving endeavor, starting with your review of this report, and continuing with your collaboration with us to prevent future officer injury and death.

**Walt McNeil**

*IACP President*

Chief of Police, Quincy, Florida



# NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THE POLICE OVERVIEW

Responding to the need for critical information on emerging trends involving felonious assaults directed at law enforcement, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), in partnership with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, established the *National Center for the Prevention of Violence Against the Police (National Center)*. The mission of the National Center is to prevent felonious assaults against law enforcement through the timely development and dissemination of actionable information within the wider context of IACP's officer safety initiatives.

The IACP's National Center is examining data from federal, state, local, campus, and tribal law enforcement agencies, as well as from existing data sources, on line-of-duty deaths and felonious assaults committed against law enforcement such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted program, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Violent Death Reporting System, and more. The focus on felonious assaults is complementary to, and is filling informational gaps relative to, both the IACP's Officer Injury Project and BJA's VALOR Project, which trains officers on how to prevent or survive violent encounters and ambush-style assaults.

The IACP's National Center is currently studying the aforementioned available data and information to develop awareness and strategies across the criminal justice system designed to prevent violent assaults against law enforcement officers.

Part of the work being done is integrating these findings into the broader body of IACP's Officer Safety Initiatives, which includes work on duty-related injuries, disabilities, police officer suicides, traffic stop safety, deaths, and more, with the goal of enhancing overall officer safety.

To guide the work of the IACP's National Center, a diverse group of professionals from the law enforcement, training, and research fields has been assembled to serve as advisors, including representation from IACP's various sections, divisions, and committees, as well as several data providers. Advisory group members review project materials and contribute comments and insight on policy and practices within the field in order to ensure information distributed through the project is both relevant and helpful to the law enforcement profession.





# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the following organizations that have contributed to this document through guidance & counsel, support, and the contribution of data to the National Center:

**Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice**

**Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice**

**Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Violent Death Reporting Systems**

**Federal Bureau of Investigation's Law Enforcement Officers Killed & Assaulted**

**IACP/DuPont Kevlar Survivors' Club**

**National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund**

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

**Research Triangle Institute International**

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*This [increase in law enforcement officer fatalities] is a devastating and unacceptable trend. Each of these deaths is a tragic reminder of the threats that law enforcement officers face each day – and the fact that too many guns have fallen into the hands of those who are not legally permitted to possess them... Departments across the country have mourned the loss of too many dedicated colleagues and friends... I want to assure the family members and loved ones who have mourned the loss of these heroes that we are responding to this year's increased violence with renewed vigilance and will do everything within our power – and use every tool at our disposal – to keep our police officers safe.*

**U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder**

December 28, 2011

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## FOREWORD

There are few tasks as difficult as dealing with line-of-duty deaths of police officers. I know the impact all too well, having lost six officers in the four and half years that I've served as commissioner of the Philadelphia Police Department. Each officer's death has a huge and painful impact on that officer's family and friends, the entire police agency, and the community served by that agency. And the damage done does not heal quickly—sometimes taking years for those closest to the officer to resume any sense of normalcy or find peace. Despite the impact of these incidents and the many efforts we have all taken over the years to prevent them, last year saw an unprecedented spike in line-of-duty deaths, totaling 177, and in particular the number of officers killed by felonious assault, reaching 72 by the end of the year. Add to this the much larger and equally troubling number of officers who are feloniously assaulted and survived (58,667 yearly average according to FBI LEOKA, 2001-2010); it becomes even clearer why this issue is so significant to our field.

As we continue to address this critical problem, the timeliness of this year-end report from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) National Center for the Prevention of Violence Against the Police (NCPVAP) is paramount. The IACP recognizes the need for increased awareness as an important first step of preventing line-of-duty deaths and serious injuries. This report presents brief summaries of each felonious assault that led to a line-of-duty death in 2011 in order to raise awareness of these types of events. As the IACP's National Center gathers and analyzes the information relating to these incidents, it increases our capacity to prevent future ones.

The goal of the IACP's National Center is to design and promote a prevention model for law enforcement agencies to help reduce the number of officers assaulted and killed in future years, starting now. To that end the report breaks down each incident by type—for example, warrant service, traffic stop, or domestic call. Future work includes developing prevention approaches that are distinct and unique to each type of incident. By taking this approach, we have the potential to create, implement, and promote policies and provide training not only to reduce these incidents, but, in many cases, prevent them before they ever happen.

Starting now, we must put a face on each number, and get to know who we've lost and why we've lost them. While reading this report will inevitably be troubling and hurtful for all of us in the law enforcement community, it is nonetheless essential reading. Until we fully understand each unique incident, it is unlikely we will be able to arrive at solutions to this terrible problem. As pleased as I am with the work of the IACP's National Center so far, I join President McNeil in challenging each of you to work with us in this life-saving endeavor and reach out to IACP staff with your ideas for increased officer safety.

**Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey**  
Philadelphia Police Department

# INTRODUCTION

Today, the perils facing law enforcement officers are clear. Since the establishment of the profession, the potential for assaults and line-of-duty deaths are a reality all who serve their communities will face. Recent data show that threats to law enforcement are on the rise and that every effort must be made in order to address violence against the police. According to the FBI's Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) division 541 law enforcement officers have been killed in the line-of-duty as a result of felonious assaults alone between the years 2001-2010. Within these hundreds of tragic incidents, an opportunity exists to examine and potentially learn from a number of different variables. The variables include characteristics of the officer, offender, weapon, and call type among others. While the task of looking back at line-of-duty deaths is difficult, it is important to do so in order to raise awareness and hopefully prevent these incidents in the future. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) is committed to helping law enforcement agencies with this task by highlighting each incident in order to increase awareness and demonstrate the need for a continued focus on this critical issue.

## Officers Feloniously Killed FBI LEOKA, 2001 – 2010

2001	70
2002	56
2003	52
2004	57
2005	55
2006	48
2007	58
2008	41
2009	48
2010	56
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>541</b>

TABLE I

## Weapon Type Used by Offender FBI LEOKA, 2001 – 2010

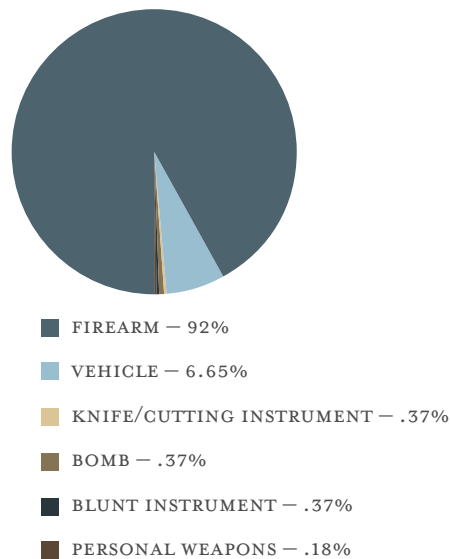


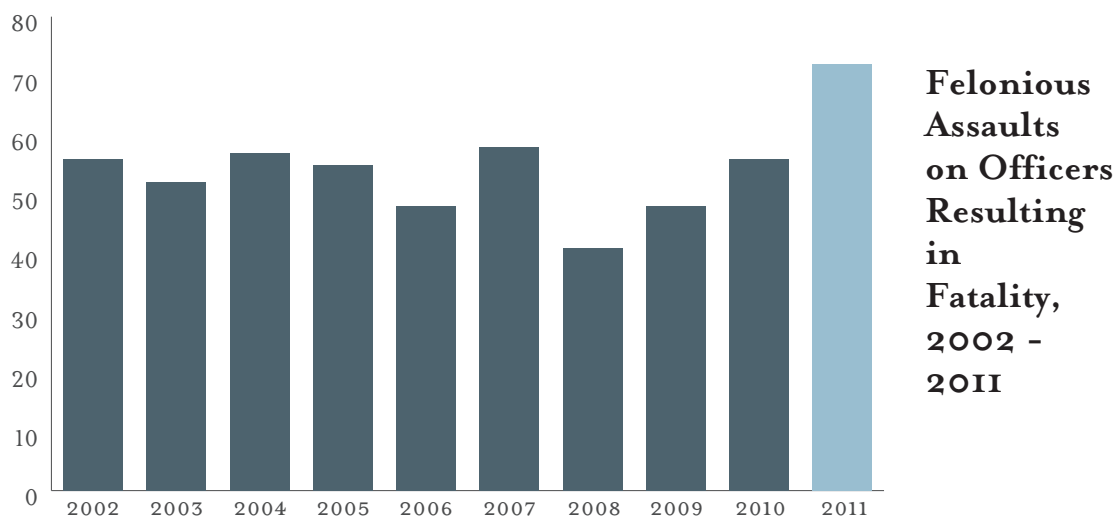
FIGURE I

## *The 2011 Picture*

Tens of thousands of officers are assaulted every year but survive these potentially deadly encounters. According to FBI LEOKA (2001-2010) an average of 58,667 officers face this level of violence in the field yearly. This number accounts for over half a million officers over the last decade to fall victim to an assault. Thankfully, the vast majority of officers survive these violent encounters and, as a result, we can learn from their experiences. Stories will become part of the larger body of knowledge of the

National Center. The purposes of this report will be used as a contextual piece to better understand the current climate.

In the last ten years line-of-duty deaths have continued at a disturbing rate (Table 1), and 2011 was no exception. In 2011, 72 officers were feloniously killed in the line-of-duty (Fig. 2). The 72 officers killed marks a 17-year high and an approximately 27% increase over 2010 figures.



Source: FBI LEOKA (2002–2010) and NCPVAP (2011)

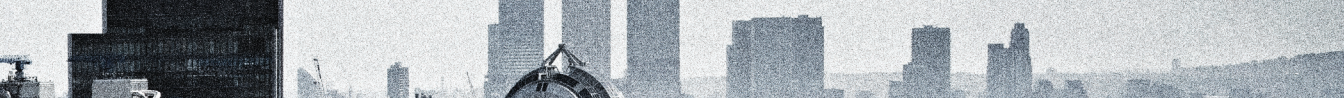
## FIGURE 2

Some may argue that the 58,000+ assaults and 50+ deaths experienced by law enforcement each year demonstrate the inescapable risks attached to the position. However, IACP’s officer safety initiatives’ philosophy is zero tolerance with regard to officer injury and line-of-duty deaths. Our goal is to continue to work tirelessly to prevent these incidents, and we refuse to accept that line-of-duty deaths are inevitable.

## Purpose

To continue this important mission, this report focuses on prevention through awareness by bringing together brief summaries of each line-of-duty death from felonious assaults in 2011. Although the sheer number of assaults against law enforcement is clearly a concern, the focus in this report is singular – to improve awareness within the field. In order to better understand these incidents, and begin the process of preventing them in the future, these assaults have been classified by call type. It is our hope that presenting this information in this fashion will serve to remind law enforcement officers to remain vigilant at all times and in all situations. Recorded incidents have been categorized by call type. The classification was used to break down the summaries in order to better understand and begin thinking about prevention. It is the hope of the IACP’s National Center that this document helps





facilitate this process and highlights the necessity for law enforcement to rely on their training and remain vigilant when dealing with the public.

## *Approach*

In order to improve awareness within the field, IACP's National Center relied on open-source information streams including, but not limited to, RSS feeds, breaking news alerts/email, and news aggregators to compile information. Each description was also reviewed by the agency involved to ensure accuracy. One of the goals is to put information in the hands of law enforcement as soon as possible, and using this type of data collection allows for a timely information release.

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**Note:** *Descriptions of incidents in this report were obtained by the IACP through open-source information and contact with some of the involved agencies. IACP presents these descriptions for the purposes of expediting dissemination to increase awareness. This report is meant to be a precursor to more formal department investigations that are currently under way.*

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For this effort, only incidents involving felonious assaults resulting in the death of a state, local, tribal, or federal law enforcement officer were included in this report. Distinctions have also been made for those officers killed in the line-of-duty as the result of an event occurring in 2011 as well as those that in 2011 succumbed to injury from several years prior. The justification for this distinction is that this approach allows for the identification of those incidents that are indicators of the current climate of violence against police.

## *Looking at Deadly Incidents by Type of Encounter*

After the development of the 2011 narratives, the incidents were then divided by call type based on the initial response and supported by narrative detail. This breakdown allows for a manageable, efficient, and informed approach to the critical analysis of each of these incidents. These descriptions are not intended to find fault but to raise awareness of felonious fatalities against law enforcement. The following call types were used in the creation of this document:

### **Disturbance (15)**

- Domestic Disturbance
- General Disturbance

### **Arrest Situation (14)**

- Burglary in Progress
- Larceny in Progress
- Robbery in Progress
- General Arrest Situation

### **Ambush (11)**

### **Traffic Pursuit/Stop (11)**

- General Traffic Pursuit Stop
- Traffic Violation Stop

### **Warrant Service (10)**

### **Investigating Suspicious Circumstances (9)**

- Investigative Activity
- Investigating Suspicious Person

### **Handling/Transporting Prisoner (2)**



# 15/ DISTURBANCE

## *General Disturbance*

### **Officer Eric Zapata**

Officer Eric Zapata of the Kalamazoo, Michigan, Department of Public Safety was shot and killed after responding to reports of gunfire. Officer Zapata, along with another officer, approached a man standing on a porch in the area where the shots were reported. As the second officer asked the man if he had heard any shots, the suspect pulled out a gun and exchanged fire with the officer. The suspect then ran in between two houses where he confronted Officer Zapata. More shots were exchanged and Officer Zapata was fatally wounded. The suspect then committed suicide.

### **Officer Daryl Hall**

Officer Daryl Hall of the Saint Louis, Missouri, Police Department was shot and killed outside of a local nightclub while off duty. Officer Hall was a patron at the nightclub when he heard shots fired outside. When Officer Hall exited the nightclub, he spotted an individual firing a handgun in an adjacent parking lot. Officer Hall identified himself as a police officer and, with his weapon drawn, ordered the offender to drop his gun. The suspect refused and a gunfight ensued during which Officer Hall was fatally wounded. The suspect was also killed during the incident.

### **Officer Rolando Tirado**

Officer Rolando Tirado of the Buckeye, Arizona, Police Department was fatally shot while working an off-duty security detail at a local night club. Officer Tirado and a second officer stopped a truck that was driving erratically in the parking lot of the night club. As the officer was talking to the driver, a passenger exited from the front seat and walked around the back of the SUV and shot Officer Tirado from behind. Gunfire was exchanged between the gunman and the second officer during which the gunman was killed. The driver of the SUV was also wounded and a third occupant escaped but was captured two days later.

### **Officer Emiliano Torres-Soto**

Officer Emiliano Torres-Soto of the Puerto Rico Police Department was fatally shot while trying to intervene in a fight outside of a local bar. The officer witnessed a dispute while working off-duty as security in the shopping center where the bar was located. During the dispute, one suspect displayed a gun and the officer identified himself as law enforcement. Officer Torres-Soto then ordered the gunman to drop his weapon, however, the command was ignored and several of the suspects began firing, striking Officer Torres-Soto at least 10 times. Officer Torres-Soto was able to return fire, striking one suspect, before being taken to the hospital where he succumbed to his wounds. Three suspects were later arrested for the crime.



## **Sergeant Joseph Szczerba**

Sergeant Joseph Szczerba of the New Castle County, Delaware, Police Department was fatally stabbed while trying to arrest a disorderly subject. Officers set up a perimeter to try and locate him. Sergeant Szczerba was the supervisor on duty and responded to the dispatch from police headquarters about two miles away. He was the first to come across the suspect on his way to the call. Sergeant Szczerba called for backup and got out of his car and attempted to take the man into custody. After a short foot pursuit, a struggle ensued and the suspect pulled out a knife and stabbed the officer in the neck above his vest. Sergeant Szczerba was transported to Christiana Hospital where he died from his injuries. Other officers arrived, and the suspect was arrested at the scene.

## *Domestic Disturbance*

### **Officer John Falcone**

Officer John Falcone of the Poughkeepsie, New York, Police Department was killed while responding to reports of shots fired near a local train station. Upon arrival, the responding officers found the suspect waving a gun and holding his three-year-old child. Following the incident, investigators discovered the suspect's estranged wife deceased in a nearby vehicle. The suspect appeared to be injured, and there was also some defect with the gun, which was later found to be inoperative. After negotiating with the suspect, the child was safely removed at which point the suspect started walking toward the train station still armed. The responding officers attempted to cut him off, and Officer Falcone engaged the suspect physically. The suspect was able to gain control of the officer's weapon and shot him in the head. The suspect then fired a second shot at another officer and then turned and began to walk again toward the train station. A third officer, who was not aware that Officer Falcone had been shot, then tackled the suspect bringing him to the ground. During a brief struggle with this officer, the suspect once again fired Officer Falcone's weapon, but this time fatally striking himself in the head. The suspect had attempted to commit suicide prior to the arrival of the police, and a suicide note was later recovered.

### **Officer Alain Schaberger**

Officer Alain Schaberger of the New York City, New York, Police Department was attempting to arrest a suspect for domestic assault when he was pushed over a railing and fell to his death. The officer was responding to a domestic dispute between a woman and her boyfriend, who had threatened to kill her. Authorities were able to track the suspect down at his residence where Officer Schaberger and two other officers brought the suspect onto the porch. As officers attempted to handcuff the suspect, Officer Schaberger was pushed by the suspect with both hands over a railing, causing him to fall and break his neck. The suspect was taken into custody on the scene.



### **Deputy Clifton Taylor**

Deputy Clifton Taylor of the Johnson County, Texas, Sheriff's Office was fatally shot after responding to a domestic disturbance call at a local residence. The suspect reportedly threatened multiple people with a firearm before three deputies arrived. The deputies cornered the suspect in a shed outside the residence at which point he began firing, striking Deputy Taylor three times. Gunfire was returned, and the suspect was killed. A second Deputy was saved from serious injury by a portable radio, which was struck by a round from the suspect.

### **Deputy Keith Bellar**

Deputy Keith Bellar of the Dickson County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Office stopped to assist at a traffic accident where he was fatally shot by one of the vehicle's occupants. The suspect had just used his vehicle to force his estranged wife's car off the road on her way home from work when the deputy came across the accident scene. When Deputy Bellar stopped his vehicle and approached the scene, the suspect opened fire striking him in the head. The deputy was airlifted to a local hospital where he later died from his wounds. The suspect shot and killed himself on scene.

### **Officer Timothy Warren**

Officer Timothy Warren of the Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department was shot and killed inside a local hotel when he responded to a domestic disturbance call. When the officer responded, he took the stairwell while other officers took the elevator. Unknown to the officers, the shooting suspect had just shot and killed his wife's ex-husband. The ex-husband had attempted to intervene after the suspect assaulted his ex-wife inside the hotel. The suspect attempted to flee after the shooting using the stairs of the hotel. He came upon Officer Warren and shot and killed him. The suspect then took the officer's weapon and fled back up the hotel stairs, where he was later captured by other officers.

### **Sergeant Steven Kenner**

Sergeant Steven Kenner of the Bismark, North Dakota, Police Department was fatally shot during a domestic disturbance. Sergeant Kenner and another officer responded to a report of a man threatening a woman with a knife. When the officers arrived, the suspect was sitting in a van outside the location of the incident. As officers approached, the suspect began firing, fatally striking Sergeant Kenner. Another officer on the scene returned fire, striking and incapacitating the suspect, who was arrested and transported to a local hospital. The suspect's wounds were not fatal.





### **Officer Robert Lasso**

Officer Robert Lasso of the Freemansburg, Pennsylvania, Police Department was fatally shot while approaching the residence of a domestic disturbance call. While approaching the scene, Officer Lasso was attacked by two dogs that lived at the residence behind the location of the complaint. During the attack, the officer unholstered his Taser and, while doing so, the suspect appeared and shot Officer Lasso without warning. Officer Lasso was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his wounds. The suspect was arrested at the scene.

### **Officer Shawn Schneider**

Officer Shawn Schneider of the Lake City, Minnesota, Police Department was fatally shot during a domestic disturbance. After Officer Schneider arrived at the scene, the suspect's girlfriend ran toward the officer to get away from the assailant. The suspect, who was still inside the residence, subsequently opened fire striking Officer Schneider once in the back of the head. Officer Schneider was transported to a local hospital by responding officers in a patrol car where he survived for 11 days until succumbing to his injuries. The suspect was found dead from a self-inflicted wound after a daylong standoff.

### **Deputy Kurt Wyman**

Deputy Kurt Wyman of the Oneida County, New York, Sheriff's Office was shot and killed while attempting to arrest a suspect during a domestic disturbance. Officers were dispatched after the suspect threatened to kill his girlfriend and barricaded himself in the garage. The girlfriend was able to flee but the suspect refused to give up. During a six-hour standoff the suspect made statements regarding committing harm to himself while armed with a shotgun. Officers approached the residence to take him into custody. When officers approached, the suspect fatally shot Deputy Wyman. Other officers returned fire, striking the suspect and incapacitating him. The suspect was taken into custody and survived his injuries.

### **Sergeant Darrell Curley**

Sergeant Darrell Curley of the Navajo Division of Public Safety Arizona Tribal Police was shot and killed after responding to a domestic dispute between two brothers. After arresting the two suspects, Sergeant Curley was escorting one of the brothers to his patrol vehicle when their father appeared and fired four shots, striking and killing the officer. However, before Officer Curley was incapacitated by his injuries, he was able to return fire, hitting the shooter, who was later taken into custody. Sergeant Curley's partner was also injured in the exchange but was treated at the scene.



## 14/ ARREST SITUATION

### *Burglary/Larceny in Progress*

#### **Officer Larry Nehasil**

Officer Larry Nehasil of the Livonia, Michigan, Police Department was working undercover when he was fatally wounded by a burglary suspect while trying to apprehend him. Officer Nehasil confronted the suspect as he and an accomplice loaded stolen goods from a nearby residence into a vehicle. One of the suspects began firing, which led to an exchange of gunfire that killed Officer Nehasil as well as the suspect. The suspect had just stolen the pistol used in the shooting minutes earlier in a burglary that the undercover officer observed taking place.

#### **Deputy Cameron Justus**

Deputy Cameron Justus of the Buchanan County, Virginia, Sheriff's Office was shot and killed after responding to another officer's call for assistance. The initial call was for a larceny in progress at a local car service business. While searching the area for the suspect, the first two responding officers were fired upon by the suspect and were wounded. They were able to crawl to a nearby residence to call for help. Backup arrived at the scene, including additional Sheriff's Deputies and State Police officers (almost 50 in total), and created a perimeter in order to search for the suspect. During the search, Deputy Justus was shot and killed while attempting to pull another wounded deputy to safety that had also been shot. In total, four law enforcement officers were shot during the incident. After the shootings, the suspect fled from his initial hiding place to a residence approximately a quarter mile from the car service business. Officers located the suspect who refused to cooperate and was shot and killed after displaying a pistol.

#### **Deputy William Stiltner**

Deputy William Stiltner of the Buchanan County, Virginia, Sheriff's Office was shot and killed after responding to another officer's call for assistance. The initial call was for a larceny in progress at a car service business. While searching the area for the suspect, the first two responding officers were shot but were able to crawl to a nearby residence to call for help. Backup arrived at the scene, including additional deputies and State Police officers (almost 50 in total), who created a perimeter in order to search for the suspect. During the search, Deputy Stiltner began taking fire from the suspect and was fatally wounded. In total, four law enforcement officers were shot during the incident. After the shootings, the suspect fled from his initial hiding place to a residence approximately a quarter mile from the car service business. Officers located the suspect who refused to cooperate and was shot and killed after displaying a pistol.



## **Chief Ralph Painter**

Chief Ralph Painter of the Rainier, Oregon, Police Department was fatally shot after responding to a larceny in progress at a local audio store. The suspect was attempting to steal a vehicle when Chief Painter confronted the suspect and a struggle ensued. During the confrontation, the suspect was able to get control of the chief's gun and fired a single shot striking the chief in the head. Backup arrived soon after and the suspect began firing the chief's weapon at the responding officers. Officers returned fire striking the suspect who was wounded and taken into custody. The suspect's wounds were not fatal.

## ***Robbery in Progress***

### **Officer Clifton Lewis**


Officer Clifton Lewis of the Chicago, Illinois, Police Department was shot and killed attempting to take action during a robbery while working an off-duty assignment. He was working an overtime security detail at the store, which was robbed several weeks earlier. The two male suspects entered the store masked and armed with the intent to commit robbery. Officer Lewis identified himself and attempted to intervene. Both suspects opened fire, shooting the officer multiple times, before grabbing his service weapon and badge and fleeing the store. Officer Lewis was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his wounds. The two suspects were later arrested.

### **Sergeant James Chapin**

Sergeant James Chapin of the Chattanooga, Tennessee, Police Department was shot and killed after responding to a robbery in progress at a local pawn shop. When officers arrived at the scene they were immediately fired upon by the suspect from inside the store. As the officers took cover, the suspect ran from a side door and continued firing at the pursuing officers. Sergeant Chapin pursued the suspect in his patrol car and began taking fire. The patrol car struck the suspect, and Sergeant Chapin exited the vehicle to pursue the man on foot. The suspect continued to return fire, fatally striking the victim officer in the head. Other officers continued to return fire and shot the suspect before taking him into custody. One other officer was shot in the back, but the round was stopped by his vest. The suspect in the shooting was wanted for robbery in another state at the time of the incident. He was not fatally wounded.

### **Officer James Capoot**

Officer James Capoot of the Vallejo, California, Police Department was shot and killed during a foot pursuit while chasing a bank robbery suspect. Officer Capoot was responding to a bank alarm just after 1:30 p.m. when he observed a silver SUV that matched the description of the suspect's vehicle. Officer Capoot chased the vehicle for 3 to 4 miles before using his patrol car to do a pit maneuver that forced the SUV to spin out of control and come to a stop. The suspect fled on foot into a nearby neighborhood. Officer Capoot got out of his car and ran after the suspect as two other police officers were pulling up in their vehicles. The other officers heard several gunshots and found Officer Capoot wounded in a nearby residence's backyard. He was



transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his wounds. The officer did not have a chance to fire his weapon. The suspect was taken into custody near the scene of the shooting.

### **Officer Peter Figoski**

Officer Peter Figoski of the New York City, New York, Police Department was shot and killed while trying to apprehend suspects during a robbery attempt. Officers responded to a home invasion where two suspects, claiming to be the police, forced entry into the house and pistol whipped the victim inside the residence. As a result of police response, the suspects were unable to flee and were hiding inside an attached building. As the suspects attempted to leave, they ran into Officer Figoski who was responding as backup. During the confrontation, Officer Figoski was shot in the face by one of the suspects, while his partner was fighting with another. After the shooting, the second officer chased after the shooter and was able to apprehend him. A gun was recovered, and the suspect, along with several accomplices, were charged with murder.

### **Special Agent John Capano**

Special Agent John Capano of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives was shot and killed during a robbery in Seaford, New York, while off-duty. Special Agent Capano was shopping in a pharmacy when he observed a robbery in progress. Special Agent Capano identified himself as a law enforcement officer and confronted the suspect, who failed to comply. He was attempting to subdue the suspect when a retired police officer and a second off-duty officer, who were nearby, responded to the scene. Special Agent Capano, in plain clothes, was fatally wounded by the retired police officer. The suspect was then shot and killed by the off-duty officer.

### **Agent Luis E. Gomez-Crespo**

Agent Luis E. Gomez-Crespo of the Puerto Rico Police Department was shot and killed when he attempted to take action during a robbery while off duty. Agent Gomez-Crespo, his father, and another officer were in a restaurant when a man entered and announced a robbery. When the three identified themselves as officers, the man opened fire, striking Agent Gomez-Crespo five times. His father, who also serves with the Puerto Rico Police Department along with the other off-duty officer, were also shot and wounded but survived. The suspect later turned himself in at a local police station.





## *General Arrest*

### **Deputy Roger Rice**

Deputy Roger Rice of the Laurens County, South Carolina, Sheriff's Office was fatally shot and killed while attempting to arrest a suspect for a murder that occurred earlier that day. The Deputy was called to assist in apprehending the suspect when the suspect began firing from the residence, in which he was barricaded. Deputy Rice was fatally struck by gunfire from the suspect. Other deputies on the scene returned fire, injuring the suspect who was later taken into custody with non-life-threatening wounds. The suspect was out on bond from a domestic violence charge against the same victim that he had murdered earlier that day.

### **Officer Derek Kotecki**

Officer Derek Kotecki of the Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania, Police Department was fatally shot while attempting to arrest a suspect wanted for an earlier shooting. The suspect was wanted on charges of attempted homicide and aggravated assault after he fired shots at his former employer. The suspect had been in contact with police about his location, saying he was thinking of surrendering despite threatening officers earlier that week and stating he would commit suicide after shooting police. As officers approached a white Jeep parked at a local restaurant, where the suspect said he would be, the suspect emerged and fired at Officer Kotecki fatally wounding him. The suspect then fled on foot toward the rear of the restaurant while other officers returned fire. The suspect died of a gunshot wound at the scene.

### **Deputy Rick Rhyne**

Deputy Rick Rhyne of the Moore County, North Carolina, Sheriff's Office was fatally wounded while attempting to arrest a wanted subject. The Deputy stopped two suspects, who were trespassing in the front yard of a residence, and returned to his patrol car to check if either man had outstanding warrants. Deputy Rhyne was notified that one of the suspects was wanted for failing to pay child support and approached the wanted suspect to arrest him. During the confrontation, the suspect pulled out a handgun and fatally shot the deputy. The suspect then shot and killed himself.

### **Officer Charles Armour**

Officer Charles Armour of the Detroit, Michigan, Police Department was fatally struck by a vehicle while directing traffic. The vehicle was travelling the wrong way on the street where the officer was directing traffic. When Officer Armour requested the driver to stop, the suspect intentionally struck him with the vehicle. Officer Armour was taken to a local hospital where he died after complications following surgery. The driver involved was quickly arrested.



## II/ AMBUSH

### **Special Agent Jaime Zapata**

Special Agent Jaime Zapata of Immigration and Customs Enforcement was shot and killed outside of Mexico City, Mexico, during an ambush by 10 members of a Mexican drug cartel. He and another agent were assigned to the United States Embassy and were traveling between Mexico City and Monterrey in an armored Chevrolet SUV when they were stopped at an unofficial checkpoint outside the town of Santa Maria del Rio. Gunmen opened fire, hitting their vehicle. Agent Zapata was killed, and the other agent, who was hit in the arm and leg, was airlifted to a Mexico City hospital and survived the incident. Several suspects were later apprehended for the murder.

### **Sergeant Kenneth Gary Vann**

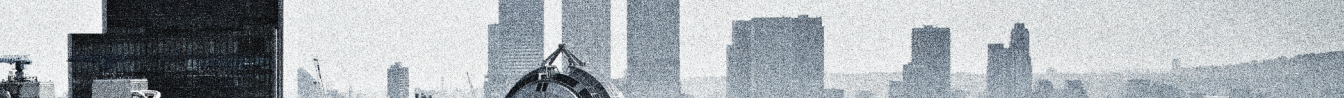
Sergeant Kenneth Gary Vann of the Bexar County, Texas, Sheriff's Office was stopped at a stoplight at the intersection of Loop 410 and Rigsby Avenue when the offender pulled up beside the cruiser and began firing. The Sergeant was responding to an accidental shots fired call at the time of the incident. Sergeant Vann was never able to respond or unholster his weapon to return fire. He died before emergency workers were able to get him to the hospital. The suspect, who was under the influence of alcohol and antidepressant medication at the time of the incident, fled the scene. He was later captured approximately one week after the incident at his home in South San Antonio after information was obtained from an informant.

### **Officer Jeremy Henwood**

Officer Jeremy Henwood of the San Diego, California, Police Department was shot and fatally wounded while stopped at a traffic light. The officer was waiting for the light to change when he was ambushed by a vehicle that pulled up alongside. The suspect was in the passenger side of the second vehicle and opened fire striking the victim officer. A citizen stopped to help and used the officer's radio to report he had been shot. Officer Henwood was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his wounds. The suspect was later found in an apartment complex while he was reentering his vehicle. Officers confronted the suspect, and he was shot and killed. It was later determined that the suspect was linked to an earlier shooting that same day during which he was able to elude police.

### **Deputy James D. Paugh**

Deputy James D. Paugh of the Richmond County, Georgia, Sheriff's Office was shot and killed in an ambush attack when he stopped his motorcycle to investigate a vehicle that was stopped on the side of the road. The deputy had just stopped and had not put the kickstand down when the suspect started shooting from his vehicle. The suspect used an M4 style rifle and fired over 30 rounds at the officer during the incident. Officer Paugh was able to return fire twice before he was fatally wounded.



The suspect, who was allegedly intoxicated, then committed suicide, and both officer and suspect died at the scene.

### **Officer Brad Jones**

Officer Brad Jones of the Glendale, Arizona, Police Department was fatally wounded while meeting with an offender as part of a probation partnership assignment. During the meeting, a physical altercation occurred with the suspect, and Officer Jones called for backup. However, as the struggle ensued the suspect pulled out a gun and began firing unprovoked, fatally wounding Officer Jones. The suspect then fled the scene in the officer's vehicle. After a pursuit by other officers, the suspect crashed the vehicle and fled on foot. Officers chased the suspect who was shot and injured during an exchange of gunfire before being arrested.

### **Officer Buddy Ray Herron**


Officer Buddy Ray Herron of the Oregon Department of Corrections was fatally stabbed after stopping to help a disabled vehicle. The suspect crashed his vehicle and was stopped on the side of the road when Officer Herron pulled over to assist. Unknown to the officer was that the vehicle driven by the offender had been observed at the scene of a burglary earlier that day. The driver also had a previous criminal history and was on parole at the time of the incident. After Officer Herron stopped to help, the offender stabbed him unprovoked and subsequently stole his vehicle. Officer Herron was transported to the hospital but did not survive. The suspect and vehicle were later located by police who began a pursuit during which the suspect was apprehended.

### **Officer Deriek W. Crouse**

Officer Deriek W. Crouse of the Virginia Tech Police Department was fatally shot while conducting a traffic stop on the Virginia Tech Campus. During the stop of an unrelated vehicle, the suspect approached the officer and shot him once in the head as he sat in his vehicle. Officer Crouse died immediately. The suspect was later located in a campus parking lot and committed suicide as police approached.

### **Sergeant David Enzbrenner**

Sergeant David Enzbrenner of the Atchison, Kansas, Police Department was fatally shot while assisting city code enforcement officers at a local residence. The code enforcement officers were removing scrap metal from the yard that was in violation of a city ordinance. After arriving on the scene, Sergeant Enzbrenner served a complaint against the resident and remained on the scene with code enforcement officers, as well as two other uniformed officers, for approximately 45 minutes as activity by city officials was concluding. Some city officials and the two other uniform officers subsequently left at which point there were several residents of the nuisance residence standing in the area. Citizens were also observing the activity from across the street while Sergeant Enzbrenner was at the street edge, adjacent to the nuisance resident. A code enforcement officer and a hauler contracted to remove the scrap metal were a short distance from Sergeant Enzbrenner, and several people were roaming the street near



the nuisance detail. One of these people was a 25-year-old male who subsequently shot Sergeant Enzbrenner in the back of the head. The shooter was not associated with the nuisance detail and had not made any comments to Sergeant Enzbrenner or the code enforcement officers. Although the shooter had had confrontations with police officers previously, he had no known prior contacts with Sergeant Enzbrenner. After he shot Sergeant Enzbrenner, the shooter took several steps and then fatally shot himself in the head.

### **Agent Isaac Pizarro**

Agent Isaac Pizarro of the Puerto Rico Police Department was shot and killed during an ambush in retaliation for a narcotics investigation. He was driving to a family member's home when he was confronted by several subjects that were waiting for him and began firing. Agent Pizarro attempted to drive away, but the suspects continued to fire on his vehicle. He was fatally wounded during the shooting during which more than 60 rounds were fired. Three suspects, including two juveniles, were arrested the following day and charged with murder and violations of the Arms Act.

### **Officer Christopher Matlosz**

Officer Christopher Matlosz of the Lakewood, New Jersey, Police Department was fatally shot while stopping to question a pedestrian while on patrol. During questioning the offender pulled a handgun out and shot Officer Matlosz who was still sitting in his cruiser behind the wheel. The officer was shot three times in the head at close-range in an execution-style assault. Officer Matlosz slumped over the wheel of the vehicle mortally wounded, and the suspect fled on foot. The offender was facing murder charges from another death in which he was involved prior to this incident. He was later apprehended and has now been charged in both deaths.

### **Officer Arnulfo Crispin**

Officer Arnulfo Crispin of the Lakeland, Florida, Police Department was shot and killed while making contact with suspicious persons while on patrol. Officer Crispin exited his cruiser to make contact with three subjects in a closed park. While checking one subject for weapons, Officer Crispin was shot from behind by another. A second officer arrived to the scene minutes later and found Officer Crispin on the ground unresponsive. He was taken to the hospital where he underwent several hours of surgery. He remained in critical condition for two days before succumbing to his wounds. Multiple agencies responded to search for the suspect, who turned himself in after a ten-hour manhunt.





## II/ TRAFFIC PURSUIT/STOP

### *General Traffic Pursuit/Stop*

#### **Officer David Moore**

Officer David Moore of the Indianapolis, Indiana, Metropolitan Police Department was shot and killed during a traffic stop of a stolen vehicle. As the officer approached the vehicle, the suspect began firing, striking Officer Moore four times. The suspect, who was on parole, fled the scene after the shooting. He then committed a robbery of a local store before abandoning the vehicle that was later located by police. He was found hiding at a nearby residence, where he was apprehended.

#### **Officer Chris Kilcullen**


Officer Chris Kilcullen of the Eugene, Oregon, Police Department was shot and killed during a vehicle pursuit. He was on his motorcycle attempting to pull over the suspect due to erratic driving. The suspect was reportedly tailgating the officer and weaved into his lane of travel forcing him to swerve to avoid a collision. When the officer attempted to pull the suspect over, she fled and a pursuit ensued. Officer Kilcullen was able to catch up to the suspect at an intersection where she fired a single shot, hitting the officer under his arm above his bullet resistant vest. Officer Kilcullen did not survive his injuries. After a 35-mile chase and three-hour standoff, the suspect was taken into custody.

#### **Officer Bryan Hebert**

Officer Bryan Hebert of the Beaumont, Texas, Police Department was intentionally struck by a fleeing suspect's vehicle during a pursuit. Officers were pursuing the suspect vehicle after the driver allegedly assaulted his mother and grandmother. The suspect's mother and grandmother discovered the suspect viewing child pornography. Enraged, the suspect struck the victims and fled the scene after threatening to kill everyone if the police were called. The suspect was located hours later, and a pursuit was initiated. Officer Hebert stopped his patrol car and was removing a reflective vest and stop sticks from his trunk when the suspect veered from the travel lane and struck his patrol car head-on. The resulting collision knocked the patrol car into Officer Hebert, who was still standing behind it. Officer Hebert was transported to a local hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. The suspect was apprehended and transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

#### **Deputy Richard Daly**

Deputy Richard Daly of the Clayton County, Georgia, Sheriff's Office was shot and killed while conducting a traffic stop on a subject wanted for robbery. The offender was identified by a fugitive squad in an unmarked car. Deputy Daly in his marked cruiser was called upon to execute the traffic stop. As the deputy approached the passenger side of the vehicle where the suspect was seated, the suspect exited the vehicle and fired multiple shots that struck Deputy Daly in locations not protected by his body armor. He was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his wounds. The suspect fled the



scene on foot and remained at large for several hours before he was captured by a tactical team with the aid of a K-9. The suspect received bite wounds in the face and neck from the dog and was treated and released to police custody.

### **Officer Evan Burns**

Officer Evan Burns of the Caruthersville, Missouri, Police Department was struck and killed by an offender during a police pursuit on the interstate. The offender was fleeing from police with an outstanding warrant for assault and vehicle theft. Reports indicated that he had also attempted to set his stepfather on fire and burn his house down. After Sheriff's Deputies tried to stop the fleeing vehicle at the scene, the offender fled. Officer Burns, as well as another officer driving separate cars, stopped to deploy spike strips. The suspect stopped his vehicle during the pursuit, which led the officers to not deploy the spike strips. When the suspect once again began fleeing, they tried to block the highway with their cars. The driver rammed the two police cars, killing Officer Burns and injuring the second officer. The offender was taken into custody at the scene.

### **Captain John Haddock**

Captain John Haddock of the Grenada, Mississippi, Police Department was struck and killed by a fleeing vehicle while attempting to place stop sticks during a pursuit. The suspect was fleeing from police in a stolen car and was also wanted on burglary charges. The suspect was a sex offender that had a history of not registering since sexually assaulting a child. Captain Haddock stopped near a busy intersection in order to deploy the tire deflation device. As the vehicle approached, he signaled for the suspect to stop, while on foot, and the suspect veered into him throwing him nearly 200 feet after impact and killing him. The fleeing vehicle then veered off the road and down an embankment where the suspect was apprehended.

### **Officer Trevor Slot**

Officer Trevor Slot of the Walker, Michigan, Police Department was intentionally struck by a fleeing vehicle during a pursuit. Officer Slot was attempting to deploy stop sticks as suspects were fleeing a recent bank robbery and firing at pursuing police vehicles. During the robbery, the suspects forced some bank employees into an office while others were told to open the branch's vault. Money was also taken from tellers' cash drawers. A customer also walked into the bank during the incident and was forced into the office. A drive-through customer observed the incident and called police. Police were able to locate the suspect vehicle and a pursuit was initiated. As Officer Slot exited his vehicle in order to retrieve the device from the trunk and deploy it, the suspect driver intentionally veered into him causing fatal injuries. The suspect was traveling at speeds in excess of 100 mph. After striking the officer, the suspect lost control of the vehicle and crashed on a freeway ramp. Both suspects exited the vehicle with long guns and opened fire on the officers. Officers returned fire killing both suspects.



## *Traffic Violation Stop*

### **Officer Andrew Dunn**

Officer Andrew Dunn of the Sandusky, Ohio, Police Department was shot and killed while on patrol, attempting to question a suspect who was riding a bicycle. At approximately 3 a.m. the officer approached the suspect and contacted dispatch to check for warrants, of which there were none. Given the time of day and the bicycle's lack of any light, visibility was limited. Shortly after, the suspect began to try and leave while the officer was seated in his car. A confrontation ensued that led to an exchange of gunfire. Officer Dunn was shot multiple times and did not survive his injuries. The suspect was apprehended after being struck twice. His wounds were non-life-threatening.

### **Officer Jonathan Schmidt**

Officer Jonathan Schmidt of the Trumann, Arkansas, Police Department was shot and killed while conducting a traffic stop while on patrol. The officer stopped a vehicle, occupied by three individuals, for operating without insurance. The officer, along with a sergeant that arrived as backup, removed the driver and placed him under arrest on a failure to appear warrant. As Officer Schmidt opened the rear passenger door to remove the second male passenger, the man lunged at him and immediately opened fire. Officer Schmidt, who was shot in the neck, turned and pushed his sergeant out of the way of continued fire before returning fire himself. The suspect was wounded by the return gunfire and taken into custody, his wounds were non-life-threatening.

### **Officer John Dryer**

Officer John Dryer of the East Washington Borough, Pennsylvania, Police Department was fatally shot and killed during a traffic stop for expired tags. The part-time employee was one of two officers that were waiting for a tow truck when the suspect, who was waiting in the vehicle, exited and opened fire. Both officers were struck by gunfire. The suspect approached Officer Dryer, who was on the ground, and fired the fatal shot at his head. The second officer returned fire after being struck but the suspect was able to flee the scene. The suspect fled to his residence where he barricaded himself. After a standoff with police, the suspect exited the residence armed with a long gun and was shot and killed during a gunfight with the police.

### **Officer Scott Richardson**

Officer Scott Richardson of the Aiken, South Carolina, Department of Public Safety was shot and killed during a traffic stop of a suspicious vehicle. Officer Richardson and another officer stopped a vehicle that was believed to be involved in an earlier incident. During the stop, one of the suspects exited the vehicle and began firing at the police. Officer Richardson was fatally wounded, and a second officer was shot but was saved by his vest. Return fire from the officers struck the suspect, and he was taken into custody with non-life threatening-injuries.



## IO/WARRANT SERVICE

### **Detective Roger Castillo**

Detective Roger Castillo of the Miami-Dade, Florida, Police Department was shot and killed while attempting to arrest a subject wanted for murder. He was working as part of a fugitive task force with the U.S. Marshals Service attempting to locate the suspect. After gaining entrance to a duplex from the owner, the suspect's mother, the suspect appeared from a back room and began firing. During the exchange of gunfire, Detective Castillo was fatally wounded. Also fatally wounded was another officer on the scene as well as the suspect.

### **Detective Amanda Haworth**

Detective Amanda Haworth of the Miami-Dade, Florida, Police Department was shot and killed while attempting to arrest a subject wanted for murder. She was working as part of a fugitive task force working with the U.S. Marshals Service seeking to apprehend the suspect. After gaining entrance to a duplex from the owner, the suspect's mother, the suspect appeared from a back room and began firing. During the exchange of gunfire, Detective Haworth was fatally wounded. Also fatally wounded was another officer on the scene as well as the suspect.

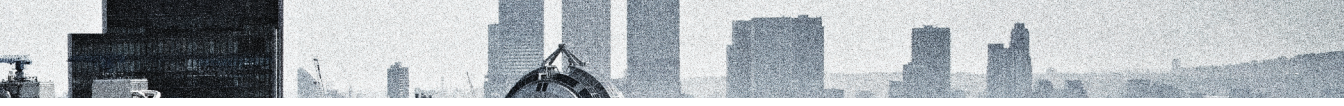
### **K-9 Officer Jeffrey Yaslowitz**

K-9 Officer Jeffrey Yaslowitz of the Saint Petersburg, Florida, Police Department was shot and killed while attempting to apprehend a wanted subject. Officers were working as part of the multiagency United States Marshals Service Florida Regional Fugitive Task Force. The task force suspected the offender was hiding in the attic of his residence. K-9 Officer Yaslowitz responded to assist and entered through the attic opening while a U.S. marshal provided cover. K-9 Officer Yaslowitz located the offender and attempted to place him in custody. During handcuffing, the offender resisted. The U.S. marshal discharged his Taser at the offender during the struggle. After the second Taser discharge there was a gunshot. The U.S. marshal attempted to Taser the offender a third time when the offender shot K-9 Officer Yaslowitz twice, fatally wounding him. As the U.S. marshal attempted to transition from his Taser to his handgun, the offender shot him twice. The U.S. marshal was struck in the ballistic vest and in the groin, causing him to fall through the attic opening onto the floor below. The offender armed himself with K-9 Officer Yaslowitz's weapon and fired at responding police trying to save K-9 Officer Yaslowitz. The rounds struck another officer who was trying to assist, fatally wounding him. Officers returned fire during several rescue attempts until they eventually removed K-9 Officer Yaslowitz from the attic. The offender was later found dead after the house was bulldozed to gain safe access to the suspect.

### **Sergeant Tom Baitinger**

Sergeant Tom Baitinger of the Saint Petersburg, Florida, Police was shot and killed while attempting to rescue a fallen officer. Sergeant Baitinger responded





to the scene after a fellow officer was shot and killed and a U.S. marshal was injured by gunfire. Both law enforcements officers, as well as a third uninjured officer, were trapped inside of the residence. The offender was hiding in the attic. Sergeant Baitinger was part of a four-person rescue team that entered the residence. As Sergeant Baitinger passed under the attic opening, carrying a ballistic shield and wearing his vest, a round fired from above struck him in the upper shoulder/neck area. The round struck just outside of his ballistic vest and later proved to be fatal. The rescue team retrieved the U.S. marshal, the uninjured officer, and Sergeant Baitinger from inside the residence. They were unable to retrieve the officer that had been fatally wounded in the attic. Sergeant Baitinger later died at a local hospital. The U.S. marshal was shot in the ballistic vest and the groin, but survived his injuries. Additional officers exchanged gunfire with the offender during several rescue attempts until they removed the fallen officer from the attic. The offender was later found dead after the house was bulldozed to gain safe access to the suspect.

### **Deputy U.S. Marshal Derek Hotsinpiller**


Deputy Marshal Derek Hotsinpiller of the U.S. Marshals Service was fatally shot and killed while executing a warrant for drug distribution. The multiagency team approached the residence, announced themselves, and then breached the door to gain entry. The suspect was waiting inside and fired a shotgun once, striking three U.S. marshals. Deputy Hotsinpiller was struck in the neck and killed. The two other wounded deputy U.S. marshals survived their injuries. The suspect was killed in the exchange.

### **Deputy U.S. Marshal John Perry**

Deputy John Perry of the U.S. Marshals Service was shot and killed while executing a warrant for drug possession and assault on law enforcement. After entry to the residence, the deputies encountered the suspect on the second floor and gunfire was exchanged. Two Deputy U.S. Marshals and one local police detective deputized as a deputy U.S. marshal were struck by gunfire. Deputy Marshal Perry was struck in the head and later died from his wounds. The other involved injured officers survived their injuries. The suspect was shot and killed.

### **Officer Jay Sheridan**

Officer Jay Sheridan of the Limon, Colorado, Police Department was shot and killed while serving a federal fugitive warrant at a local mobile home park. Officer Sheridan and two other officers made contact with a female party living at the mobile home. They were told that the fugitive was not at the residence and had not been there for a week. The female then gave the officers permission to search. As officers were clearing the residence they encountered the suspect in a back bedroom sitting on a bed. The suspect ignored commands from the officers to show his hands. Officer Sheridan, who was the second officer in the hallway, transitioned from lethal to non-lethal. As Officer Sheridan moved closer to get a shot with a Taser, the suspect produced a gun and fired two rounds. One round struck Officer Sheridan in the upper right arm, and he died



at the scene. The two other officers were forced to take cover inside another part of the home. During a four-hour standoff with the suspect, additional responding units were able to communicate with these two officers and a SWAT team made entry. The two trapped officers were rescued and the suspect was later found dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

### **Investigator Warren Lewis**

Investigator Warren Lewis of the Nash County, North Carolina, Sheriff's Office was shot and killed while attempting to serve a murder warrant as part of a U.S. Marshals fugitive task force. Officers were searching the residence when the suspect fired several shots through a closed door, striking Investigator Lewis several times. He was wearing his body armor but did not survive. After a standoff, five suspects surrendered and were arrested. Three subjects inside the residence were also arrested for the murder warrant that was the origin of the operation.

### **Officer Brent Long**

Officer Brent Long of the City of Terre Haute, Indiana, Police Department was shot and killed while trying to serve a warrant with the U.S. Marshals Service. His K-9, Shadow, was also wounded during the incident. Officer Long was assisting the U.S. Marshals, who were trying to serve a theft of stolen property warrant to an offender who was on probation. Officers approached the back door of the residence and knocked, at which point they were told by occupants that the suspect was not there. The occupants were ordered to exit and a search ensued. When the suspect could not be located, Officer Long and another officer began a search inside the apartment with K-9 Shadow. K-9 Shadow indicated on a wall in a closet which turned out to be a false wall with a concealed area behind it. As Officer Long was pulling out the false wall panel the suspect opened fire striking K-9 Shadow. Officer Long, as well as an additional officer who entered the room upon hearing the shots fired, exchanged gunfire with the suspect. Officer Long was shot in the exchange and taken to a local hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. K-9 Shadow made a full recovery. The suspect was struck four times and later died from his wounds.

### **Deputy Kyle Pagerly**

Deputy Kyle Pagerly of the Berks County, Pennsylvania, Sheriff's Office was shot and killed while serving a warrant as part of a fugitive task force. The suspect had a number of warrants and had left a suicide note days earlier. As officers attempted to make contact with the suspect, he fled from the residence into a wooded area nearby. Deputy Pagerly and his K-9 pursued the suspect, who was wearing all camouflage and was armed with two weapons. When located, the suspect raised an AK-47 assault rifle and refused orders to drop the weapon, leading to an exchange of gunfire. During the exchange Deputy Pagerly was fatally wounded and the suspect was killed.



## 9/ INVESTIGATING SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES

### *Investigative Activity*

#### **Colonel Greg Malloy**

Colonel Greg Malloy of the Holmes County, Florida, Correctional Institution was killed, and another officer was wounded, while attempting to arrest a murder suspect. Authorities were searching for the suspect using K-9 units in a wooded area. The suspect had recently killed his parents who were found dead in their home. A hunter happened upon the suspect in his camp whereupon the suspect shot at him several times striking him once. The victim then called 911, and K-9 units tracked the suspect through a remote swampy area where he was believed to have been camping. The suspect hid behind fallen logs and fired on the team as they entered a small clearing. Colonel Malloy was fatally wounded by the first shot. The other responding officers exchanged gunfire with the suspect after he refused to surrender and was fatally wounded in the exchange.

#### **Officer Craig Birkholz**

Officer Craig Birkholz of the Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, Police Department was fatally shot after responding to a shots fired call in which other officers were taking fire. The suspect had committed a sexual assault on his girlfriend who reported the incident to police. Officers believed that the girlfriend's daughter was in the residence with the suspect and were concerned for her welfare. Police attempted to make contact with the suspect and the girl without success. Officers were subsequently able to gain entry to the victim's duplex with consent and her key to search for the girl. During the search, officers found they had access to the suspect's adjoining duplex through a common basement. Officers decided to search that duplex for the child and suspect when they began taking fire from the suspect. One officer was shot twice and two of the responding officers retreated from the residence while the third maintained lethal cover on the suspect. Two officers later joined this officer inside the house where they became pinned down until they could be extracted with the help of an armored vehicle. Officer Birkholz, who quickly responded to the scene, began taking fire as he was nearing the residence after exiting the car with his rifle. He was shot from the second story of the residence by the suspect. Officer Birkholz was wearing his ballistic vest, but the rounds struck above and below the protection. A third officer also took fire as he pulled his vehicle near the residence but was not injured. Several other officers and EMS responders also took fire but were not injured. Following the initial exchange, a six-hour standoff ensued after which SWAT entered the residence to find the suspect dead from a self-inflicted wound.



### **Senior Police Officer Elmer “Buddy” Christian**

Senior Police Officer Elmer B. “Buddy” Christian III, of the Athens-Clarke County, Georgia, Police Department was shot and killed while responding to an incident where another officer had been shot and wounded. Officers were searching for a suspect in a carjacking and kidnapping when an officer identified a relative of the suspect driving in the area and approached the stopped vehicle. As one of the officers was talking with the driver, the passenger, who was the suspect in question, exited the vehicle. The suspect then shot the officer, who was attempting to exit his vehicle, and fled the scene on foot. As the suspect fled, he encountered Officer Christian approaching the scene in his vehicle. The suspect began firing at the vehicle’s driver’s side window striking Senior Police Officer Christian and fatally wounding him. The suspect escaped on foot and was apprehended a week and three days later after surrendering his hostages and himself following a standoff. The second officer shot survived his injuries.

### **Sergeant Eric Stein**

Sergeant Eric Stein of the Keokuk County, Iowa, Sheriff’s Office was shot and killed as he and two other officers attempted to question a man at his residence regarding an incident that had occurred the previous night. The three officers were responding to the man’s rural home shortly before noon when they were fired upon by the suspect. Sergeant Stein was struck and fatally wounded. The sheriff and another deputy took cover and called for assistance. The subject remained barricaded in his home for hours before exiting the residence with a firearm and walking toward police on the scene. He was subsequently killed by an Iowa State Patrol tactical unit.

### **Officer Justin Sollohub**

Officer Justin Sollohub of the Anniston, Alabama, Police Department was fatally shot during a foot pursuit that took place after an encounter with a pedestrian on the street. When Officer Sollohub exited his vehicle, the suspect fled on foot into a local neighborhood. Officer Sollohub chased the suspect through the neighborhood and was shot in the head while rounding the corner of a home. Another officer immediately on the scene rendered aide, but Officer Sollohub did not survive. The suspect was later apprehended.

### **Deputy Suzanne Hopper**

Deputy Suzanne Hopper of the Clark County, Ohio, Sheriff’s Office was shot and killed while investigating an incident of gunfire. During the preliminary investigation, Deputy Hopper was trying to photograph a footprint at the scene when the suspect fired from his nearby trailer with a shotgun striking the deputy. Officers responded, surrounded the trailer, and a standoff ensued. During the standoff the suspect engaged in an exchange of gunfire and was killed at the scene. Another officer was wounded but survived his injuries.





## *Investigating Suspicious Person*

### **Officer David Crawford**

Officer David Crawford of the Saint Petersburg, Florida, Police Department was shot and killed after responding to a complaint of a suspicious person possibly breaking into vehicles. Two officers responded. Officer Crawford located and made contact with the suspect. The second officer heard gunfire and found Officer Crawford lying by his vehicle. He had been shot multiple times in the upper body at close range and was not wearing his vest. Officer Crawford fired multiple times, but the suspect was not hit. The juvenile suspect fled the scene and was later apprehended.

### **Officer James McCandless**

Officer James McCandless of the Rapid City, South Dakota, Police Department was shot and killed as he and two other officers questioned four subjects suspected of an alcohol violation near a local bus stop on a quiet city street. Ten minutes into the questioning, a male suspect in the group pulled out a concealed handgun and opened fire, striking all three officers before being wounded by return fire. All three officers were transported to a local hospital in critical condition. Officer McCandless was pronounced dead shortly after arrival at the hospital, Officer Nick Armstrong succumbed to his injuries five days later, and the third officer survived the encounter. The subject was taken into custody after being wounded and was transported to a local hospital where he died from the injuries sustained.

### **Officer Nick Armstrong**

Officer Nick Armstrong of the Rapid City, South Dakota, Police Department was shot and killed as he and two other officers questioned four suspicious subjects suspected of an alcohol violation near a local bus stop on a quiet city street. Ten minutes into the questioning, a male subject in the group pulled out a concealed handgun and opened fire, striking all three officers before being wounded by return fire. All three officers were transported to a local hospital in critical condition where Officer Armstrong succumbed to his injuries along with Officer James McCandless. The third involved officer survived the encounter. The subject was taken into custody after being wounded and subsequently died.



## 2/ HANDLING/TRANSPORTING PRISONERS

### **Officer Ronald Johnson**

Officer Ronald Johnson of the South Dakota Department of Corrections was killed by two inmates who were attempting to escape from the state penitentiary. The inmates attacked Officer Johnson with a metal pipe and suffocated him using plastic wrap. One of the inmates then put on the officer's uniform. As the inmate wheeled out a large box with the other inmate inside, another officer confronted him as he did not recognize him as a fellow officer. The officer was attacked but was assisted by other officers who witnessed the attack on surveillance cameras. Both inmates were subsequently subdued and reconfined.

### **Deputy Sherri Jones**

Deputy Sherri Jones of the Bowie County, Texas, Sheriff's Department was shot and killed in the basement of a local courthouse while preparing to transport a prisoner. Deputy Jones was moving the prisoner from a courtroom after a mental evaluation hearing to a transport van when he attacked her. The inmate overpowered her, took her gun, and fatally shot her. He then stole the transport van and fled to a neighboring state where he was found in the same van by police and taken into custody.



## MOVING FORWARD: LEVERAGING FELONIOUS ASSAULT DATA TO SAVE LIVES

Within each of the described incidents exists a number of variables that may or may not have contributed to the line-of-duty death of each officer. Although it is important to examine these incidents as a whole, it is also essential to understand them individually, and in like incident groups (warrant service, for example) in more depth to gain a better understanding of this important issue. This approach breaks an incident down into more manageable segments for examination and lessons learned. The analysis of individual variables across these incidents helps facilitate the identification of potential issues and subsequent solutions while raising awareness within the law enforcement field. The 72 deadly encounters summarized in the report will serve as a foundation for this advanced data analysis.

To help accomplish this task, the IACP's National Center has also been working with several agencies across the United States to secure additional data to enhance this assessment process. The thousands of data points captured by our data partners allows for a comprehensive examination of incidents that will aide in prevention.

This detailed analysis should allow the IACP's National Center to make recommendations on:

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*Policy Improvement*

*Leverage Technology for Safety*

*Training Curriculum Enhancement*


*Awareness Education for Officers*

*Improving Post Incident Investigations*

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Analysis of the circumstances that led to the felonious deaths of 72 law enforcement officers in 2011 will serve as the beginning of a much larger task for the National Center. As the initiative matures, we will draw upon the experiences of officers feloniously assaulted and not killed. Careful analysis of these incidents should yield useful information that can be turned into policy to improve officer safety. As the project continues to mature, it is our intent to look closely at the thousands of officers feloniously assaulted and not killed. These survivor stories (for example the IACP/DuPont Kevlar Survivors' Club) should yield useful information that can be turned into policy to improve officer safety.

As the National Center continues its work, what can law enforcement executives do right now to address the issue of officer safety within their agencies? As referenced in a recent publication of the IACP's National Center, *Preventing Line of Duty Deaths: A Chiefs Duty*, there are several infrastructure, systemic, and policy issues that need to be considered when addressing the safety needs of your agency. From mandatory vest policies, to active police probation/parole partnerships, to the administration of proper training to meet the growing violence in the field; executives have a responsibility to address these



issues within their given agencies. For additional information about this document and supplementary resources please visit [www.theiacp.org/NCPVAP](http://www.theiacp.org/NCPVAP).

## CONCLUSION

Every year over 640,000 police officers and sheriff's deputies patrol the nation's streets (Bureau of Labor Statistics). During a given year these officers will make over 40 million contacts with the public (Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Contacts between Police and the Public, 2008*). The frequency of contact with law enforcement by the public, often in times of duress, demonstrates the need to focus on officer safety and the need for continued focus on preventing line-of-duty deaths and injuries. Thankfully, the majority of these encounters do not result in violent confrontations with law enforcement. However, by focusing on those incidents that do, and taking the attitude that even one death is too many, we have the opportunity to learn from each incident in order to inform prevention. This was the purpose of this document; to increase awareness and remind law enforcement officers to remain vigilant at all times and in all situations.

As the next step in this process, the IACP's National Center for the Prevention of Violence Against the Police is working with agencies across the United States to develop a sample post-incident administrative review protocol for felonious assaults against officers. This protocol will be based on best practices from law enforcement agencies and act as a guide for others to follow in order to learn from critical incidents and line-of-duty deaths. These best practices come from small, medium, and large agencies as well as federal agencies in order to appeal to organizations of all sizes and type. The IACP believes that it is critical to extract actionable information from each of these incidents, and it is our hope that this tool will aid in this process. The final product will be available later in 2012 for release.





# NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THE POLICE ADVISORY GROUP & STAFF

## **IACP Executive Staff**

Chief Walt McNeil, IACP President  
Bart Johnson, Executive Director  
James McMahan, Deputy Executive Director  
John Firman, Research Center Director  
Gene Voegtlin, SACOP Director

## **IACP Project Staff**

Erin Vermilye, SACOP Manager  
Scott Brien, Project Manager  
Stephen Fender, Project Coordinator

## **National Center Advisory Group**

Chief Kent Barker  
Tualatin Police Department

Chief John Batiste  
Washington State Patrol

Chief Peter Carnes  
Stonehill College Campus Police & Safety

Chief Michael Carroll, ret.  
West Goshen Township Police Department

Daniel W. Clark, PhD  
Washington State Patrol

Michael Crews  
Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Fabrice Czarnecki, MD, MA, MPH  
The Gables Group, Inc.

John Czernis  
Institute for Intergovernmental Research

Commissioner Ed Davis  
Boston Police Department



Deputy Commissioner Michael Farrell  
New York City Police Department

Craig Floyd – Chairman & CEO  
National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

Chief Joseph Kistle, ret.  
Franklin Borough Police Department

Chief Ronald McBride, ret.  
IACP DuPont/Kevlar Survivors Club

Tim Reid  
FBI LEOKA

Director Frank Straub  
City of Indianapolis Department of Public Safety

Kevin Strom, PhD  
Research Triangle Institute International

Assistant Commissioner Earl Sweeney  
New Hampshire Department of Safety

Professor Charles Wellford, PhD  
University of Maryland



