

DECEMBER 2019

LINE OF DUTY DEATH REPORT

FULL BIOGRAPHIES, INCIDENT DETAILS, AND TRIBUTES FOR EACH OF THESE FALLEN HEROES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE OFFICER DOWN MEMORIAL PAGE AT WWW.ODMP.ORG.

19 LODDs

THIS MONTH

134 LODDs

YEAR-TO-DATE

20%
DECREASE*

*Jan-Dec 2019 vs Jan-Dec 2018

CAUSES OF DEATH YEAR-TO-DATE

 GUN

 AUTO

 HEART

 OTHER

5

9

2

3



OFFICER DOWN MEMORIAL PAGE
REMEMBERING ALL OF LAW ENFORCEMENT'S HEROES

The monthly United States Line-of-Duty Deaths Report is a joint publication of the **International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)** and the **Officer Down Memorial Page (ODMP)**. IACP and ODMP are committed to honoring fallen law enforcement officers while also raising awareness about line-of-duty deaths, including related trends and causal factors.



The IACP is the world's largest professional organization for police leaders. The IACP's Center for Officer Safety and Wellness offers a host of resources related to officer health, mental and physical wellness, tactical safety, and more. Learn more at <https://www.theiacp.org/topics/officer-safety-wellness>.



ODMP is dedicated to honoring the memory of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. Through its online memorial and reflection pages, ODMP pays lasting tribute to the more than 20,000 officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Learn more at www.ODMP.org.

GUNFIRE

Agent Billy Clardy, III (Huntsville Police Department, Alabama) was shot and killed while participating in a narcotics operation with the HIDTA Gulf Coast Task Force. The task force was conducting a buy-bust operation. When agents attempted to take a suspect into custody, the man immediately opened fire, striking Agent Clardy in an area not protected by his vest.

Officer Stephen Carr (Fayetteville Police Department, Arkansas) was shot and killed in an unprovoked attack in the police department's rear parking lot. While sitting in his patrol car waiting for his partner to return, a subject approached him and opened fire without warning, killing him. Officers inside of the station heard the shots and immediately responded. Officers and paramedics provided aide to Officer Carr, but he succumbed to his injuries.

Sergeant Christopher Brewster (Houston Police Department, Texas) was shot and killed while responding to a domestic assault. When officers arrived at the scene both subjects had already left. Sergeant Brewster was checking the area when he saw the couple walking nearby. Sergeant Brewster attempted to contact them but was fired upon as he exited his patrol car. Despite being struck in the chest above his vest, he was able to give dispatchers and other officers a description of his wounds and the subject's direction of travel. Sergeant Brewster was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Detective Joseph Seals (Jersey City Police Department, New Jersey) was shot and killed after encountering two subjects, a man and woman, in a van that was linked to a homicide in Bayonne, New Jersey. During the encounter, Detective Seals was shot in the back of the head. The two subjects then fled in the stolen van and eventually barricaded themselves inside of a grocery store. They murdered three people inside of the store and engaged officers in a prolonged shootout, wounding two other officers.

Deputy Sheriff Chris Dickerson (Panola County Sheriff's Office, Texas) was shot and killed while making a traffic stop. During the stop the driver suddenly exited the vehicle and opened fire with a semi-automatic rifle, shooting Deputy Dickerson six times. Nearby residents who heard the gunshots found Deputy Dickerson in the roadway. He was transported to a local hospital where he died a short time later.

AUTO RELATED

Sergeant Kaila Sullivan (Nassau Bay Police Department, Texas) was killed when she was intentionally struck by a vehicle while attempting to arrest a wanted subject for domestic assault during a traffic stop. He began to resist arrest and was able to re-enter his vehicle. Sergeant Sullivan was fatally struck by the suspect as he fled the area in the vehicle. Sergeant Sullivan was transported to the hospital where she succumbed to her injuries.

Constable Raye Hawkins (Panola County Constable's Office, Mississippi) was killed when his vehicle was struck by a stolen pickup truck driven by two juvenile offenders while being pursued by other officers. Constable Hawkins was responding to assist in the pursuit when the vehicle struck his car at a high rate of speed, causing him to suffer fatal injuries.

Private First Class Mike Latu (Marion County Sheriff's Office, South Carolina) was killed in a single-vehicle crash while responding to a call for service at 1:05 am. His vehicle left the roadway on U.S. 76 and struck a bridge pillar underneath the U.S. 501 Bypass.

Sergeant Anthony Oglesby (United States Department of Defense - Naval District Washington Police Department, U.S. Government) was killed in a single-vehicle crash. His patrol car left the roadway and struck a tree that fell onto the car, causing it to catch fire.

Detective Cliff Martinez (San Antonio Independent School District Police Department, Texas) was intentionally struck and killed by a vehicle after he broke up a fight at an IHOP restaurant while working secondary employment. Detective Martinez was able to move the subjects out of the restaurant and into the parking lot when he was attacked by at least two people and knocked to the ground. While he was still on the ground the subjects entered a car and intentionally ran over him, pinning him under the vehicle.

Deputy Sheriff Bryan Pfluger (San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office, Texas) was killed in a vehicle crash while responding to a burglary call and traveling behind another deputy. As the deputy in the first patrol car slowed to make a turn, Deputy Pfluger swerved to avoid a rear-end collision. Deputy Pfluger's patrol car clipped the other patrol car and then overturned. Deputy Pfluger was ejected from the vehicle and sustained fatal injuries.

Deputy Sheriff Cooper Dyson (Pierce County Sheriff's Department, Washington) was killed in a single-vehicle crash while responding to backup other deputies at a domestic violence incident. The deputies who responded to the initial incident were immediately attacked by a male subject who engaged them in a violent struggle. The deputies believed that the man was attempting to access a shotgun that was inside of the home and called for backup during the struggle. Deputy Dyson was responding to their call for assistance when his vehicle left the roadway and struck a commercial building. A passerby called to report the crash and Deputy Dyson was found deceased by responding deputies and rescue personnel.

Master Patrol Officer Spencer Bristol (Hendersonville Police Department, Tennessee) was struck and killed by a vehicle while involved in a foot pursuit of a subject across an interstate. Officers had started pursuing a vehicle with two subjects eventually crashing at the interchange. Officer Bristol was fatally struck by a vehicle as they ran across the highway.

Police Officer Jerry Singleton (Fairfield Glade Police Department, Tennessee) suffered a suspected pulmonary embolism as a result of an injury sustained in 2017, when he was struck by a hit-and-run driver during a traffic stop while serving with the Kingston Police Department. The driver initially stopped, but when Officer Singleton asked for his driver's license the man put his vehicle into drive and sped away from the stop. A car-carrier being pulled by the pickup truck struck Officer Singleton, fracturing one of his legs and later causing blood clots as a result of the injury. It is believed he suffered a fatal pulmonary embolism due to one of the blood clots. On December 31st, 2019, he was found unresponsive inside of the police station shortly after starting his shift with the Fairfield Glade Police Department. The driver who struck him was convicted of several charges. Ironically, the subject lost an appeal of the convictions on the day that Officer Singleton passed away.

OTHER DUTY RELATED

Sergeant Eli Voth (Colorado Department of Corrections) was killed when a boiler unit experienced catastrophic failure and exploded at the Freemont Correctional Facility in Cañon City.

Deputy Chief Vincent DeMarino (New York Police Department, New York) died as the result of cancer that he developed following his assignment to the search and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center site following the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks.

Chief Deputy Bobby Jacobs (Knott County Sheriff's Office, Kentucky) suffered a fatal heart attack several hours after responding to assist at the scene of a barricaded subject who had threatened to kill law enforcement officers. Another deputy had attempted to serve a warrant on the man, but he barricaded himself inside of his home. Chief Deputy Jacobs responded to the scene and the man was eventually taken into custody. He reported

for duty the following day and handled a call for service. He returned to the sheriff's office where he collapsed a short time later.

Sergeant Scott Johnston (New York Police Department, New York) died as the result of cancer that he developed following his assignment to the search and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center site following the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks.

Police Officer Jose Meza (Burnet Police Department, Texas) suffered a fatal heart attack following extensive training with his canine partner, Kuso. He and Kuso had conducted canine tracking training for several hours with other canine units. At the end of the training Officer Meza told other officers he was not feeling well and returned home. The following morning his wife called 911 and reported a medical emergency. Officer Meza was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead.