



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NATIONAL POLICE MONTH

As we kick off National Police Month, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank every member of the Chicago Police Department for your continued efforts to make Chicago the safest city in the nation.

With National Police Month upon us, it is imperative that we take time out to pay tribute to the hundreds of officers who, throughout the history of our Department, have given their lives to the safety of others. This Thursday marks the beginning of a series of events that honor all Chicago Police Officers. I urge you to participate in these events. If you are unable to attend, please join us in spirit.

On May 4th at 1100 hours, we will pause to remember the 120th Anniversary of the Haymarket Square tragedy. On this horrific day, 8 officers were wounded and eventually died from their injuries. An honor ceremony will take place at the Education and Training Division's John Thomas Atrium, where the Haymarket Monument is located.

On Saturday morning, May 6th, the Chicago Police Runner's Club is holding its 2nd Annual Run/Walk to Remember, in support of the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation. The event kicks off at 0700 hours at Gold Star Families Memorial and Park, located just east of Soldier Field. Details of this event can be found at

On Sunday morning we will gather in downtown Chicago for the 74th Annual St. Jude March and Parade. This is the largest gathering of Chicago Police Officers of the year. As we do every first Sunday in May, we will march in salute to the fallen officers who gave so much of themselves for our safety. Please encourage your family and friends to join us.

On May 10th, the Chicago Police Department's highest awards will be given out at our Annual Chicago Police Recognition Ceremony and Luncheon. Please join me as we pay tribute to officers whose actions have exemplified the honor of our profession and our Department.

On Saturday May 20th at 1200 hours, there will be a honorary street sign dedication to Officers Leonard Baldy and Irv Hayden, who lost their lives in helicopter accidents. The dedication will take place at the northeast corner of Bradley and Wolcott.

The month will culminate with a ceremony at Headquarters on May 25th at 1000 hours, honoring the sacrifices made by 8 Chicago Police Officers, retiring their stars and including them in the Superintendent's Honored Star Case.

Finally, the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation thanks you for your generosity and time over the last year. Your commitment has brought us closer to realizing a world class monument that pays tribute to Chicago Police Officers who have given their lives in service to this city and to the Chicago Police Department. We look forward to the completion of this project and a dedication ceremony, which will take place in late summer.

As I have said many times before and believe wholeheartedly, this is the best police department in the United States of America. I receive calls and e-mails routinely from citizens, praising the work of Chicago Police Officers. You have demonstrated this once again with the professionalism displayed at this week's Immigration March and Rally. I thank you for your commitment. Our city is a better place to live in because of your dedication.

Stay safe. And, at the end of every tour of duty, make sure you go home to your family.

Philip J. Cline
Superintendent of Police