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# Tennessee State FOP

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APRIL 16, 2013

## A message from President Johnny Crumby

**A**s we prepare for memorial services across the state I would like to remind each member that this is a time not only to honor and pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, but also to those that have survived. Men and women in law enforcement are facing ever increasing danger in their jobs. Each day when they kiss their families goodbye they do not know if they will return home or uninjured.

Thanks to modern technology and medicine more and more lives have been saved but some have been permanently disabled in the line of duty. Let us not forget that they are also our heroes. As you attend your area memorial services remember there are fellow officers that have survived a tragic event and need your friendship now more than ever. I have talked with some of these officers and one of their biggest regrets is not losing their jobs but their friends that played a role in their daily lives whether it was sharing a meal, a cup of coffee or a conversation.

**LET US NEVER FORGET OUR HEROES LIVING AND DECEASED!**

*Johnny*

## State Memorial Service

**W**hen the call comes, we each get the same feeling of loss. A brother or sister has been killed in the line of duty. Every day men and women, who I call Homeland Heroes, strap on their weapon, put on their badge, and report for duty. When they walk out of the door, neither they, nor their family have any guarantee of their safe return. Too often, their smile, voice, or laughter is only a memory, remembered through the tears of their family and their brothers and sisters who served along side.

A law enforcement funeral for a line of duty death is an experience that is an event both wrought with heart wrenching emotion, and yet an amazing celebration of our Hero's life and service, witnessed by officers from far and wide. Uniforms of many colors from many states, bagpipes, and flags make it an emotional site to behold. An expression of love only felt among our peers. You know. You have attended too many.

As the procession moves toward the burial site, streets lined with local citizens waving flags and holding signs of love and respect makes the toughest cop well up with tears. Fire companies with crossed ladders salute their fallen comrade.

*Continued on page 2*

## State Memorial Service continued...

The Fraternal Order of Police State Memorial is a final tribute to Tennessee's fallen sons and daughters who gave their all to serve their community and protect their streets. We gather to remember their sacrifice, add their names to our wall of honor, and show our love and respect for their family still mourning their loss. The crowds of the funeral have long moved on, and the crowds at the memorial typically not as large.

Let's make a pledge, together, to make this final ceremony one of fond remembrance for those families by attending the FOP State Memorial. It is one hour of commitment for you, and a lifetime of encouragement for their families.

We never know when, where, or how the next loss will happen. I pray we add no more names for this year. However, every name on that wall represents a life sacrificed for those they did not know. Let us always honor their memory.

Please, join the FOP State Board, special guests, and honored families this year:

**Friday, May 10, 2013**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Legislative Plaza**  
**6<sup>th</sup> and Union**  
**Nashville, Tennessee**



### **OUR FALLEN FOR 2012**

**OFFICER JUSTIN MAPLES**  
**Cleveland Police Department**  
**EOW Sunday May 20, 2012**  
**Cause of Death: Automobile Accident**

**DETECTIVE MARTOLYA LANG**  
**Memphis Police Department**  
**EOW Friday December 14, 2012**  
**Cause of Death: Gunfire**

For more information contact Rob Michaels, State Chaplain at 615-224-2424 or by email [rob@serveprotect.org](mailto:rob@serveprotect.org)

## **A Letter from the family of Justin Maples to all Tennessee FOP members and lodges**

I wanted to take just a moment and express my heartfelt appreciation for the love and support the FOP lodges have given the boys and I since Justin's death.

As a police wife the thought was always in the back of my mind that one day I would get that knock on the door, but for me it was never really expected. From the moment I received that knock I have felt the presence of God's love and His hands extended through so many loving caring people. Places not expected to show that love have surprised us with such compassion and grace.

I wish that I could speak individually to all of those that have even blessed us with a thought or prayer but I know that would be impossible. I do however pray God's blessing on you all...more so than what you have given my boys and I.

The boys and I are adjusting the best that we can. We have had many ups and downs along the way as anyone would expect. Jace is 6 now and busy with homeschooling and karate. Jacobi is 3 and believes that everything is up for argument. Declan will be 2 on Feb. 4th. He keeps up with his older brothers thinking he is just as big. I just do my best to keep up with all them.

Again knowing that we are in your thoughts still, and under your care means so much to us and we are very grateful and blessed to have you.

With Love,  
Danielle, Jace, Jacobi, and Declan Maples

### **Tennessee State FOP Spring Bard Meeting**

The Spring Board Meeting of the Tennessee State FOP Lodge will be at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 4, 2013 at the Knoxville Downtown University Crowne Plaza Hotel located at 401 W. Summit Hill Drive—Knoxville, TN 37902. For reservations call 1-877-270-1393. Please make plans to attend.



### **Recent Member Deaths**

Charles Sladen  
Lodge #23

Nola Brumitt  
Lodge #31

David Houts  
Lodge #22

### **Associate License Plates Sold**

**226**

### **Coming Next Issue**

**Mike Embrey,  
State Secretary**