OFFICER ERIC COLE
USPP - SAN FRANCISCO, CA

OFFICER CARL HESTIKIND
USPP - WASHINGTON, DC

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED STATES PARK POLICE - FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

EAGLE TIMES
DISPATCH
June 2014

OFC. COLE AWARDED USPP MEDAL OF HONOR
OFC. HESTIKIND RECOGNIZED FOR RESCUE IN 1936

LETTER TO NPS DIRECTOR 6 MONTHS NO REPLY
WASHINGTON MONUMENT SECURITY IGNORED
USPP OFFICERS RECEIVE AWARDS AND MORE

2nd Quarter 2014
1. MORE OFFICERS --- The Park Police is Understaffed
As of June 30, 2014 the United States Park Police has approximately 600 sworn officers. The National Park Service holds the position that the United States Park Police needs 639 sworn officers. If the trend of retirements continues the Park Police will have about 550 sworn officers by the end of 2014. The impact of this staffing level will prevent the Park Police from performing their mission. Keep in mind that the 639 sworn officer limit claimed by the National Park Service is not based on an independent staffing analysis. In fact, the Park Police is understaffed at 639 officers. At this level, they are unable to safely and effectively accomplish their mission. The last independent staffing analysis was done by the consulting firm Booz, Allen in 1999, approximately two years before September 11, 2001. Booz-Allen stated in their 1999 report that the U. S. Park Police needed 820 sworn officers to operate safely. The most recent Chief of Police, Teresa Chambers stated in 2003 that the Park Police needed 1400 sworn officers to operate safely. The Park Police need to hire two recruit classes in FY’ 2014. Failing to hire two recruit classes before the end of 2014, would be reckless. Cost: UNKNOWN

2. Equipment for Capturing Evidence from Digital Devices
The United States Park Police has no equipment and no fully trained officers to secure/analyze evidence from digital devices (mobile phones, tablets, etc). This prevents criminal investigations from being conducted effectively. Cost to fix: Approximately $55,000.00.

3. Equipment for Capturing Evidence from Video Surveillance Systems
The United States Park Police has no specialized equipment and no trained officers to secure/analyze evidence from Video Surveillance Systems. This prevents criminal investigations from being conducted effectively. Cost to fix: Approximately $55,000.00.

4. A Modern Digital Radio System that has Inter-Agency Radio Frequency
The United States Park Police and the other DC Metropolitan Area Law Enforcement Agencies need a common frequency to coordinate operations during incidents like the Navy Yard Shooting. The current radio system is antiquated and unreliable. Cost: UNKNOWN

5. Replace Aging Helicopters-- A New Bell 412 Helicopter NOW
The United States Park Police Aviation Section needs a new Bell 412 helicopter to replace the one that is 23 years old. The Park Service wants to buy a less capable and less safe aircraft. They cannot be allowed to prevail. The Bell 412 has a proven track record of safety and mission effectiveness. Soon more than one will need to be replaced. Cost of one replacement helicopter: Approximately $18,000,000.00.

6. Better Video Surveillance Systems and Control Centers
The U. S. Park Police need a modern Video Surveillance Control Center that is design, staffed, equipped and supported to effectively protect the ICONS. Cost to fix: UNKNOWN

7. Fix Problems with Dispatch and Reporting System
In fact, the United States Park Police does not have an integrated Dispatch and Reporting System. What they have is a crude hodgepodge of systems. IMARS, ILEADS, TRACKER and CAD do not speak to each other. IMARS the reporting system dictated by the DOI is a disaster. Cost to fix: UNKNOWN

8. Patrol Rifles, Gear and Training for Active Shooter Situations
All officers on the United States Park Police need to be equipped and trained with patrol rifles. Cost: Unknown

9. Participate on Task Forces
The United States Park Police to maintain effective investigative operations needs to fully participate in area task forces. Cost: NONE

10. Mass Casualty Equipment
The United States Park Police needs to obtain adequate equipment and training to effectively treat victims of mass casualty incidents. Cost: UNKNOWN
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Front Page Images:
Ofc. Cole-USPPFOP, Ofc. Hestikind-M. Hestekind
Chairman’s Report

Brothers and sisters we’re in a bad place, right now. Our biggest problem is our parent agency, the NPS. They are unwilling to fund our agency at a life-sustaining level. Our leaders in the U. S. Park Police (USPP) and the National Park Service (NPS) frequently implement policies without consulting the law or common sense. We have many unanswered questions about how and why things are being done. Many times, USPP and NPS management are unable to factually justify their decisions or their positions on policies. Evidence of this is documented, in many recent decisions that overturned USPP/NPS management decisions/policies effecting USPP officers. Last week, I was forced to file a ULP over another work hours issue because management isn't following the law, again. Inadequate responses to questions are one thing. The sad fact is that in many instances the USPP and NPS response to questions or requests is NO response.

On January 13, 2014, the United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police sent a letter to National Park Service, Director Jon Jarvis, requesting a meeting to “discuss the hazardous level of operational readiness” of the USPP. As of the publication of this newsletter (June 30, 2014), there has been no response from Director Jarvis. (See letter on Page 5) Some may explain this as Director Jarvis being ill served by his staff. I have concluded that this is just another piece of evidence that proves that the safety of visitors and priceless cultural resources is not important to the NPS. You only have to look at what the NPS does, and not at what they say, to see this is true. The NPS consistently demonstrates that it doesn’t have the experience, knowledge or judgment required to administer their law enforcement program. The evidence that supports this assertion has been extensively documented in past issues of this newsletter, in legal proceedings and in FOP correspondence. (Thank God we’re not NPS LE Rangers- they have it worse).

Six months is more than enough time to respond so, in the next few days, I will be sending a letter to the Department of the Interior, Secretary Sally Jewell requesting a similar meeting. We cannot wait any longer. Officers are leaving at a faster pace than the USPP are hiring. Of course, the U. S. Park Police JUST announced vacancies, but that won’t help our already paltry numbers any time, soon. I want to know how many officers is the NPS going to let the USPP hire and is the NPS still sticking to their 639 USPP sworn officer limit, which is unsupported by any objective standard.

The USPP’s equipment, vehicles, and facilities are embarrassing. They fall far short of what’s needed to perform our mission effectively. As a USPP officer you have to deal with:

- Stations with air conditioners that aren’t working
- One station where the sewer system hasn’t worked for months
- Stations built in flood zones
- Instances of mold in stations
- Cruisers not being replaced
- A radio system that was cutting edge in 1980
- Dispatch/Reporting & Booking Systems that don’t work correctly
- Dispatcher Shortages
- Not enough officers to safely and effectively do the job
- Inadequate security procedures and equipment (SEE Page 6)
- Inconsistent NPS enforcement directives Re: CFR Regulations
- A NPS culture that ignores security and law enforcement issues
- Right now, the USPP has a leadership vacuum, as officials play ‘musical chairs’, filling the numerous vacant management positions. The vacuum was created by the NPS, because they don’t really care about visitor and resource safety. Ask yourself, why are so many USPP leadership positions vacant? The answer is the NPS does not want the leadership of the USPP to be effective. They want USPP leaders to submit to their every fancy. Go against the grain and you won’t be promoted. Disagree with them and they will play dangerous games with your budget. There are very few instances of the NPS promoting individuals that think (outloud) that law enforcement should be a higher priority. Having a thought contrary to the gospel of the anointed NPS royalty is a certain career killer.

Well.....here is the good news:

You are still responding to your calls for police service. You continue working with honor and integrity in less than ideal circumstances. I am inspired by the bravery of USPP Officers like Eric Cole and our Navy Yard heroes. For that- I salute you all and am honored to represent you.

BE SAFE! Ian Glick.
January 13, 2014

Director Jonathan Jarvis
National Park Service
1849 "C" Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Jarvis:

The United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) requests a meeting with you to discuss the hazardous level of operational readiness of the United States Park Police (USPP). Our organization is extremely concerned about USPP staffing and equipment issues that place visitors, officers and priceless cultural resources at an unacceptable level of risk. The danger is real and unless something is done to address these problems the danger will increase.

We feel that you are not being adequately advised of the needs of the USPP. Therefore, we request a meeting between you and our representatives from DC, New York and San Francisco as soon as possible, so that you can hear the problems facing USPP officers firsthand. This meeting cannot be delayed; unless some issues are addressed quickly, the USPP’s poor level of operational readiness will decline thereby endangering our visitors and employees, alike.

Please, contact me to make the arrangements for this meeting.

Fraternally,

Ian Glick
Chairman

STILL NO NPS REPLY
As of June 30, 2014
Washington Monument Reopens: National Park Service Ignored Security Upgrade

(Washington, DC)- On May 14, 2014, the National Park Service (NPS) reopened the Washington Monument after a ceremony that included speeches and musical entertainment. The monument was closed for 995 days because of the earthquake that struck the region on August 23, 2011. The epicenter of the earthquake was 38 miles northwest of Richmond, Virginia near a town called Mineral. The earthquake caused significant damage to some of the monument’s stone blocks.

The NPS quickly sent an inspection team to the monument to evaluate the damage. The team observed that some stones were cracked, pieces of stones had fallen from the monument and that stones near the top were loose. The team established that while the monument was not in danger of collapsing the earthquake damage would need to be repaired before the monument could be reopened.

Mr. David Rubenstein, a philanthropist and a founder of The Carlyle Group, a private equity firm, donated $7.5 million of the $15 million dollar cost of the repairs. The Citizens of the United States paid for the other half. During the opening ceremony Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell remarked, “Thanks to the generosity and patriotism of David Rubenstein, a strong public-private partnership with the Trust, and the dedication and skill of countless National Park Service employees and contractors, the Washington Monument is now open to visitors.”

The opening ceremony was emceed by NBC TODAY show weatherman Al Roker. Entertainment during the opening ceremony included performances by the U. S. Army- Old Guard Fife & Drum Corps, the United States Navy Band, the Boy and Girl Choristers of Washington National Cathedral Choir, and American Idol winner Candice Glover. During the opening ceremony remarks were also given by, National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis, White House Counselor John Podesta, National Mall & Memorial Parks Superintendent Bob Vogel, philanthropist David Rubenstein, Carolyn Cunningham President of The Trust for the National Mall, Washington, DC Mayor Vincent Gray and The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, District of Columbia Delegate to the U. S. House of Representatives.

Since the reopening of the Washington Monument there have been instances where the elevator has malfunctioned forcing the monument to be closed and at times stranding visitors at the top of the monument. The NPS is working on these problems. However, operational safety and reliability are not the only issue of concern with the elevator system at the Washington Monument. Since, the early 1990’s the United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police has called for improvements to the elevator control system at the Washington Monument. These improvements are needed to provide adequate security for the Washington Monument. They have been ignored for approximately 20 years.

The NPS had an ideal opportunity during the 995 days that the monument was closed to implement these needed improvements to the elevator control system. Unfortunately, despite being reminded of the need to improve the elevator control system by the United States Park Police, the NPS did not take advantage of the opportunity. They decided that the changes were not needed despite a mountain of evidence to the contrary.

This is by itself convincing evidence that the NPS does not take security at their facilities seriously. In this and many other instances the safety of visitors is compromised by the NPS's lack of support for security and law enforcement operations. The $15 million spent fixing the earthquake damage will be wasted if insufficient personnel, systems and procedures result in damage to the monument.

The United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police remains determined to convince Department of Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and the United States Congress that they need to direct the NPS to pay greater attention to the safety of visitors. The NPS has requested $55 million dollars to fund their 100th birthday celebration in 2016, but they haven't made any similar requests to fund safe law enforcement operations. They need to obtain funds to secure NPS installations, and ensure that there are sufficient law enforcement personnel, and equipment to effectively respond to critical incidents. The United States Park Police is understaffed and under-equipped to safely and effectively perform its mission.
On April 29, 2014, the United States Park Police presented United States Park Police Officer Eric Cole with the United States Park Police Medal of Honor for his actions during a confrontation with a knife-wielding murderer on the streets of Marin County in the area of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Officer Cole was awarded this honor at a ceremony held at the United States Park Police San Francisco Field Office. Attending the ceremony was United States Park Police, Acting Chief Robert MacLean; National Park Service, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, General Superintendent Frank Dean; United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police, Chairman Ian Glick, and many others from the field office.

On Friday, August 23, 2013, at about 11:10 PM the California Highway Patrol received a 911 call from a passenger on a bus who reported that a man carrying a bloody knife had boarded the bus in the area of Marin City and that the bus was traveling southbound towards the Golden Gate Bridge. The United States Park Police San Francisco Field Office Communications Section broadcast a lookout for the man and the bus. Shortly after receiving the lookout Officer Cole observed a bus matching the description headed eastbound on Lombard Street approaching Fillmore Street. Officer Cole made a U-turn and parked behind the bus that had stopped at Fillmore Street; Officer Cole notified communications and requested backup. Officer Cole quickly boarded the bus and was informed by a passenger that the man with the knife had just exited the bus through the rear door. The passenger advised Officer Cole that the man was crossing Lombard Street and pointed him out to Officer Cole.

Officer Cole began following the suspect on foot as he walked northbound on the west sidewalk of Fillmore Street, he was planning to wait for backup before stopping the suspect. As the suspect approached Chestnut Street, Officer Cole observed that the suspect had an aggressive posture. At this point, Officer Cole observed that the pedestrians between him and the suspect were going to overtake the suspect. Fearing for the safety of these citizens Officer Cole, decided that he must stop the suspect immediately without waiting for backup. Officer Cole identified himself to the suspect and the suspect stopped. The suspect immediately began yelling at and acting aggressively towards Officer Cole. The suspect refused Officer Cole’s repeated commands to get on the ground. At this time, Officer Cole drew his Tazer and deployed two sets of probes at the suspect. The Tazer had no effect because the heavy coat that the suspect was wearing prevented the probes from contacting his skin. The suspect continued to refuse to comply with repeated commands to get on the ground.

Then the suspect unzipped a pouch on his backpack and pulled a large knife. The suspect raised the knife and advanced threateningly toward Officer Cole. In response to this assault with a deadly weapon, concerned for his safety and the safety of nearby citizens, Officer Cole drew and fired his service pistol, striking the suspect five times. No bystanders were injured and Officer Cole was unharmed. Very quickly the level of courage, selflessness, judgment and professionalism exhibited by Officer Cole while encountering an armed murderer on a sidewalk filled with citizens reflects great credit upon himself and the United States Park Police. Officer Cole’s courageous actions and his willingness to place himself in harm’s way to protect his fellow citizens undoubtedly prevented additional violent acts by this vicious criminal. For his bravery and devotion to duty Officer Eric Cole was awarded the United States Park Police Medal of Honor. Officer Cole was also presented with a Combat Medal an award from the U. S. Park Police Fraternal Order of Police.

A Job Very Well Done! Congratulations Officer Cole from your sister and brother officers of the United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police.
The National Park Service has finally acknowledged that the United States Park Police is understaffed. On Friday, June 20, 2014, they posted openings for United States Park Police officers on USA jobs; the U. S. governments employment website. The announcement closes on July 9, 2014 and states that there are “Many vacancies . . .” in San Francisco, CA, Washington, DC and New York, NY. This announcement may be the first step towards fixing the staffing and equipment problems of the United States Park Police. However, the NPS have ignored this problem for many years and it will not be fixed overnight.

The question is exactly what does the National Park Service mean by “many vacancies”. Right now the United States Park Police as approximately 600 sworn officers. For quite some time the National Park Service has maintained that the United States Park Police only needs 639 sworn officers. Unfortunately, the National Park Service has never produced evidence that supports this staffing level as safe or effective. The United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police has information that the United States Park Police 639 sworn officer limit was set by deal between a former United States Park Police budget official and the National Park Service Comptroller’s Office.

The National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) has conducted two studies of the United States Park Police. Congress directed these studies in appropriations bills. In fact, in the first Congressionally directed study NAPA was specifically tasked to do a staffing analysis of the United States Park Police. The contract for the first study of the United States Park Police that established the scope of work and payment between NAPA with the United States Department of Interior included a requirement to do a staffing analysis of the United States Park Police. NAPA received payment for the first study, but they never did a staffing analysis. During a follow-up study, to check on how their first recommendations were being implemented, NAPA made a recommendation that the staffing level of the United States Park Police be established only by an independent staffing analysis. This was recommended by NAPA in approximately 2004 and it still has not been done.

In fact, the only independent staffing analysis of the United States Park Police conducted in the last twenty years was accomplished in 1999 by the consulting firm of Booz, Allen and Hamilton (Booz-Allen). Approximately, 1 1/2 years prior to the attacks of September 11, 2001 Booz -Allen’s independent study of the United States Park Police concluded that the United States Park Police needed 820 sworn officers. The National Park Service has ignored this independent staffing analysis for 13 years. In the aftermath of September 11, 2001 many departments increased their number of sworn officers; the number of sworn officers on the United States Park Police has shrunk.

The United States Park Police, Fraternal Order of Police is encouraged that there is now an announcement that could lead to the hiring of additional United States Park Police officers. However, an announcement does not guarantee that anyone will be hired. Furthermore, if officers were hired tomorrow it would be almost a year before they would be out of training. The National Park Service staffing limit of 639 sworn officers is insufficient for the United States Park Police to effectively and safely accomplish their mission. The United States Park Police needs at least 820 sworn officers in order to have sufficient officers to respond to critical incidents on the National Mall in a timely manner. Currently, the United States Park Police does not have the equipment or personnel needed to effectively respond to critical incidents in the areas they are tasked with protecting. The National Park Service cannot solve the problems of the United States Park Police by hiring 48 officers. The staffing level of sworn officers is a critical issue that must be addressed. The United States Park Police will be under 550 officers by the beginning of 2015 unless action is taken quickly. Many current officers are eligible to retire or will become eligible to retire in the very near future. The National Park Service needs to consider that when a critical incident occurs the effectiveness of the response influences the severity of the outcome.

Questions To Ask the NPS

- Does the United States Park Police have a supply of tourniquets positioned to treat multiple victims of a bombing at any of the Icons? (Note: Studies have established that tourniquets save lives of bombing victims. Having them close by with sufficient personnel to secure the area and apply them is critical.)
- In the event of an active shooter(s)/bombing(s) at a monument or memorial in Washington, DC, how many U. S. Park Police officers would be assigned there and how many U. S. Park Police officers would arrive at that location each minute for the first thirty minutes, during rush hour, during Cherry Blossoms, and at 2:00 am Monday morning? (Information they should have at the tip of their fingers.)
- Has the shortage of officers and equipment effected the ability of the United States Park Police to conduct investigations? (Ask the Investigators and Detectives)
- Provide documentation that justifies the NPS’s United States Park Police 639 sworn officer limit? (That would be information that they would have on hand.)
- Do they believe that the missions flown by U. S. Park Police Aviation to rescue people are worthwhile (i.e. River Rescues, MEDEVACS, supporting the Navy Yard, their neighbor, during the active shooter incident)?

Link TO USPP JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

USAJOBS - Search Jobs
www.usajobs.gov

REQUIREMENTS: WRITTEN TEST INFORMATION: MAXIMUM ENTRY AGE (MAX) REQUIREMENT: PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: INVESTIGATION OF SUITABILITY PAY, BENEFITS, AND WORK SCHEDULE
Officer Hestikind’s actions demonstrated the highest level of professionalism and courage in a life-threatening situation. Officer Hestikind entered the frigid waters of the Potomac River to rescue someone despite the risk to his safety. For his bravery Officer Carl Hestikind was posthumously awarded the United States Park Police Medal of Honor. The presentation ceremony was held on May 13, 2014 at the United States Park Police Aviation Unit. Officer Hestikind’s nephew, Mr. Mikel Hestikind of Edmonds, Washington, accepted the award on behalf of his uncle.

Officer Hestikind’s sacrifice wasn’t officially acknowledged for 78 years and would have never been acknowledged if it wasn’t for the relentless efforts of Officer Michael Owens, U. S. Park Police, Retired and Lieutenant Robert “Bob” Harvey, U. S. Park Police, Retired. Around 2001, Officer Owens heard some “old timers” talking about Officer Carl Hestikind’s death and they wondered if it would be considered a line of duty death by today’s criteria. For his bravery Officer Carl Hestikind was posthumously awarded the United States Park Police Medal of Honor. The presentation ceremony was held on May 13, 2014 at the United States Park Police Aviation Unit. Officer Hestikind’s nephew, Mr. Mikel Hestikind of Edmonds, Washington, accepted the award on behalf of his uncle.

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On or about, Saturday, February 15, 1936, United States Park Police Officer Carl Hestikind saved the life of a motorist whose vehicle had crashed into the icy Potomac River. On that day, Officer Carl Hestikind was patrolling on a motorcycle, it was dangerously cold with the temperature hovering at -13 °F (13° below zero). About 14 inches of snow had fallen in the last few days. At some point during his tour of duty, Officer Hestikind observed a vehicle in the icy Potomac River. With no concern for himself, Officer Hestikind entered the icy waters and rescued the motorist. Afterwards, Officer Hestikind was forced by circumstances to ride his motorcycle while wearing his wet uniform. When Officer Hestikind was finally able to get home and dry off, he had a high fever. However, the exposure to the extreme cold while wearing wet clothing caused Officer Hestikind to become ill. Officer Hestikind’s illness quickly worsened and he died 3 days later on February 18, 1936 of pneumonia that he contracted due to his heroic actions. His funeral was held on February 21, 1936 and he was buried, with military honors, in Arlington National Cemetery. Officer Hestikind was a veteran who served in the Army Air Corps from 1923 -1926.

When they started Officer Owen and Lt. Harvey knew that finding records for this 65-year-old incident would be difficult. They were not surprised when they didn’t find any records. Lt. Harvey stated that despite this roadblock Officer Owen was undaunted and it only seemed to increase his resolve. They searched through newspaper archives. They made numerous trips to the National Archives and the Library of Congress searching for clues. They finally found his obituary in the February 20, 1936, “Washington Star” a Washington, DC newspaper that is no longer published. They finally had something more than a few telephone calls. He was determined to locate a relative who had information that would close the investigation. In April of 2013, Lt. Harvey found an obituary for Julia Hestekind Walker, who had died in 2012 at the age of 106 in Edmonds, Washington. Like so many times before, Lt. Harvey contacted the funeral home to see if there might be information on a family member. This led Lt. Harvey to Mikel Hestekind of Edmonds, Washington. He found Mikel Hestekind’s telephone number. He called Mr. Hestekind and after identifying himself, he asked Mr. Hestekind if had any information on a Park Police officer by the name of Carl Hestikind. Lt. Harvey said, that Mr. Hestekind’s response was immediate: “Uncle Carl - I have my most prized possession in the world sitting right in front of me - Uncle Carl in his Park Police uniform sitting on his Harley Davidson Motorcycle.”

Lt Harvey said that when he heard that he got a lump in his throat and a tear in his eye and thought, “Mike (Officer Owens) we found him”. The ensuing interview confirmed that “Uncle Carl” had, in fact, rescued someone from the Potomac River and had died as a result of the exposure to the icy water and extreme cold during the rescue. Mr. Mikel Hestekind’s Grandmother, Julia Hestekind Walker, who was Officer Hestikind’s sister, had told the story of Officer Hestikind’s death to her family.

Lt. Harvey submitted a package detailing the long search for the facts surrounding Officer Hestikind’s death to United States Park Police Chief Teresa Chambers for her review. Lt. Harvey requested that Chief Chambers become an advocate for Officer Hestikind and forward his name to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, as a candidate for enshrinement on the “Wall of Remembrance”. Chief Chambers endorsed the recommendation on September 17, 2013. Subsequently, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Committee unanimously voted to approve the request. Officer Hestikind’s name was added to the Memorial during Police Week 2014, seventy-eight (78) years after his death.

On May 13, 2014, at the U. S. Department of Interior "Badge of Honor Ceremony" recognizing the fallen Law Enforcement Officers of the Department of the Interior, U.S. Park Police Officer Carl Hestikind was recognized. During this ceremony, Lt. Harvey, who is Vice-President of the Retired U. S. Park Police Association (RUSPPA), detailed the investigation conducted by him and the now deceased, Officer Michael Owens that established the heroic circumstances of Officer Hestikind’s death. Lt. Harvey received a standing ovation at the end of his presentation.

(Continued on next page. Officer Hestikind)
Officer Hestikind, Continued from previous page)

May 13, 2014 was also the “First Annual United States Park Police Fallen Officers Reception”. The reception was held at the U.S. Park Police Aviation Facility. Acting Chief Robert MacLean posthumously presented the United States Park Police Medal of Honor to Officer Carl Hestikind. Officer Hestikind’s great grandnephew, Mr. Mikel Hestekind of Edmond, Washington, accepted the award on behalf of his uncle.

During this reception acting Chief MacLean also presented U.S. Park Police Certificates of Appreciation to Lt. Harvey and posthumously to Officer Owens for their relentless pursuit of the facts of Officer Carl Hestikind’s death. Mr. Ian R. Glick, Chairman, United States Park Police- Fraternal Order of Police and acting Chief Robert MacLean gave remarks that touched many in the audience. Mr. Mikel Hestekind was very moved by the ceremony and thanked everyone for the recognition of his “Favorite Uncle”.

That evening Officer Carl Hestikind’s name was formally added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial during the 26th Annual Candlelight Vigil. The United States Park Police Honor Guard had the honor and privilege of presenting the colors at the start of the Vigil. Retired U. S. Park Police Assistant Chief Carl Holmberg, who attended the Vigil, related that it made him proud to see the honor guard’s flawless performance and the outstanding job done by the United States Park Police officers working the event. Retired Lt. Harvey, Retired Major Charles McLean (United States Park Police), President of the Retired U. S. Park Police Association (RUSPPA) and Retired Assistant Chief Carl Holmberg (United States Park Police) escorted Mr. Mikel Hestekind to the 26th Annual Candlelight Vigil.

The membership of the United States Park Police- Fraternal Order of Police thanks retired Lt. Robert Harvey and retired Officer Michael Owens for their relentless pursuit of the facts that lead to a forgotten officer being recognized for his sacrifice.

Note: This article is a compilation from articles written by Lt. Robert “Bob” Harvey (United States Park Police, Retired) for the newsletter of the Retired U. S. Park Police Association (RUSPPA), a memorandum prepared by Assistant Chief Carl Holmberg for the Retired U. S. Park Police Association (RUSPPA) membership, Award Citations and recollections of individuals attending the events described in the article.

May 13, 2014- First Annual United States Park Police Fallen Officers Reception: United States Park Police acting Chief Robert MacLean (Left) presents the United States Park Police Medal of Honor awarded to deceased Officer Carl Hestikind to Mr. Mikel Hestekind. Mr. Hestekind is the great grand nephew of Officer Carl Hestikind. (Photo: C. Wilkins) — At U. S. Park Police Aviation Unit in Anacostia National Park, Washington, DC.

May 13, 2014- 26th Annual Candlelight Vigil at NLEOM (L to R): Retired USPP Major Charles McLean, USPP Retired Assistant Chief Carl Holmberg, Mr. Mikel Hestekind. Out of frame to the right of Mr. Hestekind was Lt. Robert Harvey who accompanied Mr. Hestekind to the Vigil, too. (Photo: USPP FOP)

Officer Carl Hestikind’s Grave

Arlington National Cemetery

Officer Hestikind’s grave is in Arlington National Cemetery, Section 17, Grave 23014. Cemetery records indicate that Officer Hestikind was interned on February 21, 1936. His wife, Theresa S. Hestikind was buried with him on October 27, 1947. The headstone indicates that he was a resident of North Dakota when he enlisted. (PHOTO: Arlington National Cemetery)
Officer Hestikind Honored Due To The Determination of Two USPP Retirees

U. S. Park Police Officer Michael “Mike” Owens and Lt. Robert “Bob” Harvey were retired when they started the investigation into the death of Officer Carl Hestikind. They had worked long and hard. They could do anything they wanted, but they didn’t just play golf or travel. They made time to correct an oversight of an important incident. Around 2001, Officer Owens heard a story from some older U. S. Park Police Retirees about the death of a U. S. Park Police officer in 1936. The officer went into the icy Potomac River to save a motorist. The officer caught pneumonia because of the exposure to the cold and died three days later. That officer was Carl Hestikind and the retirees wondered if he should be honored at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Mike Owens wondered about that, too.

However, Mike Owens did more than wonder, he took action. In 2001, Mike Owens contacted Bob Harvey and together they launched an investigation that lasted more than a decade into the facts and circumstances of Officer Hestikind’s death. Sadly, Mike Owens died of cancer in November of 2008 but, before he died he got a promise from Bob Harvey that he would continue the investigation. Bob Harvey finished the job. The investigation resulted in U. S. Park Police Officer Carl Hestikind being honored on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and being posthumously awarded the U. S. Park Police Medal Of Honor in May of 2014. The diligence Officer Owens and Lt. Harvey displayed in this matter was exemplary; persistence will out. The Fraternal Order of Police is grateful that there are so many retired U. S. Park Police officers who are involved and concerned about the future of the U. S. Park Police.

Officer Michael Owens
(Deceased: 11/2008)
On His Mount “Sandy Road”, Circa 1980’s
Near Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

Thanks, Mike!

Left: May 13, 2014- First Annual United States Park Police Fallen Officers Reception: United States Park Police Acting Chief Robert MacLean (Left) presents Retired Lt. Bob Harvey with Certificates of Appreciation for him and deceased Officer Michael Owens for the work they did to ensure that Officer Hestikind received the recognition he deserved. – At U. S. Park Police Aviation Unit in Anacostia National Park, Washington, DC. (Photo: C. Wilkins)
On Monday, March 10, 2014 at about 11:36 pm, Officer Yeliz Kadiev observed a blue van stopped at the intersection of Benning Road and Minnesota Avenue NE, Washington, DC. Officer Kadiev ran the tag and it was confirmed stolen by Park Police Communications. Officer Donald Greulich responded to the area. When Officer Greulich drove near the van the operator of the van accelerated, and turned onto Grant Street. Officer Kadiev and Greulich activated their lights and sirens. The van fled with Officer Kadiev and Officer Greulich in pursuit.

The van entered a cul-de-sac in the 5200 block of Foote Street, NE. The van then turned around and drove head-on at Officer Kadiev’s cruiser. Officer Kadiev took evasive action which prevented the van from colliding with her cruiser. Then the van attempted to strike Officer Greulich’s cruiser at about 45 miles per hour. Officer Greulich also took evasive action to avoid a head-on collision.

The van continued to flee. The following officers joined in the pursuit:
- Officers Harrell Morris, Officer Kenley Bullard, K-9 Officer Ernest Patrick, Sergeant John Matula, and K-9 Sergeant Michael Wallace, United States Park Police Helicopter “Eagle 2” launched and monitored the pursuit. At this time the van headed north on Interstate 295 and then west on New York Avenue into the District 3 area. Units from District 3 responded to the area to assist.

The pursuit continued until approximately 0002 hours (March 11, 2014), when the van came to a stop in front of 1844 Central Place, NE, Washington, DC. Three suspects exited from the driver’s side of the van and ran towards an alley just to the rear of where the van stopped. A fourth suspect ran from the rear side of the van, ran around the front of the van and then headed up the alley where the other three suspects had fled. As the four suspects ran to the alley they were running at the pursuing officers who had exited their vehicles to continue the pursuit.

As the fourth suspect was approaching the mouth of the alley the officers heard the fourth suspect discharge a round from a firearm. When this suspect turned into the alley, Officer Kadiev observed a black handgun with an extended magazine in the suspect’s right hand. Officer Kadiev ordered the suspect to drop the gun as he was running down the alley. The suspect dropped the weapon, but continued to run away. Officer Bullard stopped the suspect by grabbing the dropped weapon. The four suspects ran to the end of the alley and went through a gap in the fence in the rear of 1853 Kendall Street NE. The suspects entered the rear door of Apartment #2 of 1853 Kendall Street NE. Officers Kadiev, BS3 Morris and Greulich in hot pursuit followed the suspects into the apartment.

The four suspects ran through Apartment #2 and exited through the front door. The suspects then up the stairs and then attempted to break into Apartment #4. Four adults and two young children occupied Apartment #4.

At this time the officers (Kadiev, Morris and Greulich) caught up to the four suspects on the stairs. The officers ordered the four suspects to lay on the ground. None of them complied and a struggle ensued. Officer Morris was able to pull one suspect from the stairs and handcuff him. MPO Greulich pulled another suspect off of the stairs toward the front door. The suspect pushed off of MPO Greulich and fled the building with MPO Greulich chasing him. Officer Kadiev was at the top of the stairs attempting to detain the other two suspects. Sergeant Matula arrived and helped Officer Kadiev subdue one suspect at the top of the stairs while Officers John Alto, Keith Johnson, and K-9 Officer Patrick arrived and assisted Officer Morris in detaining the remaining suspect. After a brief foot pursuit, MPO Greulich, Officer Michael Alto, and K-9 Sergeant Wallace apprehended the last suspect.

On the landing where Officer Kadiev was detaining the suspects, 2 guns were recovered. One was a revolver and the second was a semi-automatic handgun loaded with an extended 29 round magazine. In the living room of apartment #2, a fourth handgun was recovered. At the foot of the stairs where the suspects were detained, K-9 Sgt. Wallace saw a small utility closet that was partially opened. A fifth handgun, this one with a 50 round drum magazine, was recovered. The weapon dropped in the alley by the fourth suspect was a “MAC-10” clone.

ID Technician Blackmore responded and recovered all of the weapons while photographing and documenting the entire scene. Detective Sergeant Steinheimer and Detective Humberson arrived to assist. At District 5, Officer Brown recovered 9 zips of crack cocaine and 10 grams of marijuana from the underwear of one of the suspects. Officer Pritchard extended his tour of duty and processed all of the prisoners.

During this incident other officers responded to assist with the investigation: Officers Amarya and Hilliard responded from District 1 and transported prisoners; Officer Peer responded and took over for Officer Bullard; Aviation Rescue Technician Korns and Pilot St. were kept track of the pursuit from Eagle Two; and Detectives Sepeck, Edwards, and Freeman did interviews, liaised with Metropolitan Police detectives, and prepared six separate search warrant applications.

The actions of Officer Yeliz Kadiev, Master Patrol Officer Donald Greulich, and Officer Hamel Morris demonstrated the highest levels of professionalism and courage. These officers made a clear decision to pursue four armed felons into close quarters knowing that at least one of the suspects was willing to use a firearm to facilitate his escape. They confronted the suspects on a cramped stairway and fought with the suspects in order to arrest them. All three demonstrated determination, courage, calm and fortitude while pursuing armed felons without any injuries to bystanders or officers. The actions of these officers removed dangerous armed robbers from the street. These arrests resulted in the closing of several armed robbery cases.

Officer Yeliz Kadiev, Master Patrol Officer Donald Greulich, and Officer Hamel Morris continued to pursue these armed felons into close quarters knowing that at least one of the suspects was willing to use a firearm to facilitate his escape. They confronted the suspects on a cramped stairway and fought with the suspects in order to arrest them. All three demonstrated determination, courage, calm and fortitude while pursuing armed felons. They never quit. The U.S. Park Police awarded Officer Yeliz Kadiev, Master Patrol Officer Donald Greulich, and Officer Hamel Morris the U.S. Park Police Award of Merit for their actions during this incident at an awards ceremony on May 29, 2014 at U.S. Park Police Anacostia Operations facility. Unfortunately, some of the officers were unable to attend the ceremony. Other responding officers received U.S. Park Police Chief’s Certificates for their actions during this incident.

For the capture of four armed felons the following officers received:
On February 20, 2014, U. S. Park Police personnel at Great Falls Virginia were advised that Fairfax County Police 911 call center was on the line with a possible emotionally disturbed person who was threatening suicide at Great Falls, Virginia. The Fairfax County, Virginia dispatcher indicated the individual was located on a cliff near the Gorge. Horse Mounted Patrol Officers Christine Traynor and Officer Mark Asmussen responded. The Fairfax County Police sent units as well, they were: Sergeant Paul Marinero; Privates First Class Brian Moffit, Kevin Rusin, KiHoon Koh, and Brian Pak. U. S. Park Police Officer Traynor and Officer Asmussen found the subject’s unoccupied vehicle in the lower parking lot. Traynor and Asmussen searched the River Trail along with Fairfax County Officers Marinero, Moffit, Rusin, and Koh. The officers divided into two teams that searched different areas of the River Trail. They found the individual north of the “Double-A Gorge” (AA Gorge) sitting on the edge of a cliff, about 40 feet above the Potomac River. The Potomac River water level was extremely high and flowing rapidly. Anyone entering the river would likely drown due to the strong currents created by the high volume of water. Officer Traynor, a trained Crisis Negotiator, approached the subject who was speaking by cell phone with the 911 dispatcher. Officer Asmussen, along with Sgt. Marinero and PFC’s Moffit, Rusin, Koh, and Pak positioned themselves around the area. Officer Traynor engaged the subject in conversation. Lieutenant Jerry Marshall responded to the AA Gorge and took command of the incident. Officer Traynor was told by the individual that she was done and wanted to jump off the rocks. The individual handed Officer Traynor a folding knife she had in her pocket, but kept a box cutter in her hand. Officer Traynor continued to engage in conversation with the subject using her negotiation skills. District One Sergeant Nancy Leggieri, also a trained Crisis Negotiator, responded to the scene to assist. Lt. Marshall positioned Sgt. Leggieri away from the emotionally disturbed person while Officer Traynor continued to engage the subject in conversation. The individual remained seated on the edge of a cliff. Any attempt by officers to grab or attempt some type of rescue so close to the cliff would most likely fail and endanger officers’ lives. Furthermore, due to the subject sitting on the edge of the cliff any restraining technique would likely result in the subject or officers falling into the Potomac River.

At one point, the subject began using the box cutter to lacerate her arms, causing them to bleed profusely. Based on her actions, Lt. Marshall directed Sgt. Leggieri to approach the subject to assist Officer Traynor. Shortly after that, the subject threw the box cutter into the river. The subject stood up and walked away from the edge of the cliff and up on a large rock. This posed a serious challenge for officers to quickly close the distance on the subject. Officers were able to subdue the subject before she could get back to the edge of the cliff. Officer Traynor stayed with the subject, for several hours, to keep her calm as she was transported to a hospital.

The skills of Officer Traynor and Sergeant Leggieri got the individual to move from the edge of the cliff. The actions of all involved during this incident, saved the life of a person suffering a crisis, whose family would have been devastated by her loss of life. The teamwork and professionalism displayed by the U.S. Park Police and the Fairfax County Police was extraordinary and served as a great example of the continued partnership between the two law enforcement agencies.

In recognition and appreciation of the groups swift response, professionalism, and teamwork the responding officers were awarded the United States Park Police Lifesaving Award. They received the award on May 29, 2014 at a ceremony at the United States Park Police, Anacostia Operations Facility.

The following individuals were awarded U. S. Park Police Lifesaving Awards:

**U. S. Park Police**
Lt. Jerry Marshall, Sgt. Nancy Leggieri, Officer Kristine Traynor, Officer Mark Asmussen

**Fairfax County Police Department**
Sgt. Paul Marinero, Private 1st Class Brian Moffit, Private 1st Class Kevin Rusin
Private 1st Class Ki Hoon Koh, Private 1st Class Brian Pak
On June 20, 2013 at about 2:58 pm, District 5 units were sent to Fort Washington Park near the area of the lighthouse for a report of a woman screaming and a man in Potomac River. Officer Mark Mason, Officer Nate Talley, and Officer Martin Gibson who were riding together responded. As units were responding, they received updates from NPS Ranger Arthur Thomas who was at the scene of the incident. U. S. Park Police Communications notified Prince Georges County Police and U. S. Park Police helicopter crew of “Eagle 2”. At this time, Ranger Thomas advised that he was entering the river, because the man appeared was drowning.

Eagle 2 launched and arrived within 4 minutes. Officer Mason, followed by Officers Talley and Gibson, were the next to arrive. The officers sprinted about 200 yards from their vehicle to the water. They saw three subjects in the water holding onto a large log about ten yards off shore. Ranger Thomas and a citizen named Solomon Teneyek were holding the victim’s head above water. Eagle 2 piloted by Officer Jonathan Lindley hovered over the log while Rescue Technician Sergeant David Hurley lowered the rescue basket. The situation became more complicated because the victim was too large to fit in the rescue basket. Officer Mason secured his gear, tied a line to the shore and then entered the water with a flotation ring. He swam out to help retrieve the victim. Eagle 2 landed nearby, Sgt. Hurley exited the aircraft and responded to the water’s edge. Sgt. Hurley, Officer Talley, and Officer Gibson using the line that had been secured to the shore pulled the victim, Officer Mason, Ranger Thomas, and Mr. Teneyek back to the shore. Ranger Thomas had been with the victim for about 18 minutes. Mr. Teneyek was with the victim even longer.

Mr. Teneyek, a 17 year old high school senior, had been fishing near the lighthouse. He saw the victim in distress in the water about 100 feet from shore. The current was taking the victim past his location and out of the cove toward the open river. Mr. Teneyek entered the river and swam out to the victim and began to tow the victim towards shore. The victim outweighed Mr. Teneyek by a great deal. Mr. Teneyek was able to get to a floating log 10 yards off shore where Ranger Thomas assisted him in keeping the victim’s face out of the water until help arrived.

Officers Mason, Talley, Gibson, and Ranger Thomas carried the victim to the Eagle after getting him to shore. The victim was flown to a local hospital. The actions all those that responded to this incident at Fort Washington Park demonstrated the highest levels of professionalism, teamwork, and courage. These individuals that entered the Potomac River made a clear decision to risk their safety to save a person in distress. They all worked together in order to bring everyone out safely.

The efforts of Mr. Solomon Teneyek demonstrate the highest levels of courage and selflessness. Mr. Teneyek did something that many people would never choose to do. For his willingness to risk his safety for a person in distress Mr. Solomon Teneyek was awarded a U. S. Park Police Chief’s Certificate.

The actions of Officer Mark Mason and Ranger Arthur Thomas demonstrated the highest levels of professionalism and courage in the face of danger. These individuals made a clear decision to enter the water and risked their safety to save a person in distress. For their brave actions Ranger Arthur Thomas and Officer Mark Mason were awarded the United States Park Police Award of Merit. Officers Hurley, Lindley, Gibson and Tally were awarded the U. S. Park Police Lifesaving award for their actions during this incident.

On May 29, 2014 at the U. S. Park Police Anacostia Operations Facility the following individuals received their awards, U. S. Park Police Chief’s Certificate of Appreciation Mr. Solomon Teneyek U. S. Park Police Award of Merit Officer Mark Mason and Ranger Arthur Thomas, U. S. Park Police Lifesaving Award Sgt. David Hurley, Ofc. Jonathan Lindley, Ofc. Martin Gibson, and Ofc. Nate Talley.
USPP Aviation Saves Lives Hoisting People Out of Trouble How Much Longer Will they Be Able To Do It Effectively?

On May 29, 2014, the United States Park Police presented awards to members of the U. S. Park Police Aviation Unit for two hoist operations that saved people’s lives. They saved these people in aging helicopters, that should be retired by rules established by the Department of Interior for aircraft used for emergency service operations.

The U.S. Park Police is an integral part of law enforcement and public safety in the Washington D.C. region. However, the Aviation Unit’s future is uncertain. Faced with aging equipment and a lack of solid funding, the unit will need to acquire new helicopters very soon. All 3 of the unit’s aircraft are at or near the DOI guidelines for replacement.

One of the aircraft was purchased in 1990 is 23 years old. This machine has gone well beyond its intended use as a multi-purpose, law enforcement, rescue and medevac helicopter. Park Police missions frequently require these aircraft to be flown to their limits. Due to their age, the maintenance costs are increasing and very soon the cost of maintenance will over time cost more than purchasing a new aircraft. Getting the roughly 18 million dollars to buy a new aircraft to ensure the area’s public safety is challenging. The National Park Service and the Department of Interior will have to look very closely at priorities in order to secure the funding.

The National Park Service has suggested that the Park Police replace its 23 year old aircraft with a Bell 407 helicopter. The Bell 407 costs 50% less than a Bell 412. Not surprisingly, the 407 is about half as capable as the 412. The Park Service also didn’t consider the serious safety issues caused when a unit flies three different aircraft. This would be a nightmare for pilot training.

The Bell 407 has a single engine and is far less powerful than the current Bell 412. Having two engines gives the Bell 412 an added margin of safety while flying over densely populated Washington, DC. The safety of hoist operations will be drastically degraded if the National Park Service is allowed to replace the Park Police’s fleet with the Bell 407. The effect will be that people will not be able to be lifted off of rooftops or out of Great Falls with the same margin of safety, or they may have to stay where they lay. Incidents with mass causalities will take longer to evacuate; you can’t load as many patients on a 407.

Twenty-three years ago Park Police helicopter pilots with thousands of hours of experience picked the Bell 412, because in their collective judgment it was ideally suited for the operational environment. The operational performance of the Bell 412 over the last 23 years has confirmed their wisdom.

Now National Park Service accountants, who opposed the purchase of the Bell 412 23 years ago, have decided that they know better. The National Park Service must really want to degrade the operational capabilities of the U. S. Park Police. Otherwise, why isn’t the Park Police adequately staffed and equipped for their mission? We must be prepared for the next incident. The bottom line is that if the ability to save lives by hoisting people out of rivers and off rooftops during critical incidents (Navy Yard Active Shooter) is important in the Nation’s Capital, than the U. S. Park Police need to replace their helicopters with ones that have the capabilities needed to perform those operations safely and effectively.

The following are two examples of missions flown by the United States Park Police Aviation Unit that saved lives:

Example #1
On December 28, 2013, United States Park Police Aviation responded to the area of Carderock on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. A man had fallen 20 to 30 feet from a rock face. Upon arrival the crew found Montgomery County, MD Fire/Rescue personnel attending to a subject in a confined area at the base of the rock. Sergeant Timothy Ryan established communications with ground units and was advised the subject had sustained a critical head trauma. Due to the subject’s condition rescue personnel requested a hoist rescue because of the difficulty and time required to evacuate the subject by ground.

Lieutenant Simeon Klebaner and Sergeant Ryan prepared the aircraft for the hoist operation as Officer Jonathan Lindley piloted the aircraft into position. The location of the patient required Officer Lindley to hover above large trees at the top of the cliff. The injured person had to be hoisted 120 feet. Lieutenant Klebaner lowered the hoist cable to the rescuers as Sergeant Ryan maintained communications with the ground units. The crew was required to hoist the subject precisely threading the hoist cable through the trees and avoiding the jagged rock face. Once aboard the aircraft, Lieutenant Klebaner and Sergeant Ryan provided medical care until the patient was delivered to Suburban Hospital.

Example #2
On June 13, 2012, Eagle 1 was requested for a Search and Rescue Mission in the Shenandoah National Park. A climber had been injured in a fall near the summit of Old Rag Mountain. The victim was located at the 4000 foot level on a rocky outcropping.

The victim was located in a rocky area surrounded by old growth trees. This presented a difficult hoist challenge. The crew quickly readied the aircraft and began hoist operations. Sergeant Jeffrey Hertel was required to hover the aircraft over the heavily forested area directly above the victim as Sergeants David Hurley and Eric Haapapuro maneuvered the rescue basket into position. Using outstanding teamwork and coordination, the crew successfully hoisted the injured victim to the aircraft.

Hoist operations require the highest levels of crew proficiency and aircraft reliability. They require an aircraft that has the power and crew space to safely perform the mission.

The United States Park Police Fraternal Order of Police requests assistance in the effort to replace the Aviation Unit’s aging aircraft with fully capable replacements. If you want to help please send us a message on our Facebook page: facebook.com/1791fop.
Officer Hakim Farthing Awards

On August 10, 2002, Officer Hakim Farthing was struck and killed by a drunk driver while directing traffic at the scene of an accident on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. Officer Farthing had completed closing the New York Avenue exit ramp from the Parkway when a drunk driver drove through the road block and struck him. Officer Farthing was killed instantly. The suspect was charged with DUI and involuntary manslaughter. Since that year, the U. S. Park Police have annually awarded officers for traffic enforcement efforts (DWI, DUI and Traffic Cases) to honor the memory of Officer Hakim Farthing.

2012 Officer Hakim Farthing Award
Officer Bruce Martin

Honorable Mention
Officer Benjamin Tomasiello
Officer Gerald Ferreyra
Officer Ronald Pisano

2013 Officer Hakim Farthing Award
Officer Matthew Manning

Honorable Mention
Officer Bruce Martin
Officer Alan Szulwach
Master Patrol Officer April Ramos
DC Area USPP Officers Saving Lives
Earn Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Awards

(L to R): U. S. Park Police Officer Enrique Wong, Officer Bruce Martin, Officer Meghan Farrell and Officer Benjamin Tomasiello were awarded plaques by MADD in appreciation of their performance enforcing DWI laws. Deputy Chief Pat Smith (Far Right) attended the ceremony. Other Officers recognized by MADD, but unable to attend the ceremony were: Officer Gregory Harper, Officer Marfak Campbell, Sgt. Jonathan Daniels, and Sgt. Franz Ferstl. The Ceremony was held on May 2, 2014.

USPP SFFO Officer Gets MADD Award (SIX TIMES!)

On Tuesday, April 8th, United States Park Police, Master Patrol Officer April Ramos from the San Francisco Field Office was recognized by the California Office of Traffic Safety and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for her outstanding efforts to enforce DWI/DUI laws in 2013. Officer Ramos trains other officers and NPS rangers to acquire the certifications needed to enforce these laws. Officer Ramos partners with neighboring jurisdictions regarding DUI training and checkpoint operations. Her outstanding Spanish language skills are frequently called on during criminal investigations.

**This is the sixth time that Officer Ramos has been recognized by MADD.** (USPP PIO Office)

Founded by a mother whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver, Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD) is the nation’s largest nonprofit working to protect families from drunk driving and underage drinking. With the help of those who want a safer future, MADD’s Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving® will end this danger on America’s roads. PowerTalk 21® is the national day for parents to talk with their kids about alcohol, using the proven strategies of Power of Parents™ to reduce the risk of underage drinking. And as one of the largest victim services organizations in the U.S., MADD also supports drunk driving victims and survivors at no charge, serving one person every 8.6 minutes at 1-877-MADD-HELP. Learn more at www.madd.org or call 1-877-ASK-MADD.
DC Metropolitan Police Medal of Merit Awarded To USPP Officer Cooney (Navy Yard)

Officer Matthew Cooney was awarded the DC Metropolitan Police Award of Merit during a U. S. Park Police award ceremony held on May 29, 2014. Officer Cooney was awarded this medal for actions his bravey and actions that saved a woman’s life during the Navy Yard shooting spree on, September 16, 2013.

On that day, Officer Cooney and his team entered Building 197 in the Washington, DC Navy Yard and began searching for the subject. Officer Cooney was one of the initial officers to form a team with officer of the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police. Officer Cooney’s team encountered civilians, who were cleared and escorted out of the building. At some point, Officer Cooney joined up with a SWAT Team that was clearing a stairwell. They arrived on the roof and encountered three civilians who were with a U. S. Navy Officer. Captain Chip Zawislak was applying direct pressure to a severe gunshot wound on Jennifer Bennett. Makonnen Eyob and Michael Jackson were helping Captain Zawislak with Ms. Bennett. The roof was cleared and the SWAT team went back inside to keep searching for the gunman. Officer Cooney stayed on the roof, by himself, with Capt. Zawislak and the civilians. He supplied Captain Zawislak with medical supplies from his active shooter kit and called in the U. S. Park Police helicopter. Captain Zawislak kept up the direct pressure on Ms. Bennett. Officer Cooney provided cover for the group until the U. S. Park Police Aviation Unit had completed hoisting them off the roof, one at a time. During the hoisting of the civilians USPP SWAT officers were lowered to the roof. When the last civilian was hoisted off the roof Ofc. Cooney, joined the SWAT officers and re-entered the building to continue the search for the gunman. Officer Cooney’s actions saved the life of Ms. Bennett.

(L to R): Makonnen Eyob (Navy Yard Employee), Captain Chip Zawislak (U. S. Navy), Michael Jackson (Navy Yard Employee), Officer Matthew Cooney and Acting Chief Robert MacLean. Mr. Eyob, Capt. Zawislak, Mr. Jackson, and Ms. Bennett were on the roof of Building 197 when the were found by Officer Cooney. Ms. Bennett was severely wounded. They were rescued from the roof by the United States Park Police Aviation Unit while Officer Cooney protected them from further harm.

HEROES
Live Forever
USPP D-3 Officers and Visitors
Save A Life

On January 12, 2014 Officer Anthony Glaze was advised of a subject who had collapsed just south of the District 3 Station. Officer Glaze responded immediately. Upon arrival, Officer Glaze saw two citizens administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to the victim in the roadway. The citizens identified themselves as Doctor Annelee Boyle and Doctor Peter Ryg. The victim was unresponsive and had no pulse. Officer Glaze requested an ambulance and assistance from other officers.

Officer Michael Shalton rushed an automated external defibrillator (AED) to the scene. Officer Glaze kept the victim's head and neck stabilized to keep the airway open.

While the area was being cleared and secured, Officer Christopher Giblin checked the victim's pulse and assisted Officer Shalton in getting the AED pads applied. Dr. Boyle administered an AED shock to the victim.

A short time later the victim began to move and regain consciousness. The victim's breathing became more normal. The victim was extremely confused, disoriented, and became combative. Officers Shalton, Glaze, and Giblin kept the victim calm and minimized his movements until DC Fire arrived on scene. DC Fire transported the victim to a local hospital for treatment. All of the people who responded to this incident did so with speed, skill, and teamwork which saved the victim's life.

On May 29, 2014 at an awards ceremony at the United States Park Police Anacostia Operations Facility Doctor Annelee Boyle, Doctor Peter Ryg, Officer Anthony Glaze, Officer Mike Shalton and Officer Christopher Giblin were awarded United States Park Police Lifesaving Award for their swift response and professionalism that saved a life.

USPP Officer Saves Life on Baltimore Washington Parkway

On November 27, 2013 at about 7:36 am, Officer Alfred Belton responded to the southbound lanes of the Baltimore Washington Memorial Parkway, north of Route 197 for a report of a subject lying on the shoulder.

Upon arrival, Officer Belton saw a man lying on the shoulder who appeared to be lifeless. A woman approached Officer Belton and told him that her husband was not breathing. Without hesitation, Officer Belton checked the man's vital signs and determined that he wasn't breathing and had no pulse.

Officer Belton advised USPP Communications that he was beginning CPR. Shortly, Emergency Medical Personnel arrived on scene. Officer Belton had already completed two cycles of CPR and continued a third cycle as medical personnel began to take over care of the man. The subject soon began breathing on his own.

The man was transported to Prince George's Hospital for further treatment and was released in good health.

Officer Alfred Belton responded to a call for help, assessed the situation correctly, made proper notifications, and took decisive action to provide critical care in a medical emergency. His calm, professional response in a tense emergency situation helped to save the man's life.

On May 29, 2014 at an awards ceremony at the United States Park Police Anacostia Operations Facility Officer Alfred Belton was awarded a United States Park Police Lifesaving Award for his swift response and professionalism that saved a life.
Officer William “Bill” Alton Retires

On May 29, 2014, Acting Chief Robert MacLean presented long time District 5 Officer William “Bill” Alton with his Retirement Certificate. Bill, a highly respected patrol officer, could always be depended on in tough situations. The membership of the U. S. Park Police Fraternal Order of Police wishes him well.

Bill’s Ride Charity Poker Run

August 9, 2014

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