



The Fourword

Volume 45 Number 2

February 2018

HE'S BACK

January 2017 marked the return of Terrence B. Sheridan. According to Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, it was so we could go in a new direction. As you can see below, this new direction has been very disruptive.

- **Transfers, transfers, transfers....** We have 34 sworn members of the Police Executive Corps, including the Chief and Director of the Administrative and Technical Services Bureau position. Since his return on January 25, 2017 to February 02, 2018, one year and a week, there have been a total of 37 command staff transfers. Of those 37 transfers, 27 of them have been moved once. Of those 27 transfers, 5 have been moved twice. Of those 5 transfers, 4 of them have been moved 3 times and 1 has been moved 4 times. This is not counting four new assignment transfers, (lieutenants being promoted to captain), and assuming a new position in the Police Executive Corps. If you did include them, it would reflect 41 command changes.
- **Schedule changes....**He has allowed multiple schedule changes of several units with failed explanation of expected results; neither clearance rates nor fiscal responsibility. Members who ask for an explanation are treated as if that were an unreasonable question and reminded they could look for other work assignments.
- **Part time Police Officers....**He endorsed the posting of a job announcement for part-time, no benefit, no representation, police officers to disrupt full time, sworn represented officers in an effort to transfer them to other positions. Creation of such a position was a condition subject to negotiation and failed after it was challenged by the FOP.
- **Secondary Employment ...**In an order dated February 2, 2018; he directed all secondary employment work schedules to be submitted to commanders every month pursuant to Administrative Manual, Article 7-11.2.4. When we inquired, we were told it was all about who was working when and where. But the article stipulates hours and has caused great disruption. When brought to the attention of several high level decision makers, we were told it's not about the hours, yet we have supervisors in the field sitting at their desks with secondary employment schedules and calculators.

If this is all about who is in charge, enough already, we get it. Can you just issue another form #159 and make everyone initial it for your records. He is back and in charge. Buy into the program or pack your boxes.

I know this disruption is taking its toll on the membership. It shows with failing statistics, over expenditures, increasing crime rates, and an inability to stay within a budget. Our agency once took great pride in just the opposite. So much for this new direction! Hang on for ten more months.

Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





MEETING MINUTES January 2018

- The January General Business meeting was held on January 22, 2018 at FOP Lodge #4. President Weston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Chaplain DiCara gave the invocation. President Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

- Brother Sweren was excused, all other board members were in attendance. Legal Advisor Chaz Ball was also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- A motion was made by Brother Hodnicki to accept the minutes of the December General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother King. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

~ PRESIDENT WESTON ~

- December 19– Attended a Holiday Dinner meeting with SBW Law.
- December 21– Met with Baltimore County Councilman Tom Quirk.
- December 27– Met with FOP Lodge #4 Lobbyist, John Stierhoff.
- December 31– Delivered New Year's Eve deli trays to the precincts, communication center,

and central records.

- January 2– Attended the Retired Officers Association meeting.
- January 4– Attended a fundraiser for Delegate Joe Cluster of the Eighth Legislative District.
- January 9– Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
- January 10– Addressed the In-Service Training class.
- January 11– Attended separate meetings with Senate President Mike Miller, Chairman of the Senate Judicial Proceeding Committee Bobby Zirkin, and the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee Joseph Vallario, Jr.
- January 15– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting and attended the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting in Annapolis.
- January 16– Attended the Spending Affordability Committee meeting.
- January 18– Attended the Bi-monthly meeting between Chief Sheridan, his Bureau Chiefs and members of the FOP Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors.
- January 19– Met with the Director of the Office of Human Resources, George Gay concerning contract negotiations.
- January 22– Chaired the FOP Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

RETIREMENTS

**Nancy Storke
Dennis Matteo**

LODGE 4 OFFICE

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Baltimore, Maryland 21234
Phone (410) 668-0004
FAX (410) 668-8126
Toll Free (888) 313-3501
www.foplodge4.org

ELECTED OFFICERS

Cole B. Weston
President
(443) 956-2679

Steven G. Comegna
1st Vice President
F.O.P. Lodge 4
(410) 409-0293

David M. Rose
2nd Vice President
F.O.P. Lodge 4
(443) 956-2643

Donna M. Patterson
Lodge Secretary
PC-12
(410) 365-8481

Robert W. Caskey
Treasurer
CIB-Robbery
(443) 956-2615

W. Don Patterson
State Trustee
Retired

Ryan Massey
Sergeant at Arms
CIB - Homicide

Anthony DiCara
Chaplain
PC-8

L. Timothy Caslin
Past President
Retired

EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS

Kenneth F. Schubert
Chairman
Retired
(410) 404-2788

Mike DiCara
Vice Chairman
PC-4

Thomas G. Scally
Retired

Kathy Kraemer
PC-6

David Sweren
PC-12

Chris Hodnicki
CIB-GET

James P. Rommel, Jr.
PC-3

Ryan Franks
CIB-Property

Robert Graff
PC-6

Patrick Zito
Retired

LODGE STAFF

Nancy Skinner—Administrative Assistant

LEGAL ADVISORS

Schlachman, Belsky & Weiner, P.A.
Phone (410) 685-2022
IAS Cases Michael Davey

The Fourword is the official monthly publication of Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 4.

Fourword Editors

Donna Patterson
Don Patterson

The Fourword

~ 1st V. P. COMEGNA ~

- December 19– Visited Precinct #8, Parkville and met with members of our general counsel, SBW.
- December 21– Attended the monthly meeting of the Police Assistance and Relief (P.A.R. Fund).
- January 2– Attended the regular meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- January 3-4– Attended In-Service Training.
- January 5– Took part in a conference call with the Negotiations Committee.
- January 9– Formatted and submitted our 2018 Annual Campaign Finance Report.
- January 10– Attended an event for Baltimore County Councilwoman Vicki Almond.
- January 11– Attended the January meeting of the P.A.R. Fund.
- January 15– Attended the FOP Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 16– Attended the Bi-monthly meeting of the FOP's Peer to Peer Support Group.
- January 22– Attended the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting in Annapolis and the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

~2nd V. P. ROSE~

- December 31– Delivered New Year's Eve deli trays to the precincts.
- January 4– Attended a fundraiser for Delegate Adrienne Jones.
- January 5– Participated in a conference call with the Negotiations Committee.
- January 9– Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting.

- January 10– Assisted a member with a performance appraisal appeal.
- January 15– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting and the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting in Annapolis.
- January 18– Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting with Chief Sheridan.
- January 20– Attended an event hosted by Councilwoman Vicki Almond and Cathy Bevins.
- January 22– Attended the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting in Annapolis and the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

~SECRETARY PATTERSON~

- December 31– Delivered New Year's Eve deli trays to the Precincts.
- January 2– Attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- January 15– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 18– Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting with Chief Sheridan.
- January 22– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

~TREASURER CASKEY~

- Treasurer Caskey presented the Treasurer's report to the membership at the General Membership meeting on January 22, 2018.

~TRUSTEE PATTERSON~

- December 31– Delivered New Year's Eve deli trays to the Precincts.
- January 2– Attended the meeting of the Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers.
- January 15– Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 18– Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting with Chief Sheridan.
- December 13– Attended the Lodge #4 General Membership meeting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT ~ Ken Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors meeting was held on December 18, 2017. Brother Sweren and Brother Hodnicki were excused, all board members and Legal Advisor, Chaz Ball were in attendance.
- Motions that were made, after receiving a proper second, were discussed, voted upon and appear in this issue under the appropriate committee reports.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

BULL ROAST COMMITTEE ~Donna Patterson~

- The 47th Annual Bull and Oyster Roast and Shrimp Feast will be held Sunday, March 25, 2018. The event is sold out.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- On December 5, 2017, Judge Souder issued an order vacating the order to confirm the arbitration award in the Section 6.1c grievance. Judge Souder directed the Clerk's office to send the FOP a summons, which we received and served the County. In other words, the Judge is granting the County's motion solely to avoid any procedural issue with the fact that her first order was entered without service. Following service, on December 15, 2017, the County had 30 days to respond to the Circuit Court. However, Baltimore County has since filed an appeal to the Maryland Court of Special Appeals. This makes no sense because the County was granted its original motion by the Circuit Court and the motion to confirm the arbitration award was vacated. The case is therefore still pending in Circuit Court and is still active. We have filed a motion to dismiss the appeal.
- On March 9, 2016, we filed a notice of intent to arbitrate as per Article 8, Section 8.3, step #4 paragraph (b) of the MOU in our Healthcare Subsidy Grievance. The County has notified us that they will participate in the arbitration. However, they do not mutually agree to the selected arbitrator. We have since agreed on an arbitrator from AAA. There is no scheduled hearing date.

LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- The Pfc. Bordner hearing board scheduled for January 29-31, 2018 has been postponed. Bordner's attorney, Clarke Ahlers has filed a show cause petition in Baltimore County Circuit Court asking the Court to review several legal issues he has with the investigation and findings at IAS. No date has been scheduled.
- The hearing board for Pfc. Estes has been scheduled for April 30, 2018.
- Mike Marshall and his staff are working on the Marvin Haw pension appeal to the Board of Appeals. No date has been scheduled.
- The Ericka Barnes appeal of her spousal pension benefits was originally scheduled at the County Board of Appeals on January 30, 2018. The new date is set for February 14, 2018.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

~Cole Weston~

- The Legislative session has begun in Annapolis. The State FOP Legislative Committee meets every Monday and is keeping up on all bills submitted. At this time no bills have been submitted to attack the LEOBR.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

~Tom Scally~

- A motion was made to accept Alan Webster Jr. as an associate member. He was sponsored by Sgt-at-Arms Ryan Massey. Motion passed.

BIRTHS

**Raegan Joy Meadowcroft,
Daughter of Brother Bob
Meadowcroft**

**Caroline Patricia Sager,
Daughter of Brother
Daniel Sager**

**Aeson Shaw, Son of
Brother Jalen Shaw**

**Rowan Michael Kent,
Son of Brother Tim Kent**

**Caroline Jean Melnyk,
Daughter of Brother
Andrew Melnyk**

**Nora Elizabeth Barber,
Daughter of Brother Greg
Barber**

**Grace Raelynn Deems, Daugh-
ter of Brother Josh Deems**

**Easton Michael Lynch, Son of
Brother Michael Lynch**

NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE

~Cole Weston~

- The Negotiations Committee has met several times and they have exchanged proposals with the County. Impasse is February 1, 2018.

PENSION COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- At the January 9, 2018 Pension Board of Trustees meeting the Board approved thirty-four (34) total retirements. Seven (7) of those were from the police department.

The Association of Retired Baltimore County Police Officers has moved it's March and May 2018 meetings to American Legion Post #130, located at 8666 Silver Lake Drive, Perry Hall, MD 21128.

BLOOD DRIVE

Lodge #4 is interested in hosting a blood drive...
Blood is the essence of life and to give selflessly can make you feel more connected to your community and to the world around you. It's a fulfilling, powerful and enriching experience to know that your donation could save lives. Unfortunately, fewer than 5% of people who are eligible to donate actually do. Imagine the lives that could be touched by your gift. It's a quick, simple and amazing way to give back to the community.

Please let us know if you would be interested in donating blood at the lodge by e-mailing us at office@foplodge4.org. If we get enough donors, we will hold the blood drive sometime in the Spring.

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- The Committee reviewed five (5) new/revised policies this month. There were no bargaining issues identified.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

~Steve Comegna~

- Our 2018 Annual Campaign Finance Report was submitted on January 9, 2018. Our next report is due on May 22, 2018.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

~Tim Caslin~

- The cutoff for accepting scholarship applications was February 1, 2018. The committee is looking at the applications and will interview candidates and present the scholarship winners to the membership.



GOOD OF THE ORDER

- During the month of January FOP Lodge #4 sent three (3) cards and flowers to bereaving members. Four (4) thank you cards were received. Three (3) fruit baskets were sent to members recovering from surgery or illness. Two (2) donations were made in lieu of flowers.
- Brother Rob Graff made a motion to spend up to \$300.00 to provide lunch for the day at Prologue Inc. Mental Health Service. This is part of training where officers in the class spend the day in a question and answer session with the clients of Prologue. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- There was a motion made in October to make an amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws to bring it in line with a change that was made to the National Constitution and Bylaws. The Amendment was read at the General Membership meeting in November and December and was posted in the December newsletter. The change was voted on in January and passed by more than the two thirds needed.

BEREAVEMENTS

Janet Nelson, Mother of
Brother Scott Nelson

Timothy Turner Anderson
Sodd, Father of Brother Steven
Sodd and Father-in-Law of
Sister Stephanie Ruffino Sodd

Callie Mai Covington, Mother
of Retired Brother Elrod
Covington

Doris F. Mickle, Grandmother
of Brother Jeff Mickle

Betty Gardett, Mother-in-Law
of Brother Mike Parker

Barbara Abdis, Mother of
Brother Michael Abdis

ARE YOUR BENEFICIARIES UP TO DATE ?

Please ensure that your beneficiary designees are current. Take a moment to verify that your loved ones are provided for in the manner you intend. The following offices can assist you.

Pension	Retirement Office
Life Insurance	County Insurance
PBA	Police Personnel
Deferred Comp.	Richard Dinardi
Baltimore County	Employee Federal Credit Union

410-887-8246 or 1-877-222-3741
410-887-2568 or 1-800-274-4302
410-887-2208
1-877-677-3678
410-828-4730

The March

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
March 26, 2018
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road

The April

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
April 23, 2018
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road