



The Fourword

Volume 49 Number 2

February 2021

Reminder for Retirees at Tax Time

The *Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety (HELPS) Retirees Act* allows a deduction of up to \$3,000 annually for health care and long term care insurance premiums. The federal law went into effect Jan. 1, 2007. The deduction is for the federal income tax return only. More information can be obtained from the Lodge 4 website in the Contracts & Legislation section. Also, IRS publications have information on the topic that refer to pensions of retired public safety officers.

Beginning January 1, 2016, "law enforcement officers" can claim an income tax subtraction modification for the first \$5,000 of income earned if:

- (1) The law enforcement officer resides and works in the same political subdivision; and
- (2) The crime rate in the political subdivision exceeds the State's crime rate.

A "law enforcement officer" is an individual who is authorized in his or her official capacity to make arrests and is a member of a law enforcement agency, including officers serving under a probationary status or at the pleasure of the appointing authority of a county or municipal corporation. Federal law enforcement officers do not qualify for the subtraction modification.

A list of the political subdivisions that have crime rates exceeding the State's crime rate is provided to the Comptroller's Office by the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission.

If you are a Baltimore County Police Officer and you live in Baltimore County, you qualify for this tax credit.

A law enforcement officer may claim the subtraction, if applicable, by reporting it on Form 502 and Form 502SU.

FOP LODGE #4 HAS AN APP

We have partnered with the Grand Lodge to use their easy to use system.

To find us, simply download the National FOP APP and search for Baltimore County Lodge #4.

We will be using this App to instantly send out information to the membership. This is yet another way to improve communication.



Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





MEETING MINUTES January 2021

- The January General Business meeting was canceled due to the increase in COVID-19 cases state wide and the Governor's guidelines for gatherings.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

- The General Membership meeting was canceled.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- The minutes of the November General Membership meeting will be approved at the February General Membership meeting.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

~ PRESIDENT ROSE ~

- January 4— Met with a member to discuss retirement options, met with Colonel Hlavach about the promotion draft, discussed promotions with Chief Hyatt and attended the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting.
- January 5— Spoke with Chief Hyatt about candidates skipped for promotion, spoke with the President of the Greater Timonium Community Council, received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and participated in the Chief's COVID-19 conference call.
- January 6— Participated in a Health Care Review Committee

meeting with the County Administration.

- January 7— Chaired a Negotiations Committee meeting with the County Administration.
- January 11— Met with a member to discuss retirement options and attended the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting.
- January 12— Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting and met with two members to discuss retirement options.
- January 13— Discussed the DOJ settlement, promotions and the current situation with the Police Assistants who were let go, discussed legislation with Senator West and discussed the upcoming General Assembly Session and current legislation with our lobbyist, John Stierhoff.
- January 14— Met with Captain Lilly, met with Chief Hyatt and Drew Vetter to discuss current events and discussed a current suspension with the member's chain of command.
- January 15— Discussed several upcoming events and the suspension of a member with Chief Hyatt and met with Kathleen Cahill to discuss a medical release for a member.
- January 18— Attended the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting.
- January 19— Attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 21— Chaired a Negotiations Committee meeting, testified in favor of SB237 for the State FOP legislative Committee and attended a Legal Advisory Committee meeting.
- January 22— Participated in a conference call with our lobbyist and members representing School Resource Officers on SB245 and spoke with Chief Hyatt about an IAS issue.

LODGE 4 OFFICE

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ELECTED OFFICERS

David M. Rose
President
(443) 956-2643

Ryan Massey
1st Vice President

Mike DiCara
2nd Vice President
PC-4

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

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

W. Don Patterson
State Trustee
Retired

Kathy Kraemer
Sergeant at Arms
Retired

Anthony DiCara
Chaplain
Training

Cole B. Weston
Past President
Retired

EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS

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

Ryan Franks
Vice Chairman
PC-1

Thomas G. Scally
Retired
David Sweren
CIB
Joe Peach
PC-8
Robert Graff
PC-6

Carroll Bollinger
Retired
Chris Hodnicki
CIB-GET
Matt Krauch
CIB-VCU
Steve Comegna
PC-3

LODGE STAFF

Nancy Skinner—Administrative Assistant

LEGAL ADVISORS

Schlachman, Belsky, Weiner and Davey, 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 Editor
Don Patterson

The Fourword

- January 25– Attended the State FOP legislative Committee meeting.
- January 26- Chaired a Negotiations Committee meeting with the County Administration and participated in the Chief's COVID-19 conference call.
- January 27- Met with the Legal Director and Colonel Hlavach about the Disciplinary Matrix, met with a member about Deferred Compensation and participated in a Health Care Review Committee meeting.
- January 28- Attended an Executive Board of Directors meeting in reference to the LEOBR and attended the Precinct #8 afternoon roll call.
- January 29- Spoke with Chief Hyatt in reference to proposed legislation in Annapolis, met with a member to discuss retirement options and met with the three area Majors and the CIB Major.
- January 31- Worked on proposed legislation in Annapolis.
- January 18- Attended the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting.
- January 19- Conducted LRIS Grievance Training for members and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 20- Conducted LRIS Grievance Training for members.
- January 21- Attended a Negotiations Committee meeting and chaired a Legal Advisory Committee meeting with members who wanted to meet with Chief Hyatt about being skipped for promotion.
- January 25- Attended the State FOP Legislative Committee meeting.
- January 28- Attended an Executive Board of Directors meeting in reference to the LEOBR.
- January 26- Attended a Negotiations Committee meeting with the County Administration.
- January 27- Attended a meeting of the Health Care Review Committee.
- January 28- Attended an Executive Board of Directors meeting in reference to the LEOBR.
- January 29- Attended a meeting with members of the Police Executive Corp.

SECRETARY PATTERSON

- January 7– Attended a meeting of the Negotiations Committee with the County Administration.
- January 12- Attended a Zoom meeting of the Maryland State FOP Lodge.
- January 19- Attended the LRIS Training and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 20- Attended the LRIS Training.
- January 21- Attended a Negotiations Committee meeting and a Legal Advisory Committee meeting.
- January 26- Attended a Negotiations Committee meeting with the County Administration.
- January 28– Attended an Executive Board of Directors meeting in reference to the LEOBR.

2nd V.P. DICARA

- January 6– Attended a Health Care Review Committee meeting.
- January 7– Attended a Negotiations Committee meeting with the County Administration.
- January 8– Attended a vaccine coordinator meeting to discuss COVID-19 vaccine distribution to our members.
- January 13– Submitted the annual campaign finance report to the State Board of Elections.
- January 19– Attended the LRIS Webinar Training on labor relations and arbitration and the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 20- Attended the LRIS Webinar Training on labor relations and arbitration.
- January 21- Attended meetings of the Negotiations Committee and the Legal Advisory Committee.

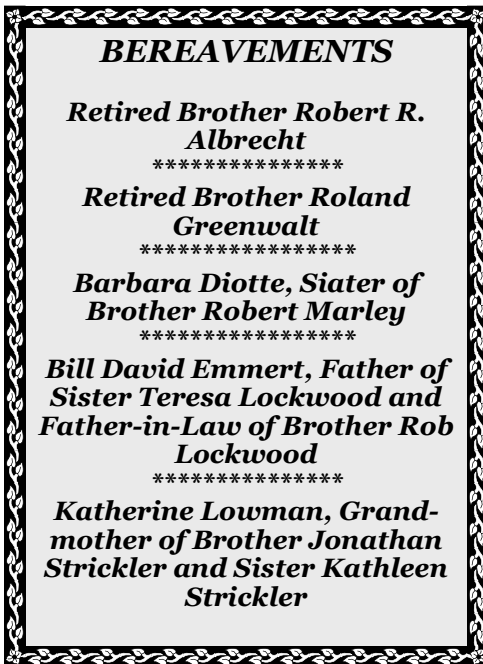
1st V. P. MASSEY~

- December 29– Went to Training Academy with President Rose to sign up 43 new FOP members.
- December 31– Delivered New Year's Eve platters to Precinct #2 and #3.
- January 4– Met with Colonel to discuss the promotional draft and attended the State FOP Legislative meeting.
- January 7– Attended the Negotiations Committee meeting with the County Administration.
- January 11- Attended a meeting with Colonel Hlavach and a member to discuss his current assignment.
- January 14– Attended a meeting with Chief Hyatt and Drew Vetter.

TRUSTEE PATTERSON

- January 12– Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
- January 19– Picked up food for LRIS training and attended the Lodge #4 Executive Board of Directors meeting.
- January 20- Picked up the food for the LRIS training.

- January 28- Attended an Executive Board of Directors meeting in reference to the LEOBR.



**EXECUTIVE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS REPORT**
~ Ken Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors meeting was held January 19, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. Chaplain DiC-ara and Brother Peach were working, all other board members were in attendance as was Legal Advisor Mike Davey.
- 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

**DONATION REVIEW
COMMITTEE**
~Ryan Franks~

- The Committee met and brought forth the following motion to the

Executive Board.

- To make a \$1,000.00 donation to the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge.
- The motion was passed by the Executive Board on January 19, 2021.

**EXPENDITURE REVIEW
COMMITTEE**
~Rob Graff~

- The Committee met on January 15, 2021 and reviewed all documents for July- September 2020. All was in order.

**HEALTHCARE REVIEW
COMMITTEE**
~Mike DiCara~

- The HCRC met with the County Administration on January 6, 2021 to discuss the results of the 2021 open enrollment, as well as plans for future meetings.
- The labor members of the HCRC met with our healthcare consultant on January 27, 2021 to develop our initial proposal for 2022 plan offerings.
- That proposal will be presented to the County in early February..

**LEGAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**
~Ryan Massey~

- On January 21, 2021 the Committee met with members who had been skipped for promotion by Chief Hyatt. The members addressed the Committee. Treasurer Caskey was absent. Legal Advisor Davey and Matthew Clash-Drexler were present to address the Committee and answer questions..

- P.O.F.C. Workenaouer trial board was scheduled for January 26, 2021.
- There are two (2) pending trial boards for 2021, one is scheduled for February 5, 2021 and one is scheduled for March 17, 2021.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
~Dave Rose~

- The State FOP Legislative Committee has met weekly in preparation for the current legislative session. The State Board has retained the services of KO Public Affairs to assist in our communications strategy with the legislators and the citizens.
- The attacks on the LEOBR continue as several bills have been introduced that will greatly change the way policing will be done in the future.
- We have posted the weekly State FOP legislative chart on our website so the membership can look up the FOP's position on numerous bills. We also have a link so you can go to the General Assembly website and look up individual legislation.
- KO Public Affairs has set up a website, keepmarylandsafe.com, so that our members can get up to date information on legislation and click on the "Take Action" button and easily send their opposition to various bills to House and Senate members. We are asking you to contact any elected official and ask them to support law enforcement and oppose the bills that repeal the LEOBR. Please continue to check our social media, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for updates. We are also sending out information on our new App.

NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- The Committee met with the County on January 7 and 26, 2021. We have the list of arbitrators and our attorney has communicated with the County on proceeding with strikes to select an arbitrator. I have also informed the County that we will follow the statute as written. Impasse date is February 1, 2021. We will continue to negotiate in good faith throughout the arbitration process to reach an agreement.

PENSION COMMITTEE

~Don Patterson~

- At the January 12, 2021 Pension Board of Trustees meeting, the trustees approved seventy-five (75) total retirements, forty-four (44) were from the Police Department.

POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- The committee received two (2) new or revised policies. There were no bargaining issues.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

~Mike DiCara~

- The Political Action Committee did not meet this month. Due to fundraising restrictions during the General Assembly session, no contribution requests were received. The annual campaign finance report was submitted to the State Board of Elections prior to the January 20, 2021 deadline.

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- We still need information from the membership that shows our members doing a great job or any videos that show you de-escalating a situation. The public needs to see this. We need to take charge and do a better job of promoting ourselves. We received four pictures of our members helping with wreaths for a veterans cemetery and we received a lot of positive feedback on our platforms.

NEW BUSINESS

- Brother Hodnicki advised the company that is going to redesign the front entrance to the lodge came to the lodge on January 19, 2021 to do some final measurements. He advised it could take several weeks to get the materials to start the project.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- During the month of December, FOP Lodge #4 received one (1) thank you card. One (1) memorial donation was made in lieu of flowers. Three (3) flower arrangements were sent to grieving members.

RETIREMENTS

**Carroll Bollinger
Jennifer Bradley
Wally Clipper
Mark Crump
Gary Doucett
David Garner
Izaac Hester
Jeffrey Jason
Katheryn Kraemer
William Ledley
Kenneth Maguire
Randall McCadden
Gary Morgan
Michael Parker
James Pospisil
Richard Przybylski
Craig Shriver
Kevin Smith
Chris Stephan
Robin Teal
Todd Walker
Jeff Zorn
Robert Cross
Aaron Hoffman
Kevin Green**

**Timothy Bonsell
Edward Cattell
David Crites
Jeff Dellman
William Duty
Allan Harrison
Jessica Hummel
Kevin Klimko
Jon Kreiger
Carl Lindhorst
Bruce Markwordt
Robert McCullough
Rob Overfield
Donna Patterson
James Price
Blanca Ramirez
Alexa Smith
Leroy Stanton
Gregory Suber
Max Waite
Randy Weber
Jody Aberts
Scott Nelson
David Flowers**

The March

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
March 22, 2021
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 26, 2021
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road