



# The Fourword

Volume 52 Number 7

July 2024

## President's Message: We Value Your Service

Dear Members,

On June 4, 2024, I sent a letter to Chief McCullough regarding a new section of the Memorandum of Understanding, Section 6.4(d), which will take effect on July 1, 2024. This new section allows the Chief and the FOP to discuss and agree on special details such as the State Fair, the Maryland Classic Bike Race, and other similar events where our members work, with compensation at time and a half.

Having received no response by the June 25, 2024, Executive Board of Directors meeting with Chief McCullough, this question was first on the agenda. When asked directly, the Chief deferred to Colonel Kelly, whose response was, "I don't see the value in it. I would rather spend the money elsewhere."

I responded to the Chief and his staff, "Our members would see the value in it." This is a thirteen-day event over three weekends, including Labor Day weekend. Our agency is approximately two hundred and sixty sworn members understaffed. Agreeing to this one thing would mean a lot to the men and women of this agency. We returned \$1.8 million to the county administration to cover the over-budget expenses of the Fire Department and Corrections. The cost of paying our members overtime for this event is \$100,000.

As of now, the department is not inclined to compensate our members at time and a half for the State Fair. This is not about affordability. This is about rewarding our members for the extra workload in an understaffed agency.

But what's the value in that?

Fraternally,  
Dave Rose  
President, FOP Lodge 4

Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County



**JUNE 2024  
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**

The regular monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police was held on Monday, June 24, 2024, 4:00 p.m. at Lodge #4. President Rose called the meeting to order. Chaplain Kraemer led the membership in prayer and President Rose led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of officers was conducted, Lodge Secretary Donna Patterson, State Trustee Don Patterson, Brother Joe Brzozowski, Brother Matt Krauch, Brother Dave Sweren, and Past President Folderauer were all excused. All other board members were present as was Legal Advisor, Kieran Dowdy. A motion was made by Sister Knox to accept the minutes from the June meeting. The motion was seconded by Brother Zito.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**President Dave Rose**

- May 30- Spoke with members at in-service; Met with Jim Franzoni from SF&C Insurance and Pat Brown from Capitol Portfolio Management; Met with a member from SOD to discuss a contract provision; Attended a client's meeting with Tom Quirk at Retirement and Investment Group, LLC.
- June 3- Spoke with members of the 171st recruit class and signed up 31 new FOP members; Met with a member to review retirement calculations.
- June 4- Attended a fundraiser for Delegate Ryan Nawrocki.
- June 5- Met with several members to assist with retirement paperwork and assist with DROP calculations.
- June 6- Spoke with members at in-service training
- June 7- Met with Deputy Administrative Officer Young to close out the COVID grievance settlement.
- June 10- Participated in the Par Fund Golf Tournament.
- June 11- Attended the Pension Board of Trustees meeting; Attended the Executive Board of Director's meeting; Testified at the County Council work session on Bill 44-24.
- June 12- Attended a Legislative Committee meeting at Lodge 4 with our lobbyist and social media consultant.
- June 13- Spoke with members at in-service training.
- June 19- Met with County Attorney James Benjamin to discuss the Military grievance.
- June 19-21 Attended the Rights of Police Officers Seminar.
- June 24- Attended the General Membership Meeting.

**First Vice President Mike DiCara**

- June 3- Attended a meeting with Department leadership about Daycare Services.  
Signed up new Officers from the 171st Recruit Class prior to field training.
- June 6- Represented the Lodge at the Graduation of the 170th Recruit Class.
- June 7- Attended a settlement meeting with the County for the COVID grievance.
- June 11- Attended the June meeting of the Executive Board of Directors.
- June 12- Attended the quarterly meeting of the Healthcare Review Committee.  
Attended a meeting of the Legislative Committee.

- June 24- Attended the June General Membership meeting.
- June 25- Attended a meeting between Lodge Leadership and Chief McCullough.
- June 27- Attended the draft for the July 8th supervisor promotion.

**Second Vice President Ryan Massey**

- June 11- Attended Monthly Executive Board of Director's meeting.
- June 12- Chaired Legislative Meeting with Red Ball Consultations and John Stierhoff.
- June 24- Attended Monthly General Membership meeting.
- June 25- Attended meeting with Major Gorman in reference to IA cases.
- June 26- Attended Executive Board of Director's meeting with Chief McCullough.

**Lodge Secretary Donna Patterson**

- No Report

**Treasurer Caskey**

- Reported Lodge #4 finances.

**Executive Board of Directors Chair Steve Comegna**

- The Executive Board of Directors met on June 11, 2024.
- There were three motions brought before the Board during the meeting and all passed.
- The first motion will be under the By-Law committee report.
- The second motion will be under the Donation Review committee report.
- The third motion will be under the PAC committee report.
- A motion was made by Brother King, and seconded Brother List, to approve the Reports of Officers. The motion passed.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**Bylaws - Ryan Franks**

- The Bylaw Committee provided a recommendation to the Executive Board of Directors not to adopt the proposed bylaw amendment relating to the negotiations process.  
Please see page 7 for the Bylaw in its entirety.

**Donation Review - Ryan Franks**

- A donation of \$500 will be made to supply Kona Ice for the annual SOY (Save Our Young) Events to be held on July 13 and July 27, 2024.

**Events - Don Patterson**

- The annual golf tournament will be held on September 6th at Rocky Point with a 9:00 a.m. start. Cost is \$125/person and \$500/foursome. Registration and refreshments begin at 8:00 a.m.

**Expenditure Review - Matt Krauch**

- No Report.

**Finance - Bob Caskey**

- Attended an investment meeting on May 30th.

**Grievance - Mike DiCara**

- Brother Sean Brennan has selected an attorney for his Step 4 promotional grievance. The County has also assigned an attorney, and they have begun the process of selecting an arbitrator. No hearing date has been selected.
- The COVID Grievance settlement is now complete. The final meeting with the County was held on June 7th to finalize the process of reimbursing leave time to the affected members.
- President Rose and Brother Saywack met with the County Attorney on June 19th to discuss the details of settling the Military Pension Credit Grievance.

**Healthcare Review Committee - Mike DiCara**

- The County met with the Healthcare Review Committee on June 12th. The County confirmed that the \$25 million budget increase was approved to fund the cost of consolidating pre- and post-2007 employee healthcare into the Pre-'07 rates, effective 1/1/25.
- Open enrollment for 2025 plan year will be 11/1/24 to 11/30/24. There are no changes to plan design or coverage for active members or pre-65 retirees.
- Medicare has reduced its out-of-pocket maximum from \$8850 in 2024 to only \$2000 in 2025. Medicare retirees should consider this when they pick their 2025 plan this fall and should discuss this with Retiree First during open enrollment.
- Cigna has agreed to sell its Medicare business to "Health Care Service Corporation". They are acquiring Cigna's Medicare Advantage, supplemental benefits, and Medicare Part D plans, not the Cigna Surround plan. This will not affect benefits in 2025. No further details are available at this time since the sale is still going through the regulatory approval process.

**Legal Advisory - Ryan Massey**

- The following Trial Boards are scheduled:
  - PFC Agard - 7/29/24
  - PFC Jackson - 8/13/24
  - PFC S. Jones - 9/17/24
  - PFC Edwards and PFC Wilkes - Pending

**Legislative - Ryan Massey**

- No report

**Membership—Matt Gonzalez**

- Retiree Leslie Broy-Guarino was granted membership after appropriate checks were made by the committee.

**Memorial - Donna Patterson**

- No report.

**Military Affairs - Mahindra Saywack and Dave Rose**

- Report under Grievance committee report.

**Negotiations - Dave Rose**

- Ideas for upcoming negotiations can be sent to President Rose for consideration.

**Pension - Dave Rose**

- The Pension Board of Trustees met on June 11, 2024. A total of 44 retirements were approved and 14 were from the police department.

**Policy Review - Mike DiCara**

The Policy Review Committee received the following projects for consideration:

- Command Review P24-23, Patrol Rifles
- Command Review P24-32, Use of Force Reporting - Expandable Baton.

No bargaining issues were identified in any of these policies.

**Political Action- Mike DiCara**

- Motion to donate \$500 to the campaign of Adam Streight for Cecil County Executive.

**Retiree Matters- Carroll Bollinger**

- For those that are considering retirement; it is best to retire on the last day of the month. Your first day of retirement will be the first day of the new month. This is so you will receive your full benefit.

**Scholarship -Tim Caslin**

- No Report.

**Wellness - Rob Graff**

- The next Peer to Peer meeting is scheduled for August , 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
- A motion was made by Brother Bergin, and seconded Brother Bollinger to approve the Reports of Committees. The motion passed unanimously.

**Report from Legal Counsel-Keiran Dowdy**

- The MOU is forthcoming.

**Old Business**

- When retiring, hand carry your retirement paperwork to the pension office. You will receive a receipt that the pension office has your paperwork.  
\*\*\*DO NOT email your paperwork.\*\*\*

**New Business**

- None

**Good of the Order**

As reported in last month's Fourword, Juanita Bouthner passed away at the age of 87. Mrs. Juanita Bouthner joined the Lodge as an Administrative Assistant in 2000 and worked for the lodge for 15 years. She had many responsibilities during her tenure. She was very important to the success of the renovation project to the Baltimore County Memorial making it pedestrian accessible. She and her husband, Paul Bouthner worked diligently to make sure the members received their calendar books each year by stuffing the envelopes. They appreciated law enforcement officers and the work we do.

## Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of FOP Lodge 4

Whereas: Currently the duties and responsibilities of the Negotiation Committee are not addressed in the Lodge 4 Constitution and Bylaws.

Whereas: Committee members are not required to be elected representatives.

Whereas: The FOP Lodge 4 EBOD currently has no involvement in the decision to waive binding arbitration during contract negotiations.

Whereas: The Lodge 4 EBOD are elected by the membership to represent the best interests of the membership.

Therefore: Article V (Duties of Committees) of the Bylaws of the Lodge 4 Constitution will be amended by adding a section (11) for the Negotiations Committee.

Bylaws Article V Section 11 Negotiation Committee:

- A. In the case that an agreement is reached between the committee and the County to extend the deadline for binding arbitration, that agreement must be presented to the EBOD in writing for notification.
- B. In the case that the committee wishes to waive or allow the deadline to pass for binding arbitration to be used, the EBOD will be notified and must approve this waiving/expiry.
- C. The committee recommendation to proceed to binding arbitration must be approved by the EBOD.

This proposal is submitted by Douglas Jess to President Dave Rose on the 13th day of May, 2024.

### **BEREAVEMENTS**

**Brother Alex Freitag  
Husband of Sister Carrie Freitag**

**Brother Henry P. "Butch" Himpler, III**

**Brother Arthur Cook, Jr**

**Brother Charles (Chuck)  
Francis Moran, Jr**

**Brother George Michael Harvey**

### **RETIREMENTS**

**William Vaselaros**

**Chad Rosay**

**Sundia Gaynor**

**LODGE 4 OFFICE**

9304 Harford Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21234  
Phone (410) 668-0004  
FAX (410) 668-8126  
Toll Free (888) 313-3501  
www.foplodge4.org

**ELECTED OFFICERS**

David M. Rose  
**President**  
(443) 956-2643

Mike DiCara <b>1st Vice President</b> <i>FOP Lodge#4</i> (410) 299-8835	Ryan Massey <b>2nd Vice President</b> <i>CIB Homicide</i> (443) 865-0237
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Donna M. Patterson <b>Lodge Secretary</b> <i>Retired</i> (410) 365-8481	Robert W. Caskey <b>Treasurer</b> <i>Retired</i> (443) 956-2615
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W. Don Patterson <b>State Trustee</b> <i>Retired</i>	Matt Gonzalez <b>Sergeant at Arms</b> <i>Training</i>
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Kathy Kraemer <b>Chaplain</b> <i>Retired</i>	Dave Folderauer <b>Past President</b> <i>Retired</i>
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**EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Steven Comegna <b>Chairman</b>	Ryan Franks <b>Vice Chairman</b> <i>OSS</i>
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Thomas G. Scally <i>Retired</i>	Doug Jess <i>PC-3</i>
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Dave Sweren <i>SOD/TAC</i>	Carroll Bollinger <i>Retired</i>
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Joe Peach <i>PC-11</i>	Matt Krauch <i>CIB-Homicide</i>
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Ken Schubert <i>Retired</i>	Joe Brzozowski <i>PC-8</i>
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**LODGE STAFF**

Nancy Skinner — Administrative Assistant

**LEGAL ADVISORS**

Schlachman, Belsky, Weiner And Davey  
Phone (410) 685-2022  
IAS Cases Michael Davey

**FOURWARD EDITOR**

Kathy Kraemer



The Baltimore County Police Department is ready to open the registration for their 150th Anniversary Gala to be held on Sunday, October 13, 2024, at Martin's Valley Mansion in Cockeysville.

This grand event will include a reception - for time to catch up with current and former Department members - drinks, and a wonderful dinner, historical displays throughout the venue, brief presentations, as well as a special gift bag for all attendees.

Don't wait to register! Reserve your attendance soon for this once in a career event. It is sure to sell out! The link on the attached flyer will take you to the registration page.

If you have any questions, please reach out to:  
Detective Phil Crumbacker  
(pcrumbacker@baltimorecountymd.gov),  
Debbie Street (dstreet@baltimorecountymd.gov),  
or Kathy Wallace (kwallace@baltimorecountymd.gov).

We look forward to seeing you at the Gala!



**Fraternal Order of Police**  
Baltimore County Lodge #4  
9304 Harford Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21234  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

The August  
**FOP Lodge 4  
GENERAL  
BUSINESS  
MEETING**  
will be held on  
**Monday,  
August 26, 2024  
4:00 p.m.**  
at  
FOP Lodge 4  
9304 Harford Road

The September  
**FOP Lodge 4  
GENERAL  
BUSINESS  
MEETING**  
will be held on  
**Monday,  
September 30, 2024  
4:00 p.m.**  
at  
FOP Lodge 4  
9304 Harford Road