

THE 10-4

A NEWSLETTER OF THE CRANSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIREE ASSOCIATION

FOUNDER and HONORARY PRESIDENT – RICO MACCARONE



Issue 14, Volume 2

November 22, 2019

TOGETHER WE SERVED



TOGETHER WE REMEMBER



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Financial Information</i>	2
<i>Retirees Honored</i>	2
<i>New Chief of Police</i>	2
<i>Real ID Update</i>	3
<i>Origin of the S.R.T.</i>	3
<i>Attention to Orders</i>	4
<i>Retiree Challenge Coin</i>	4



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you prepare for the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the officers and board members of the CPDRA to wish all active, retired, civilian personnel, and family members of the Cranston Police Department a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

While calendar year 2019 has been both financially great and membership participation outstanding, let's not forget our sisters and brothers who are no longer with us. While they may be

gone, we shall never forget them or their families.

Presently we are working on producing a CPDRA Challenge Coin for all dues paying members and spouses of our deceased officers. With our sincere appreciation and gratitude, Colonel Michael Winquist has approved the template that your officers and board members have developed for this coin. We've also received permission from the Colonel to have CPD Detective Michael Iacone assist us in this project. We hope to have this coin produced in the very near future for distribution.

Presently we are looking at having our annual business meeting next April with the date and location to be determined. With the exception of those dues paying retirees and widows who live out of state, we will would like to distribute our new CPDRA Challenge Coin during this meeting to save on mailing costs. So your attendance will be greatly appreciated.

Have a great holiday and please stay safe. And as always, thank you for your support and dedication to the CPDRA. It never goes

RETIREE OF THE MONTH—SGT. JAMES BROOKS

This Ohio native was appointed to the Cranston Police Department on July 17, 1972 and is a regular at our retiree breakfast.

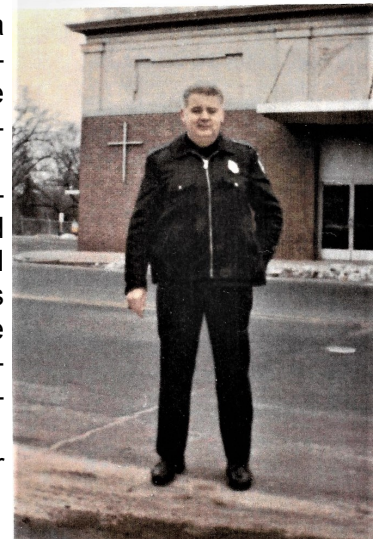
For many years, Officer James Brooks was our original Sector 2 who drove the old paddy wagon.

Jim was promoted to Sergeant on February 25, 1993 and retired on January

25, 1993. He also has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Salve Regina College.

Sgt. Brooks still resides in Cranston and loves playing golf and spending time with his family. He is also the proud father of Lt. Stephen Brooks who is currently on the department.

Jim, thanks for your outstanding service.



Honorary President:
Rico Maccarone

President:
Peter Sepe

Vice President:
James Perry

Secretary:
Gertrude Fitta

Treasurer:
Mark Sepe

Managing Editor, 10-4
James Ignasher

Board Members:
Robert Baccari
Richard Gallo
Gary Notarianni
Vincent McAteer Sr.
Floyd Smith

Printing:
Staples, NK, RI

CPDRA Finances to Date:

Savings: \$1,795.75
Checking: \$11,806.33

CPDRA Expenditures **Since Last Meeting:**

*** Wreath for CPD Memorial: \$125.00**

*** 2019 Annual Report Fee for RI.: \$20.00**

*** Annual Web Site Fee: \$100.00**



THERE'S A NEW CHIEF OF POLICE IN TOWN

On September 18, 2019, it was announced that former CPD Commander Kevin M. Lynch was appointed as Chief of Police of the Bristol R.I. Police Department.

During his time as the executive officer with our department, Commander Lynch oversaw many administrative duties, including the Office of Professional Standards, grant management, training, budgetary administration, and department adherence to national police accreditation guidelines.

Upon retiring in 2009, he took the role of Deputy Director of the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (DPUC) and presently served as the



agency's Interim Administrator prior to this appointment.

Chief Lynch also teaches courses in Criminal Justice Studies at Roger Williams University, the Community College of R.I., and Bristol Community College in Massachusetts.

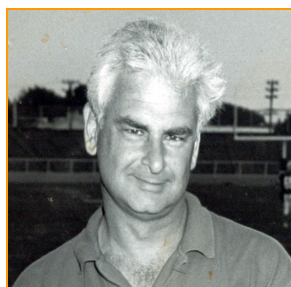
He currently resides in the City of Cranston with his wife Lynn and their two children Justin and Cianna.

On behalf of the entire Cranston Police Department Retiree Association, we'd like to wish Chief Kevin Lynch congratulations and best of luck as the new Chief of Police for the Bristol Police Department.

Another Honor for Our CPD Retirees

On October 25, 2019, former Colonel Michael Chalek, and Officer Leonard D'Errico, of the Cranston Police Department were inducted into the Cranston Hall of Fame.

Along with three other inductees, Officer D'Errico was being inducted posthumously. Before joining the department, Lenny was an outstanding student athlete at Cranston East and continued to dedicate his life to community service



He also dedicated a great deal of time to volunteering and was a football coach for CLCF and at Cranston West, and went on to be the equipment manager there.

A highlight for him was when the RI Interscholastic League asked him to supervise all state playoff athletic events. **Rest in Peace our Brother.**

Colonel Michael Chalek is a graduate of Cranston East and has distinguished himself in the field of law enforcement for 41 years.



Colonel Chalek proudly served the city of Cranston for 27 years where he retired as our Chief of Police. He is also a graduate of Bryant and Salve Regina University

and the FBI National Academy.

Upon retiring from the department, Colonel Chalek went to work for the University of RI where he recently was promoted to Captain.

Colonel Chalek currently represents the RI Police Chief's Association on Violence Against Women and is a member/liaison to URI's satellite campuses and as a member of the university's Sexual Assault Team.

Colonel, well deserved and congratulations on behalf of the CPDRA.

The Origin of CPDs S.R.T. Team

Today, many Rhode Island police departments have Special Reaction Teams which can be called upon when needed, but how many know that Cranston was one of the first, if not the first in the state, to establish such a team.

As early as 1962, officers Bill Loux and Harry Sunderland were instrumental in establishing a "Special Services Unit" consisting of members of both the police and the fire department who received specialized training in such things as scuba diving, bomb disposal, cave rescue, and automatic weapons handling. The team eventually disbanded, but the idea carried on.

In September of 1979, Sgt. Ronald Guilmette was authorized to establish a Special Weapons And Tactics, or SWAT Team. Membership was open to all members of the department willing to undergo the rigorous training.

The original Cranston SWAT uniforms consisted of green army surplus fatigues, but by the 1980s the team had adopted black commando style uniforms, as well as the departments first SRT uniform patch.

In 1962, the Special Services Unit used a former milk delivery truck to carry what it needed. The original C.P.D. SWAT vehicle was a blue 1975 Ford Econoline van which had formally been assigned to patrol and prisoner transport duties. By 1988 the team was using a former fire department rescue truck, and by 1993, a former Providence Journal delivery truck. However, none of these vehicles were ideal for their intended purpose, but they were better than nothing.

In 1988 the team was re-designated the "Special Reaction Team". Such re-naming of SWAT teams was occurring within police departments all across the country at the time, as some in the civilian world felt that the acronym "SWAT" was "too aggressive". While the name may have changed, the mission did not.

The Cranston Special Reaction Team has been called out for different occasions over the years. One activation in particular involved working with the United States Secret Service in 1989, protecting (then) President George H. Bush while he visited the home of (then) Governor Edward DePrete on Wilbur Ave. As it happened, a man rushed past a security check point and tried to get to the Governor's residence, through a wooded area behind the house, but was apprehended by members of Cranston's S.R.T.

Other activations have involved armed stand-offs and assisting the C.P.D. Narcotics Unit on high-risk drug raids.

The S.R.T. team remains active to this day.



Officers Bill Loux & Harry Sunderland
with Special Service Unit truck, 1962.

Update on R.I. REAL ID License

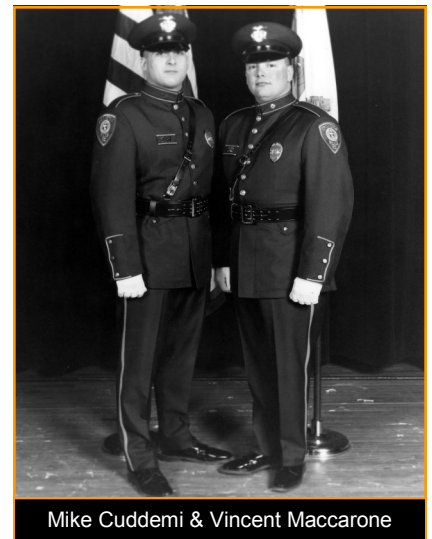
According to RI DMV Director Bud Craddock, one of the major problems our registry personnel are seeing when processing a Real ID license is if there has been a name change due to marriage, divorce, adoption, etc.

This occurs if the name of the identity document (i.e. birth certificate or passport) does not match the name on the license of the person. In addition, you will need to present supporting documentation to verify the name change. This can be accomplished by producing a marriage license, divorce decree, or other court documents.

Finally, please note that church issued marriage licenses, or hospital birth certificates, are not valid for Real ID purposes per federal rules.

From the "Way Back" Machine, Our 1996 Honor Guard Uniforms

The Honor Guard was established in 1989 to represent the CPD at certain specified functions and funerals. Members were issued dress uniforms modeled after the U.S. Marine Corps. By 2005 members began wearing a specially designed Honor Guard uniform patch.



Mike Cuddemi & Vincent Maccarone



"Attention to Orders" - NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN



In each issue of the 10-4 Newsletter, we take this opportunity to honor those CPD members who are no longer with us, and who continually placed their lives on the line to serve and protect the citizens of Cranston, R.I.



Det. Joseph Fortuna

Born in Providence, R.I. and a son of the late Harry and Elizabeth Fortuna, Detective Joseph V. Fortuna passed away on April 20, 2003. A long time resident of Cranston, Joe proudly served on the Cranston Police Department for more than 35 years. After retiring, he was employed by the city as a truant officer for an additional 15 years. At the time of his passing, he was survived by his loving wife Jeanette (DiLibero) Fortuna and his son, Edward Fortuna of Cranston. He was also the father of the late Joseph V. Fortuna Jr. and brother of the late Rose Chadronet, Jennie Fontaine and Al Fortuna. **Rest in Peace our Brother.**

CPD Breast Cancer Awareness Patch

For the month of October, in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, members of the department wore custom made pink patches on the right shoulder of their uniforms. The patches are actually made of a rubberized material and come with a velcro backing. Patches are for sale at \$15 each. Proceeds go towards cancer research.



C.P.D.s newest patch.

Your New CPDRA Challenge Coin

Below is a template of your new CPDRA Challenge Coin that will be distributed to all dues paying members and spouses of deceased CPD officers in the very near future. We would like to sincerely say a big "THANK YOU" to Colonel Michael Winquist and Detective Michael Iacone for their assistance in making this happen.

We hope you will accept this small token of our appreciation for your dedicated service as a Cranston Police Officer and your continued support to the Cranston Police Department Retiree Assoc.



REAR OF COIN

FRONT OF COIN

Get Well Wishes From The CPDRA

Our best wishes to Colonel Auggie Comella, Sgt. James Cooke, Detectives Robert Baccari, and Gary Notarianni who are a bit under the weather these days.

We hope this issue of the 10-4 finds you on a speedy recovery and good health in the coming days.



A Visitor to Our Retiree Breakfast



Det. Steve Agresti Comes Home for Breakfast

From left to right are: P. Sepe, B. Begones, A. Massimino, P. Caliri, R. Flynn, J. Brooks, R. Manchester, F. Smith, and Detective Steve Agresti.