



# THE NEBRASKA SHERIFF

Vol. 87, No. 1 • Spring-Summer 2016

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



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## COMMITTED TO NEBRASKA YOUTH FOR OVER 122 YEARS!

In its mission statement, The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has included "dedicated to the youth of Nebraska."

Over the years, association members have consistently worked to educate children and teens on the dangers of distracted driving, and drug and alcohol abuse.



## The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine

Official Publication of the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association

Published 2x yearly.

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The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, established in 1894, is the oldest organization of its kind in the nation.

### MISSION STATEMENT

*To provide continuing education to Sheriffs' Offices, youth, and the public in general.*

Nebraska Sheriffs' Association  
2016 President

Sheriff Bill Brueggemann, Cass County

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Please feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions on the magazine and the Website.

Visit us at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org)



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## Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Annual Gun Raffle

**Tickets \$50.00 each**

**52 Guns to be drawn for under \$0.96 per drawing**

**100% of the proceeds go to the  
Nebraska Sheriffs' Association**

**Tickets can be obtained through any  
Nebraska Sheriff's Office**

**Maximum of 1,500 tickets to be sold between  
September 15, 2016 & December 15, 2016**

1. Winner must be at least 18 years of age and will be subject to an ATF background check.
2. Every raffle ticket sold will be included in all drawings. You could win several guns with the same ticket
3. Raffle winners will be notified. Winner will have 90 days to claim their prize. Any unclaimed prizes become the property of the NSA.
4. Winners can pick up their prizes at Mr. K Guns 416 Main St., Plattsmouth, NE 68048 (402) 296-4050 or have guns shipped to a local FFL.
5. The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association reserves the right to make substitutions depending on availability.



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## The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine Policies

- Only submitted articles pertinent to criminal justice, law enforcement, and NSA members will be featured.
- We will accept articles from law enforcement agencies, their representatives, or related fields to be considered for publication in the magazine.
- Photographs of minors must be accompanied by verifiable permission to publish and list their names, whether the photo is emailed or sent through USPS.\*
- We reserve the right to edit all submittals for content or space.
- We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please let us know about them.

All articles and letters sent to *The Nebraska Sheriff* must be accompanied by the author's correct, legal name and are assumed to be unconditionally assigned for publication and *The Nebraska Sheriff* reserves the right to edit for content and /or available space. Articles and letters will only be considered if they conform to the boundaries of good taste.

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# Legislative Bills of Interest to the NSA

By Jon A. Edwards, J.D., Nowka & Edwards

This year concludes the 104th Legislature with the end of the 60 day session. Next year the Legislature starts the two year 105th Legislature with the long 90 day session. All bills not disposed of at the end of this last session are dead and next year the Legislature starts over again at LB1 with a new two year cycle. In the 104th Legislature, there were a total of 1,110 bills introduced over the two year cycle. In 2016 there were a total of 446 bills introduced. In the end, of those 446 bills, approximately 210 bills became law. Overall, over the two years there were approximately 450 bills signed into law.

Areas of interest regarding passed legislation in 2016 for sheriffs include changes to civil procedure, changes to laws

dealing with K2 synthetic drug regulations, as well as additional changes and updates to issues dealing with findings related to prison overcrowding and prison reform issues. Below you will find more detailed descriptions of individual bills of interest. Additionally, the upcoming session will see a significant number of new senators joining the Legislature due to term limits. Issues that will dominate the upcoming session will be the two year budget cycle and concerns related to budget shortfalls, property and income taxes, as well as continuing to deal with the concerns related to the prison system and the need to provide updates and additional services within the Department of Corrections.

---

## Civil Forfeiture:

**LB 1106 (Garrett) Change civil forfeiture provisions as prescribed.**

Establishes that forfeiture is not a separate criminal proceeding, which will result in defendants being subject to double jeopardy. Provides a process by which after the property owner is convicted of a crime, the state may seek to forfeit any money or property as long as the state can prove the money or property was involved in the criminal activity by clear and convincing evidence. The bill provides a means for innocent property owners to intervene to reclaim their property. LB1106 was significantly amended by the Judiciary Committee and ultimately an additional amendment was adopted that addressed some concerns that law enforcement had with the Committee amendment. Most notably, the bill was amended to provide for limited circumstances under which forfeiture can be transferred or referred to federal law enforcement. Those circumstances include: (1) The money or property seized exceeds \$25,000 in currency or value; (2) The money or property is physically seized by a federal agent who is employed by the federal government; or (3) The person from whom the money or property was seized is the subject of a federal prosecution or the facts and circumstances surrounding the money or property seized are the subject of a federal prosecution. The amended version of the bill also removes the original "in rem" provisions of LB1106 and also includes reporting requirements by either law enforcement or county attorneys depending on the circumstances and/or elements of the forfeiture.

FINAL STATUS: APPROVED BY GOVERNOR ON APRIL 19, 2016 (LB 1108 WAS AMENDED INTO LB 1106)

---

**LB 1108 (Garrett) Require reporting to the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Legislature regarding civil forfeiture proceedings**

Ensures that regardless of where the legal action is filed, the circumstances of each forfeiture are reported to permit a greater understanding of the source of revenue and how law enforcement agencies use any proceeds collected through the

forfeiture process. The reported information will be collected by the Auditor of Public Accounts for annual reporting to the Legislature.

FINAL STATUS: PROVISIONS AMENDED INTO 1106

---

## Controlled Substances:

**LB 1009e (Williams) Prohibit transactions involving look-alike substances, provide and change seizure and forfeiture authority, and prohibit conduct as deceptive trade practices.**

Bans the sale and use of "look-alike" substances. The bill defines a lookalike substance as one that is not specifically categorized as a controlled substance but possesses one or more of the following characteristics:

- 1) Packaging or labeling that suggests a user will achieve euphoria, hallucination, mood enhancement or stimulation that mimics those of a controlled substance;
- 2) Images or labels that suggest it is a controlled substance;
- 3) Disproportionately high pricing; or
- 4) Warning labels suggesting compliance with state and federal laws regulating controlled substances.

A person, who knowingly offers, displays, markets, or sells a look-alike substance will be guilty of a Class IV felony, which carries a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment with 18 months probation, a \$10,000 fine or both. The bill also classifies the production, distribution and sale of certain look-alike substances as violations of the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act. Each individual package will be considered a separate violation. The bill does not restrict the ability of scientific experts to use synthetic substances for investigative purposes.

FINAL STATUS: APPROVED BY GOVERNOR WITH EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED ON MARCH 30, 2016



### NETWORKING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, in partnership with the Police Officers' Association of Nebraska, holds an annual conference where law enforcement personnel can network and share information. **This October NSA-POAN Conference can fulfill the 20-hour continuing education requirement.** See page 6 or [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org) for additional details.

## Nebraska Sheriffs' Association 2016 Board of Directors

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Nebraska's law enforcement community has a simple message for our elected leaders: **Getting all of our kids into quality early childhood education programs today will lower crime in the years to come.**

As members of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, we know that quality preschool experiences:

- **Enable kids to start smart and go the distance for long-term school success.** Children who learn about letters and numbers develop pre-literacy and pre-math skills that form the foundation for academic achievement in the coming years.
- **Empower kids to stay on track to high school graduation, with fewer detours into crime.** Academic and behavioral skills developed through quality preschool programs keep kids in school, with more time for learning and less time for crime!
- **Pave the road to prosperity by saving taxpayer dollars.** High quality early care and education programs prepare kids to be productive citizens and save a bundle based on lower costs for special education, welfare and other costs.

Unfortunately, our state preschool program serves just a fraction of the kids who are eligible.

Find out how you can help at  
<http://www.fightcrime.org/nebraska>

**Grand Jury Proceedings:**

LB 1055 (Chambers) Open grand jury proceedings to the public as prescribed and change procedures in cases of death during apprehension by law enforcement officers or while in custody.

Requires grand jury reports, decisions not to indict and transcripts of the proceedings to be filed with the court to be available for public review. The bill allows the prosecuting attorney to select a team of three peace officers trained to investigate homicides. At least two of the officers chosen must be from agencies other than that which is being investigated. The team will file a report of its findings with the prosecuting attorney for review.

FINAL STATUS: AMENDED INTO LB 1000

**Prisons:**

**LB 1094e (The Judiciary Committee) Change provisions relating to evidence, sentencing, certain criminal penalties, criminal mischief, assault, theft, forgery, and probation.**

LB1094 is a “clean-up” bill to clarify statutes related to the Justice Reinvestment Initiative, which was enacted last session with the passage of LB605 (2015). The bill makes the following changes: clarify the process for responding to probation violations, clarify the procedures for custodial sanctions for probationers, clarify the procedures for custodial sanctions for parolees, and update penalties.

FINAL STATUS: APPROVED BY GOVERNOR WITH EMERGENCY CLAUSE ATTACHED ON APRIL 19, 2016 (LB 910 AMENDED INTO LB 1094)

**Body-Worn Cameras:**

LB 1000 - Require certain law enforcement agencies to adopt policies on the use of body-worn cameras, provide that recordings from such cameras are not public records, and prohibit certain conduct involving such recordings.

Requires all law enforcement agencies to document in writing the procedures to be followed by officers wearing cameras. Individual agencies will have discretion in developing policies for officers, but all policies must require that:

- 1) Proper training be provided for officers using cameras or accessing video and audio captured by the cameras;
- 2) Retention of recordings captured for at least 90 days from the date of such recording; and
- 3) Procedures governing the destruction of such recordings after the retention requirement has been met.

If videos are determined to have evidentiary value in a criminal, civil or internal disciplinary proceeding, it will be retained until a final determination is reached. If an arrest or prosecution is not made, the video will be retained until a final determination is made or an investigation is officially closed or suspended. An agency using body-worn cameras will be required to develop and submit a written policy by Jan. 1, 2017 to the commission outlining the implementation and appropriate use of the cameras by its officers. Agencies that begin using cameras after Jan. 1, 2017 will have three months to submit plans to the commission.


FINAL STATUS: APPROVED BY GOVERNOR ON APRIL 13, 2016 (LB 846 AND LB 1055 WERE AMENDED INTO LB 1000)

**Tuition Waiver:**

**LB 906 (Lindstrom) Adopt the Law Enforcement Education Act authorizing tuition waivers**

Authorizes a 30 percent tuition waiver for law enforcement officers who attend any state university, state college or community college in Nebraska. To qualify, an officer must maintain satisfactory job performance, meet all admissions requirements at the post-secondary institution and pursue an associate or baccalaureate degree related to his or her career in law enforcement.

FINAL STATUS: APPROVED BY GOVERNOR ON MARCH 30, 2016



**9-1-1  
What's  
Your  
Emergency?**

When a seven-year-old girl called 911 and then hung up, the Burnett, Wisconsin, police were dispatched to her home. When they arrived, they discovered the problem: the girl's grandfather was cheating in a game of cards. Source: Ananova.com

A ten-year-old Brockton, Massachusetts, boy called 911, then abruptly hung up. When the dispatcher called back, she discovered the problem: much to the boy's annoyance, his mother was insisting that he go to bed. Source: boston.com

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Readers Digest - www.rd.com*



# NSA-POAN Conference 2016

The 2016 NSA-POAN Conference, Younes Conference Center, Kearney, NE, October 2-5, 2016

Registration fee after August 15: \$125 for NSA and POAN members, \$150 for non members.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!**

Hotels and conference registration: [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org)

## 2016 Conference Agenda

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2016

Younes Conference Center

- 12:00-6:00 PM Open Registration
- 1:00-2:00 PM Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial
- 2:00-3:00 PM Nebraska Crime Commission Update
- 3:00-5:00 PM Autism Alliance of Michigan-Southfield MI
- 5:00-7:00 PM NSA Annual Meeting
- 5:00-7:00 PM POAN Board Meeting

7:00-11:00 PM Hospitality Room

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Union Pacific RR, Burlington Northern/Santa Fe RR

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016

Younes Conference Center

- 7:00-8:30 AM Open Registration
- 8:30-9:00 AM Opening Session
- 9:00-10:00 AM Nebraska Director of Motor Vehicles
- 9:00-5:00 PM Spouses Program

10:00-10:30 AM Break in Vendor Area

10:30-12:00 PM Lone Wolf Terrorist,  
Southern Poverty Law Center

12:00-1:00 PM Lunch Provided in Vendor Area  
Highway Safety Luncheon (invite only)

1:00-2:30 PM Hate Groups,  
Southern Poverty Law Center

2:30-3:00 PM Break in Vendor Area

3:00-5:00 PM Hate Groups,  
Southern Poverty Law Center

5:30-7:30 PM President's Reception

7:30-11:00 PM Hospitality Room

Sponsored by NeLEIN, Law Publications,  
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### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016

Younes Conference Center

8:30-10:00 AM Aurora Theatre Shooting,  
Aurora Colorado Police Department

10:00-10:30 AM Break in Vendor Area

10:30-12:00 PM Aurora Theatre Shooting,  
Aurora Colorado Police Department

12:00-1:00 PM Lunch on Your Own  
POAN Annual Meeting/Luncheon (POAN Members Only)

1:00-2:30 PM Generation Death, Phil Chalmers

2:30-3:00 PM Break in Vendor Area

3:00-5:00 PM Generation Death, Phil Chalmers

6:00-6:30 PM Cocktails

6:30-9:00 PM Conference Banquet and Recognition  
Entertainment

9:00-11:00 PM Hospitality Room

Sponsored by NeLEIN, Law Publications,  
Union Pacific RR, Burlington Northern/Santa Fe RR

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2016

Younes Conference Center

8:00-10:30 AM Generation Death, Phil Chalmers

10:30-10:45 AM Break in Vendor Area

10:45-12:00 PM Generation Death, Phil Chalmers

12:00-12:15 PM Closing Comments

12:15-1:15 PM POAN Board Meeting

**The 2016 NSA/POAN Conference can fulfill  
your 20-hour continuing education requirement.  
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!**

Hotels and conference registration: [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org)





# We are the Nebraska Sheriffs!

By Sheriff William (Bill) Brueggemann, Cass County  
2016 President, Nebraska Sheriffs' Association

*"We stand with each and every officer who puts on a badge, holsters a weapon, and bravely continues to protect and serve their communities."*

As I begin to wind down my term as president of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, I want to thank everyone for the honor and privilege of serving as your 2016 president.

A special thanks to Ron and Duffi Goodrich for the hard work they put into our Nebraska Sheriff's magazine; to Aaron Goodrich for maintaining the Website and selling ads for the site, and Kathi Schildt and Anna Bracker with Advanced Association Management who have picked up the responsibility of being NSA's Executive Directors. I anticipate a warm working relationship with all of them in the future.

Working with the members of the NSA/POAN Conference Committee and Advanced Association Management on our fall conference has been both exciting and rewarding. October 2-5 is looking great, and our agenda is set for some terrific speakers and trainers. I also look forward to networking with my fellow friends in law enforcement. (See the agenda on page 6 and at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org).)

Again this year, a big "thank you" to NACO (Nebraska Association of County Officials) for their continued support of the NSA/POAN Conference. By the way, my personal goals for this year's conference are to make sure I win more door prizes, guns, and TVs than anyone else!

Looking forward, the country is in a highly political national election cycle, and the extent of the challenges to follow depends largely on the outcome of the election this fall. Therefore, it is imperative that the Sheriffs, Deputies, Dispatchers, Corrections, and all law enforcement take a proactive stance for the elected leaders who support law enforcement and the causes we hold dear.

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association is deeply saddened with the situations that have taken the lives and caused injuries of our fellow officers. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims, their law enforcement agency, and the entire law enforcement community of this great nation.

We must urge our communities to put aside any differences and continue their unwavering support of law enforcement. We must refrain from speculation about motive and, instead, focus on our oath of office and the needs of our constituents. We stand with each and every officer who puts on a badge, holsters a weapon, and bravely continues to protect and serve their communities. **We are the Nebraska Sheriffs!**



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*Hall County Sheriff Jerry Watson (right) recently attended a Blue Courage Instructor Certification course in Kansas City.*

*(See his comments starting at the end of the 2nd column below.)*



For more information, visit  
<http://bluecourage.com>  
 Daily Blue Courage quotes are available  
 along with future training opportunities at  
<http://bluecourage.com/#signup>

## **Nebraska Identified as One of Six Full-Immersion States for Blue Courage by IADLEST and the Bureau of Justice Assistance . . . By William Muldoon, Director NLETC**

According to Darrell Fisher, Executive Director, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, "We are excited and honored that many of our Nebraska's law enforcement partners have bought into the Blue Courage training. Blue Courage is entirely about our law enforcement officers; their growth and development, and their emotional, physical and general well-being. Blue Courage is a philosophy that inspires our officers to embody the noblest of character and devotion to the public we are sworn to serve. We are indebted not only to our law enforcement partners, but to the Blue Courage organization, IADLEST, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance. "

### **What is Blue Courage?**

Blue Courage is a transformational process focused on the human development of a law enforcement officer drawn upon relevant, proven literature and research on human effectiveness, positive psychology, leadership development, and neuroscience. It affects cultural transformation through instituting Blue Courage principles; heart-set, mind-set, skill-set, and the tool-set of police officers.

The segments of Blue Courage lessons are titled: Foundations of Courage, Police Culture, Nobility of Policing, Respect, Resilience/Hope, Positive Psychology, Practical Wisdom, Health & Wellness, and the Immortal Cop.

In 2015, the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center received an IADLEST (International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards & Training) grant from BJA to implement Blue Courage in the state's four police academies as a pilot site along with academies from Washington State, Arizona and Baltimore County. To that end, a Blue Courage train-the-trainer was held for academy instructors and the NLETC, OPD, LPD and NSPTA academies have been working to implement the 16-hour course into basic curriculum.

BJA, in partnership with IADLEST, has awarded additional money toward complete state immersion, and we are looking for ways to hold an additional train-the-trainer for agencies desiring their own Blue Courage instructors. As a full immersion

state, we join Iowa, Kansas, and Ohio in addition to the original academy pilot states. The purpose of full immersion is getting this curriculum to existing law enforcement personnel who may benefit even more from having an opportunity to address challenges such as cynicism, personal health, and stress management.

### **Some desired outcomes of Blue Courage training include:**

- Increased passion by law enforcement officers, both on and off duty, by reigniting our sense of purpose and commitment.
- Improved physical, psychological, and emotional well-being.
- Improved relationships between police and the communities we serve.

A four-hour executive briefing on Blue Courage was held in January at the Gallup Riverfront Campus. In the coming months, we hope to gauge additional interest in bringing in another train-the-trainer to Nebraska and building a Nebraska cadre of trainers who will not only work with their own agencies, but will also create partnerships to help train other agencies as well.

We are on the front end of this wave. Michigan, New York, Vermont, and New Hampshire are approved to begin immersion. Twelve additional states have indicated interest in becoming full immersion states. Many agencies throughout the United States have already seen the value of this training and have brought Blue Courage classes to their agencies through other funding means.

### **Comments on Blue Courage from Sheriff Jerry Watson, Hall County,**

Hall County Sheriff Jerry Watson recently attended a Blue Courage Instructor certification course in Kansas City. Sheriff Watson offers the following comments on Blue Courage.

"I am a big believer in Blue Courage. A couple of years ago, when Blue Courage first came out, they offered a two day course at the NLETC.

*continued on next page*

**Sheriff Jerry Watson**  
*continued from previous page*

I attended that two-day course and came to believe that this is what our profession needs today. I then attended the Executive Summary offered in Omaha and then obtained my Instructor Certification this past April in Kansas City.

Who among us does not have officers who over time seem to lose focus, can be difficult, and become bitter? We are excellent teachers of how to use the tools of our profession, and most of us possess excellent skills when using those tools. We fall short, however, of teaching how to cope with the emotional issues that we are confronted with on a frequent basis. We are cops, but we are also human, subject to the same natural physical reactions to trauma as every other human being.

We witness that same natural human reaction in our war veterans returning home.

We fall short of teaching our people how to take better care of ourselves by recognizing the stressors and dealing with them appropriately. If we do, our people can hopefully arrive at work every day with a more positive mindset. What we witness today are those who have lost perspective and choose to police primarily from the warrior mindset. True, we all need to have that warrior mindset within us. However, our main operating mode should be that of guardian – a mindset that most of us start out with, but lose over time. In my view we need to police with that guardian mindset 95% of the time, using the 5% warrior mindset only when necessary.

I intend to teach Blue Courage to all my sworn staff and will also be offering this instruction to the 12 other agencies that belong to our regional South Central Area Law Enforcement Services group. I encourage administrators to take a hard look at this program and find a way to make it available to your people. It can enhance your working atmosphere internally as well as externally to the public we serve. I believe it will promote longevity in your agency because if you can get your people to take care of themselves, they can bring a positive attitude to work with them every day and stick around longer. I am a realist, and I know that not everyone with our organization will buy in. Blue Courage estimates that approximately 15% to 18% of the personnel in every agency will not buy in. But on the flip side, 85% to 82% of your staff will.

**“We are the Guardians of Democracy,” according to well-known philosopher Plato when he wrote *The Republic* in 400 BC. “The perfect democracy must have guardians. The guardians are those who love the community more than anyone else.”**

Hmm...guess he was on to something.”  
... Sheriff Jerry Watson, Hall County

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# STONE COLD KILLERS

## The Early Story of "Dead Man Walking"

By Sgt. Winston Cavendish, Sun, LA Police (Retired)

Robert Lee Willie and Joseph J. Vaccaro had a plan, a plan that involved kidnapping, rape, torture, and murder. A plan that destroyed the lives of people across three states, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

Out of all the murders I have worked over the years, I can truly say that Robert Lee Willie and Joseph J. Vaccaro were stone cold killers. The police officers involved never forget these two because of the unique cruelty they used to harm their victims.

My first glimpse of these killers was on March 11, 1979 at 10:33 p.m. I was patrolling Lakeshore Drive and Coffee Street in Mandeville, LA as the Assistant Chief of Police with the Mandeville Police Department. I was looking for unusual activity when I saw a ragged-out pickup truck with Louisiana plates occupied by two suspicious looking white males in their late twenties. I felt something was seriously wrong with them, so I ran their plate. The truck came back registered to Robert Lee Willie.

As I passed the truck, the street lights revealed Willie's cold eyes and a smirk on his face that made my skin crawl. I had no reason to arrest Willie or Vaccaro that night, but I instructed my officers to watch out for them. I felt sure they were going to get involved in something very serious.

My instincts were correct. Well after my first encounter with Willie and Vaccaro, I learned that Willie had murdered someone the year before. In 1978, Willie and his cousin, Perry Wayne Taylor, beat and drowned their drug dealer, Dennis Hemb, and stole \$10,000 worth of marijuana from him. Perry Wayne Taylor received 21 years for helping Willie kill Hemb. Willie only confessed to the killing of Hemb after he was sentenced to death for killing Faith Hathaway.

The first time I saw the killers' handiwork was in the St. Tammany Parish emergency room. Chief Bob Alford asked me to identify the remains of an 18-year-old female in a body bag. I confirmed it was Faith Hathaway, a young woman from Mandeville, LA. I have attended many violent crime scenes throughout the years, but this was one of the most mutilated bodies I had ever seen. What made it worse was that I personally knew the woman in the body bag, and I knew the task of notifying her parents, Vern and Elizabeth Harvey, lay ahead. I also knew this murder would devastate the family.

Faith's parents asked so many questions but we had no answers for them yet. The St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, the Washington Parish Sheriff's Office, the Louisiana State Police, and the FBI were all looking for the killers, but the only thing we had to work with was the bloody crime scene.



Through investigation we learned that Faith was walking home from a bar on the north side of Mandeville late at night when she was drugged, kidnapped, and raped. She was murdered in Frick's Cave in Washington Parish on May 28, 1980. At his trial, Willie testified that both he and Vaccaro tortured Faith as she begged them to kill her. They had stabbed her 17 times and cut her throat.



Joseph J. Vaccaro



Robert Lee Willie

Three days after the murder of Faith Hathaway, Willie and Vaccaro went on the prowl looking for new victims. A young couple was parked at a river front in Madisonville, LA. Mark Brewster and Debbie Cueval had been enjoying milk shakes in their car when Willie and Vaccaro kidnapped them at gunpoint and drove 126 miles away across southeastern Louisiana through Mississippi and into Alabama, torturing the young couple along the way.

20-year-old Mark watched as the kidnappers repeatedly raped 16-year-old Debbie. Mark was then put into the trunk of the car and driven down a lonely country road off of Interstate 10 in Alabama. Mark was tied to a tree and stabbed. Then Willie and Vaccaro took turns shooting him. When they were done torturing him, Willie cut his throat and left him to die.

Terrified, Debbie was threatened that if she said anything they would kill her and her family. When they returned to Madisonville, Willie and Vaccaro threw Debbie out of their car. She called the police and officers in Alabama were able to find Mark and transport him to a local hospital. Though paralyzed from the waist down, Mark survived. His throat was cut so deeply that he was unable to speak for months.

Robert Lee Willie and Joseph J. Vaccaro were apprehended outside of Covington, LA by St. Tammany Parish deputies.

But their story isn't over. Once again, I would have the unfortunate opportunity of dealing with these killers, this time at the sights of my 12-gage shotgun.

While waiting for their many appeals and before they were transferred to their respective prisons, Willie and Vaccaro were held in the St. Tammany Parish jail in Covington, LA. On Sunday June 10, 1980 at 7:20 a.m., they escaped by tying bed sheets to a bent bar window, dropping one floor down to the roof of the court house, dropping another floor, and then to the ground. Even though Vaccaro broke his right leg and Willie sprained his left leg, the pair managed to travel eight blocks along the railroad tracks near the jail.

*continued on next page*

## Stone Cold Killers . . . continued from previous page

My partner, Col. Frances Eastman, and I were in Covington picking up two boxes of fresh donuts for Sunday morning breakfast at the Mandeville Police Department. As I started my unit, I heard about the jail break over the radio.

The response that came to my mind was to park my unit at the Claiborne Shopping Center and walk down the nearby railroad tracks. I sat against an old cypress tree and waited for the escaped prisoners. They came right to me as they made their way across the Tchefuncte River railroad bridge.

I cocked my 12-gage Remington pump shotgun and told them to hit the ground. Lucky for them they were unarmed. If they had been, I surely would have shot them. I handcuffed them and walked them through Black Water Bayou to the shopping center parking lot.

I tried to call out on my unit's radio, but there was too much traffic to cut in, so I personally escorted them back to jail. When I arrived, two deputies told me to park my unit somewhere else - that the area was for emergency traffic only. They said they were on a man hunt. I, in turn, opened the back door of my unit, pulled my prisoners out, and turned them over to Warden Johnson.

After this, I was offered a job with the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff, Pat Canulette, and shortly after, attained the rank of Staff Sergeant in charge of the Crime Prevention and Drug Education Department. I was sworn into office on July 1, 1980.

At that time, there was no office space available for me, so I wound up on the third floor of the old jail. My office was a large cell in Cell Block D, an area that still housed prisoners. Guess who ended up being my "cell mates" across the hallway; none other than Robert Willie and Joseph Vaccaro. Every three days, I watched as deputies escorted them past my office to the exercise yard, knowing I had the keys to my cell and they didn't!

Willie was ultimately charged with two counts of First Degree Murder, Attempted Murder, Aggravated Rape and Aggravated Kidnapping. Because they took their victims across state lines, Willie and Vaccaro faced federal charges as well.

Willie's lawyer fought to keep his kidnapping charges in federal court, in which he would receive life sentences in a federal prison instead of the death penalty if charged in Louisiana. Vern and Elizabeth Harvey, the parents of Faith Hathaway, were intent on going through with a death sentence, so they contacted Louisiana Congressman Bob Livingston for his assistance. Livingston put in a call to the White House and soon President Ronald Reagan signed papers releasing Willie from the federal prison. Without the federal charges, Willie was sent back to Louisiana and death row.

Willie's trial was held in a small basement courtroom of the 22nd Judicial District Court in Franklinton, LA. Willie was found guilty and sentenced to death. He was sent to the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola to await his execution.

In a separate trial, Vaccaro received several life sentences for Second Degree Murder, Aggravated Rape and Aggravated Kidnapping. He served his sentence in a federal penitentiary in Marion, IL.

Willie was executed on December 28, 1984 at 12:15 a.m. Before his death, he apologized to the Harveys for killing their daughter, Faith Hathaway. He asked the warden to take off the death mask, and he winked at Sister Helen Prejean, prison spiritual advisor. Was it a sign of defiance or submission? It's anybody's guess.

Years after the ordeal, Debbie Cueval moved away from Madisonville, married, and became a mother. She now goes by Debbie Morris. In her book, *Forgiving the Dead Man Walking*, she speaks about being held captive with her boyfriend and how she came to forgive Willie and Vaccaro.

Sister Helen Prejean, C.S.J., of St. Joseph of Madaille, now known as the Congregation of St. Joseph, was Willie's spiritual advisor while he was on death row. Hollywood Director Tim Robbins brought her book, *Dead Man Walking*, to the silver screen on December 29, 1995. Susan Sarandon played Sister Helen Prejean, and Sean Penn played Robert Lee Willie. To this day, I have not seen the entire film. Though I've tried to watch it, I can only get through a few minutes before it turns my stomach.

Being in law enforcement, you see both sides of a crime - the victims and the perpetrator. It's sad to say, but it seems that no one, other than their family and friends, really cares much about the victim. Having had a murder in my own family, I have become a big advocate for victim's rights. Several years after the murder of Faith Hathaway, I was asked by the Harvey family to be on the Board of Directors of the Parents of Murdered Children. I held that post for six and a half years.

*Sgt. Winston Cavendish is a retired Sun, LA, police officer and a regular contributor to the Nebraska Sheriff magazine. One of the stories he first shared with us was also published in a national law enforcement magazine. Photos used with limited permission - The Baltimore Sun.*

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keeps diligent watch over the Unicameral for legislative actions that will affect counties in the state and that are of special interest to law enforcement. **See page 3.**

NSA also sponsors the annual conference with major vendors displaying products and 20 hours of continuing education available. **See page 6.**

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**Roy Miller**  
President



# The Nebraska TSRP Program

By Edward Vierks, Assistant Attorney General  
Nebraska Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor



Since 2007, the Nebraska Attorney General's Office has appointed one assistant attorney general from its Criminal Prosecution Section as a dedicated **Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor ("TSRP")**.

The Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor is part of a program funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and is administered in Nebraska by the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety. The program's goal is to provide experienced, dedicated prosecutors as a resource to local prosecutors throughout the United States. Nearly every state in the U.S. has at least one Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor.

The Nebraska TSRP serves as a resource in the areas of drunken driving, motor vehicle homicide and other related traffic offenses. The TSRP is the Attorney General's acknowledgement of the importance of addressing these types of crimes by providing assistance to prosecutors and law enforcement officers to increase prosecution and conviction rates in Nebraska for these crimes. The Attorney General's ultimate goal is to help significantly reduce the number of alcohol and drug-related accidents, injuries, and fatalities.

The Nebraska Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor serves as a contact and resource for Nebraska prosecutors and law enforcement officers. The TSRP is available to assist prosecutors, as they deem necessary, in the investigation and prosecution of these matters. If requested, the TSRP can provide technical assistance and legal research regarding a wide variety of legal issues including probable cause, Standard Field Sobriety Testing, implied consent, breath/blood testing, pre-trial procedures, trial practice, and motion hearings such as Frye/Daubert and other suppression issues. The TSRP is also available to assist in the prosecution of difficult impaired driving or motor vehicle homicide cases.

Law enforcement agencies may contact the TSRP for technical assistance or to request training seminars regarding methods of evidence gathering and presentation. Ensuring the use of proper law enforcement techniques and practices in these areas will ultimately improve the ability of prosecutors to effectively prosecute impaired driving and motor vehicle homicide cases. The TSRP also meets with law enforcement agencies to explain prosecutorial policy, answer questions, or simply receive suggestions.

Throughout its 11 year history, the Nebraska TSRP has led or assisted in the prosecution of several motor vehicle homicide and vehicular manslaughter cases resulting in convictions and prison sentences of 20 years or more. The TSRP has also prosecuted numerous regular DUI cases throughout Nebraska.

The Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor has provided training and programs to hundreds of sworn law enforcement officers, law enforcement cadets, and prosecutors. For each Basic Class at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, the TSRP teaches a one day "Cops in Court" class. The "Cops in Court" class provides cadets with tips and training regarding DUI/MVH trial duties and provides general training regarding investigation of DUI and vehicle fatality crimes.

The TSRP coordinates with the Governor's Highway Safety Office and serves as a liaison for prosecutors regarding various traffic safety initiatives. The interaction between the TSRP, the Highway Safety Office, the National Traffic Law Center and other TSRPs nationwide, provides a nationwide network of information sharing and support, all of which are aimed at making Nebraska's roads, streets, and highways safer.

**Please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance.**  
**Edward Vierk, Assistant Attorney General**  
**Nebraska Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor**  
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## A Theater Where Every Movie Is Scary!

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The Alliance Theater building began as the Charter Hotel in 1903 and became a theater in 1938. Through the years, theater employees have reported seeing shadowy figures, hearing footsteps running down the aisles, and having an uneasy feeling. According to the owner, when these phenomena appear, "It's just a friendly ghost."

Taken from [www.onlyinyourstate.com/nebraska](http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/nebraska)



# HOARDERS: Our Best Approach

*By Ronald Schlabs, M.S.  
Field Investigator  
Nebraska Humane Society*

All too often in the world of animal care and control we encounter those who live a secret life, one of filth, hidden treasures, and too many animals. Hoarders pose unique challenges to animal control officers. They are able to hold jobs and can appear friendly and normal. But inside their home lurks their dark secret, one the hoarder takes steps to keep to themselves. This makes our job as animal control officers difficult. More times than not, when animal control receives a complaint of a hoarding situation, it is nearly impossible to get full cooperation. Most times, initial contact is made outside the home. The resident frequently has a reason why now is not the best time to enter. We are all too familiar with hearing the phrase, "Can you come back in a few days?", which should be a red flag that the person does not want animal control to see the conditions inside of the house.

The sad truth regarding hoarding situations is that often times the hoarders realizes their lifestyle is abnormal, but because hoarding is a mental disorder, they simply cannot control themselves. Typically, this means the use of court orders, such as search warrants and impound orders, to gain access are needed to check on the welfare of the animals inside these homes. Once inside we see the true horrors of a life of hoarding. This type of relationship often causes "bad blood" or an innate distrust of animal care and control. The hoarders feel attacked and that animal control is only interested in taking their beloved animals away from them. This impression does not promote a positive interaction.

In my experience, hoarders often look at their animals as their sole companions, feeling they are the only ones capable of properly caring for them. Many hoarders, no matter how well-intentioned they may be, cause great harm to their animals by keeping them in these dangerous environments. This can range from flea and parasite infestation to respiratory illness, starvation, inbreeding, fighting and even death.

Hoarders see themselves as the salvation for an otherwise unwanted animal. It is a challenge to open their eyes to the reality of the life they have created for their animals. When dealing with a



hoarder it is easy to forget the disorder behind the behavior and only see (and smell) the nightmarish conditions created in these homes.

So often hoarders perceive our actions as a personal attack and that animal care and control personnel are the bad guys.

## **What can we do to affect positive change in this sad situation?**

The answer is to be prepared ahead of time. Luckily, society has made major strides acknowledging mental illness as something not to be locked away behind closed doors. Instead, it is important to be open about mental illness and finding the help needed to correct the situation.

Here in the Omaha, Nebraska area we are very fortunate to have active support from the mental health community. These agencies are dedicated to training animal control and police officers on handling people in a state of mental crisis to achieve the best outcome possible for everyone involved, including the animals. Keep in mind, this does not prevent the scene from becoming highly emotional and potentially volatile. But, knowing about mental disorders, trigger topics, and communication techniques is a great starting point to greatly reduce the on-scene tension. I am not trying to sugarcoat anything. The hoarder may hate you in the moment, especially when you are forced to confiscate their animals. However, proper training and support from mental health agencies allows these situations to go much better than if we just showed up, took the animals, and left.

## **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training**

In Omaha, one tool offered to law enforcement and animal control is Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training. During this 40-hour course officers are exposed to different mental disorders and how to communicate with people in a state of crisis. In addition, the training includes "field trips" to mental health facilities that allow officers to interact with those with disorders and hear their views of law enforcement and what they feel is important in terms of communication. There is also a one-day class that focuses on juveniles with mental disorders as well.

*continued on next page*



## Hoarders . . . *continued from previous page*

The CIT course helps animal control officers communicate and offer resources to persons in a hoarding situation. But it's not a cure-all, and many times while dealing with a difficult person I ask myself, "What else can I do?" He or she is embarrassed to have people see their home and furious at animal control officers for removing their beloved pets.

### Douglas County Crisis Response

We are fortunate in Omaha to have a fantastic tool in our pocket. Lutheran Family Services, a multi-service human care organization, provides local law enforcement a phone number not released to the public. This number connects the officer to an operator for the Douglas County Crisis Response Team. I utilize this number whenever working a hoarding situation. Sadly, I have been at many locations where the resident loses control and communication breaks down. The Crisis Response counselors are vital for both immediate and long-lasting success.

Douglas County Crisis Response sends a trained crisis counselor to the location within minutes to help calm the resident and explain options available to them. This opens the door to allowing the counselor to line up aftercare options. The key is getting the hoarder into a therapy program they can stick with.

### Aftercare for the Resident

Five years ago I investigated a case, similar to many investigated by the readers of this article, where a house was full of cats and trash three feet deep. The hoarder cleaned it out so that the property would not be condemned, but, not surprisingly, we were back there again several years later. The house was again full of trash and cats.

Getting the resident aftercare is critical in preventing a recurrence of hoarding at the property. This disorder consumes the person and without strong support and help, they will never overcome the issues.

In addition to the on-site crisis counselor, we also work with the hoarder to do follow-up visits and, if possible, try to find a way to keep an animal in their lives. It has been documented

over and over that animals can be therapeutic, but animal control walks that thin line because we don't want the person to "collect" again.

We work with the Salvation Army, which provides peer support workers to those suffering from hoarding and other disorders. There is also an organization in Omaha called Community Alliance which offers training programs and support programs to help those with hoarding disorders to get back on their feet and contribute to society.

Every person in the animal care and control field has dealt with a hoarder at some point in their career. It is by far one of the most challenging types of investigations to handle because hoarders have an illness and cannot help themselves. We still have a job to do for the well-being of the animals subjected to this lifestyle. With proper training and strong community support these investigations can go much better than in years past.

I strongly urge those in the animal care and control field to reach out to local organizations that offer counseling services and arrange for on-scene help when the time comes to take action. This can make all the difference for the resident who is scared, angry and embarrassed. Remember, we are in this business to help animals, and that often means helping humans too.

### About the Author:

*Ronald Schlabs is a seven-year veteran of the Nebraska Humane Society and currently holds the rank of Field Investigator. He graduated from Bellevue University with a Master of Science Degree in Justice Administration and Crime Management. He lives in Omaha with his wife, two kids, and two dogs. He can be reached at [rschlabs@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:rschlabs@nehumanesociety.org).*



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**What's the difference between a Sheriff's Office and a Sheriff's Department?**

Black's Law Dictionary defines the terms as follows:

**DEPARTMENT:** "One of the major divisions of the executive branch of the government...generally, a branch or division of governmental administration."

**OFFICE:** "A right, and correspondent duty, to exercise public trust as an office. A public charge of employment... the most frequent occasions to use the word arise with reference to a duty and power conferred on an individual by the government, and when this is the connection, public office is a usual and more discriminating expression... in the constitutional sense, the term implies an authority to exercise some portion of the sovereign power either in making, executing, or administering the laws."

The Office of Sheriff is not simply another "department" of county government. The internal operation of an Office of Sheriff is the sole responsibility of the elected Sheriff. County department heads are subordinate to a county governing body, because a "department" is truly only a division of county government. The Office of Sheriff is a statutory/constitutional office having exclusive powers and authority under state law and/or state constitution. These inherent powers are not subject to the dictates of a local county governing body.

The Office of Sheriff has inherent common law powers and sovereignty granted under a state's constitution and/or state law. It is different from a county department which derives its limited authority from whatever is delegated to it by statute or by state constitution.

The use of the term "Department" implies being a subordinate unit of government (i.e. subordinate to local government - "delegated" authority from county government to a Department). The use of the term "Office" implies inherent powers and independent sovereignty.

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# Preventing Death and Serious Injuries

By Fred Zwonechek, Nebraska Department of Roads Highway Safety Office Administrator

## It's Almost All About Seat Belts

For the past four years, scientifically conducted Nebraska seat belt observation surveys have revealed that nearly 80% of drivers and front seat passengers are following the state law that requires them to wear seat belts.

By a dramatic comparison, the remaining 20% of drivers not obeying the current seat belt law account for over 70% of our passenger vehicle fatalities. The real tragedy is that more than half of those fatally injured unbelted victims would be alive today, many with only minor injuries or none at all, had they just used their seat belt.

It isn't just the fatalities in vehicle crashes, it is also the serious injuries. For every one passenger vehicle fatality, there are six disabling injuries, the most societal economically costing crash. The use of a seat belt, in more than half of these cases would likely have reduced the severity of the injury and, in some cases, could have prevented any injury. But for the lack of following Nebraska's seat belt law and good healthy behavior, many families, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and communities are affected. Not using a seat belt is not just a personal decision that impacts only that person!

As I am writing this article, a crash report crossed my desk that is a perfect example of the life saving opportunity that seat belt use would have provided had it been used. The unbelted driver of an SUV on Interstate 80, lost control of her vehicle and drifted off the edge of the roadway, overcorrected causing the vehicle to rollover in the median where she was ejected and thrown onto the pavement. She died from severe head injuries. Her belted front seat passenger sustained only minor injuries and she was treated and released. All of the windows on the SUV were broken out, but the main structure of the vehicle remained intact, which allowed passengers that were belted to remain in the vehicle with minor injuries.

What is the best method to get the remaining 20% of drivers and front seat occupants to obey the current law by buckling up? Multiple agencies and organizations are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on educational and informational messaging with little success. For current unbuckled seat belt users, research in 2014 has found that there is no direct relationship between perceived risk of being involved in a crash and seat belt use. However, the perceived risk of getting caught and ticketed for not wearing a seat belt is a key part of these individual's risk analysis.

In other words, law enforcement officers hold the key to increasing seat belt use in Nebraska. If individual law enforcement officers get serious about seat belt use, those citizens in your patrol areas will too. Writing warnings for seat belt violations will not work on these individuals. It has been the law since 1993, everyone knows it is the law in Nebraska

and 48 other states. We understand that the secondary enforcement provision for a seat belt violation is a little more challenging, but if you really think about it, in most cases an official citation for the seat belt violation has more life saving and injury prevention potential than the primary violation that led to the initiation of the traffic stop.

Recently, a law enforcement officer from another state, one that previously had a secondary enforcement law like Nebraska, explained he stopped writing warnings for seat belt violations and saw seatbelt use in his patrol area higher than other areas in the state. In most of his cases, if he stopped them for speeding, stop light or sign, or some other violation, in an effort to promote the use of seat belts, his message to the driver went something like this: "You know I would possibly only issue you a warning for the speeding, signal, or other violation, but because you and/or your passenger weren't wearing a seat belt, I have to give you an official citation for both the speeding and the seat belt violation ... because that seat belt use is more likely to prevent your injury or loss of life if you are involved in a crash than the other offense and that's important to you, your family, and me."

He indicated that he seldom received a negative reaction from the driver. He used every traffic stop involving a seat belt violator as a teachable moment. He was convinced that if he wrote warnings, it sent a message to the driver that is wasn't really that important and if they got stopped again they would likely get another warning. He was absolutely right, law enforcement officers who see unbuckled drivers are the front line for changing that behavior. Every one percent that we are able increase the observed state seat belt use rate means that an additional 18,000 Nebraskans are buckling up and that translates to fewer injuries, less serious injuries, and lives saved! Deservedly so, the credit will go to the traffic law enforcement officers, the front line in the effort to increase Nebraskans safety belt use.

## Increasing Numbers of SlingShots

If you haven't seen one yet, chances are you will soon. According to the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles, 21 of these new vehicles have been titled and registered in Nebraska so far this year.

The SlingShot is, as Polaris Industries describes it as, "a three-wheeled motorcycle ... not an automobile. It does not have airbags, and it does not meet automotive safety standards."



*continued on page 19*



### NETWORKING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, in partnership with the Police Officers' Association of Nebraska, holds an annual **NSA-POAN Conference**

where law enforcement personnel can network and share information.

**This October Conference can fulfill the 20-hour continuing education requirement. See page 6.**

**Sign up at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org), under the drop down menu item "conference".**

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## **Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab**

**Backlog information, services, updates**

The Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory services, backlog information, and updates are available on the Nebraska State Patrol website at [statepatrol.nebraska.gov](http://statepatrol.nebraska.gov) - under "Services".

The Crime Laboratory also provides updated information via their quarterly newsletter *The Lab Report*. Current and past issues can also be accessed at the web address above.

Please feel free to contact the Crime Lab with any questions.

**Pamela Zilly, Crime Laboratory Director**  
3977 Air Park Rd, Lincoln, NE 68524  
(402) 471-8950 • [Pam.Zilly@nebraska.gov](mailto:Pam.Zilly@nebraska.gov)

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## DRIVING SIMULATORS AVAILABLE FROM NSA

The Nebraska Sheriff's Association has high-tech tools to bring attention to the dangers associated with distracted driving. Thanks to the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety, AAA, and the Cornhusker Motor Club Foundation, the Association's arsenal of education and training tools now includes two **VirtualDriver Interactive Simulator** units which will be available to law enforcement agencies for fairs, school/community events, and safety/health conferences. Grant funds were made available for this effort.



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## Preventing Death and Serious Injuries . . . continued from page 17

The three wheeled motorcycle, with two front wheels set wide apart and tandem bucket seats, is a motorcycle as defined by current Nebraska law.

The SlingShot requires the operator to hold a valid Class M (motorcycle) license endorsement. The operator and passenger are required to be properly wearing a U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) standard motorcycle helmet. The bucket seats are equipped with seat belts with use encouraged by Polaris Industries, but are not required by Nebraska law because the vehicle is a motorcycle. To obtain more information about these motorcycles, visit their website at <http://www.polaris.com/en-us/slingshot>.



### Drunk Drivers

Drunk drivers still account for one out of every three traffic deaths in Nebraska. However, the annual Nebraska reported alcohol-related crash rate per 100 million vehicle miles driven

### Summary

The first topic was "It's Almost All About Seat Belts" because it is. Ninety-four percent of fatal crashes are a result of something that a driver, pedestrian, or other roadway user did wrong. While we must continue to address all of those other errors, the quickest, most inexpensive, and effective way to have a significant impact in reducing fatalities and injuries is to get more drivers and their passengers to use seat belts in vehicles.

Fred E. Zwonechek, Administrator  
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**See page 20 for 2016 MADD Awards**

continues to trend downward thanks to the continued efforts with high visibility enforcement efforts and related messaging. It is still critical to keep the pressure on and maintain these effective countermeasures to reduce alcohol-related fatal crashes.

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# Mothers Against Drunk Driving Honors Heroes at Annual Award Ceremony

By Sara Draper, MADD Program Specialist

May 25, 2016 (Lincoln, NE) – MADD Nebraska honored 32 local heroes during their annual Hero Awards event at Wilderness Ridge. The award winners were selected by committee for their strong dedication to keeping Nebraska safe from the dangers of impaired driving and underage drinking. Either through direct law enforcement, prosecution, probation, or education and awareness, these honorees are among the best of our state and will be honored for their outstanding work during 2015.

## 2016 AWARD WINNERS

### Outstanding Adult DUI Enforcement:

Sergeant Andy Ecklund, Nebraska State Patrol  
Trooper Nicole Saathoff, Nebraska State Patrol  
Trooper Justin Buhlke, Nebraska State Patrol  
Officer Michael Swanson, Omaha Police Department  
Officer Patrick Soltys, Omaha Police Department  
**Deputy Dylan Jensen, Dodge County Sheriff's Office**  
**Deputy Casey Dahlke, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office**  
**Deputy Josh Moline, Hall County Sheriff's Office**  
Officer Austin Williams, Fremont Police Department  
Trooper Bryan Wiggins, Nebraska State Patrol  
Trooper Jeremy Thorson, Nebraska State Patrol  
Trooper Cody Potthast, Nebraska State Patrol  
Trooper Mike Thorson, Nebraska State Patrol  
Trooper John Lukesh, Nebraska State Patrol  
Officer Joshua Atkinson, Lincoln Police Department

### Outstanding Education & Awareness:

Pam Lausterer, Saunders County Youth Services  
**Sergeant Derek Horalek, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office**  
Lt. Kurt Bottorff, Fremont Police Department

### Outstanding Probation Team:

Monica Nelson, Nikki Svik, Dean Rohwer, Tom Rathbun & Brian Luera - DUI-SSAS Team, Lancaster County Probation

### Outstanding Prosecution:

Chris Turner, Lancaster County Attorney's Office  
Nathan Cox and Colin Palm, Cass County Attorney's Office

### Outstanding Community Partner Award:

Officer Suzanne Kusy, District 5 Probation

### Outstanding MADD Volunteer Award:

**Sergeant Derek Horalek, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office**

Each year in the U.S., more than 10,000 people are killed and another 345,000 are injured in drunk driving crashes.

In Nebraska, 82 people were killed in 2015 in alcohol related crashes.

The men and women working throughout our state in the criminal justice arena are paving the way to a safer state and a future with **No More Victims!**

For questions or more information regarding the event please contact the MADD Nebraska State Office  
(402) 434-5330 | [sara.draper@madd.org](mailto:sara.draper@madd.org)  
More information is also available on the MADD website at [www.madd.org/ne](http://www.madd.org/ne)

## How Technology Is Changing Law Enforcement

By Dr. Patrick Solar - source - [tech.co/technology-changing-law-enforcement-2016-02](http://tech.co/technology-changing-law-enforcement-2016-02)

Thirty-five years ago, the only "technology" we needed was the police radio and the location of the nearest pay phone. Today, that police radio scans 30 channels, officers typically have an in-car video camera, traffic monitoring radar unit(s), in-car computer data terminals with internet access, new body cameras, a department-issued cell phone and, of course, a personal cell phone. With all this technology in the cruisers it's a wonder we don't have more officer-involved crashes than we do.

### 3D Crime Scene Imaging

The methods that analysts use to dissect every facet of a crime scene have fascinated the public in recent years, which is understandable with how far the field has come. 3D scanning technology, like some of the solutions offered

by Faro, certainly seem like something straight out of science fiction. These devices take a three-dimensional scan of an entire crime scene, replacing many sketches and photographs.

### Through-the-Wall Radar

The emergence of new radar technology that uses radio waves to detect movement through walls caused quite a stir when it was brought to public attention several months ago. The controversy is understandable, as concern over privacy rights continues to rise, and the technology does pose some difficult questions relative to the Fourth Amendment. However, this technology isn't actually new, and has been used by nearly 50 law enforcement agencies in the U.S. to mitigate the dangers of entering buildings that house criminal

*continued on page 21*

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## Technology . . . continued from page 20

### Through-the-Wall Radar, continued

activity. Using the L-3 CyTerra Range-R, which is sensitive enough to measure even the slightest movement, officers can gain a complete picture of what threats they'll face, which is critical information to the success and safety of a breach.

### Predictive Analytics

Criminal elements may have gained a powerful tool in the Internet, but so have law enforcement agencies, with more data available than ever before. Using software dedicated to providing insight into criminal patterns and all legally warranted personal information, analysts are able to recognize connections between various activities and cases, even potentially predict where the next threat will emerge. These systems draw from a number of databases simultaneously, which helps law enforcement analyze information coming from mobile telephone service providers, banks, credit card companies, and many other public forms of data. Once all of the relevant information is gathered, new tools like these allow agencies to share their findings with others around the nation.

### Non-lethal Weaponry

In recent months, the use of deadly force has caused massive rifts between the police and their communities in cities around the country, resulting in public outrage that gains strength with each new report. In Ferguson, Missouri,

a city desperately trying to repair community relations in the wake of teenager Michael Brown's death, police have been testing an alternative technology that temporarily renders their weapon almost entirely non-lethal. The tool attaches to the gun's barrel, placing a projectile roughly the size of a ping pong ball in front of the bullet. When the bullet strikes the projectile, it's encased in a hard material that will cause definite injury, but has a very small chance of breaking the skin or killing the target.

In situations that allow an officer to recognize danger ahead of time, this technology would allow them to prevent the death of the suspect while still incapacitating them. Non-lethal alternatives like this are going to play a very important part in policing as precincts around the country look to re-evaluate their use of lethal weapons.



# Changing from NCIC Offense Codes to Statute-Based Charge Codes

By Serena Reeves, Nebraska State Patrol Records Analyst Supervisor

DIXON



Sheriff Don Taylor

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FRONTIER



Sheriff Daniel D. Rupp

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Currently there is a cooperative effort going on between multiple criminal justice agencies to switch from using NCIC offense codes on fingerprint arrest cards, to listing the Nebraska State Statute under which the person was arrested. This move is being done to make reporting more specific and accurate for law enforcement agencies, improve the ease of updating Jail Management Systems, and to improve information-sharing between agencies. Jail Standards will also be moving to statutes to try and be better able to look at the impact of legislative changes.

A multi-disciplinary committee made up of representatives from law enforcement, the Crime Commission, the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Nebraska State Patrol has been working since January on this effort. The group is developing a single "master" list of statutes that all agencies will work off of (based on JUSTICE statute code tables) and will translate statutes to NCIC codes. There will be crime reporting (NIBRS with statutes). Jail management system and livescan charge pick-lists will be programmed with the list and each agency will receive the updated pick-list on a regular basis. Under this new coding system, the arrest charge will be equivalent to the crime committed. With the current system, NCIC offense codes are very broad and do not allow for specifics such as differentiating between 1st degree and 2nd degree or domestic assault versus assault. This will be a systemic change that allows more comparability and tracking across systems and stages of the criminal justice system.

The committee is anticipating cost and resource savings across the board for all agencies through improved efficiencies via streamlined training, information sharing and reducing duplicated efforts. Training and resources can also be shared since all agencies would be using the same practices. Other anticipated benefits include: state-wide consistency in how arrest charges are listed on arrest cards, PCH and NCJIS would correctly list the number of convicted Driving Under the Influences a person has on their criminal record, improved accuracy regarding the severity of an offense (infraction/misdemeanor/felony) and a better ability to identify registerable sex offenses.

**Interested in learning more about this project, or participating with the working group?**

**Please contact:**

Tony Loth, 402.479.4007, Nebraska State Patrol  
Mike Overton, 402.471.3992, Crime Commission  
Pam Goldsby, 308.870.3731, Custer County Jail  
and President of NCAMA

(Nebraska Correctional Administrators & Managers).



# Elvis and the Photo Lab

By Sgt. Winston Cavendish, Sun, LA Police (Retired)

"Thank Ya Very, Very Much!"

The crowd cheered as Elvis Presley, the "King," walked off the stage and presented Chief Alford with a check for \$900 to add to the fund for our sorely needed police photo lab.

So, how did all this start?

It all started back in Mandeville, Louisiana, in Police Chief Alford's office. It was 1978 and Chief wanted our department to have it's own photo lab so we could take our own mug shots, take vehicle accident shots and crime scene photos without paying one of the town's photographers. Somewhere down the line, the town council had made a sweetheart deal with the local guy at twice the price for his pictures. Worse than that, the confidentiality of our open investigations was jeopardized by civilians discussing police business on our streets.

Finally, the town decided that the Chief was right about processing our own photos. The local news paper editor, Douglas Nanina of *The News Banner*, let us use his photo lab for awhile. They were extremely busy doing their own photography, but somehow we were able to have the time to handle our lab work, too.

One day, Chief Alford called me into his office and told me about Elvis Presley's cousin, Bill Brooks. At that time, Brooks put on shows impersonating Elvis across the country to raise money for charitable organizations. Chief Alford contacted Brooks in Tupelo, Mississippi, and set up a date for just such a show on a Friday night three months in advance as required.

The plan was a great idea at the time. We printed about a thousand posters soon after signing and held onto them for three months. This way we could get them out to the public in plenty of time.

The show was titled, "A Salute to Elvis," and "Sponsored by the Mandeville Police Department." The net profits from this event were to be earmarked for our department's own photo lab.

It certainly seemed everything was in place and nothing could go wrong; but as "Murphy's Law" states, "If anything can go wrong it will."

The week before the show our volunteers went all over town dropping off the posters. Chief Alford was so proud of all their hard work.

One night at dinner my wife, Margaret, said, "Are you serious about having this concert on Friday?"

I replied, "Yes."

She continued questioning, "Do you know what Friday is?"

*continued on page 40*

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**Sheriff Larry D. Donner**

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### SHERIFFS NETWORKING

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### The Alma Nightwalker

Alma, NE - Harlan County

The ghost of a woman in a black robe haunted the streets of Alma, NE for many years at the turn of the century. She came to be known as The Alma Nightwalker. Her ghostly form was seen by dozens of people, including such notables as Congressman Ashton Schallenberger and newspaper editor H. S. Wetherald, who both encountered her apparition in March 1902.

*Used with permission. Haunted Places  
The National Directory by Dennis William Hauck*

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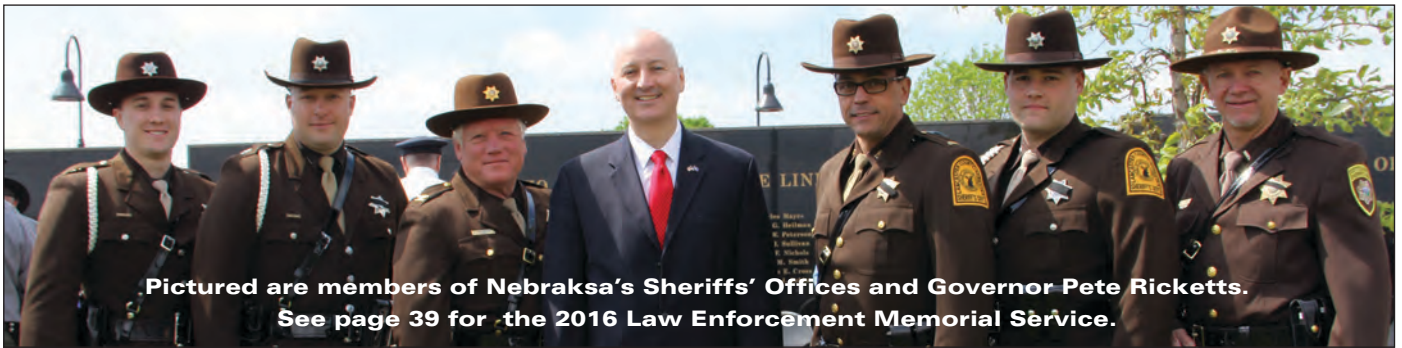
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Pictured are members of Nebraska's Sheriffs' Offices and Governor Pete Ricketts.  
See page 39 for the 2016 Law Enforcement Memorial Service.

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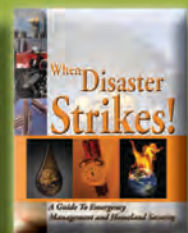
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## Shine a Blue Light - Support Local Law Enforcement

By Colyn Suda, SWPPD

The board and the employees of Southwest Public Power District would like to express their support and appreciation for all law enforcement, but especially those in the communities we serve in Southwest Nebraska.

It takes someone of high character to take on the day-to-day responsibilities that police frequently encounter. These men and women run into the chaos and turmoil when most of us are running away from it. They are our neighbors, community volunteers, little league coaches and church parishioners. They are the first to arrive at a scene when we need help the most.

Unfortunately, they are also at times, some of the most under-appreciated and highly scrutinized workforce in the nation. There are very few other occupations performed in the public eye that require a split second decision and cause a potential for lifetime consequences.

SWPPD would like to encourage our customers to also show their support and appreciation for our law enforcement officers by installing a blue light on their porches or an outdoor lighting fixture. These blue LED light bulbs are free to all SWPPD

customers – limit one per household. Stop by our office in Palisade and ask for the bulb to “Support our local LEOs”.

A special thank you to: Sheriff Alan Kotschwar from Red Willow County; Sheriff Kevin Mueller from Chase County; Sheriff Justin Nichols from Dundy County; Sheriff D. Bryan Leggott from Hitchcock County; Sheriff Tom Dow from Hayes County and Nebraska State Patrolman Sergeant Joel Smith for their service and help in promoting this event. These men and their deputies are called upon 24/7/365 to perform all duties from stray dogs to homicides and other violent crimes.

Sheriff Mueller stated, “It’s nice to have the support and be appreciated for the work we do. As a law enforcement officer, we don’t always get that.”

From Sheriff Kotschwar: The Red Willow County Sheriff’s Office is very thankful and honored to be a part of the Southwest Public Power District Blue Light/support our local law enforcement event. With their first shipment of Blue Lights being delivered, we are excited to help out in any way we can. Since the recent homicides of Dallas officers and Baton Rouge officers we have seen a tremendous out-pouring of support for our officers and office personnel. Thank you to all of our area citizens for your support.

SWPPD General Manager, Curtis Kayton said, “The early response to this has been outstanding. In the short time we have been putting this promotion together we have already heard from local customers who want to help. We even received a donation from a gentleman in California who is not a SWPPD customer. He said, “I am proud to voice my professional and personal appreciation for our local law enforcement officers.”

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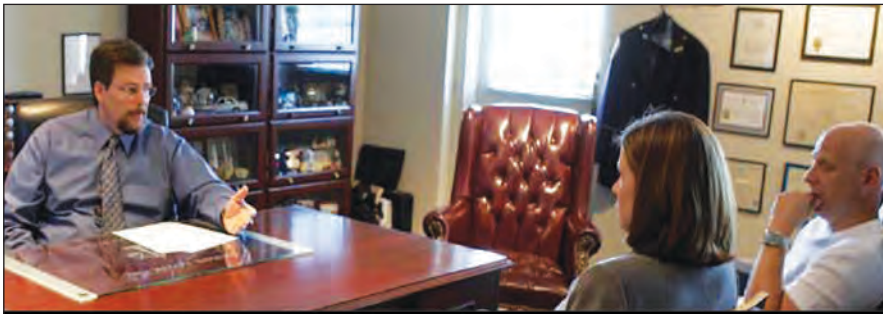


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Injured in the line of duty, Mike Dyer proudly served as a member of the New York City Police Department.

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*The Memorial Wall of those killed in Nebraska in the line of duty.*

*Flags flown at half staff.*

*Russ Zeeb as emcee.*

*Officer Kerrie Orozco's name is added to the Wall.*



## Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial Service

*By Russ Zeeb, President, Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial Committee*

*Photos courtesy Rose Ann Scurto*

On Monday, May 9, 2016 Law Enforcement and supporters gathered at the Grand Island Law Enforcement Memorial. Unfortunately, this year, we added the name of Omaha Police Detective Kerrie S. Orozco, who was murdered on May 20, 2015 in a shoot-out with a known criminal. Kerrie's name was added to the wall after key note speaker Governor Pete Ricketts and Attorney General Doug Peterson spoke and Omaha Chief Todd Schmaderer talked on the "Reflection of Service" that officers face everyday.

Jessica Zmek, granddaughter of Lincoln Police Detective Lt. Frank Soukup, who was killed in the line of duty, spoke about the death of her grandfather at the hands of a criminal and shared that she never got to know him.

Several Active Duty officers from Nebraska were also honored with a paver for their service. These Officers passed away while still on the job but not in the line of duty. They were Mark A. Williams, Nebraska State Patrol, Richard "Dick" Shea, Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, Darin Gress, Mark Reeves, and Eric B. Wiebe, all of the Nebraska Game and Parks, along with Jeremy W. Wach, Gage County Sheriff's Office.

Remember, if your department suffers a loss that is not a Line of Duty Death, while still on the job, please let us know to add them to our memorial pavers, at no cost to the department or family.

Let's talk about how much tragedy has been in our country lately. As of July 20, nationally, we are up 8% of officers killed

compared to last year for the same time period. Thirty-two officers were killed by firearms, compared to 24 last year. Car crash officer involved fatalities are down 17% from last year, but this is still way too high with 24 already to date. No matter what the numbers are, they are too high. Please be careful, wear your vest and seat belts, and slow down. Sixty-three male officers and four female officers with an average of 12 years on the job and averaging 39 years of age paid the ultimate sacrifice. Texas had 13 officers killed and Louisiana 7. We all hear about the high profile cases, with multiple deaths, but many go unheard. Remember their families and loved ones, not just during the time of the death and funerals. They are our family and need us as they try to put their lives back together.

The Nebraska Law Enforcement Committee meets in January for our annual meeting. We typically meet at the Grand Island Nebraska Law Enforcement Center, usually about 10 a.m. with a scheduled two hour meeting. Officers are elected, criteria reviewed on name nominations to be added to the Wall, our May service is planned, and other business of the Memorial Committee conducted.

Anyone with questions, suggestions, or who needs assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Russ Zeeb | 402-681-0929 | RZeeb@aol.com.

# Nebraska Serious Injury & Line of Duty Death Response Team . . . By Roseanne Scurto, President



*We support Fire, Rescue, and Law Enforcement organizations across the State of Nebraska, operating under the direction of the Department of Justice through the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.*

The primary mission of the Response Team is to provide assistance and comfort to the family and department and help with filing DOJ-PSOB, state and local benefits. All other aspects of team functionality are secondary, but are made available because of the possible needs of the families and the fire service or law enforcement agency throughout Nebraska during a difficult time.

When a line of duty death occurs, and on request of the agency sustaining the loss, the team would be deployed immediately. The team serves in a behind the scene capacity and offers suggestions based on what the departments needs are, as well as, the needs of the family. The Response Team stays in place at the agency, sometimes for several days, usually until the funeral services are completed. The duties of the team do not end there. They provide information to the department on an as-needed basis to assist the family and department beyond the funeral services.

The team will respond with resources that can provide the items for a firefighter's or law enforcement personnel's funeral. Departments will not be burdened to acquire these items, as they will be provided for the department's use. A funeral service guide has been established to assist the family and department in choosing options to fit the services they desire. Funeral ceremony protocols are provided for use if desired as well. Our team utilizes the incident command system and has predetermined duties assigned to the sector officers. Once again, our team members serve in a behind the scene capacity, leaving the members of the stricken department as the "front" people for the services.

The primary mission of the Response Team is to provide assistance and comfort to the family and department and help with filing DOJ-PSOB, state and local benefits. All other aspects of team functionality are secondary, but are made available because of the possible needs of the families and the fire service throughout Nebraska during a difficult time. All of our services are free of charge at all times.

Roseanne Scurto, President - Nebraska Serious Injury & Line of Duty Death Response Team  
7629 Park Drive, Ralston, NE | 402.613.3084

## **Elvis . . . continued from page 23**

To which I replied, "It's Friday!"

She then explained, "It's Good Friday, April 13!"

Boy . . . did I feel foolish. I just knew no one would show up on Good Friday in a town full of Christian churches.

It was too late to change plans. Bill Brooks and his band were on their way from Las Vegas. All we could do was tell everyone we had made a mistake several months earlier. We didn't realize the Friday we chose was Good Friday.

The night of the concert we were surprised to see wonderful turnout, mostly police, sheriff's deputies, fire fighters, ambulance personnel, and their families. However, not enough gate money was raised to cover all expenses.

In any case, "Elvis" was great and the crowd really loved his performance. He was scheduled to do three shows that night, but I told the audience that "Elvis" and his band had been on the road for three long months; that this was their last stop before heading home to spend Easter with their families. The people didn't want to delay the trip home, so all agreed one more show would be enough.

Now we're back at the beginning of my story. Bill Brooks was so happy he personally gave a \$900 check to Chief Alford and insisted that all the admission money go to the photo lab fundraiser. We then set up a police escort for "Elvis" and his band all the way home to Tupelo, Mississippi.

Sheriffs and Police Chiefs can be quite creative when it comes to finding funds for special projects. We managed to pick up most of our photo equipment from larger police departments, rummage sales, and newspaper classified ads. We also went to New Orleans and bought chemicals, bulk film, and photo paper. Now, we were in business and the photo lab soon paid for itself.

We were able to dismantle one of the largest burglary rings in town by taking photos of a large pat of butter in one of Terry's Café's deep freezers. The criminal left his finger prints on the pat of butter.

An aggravated rape case was solved by photos taken at the crime scene. Even though the defense attorney claimed our pictures were too prejudicial to his client's case and should be thrown out of court, the judge said, "You can't change facts!" The rapist was given 52 years in the Angola Penitentiary with no chance of parole.

Numerous drug cases were solved with photo surveillance. Court cases about city bylaw violations were easy to win with our good pictures. Soon, insurance companies wanted photos of major accidents and this paid for the photo paper, chemicals, and cameras for every patrol vehicle. Photos of fires and accidents accompanied my articles in my weekly column, "COP - Constable on Patrol," and our mug book was great for solving local crimes.

*continued on page 41*

We found taking aerial photos of the town in February, when all the leaves were off the trees, was invaluable. Our patrol sergeants could then place 8x10s photos in a travel bag in their patrol units. This would help in ground searches for runaways from the largest mental hospital in the state. All the quicksand ponds were highlighted on the photos. Now our K-9 officers were able to see through the swamps, and pine woods. Several interstates and the causeway bridge approaches were clear and photos of intersections were taken so the vehicle accident report forms were easier to diagram.

Today everything is digital. But a photo is a photo as long as someone takes the picture. Don't forget even a small sheriff's office or small town police department can acquire equipment without government grants.

The real Elvis died, but he will not be forgotten by his millions of loyal fans. This officer will not forget what "Elvis" did for our police department.

The "King" is out of the house, but not forgotten.  
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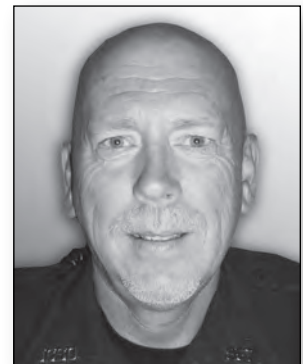
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### NETWORKING

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## **The Early Days of American Law Enforcement**

### **The Watch**

More than 350 years ago, America's first known system of law enforcement was established in Boston. As soon as colonists had settled there in 1630, local ordinances had allowed for constables to be appointed. Soon after, in April 1631, the townspeople formed a "watch" made up of six watchmen, one constable, and several volunteers who patrolled at night, walking the rounds.

Initially run by a combination of obligatory and voluntary participation, the 17th century watch typically reported fires, maintained order in the streets, raised the "hue and cry" (pursuing suspected criminals with loud cries to raise alarm), and captured and arrested lawbreakers. Constables had similar tasks, which included maintaining health and sanitation and bringing suspects and witnesses to court—frequently for such conduct as working on the Sabbath, cursing in public places, and failing to pen animals properly.

In the more rural, sparsely populated areas of the Colonies, the sheriff was the main law enforcement figure. Appointed by the governor, sheriffs' duties included serving legal documents such as writs, appearing in court, and collecting taxes. In many cases, the sheriff was paid a fixed amount for each task he performed. Some, for example, received payment based on the amount of taxes they collected. Occasionally, these tasks proved dangerous. In fact, the first known American peace officer to be killed in the line of duty was Columbia County (NY) Sheriff Cornelius Hogeboom, who was shot on October 22, 1791, as he attempted to serve a writ of ejection.

This early policing system was modeled after the English structure, which incorporated the watch, constables, and sheriffs (derived from the British term, "shire-reeves") in a community-based police organization. (Interestingly, the British system developed from "kin policing" dating back to about 900 A.D., in which law enforcement power was in the people's hands, and they were responsible for their families or "kin.") Early law enforcement was reactionary, rather than pre-emptive—the watch usually responded to criminal behavior only when requested by victims or witnesses. And, with monetary incentive in certain areas, apprehending criminals was not always a priority.

*continued on page 44*

## Did You Know . . .

The land that comprises **Nance County** was originally part of the Pawnee Reservation, created in 1857 when the Pawnee Indians signed a treaty with the United States ceding its lands in exchange for the reservation. After Nebraska was admitted into the Union, the state government extinguished the tribe's rights to their land. It soon sold the land and used the proceeds to defray expenses to obtain lands elsewhere for the Indians. The boundaries for Nance County were approved in 1879. It was named after Governor Albinus Nance.

Nearly all the land in Nance County was purchased by settlers or by investors for resale, instead of the homestead provisions common to most of Nebraska.

Source: "State & County QuickFacts," United States Census Bureau. Retrieved September 21, 2013.



## Sorry, We're Closed Every Spooky Night!

**Brownville, NE - Nemaha County**

The city of Brownville was established in 1854 by Richard Brown. It boasts the position of being the oldest historic frontier river town in Nebraska.

The Museum of the Brownville Historical Society is housed in the seven-gabled Captain Bailey House, one of the crown jewels of this historic city. The house is built of brick manufactured in one of the three brick factories in early Brownville. It originally stood near the Missouri River. In 1877, after the river began to change its course and endanger the house, it was disassembled and moved brick-by-brick to its present location on Main Street.

Now a museum, it is said to be haunted by the original owner, Captain Bailey, a Civil War soldier. Bailey was reportedly poisoned by a jealous neighbor, but even after death the captain couldn't leave his home. Museum staff and visitors report that certain doors refuse to stay closed and that phantom piano music can be heard here at night.

From [hauntin.gs/listing/the-captain-bailey-house](http://hauntin.gs/listing/the-captain-bailey-house)

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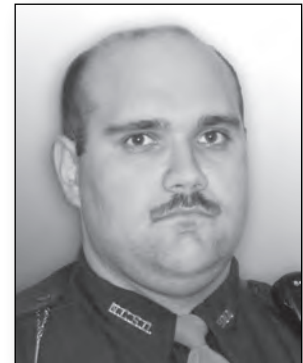
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**The Early Days of American Law Enforcement**

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**Change, Change and more Change**

As word spread about Boston's watch, other colonies began establishing their own. New York (then the Dutch colony New Amsterdam) established a rattle watch in 1652. Before whistles, law enforcement used wooden rattles and their distinct noise to signal for help, even into the 19th century.

Into the 1700s, more people settled in towns and more shops and businesses were built, which meant more work for the watch. Seaports bustling with sailors and overseas trading ships boosted the merchant class economy but also caused unprecedented social problems that affected law enforcement. Taverns were built to entertain sailors in port cities, and public drunkenness, brawls, and prostitution became more common. As police work became increasingly time-consuming and difficult, fewer men volunteered for the watch and many evaded their mandatory duties. Issuing fines to those who didn't show up only punished the poor—those who were most unable to pay. To curb this, some towns and cities instituted a paid watch.

In 1749, Philadelphia passed a law that restructured the watch in an attempt to solve these problems. Now, officials called wardens had authority to hire watchmen as needed. Their powers were increased, and a tax paid the watch. All male citizens were no longer obligated to work when summoned, and only men interested in the paid job applied. Philadelphia's reform was not the ultimate solution, but it fueled progress and inspired others to make similar improvements.

Even with positive developments like these, the Colonial law enforcement system still required drastic change. During the Industrial Revolution

*continued on page 48*

# TOURNIQUETS:

## From Battlefields To City Streets . . . By *Laura L. Cooper*

Emergency tourniquets have been revived to help first responders save lives. They are used to apply pressure and control bleeding to an extremity with a traumatic injury. They fell out of favor when their misuse seemed more dangerous than the possible advantages. Today, correctly applied tourniquets are used on scene to avoid preventable deaths by the military, emergency medical services, and law enforcement officers (LEOs). The tools and techniques now being used have evolved over years of lessons learned by the military.

### **On the Battlefield**

Improvised tourniquets have been applied in an effort to save soldiers since the Middle Ages. Their application was looked down on after World War II when their misuse caused severe limb damage even in non-life-threatening situations. These are some of the lessons learned on the battlefield:

- Improvised compression devices can cause unnecessary damage
- Partially-applied tourniquets sometimes increase bleeding
- Tourniquets covered by blankets/bandages may remain hidden and delay treatment
- When used unnecessarily, tourniquets can lead to more lost limbs
- Training is necessary to determine when and how to apply a tourniquet

Changes in how quickly soldiers could be transported to medical personnel made tourniquets a more viable option. They have been successfully and liberally used during combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Most coalition medics now use tourniquets in the field.

Modern, commercially-available tourniquets prevent the tissue and nerve damage likely when make-shift materials are applied. These simple devices, which cost \$15 to \$30, provide many advantages over make-shift devices like stick and rope contraptions used during the Civil War.

### **Safe • Easy to Use • Lightweight • Durable**

Whether stuck in a pocket or attached to your equipment belt, these tourniquets can always be within reach. You just have to know when and how to use them. They should not be applied when direct pressure would suffice. In addition, they are only suited to stop perfuse bleeding from a damaged limb. Regardless of the situation, tourniquets must be applied correctly.

### **On the Street**

Lessons learned from the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary and the bombing at the Boston Marathon emphasized the urgency of stopping blood loss for civilian victims with serious gunshot or puncture wounds. If applied within minutes, tourniquets are an important tool in preventing mass casualties from traumatic limb injuries.

According to Dr. Reg Burton, Director of Trauma and Surgical/Critical Care at the Bryan Trauma Center, in Lincoln, Nebraska, “If you have a major arterial laceration, you can die in as little as



three minutes and there’s no way anybody can get EMS to you in an active shooter situation that fast” (Rentschler, 2016).

One month after the Boston Marathon bombings in 2013, the city’s officers had received 1,500 tourniquets and training on how to use them. After the Pulse shooting in Orlando, Florida, on June 12th of this year, the American Medical Association adopted a policy asking first responders to carry tourniquets. Many departments across the country already are.

### **LEOs Applying Tourniquets**

Shooting and bombing incidents are just two of innumerable settings in which you may find a severely bleeding victim. Here are examples in which tourniquets were used successfully by police and deputies in the past year.

**Shooting (April 2016):** Evanston (IL) Police Officer and Air Force veteran William Arzuaga was one of the first officers to respond to a shooting. He found a 17-year-old boy with a gunshot wound to his left leg. Arzuaga controlled the bleeding with a tourniquet. Doctors indicated that the bullet had severed an artery which would have been fatal without quick action.

**Robbery and Carjacking (April 2016):** Philadelphia Police Officer James McCullough was shot in the thigh after being flagged down by a woman who had been carjacked. It turned out the suspects were attempting to escape after committing a robbery. McCullough applied a tourniquet to his own leg preventing major blood loss while he waited for medical help.

**Attempted Suicide (February 2015):** Patrol Deputy James Maher started carrying Special Operations Force tourniquets while serving as a flight paramedic in Afghanistan. He used one when responding to an attempted suicide in Bexar County, Texas. A 15-year-old girl had an arterial bleed after punching a plate glass window. Because of the tourniquet and two surgeries, she lived and kept her arm.

**Assault (October 2015):** Los Angeles County Deputies Robert C. Hawkins and Jason A. Viger responded to an assault call and found a man bleeding profusely from a laceration to his arm. They applied a tourniquet above the elbow to slow the blood loss before the fire department arrived.

*continued on page 46*



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**TOURNIQUETS . . . continued from page 45**

**Traffic Stop (January 2016):** Boston Police Officer Kurt Stokinger attempted to apply a tourniquet to his own leg after being shot by a fleeing suspect. Having lost a lot of blood, another officer helped him finish the task which saved his life and his leg.

**Mowing Accident (July 2015):** Erie County (NY) Deputy Benjamin Pisa responded to the scene of a mowing accident. He saved the man's life by applying tactical tourniquets to both of the victim's severed legs.

**Alligator Attack (August 2015):** Seminole County (FL) Deputy Chris Willis was working off-duty when boaters notified him that what turned out to be an 8-foot alligator had bitten off a swimmer's arm. He grabbed a tourniquet from his trunk, jumped in a boat, and rushed to the woman. The quick intervention saved the victim's life.

**A Training Example**

Whether on a routine call or a mass-casualty scene, officers need to know how to apply a tourniquet quickly and correctly. For ten days in March 2016, the city police and firefighters in Lincoln, Nebraska, came together for active shooter training. This time, the objective for LEOs was to move beyond a solitary focus on neutralizing the shooter. After a morning of emergency medical instruction using tourniquets, officers had an opportunity to contain a shooter while getting medical help to victims as soon as possible.

All police officers had tourniquets available as they responded to a mock scene. Community volunteers (I was one of them) played assigned roles as victims/witnesses. The simple devices were quickly applied to those victims bleeding profusely. Victims with minor injuries were directed or escorted out of the scene by police to medical crews. For some of the most critically injured, police provided protection and led paramedics to the victims.

It was a drill to allow Lincoln Police and Lincoln Fire & Rescue to work together to square terminology so they could communicate clearly and quickly. They worked to re-envision the way active shooter scenes are handled. First responders practiced saving law enforcement and civilian victims in the event that one or more shooters strike the community.

Many other departments across Nebraska are also adding tourniquets to their equipment and training arsenal. If you or your entire department choose to carry a tactical tourniquet while on duty, make sure that an appropriate amount of training prepares you to use it effectively.

**Conclusion**

Whether on the battlefield or on the street, uncontrolled bleeding is the leading cause of preventable deaths. When domestic terror attacks make city streets look like war zones, law enforcement and EMS personnel must work together more closely than ever to save lives. However, even on routine calls, law enforcement may come upon a bleeding victim several minutes ahead of EMTs or paramedics. Tourniquets may allow officers to save lives and limbs. The lives officers save may be at a bombing, a mass-shooting incident, an accident scene, or an animal attack. The life they save may be a civilian, a fellow officer, or their own.

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**About the Author**

Laura L. Cooper, a former police officer, lives in Nebraska and writes about crime and public safety. She is a member of the Public Safety Writers Association, the Nebraska Writers Guild, and Sisters in Crime. She contributes regularly to The Nebraska Sheriff magazine.

See her website at <http://www.lauralcooper.com>.



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## The Early Days of American Law Enforcement

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of the early 19th century, the number of factories, buildings, and people surged substantially. New York, for example, jumped from a population of 33,000 in 1790 to 150,000 in 1830. The overall boom in industrial growth and overcrowding brought more crime, riots, public health issues, race and socio-economic divisions, and general disorder.

### The "New" Policing System

The solution? A new and improved law enforcement system implemented first by England in 1829: a stronger, more centralized, preventive police force, designed to deter crime from happening, rather than to react once it had occurred.

In 1833, Philadelphia organized an independent, 24-hour police force. In 1838, the Boston Police force was established, with a day police and night watch working independently. New York City followed suit in 1844, becoming the New York City Police Department in 1845. Police departments were now headed by police chiefs who were appointed by political leaders. While it still had its flaws, this "new" method of policing more closely resembles a modern day police force.

The story of American law enforcement, from its early roots to the present day, will come alive inside the museum. Stories like this one will help visitors understand how law enforcement has changed to coincide with changes in American society. Today, new technological advancements, scientific discoveries and comprehensive research aim to improve law enforcement's efficiency by introducing innovative techniques, equipment, training, and more. Who knows what the future of policing will hold?

Find out more about law enforcement history in this book, part of the Museum's Research Library: Johnson, David R. American Law Enforcement: A History. Wheeling, IL: Forum Press, 1981.



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## Do We Still Believe In #backtheblue? ... By Wendy Piercy, M.S., L.P.C.

### #backtheblue #weseeyou #bluelivesmatter

We have all been the recipients of the cookies, coffee, colored pictures from pre-schoolers and hand written letters thanking us for “keeping us saf” or “savn us from bad peple”. Now don’t get me wrong, there is no quicker way to a cop’s heart than a warm and gooey batch of chocolate chip cookies. But what does it really mean to #backtheblue? Is that it? One week (May 15th and the calendar week in which it falls) people shower us with well wishes and goodies. What about the other 51 weeks of the year?

When something bad happens, people rally around those who are hurting. If any of you were part of Officer Orozco’s funeral or procession, you were not the same as when you arrived at the Qwest Center. I had the honor and privilege to be a part of the most amazing outpouring of community support and yet one of the most heart wrenching experiences I have ever had as a cop. To see all my brothers and sisters in brown or blue, cemented the verse, “**Greater love has no one than this to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.**” (John 15:13).

Traveling in the procession was the most unnerving experiences. Driving down the streets lined with people holding signs, waving, saluting, crying. The streets of Omaha were quiet. Construction equipment was shut down, dump trucks were blocking the intersections, drivers took it upon themselves to block intersections with their cars. The outpouring of support at a time of crisis was insurmountable. But what happens after the outpouring? The farther from the event, the easier it is for people to forget. Life doesn’t stop. People still need to work. Bills still need to be paid. Out of sight is out of mind. How many of those people

who stood in the rain, make it a point to be kind to those who wear the badge today?

What is it we are hoping the citizens do? What does it mean to “Back the Blue”? The simple answer is, stop assassinating us for doing our jobs, allow our word to be good enough, our integrity to stand and not be questioned.

We took the oath because we believe we can make a difference. How many accountants took the CPA tests because they believed in the Constitution and that people deserve the right to live a peaceful life?



Then the news broke about Dallas. I was angry. I was hurt and disappointed in humankind. My thoughts were: “If that is the way the sheep want to play then so be it. Let them figure out their own problems, fix their own mistakes. See how long they last amongst the wolves. Let’s circle the blue line and protect our own. They are quick to throw stones until they need us. Then they want us to drop everything and solve their problem the way they want it solved, regardless of the law.”

The sheep run away and then stand from a distance “bleating” about brutality, unethical behavior of law enforcement. The interesting point is, if we do have someone who is a wolf among us, we admit the wrongdoing. We accept responsibility. We acknowledge we aren’t perfect. I went to a dark place. I allowed myself to let the dark part of my heart win. The part that allows apathy, detachment, cynicism to steer me away from wanting to make a difference, to believe in something bigger than yourself, to do the right thing - always.

*continued on page 53*

## First Female Reublican Governor in the Country

### The Unexpected Battle: Kay Orr vs Helen Boosalis, 1986

A woman running for governor was a rare enough event in the 1980s; never had two women faced each other in the general election. In 1986 Nebraska voters chose between Democrat Helen Boosalis and Republican Kay Orr. In a race decided by 24,000 votes, Orr became the first female Republican governor in the country.

Orr was born as Kay Avonne Stark in Burlington, Iowa. Her mother, Sadie, was active in local politics, while her father, Ralph, was a Burlington city council member and farm implements dealer. She attended the University of Iowa from 1956 to 1957. She married William Dayton Orr on September 26, 1957, and they had two children, John William and Suzanne. She moved with her family to Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1963. Shortly after moving there, she began volunteering

as a Republican Party worker. She supported such politicians as Richard M. Nixon, Carl Curtis, and Roman Hruska, and in 1969 was named “Outstanding Young Republican Woman” in Nebraska.

Orr was appointed to fill a midterm vacancy in the office of Nebraska State Treasurer in 1981. She was subsequently elected to that post in 1982, becoming the first woman ever to be elected to a statewide constitutional office in Nebraska. She held that office until 1987.

In 1986, Orr secured the Republican nomination for Nebraska governor by winning an eight-way primary.

From “Kay A. Orr” (PDF). Nebraska State Library and Archives.



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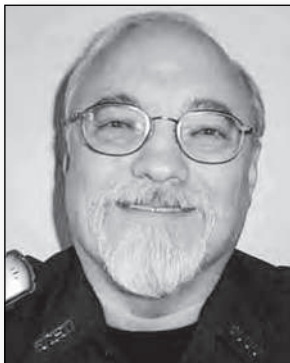
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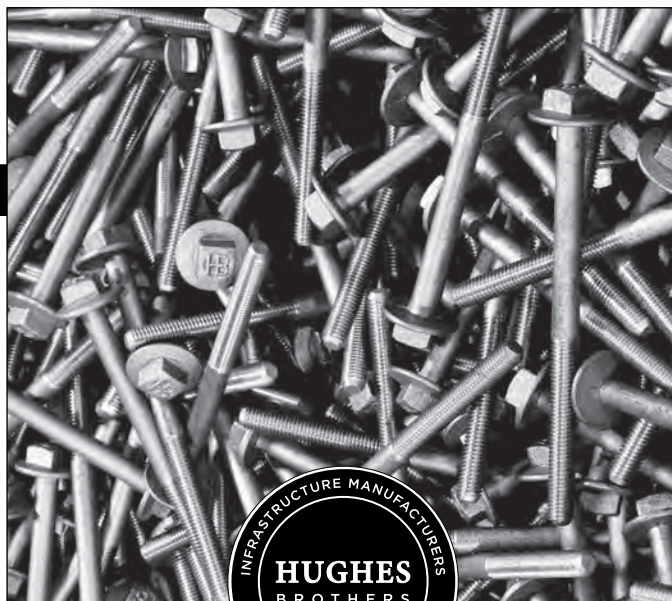
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# Nebraska's Hanging Judges - 1879

Excerpts from a book by Tim Dempsey, 30-year Nebraska Law Enforcement Veteran



Judge William Gaslin - 1868  
Courtesy Nebraska State  
Historical Society

In 1875, Nebraska's new Constitution called for the election of judges by district. **William Gaslin**, originally from Maine, was elected as the first District Court judge in the western part of the state. District 5, Judge's Gaslin's district, comprised approximately one third of the western part of the state. During his 16-year tenure, he presided over 68 murder trials. During his first four years, he purportedly disposed of 26 murder cases

including the infamous Mitchell and Ketchum murder by the Olive gang. In two of those cases, he sentenced Stephen (Sam) Richards and John (McElvoy) Brown to hang.

**George W. Post**, from Bloomfield, Iowa, was the first judge elected to Nebraska's 4th judicial district which included mostly the counties in the mid-section of the state. Judge Post served two four-year terms. During his first four years, Judge Post sentenced Orlando Casler and Dr. George St. Louis to hang. All four of the condemned men were scheduled to hang in the spring of 1879.

Newly elected **Judge Stephen Pound** from District 2, originally from New York, was also busy during his first few years on the bench. He sentenced Henry Schlencker from Lincoln to hang that spring. Altogether, five convicted murderers were scheduled to go to the gallows during the spring of 1879.

Stephen (Sam) Richards, probably Nebraska's first serial killer, was hanged on April 26, 1879 in Minden. Richards was convicted of killing an immigrant farmer in Kearney County. The crowd that came to see him executed was estimated at 1,500. Some traveled hundreds of miles. They wanted the farmer's murder avenged, but most wanted to see justice done for the murder of a mother and her three small children. Richards was buried, but didn't rest in peace. His body was removed from the grave and autopsied by

local physicians who later bleached and publicly displayed his bones.

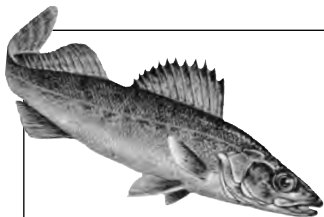
John (McElvoy) Brown, the other man sentenced by Judge Gaslin to hang that spring, fared much better than Richards. Brown (McElvoy) was convicted of murdering Henry Stutzman on the victim's farm about four miles southwest of Hastings, Nebraska. Brown, who was working in Hastings, purportedly walked to the Stutzman's farm from Hastings carrying a pistol and a rifle. The victim was found sitting at his table, and it was determined that he died from two gunshot wounds. One wound was from a pistol and the other a rifle. His body was discovered by a neighbor who noticed mules were missing. The mules were found in the possession of Brown when he was captured near the Blue River.

It took eight days for Brown to be tried, convicted, and sentenced to hang by Judge Gaslin. Subsequently, however, his appeal to the Nebraska Supreme Court was granted. His case was remanded for a new trial, and he was allowed to plead guilty to second degree murder. After serving ten years of a life sentence, he was pardoned by Governor Thayer.

On April 18, 1879, Dr. George St. Louis, who was found guilty of poisoning his wife and sentenced to hang by Judge Post, shot and killed himself in the Dodge County jail on the day he was to be taken to Wahoo to be hanged.

Orlando Casler, sentenced by Judge Post, died on the scaffold on May 20, 1879 for the murder of George L. Munroe near Seward. Casler befriended Munroe, who like Casler, was a Civil War veteran. Casler was able to persuade Munroe to accompany him to Seward. Monroe believed that Casler was going buy his team and wagon, but while camped just outside of Seward, Casler shot and killed him. Casler, who was a most inept criminal, stole Munroe's wagon and team, and disposed of his body in the Big Blue River. Evidence from the victim was found by Seward County Sheriff John Sullivan in Casler's stable. The crime was that of a desperate man. His hanging drew an estimated 5,000 spectators, 3,500 more than attended Richards' hanging.

*continued on page 54*



## Did You Know . . .

**Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County, NE**, is a popular fishing location in central Nebraska. Fishing typically begins in March when northern pike can be caught in the shallow waters of coves and bays. Fishing for walleye during their April spawning period is very popular. Walleye fishing usually peaks in May-June. White bass fishing typically has two peaks—one in

April-May and the second peak in mid-summer. Catching crappie are excellent in May as the reservoir fills and flooded habitat is available in the coves and bays. Ice-fishing for crappie and walleye can also be productive over the submerged cover or habitat. Channel catfish provide good angling opportunities throughout the summer months, and large flathead catfish provide the possibility for trophy-sized fish. Find out more at [loupacity.com/recreation/sherman-lake](http://loupacity.com/recreation/sherman-lake).



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### Did You Know . . .

**Maskenthine Lake Recreation Area** is located ten miles east of Norfolk, Nebraska in the rolling hills of north-central **Stanton County**.

Constructed in 1976, the dam provides flood control for the town of Stanton, one and one-half miles south of the lake. The area is approximately 680 acres in size, including the 100 acre lake, which provides many recreational activities to the public.

The lake is a popular fishery in the district, and is stocked by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Other recreational activities include hunting, boating, picnicking, hiking, camping and swimming.

An arboretum has been established on the east side of the lake. Other tree plantings and windbreaks are located throughout the area. No park permit or fee is required for entrance.

For more information visit:  
[lenrd.org/maskenthine-lake-recreation-area](http://lenrd.org/maskenthine-lake-recreation-area)

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### Did You Know . . .

Located in the North Loup vicinity of **Valley County, NE**, the **Schultz Site**, inhabited at some point during the period A.D. 1-A.D. 500, includes the remains of small oval living structures, storage and trash pits, food refuse, and a diverse inventory of pottery and bone and stone implements.

The people who lived at the Schultz Site were among the first to manufacture pottery in the state, and they borrowed aspects of their culture from the Mississippi and Ohio valleys.

The site suggests a trade or cultural network emanating from the Midwest's Hopewell culture, which linked other groups from the eastern seaboard to the Gulf of Mexico to the northern Rocky Mountains.

Find out more at  
[nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nebraska/valley](http://nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nebraska/valley).



Photo John Nyguen

This leaves us with a choice. Do we trust the people waving the banners and promoting #backtheblue, #weseeyou or do we look at them with skepticism and wonder what is in it for them. In light of the massacre in Texas, the assaults in Minnesota, Washington DC (you can pretty much pick a state), it feels like the people lining the streets and posting on social media how much they support us, have forgotten what they promised. Or do we hold on, believing the vast majority of people are good, will do the right thing, believe in our fight?

Only you can answer that question. You can do your job either way. You can view the world with cynicism and feel distrust toward everyone. Or you can believe that the vast majority of people are good, and sometimes make mistakes or sometimes get wrapped up in their lives.

Don't let the dark part of your heart win - the tired, apathetic, detached, all of humankind is doomed mentality. Once we give into the belief that all humankind is doomed and all is lost we let those who hate us and want to see us fail win. We start not caring about doing our best. We start to allow mediocrity to be the norm. We don't return the citizen phone calls because it is "BS" anyway.

Stand firm. Remember the reason you chose the path you did. It was because you believed you could make a difference, that what you did mattered. It was never about glory or fame or recognition. It was because you had the skills, the strength, the integrity, the honor, the courage to do the right thing. To protect the sheep. You didn't choose this path to bow down to the wolves, or to those who bleat and bleat but do nothing to improve the situation.

You do it for the nine-year-old boy from Grand Island who asked his dad why people kill cops. This amazing nine-year-old took it upon himself to give back to the cops by bringing pop to a church parking lot in 90+ degree weather and hand out cold pop to officers.

When I talked to him, he said he was doing it because "people shouldn't be mean to cops, because you are protecting us. People should be thanking you."

That my brothers and sisters, is why we put on our uniform, vest, badge, duty belt and kiss our loved ones and hold them tight. To make a difference to those who believe in us. To protect those who respect and honor our calling. Your one positive interaction with one person has the potential to alter the course.

My brothers and sisters, I bow my head and pray for you and yours. Stay safe.

**As you prepare for battle . . .  
"Be kind. Be professional,  
but have a plan to kill everyone you meet."  
Marine General James "Mad Dog" Mattis**

#### **About the Author**

*Wendy Piercy is a Grand Island, NE police officer. In addition to being a police officer, she is a licensed mental health therapist. Her career as a therapist has spanned 17 years with areas of expertise in child abuse, interpersonal communications, crisis response, stress management and crisis de-escalation.*

## **Yes, the Pope has a Police Force!**

Technically, Vatican City is an independent sovereign state. However, it's far from an ordinary one. A walled enclave in the Italian capital of Rome, the Vatican occupies just 110 acres — a geographical size that makes it the smallest state in the world. Last year, its population was estimated to be 842. And, this tiny state happens to be the geographical center of the Roman Catholic Church, one of the oldest religious institutions in the world and the largest denomination of the Christian faith, with more than 1.25 billion members worldwide.

Investigations are handled by the Gendarmerie Corps of the Vatican City. These uniformed officers essentially act as the Vatican's police forces, with their roots in an organization created by Pope Pius VII after the dissolution of the Napoleonic empire in 1816. These days, they work

closely with their Italian counterparts under the 85-year-old Lateran Treaty. There are currently about 130 members of the corps: According to the Vatican's Web site, candidates for the job have to be unmarried Catholic men between the age of 21 and 25 with a high school diploma and a height of at least 5 feet 8.

The Vatican's Gendarmerie Corps do not guard the pope. That duty falls upon the Pontifical Swiss Guard, who act as the pope's personal bodyguards and the security service for the Holy See, the political entity of the Catholic Church that is technically distinct from the Vatican City. Otherwise, they care for most of the security, law enforcement and firefighting coordination within the city state — a more taxing duty than you might expect.

*continued on page 55*



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### Hanging Judge . . . continued from page 51

Henry Schlencker was scheduled to hang March 7, 1879 in Lincoln. He was tried and convicted of murdering Florence Booth who was described as being an inmate of a bagnio or house of ill fame. The establishment was owned by Mollie Hall and located in Lincoln.

Schlencker was a Lincoln saloon owner who had made frequent trips to see Booth. On October 10, 1878, he was went to Hall's and asked for Booth. He was highly intoxicated, and when Booth appeared on the stairway he shot her in the heart. Schlencker then turned his gun on himself, but missed his heart. He later recovered from his wounds, was tried before Judge Pound, and sentenced to hang.

After a series of appeals to the Nebraska Supreme Court, Schlencker's case was sent back for a re-trial, and he was eventually given a fifteen year sentence. He was granted a pardon on December 30, 1887.



### About the Author

Tim Dempsey is a native of Omaha and retired thirty year law enforcement officer. He has a B. S. in Criminal Justice and a M. P. A. from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Tim was a part-time instructor at U.NO for over 30 years, and now serves as a member of the Metropolitan Community College Board of Governors. In 2004, the Police Officers Association of Nebraska inducted Tim as a member of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Hall of Fame.



## Pope . . . continued from page 53

Despite the Vatican's small size, it has a remarkably high rate of crimes per capita.

Thankfully, most of the crimes within the Vatican are petty crimes, like pick-pocketing, that target tourists and are committed by outsiders. There's only been one murder case in Vatican history — a 1999 case in which a Swiss guardsman shot and killed his commander and his commander's wife before killing himself. When Turkish assassin Ali Agca attempted to murder Pope John Paul II in 1981, he was arrested by Italian police, as they are allowed to patrol St. Peter's Square because of its closeness to an adjoining Roman neighborhood. (Agca was subsequently tried by an Italian court and sent to an Italian prison.)

Under the leadership of Domenico Giani, a former member of the Italian secret service, the Gendarmerie Corps has significantly expanded its capabilities in recent years, joining Interpol in 2008 and investing heavily in technology. After the Vatican's gendarmerie investigate and arrest, if a case is not handed over to the Italians, it is generally handled by the Vatican's judicial system. This system is, again, necessarily small. It consists of a single judge who has limited jurisdiction over things like parking tickets, a three-judge tribunal that deals with more serious crimes, a four-member court of appeals and a supreme court that contains three cardinals. Traditionally, most of the law in the country has been based upon Italian law, though in recent years the Vatican has increasingly diverged from new laws set in Rome. There are no jury trials due to the country's small population.

The Vatican's small size presents problems when it comes to imprisoning criminals. When the city state became independent in 1929, it opened a small prison containing just three cells. According to one report from 1965, it was remarkably comfortable, with a "spectacular view overlooking the pontiff's private gardens." However, it was rarely used, and in 1955 it was converted into a food warehouse. Since then, prisoners have been held in cells within the gendarmerie headquarters. The reviews for this space are not as positive.

In 2012, Paolo Gabriele, a former butler to Pope Benedict, was arrested for his role in leaking documents to journalists. At his trial, Gabriele complained about mistreatment during the first 15 to 20 days of his detention at the gendarmerie headquarters. "I couldn't even stretch my arms out," he said of his cell, adding that "the light was kept on 24/7." The gendarme denied this but an investigation was opened.

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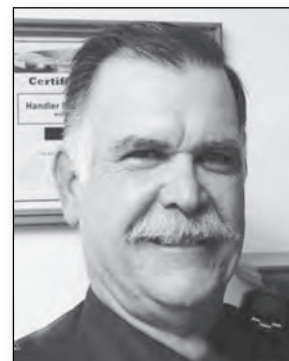
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Gabriele was subsequently sentenced to 18 months back in the gendarmerie headquarters for the "aggravated theft" of confidential documents, but he was pardoned by Pope Benedict after two months. A computer expert also convicted in the case had been given a suspended sentence of two months.

*Taken in part from an online article written by Adam Taylor, The Washington Post, www.washingtonpost.com, Other sources: www.vaticanstate.va www.explore-italian-culture.com/swiss-guard.htm*



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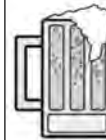
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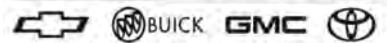
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1968 & 1969

- Race riots required intervention by the military and the National Guard.

1974

- Gerald Ford of Omaha becomes President of the United States.

1982

- Initiative 300 prohibits individual farmers from selling their land to corporations.

1987

- Legislature adopted two measures that authorized tax incentives for businesses intending to create new jobs in Nebraska.

2000

- Train derailment in Scottsbluff spilled 80,000 gallons of chemical benzene, evacuations ordered.

2002

- Pipe bombs found in six residential mailboxes, domestic terrorism suspected; drought devastated crops, caused invasion of grasshoppers, losses more than \$1 billion.

2005

- Legislature voted to allow convicted felons to vote after completion of sentence and two-year waiting period.

2006

- Cuba bought \$30 million in food from Nebraska.

2007

- Gunman killed eight, injured five during shooting at Omaha mall.

2009

- Legislature voted to change capital punishment from electrocution to lethal injection.

2011

- Nebraska legislature voted to reroute controversial TransCanada pipeline to avoid Sandhills and Ogallala aquifer.

2012

- Four tornadoes struck around North Platte, injured four, damaged homes, farm buildings, derailed 31 railroad cars.

2013

- The number of crimes reported to Nebraska law enforcement agencies decreased 4% in 2013 compared to 2012.

2014

- In June, rare twin tornadoes roared through Pilger, NE, obliterating the business district, fire station and 40 to 50 homes.

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