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NASSAU COUNTY DETECTIVES' ASSOCIATION, INC.
POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF NASSAU

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September 2026



25TH ANNIVERSARY

9/11

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Message from the President... William A. Bourguignon



I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer with their families and friends. As we head into the fall, I want to thank our Detectives for the hard work you continue to do every day. The DAI will continue reminding every elected official and Department brass that when they say, over and over again, that “**Nassau County is the safest county in America,**” there is a reason they are able to make that claim: **Nassau County Detectives solve 80% of all major crimes committed in this County.** That fact cannot be overlooked. Our Detectives play a critical role in keeping Nassau County safe, and that work needs to be recognized, supported, and properly compensated.

Our Political Action Committee is working hard to determine which candidates will receive the DAI's endorsement. I want to thank our 1st Vice President and PAC Chairman, Chris Kelly, who leads our statewide PAC efforts, along with Sgt. at Arms Joe Philbin, Trustee Sean Keefe, and

Delegates Tom Leavey, Taylor Nardo, and Dan Kennedy for their hard work and commitment to the PAC Committee. An endorsement from the DAI is extremely valuable, and candidates seeking our support need to understand the issues currently facing the Detective Division. More importantly, they need to demonstrate a strong willingness to work with us to address those issues, correct the problems that continue to impact recruitment and retention, and help restore the Detective Division to its full authorized strength of **360 Detectives.**

September 11th marks the 25th anniversary of the worst terror attacks on our country. We must never forget those we lost, those who responded, and those who continue to live with the consequences of that attack.

On September 28th, we will hold our 2nd Annual Away DAI Montauk Golf Outing, and on October 29th, our 52nd Annual Law Enforcement Night Gala. Congratulations in advance to this year's honorees. I look forward to seeing everyone at both events.

I also extend my condolences to the family of Police Officer Michael Mendolia, who recently passed unexpectedly. We have to take care of each other when tragedy strikes our Blue Family, it's all that matters!

As the PBA continues negotiating a new contract, which could potentially set a pattern for the DAI and SOA, I have had several conversations with County Executive Blakeman and Deputy County Executive Fox regarding the current state of the Detective Division. Following the

buyout, we are down to approximately **295 Detectives**, compared to more than **334 prior to the buyout—the highest number of Detectives we had on record in more than five years.** I have also had several meetings with the County to make sure they fully understand and recognize the issues that continue to disincentivize Police Officers from putting in for the Detective Division. Addressing those issues and securing the best possible contract for our members is the number one priority for me and the entire DAI Board.

My message to the County has been simple: **no one should be expected to do more work for less compensation.** Detectives carry an enormous amount of responsibility and workload, more than any other sworn member of service and our compensation needs to reflect the value of the work we perform.

Rest assured, we are committed to getting our members a great contract, and I am fully prepared to walk through the door and negotiate when that time comes. Until then, I ask everyone to rely on official DAI communications rather than rumors or speculation. If you have questions or concerns, attend an Open Meeting, stop by the Union office, or call me or any member of the DAI Board.

My door is open and my phone is always on. If you need something, call.

Wear your vest and watch each other's backs in the field!

Detectives' Association Inc. Police Department, County of Nassau

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I hope everyone enjoyed a great summer and had some time to relax with family and friends. As we head into the fall, I wanted to give our active and retired members a brief update on some of the political and legislative issues we continue to work on.

Albany remains one of our top priorities. Much of what happens there directly affects our careers, pensions, families, retirees, and, ultimately, public safety.

I am proud to serve on the legislative committee of the Police Conference of New York (PCNY), which represents more than 50,000 law enforcement members across New York State. Working together with PCNY and our fellow law enforcement unions gives us a much stronger voice in Albany. We work hard to ensure that legislators understand how their decisions affect not only police officers and detectives, but also the safety of the communities we serve.

Our priorities continue to include Tier 6 pension reform, disability protections, military service credit, overtime and pension equity, protecting our members' rights, and legislation concerning the release of unfounded or unsubstantiated disciplinary complaints.

We have also spent considerable time meeting with elected officials and candidates from both sides of the aisle. I have always believed that our job as a union is not about whether someone is a Republican or a Democrat. It is about who supports our detectives, law enforcement, public safety, and the pensions and benefits our members have earned.

We may not agree with every elected official on every issue, but we need to have a seat at the table. I will continue working with PCNY, our fellow unions, and elected officials throughout New York to ensure that the voices of Nassau County detectives are heard.

Thank you to our active members, who continue to do an incredible job every day, and to our retired members, who helped build this Association into what it is today.

I hope everyone had a great summer, and I look forward to seeing everyone at our Montauk Golf Outing in September. It is always one of my favorite weekends of the year and a great opportunity to bring our active and retired members together.

Stay safe, and I'll see you in Montauk.

OPEN MEETING SCHEDULE 2026

1700hrs – VFW – Levittown

55 Hickory Lane

***LOCATION AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

**OCTOBER 29, 2026
(Law Enforcement Night)**

NOVEMBER 19, 2026

**DECEMBER 1, 2026
(DAI Holiday Party)**

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I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. As we head into the fall, I wanted to take a moment to update the membership on several issues that have continued to arise and to remind everyone of the importance of protecting themselves both on and off duty.

One thing I cannot stress enough is the importance of contacting the association early when a problem develops. Whether you are contacted by IAU, directed to appear before MAO, involved in a disciplinary matter, or believe a contractual issue has occurred, please notify a delegate as soon as possible. The earlier we are made aware of a situation, the better opportunity we have to provide guidance and representation.

I also want to remind everyone to be extremely careful when communicating through group text messages, group chats, and social media platforms. What may seem like a private conversation among friends or coworkers can very quickly become part of a Department investigation. Screenshots can be taken, messages can be forwarded, and comments made in a private group can ultimately be reviewed by supervisors or IAU. Even

messages intended as jokes, sarcasm, or casual conversation can look very different when viewed without context. Members should understand that there is no guarantee anything written electronically will remain private. Before sending a message, especially one involving another member, a supervisor, a department matter, an ongoing investigation, or anything that could be considered inappropriate or unprofessional. Take a moment to consider how that message would look if it were being read during a department interview or disciplinary proceeding. Once something is written and sent, you lose control over where it may ultimately end up.

We have also continued to see issues involving members who have documented line-of-duty injuries. Members should remain aware that investigators, including Triad investigators, may conduct surveillance or otherwise monitor individuals with documented injuries. This can occur whether a member is out of work, on restricted duty, or has returned to full duty while still having an active or documented injury. It is extremely important that members follow the restrictions provided by their physicians and make sure their activities are consistent with the medical documentation associated with their injury. Something that may seem harmless in everyday life can be viewed differently if it appears inconsistent with a claimed injury or medical restriction. If you have questions about what you should or should not be doing while dealing with a line-of-duty injury, speak with your physician, workers' compensation attorney, and a union representative.

The same caution applies to sick leave and MAO matters. Maintain your medical documentation, follow Department sick leave procedures, and be mindful that home visits can occur. If you are

directed to appear before MAO or the Police Surgeon and have concerns about the process or determination, contact us immediately.

When it comes to IAU or any interview that could potentially result in discipline, preparation remains critical. Review your reports and relevant paperwork, understand the circumstances surrounding the matter, and notify a delegate before participating in an interview whenever appropriate. Do not assume that an informal conversation cannot develop into something more serious.

As everyone is aware, our collective bargaining agreement has expired, and securing a contract remains one of the highest priorities. While talks are currently happening with the PBA, we continue preparing so that the DAI is positioned to move forward when the appropriate time comes. Contract negotiations require patience, unity, and discretion. I encourage everyone to rely on official communications from the association rather than rumors or incomplete information. We will continue to keep the membership informed whenever there is substantive information that can responsibly be shared.

As we move into the fall, I encourage everyone to continue looking out for one another. We all understand the demands and pressures that come with this job. If you see a fellow member dealing with an issue, remind them that they do not have to handle it alone. Our job as an association is to protect our members, enforce our contractual rights, and make sure everyone receives the representation they are entitled to.

Stay safe and watch each other's backs

**If you are not receiving
DAI e-mails,
please register at
www.ncpddai.com**

Treasurer

Eric E. Sperling



Hello, all. I hope everyone had a great, fun, and safe summer with their loved ones. The statement, "The older you get, the faster time goes," couldn't be truer. This summer really flew by. The kids are getting ready for school, and I'm sure most parents are celebrating having a little break, lol.

PAC season is in full swing, and November is going to be here before we know it. Hopefully, the correct people get elected across the board. Our PAC Committee, headed by our 1st VP, Chris Kelly, has been working hard to make sure our voice is heard.

Speaking of time flying by, September 11th is

less than two weeks away, and this being the 25th anniversary, you really should be doing your part to make sure your friends and family get out to vote and keep the people in their seats who want to keep the American way of life the same and not become a lawless, socialist society, which has NEVER worked anywhere in the world throughout history.

We need to keep the memory of all those who lost their lives on that beautiful September day alive and pray that nothing like that ever happens again in our country or anywhere in this world. I, along with many of you, was down there digging and seeing so many of my friends and former coworkers who are still dealing with the effects or who have unfortunately passed due to illnesses because of that attack. It stays very much in my mind and prayers.

Our contract expired, as we all know, this summer, and your Union is working day in and day out to make sure we get the best deal possible. Of course, if any of you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come to our Open Meetings, come to our office, or simply call us.

On a lighter note, Monday, September 28th, is your Away DAI Montauk Golf Outing, the 2nd Annual. Guys still talk about the first one last year and how much fun it was, so I hope you

signed up and enjoy this event.

October 29th is our 52nd Annual Law Enforcement Night Gala. An early congratulations to all the recipients!

Congratulations as well to all members who have welcomed children into their families this year.

I want to extend my condolences to all those who have lost family members this past year, especially the family of Police Officer Michael Mendolia, who recently passed unexpectedly. My prayers are with all of you and your families. Sadly, year to date, there have been 62 line-of-duty deaths in our country. Please watch the backs of our brothers and sisters in blue.

Keep up the hard work!! My door is always open, and my phone is always on if anyone ever needs anything.

God Bless, and stay safe!

Recording Secretary

Vincent Chiarelli



Hope everyone had a great summer!

We had a once-in-a-career opportunity to attend President Trump's event at the Police Academy. It was very well attended by our union as we showed our support for President Trump and County Executive Blakeman.

As our contract negotiations begin to heat up, please remember: if it doesn't come directly from the DAI, it is simply a rumor.

As of now, the PBA is actively negotiating with the County. We will give them ample time to work toward securing a contract, and the DAI will follow with our negotiations once they have reached an agreement. If, for any reason, the PBA is unable to come to an agreement with the County and reaches an impasse, and the County Executive turns to the DAI to negotiate, we are prepared for that scenario. Hopefully, it does not come to that, and we are hopeful the PBA does well in their negotiations.

Chris Kelly and the PAC Committee have been conducting candidate interviews, which are extremely important in determining who we endorse going forward. We have a lot at stake, especially while being out of contract, and Chris and the committee have been working extremely hard throughout the interview process to make

sure each candidate is thoroughly vetted.

Congratulations to everyone whose children were awarded scholarships! Please make sure to submit your tuition receipts so we can get your checks out to you.

A FEW DATES TO SAVE:

2nd Annual Montauk Golf Outing:
September 28-30

Law Enforcement Night: Thursday,
October 29

2nd Annual Kids Lunch with Santa:
Saturday November 14

Looking forward to seeing everyone as we head into a busy fall. Stay safe!

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Sergeant at Arms

Joseph A. Philbin



We are already at the end of summer, and somehow it feels like it just started. I've had the opportunity to see many of you at events or while making the rounds through the squads. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. The DAI continues to remind everyone we meet that if you enjoy living and working in the safest county in America, thank a detective.

Once again, we have begun the work of our Political Action Committee as we determine which candidates we will support in the upcoming election cycle. Our 1st Vice President, Chris Kelly, leads our statewide PAC efforts, while I lead our local PAC.

At the time of this writing, we have completed

three days of meetings and face-to-face interviews with candidates seeking the DAI's endorsement. But the work begins long before anyone sits down at the table with us. We conduct a thorough review of each candidate, including their voting record, legislation they have sponsored or supported, public statements, interviews, and social media. With some candidates, the process is relatively straightforward. They have consistently supported law enforcement, stood with our members, and backed the issues important to us. With others, there is more work to do. We may find legislation they have supported that concerns us, votes that run contrary to our interests, or public statements that require an explanation.

That is where the face-to-face interview becomes so important. We don't shy away from difficult questions. If a candidate has supported legislation we oppose or taken a position that concerns us, we put it directly in front of them and give them the opportunity to explain their position. Those conversations can be tough, but that is exactly what this process is supposed to be. An endorsement from the DAI should mean something, and candidates seeking it should understand who we represent and what matters to our members.

This election cycle brings a significant amount of work. Races include Governor, the State Legislature, Congress, Town Supervisors, and the County Legislature. Regardless of the office, we continue to drive home the same message: we have a shortage of detectives, and we need their help making Detective one of the most desirable positions on this job. We want to know what

each candidate is prepared to do to support our members, protect the work we perform, and address the issues affecting detectives and their families.

Once we publish our endorsements, we ask that you take them seriously. Every member has their own political beliefs, and we respect that. At the same time, our endorsement process is focused on the interests of our membership rather than simply the letter next to a candidate's name.

Both political parties have taken actions that have been contrary to our interests. We all remember 2020, the push from the left to defund the police, and the repeal of 50-a. We should also remember that policies supported by the right have contributed to issues such as Tier 6 and precinct closures. That history is exactly why our PAC evaluates candidates based on their records, their positions, and what they are prepared to do for our members—not simply their party affiliation.

Our strength comes from our solidarity and our ability to speak with one voice. When elected officials understand that the DAI stands together, they understand that our endorsement, our support, and our membership carry weight.

Thank you for everything you continue to do every day. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Trustee's Corner...

Thomas A Roche



For those who attended to Trump event, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity and something people are still speaking about and will into the future.

I know the talk in the squads is currently that we are out of contract. Rest assured the board is ready to speak to the county when the opportunity arises. These type of things to time and should not be rushed to assure that we are obtain the best possible deal that the men and women in this division work so hard for. People keep asking what are we asking for? It would not be wise for us to speak about the DAI strategy but we are still very willing to take ideas to help shape division to become the best at this job has to offer.

The way golf outings are quickly approaching, and I am sure this will be another great event. I hope more members are attending.

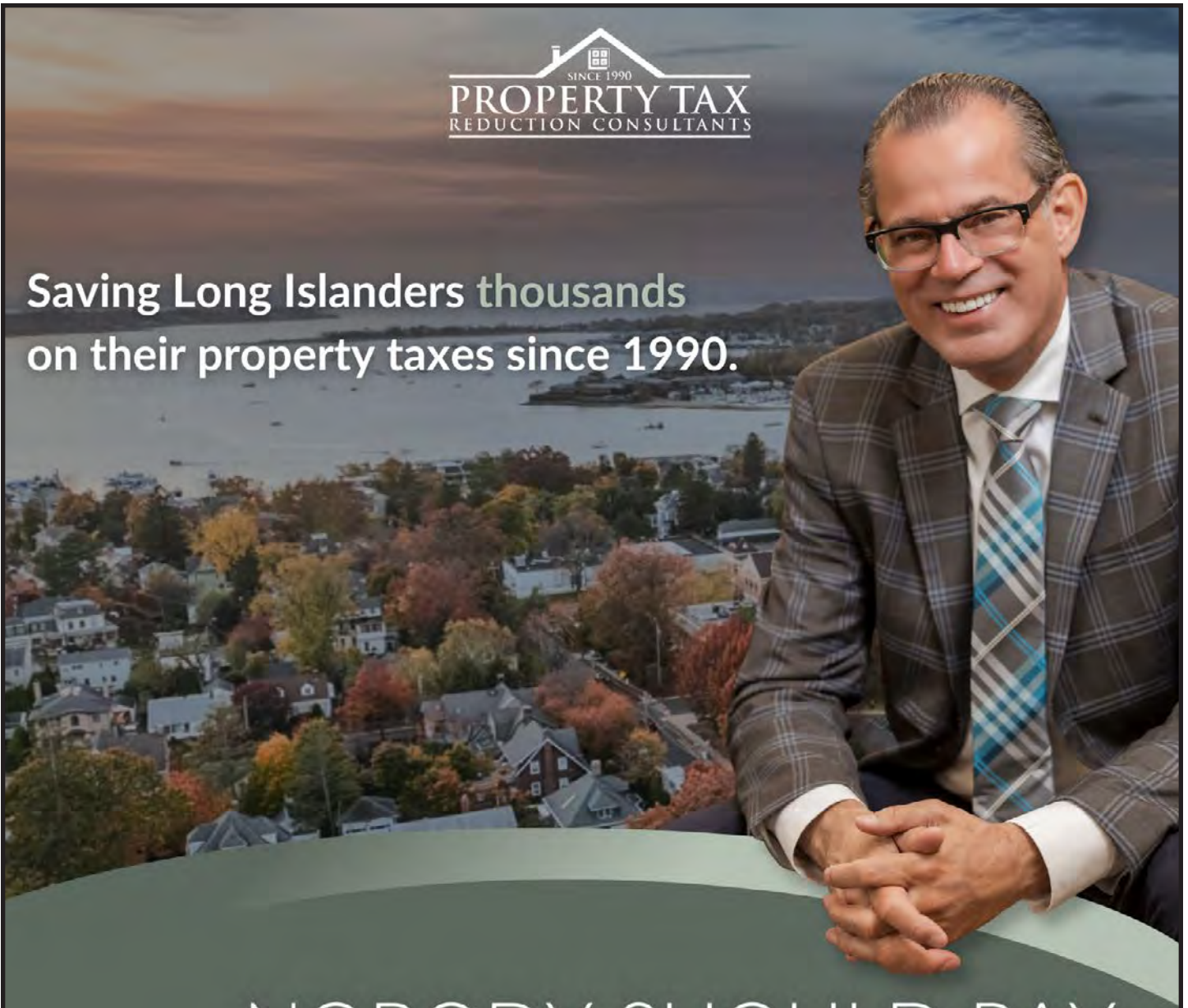
If you are considering putting a letter in for a special squad, do it. Go over to that unit introduce yourself to the members and the supervisors in that unit. This will help you in the future when there is the opportunity for movement that they know who you are because you took the time out of your day to go over there and meet them.

Always remember to be safe and remember to laugh every day. My phone is always on for you.

Summer is full swing and I hope you are taking the time to enjoy it.



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Trustee's Corner...

Nikolas Budimlic



AI hope everyone enjoyed the summer and had a wonderful time at the DAI Picnic. It was great to see so many friends, members, and supporters come together and enjoy the day.

Our other events were also a tremendous success,

with the Montauk Golf Outing once again selling out. We truly appreciate everyone who continues to support these events and help make them so successful year after year.

As fall approaches, we now look forward to one of our most anticipated events of the year — the 52nd Annual Law Enforcement Night at Leonard's of Great Neck, taking place on Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

Please make sure to reserve your tables early. It promises to be another memorable evening as we come together to recognize and honor some outstanding members of the law enforcement community.

THIS YEAR, WE ARE PROUD TO HONOR:

- Detectives DiGregorio and Cillis as our Detectives of the Year.

- D/Sgt. Raymond as our Law Enforcement Person of the Year.
- Greg Cagiano and Rob Rodger as Honorary Law Enforcement People of the Year.
- Detective Mitchell for Career Achievement.

It will be another great night filled with camaraderie, recognition, and appreciation for those who have dedicated themselves to serving and protecting our communities.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be a very special evening. Reserve your tables and come out to support our honorees. We look forward to seeing you there!

Trustee's Corner...

Sean M. Keeffe



I hope everyone had a great summer! With fall comes election season. This is an unusual year. The county Legislator elections are the same year

as all the state elections. Chris Kelly, Joe Philbin, and the rest of the committee did a great job highlighting the issues facing policing, along with the detective shortage. Sometimes members question the need to be involved in endorsements, but it will absolutely be needed when it comes to contracts.

We all know we are out of contracts. The rumors are flying! I heard a good one the other day. I wish it were true. As I have said before, we are all detectives; take a breath and think when you hear some of these things.

If you get hurt at work, think you might have gotten hurt, or something happens at work, and you feel aches and pain, please call a union rep before filling out paperwork. Aided packets and non-re-credables are legal documents. You wouldn't do

a To From letter, go to IAB, or do anything without speaking to a rep. In all those situations, we want to make sure you're covered with the proper protection. It is better to look back and say you didn't need the aided packet than to regret not doing one.

There were some changes to tier 6 this year. I want to thank Chris Kelly and the rest of PCNY for constantly working on this. Chris has spoken to me about this countless times over the last few years. One improvement was lowering the contribution rate that cops pay into their pension. If anyone follows "The Millionaire Cop" on social media, they do a great case study on how that could save some cops \$1,500 a year, and how that money can grow over the course of an officer's career if they put that savings into their deferred comp.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EVENTS
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Biography

Ms. Zuvich graduated summa cum laude from Hofstra University. She received her law degree from St. John's University School of Law where she attended on a scholarship from the Thomas Shortmann Academic Scholarship Fund, 32BJ Employee's Union.

Ms. Zuvich also holds the following distinctions:

- 2008 Suffolk County Woman's Bar Association's President's Award
- 2010 Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition "Celebrating America: An Inter-Generational Heroes' Celebration"
- 2011 Doris S. Hoffman Outstanding New Lawyer Award
- 2011 Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition "A Hero in Service, A Hero at Home"
- 2012-13 Suffolk County Woman's Bar Association President
- 2016 New York Times Magazine Top Attorneys in Metro New York Rising Stars
- 2018 Lawyers of Distinction Excellence in Estate Planning Law
- 2018 Outstanding Leadership Former President Business Networking International
- 2019 Lawyers of Distinction Excellence in Elder Law
- 2021 Premier Member of Super Lawyers
- 2022 Assemblyman Durso Woman of Distinction Award Recipient
- 2022-Present Director of Fundraising for Law Enforcement Officers Weekend

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5th Squad

A welcome to Jeff Riche from the Sixth Precinct, and congratulations to Billy Lauria on his move over to the First Squad. He will continue to build on everything we taught him during his time here playing border patrol. Also, congratulations to D/Sgt Timothy Michel on his excellent score on the Lieutenants exam. Lucky for us, we still get the privilege to work with you for at least another year in the 5SQ.

The Fifth Squad enjoyed our watch party for the US Men's National Team in the World Cup earlier this summer, and are now having another social outing to get the crew together for a Mets game on September 14th. Please reach out to me if you're interested in attending.

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer, making arrests (and money) and doing their best to keep Nassau the safest county in the nation. Please be on the lookout for PAC announcements and endorsements. This election season is just around the corner.

Be safe out there - Dan Nordland

6th Squad

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer! I wanted to welcome Sgt Casey Hastings as a huge addition to the 6th Squad. SGT Hastings has some great experience and we value him tremendously! I would also like to welcome Det Troy Hill to the 6th. Troy is a hard worker and we're happy to have him aboard! Shout out to all the 6th squad members for all of their hard work, as always! We are all rooting for the union to come through on the contract and we wish them the best of luck. It is the Detective Division that is the backbone of this department, working behind the scenes getting things done and never taking the credit. We are hoping and confident that our new contract will be a reflection of that hard work. As always, stay safe and watch you 6.

Andrew Colonna 6SQ

7th Squad

I hope everyone has been enjoying the summer and getting some well-deserved time with family and friends.

As we look toward the months ahead, I'm hopeful that we will begin contract negotiations, I have full confidence in our board that they will be able to

get us the best contract they can for us. We also have the upcoming midterm elections which should keep us busy supporting the candidates that we endorse.

We welcome Det. Risco and Det O'Leary to the 7th as well!

Stay Safe.
Taylor Stone

8th Squad

Sitting here writing this article with the summer coming to an end and fall right around the corner, I can't believe that it will soon be the 25th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. Some reading this article were active members of this department or the city at that time and were brought down to the World Trade Center site to help. Others reading this may not have even been alive.

I'll never forget that day and can only speak briefly to the significance of September 11th in our country's history. Most importantly, I want to pay my respects to all of the men and women who were affected by that tragedy.

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer, and I look forward to the good times continuing with the DAI's away golf outing at the end of September. Last year was a great time, and I'm sure this year will be another memorable outing!

Congratulations to Al Otto on his recent promotion to Lieutenant! I've had Al as a boss for the past five years, and I've been lucky enough to work with him, golf with him, and, most importantly, get to know him. Al has played a big part in creating the camaraderie we currently have in the squad, always pushing for steak dinners, baseball or hockey game outings, or any other excuse to get everyone together. Al, best of luck in the 5th. We'll definitely miss having you in the office!

Stay safe,
Tom Leavey

HQ 3

Congratulations to Mike Dilena for achieving his First Grade Detective designation.

The Gang Investigation Squad has recently conducted one of the most significant gun trafficking arrests in the history of Nassau

County, leading to the recovery of 47 firearms and substantial quantities of narcotics following a 14-month investigation. Of the six defendants, three were found to be in the United States unlawfully. As always, this unit continues to impress, consistently executing arrests stemming from long-term investigations that contribute to making Nassau County a safer community to reside in.

The Major Case Squad has successfully executed more than 40 arrests and has resolved several burglary and robbery patterns in the past four months. Despite a decrease in crime rates, this year has proven to be the most active regarding arrests for the unit, with no signs of a slowdown. Each Detective is constantly writing search warrants, ensuring that their cases reach resolution, and working to guarantee that the defendants are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law by working together with the District Attorney's Office.

Detective First Grade Damien Suarez is set to receive the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award at the Nassau County Police Hispanic Society's 12th Annual Scholarship & Awards Gala on September 24th. We invite you to join us in honoring him, as well as all the other individuals being recognized, and to show your support for the Hispanic Society.

Respectfully,
Eddie Hctor

HQ 4

Another three months down to the year and only a few months left of great weather on the Island. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves stayed healthy and safe. For the members of NVS, the hard work at the office continued with several big cases of note. While working with members of HSI, over 100 Kilos were seized at JFK Airport. 2 separate yearlong investigations were closed out with successful arrests and search warrants one of which included a wire case where the top target will be facing several decades as major trafficker. Additionally, a recent case in Westbury resulted in a successful search warrant of nearly a Kilo of coke and a handgun.

I would like to take the time to congratulate Rich Westhoff on his recent retirement. Westy leaves as the most senior Detective in the Division with over 20 plus years of service in the DD. Westy came to NVS as white shield in 2004 and spent the majority of his time in the FBI task force in Melville. During his time in NVS/FBI Westy conducted numerous wire cases, investigated

major narcotic trafficking rings, as well as Mob Cartel and gun trafficking cases. Additionally, Westy was always available to assist or enhance other NVS members cases and investigations. Westy enjoy your new gig in retirement.

Just a reminder to save the date. NVS End of Summer Beach party is Friday September 18th, 2026 at the Tobay Beach Marina from 2 PM to 7 PM. This is a free party for all to enjoy.

As always, remember, be careful out there.

Hillman

as well as 3 SVS members who have moved on from the unit: former SVS Commanding Officer Carlo Maltempi and Detectives Joseph Testa and Alfredo Rodriguez III.

The party will be held at the Westbury Manor on September 17 at 6pm. Tickets are \$100 at the door. Additionally, SVS has a newly designed challenge coin for sale for \$20.

Please contact Delegate Stephanie Mosquera for more information.

Stephanie Mosquera

from you and help out.

I did make FMI Kerry Miner's luncheon, I have had the opportunity to work with Kerry for 21 years on many difficult and nasty cases, and she will be truly missed. Whenever she responded to a scene you knew you were getting a professional and thorough job.

Dates will be coming out shortly for the fall and winter union functions, try and make it, have had some great turnouts and good times, but could be even better.

Stay safe

Tony Rempel

HQ 8

HQ 6

We'd like to extend an invite to our upcoming Retirement party honoring 5 retirees: Detectives Nicholas Occhino, Richard Lee, Luis Salazar, Daniela Farrell and Clerk Typist Susan Connors

Summer is moving along way to fast, not even close to ready for fall. Over the summer we added three new Crime Scene Detectives to the chart, Steve McCarthy, Melissa Ciaramitaro and Christian Wagner, all on night tours. Don't hesitate to call, I am sure they would love to hear





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“Like it is...”

Retired Delegate Raymond Gene



Summer has come to an end. I've been preparing for the fall which by the way is my favorite time of year. I know I mentioned it in my last article, but to be on the safe side, the retired guys, and girls' meeting is now being held at the VFW hall, 55 Hickory Lane, Levittown with a start time of 6 PM. Our first meeting will be on Thursday, Sept. 10th @ 6 o'clock sharp.

The 25th anniversary of 9/11 is here. I can't believe it's that long ago. We lost many cherished souls that day and the country came together as one. We are still losing people from the aftermath of that day, and today the country has never been so divided. If you think about it; a major voting bloc in this country were not even born at that time and now they are eligible to control our elections. So, many of these children did not experience that horror on 9/11 nor are they educated on the actions that our enemies took that fateful day. Scary!

A very critical time is coming in November. The midterm elections will be upon us. I am not a vocal political person and really don't give a

s—t what your politics are as long as you vote for the people who have our countries best interests in mind. The current state of politics today is actually ruining families and friends. We all know that whoever gets into office will eventually become a millionaire. How is that possible on a 175,000 dollar annual salary? That being said, and this is for us old-timers, please explain to our Millennials and Generation Z-ers why socialism doesn't work. I feel for them with home prices being so high and good jobs at a premium. I know it's tough out there and they are easily swayed by the promise of free stuff. Let's keep our fingers crossed that Bruce Blakeman succeeds and tries to put a hold on some of the outrageous ideas coming out of Albany.

Due to the fact that we are old and still here, certain new inventions are coming at us fast and furious. I think back from when we were kids and marveled about Dick Tracy talking to his wristwatch, or more recent carrying around a device that allows you to talk or text to anyone around the world. Amazing! Along came AI. I know, some of us look at AI and think its steak sauce but it is actually A.I. (Artificial Intelligence.) I had an occasion to test it out. “Many of us might think this technology is only for younger folks, but it's actually a simple tool that can help organize thoughts, polish writing, which by the way, I need a great deal of help with, and also can be used to answer questions, and even assist with researching historical topics. It doesn't replace experience, it compliments it, much like when you adapted to my previous mentioned inventions. The ChatGPT app is available for free on your cell phone and it is here to stay. You will be amazed at how helpful it can be. Don't use it for political advice. Grok is also available and is created by xAI, a company founded by Elon Musk. It's your choice but both are very helpful.

There's nothing to report on the medical front other than the fact that I heard that our health insurance is dropping their coverage of medical massage therapy. For those of you that didn't use this coverage, a simple prescription from your doctor allows you to use a certified therapist for massage relief. I don't think the recent closing of the “Happy Ending” spas had anything to do with NYSHIP dropping it. I guess the only way to afford health care for all, is take away from the working class.

I just received my pistol license renewal in the mail. For those of you who live in Nassau County, you must have your HR-218 (Federal license) in order to get your new carry permit. This isn't a bad idea because it forces you to go out and shoot your weapon at least once a year.

I know we're getting older, and that's a good thing but, we should make a concerted effort to attend Law Enforcement Night. We honor the best of the best that night and it gives everyone a chance to party with the active members. Networking can't hurt. The event is scheduled for Thursday, October 29th @ 6:00 PM at Leonard's of Great Neck. Some of us got together and used Uber rides for transport back and forth. Good idea. Just for your information, I know Lenny Sessa personally. I can't overstate how much he has done for law enforcement over the years. Thank you Lenny.

I hope everyone is feeling well and enjoying their retirement years. If there is someone that needs some special attention for any reason, feel free to give me a call and we will do what we can. Nicole at the DAI office has my number and will take a message for me, and I will return your call. God bless you all.

And that my friend's is telling it, “Like it is.”

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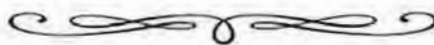
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Departed Members

The Association notes the passing of the following retired member(s):



Retired Detective Thomas V. Apicello
Photography Section
Appointed 01/05/1960, Retired 01/16/1995



Retired Detective James F. Magee
Narcotics Vice Squad
Appointed 09/21/1962, Retired 10/11/1984



Retired Detective Sergeant Brian A. Weber
Crimes Against Property
Appointed 04/29/1966, Retired 01/10/1991

May they rest in peace

Retired Members

The Association wishes to extend best wishes to the following members for a happy and healthy retirement

Detective Jesus E. Bonilla
Major Case Squad – Burglary
01/04/2016 – 7/9/2026

Detective Sergeant John J. Giovaniello
Strategic Response Team
9/30/2022 – 6/25/2026

Detective Bridget Kershow
Asset Forfeiture/Intel
01/06/2011 – 7/30/2026

Detective Frank R. Miller Jr.
Fugitive Missing Persons – Polygraph
11/7/2000 – 6/25/2026

Detective Sergeant John K. Schmitt
Gang Investigation Squad
01/04/2016 – 7/23/2026

Detective Richard W. Westhoff
Narcotics Vice Squad
3/1/2005 – 7/23/2026



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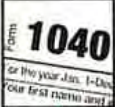
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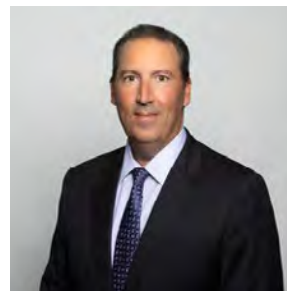
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Dear Members of the NCPD DAI,

This September marks a milestone that carries immense weight for our nation, and one that hits incredibly close to home for me: **the 25th anniversary of September 11th, 2001.**

A quarter of a century ago, I was working on Wall Street, having started at JPMorgan and then on to Chase Manhattan Bank. Like so many of you, that morning permanently altered the trajectory of my life. I watched the world change in real-time, and worse, I lost close, dear friends in the attacks. The grief of that day, and the vivid memories of the smoke and chaos, have never truly left me.

In addition to that, I was the part-time youth minister at St. Frances DeChantal in Wantagh where we had lost many parents and worked on consoling the teens caught in the aftermath.

But alongside that profound pain, I also remember the awe I felt watching the sea of blue uniforms running *toward* the danger while everyone else was running away.

Over the years, transitioning from Wall Street to building Craig James Financial Services, I have had the distinct privilege of working closely with many of you in the Nassau County Police Department. Getting to know you as individuals, families, and protectors has been one of the most rewarding chapters of my career. You aren't just clients to me; you are an extension of a community I feel deeply bound to protect, just as you protect us.

On behalf of everyone at Craig James Financial Services, I want to extend my deepest respect, solidarity, and gratitude to you. Thank you for your unwavering courage, your dedication, and for allowing me to stand by your side all these years.

Twenty-five years later, we still remember. We will never forget.

Sincerely,

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