

FEBRUARY 2021 MEMBERSHIP MEETING UPDATE

(Meeting held on 3/2/2021 at Columbus Gardens in Baltimore County due to COVID restrictions in Baltimore City)

LEOBR

President Mancuso and the Lodge Legislative team have been working since August with the State Lodge, and the other lodges from around the state, in an attempt to lessen the blow to our LEOBR in Annapolis. This misguided action by the Maryland General Assembly will have unintended consequences to the crime fight, with these ramifications being discussed with those elected officials. In August, when the repeal was first talked about, there did not appear to be much hope for stopping its advance. We have made some progress and we continue to discuss this ill-fated attack on our rights. The House and Senate Bills have now come out and will now go to a conference hearing where the final draft will be decided (negotiated) between the House and Senate. It will probably be a week or two until we know what the final Bill will look like. Thank you to those members who have written and called their Legislators (keep it up). Any repeal/partial repeal of the current legislation will not only affect your jobs but potentially your freedom.

City Control of BPD

There are two Bills in Annapolis that will transfer control of the BPD from the State to the City. This transfer could potentially impact our collective bargaining rights. The Mayor advises that he would not exercise that option. In turn we gave him an amendment that would protect our collective bargaining (CB) rights and asked him to include it if he truly does not plan to attack our CB. He refused! We are still pushing the House or Senate to include our amendment. Legislative Chairman Bob Cherry and his Legislative Committee have given testimony on this Bill and we will continue to keep the pressure on.

***Update:** Since the meeting, the Maryland Attorney General's Office has agreed to look at this situation and render an opinion expeditiously.

Contract

Negotiations began in January with ridiculous opening proposals from the City. The ground rules prohibit any specific information from being shared. We will keep the membership informed as we can.

COVID Stipend

Mayor Scott reassess the need for this stipend on a monthly basis and has extended it through March 2021.

Ryan Dorsey

His attacks against the Lodge and our members continue. He appears to be coming unhinged as he is now attacking others, including Gov. Hogan. Our responses have been tempered as our work in Annapolis and the City Council is of primary concern at this time. Things have been and will be in the works for Dorsey.

Pension Litigation

Our appeal was heard by the Court of Appeals on 2/4/2021. Our attorneys remain positive but there is no way to predict the outcome. The Chief Justice likes to end the sessions by 8/31 so we expect to hear a decision by August 2021, if not sooner.

Lodge Detail Arbitration

Hearing was held on 2/23/2021. We hope to have a decision within 30 days.

Trainee Cody Ruhling

Cody continues to recover from the injuries he received in a training accident at the BPD Academy. He is due to have another surgery soon. Signal 13 and our Lodge have each agreed to pay 4 months of the family's mortgage to help them through this difficult time.

Lounge Reopened

Lounge Manager, Chick LoRocco, has reopened the Lounge however food is not available due to the ever-changing COVID restrictions. Members are encouraged to bring their own food or order in.

OT Lawsuit

There have been overtures made by the City to engage in settlement talks in regard to the overtime lawsuit. The motive is unknown and 1st VP MacDonald will be sitting in on any meetings between the attorneys.

Workday

Every pay period since the implementation of this new system has been fraught with problems. It appears that the problems with payroll are lessening but issues with Leave remain. Many of the current problems relate to early programming issues. Members are urged to continue to work out any problems with their timekeepers and the Workday complaint system. If there is still no resolution, please contact the Lodge for assistance. 1st VP MacDonald and State Trustee Cohen have resolved close to 98% of the issues for which they've been notified. If members are in Patrol, they are encouraged to ensure they are being paid for 8.55 hrs./day. Tasks can only be delegated to Sgts. and above ranks. If you are unable to make changes, use the manual time entry form.

Conflict Attorneys

Members are advised that the prepaid legal plan covers District Court cases only, unless approved by the Legal Committee and the board. Should a member require an attorney outside of SBWD only those who have been approved by the Legal Committee and the Board will be compensated by the Lodge.

Earl Kratsch Scholarship

In recognition of Brother Kratsch's 50+ years of service to our members, we have begun a new \$2,000 educational scholarship in his name. Each year, the Lodge Scholarship Committee will name a recipient who best meets the criteria of service and academic achievement.

2021 National Conference

The Conference Delegates were nominated and appointed at this meeting.

Deputy Commissioner Nadeau Investigation

There was a recent Trial Board held in which a member was terminated despite the fact that the makeup of the Board was not in accordance with our MOU (outside attorney/SBWD not involved). As a result, President Mancuso made a formal request that there be an investigation into whether Deputy Commissioner Nadeau of the Public Integrity Bureau was neglectful and failed to supervise his Bureau. Commissioner Harrison agreed to accept my formal complaint and the investigation has been turned over to the Office of the Inspector General. President Mancuso advises all members to adhere to all laws, including simple ordinances, as IAD appears to be out of control in terms of investigating and charging our members. A member was given a citation in Baltimore County for a leash law violation and our Public Integrity Bureau actually charged the member.

Please take care of one another,

Mike Mancuso