

RETIRED SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION, INC. OF THE NYC POLICE DEPARTMENT

THE CHEVRON

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION - APRIL '23

POLICE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK

FLORIDA RECAP

P1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

P2

POPPA SAFER PROGRAM

P11-12

RSA OPIOID TRAINING

P6

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

P17-18



Keeping Retirees Informed

PO BOX 7466 WANTAGH, NY 11793 | WWW.RSANYPD.ORG | (718) 605-0272

ANNUAL FLORIDA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING REPORT

On January 25, 2023 the RSA held its annual Florida General Meeting at the Hilton West Palm Beach Airport Hotel. We “sold out” the hotel on three separate occasions; we secured a block of rooms in a nearby hotel, which also “sold out”. We expected a large crowd, and a record 202 people were in attendance. Each member received a gift bag with various promotional items from Barasch & McGarry, CCW Safe, Davisvision, Empire Dental, Leo Callaghan LLP, John Hancock, and Optum RX. Representatives from each were on hand to address our members’ questions and concerns.

SBA President Vinny Vallelong addressed the large crowd, SBA Health & Welfare Secretary Don Kipp spoke of the new dental plan available to members, and SBA Health & Welfare Fund Administrator Eroll Ogman answered many of the members’ questions regarding the Medicare Advantage Plan.

CCW Safe informed the membership of the importance of self-defense legal services, which they made available to the RSA members at a rate of \$134.00 per year and a 3 month trial period free of charge. Roland Grant of Safety Quest spoke of the new carry laws. Richie Allies of the Barasch & McGarry Lawyers for the 9/11 Community spoke of the programs available to members who were exposed to toxins and WTC Health Program and Victim Compensation Fund.

The highlight of the evening was the 1st and 2nd Prize drawing for the Scholarship Raffles. The 1st Prize of \$10341.00 went to John Schrynemakers and the 2nd Prize of \$3441.00 went to Jay Lau. The three (3) scholarships in the amount of \$4600 each, will be drawn at our June meeting. The 50/50 raffle in the amount of \$330.00 went to Anthony DeSena and the Samsung Tablet, donated by PC Richards & Son, went to Thomas Larkin. I would like to thank the RSA Board who individually and collectively volunteer their



time to support and help all our members. The RSA Membership meeting was a great success mainly due to their dedication to the organization.

I would like to thank the membership for their support of our organization. There are many fraternal organizations that you can join. We are happy that you choose us.

RSA-“Keeping Retirees Informed”





EXECUTIVE BOARD

Harold Kamien*
Founder

Robert V. Cotumaccio
President

Anthony F. Amato
Vice President

Anthony T. Nostramo
2nd Vice President

Maria E. Valdez
Treasurer

John A. Foster
Secretary

Nicholas Canepa
Corresponding Secretary

Michael Kushner
Recording Secretary

Thomas King
National Secretary

Herbert Valdez
Director of Operations

Norman Horowitz
Sergeant At Arms

Dominick Petrucci
Marshal

PAST PRESIDENTS

Harold Kamien*
William Leask*
Patsy Noto
Lawrence Kelly

**deceased*

ALBANY REPRESENTATIVE

Michael Fahy

TRUSTEES

Jeanette Dice
Jose Santiago
Stephen Sheridan

CHAPLAIN

Msgr. Robert Romano
718.236.8300

LEGAL ADVISOR

Michael Barasch
212.385.8000

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Jason Siegel



I would like to welcome spring and the return of our Snowbirds. We made it through another New York winter. On January 9th, 2023, myself along with the SBA were present at City Hall for the City Council hearing regarding the introduction of law (Int# 0874-2023) to amend Administrative Code 12-126 (Health insurance coverage for city employees, city retirees, and their dependents). Mayor Adams and the Office of Labor Relations (OLR) have asked the City Council to hold a hearing to approve the introduction of a bill that would amend the city's Admin Code 12-126, which would give the city the authority to change both the retiree's and active's medical insurance plan. This amendment, if approved, would negatively affect us all. I, along with SBA Health and Welfare Secretary, Don Kipp, registered to give testimony at the hearing, but unfortunately were never called. City Council leaders announced on January 12th that they have no plan to pass a bill pushed by the Mayor and that the legislation is unlikely to ever get a vote.

On January 11th, 2023, there was a preliminary injunction by Hon. Lyle E. Frank, where he states that under Admin Code 12-126, the City of New York is to pay the full amount of health care costs. Thereby, the imposition of co-payments on those who are covered under GHI Senior Care is likely to be found as violating the contract between New York City and Emblem Health. This injunction remains in place as we await further ruling from the Court, including the possibility of any reimbursement for co-payments already paid.

On January 25th, 2023, we held our Annual Florida Meeting. This was the largest attended meeting the RSA has ever seen. Our membership numbers continue to increase, and as we grow, so does the workload and expenses. I would like to thank the Board of Directors, Trustees and all our volunteers who make this all possible. This Board has worked tirelessly, and please remember we are all volunteers, and donate our time and sometimes our own money to make this organization a success. We are all proud to

serve and assist the membership. I would like to remind the membership that just because something is put on social media, does not make it factual. There is a lot of misinformation on social media and online. So, please navigate with an open mind. With this in mind, sometimes there is a delay in the RSA putting out information. This is because we work diligently to verify the information we post.

We have received a large request for additional RSA annual membership/courtesy cards. We have never sold cards in the past, but this year, with our newly designed card, there has been a great demand for additional cards. We have decided to make available (4) RSA cards for a \$5.00 donation, which will cover the cost of the cards and postage.

I have made this announcement at the last two meetings; we have a retired Sergeant who is 32 years old and one who is 102 years old, if you do the math: 70 years separate the two. We also have several active Sergeants who have joined our organization. This is why we will be moving into the tech age. Soon the Chevron Newsletter will be available electronically. We will be amending the membership application so you can start to receive it electronically. You will need to write the email in which you want to receive it. Eventually, the newsletter will be sent electronically to all members, and a limited number of "HARD" copies will be available for those who request it.

I am very pleased to inform the membership that the scholarship raffle was a huge success. This year we will be issuing (3) College Scholarships in the amount of \$4600.00 each, which will be drawn during our June 2023 meeting. The scholarships are available to the children and grandchildren of our members. Due to high demand, I am happy to report that our next general membership meeting will be held at the Oriental Plaza on Staten Island (April 26th, 2023 @ 6:30PM).

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership, the board, trustees, volunteers, guest speakers, our advertisers, our graphics designer, and everyone else who makes this organization a great success. I thank you all for the pleasure to serve you and serve with you.

Faternally,

— 



The RSA is pleased to offer three (3) \$1,000.00+ scholarship awards to graduating high school students who are furthering their education in 2023. As in every year, the awards are enhanced by our 50/50 Scholarship Enhancement Raffle (p10), and on occasion, generous donations from RSA members.

To be eligible, candidate must be a child, stepchild or grandchild of an RSA member in good standing for 2021, 2022 and 2023. Candidate must be a 2023 High School graduate who is enrolled in an institution of further education (i.e. College, University, Trade School). The course of study must be for a minimum of one (1) year. Sergeants who retire in 2022 and 2023 and

join the RSA in the same year are also eligible. Please complete the application below and forward it with a copy of the letter of acceptance from the school, to: **Second VP Anthony Nostramo 6 Redwood Drive, Dix Hills, NY 11746**

Please do not send certified, we will not pick it up at the post office. Regular U.S. mail reaches us. Winners drawn by lot in June 2023. Questions should be directed to Second VP Anthony Nostramo at 917-750-6486.

Member's Name: _____

Student's Name: _____

Student's Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

DOB: _____ Student's Phone #: _____ Student's Email: _____

College/School: _____

Freshman Yr Starts: _____ Member's Phone #: _____

Student Relationship (circle one) FATHER MOTHER STEP-PARENT GRAND-PARENT

APPLICANT MUST ATTACH ACCEPTANCE LETTER FROM COLLEGE/SCHOOL IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED.

THOMAS CARRELLA

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING SERVICES EXPERTISE IN
UNIFORM PERSONNEL INCOME TAXES AND L.O.D.I.'S



NOTARY PUBLIC
(631) 385-4018
FAX (631) 385-4123

RETIRED NYPD SERGEANT



BRAD HANES

Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

Cell: 917-859-0713
Direct Line: 631-266-6108
bradford.hanes@elliman.com



ENTER TO WIN!



JetBlue Airlines has generously donated two (2) Round-trip vouchers to anywhere JetBlue flies. The tickets are one (1) for \$10.00 or three (3) for \$25.00. If you wish to participate in this raffle, cut out and return with a check or money order made out to the Retired Sergeants Association and mail to: **P.O. BOX 2507 Riverview, FL 33569**

For additional raffles, please copy this page and follow the above directions. The raffle drawing will be held in June of 2023.



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

DRAWING: JUNE 2023

Winner need not be present to win.
Vouchers donated by JetBlue



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

DRAWING: JUNE 2023

Winner need not be present to win.
Vouchers donated by JetBlue



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

DRAWING: JUNE 2023

Winner need not be present to win.
Vouchers donated by JetBlue

In Memoriam

SGT. STEVEN VAVRUICK

End of Watch - 11.20.22

SGT. JOHN DIFEDE

End of Watch - 11.21.22

SGT. ALLAN HEYMAN

End of Watch - 11.22.22

SGT. FRANK COVINO

End of Watch - 11.25.22

SGT. DONALD SUTHERLAND

End of Watch - 12.18.22

SGT. JOSEPH FIORE

End of Watch - 12.27.22

SGT. JAMES BAYREUTHER

End of Watch - 12.29.22

SGT. WILLIAM SWIERUPSKI

End of Watch - 01.21.23

SGT. VINCENT SCOTTO

End of Watch - 01.23.23

SGT. PATRICK MALLON

End of Watch - 01.26.23

SGT. RICHARD MILLA

End of Watch - 02.03.23

SGT. JAMES CURRY

End of Watch - 02.03.23

SGT. GEORGE LERNER

End of Watch - 02.15.23

SGT. JOHN FAHERTY

End of Watch - 02.23.23

SGT. JOSEPH FICAROLA

End of Watch - 03.02.23

SGT. EDWARD CROISSANT

End of Watch - 03.05.23

SGT. JAMES HEALY



End of Watch - 03.06.23



TOM CRIMMINS
REALTY, LTD.
304 MANOR ROAD SI, NY 10314

CELL: 718-344-6862
OFFICE: 718-370-3200
FAX: 718-370-3222
tzanata3270@gmail.com

THOMAS ZANATA
NYS Licensed Real Estates Salesperson

Gennaro Jewelers

Always Ask For Your
**Law Enforcement
Discount!**

GennaroJewelers.com
PoliceJewelry.com

Phone: 516.868.0023
Fax: 516.377.7712

RH1040@aol.com

RICHARD H. ROTTKAMP, EA
Income Tax Preparation • Financial Consultations

www.richardrottkamp.com
466 Ashland Avenue, North Baldwin, NY 11510-2534

To Bob and the entire Board of Directors

Thank you for all you do for our
membership

— Retired Sgt Richard H Rottkamp —



P.C. RICHARD & SON

America's #1 Family Owned & Operated Appliance, Electronics & Mattress Retailer

Proudly supports the...

**RETIRED SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION
OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**




RSA HOSTS OPIOID OVERDOSE TRAINING

On March 6th, the RSA held a Special Training Class on Opioid Overdose Treatment. Once again, the class was filled to capacity. Administering Narcan requires basic training, and it can be done by anyone who is willing to learn. Narcan, also known as naloxone, is a life-saving medication used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. Opioids are powerful painkillers that can cause respiratory depression, which can lead to a coma and even death. Knowing how to administer Narcan is critical in saving the lives of individuals who are experiencing an opioid overdose.

Narcan is a medication that is available in different forms, such as an injection, a nasal spray, and an auto-injector. The medication works by quickly blocking the effects of opioids on the brain, reversing the respiratory depression, and restoring normal breathing. Narcan is effective in reversing the effects of various opioids, including prescription painkillers, heroin, and fentanyl.

Knowing how to administer Narcan is critical for several reasons. First, opioid overdose can happen to anyone, including individuals who are prescribed opioids for pain management. Additionally, many individuals who misuse opioids are not aware of the potency of the drugs they are taking, which can increase the risk of overdose.

Many members have contacted me and related stories that affected their own families. Based on this information, we have added another class on April 24th, 2023. Information to follow.





1305 Franklin Avenue, Suite 200
Garden City, New York 11530
Telephone (516) 345-8080
Facsimile (516) 345-1616 *
www.MarkAGreenPC.com



Practice Limited to Matrimonial and Family Law

- Divorce
- Custody and Visitation
- Child Support
- Enforcement/Contempt
- Family Offenses and Orders of Protection
- Paternity
- Guardianship
- Juvenile Delinquency
- Post Judgment Motions
- Child Neglect & Abuse

When you need counsel on major, life-impacting decisions, you deserve to have an attorney who will listen to your concerns, thoroughly examine the facts and provide the best practical solutions tailored for you and your future. A dedicated, experienced and reliable law firm, like the team at Mark A. Green, P.C., makes all the difference in the outcome. Let us help you protect your parental rights and your financial rights.

Please call us at (516) 345-8080 to arrange a consultation.
Visit us on the web at www.MarkAGreenPC.com.

Retired NYPD Sergeant

Office visits by appointment only.
This is an attorney advertisement.

Not intended to create an attorney-client relationship.
Information herein does not constitute legal advice.

* Not for Service of Process



*Professional Training Consultants servicing
New York and surrounding areas.
Call 631-876-5438 for more information.*

SCHEDULE YOUR HR 218 / ARMED SECURITY TRAINING TODAY!

**For more info or to schedule a course go to our website
*www.SafetyQuestLtd.com or call us at 631-876-5438.***

**Three indoor ranges available: Bay Ridge/Brooklyn,
Nassau County/Uniondale and Suffolk County/Smithtown**



CCWSAFE

NYPDRSA PROTECTOR BASIC

- \$500,000 Bail Coverage
- 24-hour emergency hotline patched through to attorney
- Critical Response Team on site for all deadly force incidents
- Appeals/Mistrials/Retrials
- Vetting of hired Attorneys by National Trial Counsel
- No caps on Attorney Retainer/fees
- No caps on Investigators costs/fees
- No caps on Expert Witnesses expenses
- All trial fees and costs covered up front
- Firearm Replacement during trial/Loss of Primary CCW Weapon Covered
- Up to \$250 a day work loss while in criminal or civil trial
- Up to 10 sessions (\$150 each) for a licensed counselor
- \$3k crime scene clean-up (home)
- Criminal Record expungements

* Spouses that are also LE Officers can be added through support@ccwsafe.com

\$134 ANNUALLY

NYPDRSA PROTECTOR PLUS

- DEDICATED \$1MM CIVIL LIABILITY COVERAGE
- \$500,000 Bail Coverage
- 24-hour emergency hotline patched through to attorney
- Critical Response Team on site for all deadly force incidents
- Appeals/Mistrials/Retrials
- Vetting of hired Attorneys by National Trial Counsel
- No caps on Attorney Retainer/fees
- No caps on Investigators costs/fees
- No caps on Expert Witnesses expenses
- All trial fees and costs covered up front
- Firearm Replacement during trial/Loss of Primary CCW Weapon Covered
- Spouse and children under 18 covered in home only
- Up to \$250 a day work loss while in criminal or civil trial
- Up to 10 sessions (\$150 each) for a licensed counselor
- \$3k crime scene clean-up (home)
- Criminal Record expungements

* Spouses that are also LE Officers can be added through support@ccwsafe.com

\$335 ANNUALLY

SELF-DEFENSE LEGAL SERVICES MEMBERSHIP
JOIN TODAY AT CCWSAFE/NYLE.COM

RSA FLORIDA FISHING TRIP

MAY 10, 2023 | 8AM

CLEARWATER BEACH ON THE DOUBLE EAGLE

\$25/MEMBER

\$65/NON-MEMBER



INCLUDES:

- Commemorative t-shirt
- Fishing license
- Rod and reel
- Bait
- Snacks and water
- Gratuities

THIS IS A HALF DAY, 4-HR. TRIP. PLEASE VISIT

WWW.DOUBLEEAGLEDEEPSEAFISHING.COM

FOR DIRECTIONS

LIMITED AMOUNT OF SPOTS AVAILABLE. FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

******* CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 21 *******

**MAIL
CHECKS TO:**

RSA
P.O. BOX 2507
Riverview, FL. 33569

INCLUDE W/ PAYMENT:

- FULL NAME
- TELEPHONE NUMBER
- EMAIL ADDRESS

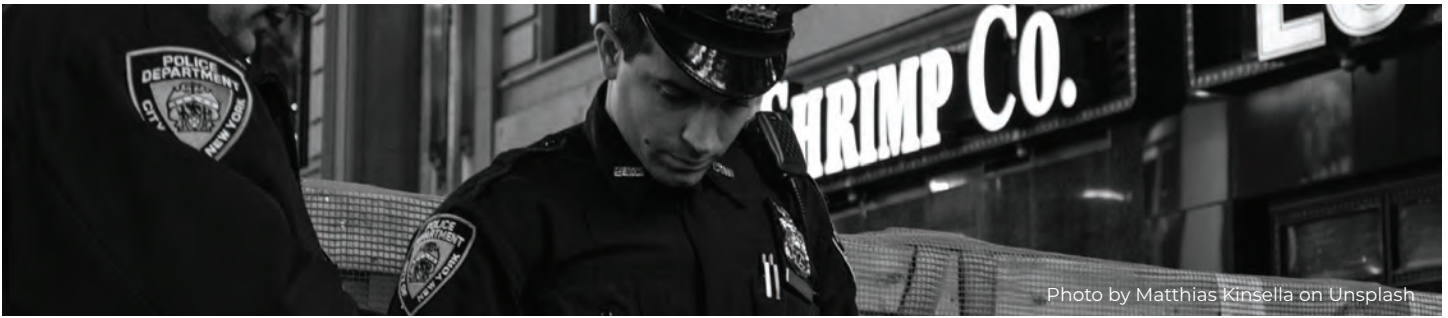


Photo by Matthias Kinsella on Unsplash

POPPA Retiree Program

In 2006, POPPA started its Retiree Program with 26 retired NYPD officers dedicated to help meet the needs of fellow retired police officers. The mental health and other unique needs of this group are often overlooked. Retired police officers can use POPPA services for a variety of stress or mental health issues, relationship problems, substance use, or if they feel suicidal. Sometimes, retirees just need to reconnect with another person who can identify as a law enforcement peer.

The Retiree Program has grown to more than 100 volunteers spanning several states across the country in addition to New York. POPPA is a safe and confidential support system for retired NYPD officers that can help to identify appropriate local resources within various communities.

24/7 Retiree Helpline 1-800-599-1085



Photo by Robinson Greig on Unsplash

Suicide Awareness For Emergency Responders (SAFER)

POPPA has developed the Suicide Awareness for Emergency Responders (SAFER) program. Our goal is to educate as many police officers as possible so they may identify risk factors and warning signs among police peers, know how to engage and establish rapport quickly in order to respond to a colleague, family member, or loved one who may be in crisis, and have resources to help an officer who may be struggling.

POPPA has been offering full-day SAFER training to any active or retired NYPD officer and his or her family members, as well as other first responders on an approximately monthly basis. There is never a charge for police or any first responders or their families. POPPA has also extended this offer to clinicians and others (such as teachers) who may be likely to encounter individuals in crisis.

Anyone can learn the specific skills to respond to a person in crisis. The willingness to step-up and help an individual, especially another officer, is inherent in the character of every police officer. Police officers and other emergency workers respond best when they feel understood by their respective peers. This is the key to peer support programs. However, family members, friends and other loved ones can provide a lifeline to someone in crisis when they apply the principles, skills, and strategies learned through the POPPA S.A.F.E.R. program.

Retired Members Of The Service welcome to register. Phone or email me.

Kevin Geoghegan - POPPA
32 Broadway 14th FL.. New York, N.Y 10004
Office: (212) 298-9111 ext. 213
KGeoghegan@poppanewyork.org



Police Organization Providing Peer Assistance

SUICIDE **A**WARENESS **F**OR **E**MERGENCY **R**ESPONDERS

Upcoming 2023 Dates:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3/8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 9/13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4/21 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10/18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5/24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 11/6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6/14 | |

Time:
8am – 4pm

Location:
POPPA Office
32 Broadway,
New York, NY
10040
(212) 298-9111

**THIS ONE DAY TRAINING IS FREE TO ALL
MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE (UNIFORM AND
CIVILIAN) AND TO THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS**

TO REGISTER:

**Call (212) 298-9111 or email
Kgeoghegan@POPPANewYork.org**

1 (888) COPS-COP 267-7267

60 MINUTES



Barasch & McGarry appears on 60 Minutes and blows the whistle on predatory lending company targeting 9/11 cops

By Michael Barasch,

Managing Partner at Barasch & McGarry

.....
I was honored to be interviewed on 60 Minutes in regards to a lending company named RD Legal that was charging dozens of people in the 9/11 community exorbitant interest rates.

I reported the lending company to both the Department of Justice and the New York State Attorney General's Office and refused to pay them \$500,000 in interest on a \$350,000 loan that they made to a disabled police officer who couldn't understand the confused documents that he was required to sign. Frankly, neither could I.

The company then sued me. But trust me, never has being sued felt so good.

The Attorney General's Office and the Department of Justice agreed with me and sued the company, alleging that it was breaking the law and charging usurious interest rates.

I'm delighted to report that the government's case against the lending company has settled, and 60 Minutes just ran a story about the dangers of accepting loans like this.

I was interviewed as the whistle blower along with one of my clients who was charged 150% interest for his loan.

I am thrilled to announce that everyone who borrowed money from this company will get all their interest payments fully reimbursed.

While this is indeed wonderful news for dozens of people, the most important thing is that we put this unethical company out of our lives.



Managing Partner Michael Barasch and Ret. NYPD cop Donald Sefcik on 60 Minutes

I hope you will share this story so that no one is ever taken advantage of by a lending company like this in the future.

If you know anyone in the 9/11 community who was charged more than 16% interest on a loan, they may be entitled to the return of all their interest payments from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

It would be my pleasure to put them in touch with the attorneys from the Department of Justice.

Please be each other's advocate. You've already been victims once, don't let anyone be a victim again.

**SCAN HERE TO WATCH
OUR 60 MINUTES INTERVIEW:**



Two Government Programs Available to 9/11 Victims:

The World Trade Center Health Program offers free nationwide health care to anyone who was in the 9/11 exposure zone anytime between September 11, 2001, and May 30, 2002.

The Victim Compensation Fund, permanently extended and fully funded by the U.S. government, offers tax-free compensation to anyone who is certified with any of the 69 cancers or respiratory illnesses linked to the 9/11 toxins.

911victims.org • 212-385-8000



LAWYERS FOR THE 9/11 COMMUNITY
9/11 DIDN'T END ON 9/11.

Active & Retired NYPD

68 CANCERS AND MANY RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES HAVE BEEN LINKED TO 9/11 TOXINS.

Anyone who participated in the rescue and recovery operations in Lower Manhattan on 9/11, or during any part of the 8 months that followed, may be eligible for free health care and significant compensation.

The most common 9/11 illnesses for first responders include respiratory conditions, skin cancers, prostate cancer, blood cancers, thyroid cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, and kidney cancer.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE BENEFITS TO WHICH YOU ARE ENTITLED:

- \$90,000-\$250,000 awards for skin cancers
- \$200,000-\$340,000 awards for other cancers
- \$20,000-\$90,000 for respiratory illnesses
- \$250,000+ for families who lost a loved one
- Additional compensation for lost income

CONTACT US FOR A FREE CONSULTATION:



212-385-8000



911VICTIMS.COM



REGISTER NOW—EVEN IF YOU'RE CURRENTLY HEALTHY.

You do not need to be sick or to have been diagnosed or certified with a 9/11-related condition in order to register. But don't leave it to your family to start the process after you get sick. Protect your family!

TWO PROGRAMS AVAILABLE:



WORLD TRADE CENTER HEALTH PROGRAM

A federal program that certifies 9/11 illnesses and offers free nationwide health care. No copays, no deductibles. Free cancer screenings because early detection is the key to survival.



VICTIM COMPENSATION FUND (VCF)

A \$10+ billion federal program permanently extended and fully funded by the U.S. government. All awards are tax-free. It's not too late for most families who lost loved ones due to 9/11 illnesses to register—but some deadlines apply so enroll now.



NYPD ID CARD RENEWAL

FORM CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEBSITE

In 2016, the RSA reached an agreement on an NYPD ID Card renewal procedure for our “out-of-town” members. This procedure needs to be followed exactly as presented below:

- Proxy renewal is available **ONLY** to members living outside the five (5) boroughs of New York City and the six (6) counties in which active members are permitted to live.
- **ONLY** cards issued after November 1, 2002 can be renewed this way. In all other circumstances, members will have to personally visit 1 P.P. Prior to November 2, 2002, cards were not digital and therefore photos cannot be reproduced.
- Cards may be renewed within six (6) months of expiration.
- A completed PD form **MUST** accompany the card. The form also be downloaded on our website.

Additionally, the expiration date will be increased from five (5) years to eight (8) years.

THE RSA IS AUTHORIZED TO DELIVER MEMBERS' CARDS TO 1 P.P. AND RETURN SAME TO MEMBERS.

To insure security in the transfer of cards to and from members, the following procedure **MUST** be adhered to:

- Item **MUST** be sent to the RSA in a USPS Flat Rate Priority Mail envelope. You will receive a tracking number from the post office. **DO NOT REQUEST SIGNATURE OF RECIPIENT.** The postage is \$9.90.
- In the envelope, place your PD ID card, the complete PD form and a check in the amount of \$9.90 made out to Retired Sergeants Association (to cover the cost of priority mail return of your new card) and address the package to:

**RSA ID CARD DESK
392 COLON AVE., STATEN ISLAND, NY 10308**

Please allow for up to a thirty (30) day turnaround time and please do not deviate from the above instructions. Please note that this RSA service is available **ONLY** to dues paid RSA members.

RETIRED DEPENDENT CHILDREN COVERAGE FOR SBA HEALTH & WELFARE BENEFITS

Your unmarried dependent children are covered for SBA Health & Welfare (H&W) benefits up to age 19. On their 19th birthday, they will automatically be terminated. To maintain SBA H&W benefits, they must be a full-time student at an accredited educational institution. An SBA Dependent Student Certification form is required for **each semester**. This form is attainable from the SBA website at: www.sbanyc.org or by emailing healthandwelfare@sbanyc.org. Retiree dependents (unmarried) who are full-time students are eligible for SBA H&W benefits up to their 23rd birthday. For Spring semesters, the completed form is due during February and for Fall semesters, the completed form is due during September.

If at any time they lose their status as a full-time student, or turn 19 with no form on file, they are no longer eligible for benefits and **must request** an SBA COBRA application from the SBA H&W office if electing to maintain coverage. SBA COBRA coverage for your dependent consists of prescription, dental, and optical and may be continued up to age 29. If a dependent loses their status as a full-time student and then regains full-time status before age 23, SBA benefits will be reinstated upon receiving the completed form. Again, once a retiree's full-time student dependent reaches their 23rd birthday they are no longer eligible for SBA H&W benefits and must contact the SBA H&W office if electing SBA COBRA coverage. This election must be made within 60 days of the date of termination. For SBA COBRA premiums and additional information, please contact Vanessa at vcosme@sbanyc.org.

NOTE:

Coverage for medical and hospital is administered by NYC Office of Labor Relations (OLR) Health Benefits Program. Dependent children are covered till the end of the month in which the child reaches age 26 (whether married or unmarried). For additional information regarding eligibility please visit OLR at: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/olr/health/retiree/health-retiree-enrollment.page>

When a dependent child is terminated from the medical and hospital coverage, COBRA Continuation for Dependents, for medical and hospital coverage is available at a premium. For additional information regarding medical and hospital COBRA Continuation for Dependents coverage please visit OLR at: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/olr/health/retiree/health-retiree-cobra.page>



MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN

On March 09, 2023, the Municipal Labor Committee, dominated by the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) and District Council 37 (DC 37), voted to dramatically change how health benefits are provided to our most senior members*.

As described in The Chief March 9, 2023: *"The MLC's 102 member unions together represent about 635,000 current and retired city workers — 250,000 retirees and roughly 385,000 active members. The United Federation of Teachers, which likely voted in favor, alone represents 190,000 members, while District Council 37, while comprising a number of locals, altogether represents 240,000 members..." "It's unclear how many unions participated in the vote. A message left for MLC lawyer Harry Greenberg was not returned. But according to the committee's bylaws, the vote was weighted in favor of the largest municipal unions, with participating unions getting one vote for every 250 members, Nespoli said."

This vote mandates our most vulnerable plan participants to be forcibly switched from a government administered traditional Medicare Program to a commercial, for profit, Medicare Advantage Plan. The reason for this act, imposed on our oldest and sickest members, was allegedly to financially stabilize the MLC

Stabilization Fund, an entity that will soon be obsolete. In reality it is a move to conceal the root of this financial catastrophe, the plundering in 2014 and 2018 of the Stabilization Fund by the greedy U.F.T. in collaboration with then Mayor Bill DeBlasio.

This all said, absent of continual and successful legal actions by The NYC Organization of Public Service Retirees or divine intervention, most members are subject to be involuntarily enrolled in the new Aetna Medicare Advantage PPO.

Members are strongly encouraged to go on the OLR website and review the "Evidence of Coverage: Your Medicare Health Benefits and Services as a Member of Aetna Medicare Advantage PPO Plan" at <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/olr/downloads/pdf/rfp/ma-hearing/cony-ma-eoc-soc-02102023.pdf>. This document gives you the fine details about the Aetna Medicare Advantage PPO Plan coverage from September 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023. Ironically, this document only covers the implementation period although the term of the OLR-Aetna contract spans five (5) years and four (4) months expiring December 31, 2028. What changes are planned after the initial honeymoon period after December 31, 2023?

MEDICARE CONTINUED

1. The Medicare Advantage Plan becomes effective September 1, 2023.
2. Plan choice will be limited to only the Aetna Medicare Advantage PPO and the EmblemHealth HIP-VIP HMO Plan.
3. All other Medicare plans previously provided by NYC Office of Labor Relations (OLR) will be ended and plan participants will automatically be disenrolled from their current Medicare plans and re-enrolled in the new Aetna Medicare Advantage PPO.
4. Medicare qualified plan participant requesting "to move to" Emblem Health HIP-VIP will need to prepare a "Health Benefits Program Retiree Application Change Form" (www.nyc.gov/olr).
5. 80% of the standard Aetna plan "Prior Authorizations" have been waived (this is negotiable every two years) at a cost to NYC- OLR of \$15.00 per participant per month. This along with a zero (0) premium cost to OLR for participants benefit outlines their total benefits' cost obligations. A significant savings from the \$191.00 PMPM (per member per month) under GHI-Senior Care. This arrangement provides future value for UFT and DC 37 to barter for future Collective Bargaining Agreements.
6. Any plan participant opting out of the new Aetna MA plan or HIP VIP or waiving OLR coverage will not be eligible to receive the annually Medicare Part B reimbursement or the IRMAA from OLR

Many of our members continue to pay more at the pharmacy for certain medications due to the unending rise in the cost of brand prescription drugs. The RSA is aware of this and is currently working closely with the SBA Health and Welfare Fund to assist our members in navigating this obstacle.

The SBA Canadian Prescription Drug Program, which had resulted from requests and with input from our members, is a way to help curtail members' costs and significantly reduce the out-of-pocket costs being experienced by members and applied to their annual benefit maximum. This program also allows members to receive the same manufacturer brand drugs or generic equivalents from licensed pharmacies. This program has been in existence for quite some time, but many may still not be familiar with it.

Members utilizing this program **MUST** first contact Alyssa at the SBA via email at healthandwelfare@sbanyc.org for the program's guidelines, approval for the Brand drug they are looking to obtain, and the process for reimbursement from the SBA Health & Welfare Fund.

Please be aware that members are still responsible for all applicable co-pays however a generic co-pay is applied in all cases.

Note: This program applies only to pharmaceutical products sold in the USA as a single manufacturer brand drug and not manufacturer generic drug products.

I personally contacted various Canadian internet pharmacies and inquired what was needed to obtain pricing and medication. The results were the same for all the pharmacies I contacted. After a few easy prompts, I was transferred to a representative who began to explain their process. The processes varied slightly from one Canadian pharmacy to another, so I suggest contacting them directly or go online to their website for direction. There are numerous Canadian internet pharmacies, for a list, members can visit the Canadian International Pharmacy Association (CIPA) at <https://www.cipa.com/>. CIPA is a Canadian association of licensed, retail pharmacies. According to their website, they sell safe and affordable prescription drugs made by the leading name-brand manufacturers at prices up to 80 percent less than U.S. pharmacies. The two most utilized Canadian internet pharmacies by SBA members are True Value Pharmacy (800-845-3960) and CanAm Discounts (954-746-6390). The RSA does not recommend any specific Canadian internet pharmacy and suggest you conduct your own research/investigation when choosing a Canadian internet pharmacy.

In closing, if you are considering utilizing this program benefit, I strongly recommend that you contact the SBA to see if this is right for you. As a reminder, all medications **MUST** be pre-approved by the SBA Health & Welfare Fund prior to being eligible for reimbursement.

RSA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday - April 26, 2023 at 6:30PM

ORIENTAL PLAZA
1845 Richmond Ave., Staten Island, NY
718.761.8668

The SBA Frontline Team will be in attendance.
At the conclusion of the meeting. A family style Chinese dinner
will be served with beverages and soft drinks.



50/50
RAFFLE
will be held

RSA General Membership Meetings are open to Paid Members, RSA Widows/Widowers, and Guests approved by the Board. During the meeting, all electronics devices must be turned off. No video, photography or recordings of meetings except those authorized by the Board. There shall be no written materials or promotional items distributed before, during, or after the meeting, without prior permission of the Board.

Staten Island & Brooklyn's Finest Real Estate Network

THE LAW OFFICES
**DANIEL
BYRNES**



Dan Byrnes
Attorney
917-295-3264

Retired NYPD
Sergeant



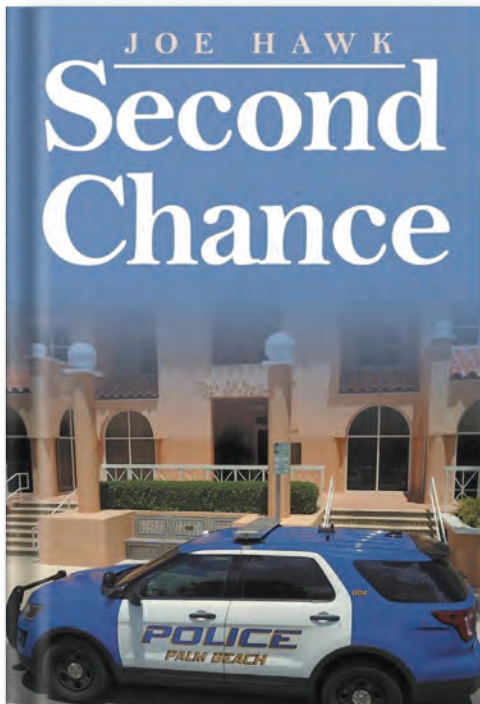
Tom Crimmins
Broker -
Tom Crimmins Realty
718-598-0905

Retired NYPD
Sergeant

Ask about our NYPD discounts
Buying out of state? We can also help!

HELP WANTED

As we continue to expand in size, we have seen an increase of over 600 new members since 2022. The membership is made up of Retired Sergeants from the age of 32 to 102; there are a lot of war stories to be told. As the numbers get larger, so does the workload. We are looking for Retired Sergeants, who would like to VOLUNTEER and are interested in assisting us with day to day operations of the organization. As a Volunteer, you will be considered for the position of Trustee. If you are interested please contact us at RSA@RSANYPD.ORG or call 718-605-0272.



Upon retiring from the New York City Transit Police Department after 22 years, I was given a second chance to start over, in a new police department and to be able to continue doing what I loved, being a police officer. What I didn't know at the time, the town of Palm Beach P.D. wasn't all that I thought it would be instead, the department revolved on favoritism; and if you questioned their decisions, they retaliated against you. This was obvious from the time I took my first promotion test for the rank of sergeant. I was passed over for the next three promotions, even though I was higher up on the list. They employed the "Peter Principle", promote the man to his next level of incompetence. I had the moral courage to speak up, and the rank and file stood idly by. Then the retaliation started, lower yearly evaluations, refusal to sign off on off duty police courses, to further my law enforcement career, avoid rewarding me Officer of the Month for outstanding arrests; it went to officers with mediocre arrests, eleven {11} years to fully reach top out pay whereby other officers reached the top after four to five years, assigned to least desirable patrol zones for long

periods of time. After working for the two past chiefs, the department turned around. I never gave up, and I maintained my moral courage to stand up for what was right. Finally, after eleven {11} years, I was recognized for who I was and what I stood for. The next nine years were most rewarding. 10% of all sales of this book will go to the fallen law enforcement officers memorial funds, Washington, DC, so that they won't be forgotten.



Legislative CORNER



Hope all is well with you and your family. During the last couple of months, we have all been fighting to keep our health benefits from being changed. I would like to thank everyone who participated in our efforts with the City Council to stop

the change of the Administrative Code. When the Speaker of the Council spoke at the hearing, she mentioned that she received over 100,000 emails from retirees requesting the City Council not change the code.

On the legislative side, we are moving forward with health protection legislation. Some of you may have seen emails about the Sanders bill (S2728) that basically addresses NYC law enforcement and firefighters for health protection. As you know, it is the benefits of all retired civil servants that the city and the MLC have targeted. If these changes happen, it is only a matter of time that this destructive move will sweep through the state. That being said, we are focusing on legislation that will cover all government retirees in NYC and the State. This will help us garner more support from other organizations to move legislation forward and strike a significant blow to the political game of "Divide and Conquer". Our strength comes from working together toward a common goal. The bill that covers all government retirees in NYS is (S4191) sponsored by Senator Lanza and (A4989) sponsored by Assemblyman Weprin. We are putting our efforts into moving this

bill forward and working with the Alliance of Public Service Organizations to get this bill a dedicated effective date. These bills have already garnered a number of Co-sponsors since being numbered for this session. We are also working on getting a Democrat Senator to Co-Prime Sponsor Senate bill S4191.

The COLA and Veteran's bill at this point is still being numbered. Once that happens, Bob and Tony will be sending updates and political action requests to you as we move along.

Best Regards,
Mike Fahy

An additional action for members, their family, and friends who live in NYS:

- Visit <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation>
- Click on "SEARCH BILLS"
- In "PRINT NUMBER", put in "S4191" and click on "SEARCH"
- Click on "Bill S4191"
- In the box on right titled "DO YOU SUPPORT THIS BILL", click "AYE"
- Fill out the account information and submit.



Dave Legaz
R.E. Broker

Keller Williams Realty Landmark
C: 718-216-9990 | LegazTeam@kw.com

Serving the 5 Boroughs, Nassau & Suffolk



2021 President - NYS Association of REALTORS®
2017 President - Long Island Board of REALTORS®

NYPD Sergeant: 1995 - 2002
SBA Delegate: 1996 - 2002
Commands: 106th Pct, PBQ, PSA 4

**If you or your family are thinking about buying or selling,
contact me to learn more about my VIP Program
and Exclusive MOS discount!**

Allow my experience of 25+ years work for you



Donations made following every closing to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society with hopes of finding cancer cures for 9-11 First Responders!

Dave continues to run Marathons to raise money with Team In Training

Additional Education to Move You Across The Street, Across Town or Across The Country:



Keller Williams Realty Landmark
32-55 Francis Lewis Blvd, Flushing NY 11358
O: 718-475-2800



CALLAGHAN PARENTE LLP

Attorneys and Counselors at Law

Leo G. Callaghan, Esq.

Partner

NYPD Sergeant and Senior Legal Counsel, Retired

Special Counsel, NYPD Retired Sergeants Association

Special Counsel, Retired Police Association

Special Counsel, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 69

Special Counsel, International Police Association Region 5

Special Counsel, NYPD Committee of Police Societies

General Counsel & Executive Director, CrimeStoppers of Suffolk County

Huntington Lawyers Club, Trustee

Practice Areas

Estate Planning, Wills and Trusts

Probate & Administration of Estates

Elder Law • Long Term Care & Medicaid Planning

Special Needs Planning • Retirement & Pension Planning

Residential and Commercial Real Estate

Business Formation, Legacy, and Continuity Planning

Personal Injury, Wrongful Death, WTC VCF Claims

Education Law • Landlord Tenant Matters

Reduced rates for Law Enforcement Officers and Families.

1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 603, Westbury, NY 11590

Phone 516.200.6900 ♦ Fax 866.269.3969

lc@cplawny.com ♦ www.cplawny.com

Appointments at your home or business available on request.

YOUR AD HERE

AD RATES

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Business Card | \$125 |
| Quarter Page | \$225 |
| Half Page | \$350 |
| Full Page | \$500 |

Please include business card or photo-ready copy with payment. We can also typeset or design an ad for you for an additional cost.

Above rates include one full year (4 issues) of ad insertions and one year membership in the Retired Sergeants Association, Inc.

Please contact us today if you are interested.



**Hector Highway
Hernandez**

ATTORNEY

Se Habla Español

HHernandez@LaBovick.com

HECTORHIGHWAY.COM

(561) 625-8363

ACCIDENTS

- **AUTO/TRUCK**
- **MOTORCYCLE**
- **SLIP AND FALLS**
- **WORKER'S COMP**
- **SOCIAL SECURITY**
- **MEDICAL MALPRACTICE**
- **WRONGFUL DEATH**



LABOVICK
LAW GROUP

WARRIORS FOR JUSTICE

**5220 Hood Road, Ste. 200
Palm Gardens, FL 33418**

Follow Me:

HECTORHIGHWAY



L.E.O.S.A. HR 218 WEEKLY QUALIFICATIONS ON STATEN ISLAND

COURSES TAUGHT BY

**NYS CERTIFIED POLICE FIREARMS
INSTRUCTOR/ACTIVE MOS**

**RECEIVE A PHOTO ID CARD
WITH 24HR. CONTACT INFO.**

**ARTHUR KILL
SPORTS**

ARTHURKILLSPORTS@GMAIL.COM

**CONTACT BERNIE NOVINS
347.552.0903**

ARTHURKILLSPORTS@GMAIL.COM

MEMBERSHIP CARDS



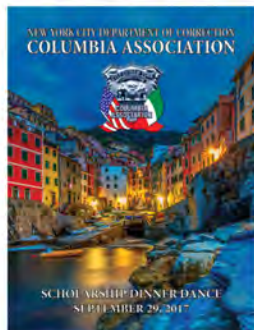
DECALS



CHALLENGE COINS • BADGES • LAPEL PINS



JOURNALS & AWARDS



and much, much more... If it's Printed, We Do It!



1313 Broadway
Hewlett, NY 11557
516.569-5577
Fax 516.569.4740

Email: Police@MinutemanPress.com
www.LawEnforcementPrinter.com



**RETIRED SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION, INC.
OF THE NYC POLICE DEPARTMENT**
PO BOX 7466
WANTAGH, NY 11793

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hicksville, NY
Permit No. 842



UPCOMING EVENTS

WED. APRIL 26TH

**RSA APRIL
MEETING**

Oriental Plaza
Staten Island, NY

WED. MAY 10TH

**FLORIDA FISHING
TRIP**

Clearwater Beach,
FL

TUES. MAY 16TH

**SBA GOLF
OUTING**

Pelham Bay/Split Rock GC
Bronx, NY

WED. JUNE 28TH

**RSA JUNE
MEETING**

American Italian Hall
Elmsford, NY

FRI. JUNE 30TH

**SBA
PICNIC**

Nasen Park
Staten Island, NY

FRI. DEC. 22ND

**SBA HOLIDAY
PARTY**

Russo's on the Bay
Howard Beach, NY

WED. SEPT. 27TH

**RSA SEPTEMBER
MEETING**

Irish American Hall
Mineola, NY

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Retired Sergeants Association | (718) 605-0272 |
| Sergeants Benevolent Association-Office | (212) 226-2180 |
| SBA-Health & Welfare | (212) 431-6555 |
| Emergency Medical Squad | (718) 626-9320 |
| Police Pension Fund | (212) 993-5100 |
| Operations Division | (646) 610-5580 |
| Police Headquarters | (646) 610-5000 |
| Employee Benefits Program-Retired | (212) 513-0470 |
| Job Desk-Retired | (212) 298-9141 |
| Office of Labor Relations-OLR | (212) 306-7200 |
| Chaplains Unit | (646) 610-6472 |
| POPPA Helpline-Retired | (800) 599-1085 |

| | |
|--|----------------|
| NYC Pistol License Division | (646) 610-5560 |
| NYC Pistol License Division-Renewals | (646) 610-6558 |
| NYC Pistol License Division-Authorizations | (646) 610-5153 |
| NY State Police | (518) 464-7120 |
| Nassua County Pistol License Division | (516) 573-7524 |
| Suffolk County Pistol License Division | (631) 852-6118 |
| Suffolk County Sherriff's Department | (631) 852-2233 |
| Westchester County Clerk's Office-Pistol | (914) 995-2709 |
| Safety Quest-HR 218/Permit Course | (631) 876-5438 |
| Arthur Kill Sports-HR 218/Permit Course | (347) 552-0903 |
| CCW Safe-Self Defense Protection | (405) 400-1505 |
| Barasch & McGarry-9/11 Lawyers | (212) 385-8000 |