

RETIRED SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION, INC. OF THE NYC POLICE DEPARTMENT

# THE CHEVRON

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION - DECEMBER 2024

POLICE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK

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*Keeping Retirees Informed*

PO BOX 7466 WANTAGH, NY 11793 | [WWW.RSANYPD.ORG](http://WWW.RSANYPD.ORG) | (718) 605-0272





# 2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES

The Retired Sergeants Association (RSA) was formed in 1995 under the leadership of Harold Kamien. This year is our 30th Year of "Keeping Retirees Informed". The RSA, which started with a handful of members, has grown into the thousands. Our members reside in 49 states, as well as Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Sweden, Ireland, New Zealand, and Thailand.


The RSA is dedicated to keeping our membership informed via phone, emails, and our website. We provide many services and communicate with the membership on a daily basis. We are at the forefront of providing current and accurate information to our members. We are proud to offer a one on one service.

Each year, the RSA publishes a quarterly informative newsletter and holds four general membership meetings in the metropolitan NYC area and Florida. The Executive Board of the Sergeants Benevolent Association attends each of our general membership meetings & answers our members concerns and questions.

On behalf of the RSA Executive Board, I want to personally thank you for your membership. Your interest strengthens our organization and further helps to provide a forum for new ideas. The RSA Cruise, trainings and golf outing gives us a chance to give back and meet our membership. As we move forward, we will continue to work closely with both active and retired law enforcement groups. If we can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact us with questions and concerns.

PLEASE, PLEASE! Submit your application, print clearly, make sure you provide an email address, and don't forget to send in your scholarship raffles. We have enclosed two separate envelopes for your convenience, to be used as marked, **APPLICATION** and **50/50 RAFFLES**. Last year we were able to provide three (3) **\$5,000.00** scholarships to children or grandchildren of our members. The 50/50 Raffle also rewarded the 1st Place winner with **\$11,250.00** and 2nd Prize winner with **\$3,750.00**. This year we have enclosed two raffles for your convenience. Feel free to pass them along to family members. If you would like more raffle tickets, please contact us.


Stay safe and may God bless you all and your families.



## 2025

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - RETIRED SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION POLICE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK

PO BOX 7466 WANTAGH, NY 11793 • (718) 605-0272  
EMAIL: RSA@RSANYPD.ORG • WEBSITE: WWW.RSANYPD.ORG



NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ TAX # \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ HOME # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ CELL# (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL (Please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

LAST COMMAND \_\_\_\_\_ DATE PROMOTED \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ DATE RETIRED \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

CHECK BOX IF ANY INFORMATION HAS CHANGED

NEW MEMBER     RENEWAL  
 \$25.00 DUES     \$5.00 VOLUNTARY DONATION

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO RETIRED SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION  
TO PAY BY PAYPAL OR CREDIT CARD, VISIT OUR WEBSITE

OFFICE USE ONLY: DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_



## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Harold Kamien\*  
*Founder*

Robert V. Cotumaccio  
*President*

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*Vice President*

Anthony T. Nostramo  
*2nd Vice President*

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*Treasurer*

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*Corresponding Secretary*

Johnathan Schwartz  
*Recording Secretary*

Thomas King  
*National Secretary*

Herbert Valdez  
*Director of Operations*

Norman Horowitz  
*Sergeant At Arms*

Jeanette Dice  
*Director of Health & Wellness*

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Harold Kamien\*  
William Leask\*  
Patsy Noto  
Lawrence Kelly

*\*deceased*

## ALBANY REPRESENTATIVE

Michael Fahy

## TRUSTEES

Ronald Doda  
Michael Kushner  
Dominick Petrucci  
Stephen Sheridan

## CHAPLAIN

Msgr. Robert Romano  
718.236.8300

## LEGAL ADVISOR

Michael Barasch  
212.385.8000

## GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Jason Siegel

From the desk of

# the President

As we embrace this joyful holiday season, I want to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. This time of year is not only about celebration and reflection but also about the connections we share within our community.

This year is the RSA's 30th Year Anniversary. Thank You Harold Kamien and the others who made this possible. We currently have two board members who were founding members, Secretary John Foster and Trustee Dominick Petrucci, who are celebrating their 30th Year Anniversary. Please note that the SBA Holiday Luncheon at Russo on the Bay, is December 20th, 2024 at 12:00PM, please come visit us at our table.

I'd like to remind everyone to pay your 2025 Membership Dues at your earliest convenience to assist us in keeping administrative cost down. Your support and participation are what make our organization thrive. As we look forward to a new year filled with opportunities and growth, I encourage you to ensure that your dues are paid. This small act goes a long way in helping us achieve our goals and continue our important work.

I'm thrilled to announce our ongoing 50/50 scholarship raffles are once again at an all-time high. Each ticket purchased helps support a member's child/grandchild in their educational journeys, and you could also win big! Last year 3 students were given \$5000.00 each. The drawing will be held at our Florida Meeting on January 22, 2025 (Please see P9). Don't forget to book your reservations early! We often sell out quickly, and we want to make sure you don't miss out on this terrific opportunity.

I would like to thank all those who purchased an RSA 9/11 Memorial Bourbon Whiskey Bottle, with your purchase 100% of the net proceeds was donated back to the SBA Windows and Children's Fund. We were proud to partner with the First Responder Society, who made this possible. On October 24, 2024, the RSA Board of

Directors presented a check to President Vinny Vallelong in the amount of \$ 8550.00. I couldn't be happier that our organization accomplished this great task.

Our Golf Outing was completely sold out. I had the pleasure of presenting a replica of The Police Memorial Statue to Ret. Lieutenant Michael Casey from Jet Blue, Mike is a True "Blue" Friend of the RSA. I like to thank the Board and extend a heartfelt thank you to Jeanette Dice, Director of Health & Wellness, for organizing such a successful golf outing. Your hard work and attention to detail truly made the event memorable for everyone involved. From the planning stages to the final putt, everything was executed flawlessly. We appreciate your dedication and effort in bringing everyone together for a day of fun and camaraderie. Looking forward to more successful events in the future!

Our September General Membership meeting was held at a new spacious location with plenty of parking. We still managed to fill the place. Carol Karpinski, Optum RX Representative and Errol Ogman, SBA Health & Welfare Administrator spoke about our prescription benefits, many questions were taken from the floor. A special display of Police Memorabilia was set up by RSA member John Schroeder from the NYPD Police Museum. And thanks to Recording Secretary Jonathan Schwartz who had his vintage RMP on display. We also had many vendors and supporters of the RSA in attendance.

A special congratulations to RSA Member Steve Chan, winner of NYS Senate District -17. We as a membership wish you much success.

I can't tell you how proud I am to be a part of this organization and honored to have been chosen by the Retired Detectives NYPD as their honoree for October. I have witnessed the growth of the organization and have spoken with the Kamien family who expressed that their father would be so happy if he could have witnessed how far we've come. Thank You all for being part of this journey.

Faternally, Bobby

# **What you *NEED* to do when you or your spouse are turning 65 or become Medicare eligible and how to apply for Medicare Part B Reimbursement!**

by: Tony Amato, RSA Vice President

When a member/spouse nears Medicare Part B eligibility (<https://www.medicare.gov/basics/get-started-with-medicare>), the following OLR & SBA notifications **must** be made:

- Notification to OLR (Office of Labor Relations Health Benefits Program. The member/spouse must complete the “Notification of Your Medicare Part B Enrollment Application” form (available on the OLR website at: [health-retiree-medb-irmaa](#), and click on the “Retiree” tab, click “Forms and Downloads” and click on “Medicare Part B Reimbursement Program Application”) and submit it along with a copy of your Medicare card. Instructions for submission are on the application form. Once you submit this application, you will be enrolled in the Medicare Part B Reimbursement Program and will not have to resubmit an application every year. Please read the application carefully, it contains information regarding eligibility and requirements/conditions that must be met.

- Notification to SBA Health & Welfare Fund office. The member/spouse must complete the “SBA Medicare Informational Datasheet” form (available on the SBA website at: [www.sbanyc.org](http://www.sbanyc.org), under the “Benefits” Tab “Forms Plan A or Forms Plan B”) and submit it along with a copy of their Medicare card to: [healthandwelfare@sbanyc.org](mailto:healthandwelfare@sbanyc.org). If submitting for your spouse, it is imperative that you enter your spouse’s Social Security Number and Medicare Unique ID on the form. Failure to submit this form along with a copy of their Medicare card can lead to your spouse being terminated from the SBA Medicare Creditable Prescription plan. Once received, a notification to CMS (The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) will be made that you have Medicare Part D Creditable prescription coverage under the SBA, as required by CMS.

- Once you have submitted the Medicare Part B Reimbursement Program Application, the City will reimburse Medicare-eligible retirees and their Medicare-eligible dependents annually for the preceding year you were eligible for Medicare Part B Reimbursement. The reimbursement amount is based on the standard Medicare Part B premiums.

Those who were on Medicare Part B in 2023, should have received reimbursement in April 2024 (please check your bank account statement) or in June 2024 by mail if you are receiving a physical pension check. Those who are on Medicare Part B for 2024, your 2024 Medicare Part B reimbursement will be issued in April 2025 or in June 2025 by mail if you are receiving a physical pension check.

Please note if you previously submitted your Medicare Part A & B card to the Health Benefits Program, this reimbursement payment is automatic, and you will receive it annually.



- You may be entitled to receive IRMAA (Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount) reimbursement or Medicare Part B Differential reimbursement. Please visit the OLR website at: [health-retiree-medb-irmaa](#). Here, you will find all the information, requirements, and applications needed regarding IRMAA and Differential reimbursement, as well as the Medicare Part B reimbursement.

The IRMAA Medicare Part B Reimbursement application for 2024 is not yet available on OLR’s website. The IRMAA 2023 annual reimbursements were issued during the 3rd week of October 2024. As a reminder if you did not pay more than the standard amount then you are not eligible for IRMAA.



## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Once you are on Medicare Part B, you will no longer have PICA prescription coverage. If you are on an injectable, other than insulin, or other medications which are covered under the PICA Program, you may consider obtaining Medicare Part D coverage ([www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)) on the "outside".

The SBA does not cover injectables, other than insulin. If you choose to join a Medicare Part D Plan, you must notify the SBA Health and Welfare Fund. CMS does not allow you to have multiple Part D prescription plans. The SBA will need to notify CMS that you will no longer be covered under the SBA's Part D Creditable prescription plan, for you to be able to join one on the "outside". You can always contact Belkis ([bmvillaruel@sbany.org](mailto:bmvillaruel@sbany.org)), the SBA Health & Welfare prescription representative, if you have any questions or concerns.

In conclusion, please visit OLR's website at [health-retiree-responsibilities](#) for additional information regarding Medicare Part B & IRMAA Reimbursements. Their website contains a wealth of information that will have answers to most questions or concerns.



Phone: 516.868.0023  
Fax: 516.377.7712  
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☎ 718-986-7250  
@Travel.Theresa  
f Cruiseplanners-Travel with Theresa



# *In Memoriam*

## **SGT. NICHOLAS L. CERVERIZZO**

End of Watch - 08.04.24

## **SGT. TERRY PETERSON**

End of Watch - 08.08.24

## **SGT. WILLIAM A. DESANCTIS**

End of Watch - 09.20.24

## **SGT. GREGORY BORMANN**

End of Watch - 08.09.24

## **SGT. BRIAN M. MCGUINNESS**

End of Watch - 09.24.24

## **SGT. THEODORE I. NEWMAN**

End of Watch - 08.14.24

## **SGT. GERALD ALICEA**

End of Watch - 09.28.24

## **SGT. DONALD A. PLAYER**

End of Watch - 08.22.24

## **SGT. PHILIP J. BUCKLES**

End of Watch - 09.29.24

## **SGT. WILLIAM F. ODIERNO**

End of Watch - 08.25.24

## **SGT. JOHN F. LONG**

End of Watch - 10.05.24

## **SGT. JOHN BYRON**

End of Watch - 08.30.24

## **SGT. EDWARD P. WALL**

End of Watch - 10.18.24

## **SGT. BRIAN W. FITZGERALD**

End of Watch - 08.31.24

## **SGT. WALTER E. CHRISTIAN**

End of Watch - 10.20.24

## **SGT. JAMES PRIORE**

End of Watch - 09.33.24

## **SGT. JAMES G. COOK**

End of Watch - 10.24.24

## **SGT. ROBERT BRUNKE**

End of Watch - 09.08.24

## **SGT. FRANCIS J. DOHERTY**

End of Watch - 10.28.24

## **SGT. KURT R. BOTTOMS**

End of Watch - 09.12.24

## **SGT. DENNIS V. KEENAN**

End of Watch - 10.30.24

## **SGT. THOMAS F. SHEEHAN**

End of Watch - 09.12.24

## **CLAIRE KAMIEN**

End of Watch - 10.25.24





The RSA is pleased to offer three (3) \$1,000.00+ scholarship awards to graduating high school students who are furthering their education in 2025. As in every year, the awards are enhanced by our 50/50 Scholarship Raffle and on occasion, generous donations from RSA members.

Please note that in 2024 we awarded three (3) \$5000.00 scholarship awards. To be eligible, candidate must be a child, stepchild, or grandchild, of an RSA member in good standing for 2023, 2024, 2025. Candidate must be a 2025 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 2024 and 2025 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 T. Nostramo, 6 Redwood Drive, Dix Hills, N.Y. 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 2025. Questions should be directed to Second VP Anthony T. 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.**




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RETIRED NYPD SERGEANT





# Harold Kamien

President and Founder of the Retired Sergeants Association

By William Leask (Past President)

The Retired Sergeants Association was founded in 1995 by Retired Sergeant Harold Kamien so he could be the voice to right wrongs, inspiring unions and others to “do the right thing”. One thing is certain: anyone whose life he touched will never forget him. He left a strong and worthy legacy behind for all to follow, as he truly believed in the cause he espoused, in his own sincere way. He believed in equal treatment for all Police Sergeants in the Department, he believed in protecting the rights of all Retirees. He believed in the declining years of one’s work life-after years of faithful service to the people of New York, that a Police Officer earned the right to equal treatment. Equal in disbursement of Health and Welfare funds, to a full pension, COLA, to not being shut out of “union” meetings which Retired Sergeants had earned the right to attend after all their years of loyal service. He exemplified the best in a person who believed there was a difference between right and wrong, he held exceptional morals and principles and a love for God, Country and Family.

Some may say he believed to much in doing the right thing, like helping other members oppressed by others in power positions, members who were truly in need, or widows who were denied benefits. Well, God Bless Harold Kamien, remember him for his love and devotion that he extended to thousands of Retired Sergeants and Active Sergeants in the NYPD.

**CENTURY 21**  
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NYS Lic. Real Estate Salesperson  
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Cell: 917.817.3045  
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Ray D'Augusta  
Massapequa Park, NY  
www.facebook.com/crossislandinstallreno  
516-322-5418 tmadroofer@gmail.com

## RSA cruise deal with “Travel Theresa”.

The travel event is a 4-night Canada Cruise with Royal Caribbean aboard the “Liberty of the Seas”.

Details as follows:

Departs: Tuesday, June 17, 2025  
Departing Port: Cape Liberty, New Jersey  
Destination: Halifax, Nova Scotia  
Return Date: Saturday, June 21, 2025  
Return Port: Cape Liberty, New Jersey

If you are interested in booking or have any questions, please contact **Theresa (Travel Theresa) at 718-986-7250**. Be sure to mention **RSA Group Booking**. When leaving a message, please include your name, call back number, and that you are calling regarding the RSA Group Booking cruise. Family and friends are welcome to utilize our RSA Group Booking.

Photo by Brandon Nelson on Unsplash





# RSA GOLF OUTING

by Jeanette Dice, Director of Health & Wellness

We were blessed with another beautiful day for our RSA Golf Outing. Again our event was Sold Out and was held on September 23 at Peninsula Golf Course. A special Thank You to the NYPD Health & Wellness Section for coordinating all our special guests. Our day began with the NYPD Ceremonial Unit, Honor Guard's presentation of colors and the singing of our National Anthem, concluding with an invocation by a NYPD Department Chaplin. Bobby Cotumaccio, RSA president, welcomed our members, guests and sponsors. The course rules were explained and also announced an additional contest "Hit the Bullseye" with RSA Cruise for 2 as the contest prize. Congratulations member Dominick Amendolare, Bon Voyage! (Graciously donated by Barasch & McGarry). A Bag Piper serenade sent out our 72 golfers to their starting holes. The members of the NYPD Golf Team were on hand to assist and officiate our contests which included Closest to the Line, Closest to the Pin and Putting.

After an exciting morning of golf, lunch was served at Rita's Cafe. Golfers had the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for a generous array of prizes, 50/50 and RSA swag!! During this portion of our day, a moment was taken to acknowledge Mike Casey from Jet Blue Airlines a true "Blue" friend of Law enforcement and generous donor to the RSA.

Our Golf Outing has become a highly sought after ticket. The success was from a columniation of generous sponsors, donations and hard work. I would like to say Thank You to my fellow Board Members for all their enthusiasm and participation. And it is always great to have Mother Nature on our side!!





Coffee For the Finest  
By the Finest

A portion of the profits from every bag will be donated to Law Enforcement and First responder Charities and Worthy Causes.

We are affiliated with NYPD With Arms Wide Open the charity serves NYC Finest Families with special needs children. Support With Arms Wide Open at <https://nypdwawo.org>

To Order Coffee: [www.pourthefinest.com](http://www.pourthefinest.com)

For a Discount use coupon code: Finest

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[tzanata3270@gmail.com](mailto:tzanata3270@gmail.com)



# FLORIDA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 22, 2025 AT 12:00 PM  
CHARLOTTE HARBOR CONFERENCE CENTER  
75 TAYLOR ST, PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950

OUR MEETING WILL BE A LUNCHEON, WE URGE ALL TO ATTEND. **OUR RSA WIDOWS/WIDOWERS ARE REMINDED THAT THEY ARE WELCOME AS OUR SPECIAL GUESTS.** AT THE CONCLUSION OF OUR MEETING, LUNCH AND DRINKS WILL BE SERVED .

---

*For those members looking to stay over, Four Points by Sheraton has offered our RSA membership a discounted rate of \$189.00/night which includes breakfast.*

FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS CALL (941) 637-6770 AND STATE THAT YOU ARE BOOKING FOR **“RETIRED SERGEANTS ASSN”** OR SAY CODE **RE1809** TO SECURE RATE. BE SURE TO BOOK NO LATER THAN SATURDAY - JANUARY 18, 2025.

***Once again, we will draw the two (2) winners for our 50/50 SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE. It would be fantastic if our winners were present!***

---

*1st prize = 75% of winners portion | 2nd Prize = 25% of winners portion*

*Last year, 1st prize winner received \$11,25000*

*RSA general meetings are open to dues paid members, RSA widows/widowers, and guests approved by the board. Non-member retired Sergeants are welcome to join the RSA at the reception desk outside the meeting room. During the meeting, no video, recordings or photography 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 granted by the Board.*



# MEET THE MEMBERS

## SEPTEMBER MEETING RECAP

### HARTIGAN HOUSE

On September 25th, we held our General Membership Meeting at the Hartigan House in Bethpage NY. We choose a new bigger location with plenty of parking, and the membership packed both the room and the parking lot.

We featured many guest speakers and vendors who were in attendance. Errol Ogman Health & Welfare Administrator and Donald Kipp Health & Welfare Secretary were on hand to address the membership. The night focused on our prescription benefits, Carol Karpinski Optum RX representative spoke on preventive medication being filled by mail order. Regina Kaykov Essence RX (855) 225-5179 advised Medicare eligible members to contact her in regards to non-covered injectable medication at a discounted prices with free delivery. This is currently available to members who reside in the US.

**Please take advantage of this offer!**

I had the honor of presenting a framed copy of the June Chevron (The Thug) to Mitchell Oldstein, son of retired Lieutenant Jessie Oldstein. In 1960 his likeness was used on a target, making him effectively a part of NYPD Police History!

The vendors on hand and very big supporters of the RSA and NYPD are as follows: Barasch & McGarry 9/11 Attorney, PC Richards and Sons, Optum RX, Travel Theresa, Bethpage Federal Credit Union, Essence RX Pharmacy, Raymour and Flanigan, CarJoy Car Sales, Live Vac Safety Device and PJ Pajamas.

Thank you to all that made this meeting a huge success. Hope to see you in Florida on January 22nd, 2025 in Punta Gorda. We are selling out fast.

**PLEASE BOOK NOW!**



RETIRED SGT.  
**RONALD DODA**  
(RSA TRUSTEE)

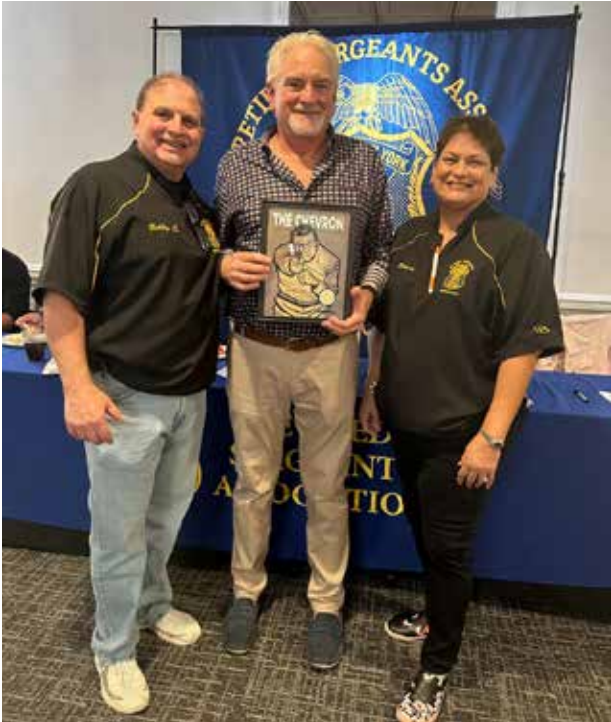
Ronald Doda was appointed in 1984. He was promoted to Sergeant 12/23/89 assigned to 107 Pct. Then transferred to Queens Narcotics in 1991, OCID in 1992 and worked on the Genovese Team out of 26 Federal Plaza. Also worked for the Ship Board Gambling Operations. Retired from Organized Crime Investigation Division in 2004. Former owner of Doda's Delicatessen and Catered to the NYPD for 20 Years with Doda's Gold Shield Catering. Teaching Boating Safety for the past 20 years. Joined the RSA in September 2024 as a Trustee.



RETIRED SGT.  
**JONATHAN SCHWARTZ**  
RECORDING SECRETARY

Jonathan Schwartz was appointed in 1986. He was assigned to NSU-12, and then the 106th Pct. In May of 1993, he was transferred into the OCCB assigned to Brooklyn South Narcotics and ACD. Also appointed a Special Deputy US Marshal in the Eastern District. In April of 1995 he was promoted to Detective-Investigator. In May of 1996, he was promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to the 102 Precinct, In February, 1997 he was transferred back to the Auto Crime to assist in the formation of a new Federal Task Force that was to be included in the NYPD's 1997 GLA Initiative. He was assigned as the Supervisor of the Joint US Customs Export Team. Eventually, he was the Supervisor for the FBI's Joint Auto Larceny Task Force (JALTF), as well as the Commanding Officer of the Auto Crime School. Joined the RSA in January 2024 as a trustee.

# “THE THUG”



Seeing my father, Jesse Oldshein, on the cover of the June issue of *The Chevron*, was an honor I will forever cherish. The publication was sent to me by a friend and retired Sgt. Giuliano (Tony) Schiozzi. Having seen this, I immediately contacted Bobby Cotumaccio. Bobby was surprised and intrigued to hear, “Hey that’s my dad!” referring to the retired target *The Thug*, as he has long been interested in the history of the NYPD.

My father Lieutenant Jesse M Oldshein was born in 1917 in Gravesend, Brooklyn, NY. He then joined the NYPD in 1946. Jesse was initially stationed in Brooklyn 64th and 79th precincts, later in Motorcycle 1 unit, and ultimately in 114th precinct in Queens.

In recounting the story told to me by my father, the picture for the infamous target was taken in 1961 at the Rodman’s Neck range. At 44 years old, and even well into his 80s, Jesse was an imposing figure who commanded respect. Having boxed in the army, he was asked to pose for a photo in his classic boxing stance, and thus the silhouette SP-83A, aka *The Thug*, came to be. Always proud to display my dad’s notoriety, reprints of the poster were always in my childhood home, and have been so for decades as we raised our three sons.

In 2008 an article appeared in the NY Times with a picture of the infamous target, asking

the public to identify the model. Upon reading the article his fellow retired police officers contacted the NY Times with his name. Shortly thereafter, my father was interviewed and his photo appeared on the front page of LI Newsday. It was a memorable day for my then 91-year-old father and three proud grandsons. In 2009 when the NYPD retired *The Thug*, Commissioner Raymond Kelly was kind enough to send my father a heartfelt note thanking him for his service and closed with, “I think it’s safe to say that yours is the face that launched a thousand careers”. My father Jesse Oldshein passed away January 16, 2010 at the age of 92.

– Mitchell R. Oldshein M.D. –

## The Finest of All

*They wear blue*

*Both dark and light*

*Ready to serve*

*Both day and night*

*Theirs is a profession*

*Which demands total dedication*

*from the men and women*

*who make it their occupation*

*They are there when life makes its first cry*

*They are there when the family utters its last goodbye*

*They are trained to help comfort and confide*

*With the needy, the troubled and dissatisfied.*

*Theirs is an occupation which can take its toll*

*On the husband, the wife, the family as a whole*

*Theirs is a profession which gives one a unique perception  
of life of love and sometimes deception*

*These men and women are sworn to protect what is right*

*Even if it may mean the ultimate sacrifice*

*These thoughts are not new*

*To these men and women in blue*

*For the experience them each day of their lives*

*I just thought I’d take the time*

*To jot down this rhyme*

*To give these men and women their due*

*For this is a group*

*Which forever stands tall*

*For they are the “Finest” the “Finest” of all*



– Robert H. Gardner, 1980: NYPD Sergeant, Retired –



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