National Concerns of Police Survivors

C.O.P.S. provides resources to help rebuild the shattered lives of families left behind following a line of duty death. Today that membership is over 75,000 survivors. All national programs are administered by the national office in Camdenton, MO. C.O.P.S. has over 55 chapters nationwide



Louisiana Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors

LA-C.O.P.S. covers the entire state of Louisiana. Our Executive Board is comprised of survivors of Line of Duty deaths and are ready to assist you. We provide here in the state; Regional survivor support/meetings held each quarter, survivor benefits assistance, socials/memorial events, weekend summer retreat, an overnight Christmas social, financial travel assistance for National Police Week in Washington D.C. and continuing financial travel assistance to all National Hands-On Programs. As well as provide statewide training within departments/agencies on Louisiana Line of Duty Death Benefits.

Ways to support LA-C.O.P.S.

LA-C.O.P.S. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. LA-C.O.P.S. funding comes solely from fundraisers and donations. Most of our funding comes from law enforcement agencies across Louisiana who have adopted our <u>Blue Line payroll</u> <u>deduction</u> program in their departments allowing their deputies/officers to contribute as little as \$1 per paycheck to help rebuild the shattered lives of the families left behind. Payroll deductions allow us to offer all the above-mentioned activities at no charge to our Louisiana Surviving Family members.

Louisiana Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors P.O. Box 41143 Baton Rouge, LA 70835 cops@la-cops.org www.la-cops.org

www.facebook.com/louisianacops

LA-C.O.P.S. will be there to help your family and department through the difficult journey.

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Current Blue Line Team payroll deduction members are:

Sheriff's Departments: Lafourche, Jefferson, East Baton Rouge, Calcasieu, Morehouse, W. Carroll, Rapides, St. Landry, Richland, Ouachita, Vernon, St. Charles, Natchitoches, Lafayette, Beauregard, Orleans, St. John and St Tammany.

<u>Police Departments</u>: Crowley, Zachary, Baker, Mer Rouge, Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Opelousas, Kenner, HANO, Iowa, Thibodaux and Mandeville.



National Police Week

Each year our nation loses between 140-160 law enforcement officers in the line of duty, with currently 24,067 names engraved on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

National Police Week (NPW) held May 11 – 17 each year in Washington, D.C. honors the service and sacrifice of U.S. law enforcement officers. On May 11 and 12, surviving families and co-workers begin arriving in Washington, D.C. for the events.

The first major event is the Candlelight Vigil hosted by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) on May 13. The service begins at 8:00 p.m. with the newly engraved names being read.

Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) hosts the National Police Survivors' Conference on May 14 and May 16. This conference provides surviving family members and co-workers the opportunity to find support and understanding from other survivors, talk with mental health professionals, and attend seminar sessions that will help them, and their family address their grief. Conference attendees leave National Police Week with a greater understanding of the grief process and the support available through C.O.P.S.

The Fraternal Order of Police and Auxiliary hosts the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on the West Front Lawn of the United States Capitol on May 15. The surviving family members will have an opportunity to place a flower on a wreath honoring their fallen officer.

These events are free to the survivors; however, the survivors are required to cover their travel to and from Washington D.C. and the cost of the weeklong hotel stay.

The average week long stay at the Host hotel is \$2,300 with airline tickets averaging \$400 per person.

The cost associated with National Police Week can be a huge financial hurdle for many survivors, so it is the goal of LA-C.O.P.S. to try and cover as much as possible of those expenses. This is an emotionally hard week of honors and survivors should not have the added burden of worrying about being able to attend.

In 2024 were able to cover the cost of all of the hotel rooms and airfare for families of the:

- 12 Officers honored in 2024 totaling \$ 54, 869
- 6 Officers honored in 2023 totaling \$ 34, 874
- 12 Officers honored in 2022 totaling \$46,371.

The Blue Line Team payroll deduction program makes this all possible. These are the reasons we ask you to join this program and allow your officers to contribute to the





Hands-On Programs

For more than three decades, C.O.P.S. has provided comprehensive Hands-On Programs that cater to more than 75,000 survivors and their families over 55 chapters nationwide. Whether it is offering grief counseling to participants or providing peer support and additional resources, C.O.P.S.' objective is to support each survivor in their journey to recovery.

C.O.P.S. knows that in the wake of a line-of-duty death, many lives are affected. Whether you are the spouse or child of an officer, a parent or sibling, an aunt or uncle, cousin, in-law, grandchild, fiancé, significant other, or a co-worker, there is an inherent need for a safe space to grieve and to process the feelings and memories surrounding that loved one. Our programs are designed to allow participants to do just that. With Hands-On Programs, C.O.P.S. provides retreats specifically formatted to support the survivors as they learn to cope.

Through our payroll deductions program known as our <u>Blue Line Team.</u> LA-C.O.P.S. is able to cover nearly all travel expenses for surviving family members to attend their respective Hands-On programs: thereby adding no additional financial burden as survivors learn to rebuild their lives.

The Hands-On program begins each year in March and runs through October.

For the 2024 fiscal year we are projected to pay travel expenses for survivors to attend their Hands-On Programs totaling over \$26,000.

In-state events/meetings/retreats are held each quarter for all Louisiana survivors, in 2024 those events are projected to total approximately \$30,000





Hands-On Programs

- > Spouses for Couples Retreat Missouri
- Co-Workers for Couples – Missouri
- C.O.P.S. Kids CampWisconsin
- > Outward Bound Adventure – Colorado
- Young Adults CampGeorgia
- > Adult Children's Retreat – Missouri
- Fiancés/SignificantOthers Retreat –Missouri
- Siblings Retreat –Colorado
- Spouses Retreat –Colorado
- Co-Workers Retreat

 Missouri
- Parents Retreat -Arkansas