



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, ILLINOIS STATE LODGE DISTRIBUTES
CRITICAL INCIDENT SUPPORT CDs TO ILLINOIS POLICE**

CDs educate police officers and their beneficiaries on the resources that are provided by federal and state government and other organizations in the event of officer injury or death.

Springfield, IL, Sept. 9, 2009—In order to raise awareness and to ease access to benefits and support, the Fraternal Order of Police, Illinois State Lodge has gathered a large amount of hard to find data regarding critical benefits and compiled it onto CD-ROM's that they have made available to every State, County and city police department in Illinois. In addition, the CD has been distributed to 239 local FOP lodges. Officers and their families are encouraged to view this CD to educate themselves on death and personal injury benefits and ensure that they receive all of the assistance that they deserve. The CD includes a wide array of information on the following:

- Line of Duty Death Benefits for Survivors
- Line of Duty Injury Benefits
- Non Line of Duty Injury Benefits
- Officer Suicide Benefits for Survivors
- Line of Duty Funeral/Non Duty Funeral Assistance
- Police Memorial Benefits
- Additional Benefits for Prior Military Service
- Support Services
- Personal Finances/ Death Information Worksheet

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In 2004 the Fraternal Order of Police, Illinois State Lodge created the Critical Incident Support Team (CIST) to offer all law enforcement agencies and officers a place to access the information and services available. It also gives them access to an immediate response to critical incidents whether the need is professional or personal. The CIST hotline is offered as a member service through the Fraternal Order of Police so that police officers in need of assistance can call ONE number and receive assistance from professional organizations. The toll free hot line number is 1-866-525-1078 and is accessible 24 hours a day. CIST maintains a clearinghouse of information and contact numbers for established support agencies. Some of the support services that CIST provides are as follows:

- Fellow Officer Support for Line of Duty Deaths/ Shootings
- FOP Chaplain referrals
- Referrals for Critical Incident/Stress Debriefing Teams
- Funeral Protocols
- Personal Counseling Referrals for Alcohol/ Gambling/Domestic Abuse and Emotional Distress

The Fraternal Order of Police, Illinois State Lodge also provides CIST Training to members interested in volunteering for the support team. This CD distribution marks the first time that officer benefit and support information has been made so readily available to departments and lodges on the statewide level.



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Fraternal Order of Police CIST CD-ROM Fact Sheet

- The information on the CDs was researched and collected by the ILFOP Critical Incident Support Team (CIST).
- CDs educate police officers and their beneficiaries on the resources that are provided by federal and state government and other organizations in the event of officer injury or death.
- CDs have been made available to every State, County and city police Department in Illinois.
- CD has also been distributed to 239 local FOP lodges statewide.
- The CD includes a wide array of information on the following:
 - Line of Duty Death Benefits for Survivors
 - Line of Duty Injury Benefits
 - Non Line of Duty Injury Benefits
 - Officer Suicide Benefits for Survivors
 - Line of Duty Funeral/Non Duty Funeral Assistance
 - Police Memorial Benefits
 - Additional Benefits for Prior Military Service
 - Support Services
 - Personal Finances/ Death Information Worksheet
- CIST was founded in 2004 and also provides a telephone hotline for immediate support services for officers.
- This CD distribution marks the first time that officer benefit and support information has been made so readily available to departments and lodges on the statewide level.

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