



C.O.P.S.

Concerns of Police Survivors
Rebuilding Shattered Lives



Monthly Email Newsletter
December 2009



Extreme Home Makeover Episode Featuring the Scott Family will air Sunday, December 6 on ABC

On October 17, 2009, ABC's popular television series, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, travelled to Woodlawn, Tennessee, to give Trina Scott and her three daughters the good news that their trouble-ridden home would be rebuilt. Trina Scott lost her husband, Clarksville Police Officer David Scott, on June 7, 2002, in an automobile accident while pursuing robbery suspects. Trina devotes her free time to C.O.P.S. and has served as the East and Middle Tennessee C.O.P.S. Chapter President since 2003. "At C.O.P.S. events, we can laugh and cry and talk openly about our grief. When we are with other survivors, we know we're with family....our C.O.P.S. family," Trina said of the C.O.P.S. organization.

Hundreds of construction workers and volunteers worked tirelessly around the clock for the big reveal of the Scott Family's new home on October 23, 2009. Among those volunteers were 63 survivors from the C.O.P.S. family. C.O.P.S. members drove from Georgia, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio and Tennessee to share this joyous event with the Scott Family.

The episode featuring the Scott Family will air Sunday, December 6, on ABC. Check your local listing for times.

VOTE for Concerns of Police Survivors on Facebook **VOTING ENDS DECEMBER 11**

Chase Community Giving is donating millions of dollars to charities through votes from Facebook users. Chase is giving \$5 million to charities that receive the most votes. Please go to Concerns of Police Survivors Facebook page and vote, or go to Chase Community Giving page and search for "Concerns of Police Survivors, Camdenton, MO". **VOTING ENDS DECEMBER 11!** Please take the time to vote and, hopefully, C.O.P.S. can receive a donation to continue providing the much-needed programs that support America's law enforcement survivors.

"The Traumas of Law Enforcement" **2010 Dates and Locations**

Below are the dates and locations for C.O.P.S. highly-acclaimed, three-day training, "The Traumas of Law Enforcement". There will be seven trainings presented during January, February, and March 2010. **There is no cost to these trainings; however, registration is mandatory.** Flyers on the training were mailed in late October to law enforcement administrators nationwide. If you are a survivor and feel your agency needs this training, you can personally request a flyer to be sent to the agency through the National Office by calling 573.346.4911, emailing cops@nationalcops.org, or simply having officers from your agency register online. For more information on "The Traumas of Law Enforcement" training please visit, www.nationalcops.org.

Federal Funding Makes “Traumas of Law Enforcement” Possible in 2010

A grant to C.O.P.S. from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice will fund the Traumas of Law Enforcement trainings in 2010! The return of Federal funding for this project will enable C.O.P.S. to redirect the \$90,000+ cost for these trainings to other programs of the organization. C.O.P.S. would like to thank BJA for their support of the “Traumas of Law Enforcement” trainings which are now in their 15th year of existence. This highly-acclaimed training is often said to be “the best training I’ve had in my long law enforcement career”!

January 11-13, 2010 Charlotte, NC

Registration Deadline: December 21, 2009

February 8-10, 2010 Hamilton (Trenton), NJ

Registration Deadline: January 15, 2010

March 1-3, 2010 Glendale (Phoenix), AZ

Registration Deadline: February 3, 2010

March 29-31, 2010 Oregon City (Portland), OR

Registration Deadline: March 1, 2010

January 25-27, 2010 Whittier (Los Angeles), CA

Registration Deadline: December 27, 2009

February 22-24, 2010 Grand Rapids, MI

Registration Deadline: January 22, 2010

March 15-17, 2010 St. Peters (St. Louis), MO

Registration Deadline: February 17, 2010

Use <http://www.nationalcops.org/serv08.htm> to register for trainings online.

Making it through the Holidays

C.O.P.S. knows how traumatic holidays can be for survivors. Here are a few suggestions on how to reduce your holiday stress and make the holidays more bearable for you.

Attitude will play a major role in your holidays. If you allow yourself to enjoy the holidays, they may be more enjoyable than you would ever believe.

Honor your deceased loved one. Make a donation to a worthy cause, work at a soup kitchen, or buy flowers for the church, and do it in memory of your loved one.

Don't be afraid to make your loved one part of the holidays. Christmas ornaments they loved, a special memorial candle, anything that your family is comfortable with is acceptable. Talk about holidays past and happy shared moments that happened.

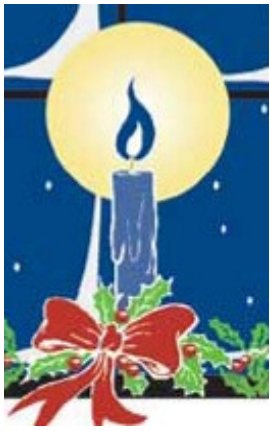
Consider prayer.

Give yourself permission to laugh, party if you feel up to it, but don't overdo.



Help C.O.P.S. Implement the “Blue Alert” Nationwide

Based upon the success of the Amber and Silver Alerts and by using the same notification system, Concerns of Police Survivors is asking law enforcement officers, agencies, and survivors to help put a Blue Alert in effect nationwide. Recently the Blue Alert was put into effect in Texas, Florida, and Oklahoma. As you may know, the Amber Alert is in effect for missing children and the Silver Alert is for missing senior citizens; and these programs function in many states across the nation. The Blue Alert will provide the means to speed the apprehension of violent criminals who kill or seriously wound local, state, or federal law enforcement officers. To find out how to help, visit the C.O.P.S. website, www.nationalcops.org. C.O.P.S. has initiated a letter-writing campaign to the 47 governors asking for their support. **Write your governor today!**



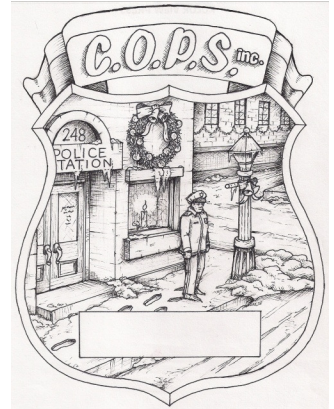
Project Blue Light

C.O.P.S. encourages you to participate in Project Blue Light this holiday season. By placing one blue light in a window of your home, you'll be showing your support for officers killed in the line of duty and those who continue to work America's streets. By placing strings of blue lights outside your home, at the department, and throughout the community, law enforcement officers will understand that they are appreciated! The color blue is symbolic of peace. By displaying your blue lights, you will be sending a dual message—that you support America's peacekeepers and that you hope the coming year will be a year of peace. Let your blue lights shine for law enforcement during the holidays!

Holiday Ornament 2009

With the approach of the holidays, Concerns of Police Survivors wishes you and yours the peace, hope, and joy that sometimes seem lacking in our world. During this "giving time" of the year, C.O.P.S. is asking you to consider making a heartfelt gift in memory of your officer to help us carry out our mission—a mission that we hope has helped your family. We want you to know that C.O.P.S. appreciates any amount that you can give.

No matter the amount of the gift, C.O.P.S. will place an ornament in memory of every officer on the Christmas/Holiday tree in our National Office. If you choose to contribute \$100 or more, your officer will be remembered with this beautiful commemorative ornament. We will affix your officer's name and end of watch before placing the ornament on the tree. The ornament will be sent to you after the holidays and you can have it personally engraved if you wish to do so. Visit www.nationalcops.org to learn more about the C.O.P.S. 2009 Ornament.



C.O.P.S. Parents' Retreat 2009

Parents' Retreat was held in Little Rock, Arkansas, at the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center, October 30-November 2. 196 parents attended the retreat this year. Some of the activities available to the parents were archery, fishing, nature photography, shooting sports, laser shooting sports, canoeing, outdoor/indoor climbing towers, and a wildlife hike.



C.O.P.S. 2009 Hands-On Programs—649 Survivors

C.O.P.S. finishes Hands-On Programs for 2009. All totaled 649 surviving spouses, parents, siblings, children, and in-laws attended the weekend grief retreats. The costs for Hands-On Programs for 2009 will exceed \$450,000.



C.O.P.S. Kids Camp— 206 Survivors



Outward Bound®- 42 Survivors



Spouses' Retreat— 90 Survivors

National Police Week 2010 Activity Dates

Official Dates of National Police Week 2010 are Sunday, May 9 through Saturday, May 15

To help survivors and law enforcement agencies "save the dates" for National Police Week 2010 activities in Washington, DC, here is information on the planned activities.

Wednesday, May 12: Early Arrival Day

Thursday, May 13: Official Arrival Day, National Police Week Check-In, and The Annual Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Memorial

Friday, May 14: First day of the National Police Survivors' Conference and C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens activities

Saturday, May 15: The National Police Officers' Memorial Service at the West Front of the United States Capitol

Sunday, May 16: Second day of the National Police Survivors' Conference, C.O.P.S. Kids/Teens activities, and a Hoedown at the Hilton

Monday, May 17: Official departure day

While hotels for National Police Week 2010 have been secured, the only way to make reservations at the official National Police Week hotels is through C.O.P.S. Please take no action until invitations have been received sometime in late January or early February. Online registration will be open on C.O.P.S.' website in early February.

Multiple Murders Raise Concerns for Officer Safety

C.O.P.S. is becoming increasingly concerned about multiple law enforcement killings in 2009. C.O.P.S. was devastated by the recent news of the four police officers killed in Parkland, Washington, especially since there have already been 4 instances of multiple losses of officers' lives. There were 3 Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan recently; but 11 officers have been murdered in multiple killings thus far in 2009. In Oakland, CA, 4 officers were murdered; 3 officers were murdered in Pittsburgh, PA; and now 4 officers were murdered in Washington.

While the number of law enforcement officer deaths is down from 2008, it is becoming abundantly apparent that the multiple murders of police officers this year raise concern of officers' safety nationwide. The most horrific fact about the multiple deaths of officers in 2009 is the fact that 11 were killed at the hands of fellow Americans. These murders left behind 26 children, 9 surviving spouses, numerous parents, scores of surviving siblings, and hundreds of affected co-workers. With horrendous events such as these, the C.O.P.S. membership grows too drastically.

In 2008, according to the Officer Down Memorial Page, there were 138 officers killed in the line of duty. With just one month to go in 2009, 111 have been killed this year in the line of duty.

It is our hope that police officers nationwide will be more cautious in their day to day work, especially when groups of officers gather at a call or handle various tasks together.

Worried About Your Tax Deductions???

Even though our society is in troubled times, some of us need to take a look at our estimated taxes for the year and consider a tax-deductible contribution to an organization that you believe in. Concerns of Police Survivors hopes there are people out there who need to make a year-end contribution and we hope you will consider supporting C.O.P.S. The organization has proven time and time again that it is deserving of all law enforcement's support.

C.O.P.S. Grants \$46,598 in Scholarships for Spring 2010 Semester



Thirty-four scholarship applications totaling \$46,598 were awarded by Concerns of Police Survivors for the Spring 2010 semester. During this fiscal year, C.O.P.S. has awarded \$102,788 in scholarships. Since C.O.P.S. began the scholarship program in 1994, C.O.P.S. has helped 291 survivors in 46 states and territories with \$981,241 being given in educational assistance.

Several benefactors help C.O.P.S. provide these scholarships. This semester's funding came from **National Pawnbrokers Association, Keller, TX; the Aronson Family Foundation, Westport, CT; Reed Elsevier, London, publisher of Law Officer Magazine; the G.M. Christensen 1989 Scholarship Trust for Utah Survivors; the Buddy Sentner Scholarship Fund, and the Michael Sullivan Scholarship Fund.**

C.O.P.S. History Book Cancelled

The 25 year anniversary history book idea was nixed by the C.O.P.S. National Board at its recent November meeting due to lack of submitted biographies.

Testimonial:

Dear C.O.P.S.,
Thank you for a wonderful weekend with inspiring seminars and counselors that did a great job. We are very grateful for all your help, both financially and emotionally, to us and to our daughter and grandson. God Bless you always.

P.S. We met some beautiful and great people. We had a wonderful time!

Thank you,

Dan and Pat Dorrance
Surviving Father and Mother In-Law of Julio Baray,
U.S. Customs and Border Protection, EOW 9/24/2007

Happy Holidays to all!

The National Office will be closed on December 24 & 25 for Christmas, and December 31 & January 1 for New Years.

C.O.P.S. wishes you and yours a safe and peaceful holiday season. Remember that law enforcement continues to work 24/7, serving and protecting you and yours during the holiday season.



Visit COPSstore for holiday merchandise; great gifts for family or officer friends. Merchandise is now available through the C.O.P.S. National Office as well as the COPSstore. So, if you want to order C.O.P.S. merchandise, you can order everything through the COPSstore. Roll Call items are available in several colors of short sleeve t-shirts, long sleeve t-shirts and crew neck and hooded sweatshirts. All C.O.P.S. and National Police Week merchandise can be found at <http://www.COPSstore.com/>. COPSstore has been your official source for C.O.P.S.



Concerns of Police Survivors have been awarded the "Best in America" seal of approval from Independent Charities of America.