





FOP Lodge NY 3100 Newsletter "The Call Box" September 2025



We Will Never Forget

On September 11, 2001, the world watched as two jetliners slammed into New York City's World Trade Center while another crashed into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. Passengers onboard a fourth airplane averted even more destruction by trying to regain control of their airplane, which was intended to hit either the White House or U.S. Capitol. As a result, the hijackers crashed it in a field outside of Shanksville, Pennsylvania.



September is here already!!!!

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer season and was able to get out of the heat a little.

We had our ROMEO luncheon in August. We had about 30 members in attendance and it was nice seeing everyone.

September we will hit the ground running. September 11th we were invited again to Wellington's memorial service. We do have a member willing to speak so please try to attend. There are normally a few rows reserved for us so please get there early.

September's monthly meeting will be on the 18th in Boynton Beach.

Our golf outing is on October 10th. We are filling up with foursomes but there is always room for one more .Anyone that wants to play, please reach out to Paul Read.

...remember to keep checking your emails for other updates and events.....

Fraternally,

Joe Berardi President

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Coming Events

September 9th 9/11 Memorial at 6:00 PM Amphitheater 12100 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington, FL 33414 (Arrive Early)

September 18th Meeting at 6:00 PM Boynton Beach FOP Hall 1200 Miner Rd., Boynton Beach

October 10th Golf Outing
Village Golf Club
Royal Palm Beach

October 19th Meeting at 6:00 PM Boynton Beach FOP Hall 1200 Miner Rd., Boynton Beach

November 20th Meeting at 6:00 PM Boynton Beach FOP Hall 1200 Miner Rd., Boynton Beach

Dec 10th Holiday Party at 6:00 PM Benvenuto's 1730 N Federal Hwy Boynton Beach, FL 33435

Editor's Corner

In an effort to make this newsletter more inclusive for all of our members and their Law Enforcement Agencies, we are requesting your assistance. Members that have any information, that you would like to share with our membership, please forward that information to the editor.

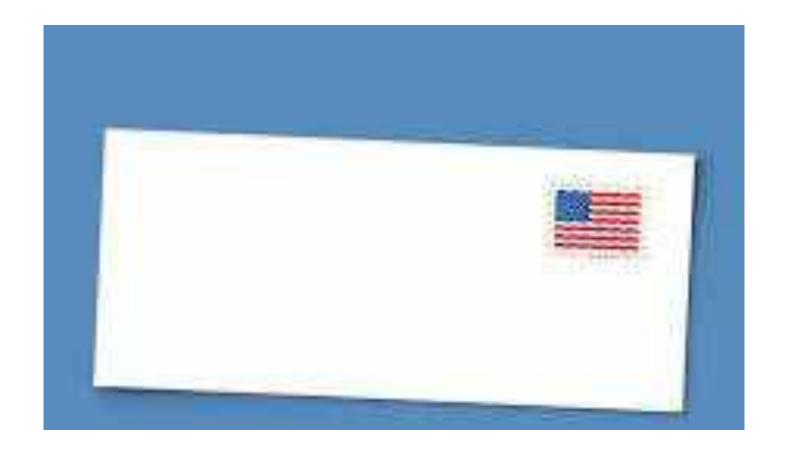
Please visit our website at www.flfopny3100.com (Click on link) for additional information concerning our lodge.

New FOP 3100 Hats and Shirts









Current FOP Dues of \$ 60.00 for 2026 are due by November 1, 2025. Please send checks made out to FOP 3100, 8927 Hypoluxo RD., Suite A-4, Box 3100, Lake Worth, FL 33467 Zelle Payments to: FLFOPNY3100@gmail.com



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Box 3100

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you would like to join NY Lodge 3100, please complete this form and mail it to the Lodge with the appropriate dues and a copy of your retired law enforcement officer ID from any NY Law Enforcement Agency. The annual dues for retired NY Law Enforcement personnel are \$60.00. Please make your check payable to the FOP LODGE NY 3100 and mail it to the address listed above. Retired NY law enforcement personnel who reside anywhere in the State of Florida are eligible to become members. **Another option is to send a completed application via email along with a payment of \$60 through ZELLE. ZELLE payments to FLFOPNY3100@gamail.com**

Last Name		First	MI	
Street address:				
City:		State:		
DOB:	Last 4 of SS #	Email		
Home Tele	Cell			
Beneficiary's name:		Relation	Tele No	
LAW ENFORCEMENT	INFORMATION			
Agency Retired From:		Comn	Command:	
Rank:	Shield #	Date I	Date Retired:	
If you are a Retired NY	Police Officer working	ng for a Florida Law E	Enforcement Agency,Name of Agency:	
		Rank:		
NON LAW ENFORCEM	IENT OCCUPATION:			
Title:C	ompany:		Product or service	
To the Officers of the Fran	ternal Order of Police: I,	the undersigned, an Ac	tive Retired New York law enforcement officer,	
do hereby make applica	tion for Membership ir	FL FOP Lodge NY 3	3100. If my membership should be revoked or	
discontinued for any cau	se while in good standin	g, I do hereby agree to	return to said Lodge my membership card and	
any other material bearing	ng the F.O.P. insignia, s	uch as auto emblem, la	pel pin, etc.	
Signature			Rev 10/2023	

September 11th Remembrance Ceremony



September 11th Remembrance Ceremony

Thursday, September 11, 2025 at the Wellington Patriot Memorial 6:00 PM

The community is invited to join Wellington's Council on September 11th to honor the victims of September 11, 2001 with a remembrance ceremony at Wellington's Patriot Memorial, located next to Village Hall, at 12198 Forest Hill Boulevard. The Village Council will share their thoughts and lay a memorial wreath for those lost and affected by the attacks. Representatives from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, and the New York Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 3100, will also be in attendance to show solidarity for those lost and affected by the events of September 11, 2001.

Young Dad Was Getting Ready to Leap from Golden Gate Bridge — Then the 'Miracle' of a Stranger's Voice Stopped Him

JOHNNY DODD

Sun, August 24, 2025, 5:25 PM EDT

NEED TO KNOW

- Retired California Highway Patrol Sgt. Kevin Briggs first met Kevin Berthia in March 2005 when Berthia was moments away from jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge
- Briggs was responsible for talking more than 200 people out of leaping from the famed California landmark
- After helping Berthia, they later forged a deep friendship and now travel the country speaking about mental health and their work preventing suicide

On the worst morning of his life, <u>Kevin Berthia</u> awoke and, after years of fighting with depression, decided that he was going to drive to the Golden Gate Bridge and jump.

Berthia, who was 22 years old at the time and living in Oakland, Calif., had never been to the famed landmark before and had to repeatedly ask for directions along the way.

But minutes after parking in a lot at the north end of the bridge on March 11, 2005, he left his keys in the ignition and took off walking along the 1.7-mile expanse, glancing down at the San Francisco Bay, telling himself, "The water is my freedom. I'm ready."

Before long, the young man who had just lost his job and was overwhelmed by medical bills after the recent premature birth of his daughter scrambled over the railing and soon found himself balancing on a tiny metal conduit that ran along the outside of the bridge.

bridge...

The frigid water of the bay churned 220 feet below him.

"I started my countdown," Berthia recalls now. "And I braced myself for impact."

Then something unexpected happened. Two decades later, Berthia still refers to it as "a miracle."



John Storey / San Francisco Chronicle / Polaris
Kevin Briggs talks with Kevin Berthia (in white) at the Golden Gate Bridge in March 2005
California Highway Patrol Sgt. Kevin Briggs — whose duties included keeping watch on the bridge — happened to be passing by when he spotted Berthia on the other side of the railing, lost in thought as he clutched the metal structure.

During his career, Briggs managed to prevent more than 200 people just like Berthia from leaping to their deaths



AP Photo/Eric Risberg; AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli Kevin Briggs (left) and Kevin Berthia

"Hi," Briggs remembers telling Berthia, who was staring intently down into the water. "Is it okay if I come over and speak with you for a while? I'm not going to touch you. I'm just here to talk with you and to listen."

Over the course of the next 92 minutes, Briggs got Berthia to open up about why he wanted to end his life.

"I never try to tell anyone what to do," Briggs says. "I just listen with empathy and understanding, let them speak their peace, then get them to think about coming back over the rail." It worked.

Over the course of the next 92 minutes, Briggs got Berthia to open up about why he wanted to end his life.

"I never try to tell anyone what to do," Briggs says. "I just listen with empathy and understanding, let them speak their peace, then get them to think about coming back over the rail."

It worked.

Berthia admits that for the first time in his life, talking with Briggs, he shared his "deepest, darkest secrets" during their conversation. He pulled himself back over the railing and was soon taken to a local hospital where he spent the next 11 days.

After returning home, Berthia's mental health problems quickly returned. Seeing a photo of him on the side of the bridge published on the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle only made matters worse.

"For the next eight years," he says, "I went back into one of the deepest, darkest depressions I've ever experienced."

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courtesy Kevin Briggs Kevin Berthia (left) and Kevin Briggs during a recent presentation

Within moments of meeting him, Berthia realized none of that mattered.

"We've been friends ever since," says the 62-year-old Briggs, a survivor of cancer and childhood sexual abuse.

Berthia insists that their relationship is deeper than that.

"We're more like brothers," he says. "What happened that day had nothing to do with him being a White man and me being Black. It's all about the power of connection, human connection."

- Their reunion proved life changing for Berthia, who gave an off-the-cuff speech while presenting Briggs with his award that floored the hundreds of people in attendance.
- "I talked about everything that led me to the bridge that day," he says. "For the first time in my life I was myself, the person that I'd always wanted to be. I was open and honest and vulnerable. And after I got done, the whole room stood up."
- The crowd's reaction forced Berthia to realize for the first time in his life that he wasn't alone in his struggles with suicide and, suddenly, he wanted to do whatever he could to try and change things.
- In the years that followed, he not only found the tools he needed better handle his depression but he also <u>created an eponymous foundation</u> that is focused on removing the stigma from mental illness and treatment. A
- "Never in a million years did I think that my living in this dark place could help others," says Berthia, now 42. He has given presentations to thousands of people, ranging from police academy graduates to elementary school pupils.
- Numerous times a year he pairs up with Briggs who has also become a polished, <u>powerful speaker</u> on the issue of suicide prevention to share their gripping story.
- Their hope is to empower others to do what Briggs did on that fateful day 20 years ago, when the two men first crossed paths on the Golden Gate Bridge. Suicide remains prevalent: More than 49,000 people killed themselves in 2023, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- "It really is all about just listening and not feeding these folks [in crisis] a bunch of crap, telling them they're going to be fine," Briggs says. "It's about learning how to talk to someone who is suffering."

The goal, both men say, is to help those in the midst of crisis to understand that they're not alone.

"It's a crappy subject," says Briggs, "but we have a great time."

Adds Berthia: "It's not an easy topic to talk about, but as I always tell people, 'Kevin makes you think, and I make you feel.' "

If you or someone you know is considering suicide, please contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), text "STRENGTH" to the Crisis Text Line at 741-741 or go to <u>suicidepreventionlifeline.org</u>.

A GENERAL GUIDE FOR THE WIDOW/er OF A RETIRED MOS

DO YOUR WIFE/FAMILY A GREAT SERVICE BY FILLING OUT THIS WORK SHEET

I know this form will alleviate your spouse's concern. You have no idea of the stress level the family is under. Sincerely, Pension rep

WORK SHEET for DECEASED MOS

FIRST NAME	MI	LAST		
SPOUSE NAME	Address	City	St	_ Zip
Pension # Starts w/ Cap L	ettertop r	ight side Electronic Quart	erly Stat	ement
SS#	RANK	Last Command		
HOME PHONE	CELL	EMAIL		
You will have to provide the	ne Deceased First	Middle and Last name th	e date o	f death

You will have to provide the Deceased First, Middle and Last name, the date of death, social security number, next of kin as well as the executor/trix of the estate and his/her address and phone number.

To complete our records you will need a COPY of the will, a copy of the paid funeral bill, the original or <u>certified copy</u> of the Death certificate and Marriage certificate as well as (SPOUSE Social Security #. These documents are necessary for any benefits that might be due you as per the member chosen options. Att Linda Harris

They will send the surviving spouse a <u>pre-number application</u> allowing the spouse to continue the health coverage that the member had at a cost equal to 102% of what the City pays, which includes admin fees.

GENERAL GUIDE FOR THE WIDOW/er OF A RETIRED MOS

From the Pension Rep: THE BELOW ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN By MARIE BRUSCO AND LINDA LACHICK NYC POLICE PENSION FUND

Few situations in life are more stressful than when a spouse passes. All too often we have a difficult time focusing on the issues at hand and need guidance to get the deceased affairs in order. The following is a general guide for the widow/er regarding important notifications that must be made by the surviving spouse and information you should have on hand when a retiree dies.

FIRST STEPS TO BE TAKEN AFTER DEATH NOTIFICATIONS

- 1) Operations Unit 646 610 5580 calling to report the death of a retired police officer and are requesting NYCPD FLAG for casket & Pallbearers for his funeral. IN (all five boroughs, all of Long Island and Upstate New York but NOT beyond Dutchess County.) Can ALSO Request DEPT FLAG for funerals OUTSIDE of above areas. Give FIRST, MIDDLE and LAST NAME, DATE OF DEATH, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER LAST 6 NUMBERS, MEMBERS TAX #, RANK, LAST COMMAND, NEXT of KIN,
- 2) Notify the NYC Police Pension Fund (P P F) either in writing OR or by telephone. This Number is *Just For Death Benefits* 212) 693-6887. Attn: Retiree Death Benefits 233 Broadway, 25th Floor New York N Y 10279
- 3) Contact the appropriate UNION for a possible existing LIFE insurance policy AND also for *Continuation of Optional benefits*, Any Questions about the Fund provided or your right to benefits under a particular Fund, contact Fund Administrator at the Fund address shown below:

PBA (212) 233-5531 <u>John.Hucke@NYPD.org</u> FUNDS OFFICE: 212 349 7560

Detectives' Endowment Association (D.E.A.) (212) 587-9120

Sergeant's Benevolent Association (S.B.A.) (212) 431-6555 FAX (212) 431-6487

Lieutenants and above-Superior Officers Council (S.O.C) (212) 964-7500

4) Contact the NYC HEALTH Benefits Program for Special Continuation of Coverage Application (Coverage for LIFE) located at (NEW) 22 Cortland St. 12th Floor, New York, NY 10007: NEW (212) 306-7200 (Gen Info) When Writing; Send Certified W/ Return Receipt SS # on top of every page.

There are no words of comfort at such a difficult time, however if you have all the necessary information at the ready it will expedite any claim that is pending, make the process run smoothly and your stress level can be minimized. Thanks MARIE and LINDA.



When a Police Officer is killed, It's not an agency that loses an Officer, it's an entire nation.

60

167

1,864

2,769 27,031

Line of Duty Deaths Line of Duty Deaths Line of Duty Deaths Line of Duty Deaths This Year Last Year

LAST FIVE YEARS

LAST TEN YEARS **FOR ALL TIME**



Remember All of Our Fallen Heroes

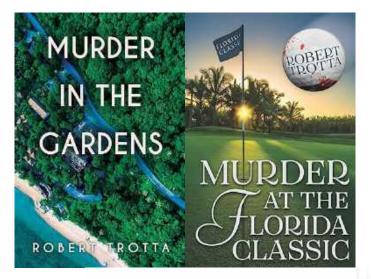




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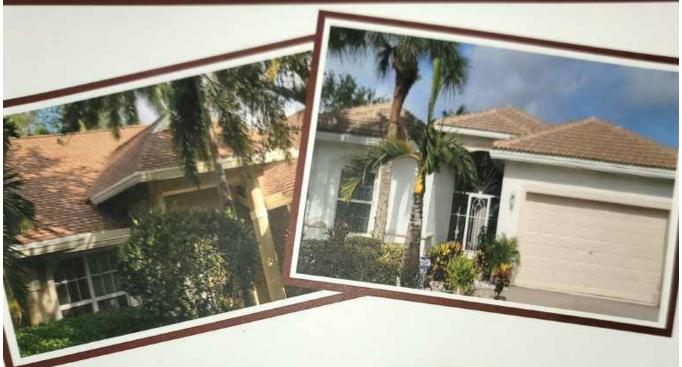


Bobby Trotta's a member of ours has Two Novels Murder in The Gardens and Murder at The Florida Classic which are now available in audiobook format. You can sample each at Amazon, Audible or Alexa



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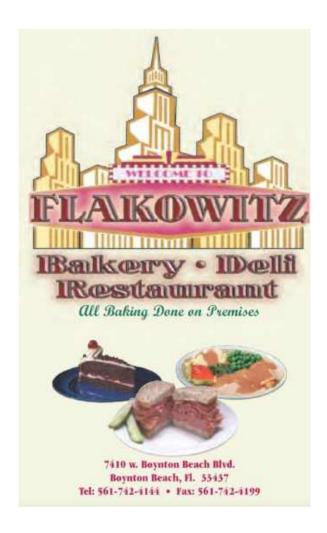
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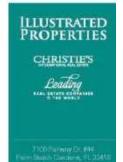
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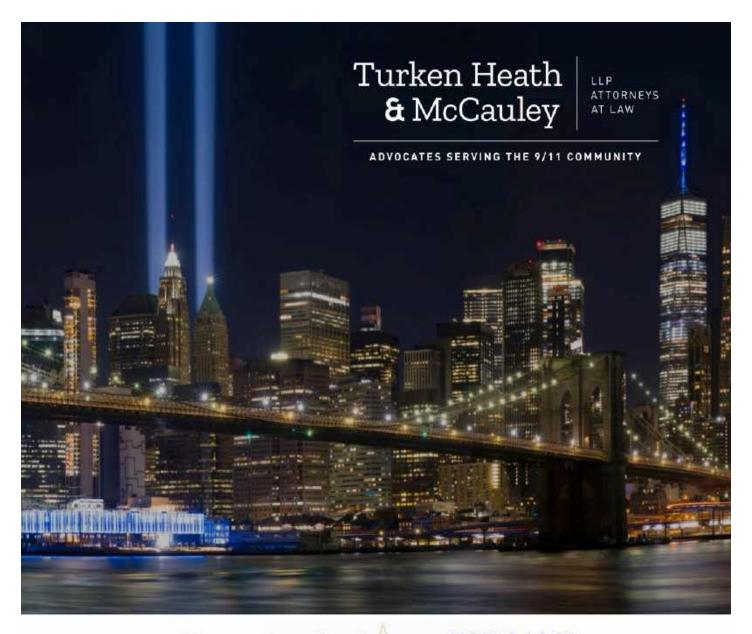


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Advocates Serving the 9/11 Community

We are forever indebted to the Men and Women in law enforcement and to their Families for their Tireless service, selflessness and daily acts of bravery.

Thank you and God Bless You All!

Matthew J. McCauley, Partner & Ret. NYPD • (914) 363 - 6355 Jeannie Kelly, Director of 9/11 Outreach & Education, Ret. NYPD • (516) 307 - 7965







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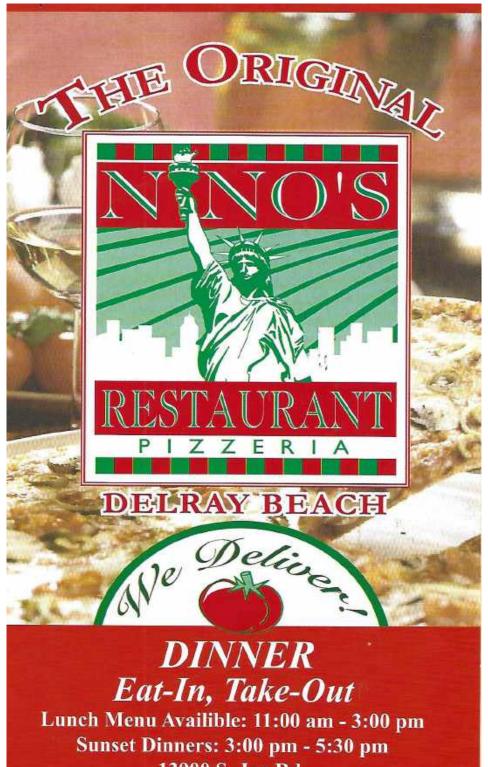
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