

In Association with



Defending America Award
Noel Moloney, Supervisor
U.S. Customs & Border Protection
Presented by Bethann Rooney,
The Port Authority of New York
& New Jersey

Frontline Guardian Award
Major Craig Costello,
Commanding Officer,
NJ State Troopers
Presented by Senator Joseph Cryan,
NJ State Senate

Friday, January 31st, 2025

5:30pm-9:00pm

The View At The Battery, New York, NY

#IrishLaw

This annual event celebrates the brave men and women in law enforcement who work hard to keep us safe and to keep society running smoothly. In their honor, the Irish Echo, in 2009, inaugurated the Irish Law and Order awards.



C-I-E TOURS



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16th Law & Order Awards Celebration

By Ray O'Hanlon

Law enforcement is never less than a daunting challenge for the men and women who are daily assigned the task of protecting a democratic society, and all the rights and privileges that come with it.

With this in mind the Irish Echo, in what is our 97th year of publishing, is proud to be rolling out the welcome mat for twenty seven honorees who stand in the front line defending our nation's communities, and the nation itself.

The sixteenth annual Irish Echo Law and Order Awards will be celebrated at a dinner gathering Friday evening, January 26, at The View at the Battery in Lower Manhattan.

Each year, nominated honorees are drawn from all areas and branches of law enforcement, including city police departments, federal agencies, corrections departments, and offices of city, state, and federal district attorneys. Being retired is not an impediment to being nominated. Nominees can also hail from varied ethnic and family backgrounds.

Our first Law and Order list was compiled in 2009 and was headed by NYPD Commissioner Ray Kelly. That first grouping was presented as a list of honorees in a special issue of the paper. There was no actual awards event that year but there would be one the following year when an inaugural formal gathering would allow honorees from all

over the United States to meet, mingle, and compare their experiences. And they did so at a reception hosted by the Irish Consulate in Manhattan.

Dublin-born John Timoney, who had served at the very top level of policing in New York, Philadelphia and Miami, was the chief honoree that year. We lost John in 2016, but his service to three great cities, and his adopted country, is now enshrined in the great Irish American law and order story.

In 2011, the Consulate again played host to the awards and Yonkers Police Chief Ed Hartnett was chief honoree. After two years, the Law and Order listing, and the reception now attached to it, was attracting a growing level of interest from around the country. The 2012 awards reception was scheduled for the fall of that year. But Superstorm Sandy had other ideas.

So the 2012 Law and Order Awards gathering was held in the first month of 2013. This would be a full dinner affair at Rosie O'Grady's and New Rochelle Police Chief Patrick Carroll would be the chief honoree.

The new placing on the calendar would be maintained and the awards event held in the early days of 2014 would return to Rosie O'Grady's where all in attendance cheered the first woman top honoree, Deputy Chief Theresa Tobin of the NYPD. Theresa just recently retired after forty years of proud service.

2015 saw the top honor being bestowed on NYPD PBA President Pat

Lynch, who later in the year went on to win re-election to his leadership position.

In 2016, Law and Order reached a milestone in that chief honoree, Bernie McCormack, became the first federal law enforcement officer to win the accolade.

In 2017, we presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Callahan of the New Jersey State Police. Callahan would soon command the force by virtue of being promoted to superintendent.

At the 2017 awards we also saluted the dedication, courage and legacy of Detective Steven McDonald. Steven, too, will be forever remembered for his courage, dignity and grace, and at that 2017 gathering we were honored to present an award to Steven's son, Sergeant Conor McDonald.

A highlight of the 2017 awards was an address to the gathering by NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill, then in the early days of presiding over a department that would record the lowest annual homicide rate in New York City in modern times.

It was again so in 2018. In 2019, the awards paid particular salute to women in law enforcement. In 2020 the honorees included the new NYPD Commissioner, Dermot Shea, a son of Irish immigrants.

Covid did not stop the awards event though the 2021 gathering was later in the year than usual and held at Rory

Dolan's in Yonkers. In 2022, the awards event returned to Rosie O'Grady's and Rosie's would also host the 2023 awards. Shortly after, Rosie's announced that it was closing, though it would also be in search of a new home.

As a result, Law & Order found itself under the new roof in 2024, that of The View. And it is to this splendid venue overlooking New York Harbor that we are returning to on the last day of January, 2025.

All our honorees are recognized not only for their hard work and dedication, but also because they are the present day embodiment of the proud legacy of the Irish in American law enforcement and public safety, a legacy that reaches from the distant past into the boundless future. The Irish in law enforcement is an American story. Indeed, it is the stuff of American legend.

The American Irish may not be as proportionally numerous in law enforcement as they once were, but you will still find great numbers of them serving in the front lines, and every rank at local, state, and federal level.

The Irish beat cop is still out there, and behind him, or her, is a heritage that goes back to the earliest days of what we would recognize as the beginnings of modern law enforcement.

Congratulations to all our honorees over the years. And we salute all our honorees at the 2025 awards gathering.



Congratulations to our honorees

Michael Best: Detective – NYPD - Vice Enforcement Division

Timothy Burke: Lieutenant, NYPD - 42nd Precinct Detective Squad

Brendan Dowd: Detective, FBI/NYPD Joint Terrorism Task Force

Patrick Ryan: Sergeant, NYPD – Office of Deputy Commissioner, Labor Relations

Sean Finnegan: Lieutenant Commander, NYPD -
Commanding Officer of the 113th Precinct Detective Squad

Joseph Fox: 37-year NYPD Bureau Chief, Chief of Transit (retired in 2018)

Brendan Latimer: Police Officer, NYPD - Bronx public safety

George Layng: Detective – NYPD - Firearms Suppression Unit

John McGann: Police Officer, NYPD - PO in the Office of
Deputy Commissioner Employee Relations

Patrick McGurk: Police Officer, NYPD - Asst Operation Coordinator at the 34 Precinct

Daniel O'Grady: Lieutenant, NYPD - Operations Coordinator for the NYPD

Brendan Reilly: Sergeant, NYPD - Supervisor for the Bronx Public Safety team

Robert Riley: Detective – NYPD

Charles Berger: Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge; FBI (retired)

Craig Costello: Major, NJSP - Commanding Officer of the Port Security Section

Shawn Doherty: Sergeant, Delaware State Police/
President Delaware State Troopers Association

Thomas Dolan: Lieutenant, Ramapo Police Department

Richard Egan: Police Officer, Port Authority of NY & NJ - Emergency Service Unit

Christopher Kelly: Detective, Nassau County PD - 1st VP Nassau County Detectives
Association PAC Chairman and representative in Albany for PCNY

Michael Kubert Jr.: Captain, Bayonne Police Department - Night Tour Commander

Michael Lavin: Captain, New Jersey State Police -
Deputy Troop Commander of Troop "D" of the NJSP

Noel Moloney: Chief, U.S. Customs and Border Protection -
Chief of Outbound cargo tactical operation for the Port Of NY/NJ

Fintan Mc Cormac: Detective, Sergeant Nassau County PD SIS -
Commanding Officer of Special Investigations Section

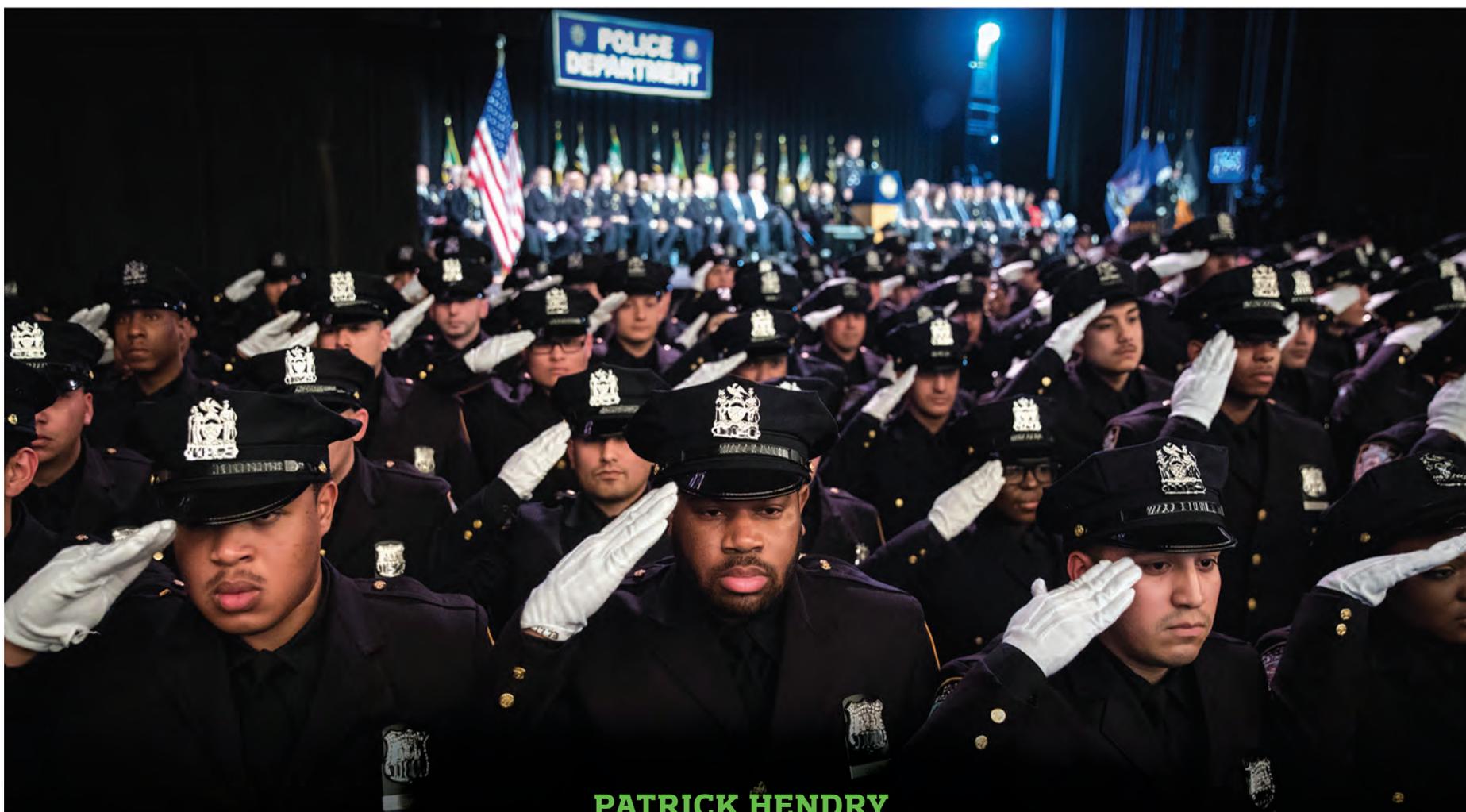
Niall Nerney – Sergeant, Westchester County Police

Michael O'Sullivan: Sergeant, New Canaan Police Department (CT.)

Patrick Rooney: Captain, Yonkers PD - Commanding Officer of the City of Yonkers
Police Department Emergency Service Unit

Patrick Barlow: Lieutenant, NJ State Police

Congratulations to the 2025 Irish Law & Order Award Winners



FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

- MERRITT RILEY Manhattan South
- JOSEPH STRONG Manhattan North
- RICHARD DIANA Housing
- DANIEL ULSAMER Lower Manhattan / S.I.
- JOSEPH A. RAO Queens South
- FREDERICK WINTER Bronx
- JOHN FITZGERALD Brooklyn North
- ANTONIO VIVAR Brooklyn South
- RAYMOND SALAMONE Queens North
- MICHAEL McPHEE Transit

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- KARAM JUBRAN Bronx
- THOMAS GILMORE Brooklyn North
- ANTHONY CACIOPPO Brooklyn South
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Tom Dolan Exemplifies the Best in Irish American Law Enforcement



Lieutenant Tom Dolan of the Ramapo, New York Police Department exemplifies the Irish American law enforcement officer's fusion of Irish heritage and culture and professional accomplishment. His story is one of many facets, and his peripatetic career is one of one accomplishment built upon another.

Born in Pearl River, one of the younger of a family of nine siblings, Tom's paternal grandparents hail from the Leitrim-Cavan border and his grandda played GAA football and handball for Leitrim, as did his father, Lawrence, who kept the city's lights on with Con Ed, and also wrote for the Irish Advocate newspaper.

The family were frequent visitors to Gaelic Park, and it was there that Tom's mother Mary, whose own parents were from Galway and Clare, saw a particularly bone crunching match that caused her to frown upon Tom's playing Gaelic at too early an age. One can imagine Mary's maternal concern when Tom chose his profession.

The Dolan brood also all played Irish music, entertaining on St. Patrick's Day 1982 in the White House subsequent to the release of their album entitled "The Dolan Family" which consisted of Irish traditional tunes and rebel music with some original compositions.

The entire Dolan family have a long history as well with renowned retired Detective Denis Mulcahy's Project Children.

Tom started his law enforcement career with the NYC Housing Police in 1993, before the merge with the NYPD of Housing and Transit in 1995.

It was while in Housing that Tom worked with an old friend, Eddie Conlon, the Harvard-educated cop and writer famous for, among other things, the New York Times bestseller "Blue Blood."

Tom, nicknamed "Stretch," is mentioned in the



The Long Blue Line

Profiles In Irish-American Service / By Brian McCabe



Ramapo Police Department Lieutenant Tom Dolan.

tome and Eddie has this to say about working with Tom: "I worked with Tommy making street arrests for crack and heroin in the housing projects of the South Bronx. He was like an athlete -- smooth, controlled, fast. It's hard to believe the dealers didn't see him coming, but he was on them before they knew it."

In 1998 Tom made the career move to the Ramapo, New York Police Department, a very busy and multifaceted town in Rockland County that in certain areas presented the same issues and challenges he encountered in the Bronx with the NYPD.

Tom worked in Anti-Crime, the Detective Bureau,

and then began advancement in rank to Sergeant and then to Lieutenant, the rank he currently holds.

He also is a graduate from Ramapo College and earned a Master's degree in Public Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University. In his role as a command leader with RPD, Tom has multiple responsi-

bilities, and Ramapo's top cop, Chief Dan Hyman, who also began his career with the NYPD, has this to say about Tom: "Lieutenant Tom Dolan joined the Ramapo PD from the NYPD, bringing experience and a strong commitment to our community."

"He has become an invaluable member of my command staff. We're proud to have him serve on the Countywide SWAT team, where his leadership and expertise shine. Congratulations to Tom on this well-deserved recognition from the Irish Echo – a true honor for a deserving and valued law enforcement leader."

Tom lives in Rockland with his bride Theresa and their three teens, Jennifer, Kate, and T.J.

As is not uncommon with family connections in the Long Blue Line, Theresa's parents are the well-respected retired Chief John Seymour and his wife Margaret.

Tom Dolan is truly representative of all aspects of the Long Blue Line embodying Irish-American dedication to history, culture, heritage and public service.

"The family were frequent visitors to Gaelic Park, and it was there that Tom's mother Mary, whose own parents were from Galway and Clare, saw a particularly bone crunching match that caused her to frown upon Tom's playing Gaelic at too early an age. One can imagine Mary's maternal concern when Tom chose his profession."



Congratulations

Craig Costello - *Major, NJSP* -
Commanding Officer of the Port Security Section

Noel Moloney – *Chief, U.S. Customs and Border Protection* -
Chief of Outbound cargo tactical operation for the Port Of NY/NJ

And all of the 2025 Law & Order honorees

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DANIEL O'GRADY

Rank and Department: Lieutenant, NYPD.

Job Description? I am the operations Coordinator for the NYPD Counterterrorism Division (CTD). In this function I manage all administrative, financial, and personnel functions for the unit, serve as the chief advisor to the CTD executive staff for all counterterrorism-related operational programs, formulate policies, and ensure unit compliance with all relevant laws and department guidelines.

Why I chose this career? The attacks of September 11, 2001, inspired me to become a police officer. The tragic events of that day led me to pause and reflect on my life, priorities, and core values. In that reflection, I discovered that I yearned to be part of something larger than myself and live a purposeful life through public service. I was sworn in as an NYPD Police Officer in July 2002 and have never looked back. It was one of the best decisions of my life.



Proudest moment of my career? The proudest moment of my career was passing my piping audition for the NYPD Emerald Society Pipes and Drums in 2010. There is no greater privilege than playing shoulder to shoulder with my fellow band members to promote our Irish heritage and honor fellow officers and chosen profession.

Lt. Danny O'Grady has over twenty-two years of law enforcement experience, serving in numerous law enforcement leadership roles. During his career he supervised patrol operations, served as the Commanding Officer of the Threat Reduction and Infrastructure Protection Section and oversaw all NYPD counterterrorism maritime operations within the Port of New York and New Jersey. He currently serves as the Operations Coordinator of the CTD where he serves as a Chief of Staff supervising the unit's administrative, fiscal, and personnel functions. Lt. O'Grady currently is the Bandmaster of the NYPD Emerald Society Pipes and Drums.

NOEL MOLONEY

Rank and Department: Chief U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Job Description? Currently the Chief of Outbound cargo tactical operation for the Port Of NY/NJ. My responsibilities are to manage officers' inspecting cargo exporting from the port of NY/NJ. This includes vehicles as well as technology. The CBP Outbound team is leading the country in the recovery of stolen vehicles under my leadership. I am tasked with running export operations throughout the country. I have become a subject matter expert in the export field.

Why I chose this career? I retired after 22 years of service with the NYPD and was young enough to enter the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency (CBP). After September 11, 2001, I felt the need to continue in a field I enjoyed and could continue to contribute to. CBP fit that need. I have served with CBP since September 29, 2003.

Proudest moment of my career? The proudest moment of my CBP Career was pulling a U.S. Coast guard engineer out of an oil water Separator aboard an auto carrying ship. During the rescue I received a distal bicep injury that required surgery to reattach my bicep. The Coast guard engineer was seriously injured but later recovered from his injuries. I was told because of my quick response the engineer survived. Later that year, CBP awarded me the medal of valor in

Washington D.C. My family was present when I received the award from the CBP commissioner. I was taken back by the award and my family were very proud of what I did to save the US Coast guard engineer. The U.S Coast Guard.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I dress up as Santa Clause on the Polar Express train out of Kingston NY. I work on the autistic part of the train and contribute any compensation back to the not-for-profit Autism speaks. I do this on weekends during the Thanksgiving/Christmas season. In the fall I help with a group of Irish out of Woodlawn to raise money for an autism smart park being built in Yonkers. The New York GAA minor board also helps with this.

I started my career on July 13, 1981, with the NY State Department of Corrections. I obtained the rank of sergeant and in 1986 left corrections for the NYPD. After the academy, I was assigned to the 42nd precinct in the Bronx and eventually was assigned to the robbery conditions unit. In 1994 I was transferred to the Technical Assistance Response Unit (TARU). While in the NYPD I volunteered to be Emerald society delegate and did so through my carrier. I played Gaelic football with the NYPD's Gaelic football club (NYGFC) and eventually became the President of the (NYGFC).

My father was a founding member of the NYGFC, so I was proud to lead this fantastic organization. I am still active with the Emerald society as well as the Gaelic football

club. While in TARU I was promoted to detective. I was a responder to the worlds trade center during the September 11 terrorist attack. I retired in 2002 and later that year my twin boys were born. That same year, I applied for and accepted a job offer to work for the newly formed U.S Customs and Border Protection agency. With my prior law enforcement experience I was assigned to the NY/NJ Seaport. My first assignment was the cargo processing and then container vessel inspection. 911 was still very fresh and our team was assigned to look for anything supporting terrorism.

I was later assigned to the Anti-terrorism cargo enforcement team (AT-CET). Working on this team I was responsible for numerous narcotic seizures and had the opportunity to assist with multiple narcotic operations throughout the United States. I was invited to become a member of National Mobile Response unit assigned to anti-terrorism and later to the National emergency Response team also set up to combat any threats to the country. I eventually studied and started to take the promotion exams and was promoted up the ranks to the rank of Chief. I am currently the tactical Chief assigned to outbound exports. Under my leadership the outbound team has recovered just over 51 million dollars of stolen vehicles within the past two years. I have been featured on the discovery channel and Nat Geo with to catch a smuggler. Outside of work I coach Gaelic football for St. Brendan's



Gaelic Football club in Orange County N.Y. I was also the Past president of St. Brendan's Gaelic football. I am married with twin boys. My wife is from Moate, County Westmeath and is responsible for my success. My twin boys continue to play Gaelic football and keep our heritage alive. I am proud of what I do and intend upon retirement to continue to serve the public in some way.



NIALL NERNEY

Rank and Department: Sergeant with Westchester County Police.

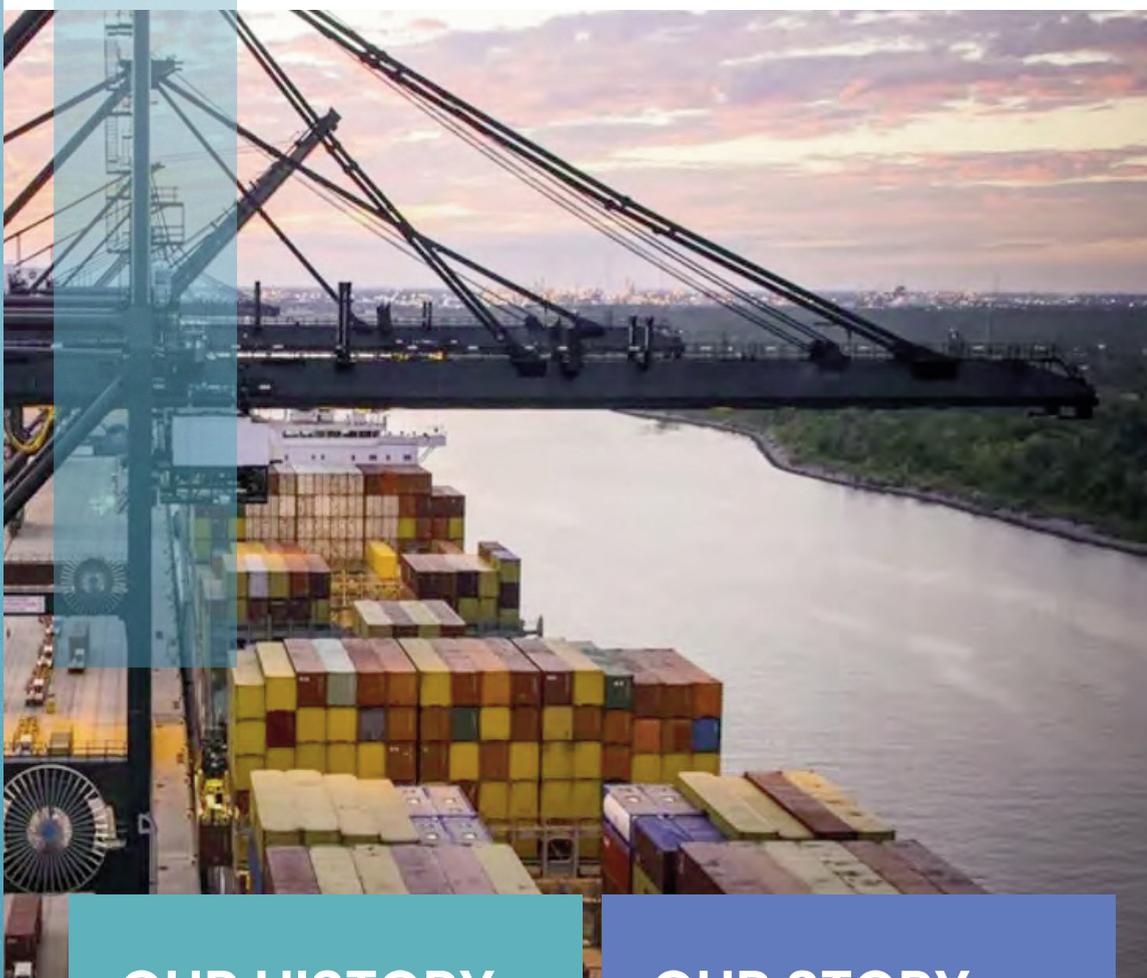
Job Description? As a newly promoted Sergeant, I supervise and advise police officers to help them properly execute their patrol duties. I try my best to provide my officers with guidance while completing any and all tasks handed down to me by my superiors.

Why I chose this career? It has long been an aspiration of mine to become a police officer. My brother was a Garda in Dublin, and now a Detective in Athlone, and I looked up to him and deeply respected his dedication to helping others. This country has given me so much that I am honored to give back to my community.

Proudest moment of my career? The proudest moment of my career was when my eldest son, Thomas, pinned my shield when I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: After completing my Leaving Certificate in 2004, I took a "year off", and I worked as a plumber in Ireland. When I came to New York I worked in construction up until I became a police officer in 2018. I played for Roscommon NY football team in Gaelic Park for several years and now I help coach my son's Gaelic football team, WestPut Setanta.

Niall grew up on a dairy farm in Elphin Co. Roscommon in a family of six children and emigrated to American on his own in 2007. Niall has worked extremely hard to achieve the American dream, and is proud to say that he has! He married his wife, Maureen in 2013 and have four beautiful children, Tommy, Fiona, Eoin and Saoirse, and they are the motivation behind everything he does and is so incredibly proud of the life they have built together.



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OUR HISTORY

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OUR STORY

We negotiate and administer various multi-employer collective bargaining agreements with the ILA. The WGMA provides payroll, payroll support services, and processes grievances. In addition, we coordinate the training of longshore workers to promote a safe and efficient working environment.

WHAT WE DO



Service Hub

WGMA administers payroll services for labor. We coordinate and process grievances, training, and other labor related activities.



Communication

We communicate and coordinate industry issues with various governmental entities in a unified voice.



Informational

Our Daily Industry Update Report provides information on news, events, and forums impacting navigational, environmental, and safety concerns in the maritime industry.



Community

We conduct town hall meetings to give members an opportunity to network and hear the latest activities, news, and developments impacting businesses in the maritime industry.

OUR VISION

The WGMA plays a significant role as a partner for progress in the maritime field. By working towards the betterment of our members, partners, and the industry as a whole, we contribute to the advancement and sustainability of maritime operations and services.

OUR MISSION

We serve our members and partners in the maritime industry by fostering a strong, stable and dependable workforce as well as providing crucial information and representation. We are dedicated to the well-being of our members, partners, and the maritime industry as a whole.



MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

Rank and Department: Sergeant New Canaan Police Department (CT.).

Job Description? Currently assigned as the Youth Sergeant in the Investigations Section. Responsible for investigation of crimes against children, sexual offenses and other crimes. Also the supervisor of the School Safety Unit, which consists of five School Resource Officers. I currently serve as the department's Domestic

Violence Coordinator, Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator, and Peer Support Team Coordinator.

Why I chose this career? I choose the career of being a police officer because of my desire to serve and make a positive difference in my community.

Proudest moment of my career? Being promoted to the rank of Sergeant and being assigned to the Investigations Section.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I own a 1965 American Motors Rambler.

I have been a police officer for the past 24 years being assigned to the Patrol Section and the Investigations Section. During my career, I have obtained the Police Cross Medal, 4 Life Saving Medals, 1 Meritorious Duty Medal, and was named Officer of the Year in 2018.

Prior to working at the New Canaan Police Department, I obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Sacred Heart University where I was a member of the Track and Field team. Both of my parents immigrated to the United States from Ireland at a young age. My father was from Carrick-on-Suir County Tipperary, Ireland and my mother is from Killorglin, County Kerry Ireland.

I have been married to my wife Anne Marie for the past 22 years, and we have 2 children who are Allison and Michael. We are currently members of the Gaelic American Club in Fairfield Connecticut.



GEORGE LAYNG

Rank and Department: Detective - NYPD.

Job Description? I currently serve on the Firearms Suppression Unit where I conduct long-term investigations into illegal firearms sales across the city.

Why I chose this career? I come from a family of proud civil servants. My grandfather was an FDNY Battalion Chief, my father was a proud member of the NYPD, and my uncle was a NJ state trooper.

Growing up emulating them, I chose to follow in their footsteps when determining my career path.

Proudest moment of my career? One of my proudest moments was being able to work with some of the best cops in NYC as a member of the Bronx Borough crime unit. I also was very proud to be promoted to the rank of Detective.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I Irish step danced as a child.

I was born in Manhattan and lived in the Bronx until my family moved to Warwick, NY. I am the oldest of five siblings. I proudly served in the US Army as a member of the 82nd Airborne during the Iraq War. I am also a proud member of the NYPD Gaelic football team, AOH Division III, the Bronx Gaelic League, and the American Legion in Pearl River, NY. As a member of NYPD, I have proudly worked as PO in the 44, Bronx Borough Crime, 44 Detective Squad, and I currently work in the Firearms Suppression Unit. I currently live in Pearl River, NY with my wife, Maureen, and our son, Cillian Patrick, whom we welcomed in March of last year.

MICHAEL LAVIN

Rank and Department: Captain, New Jersey State Police.

Job Description? I am currently the Deputy Troop Commander of Troop "D" of the New Jersey State Police. I oversee all operations on the New Jersey Turnpike and the Garden State Parkway.

Why I chose this career? I chose to be a State Trooper to help others.

Proudest moment of my career? I served for eight years on the New Jersey State Police Canine Unit. During this time, I was detailed to various jobs in reference to counter terrorism, armed robberies and missing individuals. In addition, I enjoyed many community outreach events with my K-9 Jager. Also, serving as the Station Commander of Holmdel Station on the Garden State Parkway.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: My mother is from Lough Talt, Ireland and I have identical twin girls.

I have nearly thirty years of law enforcement experience. In that time, I have held numerous positions in the New Jersey State Police, with the majority of my time in Troop "D". I have been a Squad Sergeant, Station Commander and now Deputy Troop



Commander. I have strong Irish roots as my mother is from Lough Talt. My education from elementary school and all through college has been at Catholic Institutions, earning my undergraduate degree from St. John's University and earning my Master's degree from Seton Hall University.

JOSEPH FOX

Rank and Department: NYPD Bureau Chief, Chief of Transit (ret).

Job Description? 37-year NYPD chief, retired 2018.

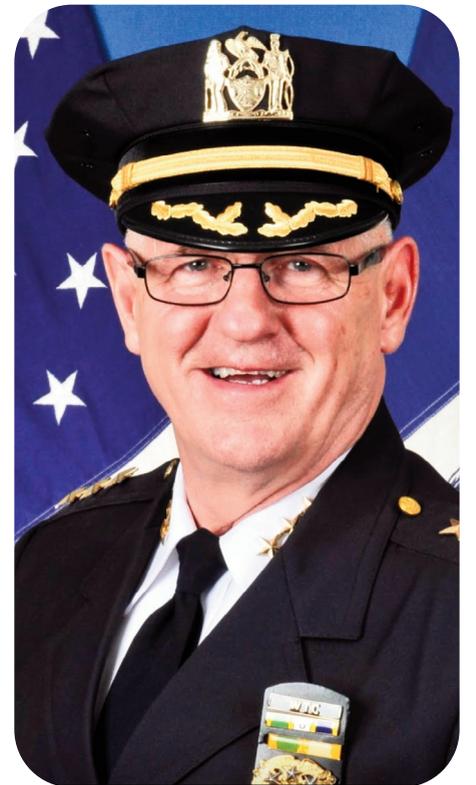
Why I chose this career? Inspired by my father who was a police officer in the NYPD.

Proudest moment of my career? I was fortunate that there were many proud moments, and most of them involved watching the continued growth of leaders that I had the honor of mentoring.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: My passions are social media influencing, writing, poetry, photography and practicing as a life coach.

For more than 37 years, Joseph Fox served with the New York City Police Department, retiring in 2018 after serving seven years as the Chief of the NYPD's Transit Bureau. Following in his father's footsteps, Joe joined the NYPD in July, 1981, beginning his law enforcement career as a patrol officer in Brooklyn's 70th Precinct.

While ascending the ranks to three-star Chief, he has commanded Patrol Borough Brooklyn South, Patrol Borough Queens South, the Office of the Chief of Internal Affairs, the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Training, as well as



Brooklyn's 71st Precinct. As head of the NYPD's Transit Bureau, Joe led a team of more than 2,600 women and men who secure the nation's busiest rail system. Joe has significant accomplishments working with communities in particular, diverse communities, and building and improving on strong police/community relations.

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
OF THE 2025 IRISH ECHO
AWARD HONOREES ESPECIALLY**



**NJSP MAJOR CRAIG COSTELLO
NJSP CAPTAIN MICHAEL LAVIN
NJSP LIEUTENANT PATRICK BARLOW
&
DSP SERGEANT SHAWN DOHERTY**



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CHARLES BERGER

Rank and Department: Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge; Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) (retired).

Job Description? As an Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge (ASAC) of the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), Mr. Berger led a branch of approximately 150 investigators, intelligence analysts and support personnel tasked with investigating international and domestic terrorism matters in New York City and lower New York State. The FBI-led task force is comprised of members from over 50 federal, state and local agencies. In that role, Mr. Berger led the investigations into the Chelsea Bombing, West Side Highway attack and the Port Authority Bombing.

Why I chose this career? On the morning of 9/11/2001, I was in downtown Manhattan on duty with the JTTF during the terrorist attacks. After that experience, I committed myself to a career in counterterrorism.

Proudest moment of my career? In 2017, I was the on-scene commander of the capture of Mustafa al-Imam, a perpetrator of the 9/11/2012 terrorist attack which killed Ambassador J. Christian Stevens and three other Americans in Benghazi, Libya. For my actions, I was

awarded the Attorney General Award, the highest award in the Department of Justice for investigations.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: My wife and I are restoring a historic home in Wilmington, North Carolina on the Cape Fear River. It was built in 1881 and has a view of the USS North Carolina, a retired World War II battleship and museum.

Charles E. Berger grew up in Douglaston, NY. He graduated from Xavier High School in Manhattan and the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. After commissioning as an officer in the U.S. Navy, he flew F-14 Tomcat fighters as a Naval Flight Officer. In 1999, he became a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation rising to the position of Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge of the Joint Terrorism Task Force before retiring in 2022. He currently works in corporate security in North Carolina. He was married to the late Joan Marie (nee Wilkinson) Berger and is currently married to Ann-Marie (nee Mulvehill) Berger. Between them, they have six adult children and a granddaughter.



CHRISTOPHER KELLY

Rank and Department: Detective - Nassau County Police Department.

Job Description? 1st VP Nassau County Detectives Association PAC Chairman and representative in Albany for PCNY.

Why I chose this career? I chose the career of Law Enforcement because my father was a Police Officer, as was his father and his. I was also always passionate about helping people. I started NYPD in 2000 and transferred to NCPD in 2004 until current.

Proudest moment of my career? Getting almost 80% of the vote from my fellow Detectives to represent them on the DAI Executive Board, and now it was more about representing and helping my peers.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I am an open book, so people who know me would not be surprised by a lot.

I have over two decades of law enforcement experience in the NYPD and NCPD. I have always been very dedicated to my job, especially now as the vice president of the Nassau County Detectives Association and as a member of the Police Conference of New York. I love people and value my family and friends first and foremost. I believe firmly in fostering relationships within the community and beyond.



MICHAEL BEST

Rank and Department: Detective - NYPD.

Job Description? My current unit is Vice Enforcement Division, which investigates illegal gambling, prostitution, illegal clubs and human trafficking. My previous unit is the 42 Precinct Detective Squad which investigated burglary, robbery, unexplained deaths, missing persons, shootings, stabbings and homicides.

Why I chose this career? I always felt that law enforcement had the most impact in the realm of public service. The ever-changing environment of New York City gives Police Officers the most experience in diverse circumstances.

Proudest moment of my career? While being the lead investigator assigned to a sexual assault and murder of a 1-year-old baby, I was able to sit in the courtroom while the perpetrator was sentenced to prison.

While growing up in Connecticut, I was intrigued by the "big city" after watching the chaos of the nightly news. After attending college, I was accepted to a Paramedic program at St Vincents Hospital in Manhattan. Upon completion of Paramedic school, I was hired by the FDNY as a Paramedic. In 2010, the NYPD appointed me to the position of Police Officer. During my



career I have been assigned to numerous units since, most recently the Detective Bureau in 2016.



PATRICK MCGURK

Rank and Department: Police Officer, NYPD.

Job Description? Assistant Operation Coordinator at the 34 precinct.

Why I chose this career? I have always wanted to be a police officer ever since Detective Steven McDonald came to my elementary school Blessed Sacrament, in New Rochelle NY, and spoke about service and his experience as a New York City police officer. He inspired me to start a career in civil service. I attended high school at Fordham Preparatory school, in Bronx NY, which was a service-based school and motto was "men for others".

Proudest moment of my career? My proudest moment of my career was when I respond to a burglary in progress. A quick-thinking victim hears glass breaking in the other room of her apartment, she locks herself in her room for safety, and dials 911. My partner and myself get the job and race to the apartment. Hearing noise, while the caller is still

with 911, we barged our way into the apartment. We rushed into the kitchen, and observed glass on the floor and a broken window. After checking on the victim, my partner and I ran to the kitchen fire escape window. We decided to go up rather than down the fire escape to the roof where we encountered the suspect who was immediately placed under arrest. The suspect was in possession of the victim's property of currency, gift cards and game consoles.

I was born in Yonkers NY to Patrick and Bernadette McGurk. I grew up in the Woodlawn section of the Bronx. For high school I attended Fordham Preparatory school. I later attended Pennsylvania State University where I graduated with a BS in Economics.

I began my law enforcement career with the NYPD on July 2, 2018 and was assigned to the 34th Precinct. Currently I resided in Rockland County with my wife Jennifer McGurk and my three boys Connor, Aidan and Emmett.



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The Grand Council extends heartfelt congratulations to the 2025 Irish Echo Law and Order Honorees for their exemplary service and dedication.

We take particular pride in the honorees from our affiliated organizations:

NCPEs, NYPD ES, PAPD ES & WCPES

As a national organization comprising 28 affiliates and over 20,000 members, we are especially proud that 17 of our affiliates are dedicated Law Enforcement organizations.

Once again, congratulations to all the honorees, and thank you for your steadfast commitment to upholding the law and ensuring the safety of our communities.

Fraternally,

Martin Bellew

Martin Bellew

President



CRAIG COSTELLO

Rank and Department: Major, New Jersey State Police.

Job Description? As Commanding Officer of the Port Security Section, I lead a strategic law enforcement effort responsible for safeguarding and regulating operations at the nation's second-busiest seaport. Following a landmark unanimous Supreme Court decision, our section assumed the regulatory and investigative responsibilities previously held by the Waterfront Commission of New York and New Jersey in July 2023.

In this executive leadership role, I oversee a multi-faceted law enforcement operation that:

- * Directs comprehensive workforce regulation and licensing within the port's maritime commerce sector
- * Leads sophisticated investigations targeting organized crime activities and ensuring port security
- * Manages intelligence operations to protect critical maritime infrastructure
- * Coordinates with federal, state, and local law enforcement partners to maintain port integrity
- * Supervises a rapidly expanding section



that combines regulatory oversight with active law enforcement operations. Under my command, the Port Security Section has successfully transitioned these vital responsibilities to the New Jersey State Police while enhancing security measures that protect one of the nation's most crucial maritime commercial hubs.

Why I chose this career? My decision to pursue a career in law enforcement was driven by an unwavering commitment to public service and a profound desire to make a meaningful difference in people's lives. From an early age, I recognized that law enforcement officers serve as both guardians and advocates for their communities. This calling to protect and serve resonated deeply with my personal values and aspirations. I was drawn to the unique opportunity this profession offers to directly impact public safety while helping individuals navigate difficult situations with compassion and understanding.

Proudest moment of my career? Graduating from the New Jersey State Police Academy was the realization of a lifelong dream. Earning the right to wear



the distinctive uniform of the New Jersey State Police - an organization steeped in over 100 years of tradition, excellence, and unwavering commitment to public service - filled me with an indescribable sense of pride and purpose. That momentous day represented more than just a personal accomplishment; it

marked my entry into a distinguished brotherhood and sisterhood of troopers who have proudly served the Garden State since 1921, upholding the highest standards of honor, duty, and fidelity.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: My roots trace back to the emerald shores of Ireland's County Cork. My great-great-grandparents embarked on their American journey from the historic village of Carrigtwohill (Carrigtohill) in the late 1800s.

A 23-year veteran of the New Jersey State Police, I currently serve as Commanding Officer of the Port Security Section. Previously, as Commander of the Intelligence & Criminal Enterprise Section, I led 300 detectives in initiatives that significantly reduced auto theft, opioid overdose deaths, and gun violence statewide. My commitment to excellence and interagency cooperation earned recognition as the 2009 Trooper of the Year and the prestigious William French Smith Award in 2019, presented by U.S. Attorney General William Barr. These accolades reflect my dedication to innovative law enforcement strategies and public safety.

TIMOTHY BURKE

Rank and Department: Lieutenant, NYPD.

Job Description? I oversee the 42nd Precinct Detective Squad, which is located in the South Bronx and contains approximately 20 detectives that investigate all the crimes reported within the precinct, including homicides and shootings.

Why I chose this career? Growing up, I was always enamored with the stories my family told at the dinner table about the NYPD. Amongst them, the story of my Grandfather Redmond being the Commanding Officer of the 41st Precinct while they were filming Fort Apache and meeting with Paul Newman always stood out. Listening to those stories, as well as the traditions, are what initially attracted me to the NYPD and, along with my own, are the reasons why I still love being a member of this Department.

Proudest moment of my career? The proudest moment of my career was being promoted to Lieutenant. At the same promotion, seven other members of the NYPD Gaelic Football Team were promoted to either Lieutenant or Detective. Additionally, being awarded the 2024 Player of the Year for the Gaelic Football Team was a particularly special moment.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I am a fourth-generation police officer whose family has been on the New York City Police Department since 1920 with great grandfather Redmond (Police Officer), grandfather Redmond (Captain), father James (Detective Sergeant), and uncle Redmond (Sergeant) all being members. My great grandfather Redmond Burke immigrated to the United States from Ireland on the Lusitania, after fortuitously being denied entry onto the Titanic. His immigration was assisted by an uncle



who was originally a City of Brooklyn police officer. Additionally, my father-in-law, Jim Sullivan, is a retired Sergeant and his father was a retired Bureau Chief.

I was hired as a police officer in July 2011 after graduating from the University of Connecticut. I have spent my career assigned to different commands in Manhattan and the Bronx. I was promoted to Sergeant in 2018, Sergeant Detective Supervisor in 2023, and Lieutenant in 2024. I also play on the NYPD Gaelic Football Team and have traveled to both Ireland and England to play in the Tom Langan Cup police tournament against teams from the Dublin Garda, London Met, and the PSNI. Locally, we compete in the New York GAA Junior B Championship in Gaelic Park and the annual match against the FDNY at the Rockland GAA.

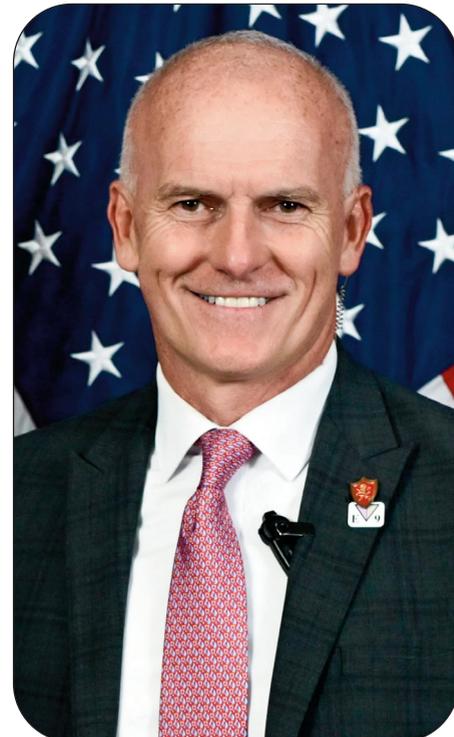
FINTAN MC CORMAC

Rank and Department: Detective Sergeant NCPD SIS.

Job Description? Commanding Officer of Special Investigations Section. I lead a team of Dignitary Protection Detectives. We work alongside United States Secret Service, U.S. State Department and other agencies to protect all visiting Dignitaries to Nassau County to include the County Executive. I additionally oversee Threat Investigations against Political figures and members of the Judiciary. I hold Top Secret Government clearance and supervise Task Force Detectives who work in the FBI JTTF.

Why I chose this career? I was born and lived in Belfast until I was 19 yrs old. I won a green card in the visa lottery and despite the fact my parents believed I'd be back in a few weeks' time, when my money ran out, was determined to make America my home. I began lifeguarding at Jones Beach as my first real job and I caught the lifesaving bug there. Police Officers were the good guys and they had a real opportunity to make a tangible difference in people's lives so I went back to college and pursued a career in law enforcement. My story is unique and too long for this forum but safe to say I'm grateful every day for the path I chose. It has been the most rewarding career choice I could have possibly imagined.

Proudest moment of my career? There have been so many. I am always in awe of the fact that as a kid from West Belfast I could be responsible for providing protection for the President of the United States and I've been so lucky to have met so many incredible people. Despite all the Presidents I've met and the cases I've worked on my proudest moment has to be the day I graduated from the Nassau County Police Academy. My Mum & Dad flew over from Ireland and stood on the stage next to me as I received my certificate. They have both since passed but will remember that graduation moment always.



Something people would be surprised to know about me: I started running marathons when I was a young kid. My first was the Belfast marathon at 15yrs old. I went on to run the NY City Marathon a few times and I've competed in Sprint, Olympic, Half Iron and Ironman Triathlons for most of my adult life. I've been an Alpine bike guide in the French Alps for almost 20 years.

The youngest of seven children I studied at St Mary's Christian Brothers Grammar School in Belfast following in the footsteps of my brother Gerard. I attended summer school in the Gaeltacht as a teenager. Immigrated from Ireland to New York in 1991. I have 3 sisters here now also. I became a Police Officer in 1998 and am about to start my 27th year in law enforcement. I have 4 boys who all attend Marist College and my wife is a 20 yr Detective with the Nassau County Police Department.



MMMCA is Proud to Support the Irish Echo's 16th Annual Law & Order Awards

Frontline Guardian Award

**Major Craig Costello
Major, NJSP -
Commanding Officer
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**Noel Moloney
Chief, U.S. Customs and
Border Protection - Chief of
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Joseph Ragusa, President**



THOMAS DOLAN

Rank and Department: Lieutenant Ramapo Police Department.

Job Description? Patrol Squad commander, running day to day operations for 14 Police Officers and 3 Sergeants. Included responsibilities are scheduling, training, dissemination of criminal activity and patrol conditions, accumulating statistic and officer evaluations.

Why I chose this career? I had always been interested in police work. After college graduation, I began work with a private company. Soon after, the opportunity to join the NYC Housing Police Department was presented to me. The decision to become a police officer was an easy one. It was clear that it was what I wanted to do. I started the NYC Police Academy in August of 1993.

Proudest moment of my career? I was fortunate to have worked in many capacity's in policing, both in NYC and with the Ramapo Police Department. I was always proud of my career and appreciative of opportunities given to me by the police department. My assignment and work with the Ramapo Detective Bureau were the most rewarding.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: My



eight siblings and I played Irish music throughout our childhood. We made recorded a record and were invited to play in President Reagan's White House.

My parents, Larry and Mary, moved from the Bronx to Pearl River in the 60's. They raised nine children, six boys and three girls. My parents were always active in Irish affairs. In addition to introducing us to Irish music, my parents were active in Project Children, taking in children from the North of Ireland for summers. They instilled in all their children, pride in their Irish heritage.

I graduated from Ramapo College of New Jersey and began work for a private company. I joined the NYC Housing Police in 1993, where I began my career working in a midnight sector assigned to Police Service Area-7 (PSA-7). In 1995 I joined the NYPD via the merge.

In 1998 I was hired by Ramapo Police Department, where I was given the opportunity to be part of the C-Team (Community Enforcement Team), which allowed me time to attend Fairleigh Dickinson University, where I received a Master's of Administrative Science. In 2011 I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and in 2019 to the rank of Lieutenant. In 2004, I married my beautiful wife Theresa, and we have three wonderful children.



RICHARD EGAN

Rank and Department: Police Officer Port Authority of NY & NJ.

Job Description? I'm part of the Emergency Service Unit (ESU). I'm trained and certified in various extensive disciplines. I'm responsible for different types of jobs which may include Rope /High angle rescue, vehicle extrication, hazmat situations, heavy weapons certification, confined space rescues. Certified NYS Emergency Medical Technician.

Why I chose this career? Becoming a Police Officer has always interested me since I was a child.

Proudest moment of my career? I don't have anything specific ..I've been in this career for over 23 years and every day I'm grateful for that I've done and the hundreds of people that I've helped over the years. And I am still very grateful to continue this line of work after all these years.

I graduated Valley Central HS in 1989. I became a Volunteer Fireman for Valley Stream in the same year. I went on to receive a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from SUNY Westbury. I was employed with a couple of financial institutions until I became an NYPD Officer in 1999. After that and after a short break in service to be self-employed .. I became a Port Authority Police Officer in 2002. I became an ESU Officer in 2005 after passing a rigorous selection process.



ROBERT RILEY

Rank and Department: Detective – NYPD.

Job Description? New York City Police Department Detective.

Why I chose this career? Since I was a child, I have looked forward to being a police officer. The ability to help people on their worst days. The ability to work in the greatest city for the best police department.

Proudest moment of my career? During the 2021 Hurricane. Saving a Pregnant women and her husband in their flooded vehicle. Also, in the same night saving an elderly woman in a wheelchair from waist high water inside of her apartment.

Robert was born and raised in the Woodlawn Section of the Bronx. Attended Archbishop Stepinac High School. Robert joined the NYPD at the age of 21 in 2018. After serving in the 44th Precinct for approximately 3 1/2 years he was transferred to the Detective Squad and Promoted to Detective in 2024. Robert received Retired Detective First Grade Terry McGhee Detective Shield and wears it proudly while working in the 44th Precinct Detective Squad.



PATRICK RYAN

Rank and Department: NYPD – Sergeant.

Job Description? Sergeant in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Labor Relations. This encompasses the direction, organization, and administration of existing labor contracts for the NYPD.

Why I chose this career? A lifelong desire to apprehend criminals that reduce people's quality of life.

Proudest moment of my career? The day I was sworn in to serve and protect the people of the City of New York.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I'm an avid golfer with an 8 handicap.

Sergeant Patrick Ryan recently retired from the NYPD, came to New York from Ireland in 1995 and gained US citizenship in 2004. Shortly thereafter followed a dream and joined the NYPD in January 2005. He worked in the Bronx for six years before being promoted to Sergeant in 2011. He worked in Harlem for two years and in 2013 returned to the Bronx to Highway Patrol. In 2018 he moved to police headquarters where he spent six years working for the Deputy Commissioner Labor Relations, that is where he ended his wonderfully interesting and satisfying career where he worked with the greatest men and women in the world of law enforcement. During his career he has been, and will continue to be in retirement, a member of the NYPD Emerald Society and the NYPD Gaelic Football Club.



BRENDAN DOWD

Rank and Department: Detective, NYPD.

Job Description? Detective in the FBI/NYPD Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Why I chose this career? There has been a member of The Dowd family in the New York City Police Department since 1896. My father, godfather, two brothers, and many cousins were also members of the NYPD. I guess you can say it was a calling. I always wanted to help my community and protect the city I love.

Proudest moment of my career? Becoming a member of the Joint Terrorism Task force is the proudest moment of my career. I was a rookie on 9/11 and from that day forward my dream was to become a Detective assigned to the JTTF.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I have a 10-year-old daughter Annie, and our family has become obsessed with the WNBA. Go Liberty and Sabrina Ionescu!

My name is Brendan Dowd and I have 23 years of service in the NYPD. I was raised in Rockland County, NY and I'm the youngest of 5 boys. My parents Thomas and Carole Dowd moved to Rockland in 1977 from Inwood, NY Upper Manhattan. I graduated St. Joseph Regional High School Montvale NJ 1997, LeMoyn College Syracuse NY 2001, and joined the NYPD July 2001. Myself and beautiful wife Suzanne are the proud parents of Annie Dowd, the joy of our lives!

**Congratulations
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SEAN FINNEGAN

Rank and Department: Lieutenant Commander, NYPD.

Job Description? Commanding Officer of the 113th Precinct Detective Squad.

Why I chose this career? I have wanted to be a police officer my entire life. While other kids I grew up with wanted to be athletes or astronauts, I wanted to be a cop. I have been told that I was even taking mock police reports from my grandmother as early as 6 years old. Having the opportunity to serve in the NYPD has truly been the realization of a lifelong dream.

Proudest moment of my career? The proudest moment of my career has been given the opportunity to command a detective squad, specifically the 113th Precinct Detective Squad. Leading some of the finest investigators in the NYPD has truly been an honor and a privilege. Getting justice for innocent victims is one of the most noble callings we can pursue in law enforcement and the men and women I work with are among the best in the business. This was evidenced in June of 2024 when the 113th Precinct Detective Squad received the Unit Citation as a testament to their outstanding work and dedication to duty.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: My family is our very own version of the TV show "Blue Bloods." My amazing wife is an NYPD Detective in the



Forensic Investigation Division, my sister is a Police Officer in the Office of Emergency Management, my brother is a retired Lieutenant Commander from the Queens South Homicide Squad, and my uncle is a retired 1st Grade Detective from the Cold Case Homicide Squad. We all get together often and the job is always a frequent topic of conversation.

Lieutenant Sean Finnegan was appointed to the NYPD in 2007. He has served in the 75th and 103rd Precincts on patrol, as well as Detective Bureau assignments in Brooklyn North Narcotics, the 102nd and 113th Precinct Detective Squads. He was promoted to Detective in 2012, Sergeant in 2017, Sergeant Detective Supervisor in 2021, Lieutenant in 2022, and Lieutenant Commander in 2024. He is currently awaiting promotion to Captain. Lieutenant Finnegan will graduate this May from the University of Virginia with a master's degree in public safety.

He is also a graduate of the 284th session of the FBI National Academy. He has been recognized by the Department ten times for Excellent Police Duty, twenty times for Meritorious Police Duty, and been the recipient of eight Commendations. Lieutenant Finnegan is currently the Financial Secretary for the NYPD Emerald Society, an organization he has been a member of since joining the police department. He is married to his wife Nicole, an NYPD Detective, and they have a son, Brayden.

MICHAEL KUBERT JR.

Rank and Department: Captain, Bayonne Police Department.

Job Description? Night Tour Commander.

Why I chose this career? Many of my family members are Police or Fireman. Feels like I went into the family business.

Proudest moment of my career? My children watching me get promoted to Sergeant.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: My Siberian Husky is named after the Hobbit and not the Chicago Bulls Hall of Famer.

Married (Spencer-Morgan) with two children (Mackenzie and Michael) Hired by the Bayonne Police Department May 26, 1998. Recipient of Police Officer of the year Awards by the Bayonne Police Emerald Society and Knights of Columbus. Received Valor Awards from NJ PBA and Hudson County 200 Club. Recipient of Bayonne PD Battle Cross Served as the



Superior Officers Association Union President from March 2020 until being assigned as the Night Tour Commander in July of 2024.

BRENDAN LATIMER

Rank and Department: Police Officer, NYPD.

Job Description? Bronx public safety.

Why I chose this career? My father who is retired from the NYPD inspired me to become a police officer by showcasing the values of service, integrity, and dedication to protecting others.

Proudest moment of my career? Being able to safely apprehend an armed individual who had just shot someone and was attempting to flee.

I was born and raised in Orange County NY. I had always wanted to be a police officer early on as I was inspired by my father's dedicated career in law enforcement. I started the New York City police academy on my 21st birthday. Since then, I have 7 years of dedicated service to the city. I look forward to being promoted and moving up the ranks one day.



BRENDAN REILLY

Rank and Department: Sgt - NYPD.

Job Description? Supervisor for the Bronx Public Safety team. Focused on lowering crime throughout the Bronx by making street stop firearm arrests.

Why I chose this career? In order to make the city I live in a safer place for my family.

Proudest moment of my career? I solved a homicide while in the 50 Detective Squad. Tracking the suspect from the time he left his house to committing the homicide and then reenacting it. He gave a full confession.

As a member of the Bronx Public Safety team in 2022 we recovered 131 firearms. While off duty picking my kids up from school apprehended a perp for a robbery of a smoke shop. The perp was in possession of a firearm. I was unarmed and solo.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I have 5 children and coach basketball and softball as well as being a board member of the Woodlean Boys and Girls club in Woodlawn, Bronx.



Born in the Bronx where I still reside. Grew up playing Gaelic football and working at Tri-edys deli on Katonah Avenue. My father's parents came from Galway and settled in the Bronx. My mother's parents came from Clare and settled in the Bronx. Been a member of the NYPD since January of 2012. Married with 5 kids. 3 girls and 2 boys living in Woodlawn.

JOHN MCGANN

Rank and Department: Police Officer, NYPD.

Job Description? Police Officer in the Office of Deputy Commissioner Employee Relations.

Why I chose this career? I wanted to follow in my grandfather and Father's Footsteps.

Proudest moment of my career? When I went to Japan with the NYPD band and played the Police World Tour and met many different Police Officers from different countries.

Police Officer John McGann has dedicated over 13 years of his career to the New York City Police Department, proudly following a family legacy as a third-generation officer. He shares the same shield number that his father and grandfather once carried,

reflecting a deep-rooted commitment to public service. McGann's passion for helping others began at the young age of 17 when he joined the West Islip Volunteer Fire Department, laying the foundation for a lifelong career in law enforcement.





THE PORT AUTHORITY POLICE EMERALD SOCIETY

wishes to congratulate

POLICE OFFICER RICHARD EGAN

for being honored in the
2025 IRISH ECHO
LAW AND ORDER AWARDS



SHAWN DOHERTY

Rank and Department: Sgt. Delaware State Police/ President Delaware State Troopers Association.

Job Description? I am a Sgt. with the Delaware State Police currently assigned to the Division of Gaming enforcement. I am also the President of the Delaware State Troopers association.

Why I chose this career? From childhood, I admired and appreciated my family and friends who dedicated their lives to public service. This admiration is what inspired me towards a career in law enforcement. My Father was a United States Army veteran who served his country for four years. I have three uncles who were United States Navy veterans. I have always idolized them for serving their country.

One of my uncles, after being honorably discharged from the United States Navy, joined the Philadelphia Police Department. He was in the Highway Patrol Unit with the Philadelphia Police Department and rose to the rank of Sergeant. When visiting my grandmother's house, I would wait for him to stop by while working on his motorcycle. Seeing him in his uniform and boots was a memory I never will forget, and I strived to be like him one day. I knew from a young age that law enforcement was my calling.

Proudest moment of my career? I graduated from the Delaware State Police Academy in February of 2005. After graduation and field training, I was stationed at Troop 3 as a Patrol Trooper.



After a few years, I was fortunate enough to become a Detective. While a Detective, I was assigned to the Property Crimes Unit and Major Crimes Unit. Within the Major Crimes Unit, detectives are called to investigate rapes, serious assaults, home invasions, and attempted murder cases. While assigned to the Major Crimes Unit, I routinely investigated these types of crimes. One memorable case in which I investigated was an attempted murder, in which the defendant struck his female acquaintance on the head with a mallet crushing her skull and leaving her for dead. I ultimately made the arrest in this case. The defendant took the case to trial, was found guilty, and sentenced to life in prison. This was a very satisfying case in which the defendant will remain in prison, and it was justice for the victim who will live the rest of her life with brain damage.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I hate speaking in public even though I have to do it very often.

I entered the Delaware State Police Academy in September 2004 and graduated in February 2005. During the rough times in the academy, I knew I was doing what I wanted to do and looked forward to graduation day. I am very proud to be a Delaware State Trooper, and it has been an honor to work in this profession for the past twenty years.

My proud Irish heritage started with my grandparents. My grandparents were from Donegal, Ireland. My grandfather played professional soccer for Ireland and would tell the grandkids stories of him traveling by train to get from game to game. My grandparents married and moved to the United States. My grandfather continued playing soccer, so they would stay back in Ireland during his soccer season. When my grandmother became pregnant with my father, she took a boat back to the United States, alone, to give birth in Philadelphia and raised my father and aunt.

Although I was born an American, I am

extremely honored to have been blessed with Irish roots. I strongly believe in the values of faith and family which have been so firmly established in the Irish Community. I believe these values have guided me throughout my life and career. My Union involvement began early in my career and ultimately lead to the February 2024 election for President of the Delaware State Troopers Association. I currently serve as President representing over 700 Sworn members of the Delaware State Police from the rank of Trooper through Major.

2010 - 2014 - Troop 3 CIU Representative
2014 - 2020 - Treasurer
2020 - February 2024 -
2nd Vice President
February 2024 - Present - President of
the Delaware State Troopers Association.

During my tenure in various positions, I have represented Troopers who were under investigation with Internal Affairs. I have responded to several critical incidents involving Troopers to assist with whatever needs arise as a result of the event. I have been part of the negotiating teams for several contracts. Most recently, in my role as the President, I was part of a team which negotiated the most lucrative contract in the history of the Delaware State Troopers Association.

I am a graduate of Camden County Community College in New Jersey, with an Associate Degree. I then continued my education at Rowan University in New Jersey, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree. I have attended several labor relations training seminars and conferences.

PATRICK ROONEY

Rank and Department: Captain, Yonkers Police Department.

Job Description? Commanding Officer of the City of Yonkers Police Department Emergency Service Unit. The Emergency Service Unit is a 48 Member multi discipline Tactical and Rescue team. The members are all; DCJS SWAT certified, NYS EMT or Paramedics, and Hazardous Material Operators. They are additionally trained in Rope rescue, water and ice rescue, and hydraulic extrication. ESU Also encompasses the Sniper teams, Canine teams and the Marine unit.

Why I chose this career? I grew up in a service family. My father was a Firefighter in Yonkers and I liked the idea of serving my community in some capacity. I started my law enforcement career with the New York State Park Police in Manhattan, but ultimately returned home to Yonkers to work there for the next 30 years. The experiences of this career have proved rewarding beyond my expectations and I feel fortunate that I have been able to have served in this noble profession in the company of such amazing people.

Proudest moment of my career? Being named Captain of the Emergency Service Unit (ESU), a unit that I served in as a police officer and one of the reasons I became a cop. Also being awarded the Combat Cross.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I am an avid outdoorsman. I love saltwater and fresh water fishing, and also spend a considerable amount of time bird hunting over my dogs that I train myself. The surprising fact is that I am also an avid computer gamer. I have been interested in computers from a very young age and just love the games, I spend more time than I should on this but I really do enjoy them, it is what it is.



Raised in Yonkers, I attended Christ the King Elementary school and Sacred Heart High School. I walked to both schools every day, uphill both ways of course, it is Yonkers after all. After High School I attended Mercy College, then the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry to study Wildlife Biology. In 1992, I was hired by the New York State Park Police and was stationed in the New York City Region. Washington Heights in the early 90's was a real education for a kid from Westchester. In 1994 I had the good fortune and good sense to move over to the Yonkers Police Department, a place that would become my home for the next 30 or so years. I was fortunate to be able to rise through the ranks as my career progressed. I earned the Combat Cross and several Life Saving Awards over the years among others. I have a wonderful family with 3 girls and my lovely wife, Susan. We reside in South Salem NY with our daughters and 2 dogs.



PATRICK BARLOW

Rank and Department: Lieutenant New Jersey State Police.

Job Description? Currently the Station Commander of Holmdel Station on the New Jersey Parkway where I oversee approximately 50 troopers and their daily duties.

Why I chose this career? I became a New Jersey State Trooper because I always felt a desire to serve and protect those whom are weaker than me from an early age.

Proudest moment of my career? The proudest moment of my career has been of recent where I have been able to build relationships with younger troopers and guide them to achieve their goal of obtaining a specialist position in their chosen field.

Something people would be surprised to know about me: I played baseball at Seton Hall University.

I have been enlisted in the New Jersey State Police for 20 years and recently been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant where I serve as Holmdel Station Commander. I am married to my beautiful wife and we are blessed to have two beautiful young girls.



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Honoring the Irish contribution

By Peter McDermott
pmcdermott@irishecho.com

The Kennedy Space Center memorializes the most famous Irish American of them all. Just a short distance away, meanwhile, the profession that has done most alongside that of politics to make the Irish name in the U.S. gets its due at the American Police Hall of Fame and Museum.

Of course, the numbers involved in law enforcement have always far surpassed those who've won elective office. And, being a police officer became over time the quintessential Irish-American job in the public imagination both at home and abroad, thanks in part to the big and small screens.

That prominence is highlighted in the "The Irish Connection," one of six special programs and initiatives from the United States Law Enforcement Foundation, with for example "The Force Defenders" and "Guardian Academy" being two others. (See more details about those below).

"The Irish Connection" can be experienced in person at the American Police Hall of Fame and Museum, which is owned and operated by USLEF.

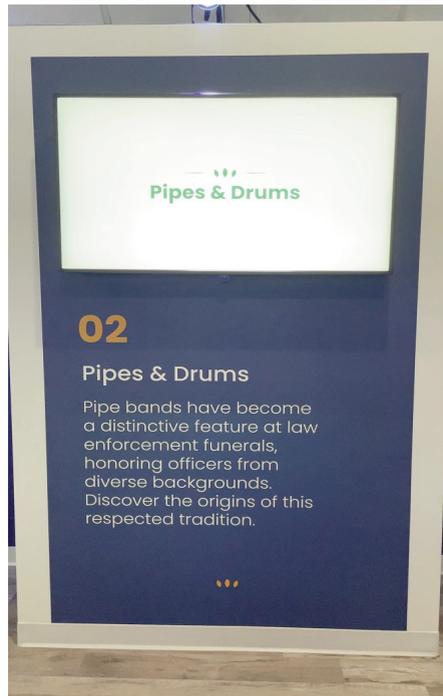
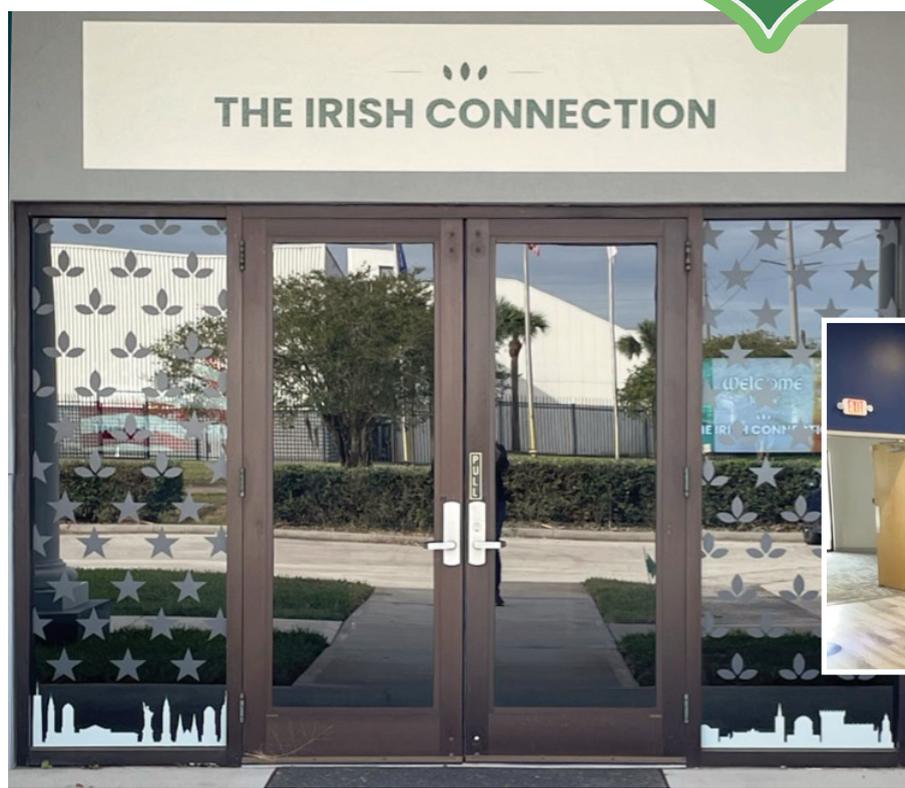
The museum says it's "a place to learn, explore and celebrate law enforcement for all the family!"

It has nearly 11,000 exhibits that focus on law enforcement history and heroism. It features a K9 Memorial, a shooting gallery and an immersive AR Infinity Rose Flame, along with vintage police vehicles, a gift shop and the Hall of Fame Memorial.

"The Irish Connection Digital Exhibit is a pioneering digital showcase hosted at the American Police Hall of Fame, highlighting the enduring relationship between Ireland and the United States in law enforcement," said Steve Odart, who is USLEF's chief information officer. "Through immersive storytelling and interactive displays, the exhibit explores the rich history and cultural exchanges that have shaped American policing, thanks to the influence of Irish immigrants.

"From the establishment of emerald societies to the tradition of pipes and drums, the exhibit illuminates the unique contributions of Irish-Americans to law enforcement, including their role in community policing initiatives," he said.

"By showcasing the resilience, courage and dedication of these law enforcement pioneers, our exhibit aims to inspire future generations of police officers," Odart continued. "Through compelling storytelling



and engaging multimedia presentations, we seek to ignite a sense of pride and reverence for the sacrifices made by those who came before, encouraging visitors to consider the profound legacy they can leave in their own communities."

The United States Law Enforcement Foundation, more broadly, according to uslef.org, "stands at the forefront of innovation and progress in the law enforcement community."

USLEF has, for more than five decades, served "as unwavering advocates and supporters of law enforcement professionals, leveraging cutting-edge technology, including artificial intelligence, to revolutionize how we serve, inspire, and educate those in the field."

It is closely related to the National Association of Chiefs of Police, which "advocates for law enforcement and security personnel at all

levels, promoting their interests and building public trust"; and the American Federation of Police and Concerned Citizens, a 1978-founded group "that supports officers and their families through a range of services," including "survivor programs for families of officers killed in the line of duty."

Odart said, "At the core of our mission is a dedication to changing hearts and minds, both within the law enforcement community and among the public at large. Through innovative programs and initiatives, we strive to provide comprehensive education, promote emotional health and well-being and ensure financial literacy among law enforcement personnel."

USLEF's special programs and initiatives, as delineated at uslef.org, are the following:

"The Hope Initiative is committed to supporting the families of law

enforcement officers across the United States, particularly those who have lost a loved one in the line of duty or have a family member who has become paralyzed or disabled while serving.

"The Irish Connection — Illuminating the rich tapestry of history and legacy that have tied generations of Irish Americans to law enforcement and honor their profound impact on both nations. Visit this incredible interactive installment at the American

Police Hall of Fame and Museum.

"The Force Defenders — An engaging and educational digital comic series tailored for children aged 6 to 11, with a focus on positive messages of understanding, cooperation, and empathy. Each episode presents entertaining stories with positive messages, vibrant illustrations, and age-appropriate language.

"Guardian Academy — An innovative online training platform especially tailored for law enforcement officers to learn at their own pace. Focused on emotional health, well-being, and financial literacy — these courses offer a private way for officers to find educational materials and support.

"The Hero Collection — A library of video interviews highlighting the positive contribution of extraordinary individuals. Stories that illuminate acts of heroism, community service, and generosity with the aim of counteracting negative stereotypes while fostering trust and inspiration."

"Beyond the Bridge" is a "documentary is dedicated to presenting an authentic and unfiltered portrayal of the dedication and valor of law enforcement officers and those who support them through genuine storytelling. Our vision is to illuminate the deeply human essence of these individuals to the communities they serve."

The American Police Hall of Fame and Museum is located 6350 Horizon Drive, Titusville, Fla. 32780, (just off the NASA Causeway on the way to or from the Space Coast). For more about "The Irish Connection," visit aphf.org/the-irish-connection. Ticket sales go into the general funds of USLEF and are used to fulfill the mission of the foundation (see more at uslef.org).





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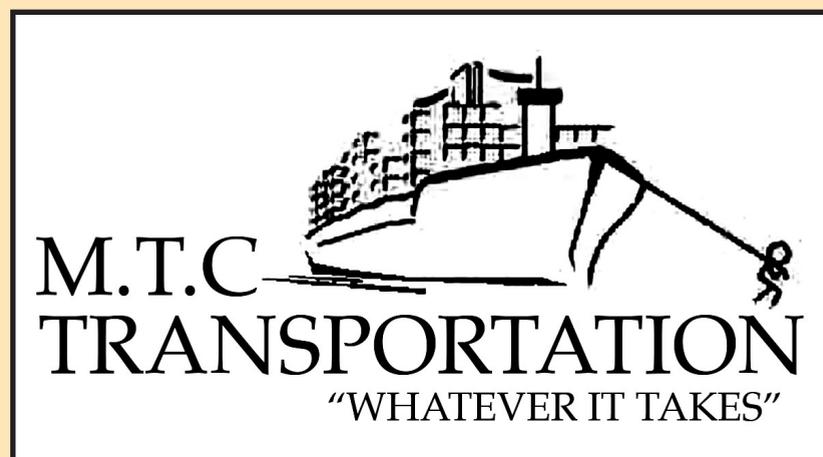
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