

BOLO

Be On the Lookout

The Newsletter for the Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association



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Remembering the Fallen During National Police Weekend

After two postponed National Police Week gatherings in May 2020 and 2021 due to pandemic restrictions, law enforcement personnel, supporters and survivors from across the country were finally able to make the pilgrimage to our nation's capital to honor the fallen and bring closure to their families during National Police Weekend, held October 13–17. Here are a few of the key observances among the numerous events commemorating the officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in 2019 and 2020.

Candlelight Vigil

In 2020, 307 officers — 135 who were killed in 2019, plus 172 who died in previous years — were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. And in 2021, 394 officers — 295 who were killed in 2020 (182 of those fatalities are related to COVID-19), plus 99 who died in previous years — were added to the memorial. Among the 2020 and 2021 Roll Call of Heroes are more than 20 California peace officers.

At the Candlelight Vigil on October 14, hosted by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), all 701 officers' names were read by high-ranking government officials and leaders from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. The vigil took place on the National Mall and was livestreamed for those unable to attend in person; to watch the video, visit [NLEOMF.org/vigil](https://www.nleomf.org/vigil).

National Police Survivors Conference

On October 15, Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) — an organization that provides resources to survivors and co-workers affected by line-of-duty deaths — held its National Police Survivors Conference. This poignant gathering gives



surviving family members, friends and co-workers the opportunity to find support and understanding from other survivors, talk with mental health professionals and attend seminar sessions that will help them and their family address their grief. It also allows survivors to see firsthand the support available to them through C.O.P.S.

National Peace Officers' Memorial Service

On October 16, the National Fraternal Order of Police and the National Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary hosted the annual

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REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

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National Peace Officers' Memorial Service on the west front lawn of the U.S. Capitol. The service featured moving tributes from various speakers and performers, and family members of the fallen were able to place a flower in the memorial wreath as their loved ones' names were read. Following the service, a wreath-laying ceremony took place at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

The Police Weekend ceremonies were also a time to reflect on those we've lost close to home, like Los Angeles Park Ranger Captain Albert E. Torres (EOW: October 12, 2019), Los Angeles Airport Police Officer Tommy Scott (EOW: April 29, 2005) and, most recently, LAXPD officers Michael Rasmussen and Andrew Marksbury, who are memorialized in this issue of the *BOLO* newsletter.

"These ceremonies allow us to never forget the courage and sacrifice of our officers and their survivors. I, along with many in the law enforcement community, am thrilled that the fallen were finally able to be honored in public ceremonies after two postponements," LAAPOA President Marshall McClain says. "These gatherings also remind the nation of the incredibly difficult and dangerous work of law enforcement, who rush into harm's way no matter the situation to uphold their oath and duty to protect the public — which is an important thing to remember during this time of heightened tensions between the police and the communities they serve."



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The Board of Directors meets quarterly on the third Thursday of January, April, July and October at the LAAPOA Headquarters. Additional meetings and/or times are subject to change and will be posted as they occur.

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In Memoriam: LAXPD Officers Michael Rasmussen and Andrew Marksbury

LAAPOA is saddened by the sudden recent loss of two of our friends and colleagues.

Los Angeles Airport Police Officer III Michael Allen “Razz” Rasmussen was a 24-year veteran of the LAXPD and a United States Air Force veteran. On September 14, after departing the police station located at LAX Airport, he was killed in a tragic motorcycle accident on his way home from work. His smile and duty to service were always unmatched. His dedication to his family, friends and community was unwavering.

Officer Rasmussen began his career with the City of Los Angeles in 1997 after serving with the U.S. Air Force. His training as a crash rescue firefighter in the Air Force prepared him for the job as an airport safety officer (ASO) assigned to Ontario International Airport (ONT). The job of an ASO is the best of both public safety worlds, as personnel are trained as both police officers and firefighters. When the City of Ontario took over patrolling ONT Airport, Officer Rasmussen, along with the other assigned ASOs, continued his law enforcement career assigned to LAX Airport as an airport police officer. He was assigned to the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) in 2019 until his passing.

Officer Rasmussen was a great athlete and loved playing softball, participating in several U.S. Police and Fire Olympics and World Games. He leaves behind his two beloved daughters, Averi and Reilly; his sister, Laura; his mother, Jeannine; his loving wife, Cindie, and her three sons, Austin, Evan and Jared; and his grandson, Adam.

Los Angeles Airport Police Officer III Andrew “Andy” Marksbury was a 17-year veteran of the Department. On October 4, he died in his sleep following a short illness. His dedication and loyalty made him a valuable friend and partner. His love for his family, friends and his savior Jesus Christ was steadfast.

Officer Marksbury began his career with the City of Los Angeles in 2004. He worked as a field training officer (FTO) and a detective assigned to the Crime Task Force at LAX. He loved investigations and his time as a detective; however, the difficult schedule and his desire to always put his family first forced him to step back to patrol.

At the time of his passing, Officer Marksbury was more than halfway finished with his master’s degree in homeland security. He leaves behind his wife, Monica; children, Drew and Molly; parents, Dave and Claudia; and siblings, Kathi, Amanda, Matt and Dominique.

“Both of these officers were respected members of their department and community,” LAAPOA President Marshall McClain says. “Their untimely deaths are tragic and have left their immediate, extended and airport police families absolutely gutted. They are both greatly missed.”



Michael Rasmussen



Andrew Marksbury

LAAPOA has set up two PORAC Fund a Hero campaigns for the families of Officers Rasmussen and Marksbury. Please help us support both families during this difficult time by donating any amount you can afford. To contribute to the campaigns, please visit PORAC.org/fund-a-hero. Your assistance in this hour of need is truly appreciated.



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