2023 MID-YEAR PRELIMINARY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FATALITIES REPORT
According to preliminary data compiled by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), as of June 30, 2023, **52 federal, state, and local law enforcement officers died in the line-of-duty.** This is a decrease of approximately **66%** from the 153 officers killed during the same period last year. The 52 line-of-duty deaths are down across all categories, but the overall decrease is largely a result of dramatic reductions in the reports of Covid-19 related deaths.

A decrease in traffic-related fatalities thus far in 2023 is a positive trend, particularly following our National Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Summit in January of 2022. In the first six months of this year, 11 officers have died due to traffic-related crashes such as single-vehicle accidents, vehicle collisions, and motorcycle crashes while working along our nation's roadways. These 11 crash-related fatalities are a decrease of **63%** compared to the 30 crash-related deaths during the same period last year.

Additionally, two officers were struck and killed deploying Tire Deflation Devices (TDD). Both officers were from the same law enforcement agency, but killed in separate incidents. These two struck-by fatalities represent an **82%** decrease, from 11 in 2022, to 2 in 2023.

During the first half of 2023, 25 officers died from felonious assaults, all of whom were killed in the line of duty as a result of being fatally shot. The 25 officers killed by firearms represents a **24%** decrease over the 33 officers killed in firearms-related fatalities during the first six months of 2022. The leading circumstance of firearms fatalities were officers handling domestic disturbances.

During the first six months of 2023, 14 officers died of other causes, such as aircraft accidents, fire-related incidents, and physical-related illnesses including heart attacks and strokes suffered while in the performance of their official duties.

In addition, 2 officers died from Covid-19, for a total of 16 deaths in the Other category.
The data and statistics contained in this report are preliminary and do not represent a final or complete list of individual officers who will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in 2024.
Of the 52 confirmed law enforcement line-of-duty deaths from January 1-June 30, 2023, firearms-related fatalities were the leading cause of law enforcement deaths. These deaths represent a 24% decrease over the same period last year.

Twenty-five officers were shot and killed during the first six months of the year, compared to 33 during the same period in 2022. Of the 25 firearms fatalities, six were handling domestic disputes and five were investigating suspicious persons or activity. Four were on traffic stops and three were handling disturbance calls. Two officers were shot attempting to make an arrest and two were shot while responding to robbery/theft calls in progress. One officer each was killed serving a felony warrant and handling a hostage situation. The final officer was ambushed in an unprovoked attack.

Handguns were the leading type of firearm used in fatal shootings of law enforcement officers in the first half of 2023. Of the 25 officer fatalities, eight were killed with a handgun, four were killed by a rifle, while one was killed with their own weapon. The type of firearm used in the remaining 12 fatalities is still under investigation or unknown at this time.

Of the 25 firearms-related fatalities in the first half of 2023, five each occurred in April, May, and June. Four occurred in February, and three each in January and March.
FIREFARMS-RELATED FATALITIES
THROUGH MID-YEAR

BY CIRCUMSTANCE

- Domestic disturbance: 6
- Investigating suspicious persons/activities: 5
- Traffic enforcement: 4
- Disturbance call: 3
- Attempting arrest: 2
- Robbery in-progress call: 2
- Serving Felony warrant: 1
- Ambush: 1
- Tactical: 1

BY FIREARM TYPE

- Unknown: 12
- Handgun: 8
- Rifle: 4
- Officers weapon: 1

BY MONTH

- January: 3
- February: 4
- March: 3
- April: 5
- May: 5
- June: 5

BY DECADE*

- 1970s: 63
- 1980s: 44
- 1990s: 35
- 2000s: 29
- 2010s: 26
- 2020: 30

*Average gunfire fatalities per decade

Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30
Eleven officers were killed in traffic-related incidents during the first half of 2023, compared to 30 over the same period last year, a **63% decrease**. Of the 11 traffic-related fatalities, 8 were automobile crashes and 1 was a motorcycle crash. During the same time period last year, 18 officers were killed in automobile crashes and 1 died in a motorcycle crash. The 8 total crashes in 2023 to date represent a 56% decrease compared to 18 in the same time period in 2022.

Struck-by incidents, where an officer was hit by a vehicle while outside of their patrol vehicle, remain the second-leading cause of traffic-related fatalities. These fatal struck-by crashes often occur while officers are investigating motor vehicle crashes or assisting motorists on the side of the road. Two struck-by fatalities occurred during the first half of the year, versus eleven during the same period last year, representing a **82% decrease**.

Compared to the average number of traffic-related fatalities per decade, 2023 is well below the past 10-year average (2010 – 2019). In the prior decade, 27 officers were killed on average in the first half of a given year.

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### TRAFFIC-RELATED FATALITIES THROUGH MID-YEAR

#### BY CIRCUMSTANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circumstance</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Automobile crash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single vehicle</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle crash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struck outside vehicle</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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#### BY DECADE*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decade</th>
<th>1970s</th>
<th>2000s</th>
<th>1980s</th>
<th>2010s</th>
<th>1990s</th>
<th>2020s</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Average per decade

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Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30
OFFICERS FALLEN: TRAFFIC-RELATED

Police Officer
Charles Hugh Herring
Pembroke Pines, Florida, P.D.
EOW: FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Police Officer Herring was killed in a motorcycle crash when his department-issued motorcycle was struck by a palm frond that had fallen from a palm tree causing him to lose control of the motorcycle. Officer Herring then swerved into a median and was thrown from his motorcycle and impacted a palm tree. Officer Herring succumbed to his injuries after being transported to a hospital.

Chief of Police
Anthony Rickerson
Jasper, Florida, P.D.
EOW: JUNE 11, 2023

Chief Rickerson was killed in a single-vehicle automobile crash while responding to assist officers with a disturbance call. While en route, Chief Rickerson struck a deer in the roadway causing his patrol vehicle to strike a tree and then the vehicle became engulfed in flames. Chief Rickerson was pronounced dead at the scene.

Master Trooper
James Ray Bailey
Indiana State Police
EOW: MARCH 3, 2023

Master Trooper Bailey responded to an officer needs assistance call involving a vehicle pursuit with another police department. Trooper Bailey was intentionally struck and killed while attempting to deploy a tire deflation device.

Deputy Sheriff
Brett Harris
Riverside County, California, S.O.
EOW: MAY 13, 2023

On May 12, 2023, Deputy Sheriff Harris was injured in an automobile crash while responding to a call for service. Deputy Harris suffered a catastrophic brain injury and succumbed to his injuries on May 13, 2023.
The ‘Other’ category in this report contains a wide variety of health-related deaths and other line-of-duty fatalities. Sixteen officers are listed in the Other category.

In the first half of 2023, only two officers have been reported as having succumbed to complications from Covid-19, compared to 72 such officers in the same time period in 2022.

Fourteen additional officers died of other causes during the first half of 2023, compared to 18 similar fatalities last year during this same period. Eight officers died from health-related illnesses, such as heart attacks and strokes, while the remaining six officers died as a result of falling, drowning, fire-related incidents, and aircraft crashes.

### OTHER CAUSES OF FATALITIES THROUGH MID-YEAR

#### BY CIRCUMSTANCE
- Physical-related: 8
- COVID-19: 2
- Falling: 2
- Aircraft crash: 2
- Fire incident: 1
- Drowning: 1

#### BY DECADE
- 1970s: 23
- 1980s: 19
- 1990s: 19
- 2000s: 18
- 2010s: 33
- 2020s: 121

Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30
OFFICERS FALLEN: OTHER CAUSES

Deputy Sheriff
Asson Anthony Hacker
Vanderburgh County, Indiana, S.O.E
EOW: MARCH 2, 2023
Deputy Sheriff Hacker **suffered a medical emergency** while participating in a department sanctioned training. Deputy Hacker was transported to a hospital where he passed away.

Port Police Officer
Kimberly Sickafoose
Alabama Port Authority Police
EOW: MAY 11, 2023
Port Police Officer Sickafoose **drowned** after her patrol vehicle went into the Mobile River in Mobile, Alabama. Officer Sickafoose’s body was recovered later that morning.

Corporal
Scotty Canezaro
(pictured top)
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, P.D.
EOW: MARCH 26, 2023
Corporal Canezaro and Sergeant David Poirrier were assisting with a vehicle pursuit while in a helicopter when the **helicopter crashed** in a cane field when they were headed back to Baton Rouge after the vehicle pursuit was cancelled.

Sergeant
David Poirrier
(pictured bottom)
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, P.D.

Supervisory Customs & Border Protection Officer
Jacqueline Montanaro
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
EOW: FEBRUARY 19, 2022
Supervisory CPB Officer Montanaro **died from injuries she sustained while attempting to rescue her daughter from a fire.** After evacuating her burning home with her husband and eldest daughter, she re-entered the residence to rescue her youngest daughter who was still in the home. Officer Montanaro was found unconscious with trauma to her body and was transported to a hospital where she succumbed to her injuries. Her youngest daughter did not survive the fire.
In the first half of 2023, 6 officers from the state of Louisiana and 4 officers each from the states of Pennsylvania and Wisconsin were killed in the line of duty. Three officers each from California, Florida, Indiana, New Jersey and Oklahoma, and 2 officers each from the states of Illinois, Missouri, New York, Ohio, and Tennessee died as well. One officer died in the states of Colorado, Georgia, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia. One Federal officer died as well. Twenty-Six states, the District of Columbia, Tribal and U.S. Territories did not lose an officer in the first half of the year.

Looking at gender, 47 fallen officers were male and 5 were female. The average age of the fallen officers was 40 years, with an average of 12 years of service. On average, each fallen officer left behind two children.
FATALITIES BY DEMOGRAPHIC
THROUGH MID-YEAR

GENDER

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Gender</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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AGE

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<tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Youngest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldest</td>
<td>72</td>
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TOUR OF DUTY LENGTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>12 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longest</td>
<td>34 years</td>
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NUMBER OF CHILDREN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Least</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Most</td>
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JURISDICTION

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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>State/Tpr/Hwy Patrol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30
OFFICIAL NAMES FROM JANUARY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2023

A place of honor, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial features the names of the Official Line-of-Duty Fallen Heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Here, you may search for those who have been so honored — those whose names are engraved on the Memorial wall to be remembered and revered forever.

Since 1786, more than 23,000 law enforcement officers have died in the line of duty. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial ensures that those who gave their lives to protect and serve their communities are remembered for generations to come, while providing a place where survivors can spend a quiet moment paying tribute to their loved ones.

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, the foremost organization that memorializes law enforcement heroes who die in the line of duty, offers an official monthly announcement sharing the number of fallen who have been through our stringent review process. As of June 30, 2023, 46 officers, both recent and historical, have been designated as Official Line-of-Duty Fallen Heroes and will be added to the Memorial in the Spring of 2024.