

2023 MID-YEAR PRELIMINARY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FATALITIES REPORT



**NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
MEMORIAL FUND**

MEMORIAL | MUSEUM | OFFICER SAFETY & WELLNESS

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FATALITIES

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.

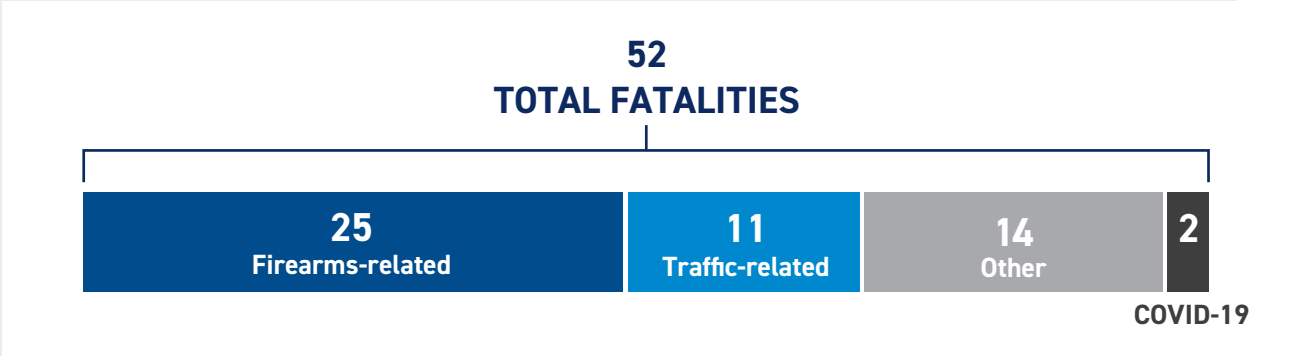
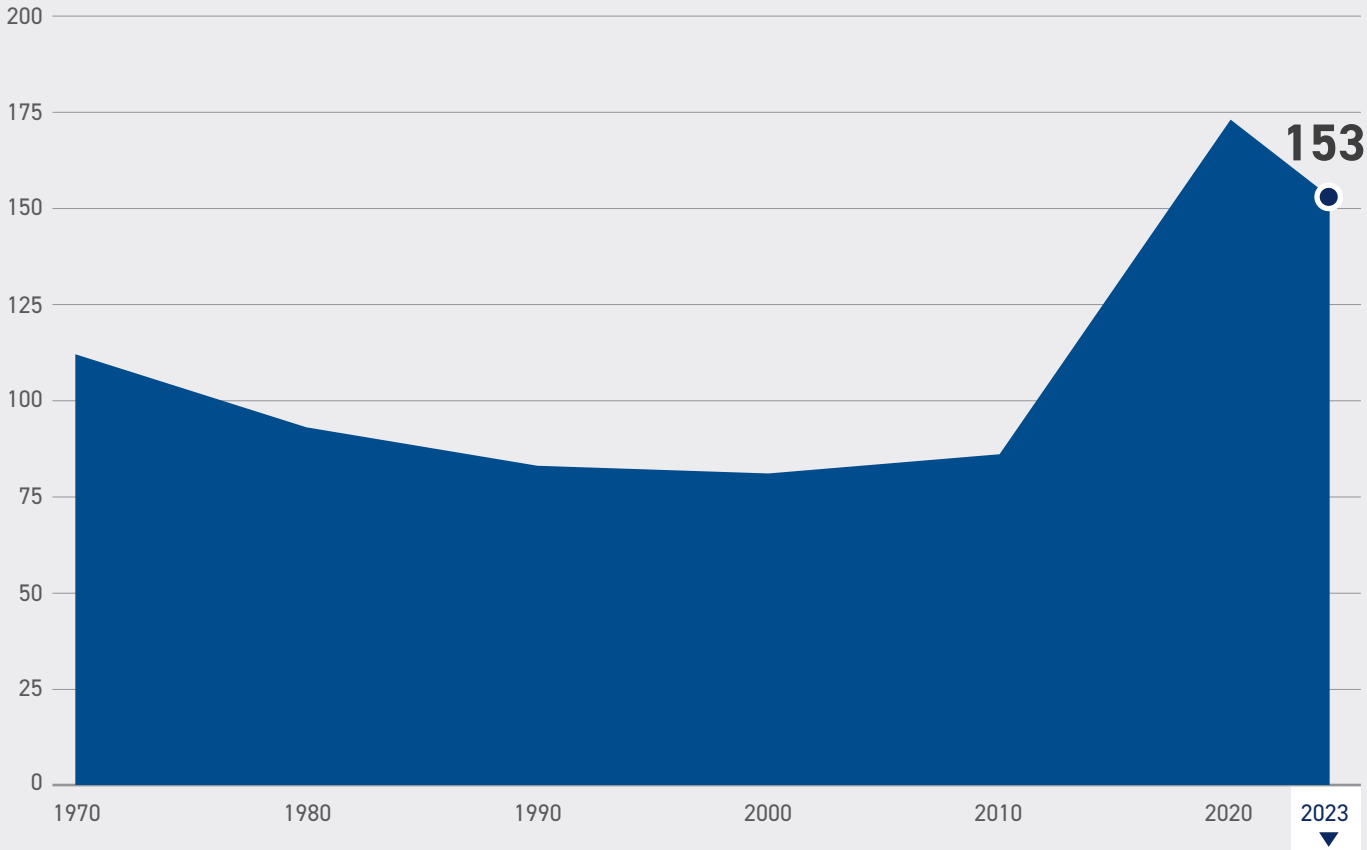


↓ 66%

Law Enforcement
**Line-of-Duty
Deaths Down
Approximately
66 Percent
in 2023**

LAW ENFORCEMENT FATALITIES BY DECADE 1970-2023

THROUGH MID-YEAR



Note: Mid-year is from January 1 through June 30 of each year.

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.

FIREARMS-RELATED FATALITIES

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.

OFFICERS FALLEN: FIREARMS-RELATED



Deputy Sheriff
Darnell Andrew Calhoun
Riverside County, California, S.O.

EOW: JANUARY 13, 2023

Deputy Sheriff Calhoun was **shot and killed** after responding to a domestic disturbance call. Deputy Calhoun was the first to arrive on scene and contacted the suspect and the suspect immediately presented a firearm and fired upon the officer. Deputy Calhoun was transported to a hospital where he succumbed to his gunshot wound.



Sergeant
Christopher David Fitzgerald
Temple University, Pennsylvania, P.D.

EOW: FEBRUARY 18, 2023

Sergeant Fitzgerald was **shot and killed** as he investigated a suspicious person during his patrol shift. Sergeant Fitzgerald began a foot pursuit with the individual and a struggle ensued and the suspect then produced a handgun and fired at the officer. Sergeant Fitzgerald was transported to a hospital where he was pronounced dead.



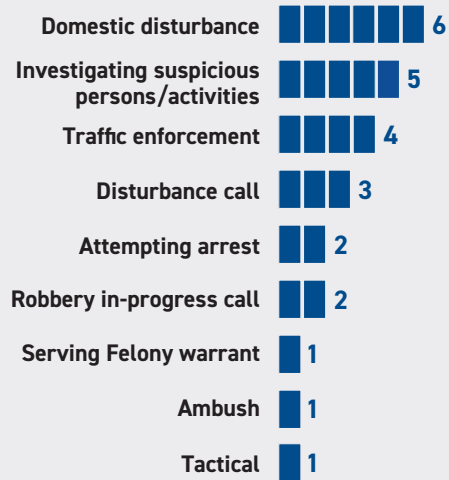
Police Officer
Horren Randy Tyler
Madison, Mississippi, P.D.

EOW: JUNE 1, 2023

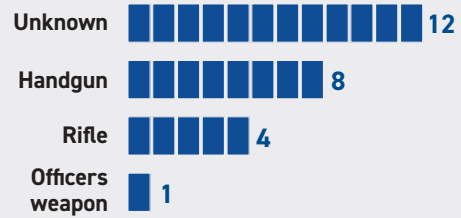
Police Officer Tyler was **shot and killed** during a tactical operation where a hostage situation turned into a standoff. A suspect broke into a home and took two women hostage. The man opened fire on the officers, killing Officer Tyler and wounding another officer.

FIREARMS-RELATED FATALITIES THROUGH MID-YEAR

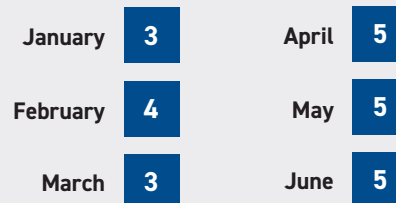
BY CIRCUMSTANCE



BY FIREARM TYPE



BY MONTH



BY DECADE*



*Average gunfire fatalities per decade

Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30

TRAFFIC-RELATED FATALITIES

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.

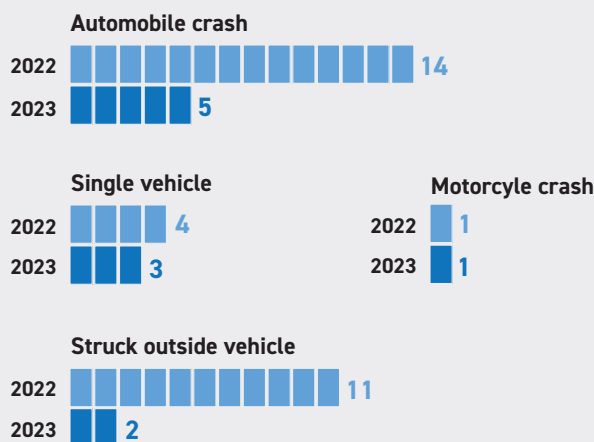
Struck-by incidents, where an officer was hit by a vehicle while outside of their patrol vehicle,

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.

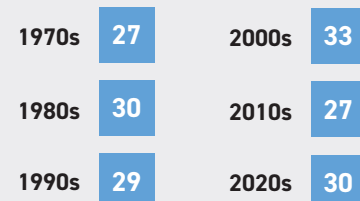
TRAFFIC-RELATED FATALITIES THROUGH MID-YEAR

BY CIRCUMSTANCE



Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30

BY DECADE*



*Average per decade

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.



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.



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.



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.

IT IS NOT HOW
THESE OFFICERS DIED

16

OTHER CAUSES AND FATALITIES

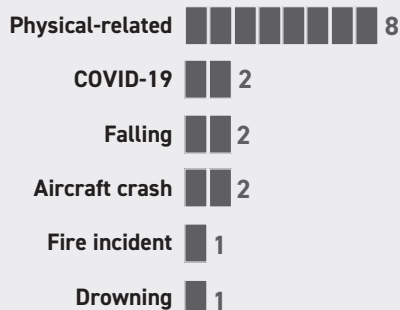
The 'Other' category in this report contains a wide variety of health-related deaths and other line-of-duty fatalities. Sixteen officers are listed in the Other category.

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.

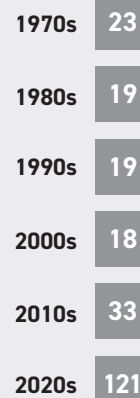
OTHER CAUSES OF FATALITIES THROUGH MID-YEAR

BY CIRCUMSTANCE



Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30

BY DECADE



OFFICERS FALLEN: OTHER CAUSES

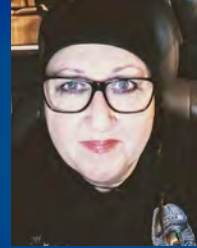


Deputy Sheriff
Asson Anthony Hacker

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)

Sergeant
David Poirrier
(pictured bottom)

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.



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.

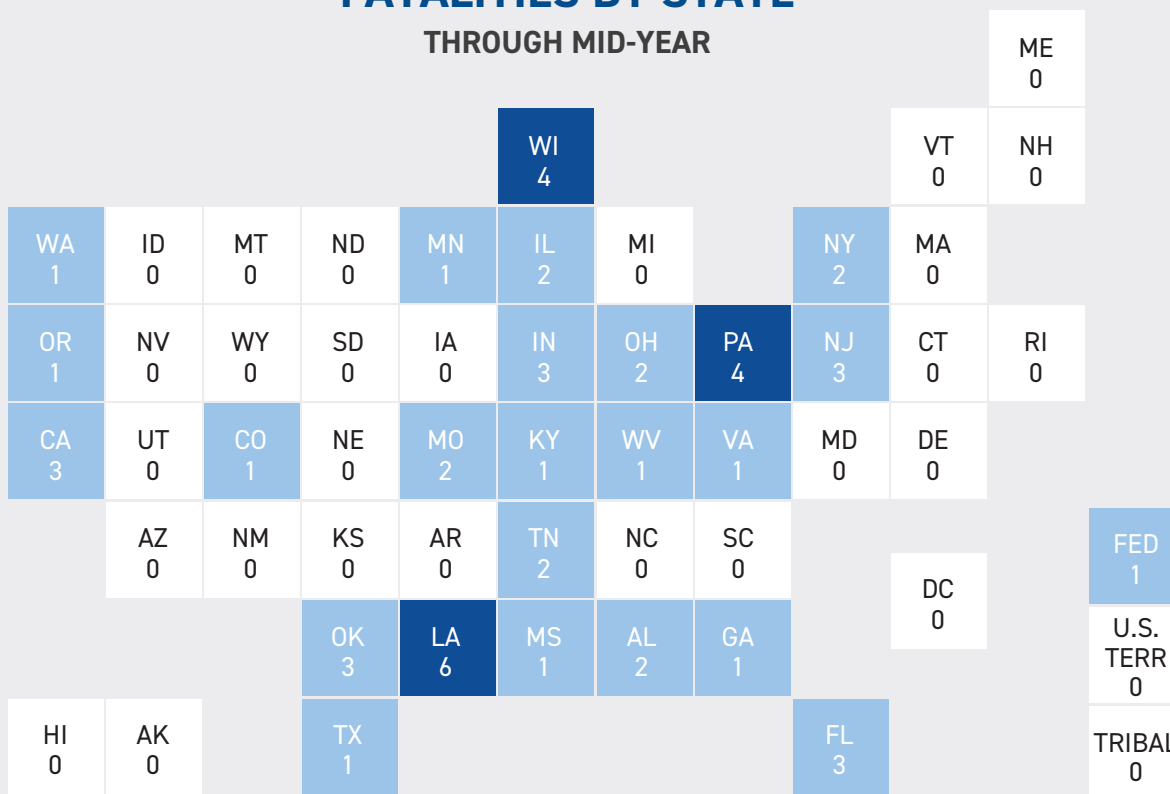
DEMOGRAPHICS OF FATALITIES

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 STATE THROUGH MID-YEAR



Number of Fatalities:

4-6

1-3

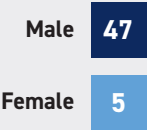
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► 26 States and DC had zero fatalities

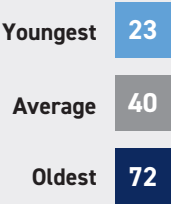
FATALITIES BY DEMOGRAPHIC

THROUGH MID-YEAR

GENDER



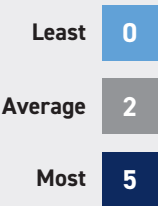
AGE



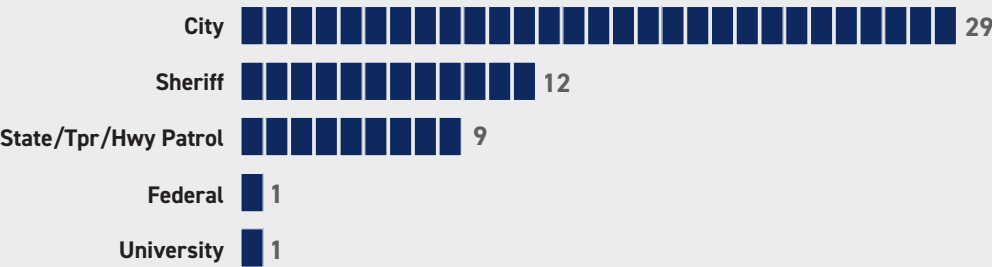
TOUR OF DUTY LENGTH



NUMBER OF CHILDREN



JURISDICTION



Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL

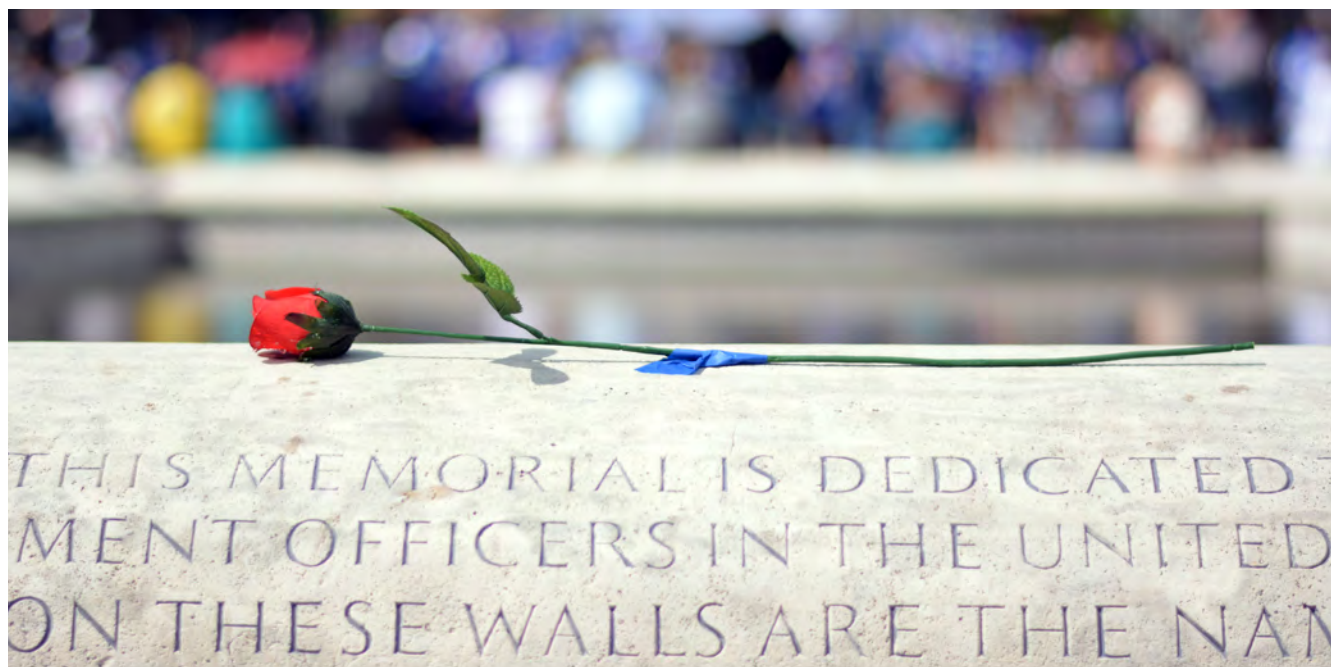
HONOR, RESPECT, REMEMBER

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.







**NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
MEMORIAL FUND**

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