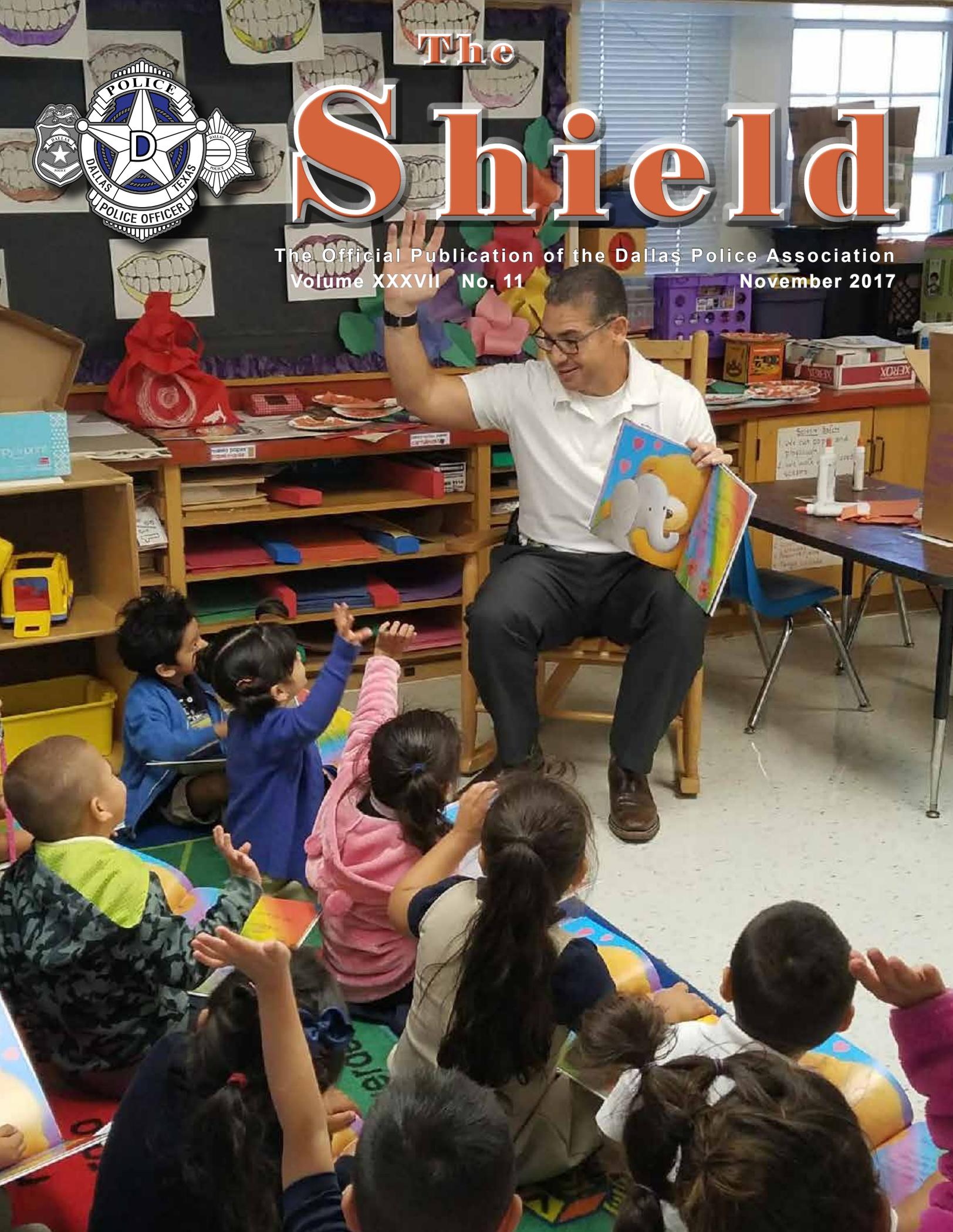




# The Shield

The Official Publication of the Dallas Police Association  
Volume XXXVII No. 11  
November 2017



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Follow the DPA on:



## President's Message



### Let's Reflect A Bit

By Michael Mata

By the time you reading this our "New Command Staff" is set. As I type this column I'm wondering 30 days from now am I ecstatic or am I saying, "Here we go"?

Am I trying to put out fires over this or am I organizing a celebration parade?

Well I look back and I ask myself what was I begging for a year ago? What was I saying this department needed?

Quote from October 2016 issue of the Shield.

"As I write this article, I am contemplating all of the hurdles we, as a department, are facing:

To begin with, we have no City Attorney and no City Manager. Department-wise, we have no Chief, pay problems, pension issues, hiring and retention problems and serious policy issues."

So now we look at this year later and where are we? Well we have a new city attorney and we have a new City Manager that has now been on place for going on a year. Let's start with the City Attorney Larry Casto, he was instrumental in getting the pension bill passed by the council. Do I feel he was always honest and fair? Well I believe in the negotiations he was as honest as he could be and moreover I believe he was ethical. It's hard to completely judge him on a single event that weighed so heavily on both the city and its first responders. I believed he wanted to do the right thing, but he had a boss and that boss wanted to do everything, but the right thing. I'm sure just as I, he had many nights of little sleep. He has always answered my phone calls and been wiling to sit at the table.

Now let's look at the City Manager T.C. Braodnax, well this one is a bit tougher to judge. Mr. Broadnax really did not play much of a roll in the pension negotiations in the last year. He let his predecessor A.C. Gonzalez handle most of that and after he left Mayor Rawlings and the City CFO really took the reins and led the cities side. So Mr. Braodnax first major decision was the hiring of Chief Renee Hall. I suppose the jury is still out on that choice but the rank and file overwhelmingly told Mr. Broadnax they wanted change and in Chief Hall's first 90 days here there has been a lot of change. I suppose it's a lot like the hiring of a new General Manger or a Coacof a sports team. It will take a few years to get your players

and to put your philosophy in place and to figure out if that was a good hire. I think this is going to work out and I do believe the department is and will be better in its future years. By the time you and me are reading this article we will have the new command staff and I think we will see whether our future will be bright or full of a lot more peaks and valleys.

His second major decision he created a bond package and in that he failed miserably. He failed to give the needed monies to solidify the police and fire pension so to alleviate some the huge financial burden that is being place on those 10,000 city employees that have lost and will continue to loose so much.

He failed to fully address the huge security issues that plague the police facilities throughout the city. We have buildings that are not only falling to pieces through years of neglect but we have major security gaps that unfortunately have already led to multiple critical events. People ask, "does someone have to die for something to change?" and unfortunately it seems that yes to convince some city leaders, yes that's what it takes. It seems they would rather build "status projects", to prove to the masses that we are a first class city. The problem with that way of thinking is maybe from the outside looking in we are a "City that Works" but the far majority of the citizens of Dallas would say we are the "City of Waste". There is nothing worse in life then wasted potential and Dallas is a city of wasted potential.

Lets get to what really matters to the every day police officer and that is Chief Hall. I know there are a lot of nervous folks who are not sure what to make of everything that is going on. But let me ask you, if I had asked you a year ago that if we had a chief that came in and corrected a mismanaged IAD bureau and completely cleaned house in the administration, you would be overwhelmingly happy about it. Lets just step back bit and look where we were one, two, three years ago. Remember the complete ineffectiveness of the department, the unbelievable level of cronyism and unfair labor practices that most members who were not part of the coveted few had to deal with. Well we have a Chief that heard your complainants; she observed from outside eyes our inefficiencies and our ineffectiveness and is attempting to change it. Is she going to get it completely right the first time? No, probably not but she is attempting to save a sinking ship and to do that, difficult decisions will have to be made. Do I believe she can do it? Yes I do, she has to succeed. Anyone who truly cares about this department and the people that work in it have to hope that she succeeds, because if she fails we all fail

its really as simple as that.

Pay and benefits, that is an issue that we must tackle and to do this we (all associations) need to come together as one true voice. I did not say one organization although we are only hurting ourselves by not be one group. I said one voice. We have to do everything we can to focus on pay and benefits. The package we are now giving the active officers is completely non-competitive in relation to the DFW market. We are losing more and more officers to other cities and this continuous exodus of officers will not stop till they city leaders of Dallas finally figure out that this city needs more cops not bridges or golf courses. The "Citizens Council" is not made up of everyday citizens, its made up of business leaders who care about money and that means how much they can make for themselves and their close business friends. We need to greatly increase our pay package in this next meet and confer contract negotiations. It needs to across the board and it needs to be pensionable.

Lastly, lets look at policies. Chief Hall has come in and looked at some of our policies and understood why we have had some success. But she has also looked at some policies and wondered how we ever got anything done much less police work. I believe we will see a major over hall of the Blue Team system. I know we will see major changes in IAD and disciplinary process. I think we will get back to the time when a division commander is actually able to command his/her division and fight crime as they see fit in their perspective areas and maintaining a singular mission

vision as proposed by the Chief of Police. I know change must be well thought out and planned, quick change for the sake of change is destined to fail. So lets not fail, lets look at what is broke and lets make the needed changes so that each of our jobs are not only easier but safer but moreover lets give the best service possible to the public.

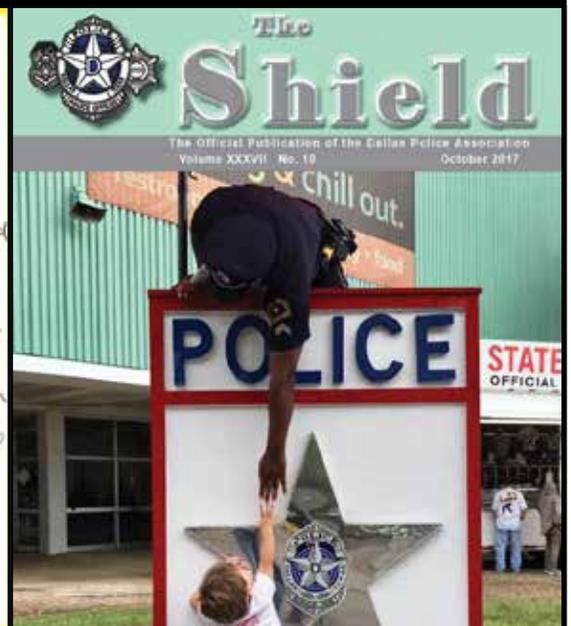
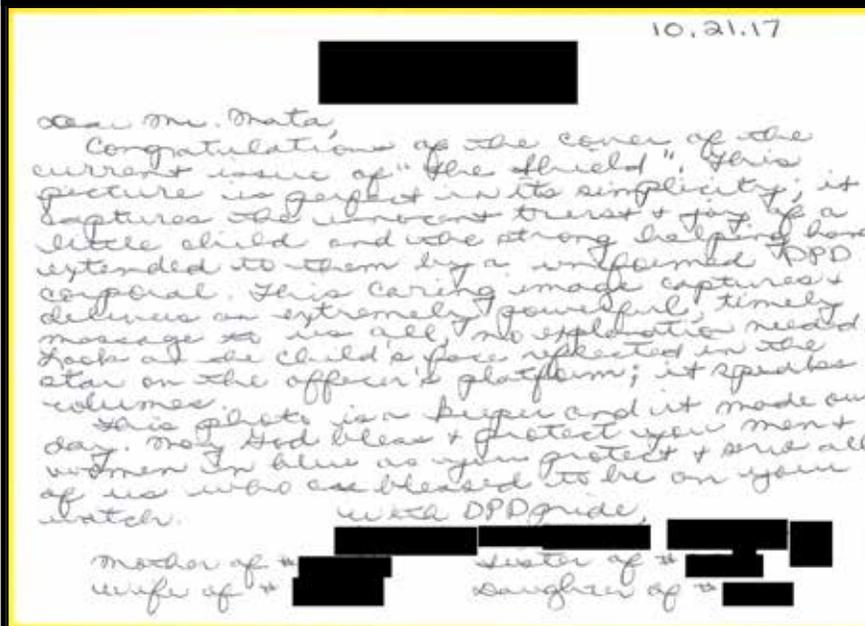
I'm hoping in Oct 2018 as I look back on this article, this department and I will be in a better place. I hope that the changes have been positive; I hope our Chief has succeeded and our future is as good as I believe that it will be.

I hope some old wounds have healed I hope our voice is stronger and I hope our police family is more united. You must have hope and believe in something so that you succeed in life and your profession. You have to do the right thing. Its never the right time to do the wrong thing and its always the right time to do the right thing. So in your life and in this profession, try to do the right thing even if isn't the easy thing to do.

Take care and be safe,  
Michael Mata  
President



## Letters to the President





***Being Super Heroes***  
 By Patty Belew  
 Headquarters Director

On October 24, I had the opportunity to join DPA President Mike Mata and ATO Board Member Ed Lujan at DISD's Lipscomb Elementary as a "Surprise Reader." We each read *Cuddle Bear* to a pre-kindergarten class and after story time, each child was given a *Cuddle Bear* book and plush bear. Reading to the pre-kindergartners was fun and exciting. The kids were very attentive and refreshing to read to. You can tell that they were engaged not only in the book, but that a Dallas Police Officer was reading to them. It was awesome to hear, that so many of them said they wanted to be a Super Hero like a Police Officer. As I read to the kid, I was thinking they are our future. It is our job to be positive extraordinary role models for them. I am a firm believer in learning new words. Knowledge is power. A good education provides the foundation to encourage the ability to obtain all the possibilities that life has to offer...



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# Thank You



ATO was established in 1999. Before smartphones, before social media and before the job of policing had become such a hot button issue in America. I don't think anyone thought much about what we were doing and probably thought it would be nice if we could raise a couple thousand dollars a year. In the last 18 years, ATO has raised millions of dollars benefiting thousands of our families. Many think fundraising for first responders is easy because most of the public is so supportive of the job that we do but what happens behind the scenes to make that "easy fundraising" happen is hours and hours of hard work. To keep up our fundraising efforts, we have a non-stop schedule of events. We host cookouts, crawfish boils, golf tournaments, a sporting clay shoot, a designer purse bingo, runs and, heck, one year we hosted a fishing derby.... That event still makes me laugh. Our motto is like that old saying you don't know until you fail. No different than working the streets, we learn from our mistakes.



We are proud that our organization is ready to step in the moment something happens to take care of the families of injured and fallen officers. Realizing that it is not just physical injuries that harmed our officers, ATO offers counseling services for any officer/family who is struggling. We believe that emotionally healthy officers are the key to a good police force, and we want to make sure that any officer who needs it, gets the help he or she needs.



ATO has always been an important organization. We have been successful at fundraising, and could meet the goals that we had. But on July 7, 2016, everything changed. We were suddenly on the front lines of a national tragedy. We had five families who had lost their husbands and fathers to take care of, and we needed Dallas' help. Dallas, Texas, and the entire country stepped up to show us just what police officers mean to our nation. We had people donating from across the world, from huge corporate donations to little girls who donated from a lemonade stand they set up just for us. The months after 7/7 were months that we will never forget.

There has been one constant throughout the last 18 years. One thing, no matter the public mood, ATO has always been able to count on, and that is you: our officers. Our brothers and sisters in blue. You show up for one another, and that is why ATO is able to exist in the first place.

None of us are rich, yet you all give. None of us have much free time, but you all show up when you are needed. We are able to step in and help families of fallen and injured officers because of your time and efforts. This was no different as I witnessed officer's jump into action and go make a difference in the lives of the victims of the recent Hurricanes Harvey and Maria because of your generosity. This motivates our organization inspiring the volunteer board.

From all of us at ATO thank you!!!

*L. E. Lujan*





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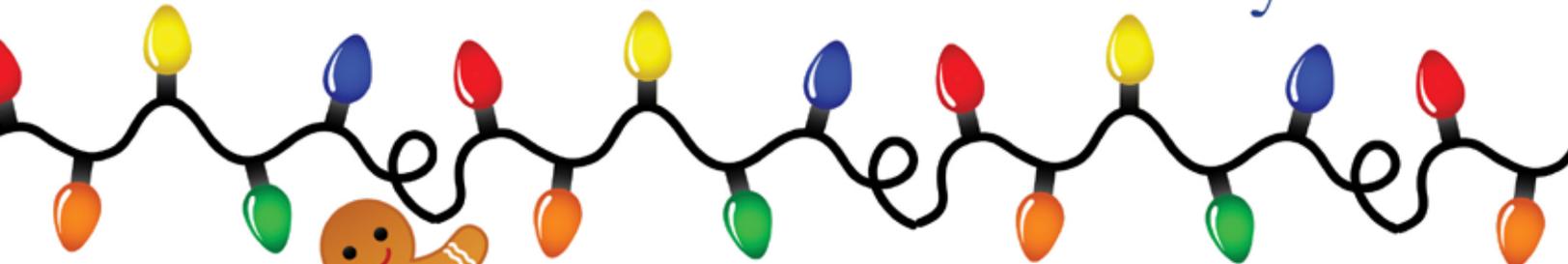


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# IT'S A PARTY

## Dallas Police Association Annual Christmas Party!



Carnival Games

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Pictures with Santa



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## Hurricane Maria

By Haydee Duran Bowen  
Southeast Director



Mother Nature struck Puerto Rico with an unprecedented and historical category 5 hurricane. Many Dallas Police officers were recruited from Puerto Rico and have loved ones living in the island. I spoke with many who did not know how their family was surviving. I was told stories of three officers who were struck by vehicles because they did not have the reflective vests. Another officer expressed the need for a generator to help his 91 year old grandfather. The stories of desperate need of assistance just became overwhelming. I was born in Mexico and personally felt impacted by the multiple earthquakes in Mexico City and the death of countless children when buildings collapsed. I felt a responsibility as a human being to help, but a greater obligation as an officer to help brothers and sisters in blue and their families. Then the question became, we all want to help, but how do we do it?

The Dallas Police Association and Assist the Officer Foundation became the platform for the humanitarian relief trip to Puerto Rico. We made this possible with the assistance of countless donors who supported our cause and gave over 1,000 pounds of gear including flashlights, latex gloves, reflective vests, boots, uniform pants, batteries, and hygiene living essentials. Southwest Airlines transported the cargo and flew four officers to make the deliveries. Dallas officers, Dart officers, and civilians spent countless hours coordinating the effort and utilized their contacts to establish a path to make this relief possible.

It's hard to depict the experience and put it into words. The newspapers and television coverage don't do justice to the harsh reality and magnitude of the devastation. As the plane landed in San Juan, passengers grasped for air as and couldn't contain the tears as they opened the airplane windows and saw the island from above.

The reality is grocery stores are empty. We heard stories of people waiting five hours in line to get bottles of drinking water. People are bathing in river water and using the dirty water to prepare meals. I saw families cooking under a plastic tarp next to what used to be a home but is now rubble. The officer's homes that suffered damage, but still stand have no electricity or water supply. We purchased 10 water bottles in Florida to consume during our 12 hour stay in Puerto Rico but soon realized we simply could not drink the water. The bottles were donated to an officer's family. During our stay, we met hundreds of officers from Puerto Rico State Police and the Guaynabo Police Department. We

visited 7 police precincts and hand delivered the items to families and officers who lost everything.

The most heart breaking memories from this trip come from children living at police precincts who are sleeping on the floor on a two inch mattress while the parent continues to work and serve the citizens of Puerto Rico. Lt. Ingrid Echeverria introduced us to one little girl whose mother was currently hospitalized, and explained to the shy little girl who politely listened as to why we were there and told her we were visiting from Texas. She didn't want to make eye contact but as she reached for the bag of items a teardrop rolled down her cheek and she wiped it away with her sleeve. Once the first teardrop broke free, the rest followed. Everyone, men and women in the room felt overwhelmed by emotions with tears in their eyes. In that moment, I knew there was absolutely no doubt we knew we were doing the right thing. It is hard to find the words to describe the impact we made on those officers lives. I can truly say they were very appreciative and will never forget us. Count your blessings and be safe!



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## People

### Thank You

The family of John E. Humphreys, Sr. wishes to extend a sincere thank you for the beautiful plant you sent for my husband's funeral in May.

Your kind expression of sympathy was, and is, greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Maureen Humphreys  
(Colin Humphreys, our son, is a detective with the Dallas Police Department.)

Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.

The Family of Larry Copling  
**Brother of Everett Frye #4418**

On Behalf of the Janse family, we thank you for the flower arrangement that you sent for our Dad's Memorial Service. Kevin is very lucky to have his Dallas Police family with him during this difficult time.

The Janse's

### Birth Announcements



Big brother, Nazario, is proud to welcome Nora Elise to parents **Detective Eric Enriquez** (Narcotics) and his wife, Rebekah, on September 20, 2017 weighing 6lbs. and and 19 inches.

### Dallas Police Widow's & Children's Christmas Committee

As Chairman of The Dallas Police Widow's and Children Christmas Committee, I would like to recognize **Sgt. Calvin Johnson, #6858** And **Det. Andrea Isom, #9272**, CAPers Division, with their generous donation to the fund. Both Officers donated challenge coins and t-shirts to sell and the profits benefited the Widow's and Children fund. Their kind gesture has raised more than \$8,200.00.

Detective Tommy Raley  
Homicide Unit  
Widow's and Children's Chairman

### Our Deepest Sympathy

The family of Ms. Maria De La Luz Figueroa Hernandez, Sister of **Police Officer Benito Hernandez**. (Love Field)

The family of Mr. Steve A. Hawthorne, Father of **Senior Corporal Stephen Hawthorne**. (Legal Services)

The family of Mr. Larry Copling, Brother of **Senior Corporal Everett Frye**. (Narcotics)

The family of Mr. Charles Dennis, Brother of **Senior Corporal Colwin Dennis**. (Southeast)

The family of Ms. Rose Hinton, Mother of **Sergeant Paul Hinton**. (Traffic)

The family of Ms. Bonnylen Emily Page, Mother-In-Law of **Sergeant Brain Catlett**. (Southwest)

The family of Mr. David Mitchell, Grandfather of **Police Officer Matthew Kalash** (Southeast) and Father of **Retired Senior Corporal James Kalash**.

### UPCOMING DPA MEETINGS

#### Board Meetings

*December 12, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.*

#### General Meeting

*November 14, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.*

*January 9, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.*

All members are encouraged to attend any of the scheduled meetings.  
Lunch is always served!

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Have a birth announcement in The Shield? Call 214.747.6839 or email [info@dallaspa.org](mailto:info@dallaspa.org) for a submission form. All announcements must be received by the 15th to be included in the following month's magazine.

# New Christmas Inventory



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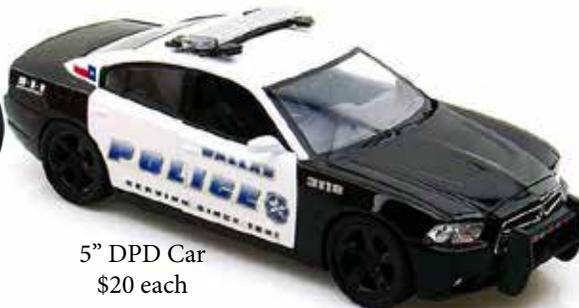
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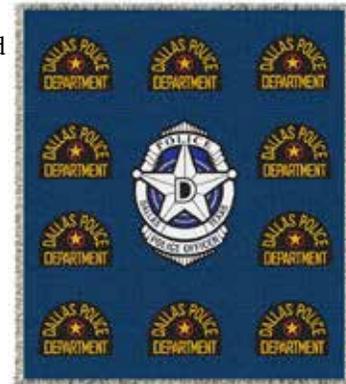
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2nd - DPA Christmas Party

January 20th - Cops' Cop Banquet



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*Note: This program is limited to active and reserve officers of the Dallas Police Department and their immediate families.*

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# Your Health



## Flu Season!!

by Amber Myers, PharmD  
Community Pharmacist  
communitypharmacist@gmail.com

Here we are in November and you might just be thinking about getting a flu shot. Or not. But I wanted to send out some tips to help you be prepared for any sickness that may come your way. These tips may make your illness less severe or not last as long. But the key is to start NOW. Here we go!

1. Nutrition- This can be a hard one since we're rolling into the delicious foods of the holidays. But what I'd like you to keep in mind is moderation is key. You can enjoy Aunt Gladys' pecan pie, but only have the one slice. When you don't take care of the nutritional levels in your body, the body can't work as efficiently nor can it fight off bacteria and viruses. Sugar is a major culprit for this, and that includes breads, pastas, and rice. All the things we love. But again, moderation. It can also help to look at what is on the front pages of your grocery store circulars to see what produce is in season. Cook with those foods, aiming for lots of veggies over fruit. Because, ya know, sugar.

2. Water- During this winter season, drink plenty of water. That means straight water. Some of my patients try to tell me they drink lots of tea (certain kinds deplete your body water) but you really need to drink plain water. Some of you like to add a few drops of MIO water flavorings, which is fine.

3. Sleep- I think I've talked about this every month. Before, during, and after an illness, sleep is when you're body fixes itself. The goal is 7-8 hours each night, depending on the person. This is one of the important steps in feeling better when you have the flu, not necessarily medications. Antiviral drugs like Tamiflu help lessen the duration of the flu by 1-2 days, IF YOU GET TO A DOCTOR WITHIN 48 HOURS OF GETTING INFECTED. The flu is a virus and antibiotics are for bacteria. Antibiotics don't get rid of the virus so don't let the doctor give you a prescription for one just to appease you. (\*rant over)

4. Hygiene- None of what I've mentioned will work if you don't wash your hands. Ladies, this should be a no-brainer. Gents, it may not be as commonly practiced but washing your hands after bathroom use can cut your chances of getting sick. Warm water & soap or an alcohol-based sanitizer is the first step. Then use a paper towel to open the door. Also, cover

your cough and avoid touching your face because your phones are filthy as well as your computer keyboards. CBS recently reported that **75% of Americans admit to using their cellphones while on the toilet.** Let that sink in. So wipe off those phones with alcohol frequently and wash your hands.

The flu shot is considered preventative care with the city insurance plan under Cigna. But you may have to call around to see which pharmacies accept Cigna. If you do get sick, ask your pharmacist about food or supplement interactions with your antibiotics.

If you're avoiding the flu shot, and want to experiment in your kitchen, check out my Facebook page on Fire Cider. You still have time to make a concoction of your own. And if you ever need help with sleep techniques or have general questions, contact me! I'd love to help out!

Stay safe out there.

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Have something you'd like to see in The Shield? Contact DPA at 214.747.6839 or info@dallaspa.org for more information on being a guest contributor.

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## 65th Annual Johnny Sides Rookie of the Year

On Tuesday, October 24, 2017, the Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce (DJCC) hosted the 65th Annual Johnny Sides Rookie of the Year Gala.

The nominees were Officer Juan Luis Delgado, Officer Fernando Garcia and Officer Gretchen Rocha.



From left to right Officer Luis Delgado, Chief U. Renee Hall, Officer Fernando Garcia and Officer Gretchen Rocha

## Congratulations!! Rookie of The Year Officer Fernando Garcia





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Jerry Hast has been in the investment/pension fund industry for 37 years. Jerry was a previous Administrator of the Dallas Police and Fire Pension System. During his tenure, the System's assets grew from \$56 million to \$719 million and saw the funded liability grow from seventeen cents to over sixty cents for every dollar of liability owed. Since he left the pension fund industry, he has been successfully helping individuals with their personal investments.



Jennifer Lander  
Partner,  
Investment Advisor

Jennifer Lander has been working in the personal financial industry for 5 years. She has already helped many people in their financial journey. Before changing into the personal financial industry, she worked in corporate America for 15 years. There she was able to learn what it takes to be a successful company which has helped her in guiding her clients in the right direction.

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# Business



## DPA Board Minutes

The Board of Directors, Dallas Police Association, met at the offices of the Dallas Police Association (referred to as "DPA"), 1412 Griffin Street East, Dallas, Texas 75215 on October 10, 2017 at 11:17am. The meeting was called to order by the President, Michael Mata.

The following proxies were received: Garst to Janse; Hernandez to Duran-Bowen; Turner to Duran-Bowen; Tharp to Gordon; Helms to Myers.

Minutes of the meeting.

- Rickerman gave the invocation.
- Mata asked for a moment of silence to remember fallen officers.

- The minutes of the September 19, 2017 board meeting was presented to the board.

\*\*\*MOTION\*\*\* by Gonzales seconded by Gordon to accept the minutes. Motion passes, no opposition.

- Mata presented the October 2017 Cops' Cop award to Anthony Andujar.

- Mata stated the persons being considered for the active trustee positions were elected by the pension board members.

- Mata stated the executive board is considering contracting with an individual to conduct pension board oversight with the approval of the board of directors. Discussion and questions by the board members.

- Dallas Police Chief Renee Hall attended the board meeting and conducted a question and answer session with the members present. Chief Hall stated she is big on accountability and transparency.

- Mata stated an election for Dallas FOP 588 president will be conducted on October 12, 2017. The outcome of this election will determine the FOP and DPA merger. Questions and discussion by the board.

- Castro discussed the DPA general elections scheduled for December 2017. The positions up for election was presented and the requirements to be a candidate.

- Frazier discussed the ATOs involvement in the Puerto Rico catastrophe and assisting the family members of DPD officers living in Puerto Rico and their law enforcement. Discussion and questions.

- Member Langlois presented information on Ed Lujan's Brotherhood of the Fallen fundraiser, Northeast patrol, October 6, 2017.

- Mata discussed a proposal for a program involving the DPA in the elementary schools in Dallas

and the creation of a Cops Closet. The Cops Closet would contain supplies and other materials needed by teachers and students. Discussion and questions. Issue will be discussed further during November 2017 meeting.

- Mata stated 40 packets have been sent out for the upcoming lieutenant promotions. Discussion and questions by the board.

- Upcoming events - October 20, Trunk or Treat; December 2, DPA Christmas Party. The Board Meeting was adjourned at 1:16 p.m., October 10, 2017.

The minutes of the Dallas Police Association were duly recorded on October 10, 2017.

Original signed

E. J. Brown

Recording Secretary

# BACK THE BLUE

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