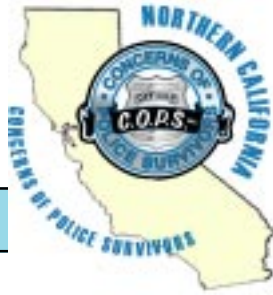


# Concerns of Police Survivors



**Northern California C.O.P.S.**

**1320 Stonewood Drive  
Brentwood, CA 94513**



**Vol. 2**

**Number 2**

**AUGUST 2008**

## The First Annual Ofc. John P. Miller Golf Tournament

On November 16, 2007, my husband California Highway Patrol Officer John P. Miller, was killed in the line of duty while responding to a call to help in the pursuit of a suspected drunk driver. He was enroute to the pursuit when he lost control of his patrol car and struck a tree. He left behind his wife and two children, 4 and 2. In his memory, the Dublin 390 Squad club began planning the 1st Annual John P. Miller Golf Classic which was held on June 16, 2008. Proceeds from the tournament went to the NorCal C.O.P.S., 11-99 Foundation, and the 390 Squad Club. The tournament was a huge success and raised over \$20,000 for these organizations. John loved to golf, and I know that he would be proud to help out the organizations that have been so supportive of his family. Planning for the 2nd Annual Tournament is underway and is scheduled for June 29, 2009.

**Stephanie Miller**

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**JOIN US FOR  
C.O.P.S. Walk  
October 11 & 12**

=====

**Will Seuis  
Memoria  
Raider Tailgate  
Sunday, Oct. 19**

## Alameda County Memorial Wall

The Alameda County Memorial Wall dedication was held on August 2, 2008 in the Lone Tree Cemetery in Hayward.

NorCal C.O.P.S. president, Tammy Monego was one of the speakers at the unveiling. Her husband's name is one of the many inscribed on the memorial.

The Martin C. Kauffman 100 Club of Alameda County is a 501 (c)(3) not for profit charitable organization providing immediate financial support to spouses of police officers and fire fighters that are killed in the line of duty in Alameda County. The Club also provides college scholarships for the children of the police officers and fire fighters killed in the line of duty in Alameda County.

The Club was founded in 1974 by Martin C. Kauffman and has grown to over 900 members. **(More photos Page 4)**



**NorCal C.O.P.S. president Tammy Monego was guest speaker**



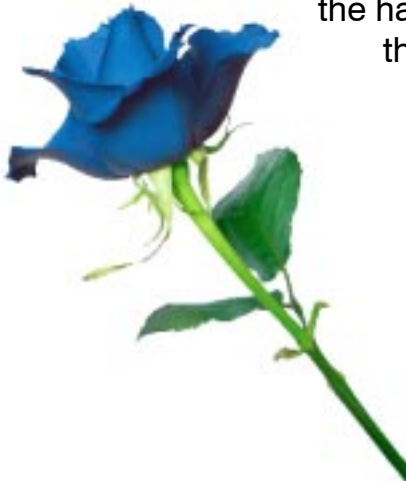
**Alameda County Police and Firefighter Memorial Wall**

## Message From the President

Happy Summer everyone! Well we are almost at the end of it and I hope that all of you have been able to create great memories with your families. As for me, it was a short but busy summer. My son Dominic and I did a lot of travelling and before I knew it he was 11 years old and is now in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. It has gone by just that fast. December 12, 2008 will mean that my husband John has been gone for 10 years. I'm sure like most of you sometimes it seems like it all happened just yesterday. For our new families you have managed to make it through the ceremonies that take place in May both in Sacramento and Washington D.C. and you are still standing. You are beginning a journey that at times will seem unbearable. One tiny footstep at a time and as you see that hand reaching out to you please grab onto it and know that your C.O.P.S. Family is there to help you make it to the next step. I am very proud of all of you.

Our chapter board has been very busy working on behalf of all of our survivors. As you read through your newsletter you will notice a schedule of upcoming events including meetings, peer support sessions and of course our Christmas Luncheon. Our chapter is only as strong as the many survivors we have participating in our endeavors. I encourage you to come to our meetings find out more about the chapter and get involved. The sad reality is that there will always be future families in need of C.O.P.S. support and we are counting on all of you to get involved. Take advantage of the retreats where you make new friends and can discuss things with people who understand what you have been through.

I want to thank my current executive board and trustees for all of the hard work that is being done. I know that it is being done out of honor, respect and love for those whom we have lost. Life does go on and so shall we in their memory.



Warm wishes,

*Tammy Monego*

President, NorCal COPS

## Chapter Contacts

### President

Tammy Monego  
brknchip@aol.com  
925-216-9812

### Vice President

Sandy Fontana  
colmagal@yahoo.com  
650-851-2361

### Treasurer

Vicky Olivera  
vicky.olivera@att.net  
415-595-7447

### Secretary

Kay Talbot  
kaytalbot@sbcglobal.net  
707-644-6468

### Immediate Past President

Toni Mac Donald  
nissanlady@comcast.net

### Trustee

Capt. Mitch Mueller  
mmueller@chp.ca.gov

### Trustee

Carol Espinoza  
caisa@sbcglobal.net  
650-756-6738

### Newsletter

Barry Lependorf  
lependorf@sbcglobal.net

### Webmaster

Craig Conley  
webmaster@norcalcops.org

**Nor Cal Chapter Meetings**

**2008-2009 Meeting Schedule:**

**September 20, 2008**

Dublin CHP

10:30 am Board Meeting; 11 Social; Noon General Meeting

**November 7 - 8 - 9, 2008**

California Chapter Boards Retreat at Avila Beach

**November 22, 2008**

Woodland CHP

10:30 am Board Meeting; 11 Social; Noon General Meeting

**December 13, 2008**

CHP Academy , Sacramento

Christmas Luncheon 11:30 am

**February 21, 2009**

San Joaquin County Sheriffs Office

10:30 am Peer Support; 11:30 Social; Noon General Meeting

**April 4, 2009**

San Jose POA

10:30 am Peer Support; 11:30 Social; Noon General Meeting

**June 27, 2009**

Annual Picnic - Location TBA

**June 29, 2009**

2nd Annual Officer John P. Miller Memorial Golf Tournament

**THANK YOU SAN JOSE POA**

A HUGE THANK YOU to the San Jose POA for their continued support of National C.O.P.S. and NorCal C.O.P.S.!

San Jose POA is the first local agency to offer the members an opportunity to support us through payroll deduction donations to our chapter and they have really stepped up and made a big difference to our chapter. The POA continues to offer support by allowing us to use their facility for the Peer Support Meetings and General Meetings.

A special thank you to President, Bobby Lopez and Officer Becky Marquez!!!



**C.O.P.S.  
MISSION  
STATEMENT**

C.O.P.S. provides resources to assist in the rebuilding of the lives of surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the Line of Duty as determined by Federal criteria.

Futhermore, C.O.P.S. provides training to law enforcement agencies on survivor victimization issues and educates the public of the need to support the law enforcement profession and its survivors.

**Dottie LeBas recovers from knee surgery**

Dottie LeBas recently had knee surgery and is recouping and doing physical therapy. Dottie and her husband Al have been dear friends of our C.O.P.S. family for many years. Al, as most of you know, was the first Director of the California Memorial Board, and very sadly to us all, retired from the position a few years back. We all wish Dottie a speedy recovery!!



**Toni Mac Donald**

# IN THE LINE OF DUTY - 2008

## Jeffrey Fontana anniversary Case Update & delays

As we head toward the 7th anniversary of Jeffrey's murder we are still waiting for a real trial. Instead what we have to deal with are continued motions by the defense!! We have court dates coming up in August and here are the dates and what they are for.....2 are utterly ridiculous!!!!

August 8... The defense has issued a subpoena for a copy of a video of the DA accepting an award from the San Jose Police Department for his work on this case! What does this have to do with the MURDER of our SON? The DA is arguing this.

August 12... The defense has made a motion to have the entire District Attorney's office recused from the case. The reason is because our DA, Lane Liroff, is running for a seat on the bench! When did this become a crime? What does any of this have to do with getting this to a real trial.

August 20-23... The reopening of the mental retardation hearing. We did this last year for 6 months and the judge decided the accused was not mentally retarded and the defense appealed to a higher court and now we start again.

What a waste of taxpayers money in an age of economic hard times for all.

**Sandy Fontana and Family**



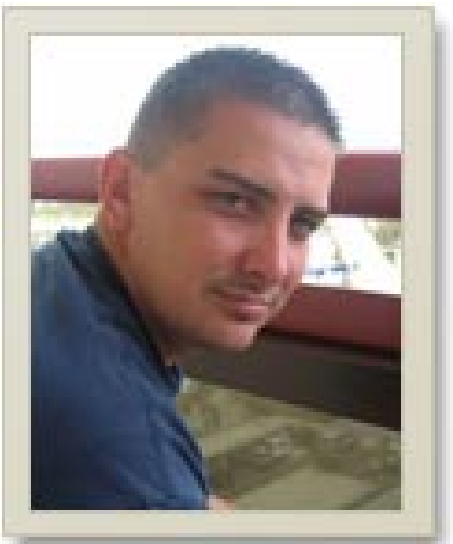
Officer Randal Simmons  
Los Angeles PD  
EOW: February 7, 2008



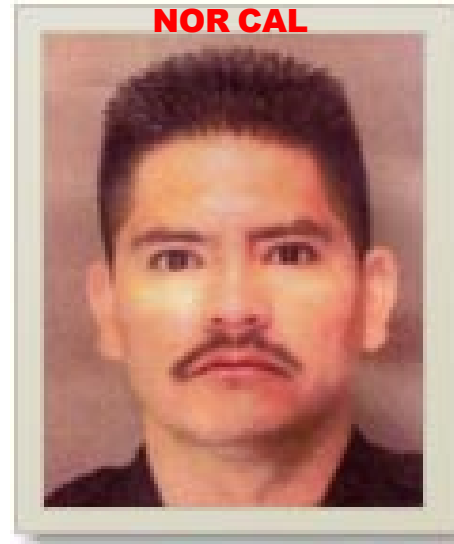
Investigator Laura J. Cleaves  
Santa Barbara County  
District Attorney's Office  
EOW: May 1, 2008



Police Officer  
Jeffrey Fontana  
San Jose PD  
EOW:  
October 28, 2001



Deputy Sheriff James Throne  
Kern County Sheriff's Dept.  
EOW: May 23, 2008



Deputy Sheriff Jose Antonio Diaz  
Yolo County Sheriff's Dept.  
EOW: June 15, 2008

**NOR CAL**

**Andy Powell  
Pacific Regional Trustee  
C.O.P.S. National Board**

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself to those who do not know me. My name is Andy Powell and I am the Surviving Father In-Law of Eric Thach, Riverside County Sheriff Deputy, EOW 10-8-99.

I have been recently elected to the position of Pacific Regional Trustee for Concerns of Police Survivors National Board.

I want you to know that I will keep in touch and answer any questions, and if I do not know I will find out. I will also express your concerns to the National Board of Concerns of Police Survivors and It will be my Job to keep you informed on all C.O.P.S. news. I would also like to have a list of events that your Chapters maybe Planning so I can make every effort to attend. I want to help in any way to insure that your Chapters remain strong and if there is anything I can do please ask.

Again please feel free to discuss anything with me and please contact me anytime.

Take Care,  
Andy Powell  
Pacific Regional Trustee  
Concerns of Police Survivors

45850 Clubhouse Drive  
Temecula, CA 92592

Hm # (951) 676-9472  
Cell # (951) 377-1245



**Jonathan Ring to attend Sac State**

Jonathan A. Ring, youngest brother of fallen **Officer Joselito A. Barber** of Seattle PD, WA EOW 08-13-06.

Proud parents James and Lorna A. Ring informed us that Jonathan has won 1st and 2nd place on his JROTC compe-



**Jonathan A. Ring**



**Officer Joselito A. Barber  
Seattle Police Department,  
EOW: August 13, 2006**

tition March 1st of 2008 at the Southern California Invitational Drill Meet (SCIDM) held in Angels Stadium.

College students (BYU, Naval & Air Force Academy and high school students from all states came to compete. Young boys and girls in uniform, WOW so clean cut!

Jonathan is currently a senior at Vanden High School and will be graduating this year. He has won every year since he joined the JROTC and this year he was assigned to compete twice and won both competition. WOW! Extra icing on the cake you might say! Way to go Jonathan Ring. Jonathan has been accepted at San Jose State, Sonoma State, and Sacramento State. Unfortunately he was turned down by San Diego.....That's okay, Jonathan has made up his mind to which State College his going to attend. "Sacramento State" He found out that Sacramento has a very good Air Force Program there also. He would like to go into a Naval program and then follow his older brothers (OFC. Joselito A. Barber) footsteps if God permits.

**Life isn't  
about waiting  
for the storm  
to pass,  
  
It's about  
learning to  
dance  
in the rain.**

--Unknown

**James Sr. and Lorna A. Ring**



# 2008

C.O.P.S.' 25th Year of service to America's law enforcement surviving families

**Saturday, OCTOBER 11 – Sunday, OCTOBER 12**

2 DAYS - 25 MILES  
along the Potomac River outside Washington, DC

A physical challenge, an emotional high and the opportunity to help.

The 4th annual C.O.P.S. WALK will bring together survivors, friends and members of the law enforcement community who are willing to take on the challenge of walking 25 miles in two days to support Concerns of Police Survivors. Our goal is to ensure that C.O.P.S. continues helping those who have lost a loved one in the line of duty and provides many opportunities for those families to rebuild their shattered lives. The walk is designed to provide participants with a physical challenge as well as the opportunity to spend time with other survivors and friends walking in memory of loved ones.

## Show your support by sponsoring your favorite walker, team or chapter for the 2008 C.O.P.S. Walk???

Show your support by sponsoring an individual, team or chapter for the 2008 COPS Walk!! You can now view who will be participating in the 2008 COPS Walk and who they are walking in memory of!

Just go to: [www.nationalcops.org/events](http://www.nationalcops.org/events) and roll your cursor over the blue box to the left and you'll see who has signed up to walk 25 miles in 2 days on October 11 & 12, in memory of their fallen law enforcement hero. All information about the walk can be found at [www.nationalcops.org](http://www.nationalcops.org). We have 49 walkers so far and room for many more!!! (You

can register online, too). Deadline to register for the 2008 COPS Walk is September 10th!! Help C.O.P.S. spread the word and forward this email to your list of contacts!

Melissa Murray  
Development Coordinator  
Concerns of Police Survivors

573.346.4911  
573.346.1414 fax  
[www.nationalcops.org](http://www.nationalcops.org)

## PLEASE JOIN OUR PEER SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

You are invited to join a once-a-month peer support group for C.O.P.S. members.

Meetings are facilitated by **Sarah Koch-Schiller** a Pacific Region Trustee on the national C.O.P.S. board, and NorCal C.O.P.S. trustee **Carol Espinoza**.

The group will be co-facilitated by Carol Espinoza, mother of Officer Isaac Espinoza, San Francisco Police Department, and Sarah Koch-Schiller, adult child of Sergeant Arthur Koch, Fairfield Police Department.

The group is open to all C.O.P.S. survivors. If you have any questions, please contact:

**Carol Espinoza**  
[caisa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:caisa@sbcglobal.net)  
or

**Sarah Koch-Schiller**  
[sarahkochschillerCOPS@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahkochschillerCOPS@yahoo.com).

### **WHEN:**

Saturdays  
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
(no lunch)

### **UPCOMING DATES**

#### **2008**

September 6  
October 18  
November 29

#### **2009**

January 10  
February 21  
April 4

**== NEW LOCATION ==**

### **WHERE:**

San Jose Police Officers' Association  
1151 N. Fourth Street  
San Jose, CA 95112.

**Family News and Events**

**NorCal C.O.P.S. Annual Picnic**

**NorCal C.O.P.S. Annual Picnic** was held on June 21st, 2008 at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom in Vallejo, California. The park opened at 10:30, and lunch was served from 11:00AM to 1:00PM. It was nice to have both our survivors and police families together in a private lunch area located in the picnic groves by Ocean Discovery. Lunch consisted of BBQ hamburgers with cheese, BBQ hot dogs and home-style potato salad along with fresh garden salad. Ice cream sandwiches were the desert of the day, and there were plenty of cold drinks to go around.

During lunch a prayer was said for all of our officers killed in the line of duty and blue candles were lit.

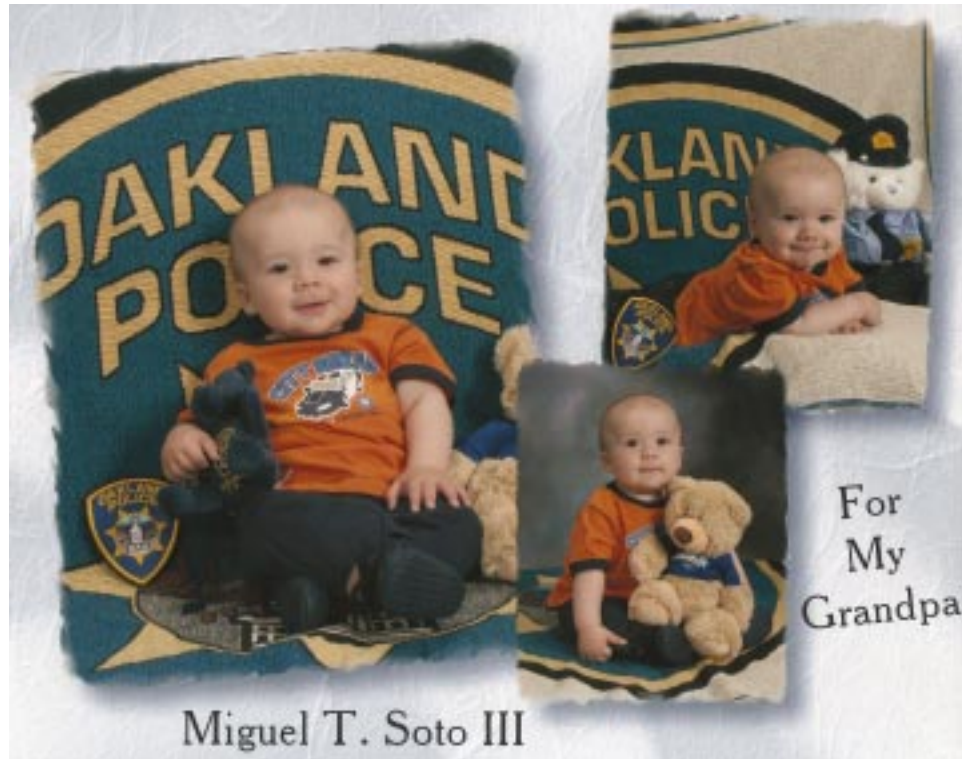
Children and adults alike were anxious to explore Six Flags Discovery Kingdom. From zebras to sharks, dolphins to alligator, butterflies to elephants, and cheetahs to penguins, there were all kinds of wildlife. There were over 30 animal attractions, 197 species and 1,700+ animals to see and enjoy.

Plenty of rides were available for our families to enjoy. Some preferred the excitement of the "Boomerang Coast to Coaster", a towering steel-track super coaster blast you through an intense track before doing it all again, backwards. Others preferred a milder ride in the "Broadwalk Bumper Buggies", a family favorite bumper car ride. There were also plenty of rides for the younger generation. "Harold the Helicopter" and "Thomas the Tank Engine" were favorites of many of the younger children.

It was a day of enjoyment and a day to remember our loved ones. I was glad I went.

A special thank you to Captain Mitch Mueller and the Dublin C.H.P. Officers and their families for joining our survivors this year.

**Vicky Olivera**  
NorCal C.O.P.S. Treasurer



**Miguel T. Soto III**

This is a picture of my son Miguel Soto III. We took this picture in tribute to my Father Officer Miguel Soto and all Fallen Officers and in this Picture is the Cops Teddy Bear that you guys gave to my son right before he was born. We want to let you COPS know we appreciate the kind love through out the years and the bear

was a small symbol of that and this bear was with Mikey in the Hospital the day he was born. So please share this photo for all the Family to see.

With much Love and appreciation,

**Miguel Soto Jr. and Family**

**CHP Lt. Michael Walker Memorial Highway**

'On May 30, 2008, a section of Hwy. 17 nears Scotts Valley was renamed the 'CHP Lt. Michael Walker Memorial Highway.' The day's events included a traffic break and roadside unveiling, followed by a formal dedication ceremony and a luncheon for all guests. The 10-plus mile stretch of renamed roadway includes the site where Lt. Walker was killed on December 31, 2005 when a speeding motorist crashed into the scene where Lt. Walker was assisting a driver stranded following a solo spinout.'

Thanks-  
**Michelle Walker**



## Family News and Events

### Megan Garcia-Wade weds



Northern California C.O.P.S. received a \$200.00 donation check made in memory of Ofc. Leonard W. Garcia, Richmond PD. Leonard was killed in the line of duty December 28, 1992. Leonard's niece, Megan Garcia-Wade and her husband Justin Wade requested that in lieu of wedding favors at their June 21, 2008 wedding, that a donation be made to NorCal C.O.P.S. This was their way of remembering Leonard and how C.O.P.S. helped Megan and her family through a difficult time in their lives.

**Ron & Carol Garcia**



Officer Leonard Walter Garcia  
Richmond Police Department  
EOW: December 28, 1992

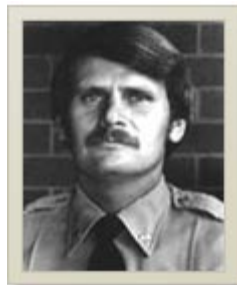
### Fairfield dedicates center to Sgt. Koch

The City of Fairfield has named their new state-of-the-art Police Training Facility after Sergeant Arthur W. Koch, 24 years after he gave his life in the line of duty. Sergeant Koch was shot and killed on 7/28/1984.

On May 28th, at the opening day of the Training Facility, the City of Fairfield, the Fairfield Police Department, police friends, and his family honored Sergeant Koch's legacy.'

The Fairfield Police/Art Koch Training Facility sits at 1717 Rex Clift Lane. The lane is named in memory of Fairfield's first police chief. Clift served the department from 1943 to 1958.

**Sarah Koch-Schiller**  
Daughter of Sgt. Koch



Sergeant Arthur W. Koch  
Fairfield Police Department  
EOW: July 29, 1984

### The Third Annual Jimmy Mac Benefit Variety Show

The 3rd Annual Jimmy Mac Benefit Variety Show will be September 27th at the Raven Theater in Healdsburg, Ca. This years headliner will be the "Shannon Ryder Band", along with other acts, some from Hollywood. Tickets can be pur-



Officer James Wayne MacDonald  
Compton Police Department  
EOW: February 22, 1993

chased online at [jimmymac.org](http://jimmymac.org) or by contacting the Mac Donald's at 707-544-7554. All proceeds go to a scholarship fund set up in Jimmy's name to assist someone attending the Law Enforcement Academy in Santa Rosa.

**Toni Mac Donald**

### Milana Frias is born

On July 21, 2008, Proud parents Adele and David Frias gave birth to their second daughter, Milana Victoria Frias, eight pounds and nineteen inches long. David is with Central Station in San Francisco.





**Family News and Events**

**Lisa Soto graduates High School and heads to Willamette University**

I would like to announce the high school graduation of my daughter, Lisa Soto, in June 2008. She will be attending Willamette University in Salem, Oregon in the fall, with the possible major of music and theater.

Lisa is the daughter of Ofc. Miguel Soto who was killed in the line of duty June 22, 1994 while working for the Oakland PD

**Janet Soto**



Officer Miguel T. Soto  
Oakland Police Dept.  
EOW: June 22, 1994

**Dublin Motor Sgt. Bruce Rank retires**

It is my pleasure to announce the retirement of Dublin Police Motor Sergeant Bruce Rank, who worked with and was partner of his good friend, Dublin Patrol Officer John Monego, EOW 12/12/1998.

Bruce and his wife, Wendi Rank, have been close helpmates and friends with Tammy and Dominic Monego, and Bruce has enjoyed such fun with Dom doing things like putting together the world's largest and most complicated basketball hoop, which Bruce SWEARS was missing critical screws, while having some extra, and to this day, screws that seem to be unneeded. We have been humbled and honored to be members of the COPS community, and to this day, Bruce thinks of John and their ever TIDY Patrol Car, named D7.

Our family are proud sponsors of a brick at the memorial at Dublin Police, and active volunteers at the Tree Lighting each year, and anything else we are asked to do by Tammy, which fulfills a promise we made to her on that tragic day. Bruce's traffic/ motor unit also sponsored a separate brick to honor John and all Officers, and other Public Safety Officers who lose their lives protecting our community.

In our retirement, we hope to find ways to continue to contribute whenever we can, and hope to travel again to Police Week, perhaps as volunteers rather than the first time when we traveled as survivors.

Sincerely,  
**Bruce and Wendi Rank**



**Al LeBas honored for fifty year membership**

Al was awarded with a watch after being a member of CPOA for 50 years, at their last conference in Anaheim, where he swore Sac. Sheriff John McGinness in as President of CPOA and also swore in the incoming officers. His photo's are in the latest issue of CPOA's publication, you might get Vickie to send you a copy of the publication. CPOA has a web site at [www.cpoa.org](http://www.cpoa.org).

**Dottie**



**The Will Seuis Memorial Raider tailgate Sunday, Oct. 19**

Please join us on Sun Oct 19th, Raiders vs the Jets. We will be sitting in sec 316 (between the 30 and 40 yard line). The cost is \$95.00 for both the ticket and the pregame tailgate. If you would like to come only for the tailgate the cost is \$10.



Officer William Lynchburg Seuis  
Oakland Police Department  
EOW: July 22, 2004

Please send your \$95 check to reserve your spot for the game and tailgate to me. Please include a phone number/email address so I can tell you where we will be at for the tailgate. Please feel free to forward to any whom you think may be interested in joining us.

Thank You,  
**Brent Seuis**  
19749 Louise Ct  
Castro Valley Ca 94546 (510)305-1594

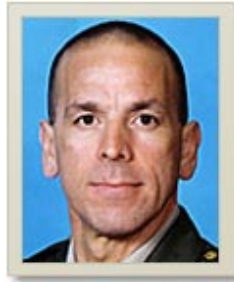
## Justice Updates

### Jury Selection in Scott case begins

We continue to have hearings to prepare for the trial of the man who ran over my dear CHP Officer son, Douglas Scott Russell on July 31, 2007 and killed him. Jury selection has promised to be on March 17, 2009. The court is El Dorado County on Main St in Placerville. His anniversary is near, hold good thoughts for us, and pray that his soul is resting peacefully.

Regards,

**Betty Elliot, Scott's Mom.**



Officer Douglas Scott Russell  
California Highway Patrol  
EOW: July 31, 2007

### Life sentence for killing Pittsburg police officer

We are extremely grateful that Moffet was given LWOP plus 24 years, but the sentencing hearing itself was difficult and the papers didn't report the actual events so unless you had sat through the hearing, you could not know what we were confronted with in the courtroom.

We were given 13 hours notice of the sentencing hearing itself as the court issued a written ruling at 4:45 pm that she was denying his motion for a new trial, and she scheduled the hearing for the next morning. Jo Ann and I were notified at about 8:30 that evening and did not have time to gather our normal group of supporters, but Maria J. and Sue Webb attended. Officer Les Galer, now on temporary assignment with a drug task force, came with several of his task force buddies to support us.

The whole sentencing hearing from the defense perspective became about race. This was absurd and insulting as Larry was shot pursuing two bank robbers and it did not matter what their race was. Larry was a Marine and cop and two colors defined his life: green and blue, never black and white.

I attempted to show my disgust at him by standing up and turning my back to him (and the courtroom), but was told to sit down or leave. Moffet's mother verbally sparred with Jo Ann during the hearing, and we were all told we had to calm down or the courtroom was going to be cleared. We did make it through the hearing with raised blood pressure and a lot of control. And in the end, he got his and it was exactly what he deserved. And at last, some closure for us. Sure hope the Fontana family gets some justice soon. Wishing you good thoughts

Phyllis Loya



Ofc. Larry Elwood Lasater Jr.  
Pittsburg Police Department  
EOW: April 24, 2005

## C.O.P.S. WALK 2008

### October 11 & 12

(Concerns of Police Survivors)

Sandy Fontana and Jackie Barnes  
(Mother) (Cousin)

ARE WALKING IN MEMORY OF



JEFFREY FONTANA SJPD 3702  
END OF WATCH 10/28/01

**PLEASE SUPPORT US AND REMEMBER JEFF WITH YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION,  
Tax ID#: 52-1354370**

Please send your donation made Payable to C.O.P.S.  
to: Sandy Fontana or Jackie Barnes  
141 Raymundo Dr 183 Santa Paula Dr.  
Woodside, CA 94062 Daly City, CA 94015

**Justice Updates**

**After three years  
Ofc. Richard May  
trial set to begin**

Rich's trial starts December 1st. It is expected that the Jury selection will take the month of December with the actual trial starting in January, exactly three years since Rich's murder.

Edward Alvarez, accused of killing East Palo Alto Police Officer Richard May, will stand trial December 1, almost 3 years after the deadly shooting took place near an East Palo Alto taqueria.

East Palo Alto Police Officer Richard May, 38, died of gunshot wounds Jan. 7, 2006, after he responded to reports of a fight near University Avenue and chased a suspect seen



Officer Richard Allen May Jr.  
East Palo Alto PD  
EOW: January 7, 2006

fleeing an eatery. Alvarez was arrested the next morning while hiding in the back seat of a car trying to leave the area; he pleaded not guilty to murder and weapons charges Feb. 7, 2006, and again on Aug. 30, 2006, after a county grand jury indicted him. He remains in custody on a no-bail status.

Attorneys for Alvarez, 24, had refused to set the trial date until they received 300 pages of new data, including DNA and forensic information and photographs taken from a witness's window. Transcripts from the grand jury investigation have been sealed and Alvarez's attorneys will return to court May 19 to keep them and other evidence suppressed.

The District Attorney's Office will seek the death penalty for Alvarez.

**Rick May**  
(805) 544-2669  
www.OfficerRichardMay.ORG

**Murder trial of CHP Ofc. Andrew Stevens**

The murder trial of California Highway Patrol officer **Andrew Stevens (E.O.W. 11-17-2005)** is complete. The formal trial started on February 13, 2008. Before the official start date of the trial, there were mini-hearings, like the one to see if there was the correct make up of different minorities on the grand jury or if the trial should even take place in Woodland, CA.

The prosecution laid out the case very well against Brendt Volarvich and Gerogry Zielesch. The prosecution showed the timeline on how each event took place all the way down to the capture. The prosecution showed how a simple traffic stop could turn deadly. This was a case about how a young white supremacy gang member (Brendt Volarvich) who was stopped while on parole with a gun in his car and did not want to go back to jail and what he did to not get caught.

The defense said, "They are not disputing the fact of who did the killing of Officer Andrew Stevens but his frame of mind" when he did it. The defense tried to say he had ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder) and he was not in his right frame of mind due to the Methamphetamines he had taken. The defense brought in experts to show how his dad's suicide and his mom's inability to control him lead to this life of crime. The defense brought in experts on how people on drug will act faced with the same set of circumstances. In the end the jury did not believe it.

On the first week of May the jury's decision was read, and the verdict for Brent Volarvich was found GUILTY IN THE FIRST DEGREE OF SHOOTING CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICER ANDREW STEVENS. The jury deliberated for about 3 days to come up with the verdict. The jury also found him guilty of special circumstances like shooting an officer in the performance of his job, shooting from a vehicle and shooting to avoid arrest. With these special circumstances his was eligible for the



Ofc. Andrew Stevens  
Calif. Highway Patrol  
EOW: November 17, 2005

death penalty. Brendt Volarvich was also found Guilty of Conspiracy to Commit Murder. There were some other smaller offenses that he was also found guilty of like, having a gun and a knife while on parole, drug possession while on parole.

The penalty phase of the trial started mid May and the prosecutions show how Brendt Volarvich was a white supremacy gang member. This was not mentioned in the trial but the prosecution was able to bring it up in the penalty phase of the trial. Brendt Volarvich has a tattoo of "peckerwood" tattooed across his stomach. The jury heard all the evidence from the prosecution and the defense and after about a day and half they came back with a recommendation of the "DEATH PENALTY". The judge takes the juries verdict and he decides if it is the correct or he needs to modify it. On June 12, 2008 at 9:45 a.m. the judge came back and up held the juries verdict. He said that Brendt Volarvich should be sent to San Quentin prison and there he will be put to death.