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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Charlie Hogquist



Thank you all for your support at the January luncheon where you elected me to a two-year term as President of the RFPA. I will do my best to serve the membership. I look forward to seeing you all at the April luncheon.

On March 23rd we will be holding our annual Remembrance Day Observance for our brothers and sisters who answered their final call during 2025. The observance will be held at El Camino Memorial Park at 1:30 PM. Please join us for this solemn occasion. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony.

At our April luncheon, we will have two guest speakers. Our new Honorary member—Steve Willard—will give us some highlights on the San Diego Police Museum, and Chappie Hunter will discuss his rehabilitation from an amputation.

I'd like to take a moment to thank my fellow board members for their support during my transition to President of the RFPA. I will be relying on their wisdom and guidance to keep us moving forward. A special thank you to Ron Moskowitz for stepping up to be Vice President again. His wit, wisdom, and institutional knowledge are irreplaceable.

To our outgoing President, Arnie Garcia: thank you for your service to the membership and your continued service to the Board of the RFPA.

Any member interested in serving on the board or doing more to assist the RFPA, you are cordially invited to attend our monthly board meeting. The meetings are held at the San Diego Firefighters Federal Credit Union at 9 am on the first Thursday of the month.

Stay safe and well. See you at the April meeting.

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RETIRED
**FIRE & POLICE
 ASSOCIATION**
 OF SAN DIEGO, INC.

THE RFPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE

**TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL
 REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE**

HONORING OUR RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS,
 POLICE OFFICERS & LIFEGUARDS

who answered their last call
 in the year 2025

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026
 AT 1:30 PM**

El Camino Memorial Park
 Firefighters & Police Officers' Lawn
 5600 Carroll Canyon Rd.
 in Sorrento Valley

LIVING TRUST
\$895.00

Fire/Law Enforcement Price

In-Home Appointments Available
 Includes Wills and Powers of Attorneys



RONALD A. HAUSER

Attorney at Law

(619) 206-3811
 (619) 319-5171

PROBATE SERVICES AVAILABLE

**THE RETIRED FIRE & POLICE
 ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION
 OF SAN DIEGO, CA INC**

A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION- TAX ID 33-0847533

Your tax deductible contributions help us to continue the charitable work we do within our community. To make a contribution, please make your check payable to: **RFPA Foundation**. If you wish your donation to be earmarked for Hand-in-Hand, make that notation on the memo line of your check. Almost all of the donations we make go to support Police, Fire and Lifeguard causes and to help our brothers and sisters in their time of need.

For a list of "Frequently Asked Questions," go to the website and click on the FOUNDATION tab. 100% of all donations go to those in need.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS & INFO

Total Membership - 2,223

RFPA WEBSITE:

www.retiredfp.com is continually updated and is much easier to navigate. We recently added an area to post announcements, business ads and items for sale. Check it regularly for new postings on the homepage calendar.

ONLINE ROSTER:

www.roster.retiredfp.com

You will be asked to enter a "new" **User Name** and **Password** the first time you access this site. Or, access the roster from the website.

WEBMASTER:

Jim Caster at jim@retiredfp.com

**TO CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS
 OR PHONE NUMBER:**

Go to the RFPA Website (click: Contact Us) or contact Kathy Healey, Secretary, at retiredfp.police@gmail.com - or - 858-442-1475

**TO PUBLISH INFORMATION
 IN THIS NEWSLETTER:**

Please contact Tony Hancock at thancock1625@gmail.com - or - 760-943-7351.

POLICE BEAT

Kathy Healey

Our first luncheon of 2026 took place in January at the Holy Trinity Church Hall and was a great success.

We conducted elections for the RFPA Board at this meeting, or should I say, re-elections. Tony Hancock (F), Ron Moskowitz (F), Mike Robert (F), Jim Kistner (P), and Charles Hogquist (P) were all voted in for another two years. Charlie Hogquist will serve as our President, Ron Moskowitz as our VP, Mike Robert is our Treasurer, and I remain your Secretary. Your other PD representatives on the board are Jim Kistner, Garry Collins and Larry Hall. Feel free to contact any of us with questions or concerns. Our contact information is on the RFPA website at retiredfp.com.

During this meeting, Steve Willard of the SD Police Historical Association was voted in as an honorary member. Steve has assisted the RFPA in a number of ways, and we are glad to include him in our membership. Steve will be speaking about the SDPHA at our next luncheon in April, as will Chappie Hunter...so please come!

Speaking of our next luncheon, we welcome all our members, but please, if you RSVP, show up! Either that or at least give us the courtesy of letting us know you won't be there. We do a head count of those who plan to attend so we purchase the right number of meals, feed everyone and hope there's no waste.

Last luncheon we had more than a dozen no-shows...that's a big number of meals paid for out of your dues.

Recently, we received a very generous donation from the estate of retired Lt. Ron Seden. Ron was always a big supporter of the RFPA and regularly donated to our Foundation. The Foundation has supported many other worthy organizations, including the SD Emerald Society, the SDPD Honor Guard, the SDPOA Widow & Orphans Fund, and Star/PAL. The Foundation has also assisted retirees in their time of financial need in the past and has given donations for active officers facing health issues or some other crisis. All in all, the Foundation has done some excellent work in support of police and fire services. Please think of us for annual donations as we are a 501(c)3 organization and thus a tax write-off.

Two of the Fire board members, Ron Moskowitz and Tom Rouse, are looking into making another RFPA challenge coin. We are purely in the talking stages about this, so if you have any ideas about design and such, please let us know.

Our annual Remembrance Day will be held at El Camino Mortuary at the dedicated Police & Firefighter's area on March 22nd at 1:30 PM. We will honor all the retirees who passed in 2025. We lost a lot of fine people last year, so please come and

help recognize their service. It is a very moving ceremony, and your presence would mean a lot to support their loved ones.

When one of our members passes, I always ask the person who is letting me know if I can have Hand-in-Hand contact the family. Invariably, that person will ask, "What's that?" Hand-in-Hand is a group of volunteer retirees from the PD and Fire Departments that works with the family of the deceased to help them with accessing the member's benefits through SDCERS, arrange for PD honors and a Department announcement in conjunction with Medical Assistance and sometimes financial assistance until their benefits are received in certain situations. The Foundation supports HIH and its work. Pat Nunez is the program organizer. The PD volunteers are Jim Kistner, Dalana Pursel, Dianna Webb, and most recently Chuck Kaye joined the group. They are great in creating a connection with the Department during a difficult time.

During the past quarter, we lost some real legends in law enforcement, including: Capt. Bob Williams, Capt. Bob Slaughter, Det. Mike Bluffin, Det. Sgt. Gordie Clausen, Sgt. Leon Pearce, Capt. Phil Jarvis, and Capt. Bruce Pfefferkorn. All gone too soon. Please keep the families and friends of all those who have passed in your thoughts and prayers, as we continue to enjoy our own retirements.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Gloria Boyce (P) | Jason Cull (LG) | Robert Mackel (F) | Daran Osborne (F) | Roger Stonier (P) |
| Steven Carlin (F) | John Herberth (P) | Gary Macphee (P) | Miriam Sadri (P) | George Uzdavines (F) |
| Cheeze Cheselke (P) | Salvador Hurtado (P) | Debra Michalek (P) | Ernesto Servin (P) | Kerin Watts (F) |
| Jeffery Clyons (F) | Scott Lowe (F) | Bradley O'Donnell (P) | Christopher Simpson (LG) | |

Welcome to the Spring edition of “Drop Off.” Someone asked me how I got the name for this article. I really can’t remember what it was called before that. So, I put out an email for everyone to submit a name for the article, and we would have a vote to see what it would be called. And the winner was “Drop Off” submitted by Roy McLachlan (AKA Black Mac). So, for over 15 years this article has been called “Drop Off.” Did I mention that Roy’s was the only suggestion I received out of the whole Department?

We continue to lose our friends who served on the Fire Department with us. Since our last newsletter that included names of those who had passed away in November, we have been notified of several brothers who have answered their Last Alarms. To start the list for this newsletter we will start with the end of last year. We got late notification of the death of retired Engineer James Easterling, who answered his Last Alarm back on September 25, 2025. The Fire Department has not released his bio at this time. Sometimes there is a brief time lag between the time the Fire Department is notified of a retiree’s death and the time that the formal Department announcement comes

out. Because of publishing deadlines, we will add the retirees name to the Last Alarm list without his bio and then add the bio in the next newsletter. This is the case of retired Fire Captain Robert C. Stevens.

As mentioned at the end of the last newsletter, “R.C.” answered his Last Alarm on November 20, 2025. RC was a Firefighter with the Santee Fire Department prior to being hired by the San Diego Fire Department. Captain Stevens was hired by the San Diego Fire Department as a Firefighter on August 1, 1966. He was promoted to Engineer on October 1, 1971, and to Captain on July 5, 1974. Captain Stevens retired on September 5, 1999, with more than 33 years of service. He was 81 years old. The next brother to answer his Last Alarm was retired Captain Franklin “Earl” Dodson on December 9, 2025. Earl was a U.S. Army veteran before joining the Fire Department. The San Diego Fire Department hired Earl as a Firefighter on April 1, 1968. He was promoted to Engineer on June 8, 1973, and to Captain on February 18, 1983. Captain Dodson retired from the Fire Department on July 4, 1999, with more than 31 years of service. Captain Dodson was a legend on the job. He spent his teen years growing up in

Memphis, Tennessee and worked as a cab driver. He had many stories of driving Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and other rock ‘n’ roll stars of the 50’s around. Captain Dodson was 87 years old. The last brother to answer his Last Alarm in 2025 was retired Assistant Fire Chief Donald W. Farney. Chief Farney was a veteran and served in the U.S. Coast Guard before being hired by the San Diego Fire Department as a Firefighter on May 1, 1961. He was promoted to Engineer on July 12, 1968, and promoted to Captain on July 23, 1971. On November 8, 1974, he was promoted to Battalion Chief and on July 4, 1984, was promoted to Assistant Chief. Assistant Chief Farney retired from the San Diego City Fire Department on June 28, 1990, with 29 years of service. Assistant Chief Farney was 89 years old. This rounds out the Last Alarms for the year 2025. Now let’s move to 2026.

The first brother to answer his Last Alarm in 2026 was retired Captain Richard “Dick” Friel, who answered his Last Alarm on January 6, 2026. Dick was hired by the San Diego Fire Department on March 30, 1964. He was promoted to Engineer on March 29, 1971, and then promoted to Captain on April 9, 1976. Captain Friel retired from the Fire

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING DEATH BENEFITS & BENEFICIARIES:

It is extremely important that you keep your beneficiary information current with SDCERS to avoid delays in receiving benefits intended for spouses and family members. Updated information (as of June 2019) regarding “Death Benefits for City of San Diego Members, Survivors & Beneficiaries” is now available on the SDCERS website at www.sdcers.org. Go to **RESOURCES** on the top of the home page and click on **DEATH BENEFITS**.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Tony Hancock

We held elections at our January luncheon for half of our (your) Board of Directors, three Fire and two Police. The results were, once again, unanimous. Tony Hancock, Ron Moskowitz, Mike Robert, Jim Kistner, and Charlie Hogquist were all re-elected for two more years. Charlie is the new President, and Ron will serve as Vice President. The Board chooses a new President, which must rotate between Fire and Police, every two years. Police and Fire each have five Directors on the Board. Ron Moskowitz and I have each served on the RFPA board for more than 20 years. Though this has been an honor for both of us, it is time for some new blood to step in and determine the future of our organization. We serve more than

2,000 members, and I am sure there are some very capable retired Fire, Police and Lifeguard bodies out there that would be up to the task. Please give it some thought. Running unopposed is boring.

We have a couple of important dates coming up that you need to be aware of. On Sunday, March 22, we will be hosting our 28th annual Remembrance Day Service at El Camino Memorial Park. This year, we will be honoring 20 retired Firefighters and 30 retired Police Officers who answered their last call in the year 2025. If you've never attended one of these services, I suggest you go at least once. It is a very memorable event for the friends and family of our honorees.

The second upcoming event is our Quarterly Luncheon held at the Trinity Catholic Church in El Cajon. Once again, we ask that if you are planning to attend that you RSVP to Ron Moskowitz so we can order enough food for everyone. The luncheon is free for our members, so it's important to have an accurate count since we have to pay for the food whether you show up or not. At the last luncheon, we had more than a dozen no-shows. Details for both of these events can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

I wanted to share with everyone how important it is that you leave updated, current instructions with a loved one or the trustee of your estate upon your death. This also applies to surviving spouses



Great News for RFPA Members!

If you're a member of the RFPA, including SDPD retirees,
you're eligible to join our credit union
and enjoy all the exclusive benefits we offer —



Open YOUR account TODAY and reap all the benefits we offer you!
Call us today at 619-283-5477 or see us online at www.sdffcu.org

or the beneficiaries of your estate when they might pass. One of the first things that must be done is to notify SDCERS of the death in a timely manner. If SDCERS is not notified, it will keep paying your retirement checks. Surviving spouses will not receive their continuance until your death is reported, and any monies paid to your survivors (your retirement) must be paid back. Also keep in mind that SDCERS might search several databases for obituaries, and there's the likelihood that's how they may hear of your death, thereby causing your family to

have to return any overpayments. This can also be a problem on the federal level if you are receiving Social Security and Medicare. They must also be notified of a death in a timely manner, so overpayment of benefits does not become a problem for your family.

Lastly, I wanted to share a couple things that I hope you'll think are as important to you as they are to me. The RFPA sponsors and provides funding to Hand-in-Hand. This dedicated group of volunteers helps our Fire, Police and Lifeguard families navigate through the difficult

task of dealing with the death of a loved one. This might include helping to deal with SDCERS, Social Security, sorting through wills and trusts, etc. These are all unpleasant tasks that must be dealt with and during this time of grief, they are even more daunting. They can be reached by contacting Pat Nunez at patnunez@cox.net or by calling (760) 805-2237. Pat worked for both the Fire and Police Departments before retiring. Pat can always use more volunteers. Give her a call if you think this is something you might be interested in.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

QUESTIONS FOR ANY BOARD MEMBER

A list of all board members appears on the website. Under the ASSOCIATION tab, click Board of Directors to see their email address and phone number.

EMAIL UPDATES

If you have email access and you aren't receiving email notification of SDCERS/City issues, retirement and party announcements, death and funeral notices, etc., you can get on the email list by contacting: **Ron Moskowitz for FD & Lifeguards** at colmosk@gmail.com or **Kathy Healey for PD** at retiredfp.police@gmail.com.

THE BADGE & THE BOTTLE

In need of help? The **Public Safety Fellowship** can help. San Diego County public safety agencies created a fellowship in the hope of assisting our professional community in the area of alcohol dependence. Our fellowship is free of charge and independent of any other agency. Hiding or ignoring the problem will not make it disappear. Our meetings are available to all sworn Fire, Police and Lifeguards – active, retired, or former. We meet on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM. For more information and *confidential assistance*, please contact Steve @ **858-337-9771**.

HAND-IN-HAND—Family Support Services

A group of dedicated, compassionate volunteers that came together out of mutual respect and concern for Fire, Police and Lifeguard families. Hand-In-Hand works directly with the spouses and families of retired Safety Officers after the loss of a loved one. We provide spouses and families in crisis with empathy, support, and practical resources to ease the bereavement process and the transition to independence. **Contact:** Pat Nunez at patnunez@cox.net or (760) 805-2237.

CARE-COUNSEL

CARE-COUNSEL is a health care assistance program providing health care education, information, advocacy, and coaching in an independent and confidential manner. Services are available to all retirees at no cost. They can be reached at **888-227-3334** or on the web at www.carecounsel.com.

HEALTH & SAFETY FOR RETIREES

(from the San Diego Fire-Rescue Health & Safety Office)

Retiree benefits: Our contract is with Focus Psychological Services for active & retired SDFD only and your families in the home. We have Retiree Peers on the team available to talk, vent or just get information. We also have Chaplains available.

To reach these services:

Call toll free: 833-SDFD-HSO (833-733-3476)

Website (SDFD/SDPD): sandiego.gov/fd-pd-wellness

Password: support

*For Retired SDPD: the Health & Safety Office has assisted officers and we work closely with SDPD Wellness Division. We will help put you in contact with the right people that can help.

COPLINE

International Law Enforcement Hotline available 24/7
1-800-COPLINE (800-267-5463)

Our mission is to make available our resource on an international level so that officers from all law enforcement branches (city, state, federal) have a resource and outlet that they can turn to in times of need. We firmly believe that maintaining one's anonymity and confidentiality are essential in providing an environment for officers to reach out for help. CopLine volunteers conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the highest level of honor and integrity.



RETIRED FIRE & POLICE ASSOCIATION
4926 LA CUENTA DRIVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92124

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RETIRED FIRE & POLICE ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

Monday, April 13, 2026 at 11:00am

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

405 Ballard Street, El Cajon, CA 92109

(Between Main & E. Washington - Parking in the rear)

NO COST FOR THE MEAL & REFRESHMENTS

RSVP is mandatory - not later than Wednesday, April 8th to:

RON MOSKOWITZ: colmosk@gmail.com • (619) 990-6596

Guest Speaker : Chappie Hunter • Steve Willard • 50/50 Drawing

Luncheon is for MEMBERS ONLY, please - no guests
(unless the guest is eligible to join and does so at the luncheon).

Food is ordered according to how many people RSVP...don't miss out.
If you do RSVP and later change your mind, please contact Ron.