



MAY 2024 | VOL 4 ISSUE 3

THE POST DISPATCH

THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES FROM
COLORADO POST

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Honor the Fallen, While Respecting the Survivors"


As we approach Peace Officer's Memorial Day, I want to take a moment to remember our heroes. Since I became POST Director more than six years ago, I have attended every service for every peace officer killed in the line of duty, with the exception of two. One's family wanted to keep it small, and I was bedridden with COVID during the other service. I've always felt it is important to help send off our fallen and pay respects to their families, agency, and coworkers. [Colorado Fallen Hero Foundation](#) does a tremendous job at that. Another non-profit organization which gives us the opportunity to remember is the [Officer Down Memorial Page](#). It is the largest law enforcement memorial in the country, researching and preserving the legacies of fallen officers as far back as 1776.

Officer Down Memorial Page includes 351 names for the entire history of Colorado. Though we can't list them all in this newsletter, POST created [video tributes](#) that tell more detailed stories about each officer. On the right and below are our losses split by agency.

IN MEMORIAM OF

Colorado's 351 Fallen Heroes

- 
- (6) Adams County Sheriff's Office
 - (2) Alamosa Police Department
 - (4) Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
 - (4) Arvada Police Department
 - (6) Aurora Police Department
 - (3) Bent County Sheriff's Office
 - (1) Black Hawk Police Department
 - (1) Boulder County Sheriff's Office
 - (7) Boulder Police Department
 - (1) Brighton Police Department
 - (2) Buena Vista Police Department
 - (1) Castle Rock Police Department
 - (1) Center Police Department
 - (1) Central Pueblo Marshals Office
 - (1) Chaffee County Sheriff's Office
 - (1) Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office
 - (1) Coal Creek Police Department
 - (18) Colorado Dept. of Corrections
 - (1) Colorado Dept. of Law Enforcement
 - (3) Colorado Parks and Wildlife Division
 - (1) Colorado Rangers
 - (12) Colorado Springs Police Department
 - (30) Colorado State Patrol
 - (1) Commerce City Police Department
 - (1) Como Marshal's Office
 - (2) Conejos County Sheriff's Office
 - (2) Cortez Police Department
 - (2) Costilla County Sheriff's Office
 - (4) Cripple Creek Police Department
 - (1) Delta County Sheriff's Office



(2) Delta Police Department
(1) Denver Park Police Department
(73) Denver Police Department
(7) Denver Sheriff's Department
(3) Douglas County Sheriff's Office
(1) Durango Police Department
(2) Eagle County Sheriff's Office
(6) El Paso County Sheriff's Office
(2) Elbert County Sheriff's Office
(1) Englewood Police Department
(1) Estes Park Police Department
(1) Evans Police Department
(1) Federal Heights Police Department
(1) Firestone Police Department
(2) Fort Collins Police Services
(2) Fort Morgan Police Department
(2) Fountain Police Department
(1) Fremont County Sheriff's Office
(1) Fruita Police Department
(1) Garfield County Sheriff's Office
(1) Gilpin County Sheriff's Office
(1) Glendale Police Department
(1) Goldfield Police Department
(2) Greeley Police Department
(2) Gunnison County Sheriff's Office
(2) Hinsdale County Sheriff's Office
(1) Hotchkiss Marshal's Office
(2) Huerfano County Sheriff's Office
(6) Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
(1) Kiowa County Sheriff's Office
(1) Kokomo Police Department
(3) La Plata County Sheriff's Office
(1) Lake County Sheriff's Office
(1) Lakewood Police Department
(1) Lamar Police Department
(1) Larimer Dept. of Natural Resources
(4) Larimer County Sheriff's Office
(7) Las Animas County Sheriff's Office
(2) Las Animas Police Department
(7) Leadville Police Department
(1) Limon Police Department

(1) Lincoln County Sheriff's Office
(1) Littleton Police Department
(1) Logan County Sheriff's Office
(1) Louisville Police Department
(1) Loveland Police Department
(1) Mancos Police Department
(1) Manitou Springs Police Department
(3) Mesa County Sheriff's Office
(2) Monte Vista Police Department
(1) Montezuma County Sheriff's Office
(2) Montrose Police Department
(1) New Castle Police Department
(1) Northglenn Police Department
(1) Oak Creek Police Department
(1) Otero County Sheriff's Office
(1) Paonia Police Department
(1) Park County Sheriff's Office
(1) Prowers County Sheriff's Office
(1) Pueblo Constable's Office
(5) Pueblo County Sheriff's Office
(12) Pueblo Police Department
(1) Rico Marshal's Office
(1) Rio Grande County Sheriff's Office
(3) Rocky Ford Police Department
(2) Routt County Sheriff's Office
(2) Salida Police Department
(1) San Juan County Sheriff's Office
(1) Silverton Police Department
(1) Steamboat Springs Police Department
(2) Summit County Sheriff's Office
(1) Teller County Sheriff's Office
(1) Telluride Marshal's Office
(1) Tin Cup Marshal's Office
(2) Trinidad Police Department
(1) CU Colorado Springs Police Department
(1) Vail Police Department
(2) Victor Police Department
(2) Walsenburg Police Department
(3) Washington County Sheriff's Office
(2) Weld County Sheriff's Office
(1) Windsor Police Department

Tackling Exams & Staff Changes

Though it may not look like it, spring is here! That means the Compliance team is getting ready to hit the road again for **exam season**. With 20 academies scheduled to test in May and June, our staff will be traveling throughout the state, certifying brand new recruits eager to start their careers in law enforcement. By the numbers, **that's over 450 new officers certified and approximately 3,000 round trip miles driven by compliance staff!**

We are always excited to meet with our law enforcement partners and talk POST and policing, so if you've got an event coming up while we are in your area for an exam, let us know and we'll happily drop by and say hello.

Expect to see some new faces on the team, in addition to the familiar ones. With **Mary Vekasy stepping into the role of Compliance Manager**, we'll be bringing two new compliance specialists on board to support the academies and SME Committees alongside current staff. Look for more on those new additions in a later issue of the [POST Dispatch](#)!

TRAINING

Wellness Culture Through a Holistic Approach

The article "[Safeguarding Our Heroes: A Holistic Approach to First Responder Safety](#)



[and Wellness](#)" by Adam Hursh highlights the need for a comprehensive strategy to enhance well-being of first responders. It emphasizes the importance of addressing not just the physical dangers of the job, but also the mental health challenges. The approach calls for integrating wellness practices into daily routines, providing support through health services and training, and fostering a culture of prioritizing all these things.

The article also underscores the significance of leadership in fostering this holistic approach, suggesting that **those in command positions should advocate for and implement policies that support first responder wellness**

comprehensively. This includes offering resources for mental health, such as counseling and stress management, and ensuring that physical health is maintained through regular medical check-ups and fitness programs.



Overall, the article advocates a shift in how first responder organizations think about health and safety. It proposes a more inclusive approach that addresses all aspects of a first responder's well-being to ensure they can perform their duties effectively and sustainably. Be sure to read full version on the [Police1 website](#) and take advantage of the [officer safety & wellness resources](#) listed on ours!



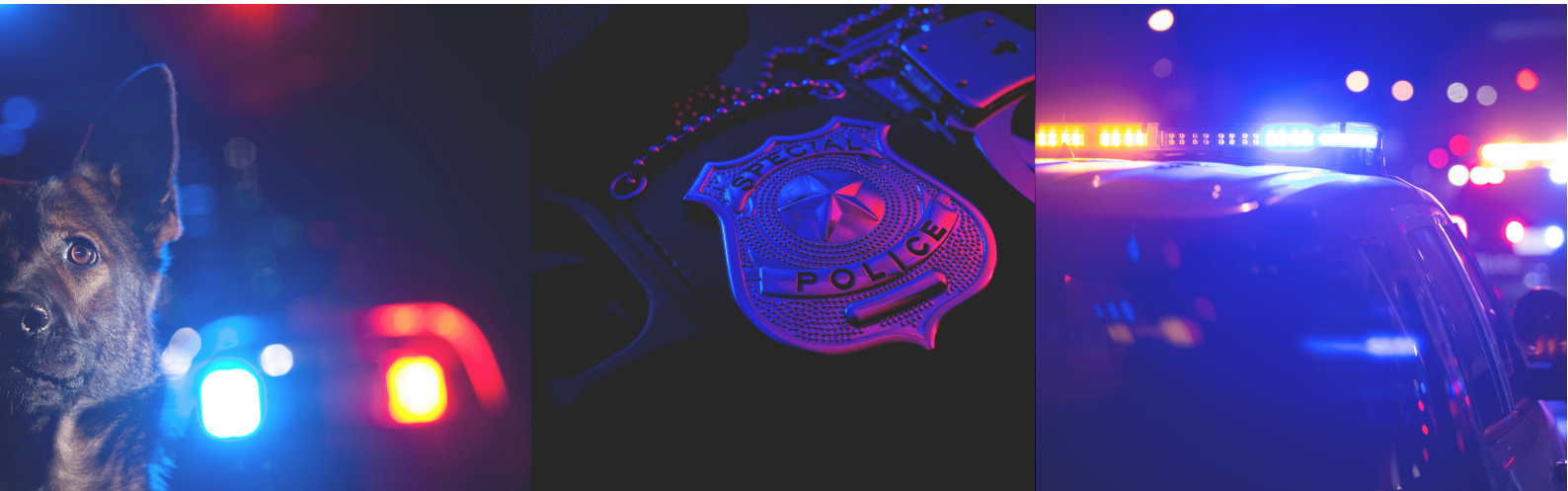
LAW ENFORCEMENT

Memorial Events in May 2024

May 3	Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial	Details
May 15	The Denver Police Memorial	Details
May 15	Longmont Peace Officer Memorial	Details
May 16	Aurora Police Department Fallen Officer Memorial Service	Details
May 18	Annual Pikes Peak Region Peace Officers' Memorial Ball	Details
May 26	1st Annual Charity Motorcycle Show	Details

Washington DC & Other Events

May 9	National LE Museum Open Each Day, May 9-18	Details
May 10	Global Streaming Release of Service and Sacrifice Film	Details
May 11	National Police K9 Memorial Service	Details
May 11	National Police Week 5K	Details
May 12	Police Unity Tour Arrival	Details
May 13	Candlelight Vigil	Details
May 14	The 30th Annual Pipeband Memorial March and Service	Details
May 14	C.O.P.S. National Police Survivors' Conference and Kids/Teens Program, May 14-16	Details



End of Grant Year Reminders

Where did the FY24 go? As we are quickly approaching the FY25, Grants team would like to remind you of a few important dates that are coming up:

- **June 7, 2024** – POST Board Meeting from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.;
- **June 12, 2024** – POST Open House hosted by Delta County Sheriff's Office from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.;
- **June 30, 2024** – Equipment Inventory Reports are due to POST. All reimbursement requests must be submitted no later than June 30 as well;
- **July 1, 2024** - The start of the new grant year. Woohoo, we'll get to do this all over again!

Find more details about POST meetings, trainings & events via the calendar on the [home page](#) of our website. Have questions specific to grants? Contact post.grants@coag.gov.



POST BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

March 14-15 Sessions

The POST Work Session and Board Meeting were curtailed by a good old spring snowstorm that shut down many parts of the Denver Metro area. This required us to quickly transition into virtual meetings. Director Bourgerie presented the 2023

Annual Report, highlighting the hard work of POST staff throughout the year. The report included the initiation of **the Academy Redesign** led by Academy Curriculum Developer, Gwen Burke. This is **a very large project that will take most, if not all, of 2024 to complete**. POST is also evaluating the exam process throughout the state to see if a more effective way of administering the test is possible. Some ideas were presented on how to alleviate the stress of having staff at all test outs.

Attorney General Weiser wished farewell to departing Board member, Chief Herold, and to Compliance Manager, Cathy Rodriguez. He also welcomed the new Administrative Coordinator, Chris Cooper (see her bio in the [February issue](#)).

SME Chairs reported on the work done this quarter, such as inspections, test outs, curriculum changes and programs approvals. The Board heard three requests for appeal, two Rule 8 variances, voted on 12 POST Rule 9 revocations (five misdemeanors, four felony convictions, and three for untruthfulness), and one suspension. There were five voluntary relinquishments of certification and presentation of two administrative hearing officer decisions. As always, detailed minutes will be available on the [POST website](#). Be safe!



**FOR NEWSLETTER
INQUIRIES**

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