



## The Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society Museum

"Preserving the history of law enforcement in the Greater Cincinnati area"



### Message from the President

#### Greetings!

Greetings! For those of you who may not know me, my name is **Steve Kramer**, and I'm a retired Cincinnati Police lieutenant and the president of the **Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society and Museum**. This is the first of what I hope to be many regular communications you receive from our organization as we move into the digital age. In this monthly newsletter, we'll provide you with updates on our activities, news about upcoming events and information on how you can get involved in our mission. Plus, we will provide news about law enforcement personnel who have passed away. Please feel free to forward this email so we can widen our reach, and let me know if there is anything you'd like to see us report on in future issues. You can email me [here](#)

Thanks for your continued support and may you and yours have a very happy holiday season!

### A special message for law enforcement

The family of Sgt. Eric Sierra, the Cincinnati Police Officer who passed away suddenly last month, asked our assistance in expressing their gratitude for the outpouring of support during a very difficult time. Here is their message of thanks:

*"Words are inadequate to express our sincere appreciation for the tremendous outpouring of support and sympathy the family has received due to the loss of Sgt. Eric Sierra, the son of Phil and Denise Sierra and brother to Joe, Lisa and Michelle; and of course the husband of Lisa and father of Megan, Nick and Nate.*

*Both the immediate and extended family of Eric would like to thank all of you for your prayers and support through this very difficult time. He will live on in the memories of all of you and his family. His life has touched so many. With our sincerest thanks for all you have done for us, and his wife and children."*

*Phil & Denise Sierra*

### Storytellers needed for Oral History Project

Are you retired from law enforcement? Then you probably have a story or two to tell!

Did you work in District 7? Only one current Cincinnati

### Announcing a new Museum location

Just in time for Christmas, Santa has delivered a permanent home for the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum.

The chair and members of the board recently signed a lease for space at 308 Reading Road, Suite 201 in downtown Cincinnati. The space is nearly 6,500 square feet and will provide space for exhibits, displays, research, a gift shop and meeting room. Lots of help will be needed remodeling, moving and setting up the new space, so watch for volunteer opportunities in future editions.

Police employee did and she is now the Executive Assistant Chief's Secretary.

Did you work in the North Bend Police Department? It no longer exists and we cannot find any records for it.

The Workhouse? It was knocked down decades ago. Central Station? It also closed decades ago.

Other than the assassinations of Specialist Jeter and Officer Pope, no current Cincinnati police officer experienced the shooting death of a peer.

If you served as a private or public law enforcement officer in Boone, Butler, Campbell, Clermont, Dearborn, Hamilton, Kenton, or Warren Counties, from the 1930s to the 1990s, we want your oral history.

Please contact retired Cincinnati Police Sergeants **Kenneth L. Wells or William T. Beuke at [OralHistory@GCPHS.com](mailto:OralHistory@GCPHS.com)**

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Stay on top of all the events and news from your Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society and Museum.

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## Police veterans in the news

This past Veterans Day, FOX 19 published an article about the only two Cincinnati Police Officers killed while serving in the U.S. armed forces whose badges were retired by the force.

Badge Number 146, which was originally issued to Motor Patrolman Earle H. Biddle Jr. in 1939, and Badge Number 394, assigned to Police Officer Anthony Campbell, were both retired. This means that no one will ever wear these badge numbers again.

Biddle was killed in action while serving as a medical corpsman in the Pacific Theater during World War II, and Campbell was killed by an IED in Afghanistan in 2009. Both received medals as a result of their heroic actions.

The Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society officially requested the retirement of these badge and badge numbers in October of this year, and it took Cincinnati Police Chief Jeffrey Blackwell less than two weeks to investigate the request and decide in favor of it. Biddle's badge will be presented to Biddle's daughter Joan Ries, who resides in Wilmington OH, in a special ceremony.

Police Officer Anthony R. Bischoff, to whom badge 146 was last assigned, voluntarily surrendered it back to the Police Department when he heard about Biddle's heroism and its historical significance. Officer Bischoff had worn this badge for ten years. Badge 394 had not yet been reassigned.

Only 21 badge numbers have been retired out of the more than 1,250 badge numbers issued to the City's 10,000 or so past and present law enforcement officers.

Click [here](#) for a look at the story.

## In Memoriam

This regular monthly feature lists those in local law enforcement who

have passed away. Please send recent news to [director@gcphs.com](mailto:director@gcphs.com). And as always, keep these individuals, their families and friends forever in your prayers.

- [Police Officer David Lee Blair](#) (1936-2014)
- [Special Agent Patrick John O'Donnell](#) (1927-2014)
- [Special Deputy Elbert Russell Rush Sr.](#) (1922 -2014)
- [Police Chief Charles C. "Chuck" Huff](#) (1945-2014)
- [Patrolman Willard Robbins](#) (1933-2014)
- [Sergeant Eric M. Sierra](#) (1975-2014)
- [Inspector Eddie "Mike" Ellis, Jr.](#) (1963 - 2014)
- [Police Chief Charles F. "Charlie" Sellars](#) (1939-2014)
- [Police Officer Richard Louis Weber](#) (1943-2014)
- [Corrections Officer Ciera Nicole Greene](#) (1991-2014)
- [Detective Allen Leroy Garris](#) (1952-2014)
- [Specialist Donald Edward Woelfel](#) (1924 - 2014)
- [Dispatcher Mary R. Florey](#) (1936 - 2014)
- [Reserve Police Officer Rick W. Davis](#) (1960 - 2014)

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