



**Greater Cincinnati Police Museum
Richard W. Gross Memorial Newsletter
Winter 2021**

\$25,000 Portable L.E.S.S. Grant Awarded

The Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society received notice on November 23rd that it is the recipient of a \$25,000 grant from The Clement and Ann Buenger Foundation for the purchase of a Law Enforcement Situation Simulator (L.E.S.S.) simulator portable system.

In early 2021, the Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society incorporated L.E.S.S. technology as an interactive exhibit at its Museum located in downtown Cincinnati. The exhibit has been a successful addition to the Museum and its ability to educate the community on the history and aspects of law enforcement. The purpose of this exhibit is to educate members of the community on the stress that their representatives in law enforcement experience each time they enter a potentially confrontational situation and how that they react within split seconds to situations that may cause them or others harm.

In an effort to extend the L.E.S.S. system to remote locations in the communities served by the GCPHS, an application for funding for a portable L.E.S.S. system was made in early November. The Foundation wrote in the grant award notice: "In reviewing the multiple letters from area police chiefs, all seemed to agree that the L.E.S.S. project provides a welcome opportunity and another tool to improve police-community relations, enhance citizen education, and build collaboration".

The grant application included solicited letters of support for the project from area police chiefs. Among them, Colonel Christopher Fangman, Chief of the Newport Police Department wrote in his letter: "I see it as an opportunity to educate residents through our Citizens Police Academy and/or neighborhood group meetings". Colonel Thomas Wells, Secretary of the Hamilton County Association of Chiefs of Police wrote, in part: "As the

presentation is conducted by retired police officers with vast experience in the operations and training of police officers, we are confident this project will enhance police-community relation efforts of local police”.

Ti Training of Golden, Colorado is the intended vendor for the L.E.S.S. system, which includes a portable laptop with a travel case, portable speakers, interactive scenarios, and a 12-foot portable screen.

After receipt of the equipment, the GCPHS hopes to begin scheduling community-based presentations with the assistance of the 160 law enforcement agencies in the Greater Cincinnati area.

For more information on the L.E.S.S. interactive exhibit at the museum, or the portable L.E.S.S. system, contact GCPHS Museum Director William T. Beuke at (513) 300-3664 or visit the GCPHS website at the link below.

More about L.E.S.S.

Cincinnati, Ohio Officers Killed In The Line of Duty Memorialized with Street Signs

In September, October, November, and December of 2021, Officer David L. Cole, Specialist Ronald Jeter, Officer Daniel Pope, Officer Clifford George, and Sergeant Charles Handorf of the Cincinnati Ohio Police Department were honored by the City of Cincinnati with street dedications in their memories.

Officer David L. Cole Ceremony



On July 17, 1974, shortly before 12:50 AM, Cincinnati Police Officer David L. Cole was responding to a reported burglary in progress in the 2300 block of Florence Avenue in the Walnut Hills neighborhood of the city. As he approached the scene, he encountered

Ronald A. Reaves and Ricardo A. Woods running down Florence Avenue and stopped to question them. The two ambushed Officer Cole, killing him by gunfire.

On September 10, 2021, a section of Florence Avenue near Gilbert Avenue was unveiled as David L. Cole Memorial Way. The dedication included Cincinnati City Councilman Christopher Smitherman; Cheryl Cole, David Cole's widow; Lieutenant (RET) Stephen R. Kramer, President of the Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society; and Cincinnati Police Chief Eliot Isaac.



Local12 Event Coverage

Specialist Ronald Jeter and Officer Daniel Pope Ceremony.



On December 6, 1997 shortly after midnight, Cincinnati Police Specialist Ronald Jeter and Officer Daniel Pope responded in plainclothes to 23 West Hollister in an attempt to arrest Alonzo M. Davenport who was wanted for an assault that occurred on December 4th. Upon entering an apartment at that address, the officers attempted to arrest Davenport, when he pulled a gun, shot, and killed both officers. A short time later, Davenport was located by responding officers and committed suicide.

During an October 8th, 2021 ceremony, the City of Cincinnati unveiled a new street sign memorializing the officers at Vine and McMillan Streets in the city's Clifton Heights neighborhood. Among those attending the event were Christopher Smitherman, Cincinnati Vice Mayor; Council Members Liz Keating, Betsy Sundermann, and Steve Goodin; Eliot Isaac, Cincinnati Police Chief; Linda Pope, Daniel Pope's widow; Stacy Cromwell, Ronald Jeter's cousin; and Lieutenant (RET) Joseph Hall, Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society.



Fox19 Event Coverage

Officer Clifford George Ceremony.



On April 16, 1987 at approximately 12:50AM, Cincinnati Police Officer Clifford W. George responded to a reported domestic disturbance in the 2200 block of Vine Street in the Clifton Heights neighborhood of the city. There he encountered 32-year-old Melvin Moreland who had been involved in a heated dispute with his cousin. As Officer George escorted him from the residence, a struggle ensued, and Moreland took control of George's firearm and shot him twice, killing him. Moreland was located by Officers Norton, Fromhold, and police canine Bandit a short distance away from the scene. As Moreland

fired upon them with George's gun, the officers returned fire, killing Moreland. In the exchange of gunfire, Officer Norton was wounded and his canine partner Bandit was killed.

On November 15, 2021, the City of Cincinnati held a street dedication for Officer George and K9 Bandit at the corner of Liberty and Vine Streets. The dedication included Cincinnati City Councilman Christopher Smitherman; Barbara George, Clifford George's widow; Lieutenant (RET) Joe Hall of the Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society; and Cincinnati Police Chief Eliot Isaac.



[More on the Police Museum Website](#)

Sergeant Charles Handorf Ceremony.



On December 8, 1974 at approximately 12:15AM, Cincinnati Police Sergeant Charles Handorf, although off-duty and in his personal car, responded to a reported armed and barricaded suspect at 6438 Home City Avenue in the East Price Hill neighborhood of the city. As officers attempted to negotiate the surrender of Herbert Merz, he opened fire from inside the house, killing Sergeant Handorf, who was crouched behind a wall with other officers. In the exchange of gunfire, Merz was killed by gunfire from several officers outside of the residence, including Sergeant Handorf.

On December 7, 2021 a section of Considine Avenue was dedicated by the City of Cincinnati in memory of Sergeant Handorf. The dedication included Cincinnati City Councilman Christopher Smitherman; Sergeant (RET) William T. Beuke, Director of the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum; Lieutenant (RET) Joe Hall of the Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society; and Cincinnati Police Chief Eliot Isaac.



Cincinnati.com Coverage

Handsome the Dog



Upon entering the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum, visitors are greeted by an extraordinary police dog named Handsome. What makes this dog so extraordinary is not

only his loyal service to the law enforcement community but also the fact that he is over 120 years old!

The story of Handsome begins with Patrolman “Big Jim” O’Neill of the Cincinnati Police Department. As Big Jim was patrolling the riverfront district of the city along the Ohio River in the late 1890’s, he came upon an abandoned puppy in a doorway seeking shelter from the cold. Big Jim and the officers of the Second District adopted him, and named him Handsome.

Handsome served on patrol for fourteen years in one of the roughest beats in town. He would only eat when fed by a policeman in uniform and only slept when officers changed shifts. Handsome assisted in the arrests of hundreds of burglars, robbers and other notorious criminals.

Handsome was a revered legend, so much so that upon his death in the early 1900’s, he was preserved by a taxidermist at the request of the police officers he served with, and was put on display in their station house. The glass-enclosed display is now at the GCPHS Museum, where Handsome still stands watch.

Roll of Honor Campaign

With ties to 19th-century law enforcement history in our area, the Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society (GCPHS) began its **Roll of Honor campaign** and is actively seeking individuals to participate in a multi-year pledge of financial support.

Named after the Roll of Honor established by the City of Cincinnati in 1885 to recognize members of the police force for extraordinary service, the campaign asks for a ten-year commitment of at least \$100 per year to support the operations of the GCPHS and Museum.

Participants in the campaign will have their names inscribed on the GCPHS Roll of Honor at the Museum, and will also be provided with yearly acknowledgments of contributions for tax purposes.

Founded in 1998, GCPHS is a 501c3 non-profit organization with an unpaid volunteer staff who work diligently to convey an understanding of the history and aspects of local law enforcement through various community activities and a museum in the Pendleton Historic District of Cincinnati. The Museum opened in 2006, collects and displays artifacts representing the history of more than 100 local, township, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in communities within Boone, Butler, Campbell, Clermont, Dearborn, Hamilton, Kenton, and Warren Counties of Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio.

The Society depends entirely upon museum admissions, memberships, grants, sponsorships, and donations for its operating costs. Participants in the campaign receive no goods or services in exchange for their pledges, and their contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

For information on how to become a Roll of Honor Campaign donor, visit the GCPHS website or contact Museum Director William T. Beuke at director@police-museum.org or (513) 300-3664.

Roll of Honor

Monthly Featured Museum Exhibit

Ed Zieverink, Curator at the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum, continues with his historical focus on Greater Cincinnati law enforcement agencies by spotlighting an Agency of the Month with a special exhibit at the GCPHS Museum. The exhibits are changed monthly and are an assembly of the many artifacts and historically significant photos found on display in the Museum.

The Agency of the Month exhibits for August through November were:

August 2021

[Covington, Kentucky Police Department](#)



September 2021

[Hamilton, Ohio Police Department](#)



October 2021

[Newport, Kentucky Police Department](#)



November 2021

[Middletown, Ohio Police Department](#)



The Agency of the Month exhibits appear on the GCPHS Facebook page as they occur, but the best way to appreciate the full significance of the displays is to visit the GCPHS Museum at 308 Reading Road, 2nd floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

For information on the Agency of the Month exhibit or the Museum, visit the GCPHS FaceBook or website, inquire by email at curator@police-museum.org, or call (513) 300-3664.

The Museum is open weekly on Tuesdays,

Thursdays, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until
4:00 p.m.

Free and convenient parking is available for patrons
between 306 and 318 Reading Road. A Police
Museum parking permit is required and can be
obtained in the Museum Gift Shop.



Support the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum



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