

O'Fallon Police

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter – February 2021



Officer Carl Walker

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of one of our fellow officers. Officer Carl Walker died on January 13, 2021 surrounded by family after a courageous battle with cancer.

Carl was born to be a police officer. He started his law enforcement career in 1992, volunteering as an Auxiliary Deputy with the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department. In 1996 Carl started work with the Richmond Heights, MO Police Department where he worked as a detective, firearms instructor, and armorer. Carl loved working at Richmond Heights but longed to be closer to family and friends in Illinois.

On August 11, 2003 Carl was sworn in as one of O'Fallon's Finest. During his tenure at the O'Fallon Police Department, Carl has served in many roles. He worked in Patrol Division, served as a School Resource Officer at the High School, and then as a Detective within the Criminal Investigations Division. During his time as a Detective, Carl served on the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis and the Child Death Task Force. Carl's expertise and initiative motivated him to develop an information sharing platform which is still in use by law enforcement all over the Metro East. He also recognized the importance of protecting people from cybercrimes, by conducting educational seminars to teens and families in our area.

In 2012, Carl received the O'Fallon Police Department's Officer of the Year award. He also received awards from the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis, the Southern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission, the Southern Illinois Police Chief's Association, and the Illinois State Bar Association for his contributions to Law Enforcement.



Even after his diagnosis in 2019, Carl worked diligently and faithfully as a public servant. He continued to give presentations, conduct investigations, and played a vital role in ensuring our organization was compliant with state mandated records retention/expungement regulations. Carl has dedicated his career to serving our community and keeping our society safe from those that wish harm upon us. He was a man of great honor and integrity, serving our community admirably.

Carl was witty, had a great work ethic, and was a good friend. We are gracious for his friendship and the privilege to have served with him. Please remember Carl and his family in your prayers.



Carl Walker was laid to rest on Monday, January 18 at St. Clare Catholic Church with full Police Honors. The street leading from Wolfersberger Funeral Home to St. Clare was lined with American flags and many residents came out to pay their respects as the procession passed through town.

Carl's family and OPD would like to recognize and thank the volunteers who helped set up and take down the flags and lined the streets to honor Carl's life.

The flag display was organized by a local non-profit organization known as "**The Flagman's Mission.**" For more information and to see how you can volunteer or provide financial support, visit

<https://www.facebook.com/theflagmansmission>

or

www.theflagmanmission.org/



New O'Fallon Police Officer

On January 19, 2021, the O'Fallon Police Department swore in our newest officer, **Officer Gerald "Jared" Krug** (Ocean 124). Before making the move to O'Fallon, Officer Krug served as a police officer in Columbus, Georgia for the last 1.5 years. Prior to becoming a police officer, Officer Krug served over 14 years in the United States Army.

We thank Officer Krug for his previous service and are excited to have him join the O'Fallon Police Department. Officer Krug began his Field Training on January 21. Welcome Officer Krug!



Commissioner Martinez & Officer Krug

Chief Van Hook & Officer Krug

COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

St. Clair County began to schedule appointments to receive the **COVID-19 Vaccine** for the **1b population** beginning Monday, January 25th, 2021. The first notifications for appointments will go to people age 75 years old and above. Individuals who meet 1a criteria are still eligible to receive vaccine. To sign up, you **MUST VISIT**:

<https://www.co.st-clair.il.us/departments/health-department/covid-19-information/vaccine-notification>

You may be contacted directly from the St. Clair County Health Department or by one of our Provider Partners – HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Memorial Hospital/BJC or SIHF Touchette Hospital – by email, text message or a phone call to set an appointment. The number of available appointments is dependent upon the quantity of vaccine we have available. Appointment availability will be updated as we receive more vaccine. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT OR OUR PARTNER PROVIDERS FOR APPOINTMENTS.** You will be contacted with instructions on how and when to set an appointment.

Following CDC guidelines for vaccinating priority populations, Walgreens in Fairview Heights will also be offering COVID-19 vaccine to individuals in Phase 1b starting January 25th, 2021. You **MUST** sign up for an appointment on their website: www.walgreens.com/covid19vac

2021 POLAR PLUNGE

REGION J - Belleville / Carlyle



As those of you who follow our social media pages know, O'Fallon Police Officers are huge supporters of the **Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics**. A new year means a fresh start to our fundraising efforts for our favorite athletes. The first big annual event is the [POLAR PLUNGE!](#)

Several brave (or foolish) members of OPD will jump into COLD water at the end of February. Fairview Heights and Collinsville PDs have teams also and we want to beat them! If you'd like to help us support Special Olympics Illinois, please click the attached link. Once you get to the O'Fallon PD page, click "roster," choose which team member you'd like your donation to count toward, and click "support me" to enter a donation amount. THANK YOU!

<https://soill.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donordrive.team&teamID=11653>



Special Olympics
Illinois

DID YOU KNOW?

It is **illegal** to leave your vehicle unattended with the engine running, unless it's equipped with remote start. Help protect yourself. Don't create an opportunity for a car thief!

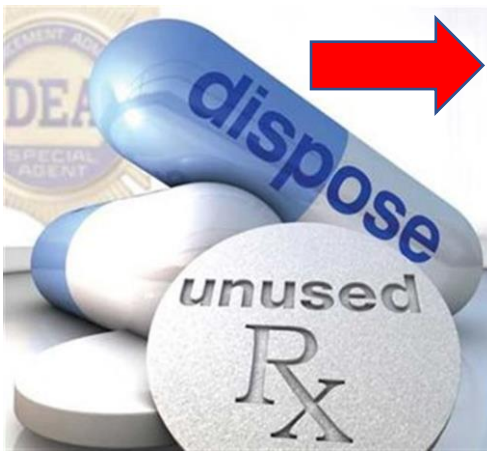
(625 ILCS 5/11-1401) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-1401)

Sec. 11-1401. Unattended motor vehicles. Except for a law enforcement officer or an operator of an authorized emergency vehicle performing his or her official duties, **no person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, removing the key from the ignition**, effectively setting the brake thereon and, when standing upon any perceptible grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway. **An unattended motor vehicle shall not include an unattended locked motor vehicle with the engine running after being started by a remote starter system.**

(Source: P.A. 100-435, eff. 8-25-17.)



Please join us in welcoming three new **Paramedics** to [O'Fallon-Shiloh EMS](#). Pictured left to right are Patty Hefner, Doug Sutphin, and Ryan Hodge. We're excited to have them serving the residents of O'Fallon and Shiloh!



REMINDER! OPD hosts a **Drug Take Back Event** the first Saturday of every month in the lobby from 11AM – 1 PM.

Safely disposing of medications:

- Keeps the medication out of our water supply
- Keeps addictive and dangerous medicine from falling into the wrong hands

***We cannot take any needles, inhalers or liquids**

Crime Prevention Tip

Do you have surveillance cameras on your home or business? If so, please let us know so we can use your footage to help solve crimes in your neighborhood!

Register Here:

<https://www.ofallon.org/police-department/webforms/private-video-surveillance-camera-registration>

- All we need is your contact information so we can ask you to review your video if a crime is reported in your area

