

O'Fallon Police

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter – May 2021



OPD Promotes Two Officers

With the recent retirement of Lt. Rob Schmidtke, we had the pleasure of promoting two of our officers.

On April 5, 2021, Sgt. Craig Koch was promoted to Lieutenant and Officer Brian Gimpel was promoted to Sergeant. They were administered the Oath of Office by Police Commissioner Scott Battoe (Retired OPD Captain)

Lt. Koch has been with the Department for almost 24 years. He has served our organization in many roles, most recently as Detective Sergeant and Patrol Sergeant. He will now serve as a Lieutenant in the patrol division.

Sgt. Gimpel has been with OPD for almost 21 years. He too has served many roles in our organization, most recently as a detective. Sgt. Gimpel will take over as a patrol shift supervisor.

We are extremely fortunate to have two excellent choices for promotions. Both are very deserving and we look forward the leadership they will provide our department. Congratulations Craig and Brian!



Community Service Award

On April 5, 2021, we had the pleasure of recognizing one of our Police Chaplains. Prior to our promotion ceremony, **Police Chaplain Brad Lewis** was presented with O'Fallon Police Department Community Service Award.



In 2020, during the initial stages of the pandemic, Brad organized the #OTOWNPROUD program. This program promoted community spirit while supporting local businesses and first responders throughout the area. The impact he had on our community was enormous.

In addition to his work with [#OTOWNPROUD](#), Brad is passionate about the mental health of our members. He is active with our department peer to peer counseling program and routinely checks in with our officers to see how he can help. Congratulations and Thank You Chaplain Brad Lewis! We are so very fortunate to have you call O'Fallon home.

Brad is pictured with Chief Van Hook and the person who nominated him, Admin Assistant Leah Wilson.

Our Exploring program offers youth an opportunity to learn about policing, as well as other careers in the law enforcement field.

All of our Exploring Advisors (Police Officers) were former Explorers themselves, and are excited to share their experiences with the next generation of police officers.

For more information, contact Ofc. Benjamin Callahan. bcallahan@ofallon.org

O'FALLON POLICE DEPARTMENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORING POST

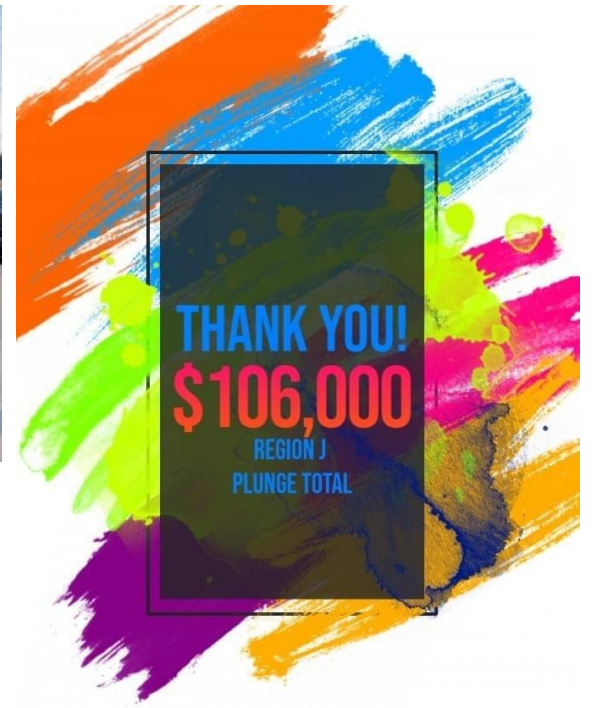


ARE YOU...

- INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT?
- 14 - 20 YEARS OLD?
- ENJOY BEING PART OF A TEAM?
- WANT TO BUILD LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND CHARACTER?
- LOOKING TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY?



To join, or get more information on the O'Fallon Police Department's Exploring program, contact: Ofc. Ben Callahan
618-624-4545 | bcallahan@ofallon.org



Top LETR Team	Totals
O'Fallon Police Department	\$16,900
Vandalia Correctional Center	\$ 5,272
Madison County Sheriff's Office	\$ 3,175

The totals are in for the Polar Plunge and thanks to you, the O'Fallon Police Department is tops among Law Enforcement teams with **\$16,900** raised! The top three individual law enforcement fundraisers were all from O'Fallon PD!

Sgt. Brian Gimpel - \$6,900
Det. Nick Schmidt - \$1,705
Ofc. Vance Wilhelm - \$1,365

Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 9, 2021

The members of the O'Fallon Police Department wish a very Happy Mother's Day to our mothers, the mothers working in O'Fallon Public Safety, and all the mothers in our community!



Have you heard? The **Collinsville, Fairview Heights, and O'Fallon** Police Departments are now accepting applications for probationary patrol officers. Apply once to be eligible to test for **all three agencies**. Mark your calendars, as testing will be held on July 31, 2021.

One Test, Three Departments. Apply online at:
<https://wearthebadge.com/joint-application/>

THIS CAREER CHANGES EVERYTHING

BE THAT CHANGE. BECOME A

POLICE OFFICER

Applications are available online.
Submit them by July 16th to join us for the
July 31st testing.

Three departments, one test



DEPARTMENT FAQ



- Collinsville PD requires officers to live in St. Clair or Madison Co.
- Tattoos must not be visible when wearing a uniform, compression sleeves to cover arms are acceptable
- Starting salary between \$67,945 - \$69,506
- Visit <https://www.collinsvilleil.org/departments/police-department> for more information



- Fairview Heights PD requires officers to live within 25 miles of the police department
- Tattoos must not be visible when wearing a short-sleeve uniform
- Starting salary between \$67,901 - \$71,601
- Visit joinfhpd.com for more information



- O'Fallon PD requires officers to live in Illinois and within 20 miles of the police department
- Tattoos must not be visible when wearing a short-sleeve uniform, otherwise a long-sleeved uniform must be worn year-round
- Starting salary between \$75,544 - \$77,204
- Visit wearthebadge.com for more information

TESTING FAQ

- The POWER fitness test consists of sit and reach, 1 minute of sit-ups, 1 rep max bench press, 1.5 mile timed run. Visit <https://www.nemrt.com/Downloads/POWERTEST.pdf> for specific requirements
- Valid state issued POWER tests cards, dated less than 6 months from the July 31st test date will be accepted to waive fitness testing
- Those who pass fitness testing will move on to the written examination
- Testing will be held on July 31st, at 8 a.m. in Belleville, IL
- Applications to test are due by July 16th by 4 p.m. Contact Amber Hopkins at hopkins@fairviewpd.org or at 618-489-2158 with any questions

"I am asking you to take up the challenge.
It matters. **NOW MORE THAN EVER.**"

Eric Van Hook

Chief of Police | O'Fallon, Illinois





Congratulations to our friends at the O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce for 75 years of promoting businesses in our community. At a recent City Council meeting, O'Fallon Mayor Herb Roach issued a proclamation designating April 19, 2021 as "Chamber of Commerce Day."

For more information about the Chamber, visit <https://ofallonchamber.com/>



To maintain the health and wellness of our community, O'Fallon-Shiloh Emergency Medical Services is now offering *Virtual Hybrid CPR Training Classes*.

The training is divided into 2 parts: *Online video instruction and In-person skills*.

More info here:

<https://www.ofallon.org/emergency-medical-services/pages/cpr-course-information>



Car Seat installations will be held on the **first and third Saturday of the month, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**, at the O'Fallon Public Safety Building, 285 N. Seven Hills Road **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**.

For more details and a link to sign up online, visit:

<https://www.ofallon.org/programs/pages/child-car-seat-installations>