



# FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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May 3, 2022

## FLPD POLICE MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 12:00 P.M., the Fort Lauderdale Police Department and the Fort Lauderdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 31 will honor thirteen Fort Lauderdale police officers who died in the line of duty. These officers made the ultimate sacrifice while carrying out their duties to serve and protect the City of Fort Lauderdale.

The event will take place at the Fort Lauderdale Police Memorial in Esplanade Park. Esplanade Park is located in front of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts at 500 Southwest 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

The memorial service is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend. The service will honor the selfless dedication to duty and the ultimate sacrifice made by these fallen officers.

The service will run approximately 30 minutes.

The following is a list of the officers being honored:

- **R. DWIGHT JOHNSTON**, died in the line of duty as a result of a motorcycle accident, April 5, 1947.
- **DONALD E. KIRBY JR.**, died as a result of injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident, October 9, 1968.
- **D. WALTER ILYANKOFF**, was murdered by four culprits during an armed robbery of a local restaurant, July 21, 1974.
- **GREGORY J. CONNERS**, died in the line of duty as a result of a motorcycle accident, November 12, 1977.
- **JOHN C. ALEXANDER**, killed when a police airplane crashed in the line of duty, August 3, 1981.
- **KENNETH PETERSEN**, killed when a police airplane crashed in the line of duty, August 3, 1981.
- **CHARLES E. BRUCE**, died as a result of injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident, August 24, 1983.

(CONTINUED BELOW)

NR# 2022-020

OR# N/A



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- **FRANK A. MASTRANGELO**, killed when a police airplane crashed in the line of duty, May 25, 1989.
- **NORMAN EDDY**, killed when a police airplane crashed in the line of duty, May 25, 1989.
- **DAVID L. BROWER**, died as a result of injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident, December 29, 1994.
- **BRYANT H. PENEY**, was murdered while investigating a person acting in a suspicious manner, January 6, 1996.
- **JOSE A. DIAZ**, died as a result of injuries sustained in a fall while backing up another officer, October 8, 2005.
- **JENNIFER B. SEPOT**, died as a result of complications related to the COVID-19 virus, August 14, 2021.

For additional information please contact the Fort Lauderdale Fraternal Order of Police at 954-527-2606 or visit <https://fop31.org/>.

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