



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Billy J. Williams
District of Oregon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018

WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/OR

CONTACT: KEVIN SONOFF

PHONE: (503) 727-1185

KEVIN.SONOFF@USDOJ.GOV

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE JOINS IN RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK, MAY 13-19, 2018

FBI Releases 2017 Statistics on of Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted

PORTLAND, Ore. – Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Billy J. Williams, U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon, recognize the service and sacrifice of federal, state, local, and tribal police officers on the occasion of National Police Week, and commented on the FBI's 2017 Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted report.

“One officer death is too many,” Attorney General Sessions said. “While we are inexpressibly grateful to have had a decrease in the number of officers killed in the line-of-duty last year, the number is still far too high. At the Department of Justice, we honor the memories of the fallen and we pray for their families. We are also following President Trump's Executive Orders to back the women and men in blue, to enhance law enforcement safety, and to reduce violent crime in America. Those priorities will help keep every American safe, including those who risk their lives for us. As always, we have their backs and they have our thanks.”

“Working with federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers in Oregon is a distinct honor and one of the highlights of my job,” said Billy J. Williams, U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon. “During National Police Week, we honor the 93 men and women who lost their lives protecting their communities as well as the countless others who continue to serve with unflinching dedication and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Supporting police and fostering strong relationships between our communities and law enforcement is top priority for the U.S. Attorney's Office.”

According to statistics collected by the FBI, 93 law enforcement officers were killed in line-of-duty incidents in 2017 – a 21 percent decrease from 2016 when 118 law enforcement officers were killed in line-of-duty incidents.

Additionally, in 2017 there were 46 law enforcement officers killed in line-of-duty incidents as a result of felonious acts – this is a 30 percent decrease from 2016, when 66 law enforcement officer were killed in line-of-duty incidents as a result of felonious acts.

For the full comprehensive data tables about these incidents and brief narratives describing the fatal attacks and selected assaults resulting in injury, please see the 2017 edition of Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted report, released today.

In October 1962, Congress passed and President Kennedy signed a joint resolution declaring May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day to honor law enforcement officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. The resolution also created National Police Week as an annual tribute to law enforcement service and sacrifice.

During Police Week, which is observed from Sunday, May 13 to Saturday, May 19, 2018, our nation celebrates the contributions of police officers from around the country, recognizing their hard work, dedication, loyalty and commitment in keeping our communities safe.

The names of all 93 fallen officers nationwide were formally dedicated on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC, during the 30th Annual Candlelight Vigil on the evening of May 13, 2018. One District of Oregon officer was added this year: John Edward Lawrence, City of Bend Police Department, End of Watch: December 4, 2014.

The Candlelight Vigil is one of many commemorative events taking place in the nation's capital during National Police Week 2018.

For more information about other National Police Week events, please visit www.policeweek.org.

To access the FBI's 2017 Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted report, please visit www.fbi.gov.

###