



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Billy J. Williams  
District of Oregon

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## **U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE JOINS IN RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK, MAY 10-16, 2020**

PORTLAND—In honor of National Police Week, U.S. Attorney Billy J. Williams will recognize the service and sacrifice of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement. The week will be observed Sunday, May 10 through Saturday, May 16, 2020.

“There is no more noble profession than serving as a police officer,” said Attorney General William P. Barr. “The men and women who protect our communities each day have not just devoted their lives to public service, they’ve taken an oath to give their lives in order to ensure our safety. And they do so not only in the face of hostility from those who reject our nation’s commitment to the rule of law, but also in the face of evolving adversity – such as an unprecedented global health pandemic. This week, I ask all Americans to join me in saying ‘thank you’ to our nation’s federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers. Their devotion and sacrifice to our peace and security will not be taken for granted.”

“National Police Week affords us the opportunity to recall and reflect on the tremendous sacrifices made by everyone in the law enforcement community. While our honoring of this occasion will look different this year because of COVID-19, we still pause to commemorate the courage, duty, and extraordinary character that this profession mandates and that law enforcement officers across Oregon nobly reflect,” said U.S. Attorney Williams. “Throughout this week, we join with our federal, state, local, and tribal partners in recognizing the service of everyone in law enforcement, particularly the 89 officers nationally who gave their lives in service of their communities. We are forever grateful to these officers and the families they leave behind.”

In 1962, President Kennedy issued the first proclamation for Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Police Week to remember and honor law enforcement officers for their service and sacrifices. Peace Officers Memorial Day, which every year falls on May 15, specifically honors law enforcement officers killed or disabled in the line of duty.

Each year, during National Police Week, our nation celebrates the contributions of law enforcement from around the country, recognizing their hard work, dedication, loyalty and commitment to keeping our communities safe. This year the COVID-19 pandemic has

underscored law enforcement officers' courage and unwavering devotion to the communities they swore to serve.

Based on data collected and analyzed by the FBI's Law Enforcement Officer Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) Program, 89 law enforcement officers died nationwide in the line of duty in 2019. Comprehensive data tables about these incidents and brief narratives describing most of the fatal attacks are included in the sections of [Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, 2019](#).

The names of the fallen officers who have been added in 2020 to the wall at the National Law Enforcement Memorial will be read on Wednesday, May 13, 2020, during a Virtual Annual Candlelight Vigil. Because public events have been suspended as a result of COVID-19, the vigil will be livestreamed to the public at 8:00 PM (EDT). To register to view this free online event, please [www.LawMemorial.org/webcast](http://www.LawMemorial.org/webcast).

To learn more about National Police Week and the virtual candlelight vigil, please visit [www.policeweek.org](http://www.policeweek.org).

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