

When the unthinkable happens.

HOW DO WE TAKE CARE OF OUR
FALLEN FIREFIGHTER, THE
FIREFIGHTER'S FAMILY, AND
OURSELVES



Firefighter Joshua Haynes
Linn County Rural Fire District #1

When The Unthinkable Happens

- Talking Point's, I have for today to better prepare your department to handle a line of duty death.
- Preplan: Putting things in place ahead of time in case the unthinkable ever happens to your department.
- Family Notification.
- Who to call for notification and assistance.
- Taking care of your other firefighters
- Funeral arrangements and funeral service.
- After the funeral.
- Local, Regional, State and National Memorials.
- Filing for KSFFA Insurance and PSOB federal benefits.

Preplan

- Annually have every firefighter in your department review their listed beneficiary's they have assigned to receive their departments FRA life Insurance policy.

Preplan: Emergency Contact List

- Make an Emergency Contact List for every member of the department.
- Keep it current and updated.

- **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

- **Firefighter: John Williams**
- **Home address: 1234 Washington Salina, KS**
- **Spouse or significant other: Jenny Williams**
Home address: Same
- **Spouse Phone: (555-867-5309)**
Work Phone: (555-867-5555)
- **Place of Spouse Work: Acme Manufacturing 4321 Industrial Drive Salina, KS.**
- **Pastor: Father Michael Rodriguez**
Saint Paul Catholic Church 123 N 1st Salina, KS
- **Cell: (555-867-1234) Church: (555-867-7777)**

Preplan: Chaplin Program

- If you don't already have one, consider starting a Chaplin program.
- Take the firefighter's pastor and or the department Chaplin with you, or both for the notification of family.



Preplan: Public Information Officer

- If you don't have a department PIO. Consider getting someone trained to handle the job. You be grateful for the help! A Fire Chief is pulled in a lot of directions while dealing with a LODD and will be grateful for the help in dealing with the press.
- Often small departments rely on the Fire Chief to be the PIO.
- Expect the press to be there especially if your department is in a metropolitan area or close driving distance from a metropolitan area.



National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Taking Care Of Our Own Class



- Prepares for Line-of-Duty Death or Serious Injury
- Pre-incident planning, survivor notification, family and co-worker support and benefits / resources available to families
- **Next available class In Kansas is January 30, 2024** 08:30 - 16:00 hrs (lunch is provided) Lenexa Fire Department, Fire Station #3 located at 24000 Prairie Star Parkway, Lenexa, Kansas

Register For The Taking Care Of Our Own Class

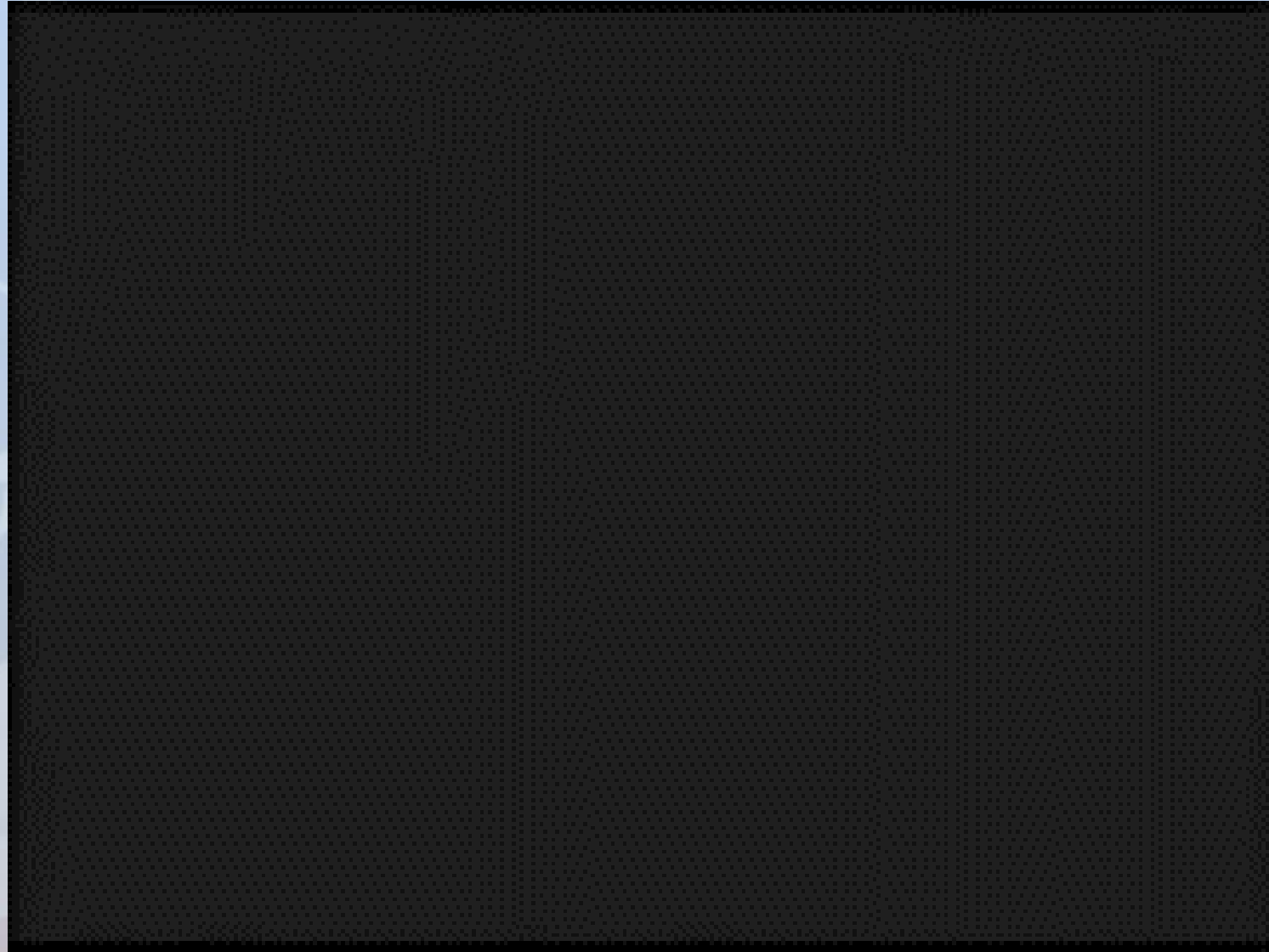


Family Notification



- A two-person team to notify the family in person before releasing any information.
- Consider bring the family Pastor and or the department Chaplin along for the notification.

Taking Care of Our Own[®]



Dr. Bevon Smith

FAMILY SUPPORT

DESIGNATE A FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM (OFFER TO STAY AROUND THE CLOCK)

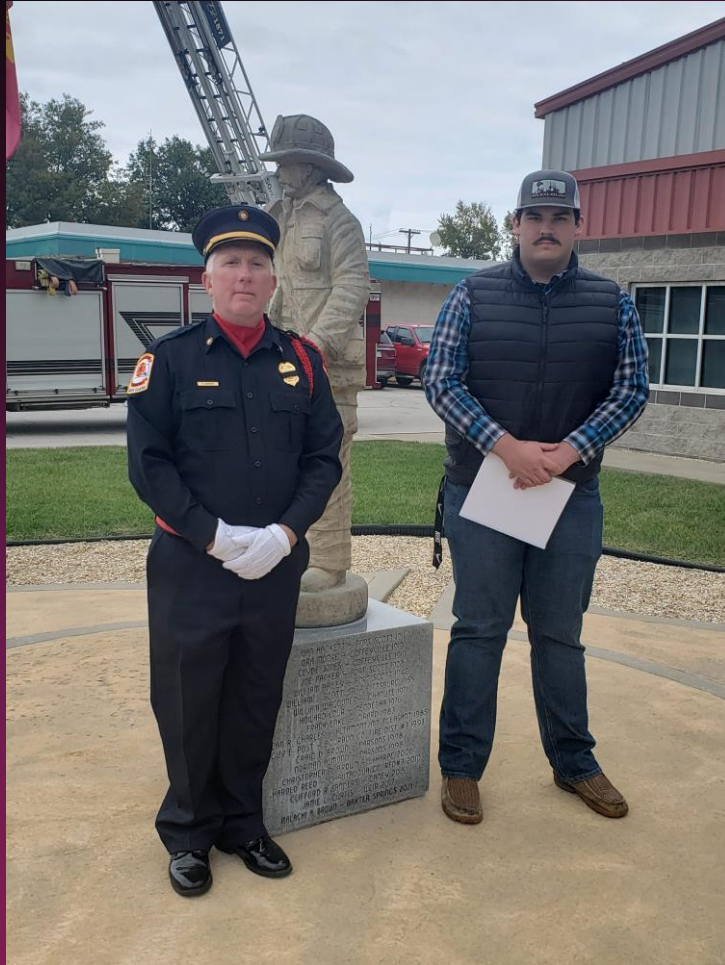
DESIGNATE A FAMILY LIAISON

DESIGNATE A HOSPITAL LIAISON IF APPLICABLE

MEET WITH THE FAMILY, DISCUSS HOW THE DEPT. CAN SUPPORT THEM. BE PREPARED TO EXPLAIN WHY AN AUTOPSY MAY BE REQUIRED

DELIVER THE FIREFIGHTERS PERSONAL BELONGINGS. BE SURE TO HAVE A WITNESS AND INVENTORY LOG.

Family Liaison



Who to call for Notification and Assistance

NOTIFY **ALL** DEPARTMENT
PERSONEL.

NOTIFY ELECTED OFFICIALS.

NOTIFY AREA FIRE CHIEFS,
STATE FIRE MARSHAL, STATE
FIRE CHIEFS AND STATE
FIREFIGHTERS ASSN.

NOTIFY THE NATIONAL FALLEN
FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION
LODD HOTLINE 1-866-736-5868.

NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER
BENEFITS PROGRAM OFFICE
(ASKPSOB@USDOJ.GOV)

Who To Notify Continued

- A workplace death has occurred, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment needs to be notified.
- Ascertain from KDHE If they will be taking care of notifying OSHA and NIOSH or will you need to do so.
- Notify the Press (having a trained PIO can be very helpful.) If you don't have a PIO, consider putting out a mutual aid request for the use of another departments PIO. At the very least they can help guide you on what to say and what not to say and help prepare your opening prepared remarks to any press conference and or write press releases for you.
- Notify The Kansas Firefighters Museum to start the process of getting your fallen firefighter on the memorial wall on the Museum grounds. kansasfirefightersmuseum@gmail.com or contact David Wilson (316)-390-1951

Taking care of
your staff after
a line of duty
death.

AS QUICKLY AS
POSSIBLE HAVE A
CRITICAL INCIDENT
DEBRIEFING WITH
YOUR STAFF.

10-33 FOUNDATION
JIM BODENHEIMER
(913)-306-6183
MARK BILLQUIST
(913)-369-0510





NFFFA Programs

CHIEF TO CHIEF

INCIDENT COMMANDER TO
INCIDENT COMMANDER

COMPANY OFFICER TO COMPANY
OFFICER

WWW.FIREHERO.ORG

Funeral Arrangements




- Even if your department has an honor guard you should contact the KSFFA Funeral Assistance Team to assist you in getting additional Honor guard resources.
- Tanner Burenheide (620)-412-3025 additional contacts can be found on the KSFFA web page under the resources tab. Click the LODD tab, then click the Kansas Funeral Team tab

Funeral Arrangements

Remember It Isn't about our wishes, It is about what the family wants or doesn't want for the funeral service.

Do not pressure the family into any decisions. Advise them what is customary done at a lodd funeral and let them decide what they want for their loved one. They may not want something that is typically done at a lodd funeral, and that is okay!



Asst. Chief Michael Baker
190th Air Refueling Wing Fire Department

Funeral Arrangements

- The Bereavement Uniform Program



If you have any questions, either to donate or to make use of the BUP, call Lighthouse Uniform Company, BUP's headquarters at 206-282-5600. Ask for Steve Cohen.



Funeral Arrangements

Wilbert

Commemorating Life with Respect®

- At no charge to the family, we donate a customized Wilbert Stainless Steel Triune® burial vault when traditional burial is chosen.
- If the choice is cremation, the family can choose any urn offered by Wilbert and engraving is included provided the urn is one that can be engraved. If the cremated remains are to be buried, a Stainless Steel Triune urn vault is also provided at no charge.



THE THIN RED LINE
DOLBY DIGITAL
SS/T/RIUNE

Sgt Derrick Kowalaki
1928 - 2000



Officer S-S/T/TRIUNE

FUNERAL AND CREMATION BENEFITS

- Dignity Memorial
- Phone: (800) 343-4464
- Website: www.dignitymemorial.com
- Dignity Memorial is a consortium of funeral, cremation and cemetery providers across the United States and Canada. They have a Public Servants Program for first responders and emergency services workers. Dignity provides these services, at no cost, for career and volunteer firefighters who are killed in the line of duty. Also provides “extended counseling” to the grieving family. There is a location finder per state on the website, and funeral directors are encouraged to contact Dignity regarding the first responder program.

Line of Duty Funeral Check List

- A line of duty funeral check list can be downloaded on the National Fallen Firefighters web site.
www.firehero.org
- There is also a link to it on the KSFFA website.





After the Funeral Memorial Services

- The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service is held the first weekend in May in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The names of the fallen firefighters from the previous calendar year are read and added to the National Memorial.
- Pictured is the family of Linn County Firefighter Joshua Haynes



Fallen Firefighter Memorials

- THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS NATIONAL MEMORIAL SERVICE IS HELD EVERY SEPTEMBER IN COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO



Memorial Services

THE KANSAS FALLEN FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL SERVICE IS HELD ON THE 1ST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, ON THE GROUNDS OF THE KANSAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM IN WICHITA. EVERY KANSAS LODD NAME IS READ AND THEIR NAME PLACED ON THE MEMORIAL.

PICTURED: JESSICA BROWN THE WIDOW OF BAXTER SPRINGS FIREFIGHTER MALACHI BROWN

Memorial Services

THE SOUTHEAST KANSAS FALLEN FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL SERVICE IS HELD EVERY 3RD SUNDAY IN OCTOBER. IT RECOGNIZES OUR NATIONS FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS FROM THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR. THE SAME LIST AS THE NFFF SERVICE WITH THE ADDITION OF ALL SEK LODD'S



The widow of SG County Firefighter Byron Johnson, Ariana Davis, reads names of lodd's

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

FIRE HERO FAMILY PROGRAMS

- ***Fire Hero Family Network***
 - Peer support network
 - Matches families based on family circumstances
 - Participation is voluntary
- ***Scholarship Programs***
 - For education and/or job training
 - Spouses, life partners, children, and stepchildren of fallen firefighters are eligible
 - Applications due by March 1st of each year
 - More than \$4 million awarded since 1997
 - Partner with Motorola, MasterGuard and ICMA-RC

HISTORY



On the Web at: www.FireHero.org



Be a Hero  Save a Hero

Filling for Benefits (Local)

MetLife
METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife"), a stock company, certifies that You (and Your Dependents) are issued for the benefits described in this Certificate, subject to the provisions of the Certificate. This Certificate is issued to You under the Group Policy and it includes the terms and provisions of the Group Policy that describe Your insurance. **PLEASE READ THIS CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.**

The Group Policy is a contract between MetLife and the Group Policyholder. It may be changed or ended without Your consent or advice to You.

Group Policyholder: Group Policy Number:	POLICYHOLDER NAME POLICY NUMBER
Employee Name: Employee Number: Effective Date of Insurance:	John Doe 12345678 Effective Date
MetLife Toll Free Number(s): For Claims Information: For General Information: MetLife Web Address:	1-800-800-0000 1-800-800-0000 www.metlife.com

We have issued this Certificate to You in consideration of the payment of the Contribution and the statements made in Your enrollment form.

Important Notice: The insurance evidenced by this Certificate provides limited benefits. Subject to its terms, conditions and limitations, this Certificate provides benefits for treatment of an accidental injury or sickness in a hospital. The benefit amounts are shown in the Schedule and are not based on any medical expenses that are incurred. You should have medical coverage in force when You enroll for this insurance.

THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT PROVIDE MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT COVERAGE. If You are eligible for Medicare, review the Guide to Health Insurance for People with Medicare available from MetLife.

WE ARE REQUIRED BY STATE LAW TO INCLUDE THE NOTICE(S) SECTION WHICH FOLLOWS THIS PAGE. PLEASE READ THE(S) NOTICE(S) CAREFULLY.

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[page 1]

- A claim should be filed ASAP on your Departments Firefighters Relief Association Life Insurance Policy on the Fallen Firefighter.
- How that policy is paid out and to whom is determined by what the fallen firefighter listed as their beneficiary.
- This is why it is so important that an annual review should be conducted. Relationships can change quickly (marriages, divorces, re marriages, and deaths can occur since the last review)

Firefighter Benefits (Local FRA)

DEPENDING ON THE FUNDS YOU
HAVE AVAILABLE. YOUR FRA CAN
PAY FOR THE COST OF THE
FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FUNERAL.



Firefighter Benefits (State)



KSFFA LIFE INSURANCE POLICY

- Has an Insurance policy on every firefighter in the state of Kansas.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Death benefits for public safety officers are paid up to the maximum weekly benefit.

Weekly benefits are 66 2/3% of the employee's average gross weekly wage. Total compensation may not exceed \$300,000. All medical and hospital costs related to the fatal injury are covered. Spousal benefits continue upon remarriage.

Initial payment of \$40,000 made immediately to the surviving legal spouse or wholly dependent children or divided among them with 50% to the spouse and 50% to the children. Children eligible until age 18, to age 23 if full-time students, or longer if disabled and incapable of self-support.

Volunteer firefighters: Treated as employees and covered if death occurs in line of duty or while on-duty, including training. Compensation is based on usual wages paid to employees for similar services.

Contact:

Division of Workers Compensation

Kansas Department of Labor

401 SW Topeka Blvd., Suite 2

Topeka, KS 66603

Phone: (785) 296-4000

E-mail: kdol.wc@ks.gov

Website: www.dol.ks.gov

Reference: *Kansas Workers' Compensation Laws & Regulations, 44-510b*

STATE BENEFITS CONTINUED

FUNERAL BENEFIT

Maximum burial expenses up to \$10,000.

Contact:

Division of Workers Compensation

Kansas Department of Labor

205 S 4th St, Suite M

Manhattan, KS 66502

Phone: (785) 296-4000

E-mail: kdol.wc@ks.gov

Website: www.dol.ks.gov

Reference: Kansas Workers' Compensation Laws & Regulations, 44-510b

RETIREMENT/PENSION PLAN

Career firefighters: If a member of Kansas Police and Firemen's Retirement System (managed by the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System) dies from an on-the-job accident, spouse receives a monthly benefit of 50% of member's final average salary for the rest of the spouse's life. Each unmarried child under age 18, or under age 23 if full-time student, receives 10% of the member's final average salary. Total family benefit limited to 90% of final average salary. Children's benefits continue until they reach age 18 or age 23 if full-time student.

Benefits are not included in gross income for federal tax purposes. The state of Kansas offers optional group life insurance with coverage amounts ranging from \$5,000 to \$250,000. Check to see if firefighter participated in optional group policy through the state.

Presumptive legislation: Service-connected conditions including heart disease, disease of the lungs or respiratory tract, or cancer which may, in general, result from exposure to heat, radiation or a known carcinogen.

Contact:

Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERs)

611 South Kansas Avenue, Suite 100

Topeka, KS 66603-3869

Phone: (785) 296-6166

Fax: (785) 296-6638

Toll-Free: (888) 275-5737

E-mail: kpers@kpers.org

Website: www.kpers.org

Resource: [Beneficiary Benefits](#)

EDUCATION BENEFIT - CHILDREN

Dependent children of public safety officer who died as a result of injury in the line-of-duty pay no tuition or mandatory fees for up to ten semesters in Kansas post-secondary educational institutions. Student responsible for all other charges. No age limitation; student must have been a dependent at the time of death. Dependents of firefighters who died prior to effective date of legislation in 1996 are eligible.

Contact:

Kansas Board of Regents

1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 520

Topeka, KS 66612-1368

Phone: (785) 430-4240

E-mail: scholars@ksbor.org

Website: www.kansasregents.org

EDUCATION BENEFIT - SPOUSE

Same as children.

COUNTY AND LOCAL JURISDICTIONS BENEFITS

- Douglas County Survivor Benefits
- Johnson County Survivor Benefits
- Miami County Survivor Benefits
- Shawnee County Survivor Benefits
- Wyandotte County Survivor Benefits

NON PROFIT ORGINZATIONS



- Kids' Chance of Kansas
- 10851 Mastin St., Suite 200
- Overland Park, KS 66210
- Phone: (913) 645-7466
- E-mail: info@kidschanceks.net
- Website: www.kidschanceks.net/contact/

- Provides scholarships to children of workers who are catastrophically injured or killed in a work-related accident.

NON PROFFIT ORGINIZATIONS



- National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
- P.O. Box 498
- Emmitsburg, MD 21727
- Phone: (301) 4471-1365
- FAX: (301) 4471-1645
- Website: www.firehero.org

- The Sarbanes Scholarship Program
- Spouses, life partners, children, and stepchildren of firefighters honored at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial are eligible to apply for the NFFF Sarbanes Scholarship Program along with other partner programs. The NFFF Sarbanes Scholarships are awarded for undergraduate and graduate studies, vocational-technical training, and certification and job training programs. They may be used for study at in-state or out-of-state public and private schools.

NON PROFFIT ORGINIZATIONS



- The International Association of Fire Fighters
- 1750 New York Avenue, NW
- Washington, DC 20006
- Website: client.prod.iaff.org/#contentid=1743

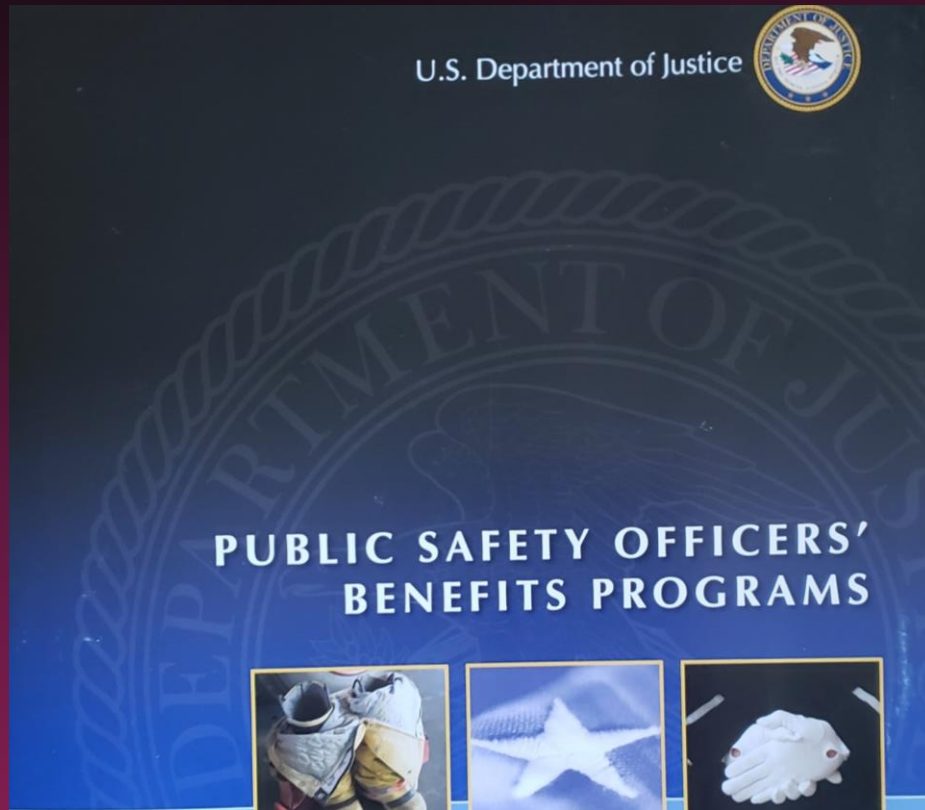
- The W. H. "Howie" McClennan scholarship provides financial assistance for sons, daughters or legally adopted children of IAFF Union Members killed in the line of duty planning to attend a university, accredited college or other institution of higher learning. Scholarship amount is \$2,500 per year, renewable up to 4 consecutive years.

Non-Profit Organizations



- The Tunnel to Towers Foundation is committed to ensuring we never forget 9/11, the sacrifices made, and those that continue to be made by our first responders in the line of duty. Through the Fallen First Responder Home Program, Tunnel to Towers aims to pay off the mortgages of fallen law enforcement officers and firefighters who lose their lives in the line of duty, or to 9/11 related illness, and leave behind young children. The Foundation's goal is to ensure stability and security for these families facing sudden, tragic loss.

Federal Benefits



- You have up to three years from date of death to file your PSOB claim.
- Do not procrastinate. This is too important of a benefit to leave on the table. As soon as you have all the necessary documents you should file a claim.
- Claims can be filed at www.PSOB.gov

LAST TEAM

- EACH STATE HAS A LAST TEAM TO ASSIST YOU IN FILING FOR PSOB BENEFITS AS WELL AS NOTIFYING THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION FOR YOUR FIREFIGHTERS INCLUSION ONTO THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL.
- OUR LAST TEAM REPRESENTATIVE IS: Tanner Burenheide (620)-412-3025
email: tburenheide@emporiaks.gov



Never Forget

- McPherson Fire Department
- Crew members gathered on Sunday to honor Firefighter William L. Kinion.
- Firefighter Kinion suffered a heart attack April 2, 1949, while fighting a fire on the corner of Main St. and Elizabeth in downtown McPherson. Though there were many fires that occurred in downtown McPherson this will always be remembered as the one where the downtown area was saved.
- Firefighter Kinion will always be remembered for his dedication to our community and ultimately giving his life for this community.
- Crew members take the time to diligently clean Firefighter Kinions headstone, while sharing the story with new firefighters of what happened that morning. It is important we carry on tradition and speak of those who came before us.

Never Forget



- This is an example of Never forgetting. The Coffeyville Fire Department has a memorial wall inside the Coffeyville Fire Department.

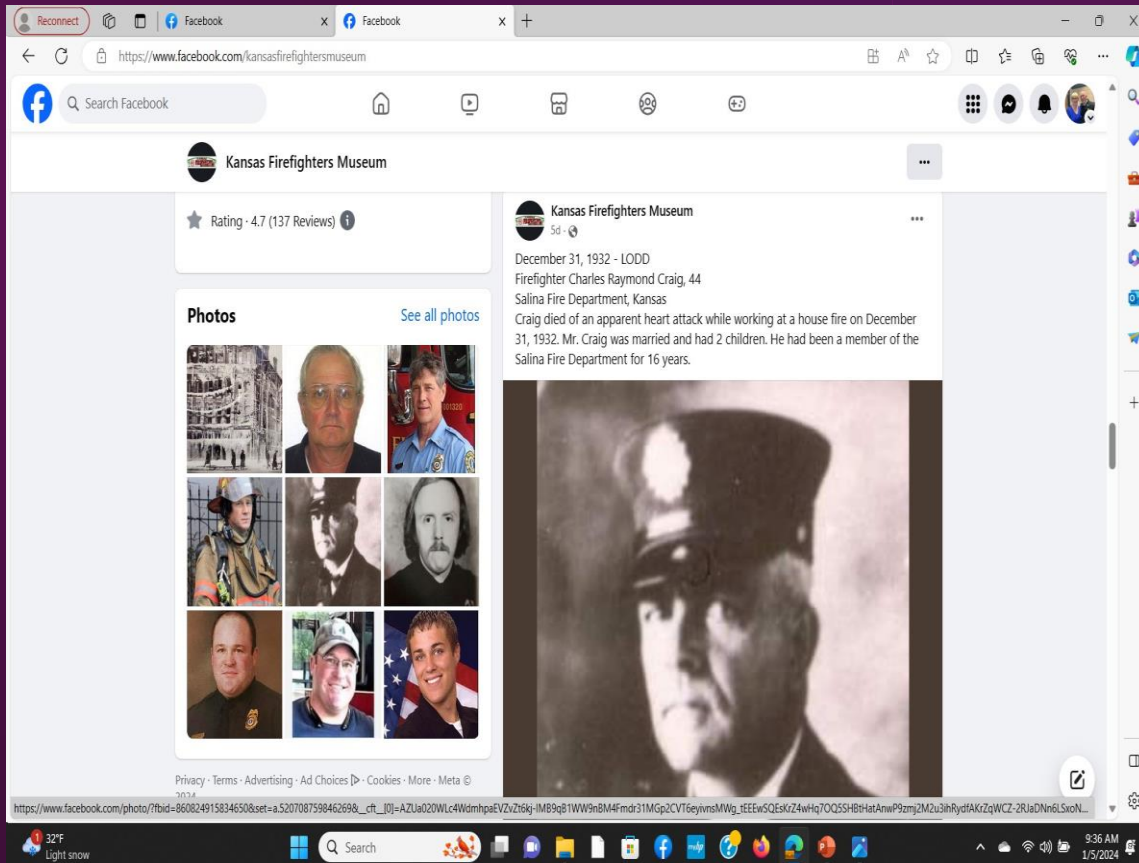


Never Forget

- Local Fallen Firefighter Memorials.
- This Memorial Is located at Parsons Fire Station 2

Never Forget

KANSAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM
FACEBOOK PAGE.



SEK FIREFIGHTERS HONOR GUARD
FACEBOOK PAGE

