



POAT Newsletter

*Sergeant Chuck Duncan, Miami Dade Police Department
October 2008*

- **President**
James Loftus,
Assistant Director
Miami-Dade Police
Department.
- **Vice President**
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Coral Gables Police
- **Secretary**
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September 7, 2008, the Miami Dolphins presented a check to POAT President Jim Loftus for \$1,175 before the season opening game against the New York Jets. POAT would like to thank everyone who answered the call to participate in the flag ceremony before the game, as all of South Florida's First Responders were honored by the Miami Dolphin organization.

September 11, 2008 the 911 Ceremony was held at the Law Enforcement memorial site in Tropical Park at 9:30 a.m. The ceremony was well attended by Police and Fire personnel. Remembering that horrific day is sad and painful, but it is our duty to always honor all of the heroes that were killed September 11, 2001, regardless of how much time passes. Thank you to everyone who participated in this event.



In Memoriam

September 20, 2008, POAT will participate in the Macy's Shop for a Cause, where patrons could purchase a ticket from POAT for \$5.00, with all the proceeds going to POAT. They then receive 20% savings during this all-day shopping extravaganza.

The County-Wide United Way Campaign will begin in October.

Please consider making your payroll deduction to the Police Officer Assistance Trust (POAT). This campaign is what provides the lifeblood for POAT to honor our fallen heroes and support officers and their families that have been stricken by a catastrophic event. Often times in my travels through-out the years in talking to officers from the various police departments that are requesting assistance from POAT, I hear a common statement, "Even though I always donated to POAT, I didn't think I would ever be the one to need it." POAT is like an insurance policy you hope you never have to cash in on, but it sure gives you peace of mind knowing POAT is ready to assist if the situation ever arises. My response to officers that often become very emotional when I advise them that their request for assistance was approved is always the same. "I'm only the messenger; it's the thousands of officers that consistently donate their money and time to make it possible to help during such a critical time."



Brooke, Dillion

EOW: Oct 21, 1924
MDPD Corrections

**Canalejo Jr.,
Osvaldo**

EOW: Oct 13, 1992
Miami

Christman, Jerome

EOW: Oct 3, 1960
MDPD

Gort, Evelyn

EOW: Oct 30, 1993
MDPD

Jones, Reuben

EOW: Oct 5, 1998
MDPD

Melendez, John

EOW: Oct 17, 1985
Bal Harbour

Staab, Robert

EOW: Oct 31, 1957
Bal Harbour

Thornbury, Donald

EOW: Oct 26, 1991
Miccosukee

Please make sure to designate "Police Officer Assistance Trust"(not POAT) on the United Way form to ensure POAT receives the donation. I think I can speak for five hundred officers and their families that POAT has helped and are helping when I say thank you for your support.

Saturday November 8, 2008, the second Support our Wounded

Warriors shooting competition will held at the Miami-Dade Police Training Bureau. The last fun shoot competition had about 50 competitors. About half were military veterans and half law enforcement. If you would like to compete or volunteer for the event contact Mike Preston at mpreston@mdpd.com or 305-992-5213.

Don't forget to sign-up for the Holiday Gifts for Surviving Children.

This is an annual event that POAT embarks upon during the holiday season to remember the children of officers killed in the line of duty or who died while actively sworn with an agency within Miami-Dade County. Funds are raised so we can purchase gifts for approximately 60 children. We are requesting volunteers to work the POAT collection tables that will be set up at Aventura Mall, Dadeland Mall, The Falls Shopping Center, and the Village of Merrick Park. Collections will begin on Friday, November 29th during the evening hours. Aventura Mall is coordinated by Lt. Dwight Snyder, Sunny Isles Beach Police Department (305-792-1893); Dadeland Mall is coordinated by Officer Chris Hodges, Miami-Dade Police Department (305-970-0769); The Falls is coordinated by Sgt. David Greenwell, Miami-Dade Police Department (305-471-2506 or 305-970-7214); and the Village of Merrick Park is coordinated by Sgt Vinnie Peterson, Coral Gables Police Department (305-283-8905); or you can call the POAT office at 305-594-6662. Volunteers will hand-out POAT brochures explaining the program and will be collecting donations. If everyone reading this volunteers for just one night, we will be able to have the tables up and running every evening. We always fill the weekend days first as they are the most productive days for generating donations. Let's all work together to make this a success and help bring a smile to the children's faces during this holiday season. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Service Legacy Brick

The Service Legacy Bricks for retired officers would make a great gift for that special retired officer in the family. The Service Legacy Brick is placed in the walkway at the Law Enforcement Memorial in Tropical Park. You can get a brick in the walkway by completing the application by [clicking here](#) or visit our website at <http://www.POAT.org> and making a \$50 donation to POAT. The funds raised from the brick donations go towards maintaining the Law Enforcement Memorial and funding the annual Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony.

POAT Scholarships

The POAT has two scholarships that we offer to students getting ready to attend a university, college, or vocational school and are the children of a sworn officer, federal, state, county, or municipal, serving within the boundaries of Miami-Dade County. [The Paul Janosky Art Scholarship](#) is offered to students majoring in visual, graphic or computer arts. [The Mike Byrd Crime Scene Scholarship](#) is offered to students majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Forensics, Pathology, or any major affiliated to Crime Scene Investigation. Applications for these scholarships can be obtained by downloading them from the POAT website at <http://www.POAT.org>, calling the POAT office at (305)594-6662 or downloading here:

[The Paul Janosky Art Scholarship](#)

[Mike Byrd Crime Scene Scholarship](#)

Thanks for your support and stay safe!

Make a tax deductible donation:

**Mail to: Police Officer Assistance Trust
1030 NW 111 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33172**

POAT offers assistance to all sworn officers in Miami-Dade County from federal, state, county, and municipal agencies. **Your contributions make these efforts possible!** Checks should be made payable to the Police Officer Assistance Trust or POAT. If you wish to make a donation to a specific area of assistance (educational, general, holiday gifts, police memorial, Paul Janosky Art Scholarship, Mike Byrd Scholarship), please notate the information in the memo area of your check

[Click here for more information for Paul Janosky Art Scholarship](#)

[Download application here](#)

[Click here for more information for Mike Byrd Crime Scene Scholarship](#)

[Download application here](#)

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The Police Officer Assistance Trust is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization operating within Miami-Dade County, Florida. POAT provides assistance to law enforcement officers and their families in times of crisis or critical need