

ATTENTION TO ROLLCALL

Association of Retired Police Officers of D.C. Inc.

14035 Canal Rd. SE
Cumberland, MD 21502
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Volume 23 Issue1

March 2016

ON SUING TREASURY & AN UPDATE

This update that is directed to the approximately 200 members of the AORP who have recently received letters from the U.S. Treasury's, Office of D.C. Pensions. All of those letters were mailed over the last few weeks. If you are to get one of these letters, you will have gotten it already. These letters advise the recipients of efforts to collect over-payments that Treasury claims were made on their pensions in the past, due to errors in calculating the original benefit. Again, these letters were mailed weeks ago. If you have not received any letters from Treasury previous to this, you will not be getting one of these letter. Please, do not contact Janet regarding this issue. Contact Gary at ghankins@laborcops.com if you have questions.

I would like to take a few words to bring everyone like up to date on the continuing conflict with the Treasury's Office of D.C. Pensions (ODCP).

We have been fighting against the ODCP's audit and collection program for two years. In the beginning, they announced that they had identified problems with just over 500 pensioners. The biggest problems were the calculation of "Double COLAs," and the pensions for members of the MPD and DCFD who had maxed out on their pensions after serving more than 30 years with their respective Departments.

The COLA and Max 30 issues were far and away the greatest burdens on our brothers and sisters. It is estimated these two issues alone would have cost them more than six-million dollars. I consulted with our attorney, Mr. Robert Deso, who is the most experienced and respected lawyer ever to serve active and retired police officers. He recommended against suing over this because he felt there was little chance of success and that the time taken up in the litigation would exceed the life expectancy of many who were the targets of ODCP. Mr. Deso would have been paid in full, while he litigated, by the AORP.

In my decades of working with him, I was always impressed by his honesty and integrity. He has refused to take on suits, which his research convinced him were unwinnable, before.

The AORP coordinated a joint effort, which included the firefighters and teachers, meant to convince the Congress to help our members. You may recall our requests from our fellow members to contact their congressmen and senators to ask them to support us. Members of the House and Senate began contacting Treasury to inquire on our behalf and helped us to eliminate or reduce the horrible financial burden they were placing on our brothers and sisters. They convinced Treasury to give up on seeking the millions of dollars owed in past over-payments for these issues, providing immediate relief for those who were affected.

The members of Congress and their staffers who worked so hard for us, advised us that Treasury had sufficient legal ground to conduct the audits they had conducted and to pursue the over-payments they were seeking. This mirrored what Mr. Deso had found in his research.

We did not give up at this point because the ODCP sent subsequent letters out to many of our members saying they had found additional "administrative errors" for which they would seek to collect all past over-payments. While the amount of these errors is significantly smaller than the Double Cola and Max 80 errors, it still amounts to thousands of dollars for some of our members.

Now, they have agreed that they may forgive these past over-payments as well. We urge every affected member to file for hardships under the appeal process outlined in the latest letters they have received from ODCP. We have developed a model to use for appealing the demand for payment of past over-payments. It is available on the AORP web page at aorp.org. Once you log on, you can download it by clicking on the words, "TREASURY MODEL APPEAL FOR HARSHIP" on the left side of the front page of the web site.

While it is often our first police response to fight, I believe this is a circumstance where refusing to exhaust these appeals, which have been made available, will not serve to help our affected members in any way. I ask that you pray that our continuing efforts on Capitol Hill will produce a bill to stop this now and eliminate such problems in the future.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE DCRB

Every effort is being made to improve the service provided by the DC Retirement Board (DCRB). Whenever you call the DCRB, be sure and write the name of the individual who is assisting you, as well as, the date and time of your call. Hold on to this information until your situation has been addressed.

If you leave a message on the DCRB answering machine, please note the date and time. If your call is not returned within the specified time period stated on the message, let us know.

Without this information, there is no way your complaint can be properly addressed. Just saying "they never answer the phone" or "they never call back" is a waste of time.

We will provide your documented complaints to the management of the DCRB, so they will know where improvement is needed. Of course, compliments on all staff will surely be appreciated.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

AORP membership dues for 2016 were due in January. If you have not paid yours, your membership will become inactive at the end of March. Re-activating your membership is a pain and not high on my to-do list.

So, if you want to continue to get your newsletters and all the information we send out by email, pay your dues! They are still \$35 per year and can be paid by check or debit/credit card online.

To pay by check: make check payable to AORP and mail to AORP, 14035 Canal Road, SE, Cumberland, MD 21502.

To pay online: sign on the AORP website and click on HELP which is located on the far right of the blue banner. Next, click on USER PROFILE in the middle of the drop down menu. Then scroll down just below the icon on the user profile page. Click on "renew membership" in gold lettering.

PLEASE DO NOT RE-REGISTER BECAUSE YOU DO NOT KNOW YOUR USERNAME/PASSWORD. DOING THIS CREATES A SECOND FILE FOR YOU AND LOTS OF WORK FOR ME!

FUND RAISER HELD FOR INJURED MPD OFFICER

On March 5th, a fund raiser was held at Kelly's Irish Times in DC, for an active member of the Metropolitan Police Department. March 5th was the third anniversary of a deliberate attempt to kill Officer Sean Hickman (6D) who was on duty, sitting on his assigned motorcycle.

The assailant, who drove his car across traffic to strike Officer Hickman, recently received 15 years for his crimes. Officer Hickman, who has 10 years on the job, was severely injured with shattered bones and vascular issues to his left leg.

While fellow officers attended to him, Officer Hickman laid on the street waiting for the ambulance to arrive. After 35 minutes, a Prince Georges ambulance was summoned. Since that time, Sean has had over 20 surgeries. He is back on light duty, but has lost partial use of his lower left leg.

The proceeds from the fund raiser are earmarked to purchase a Harley Davidson Trike with a special shifter so Sean can enjoy his passion for motorcycles again. If you would like to make a donation to this effort, send a check payable to RPMCDC and mail to RPMCDC, P.O. Box 10062, Manassas, VA 20110.

MAKE SURE YOU NOTIFY THE AORP

If you move, change your email address or phone number, be sure and notify Janet on 202-438-1494 or jhankins@laborcops.com. If you have an email address listed with us, but are not receiving any death notices or other information, make **aorp.org** a contact in your email address book so they are not blocked. This can happen when you update the security on your computer.

RECAP OF 2015 FLORIDA REUNION

Once again, Jim & Sarah Hampton put on a great time at the Florida Reunion in Daytona Beach this past October. They do so much work and we all get to enjoy a relaxing visit with friends (old and new).

There were approximately 80 members and guest in attendance; but we sure missed Father Begay! He was unable to travel, but everyone behaved themselves, anyway. Father Begay sent his blessing to everyone.

Dinner was good and dancing was fun. Double Trouble provided their usual excellent entertainment. Lucky Noble Inguanti won the 50/50.

Santa always has his elves, and Jim was no different. Sarah was the head elf, and she was assisted by Gale Johnson (crab dip and reindeer poop – great combo!); Charlie and Bev Chaillet (amazing variety of award winning brownies); Jack and Ann Farrell (yummy food!) Chili McDonald (golf – he probably won... again); Kitty Smith (oversaw the Hospitality Room and Barry); and last but not least, Barry Haslup (waiter extraordinaire and all around entertainer!)

Thank you all for making it an enjoyable time!

NOTE NEW HOTEL: This year's Florida reunion will be held October 7-9th at the **BEST WESTERN AKU TIKI INN**, 2225 South Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach Shores, Florida 32118.

Room rate is \$99 .00 which includes a full buffet breakfast. Ocean Front rooms are an upgrade. All rooms are OCEAN VIEW. For reservations, call 1 800 258-8454 or 386 252-9631- let them know you are with the AORP. Complete registration form in the June newsletter.

COPS ARE TOPS LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 21st
Social Hour/Bar Open - 11 A.M.
Lunch Served - 12 Noon

Knights of Columbus Hall
9707 Rosensteel Avenue
Silver Spring, MD
(301) 588-3303

Make \$12 Check Payable To:
"COPS ARE TOPS"*

Send to:
Bob Drescher
102 Overture Way
Centreville, MD 21617
(410)758-6708

Please note that checks should not be payable to Bob

AORP

14035 CANAL RD. SE
CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

TELEPHONE
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WEB PAGE
AORP.ORG



RETIREDC D.C. POLICE REUNION
MAY 6TH AND 7TH 2016
SOLOMONS ISLAND MARYLAND
HOLIDAY INN & CONFERENCE CENTER
155 HOLIDAY DRIVE, SOLOMONS, MARYLAND



This will be a two day reunion for ALL retired DC Police Officers and their spouse and/or guests. Join your retired DC Police brothers and sisters, some of whom you haven't see in a while, all at one location. We anticipate a large turnout. There will be two evening dinners with professional entertainment and door prizes, a hospitality room with free libations and snacks, a golf tournament and a fishing charter event for those interested. The FOP Gift Shop and FOP and AORP memorabilia, the Police Federal Credit Union, the Association of Retired Police Officers of DC (AORP), will have representatives present. You don't have to attend both days, but attending both events ensures that you'll see more old friends and colleagues. You don't even have to attend the dinners, you can just attend reunion and the hospitality room which will be open day time and evenings. Don't wait, send in the below registration form today, before we max out (400). Reunion registration will be from 10am until 3pm Friday and Saturday. When you register you will receive your registration receipt, name tag(s), itinerary, all appropriate dinner and door prize ticket(s).

The hotel is located on a 9 acre waterfront resort in Solomons Island, Maryland with free parking for 500 cars. Each guest room is equipped with 2 double beds, microwave and refrigerator. We recommend that you register early. Rooms are just \$99 a night (regular \$132).

http://www.hotels.com/ho107718/holiday-inn-solomons-conf-center-marina

For hotel reservations call 410- 326-6311.

Be sure to tell them that you're with the Retired DC Police Reunion or code ARO in order to get the discounted rate.

On Friday evening there will be a country hoedown buffet with entertainment and door prizes.

On Saturday evening there will be a sit down dinner. Jackets for men recommended giving ladies a chance to dress up. There will be three different dinner selections and a cash bar. After dinner for your pleasure there will be dancing. In between sets we will be giving away door prizes.

For your convenience the tee time at the Chesapeake Hills golf course is Saturday the 7th at 11 AM. Green fees including golf cart are \$34 per person to be paid at the golf course. Please advise us if you are going to attend so that we can hold your slots. 11352 HG Trueman Rd. Lusby, MD 20657 www.ChesapeakeHills.com 410-326-4653

Charter Boat fishing will be provided by Bunky's Charter Boats at a discounted rate. Less than 10 miles from the hotel. There are 3 charter boats available if we need them. Hours, 6 hours - 6 AM to 12 PM or 1 PM to 7 PM. www.bunkyscharterboats.com/rates.html. 410-326-3241. Charter fees are to paid directly to charter boat captain.

Name: _____ MPD Duty Assignment: _____

Spouse/Guest(s) name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

[] I (we) will attend Friday : Salad, steamship carved specialaty, southern fried chicken, roasted potatoes, green beans, assorted dessert bars, ice/hot tea, coffee..... X \$37 = \$ _____

[] I (we) will attend Saturday for the served dinner and dance. Below are my dinner selection(s)

[] Baked Chicken Cordon Bleu/Chicken Breast Stuffed with Parma Ham and Gouda, Cheese smothered in a Cream Sauce, Garden Rice Blend, green beans, cheese cakes, ice tea, coffee..... X \$37 = \$ _____

[] Broiled Fillet of Salmon topped with lemon butter sauce, seasoned vegetables, salad, coffe, tea hot/ice, rolls, dessert..... X \$38 = \$ _____

[] Surf & Turf 6 oz. Bistro filet with a 4 oz. Jumbo Lump crab cake, seasoned vegetables, salad, coffe, tea hot/ice, rolls, dessert..... X \$54 = \$ _____

[] Dinner(s) one time entertainment surcharge \$10 per person..... X \$10 = \$ _____

[] Donation to help offset the cost of the hospitality room and administrative costs..... \$ _____

[] I will only be attending the reunion and hospitality room.....\$30 _____

TOTAL \$ _____ Check # _____

Mail and Make Checks to:
Retired DC Police Reunion
c/o Bob Arscott,
3920 Buckboard Court,
Dunkirk MD 20754
301-855-8039
BobArscott@Comcast.net

IN MEMORIAM

Since the last quarterly newsletter, the following members, or their spouses, have been added to the list of those who have answered their last Roll Call and have gone on before us. Our deepest sympathy is extended to their family and friends.

NAME	RETIRED	DEPT	RANK	ASSIGN	DOD
Joseph B. Maddox	05/17/86	MPD	CPT	7D	11/12/15
Melvin C. Griffin	10/01/80	MPD	OFF	TD	11/30/15
Mattie M. Butler	02/28/75	MPD	OFF	7D	12/10/15
Patrick J. Farrell	07/01/61	MPD	OFF	2PCT	12/13/15
William E. Rosenberg	12/01/67	MPD	OFF	TD	12/13/15
Joseph P. Simmons	08/30/98	MPD	LT	IAD	12/17/15
John W. Marsh	11/01/64	MPD	TD	OFF	12/18/15
Walter J. Anderson, Sr.	03/01/61	MPD	OFF	TD	12/18/15
Robert N. Crist	08/30/80	MPD	SGT	CID	12/19/15
Andrew J. Weiss	12/30/95	MPD	OFF	2D	12/31/15
Louis A. Fantacci	06/30/72	MPD	SGT	CID	01/05/16
Joseph R. Reilly	08/31/80	MPD	OFF	4D	01/21/16
Joseph J. Latella	12/31/80	MPD	INSP	ID&R	01/23/16
Gregory V. Gaston	01/22/81	MPD	DET	7D	01/27/16
Laurence R. Mould	08/31/78	MPD	OFF	SOD	01/27/16
James W. Henderson	07/13/91	MPD	DET	CID	02/02/16
Joseph E. Mazur	08/30/80	MPD	CPT	SOD	02/14/16

NAME	SPOUSE	DOD
Ruth Soper Garner	Yancey H. Garner	02/11/16
Rose V. Villarial	Daniel A. Villarial	02/25/16

NAME	WIDOW OF	DOD
Ruth Kae Furneisen	John Furneisen	12/19/15
Patricia M. Gavin	John J. Gavin	01/14/16
Gwendolyn B. Hill	Jack B. Hill	01/21/16
Kathleen D. Degges	Randall C. Degges	01/28/16

NOTIFICATION OF DEATHS

No matter what your type of membership, please request your loved ones to notify the AORP upon your passing. Ask them to contact Janet Hankins on (202) 438-1494. I can assist them with the notifications that will need to be made; and, make sure that any money due your estate is located.

AORP MEETINGS

AORP meetings are held the **first Wednesday** of each month from **September through May**.

They begin at **7:00 PM** at the **Branchville Volunteer Fire Department, 4905 Branchville Road, College Park, MD**.

Upcoming meetings will be **APRIL 6TH AND MAY 4TH**. There will be a **Dinner at 6PM**, prior to the May meeting. Cost IS **\$10** and can be paid at the door. **Please contact Janet on 202-438-1494 or jhankins@laborcops.com if you plan to attend, but have not paid in advance.**

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