



# DIA



# REPORT

DETECTIVE INVESTIGATORS' ASSOCIATION  
of the District Attorneys' Offices, City of New York

Vol. 1 Issue 1

Fall 2009



## DIA Honors Retiring Manhattan DA ROBERT M. MORGENTHAU

See story page 3

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# JOHN FLEMING



Welcome to the Detective Investigators' Association newly revised newsletter. Keeping with our commitment to providing

our members with a level of professionalism and honesty, we have restarted our newsletter that ceased many years back. Our goal is to insure that you are well informed and kept abreast of what is going on in all the boroughs. If you have any suggestions about what you'd like to see included, or have information you would like to send in for inclusion, please let us know.

During the past decade, this union has achieved many of the goals we worked so hard to accomplish. We made great gains and in the process have created a true progressive labor organization that works full time to meet the needs of our members. The DIA has developed itself as a force that can and will get the job done. Our triumphs are traced back to the hard work and dedication of many.

For the future, the DIA will look to work with other labor organizations to protect the gains achieved by prior union leaders. Through our association with the New York State Association of PBAs (NYSPPA), and the New York State Public Employee Conference (PEC), we will fight in Albany to keep our pension benefits. As a member of the Municipal Labor Committee (MLC), we will work with other City unions to protect health benefits. Our alliance with these groups gives us a greater platform to express our concerns. The coming year will be a tough one for every union. By working together with

larger organizations, we will have a stronger voice to get things done.

Every union is a continuous work in progress. Members come and go, but those unions that prosper are the ones that constantly stand up for the membership. Our progress can be traced in no small part to an increased confidence in the union by the member. It is your trust that allows us to grow. Your Trustees play a large part in this endeavor and I urge you to keep them abreast of all that is going on in your command.

The newsletter, like our web site, will be another tool the union can use to keep everyone well informed. The membership has grown to almost 600 active and retired Detective Investigators. This publication will be a way for active and retired members to stay in touch. We will start out with two issues a year. I encourage members to send in letters or notify us about important happenings in your life or the borough. Send us photos, too.

For this first issue, we knew we must address the accomplishments of one man who transcends the field of law enforcement. Robert Morgenthau has become a legend in this country for his integrity and devotion to law enforcement. During the course of the past 20 years, he has also been our biggest advocate, always standing up for his Detectives. We thank him and wish him well in his well-deserved retirement.

On behalf of the Executive Board and Board of Trustees, I wish all our members and their families a safe and happy holiday season.



## DETECTIVE INVESTIGATORS' ASSOCIATION

### DISTRICT ATTORNEYS' OFFICES – CITY OF NEW YORK, INC.

PO Box 130405  
New York, NY 10013  
646.533.1341  
800.88.DEA.88  
[www.nycdia.com](http://www.nycdia.com)

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President

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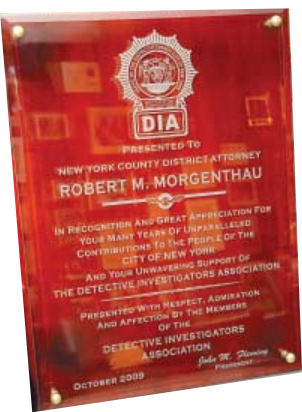
**MIKE NIED**  
Retired Members

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NEWSLETTER DESIGN/PRODUCTION  
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(845) 364-0222 • [info@rwdgroup.com](mailto:info@rwdgroup.com)



# A FIGURE OUT OF HISTORY



At the end of this year, when Robert M. Morgenthau leaves his job as Manhattan District Attorney — the position he has held since 1975 — it will be the end of an era for the prosecutor's office and the close of another chapter in the Morgenthau family's century-long legacy of public service.

In addition to Robert, now 90, serving as the Manhattan DA, his father, Henry Morgenthau Jr. was secretary of the

Treasury under President

Franklin D. Roosevelt from 1891-1967, and his grandfather, Henry Morgenthau Sr. was ambassador to the Ottoman Empire during World War I from 1856-1946.

Robert Morgenthau was born on July 31, 1919 in New York City. In 1940, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and reached the rank of Lieutenant Commander. During WW II, he earned a Bronze Star and a Gold Star. After the war, he went on to graduate from Yale Law School.

In 1961, Morgenthau was appointed by President John F. Kennedy as United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York. As U.S. Attorney, he was on the cutting edge of the investigation and prosecution of tax-fraud cases, organized crime, corruption, and white collar crime.

In 1974 he was elected District Attorney of New York County, taking over for Frank Hogan. As a prosecutor he was never afraid to tackle the biggest cases. He quickly developed into a District Attorney whose vision for the Office was far ahead of his peers. He developed the first sex-crimes unit, the first consumer frauds bureau and early on understood the importance of pursuing white collar criminals even if it meant going beyond the boundaries of the United States to places like Iran, Paraguay, or the Cayman Islands.

Mr. Morgenthau was also the first District Attorney to understand the importance of having your own highly qualified investigators. When he became D.A. in 1974, he had one Detective-

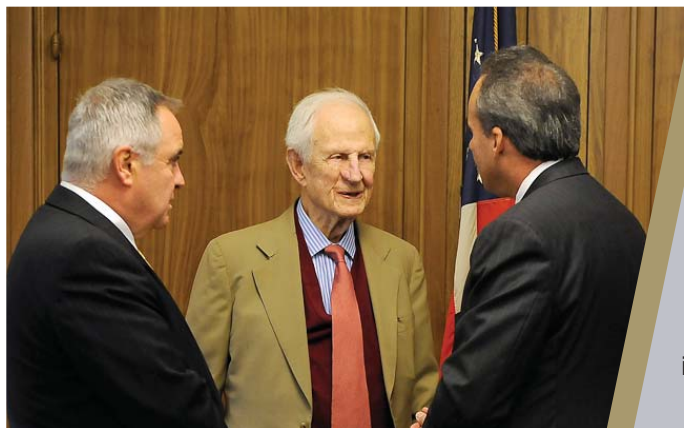
Investigator. That number has increased to more than 60 today. He believed it was crucial for the District Attorney to have a squad of highly qualified investigators who could work with other law enforcement groups, or if necessary work independently.

Under Mr. Morgenthau, the role of the Detective Investigator flourished. He brought on the best of the best from the NYPD and mixed them with bright young investigators. His "rackets investigators" became cutting edge under the direction of his Chief, Andrew Rosenzweig. By the late 1980s, they were a force in the investigation of organized crime, drug related homicides, official corruption, and complex frauds.

Throughout his nine terms in Office, he personified the role of the District Attorney. Many times he came to the aid of the DIA by forcefully supporting pending legislation what was vital to increasing the professionalism of the job.

On behalf of the Executive Board and all our members we wish him and his family a long and healthy retirement.

***Pictured on front cover and below, Secretary-Treasurer Jack Freck (left) and President John Fleming (right) meet with Morgenthau in his Manhattan office.***



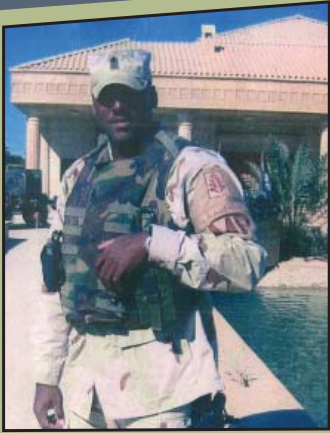
## DIA Congratulates New Manhattan DA Cyrus Vance, Jr.

DIA President John Fleming sent a congratulatory letter from the union to newly elected Manhattan DA Cyrus Vance, Jr. upon his winning the election earlier this year.

Fleming said he wanted to immediately reach out to the DA-elect to offer the union's best, but to also set up a meeting to talk about pertinent issues, such as the way the Manhattan DA's Office utilizes the services of Detective Investigators.

"We are looking forward to meeting with Mr. Vance so that we can pursue a good working relationship with his office," Fleming said. "While we will certainly be giving him time to settle into his new job, we are anxious to schedule a meeting so that our member can best do their jobs. They've been working with the same boss for decades, so there will definitely be a transition involved with the new DA."

# ABOUT OUR MEMBERS



**1ST SGT. FRANK BRUMFIELD,** Detective Investigator in the Bronx County Detective Investigator Squad, just completed his third tour of duty serving overseas. In November 2001, he was deployed with his unit to Fort Drum, in Watertown, NY, in support of Operation Noble Eagle. His unit was sent to replace the members of the 10th Mountain Division, who had been sent to Afghanistan. Approximately five months later, in January 2003, he was preparing to deploy to Diwaniyah, Iraq. While in Fort Dix, in preparation for deployment, a serious medical condition arose that resulted in his loss of a kidney. This was an opportunity for Frankie to

remain on American soil. However, he chose to go overseas. He stated that he trained with "these guys. I need to be there with them". Knowing Frankie, this was no surprise. Through the grace of God, he returned home safely. No matter how often his family, friends and colleagues urged him to leave the military, he continued his loyal service. Frank Brumfield is a member to be proud of.



Detective Georgianna DeRosa received the Lifetime Commitment and Dedication Award from the NYPD Police Women's Endowment Association at the Central Park Boat House earlier this month. This award recognized her 20 years of dedication to helping the cause of women in policing. Georgianna began her career in 1973 with the NYPD and was part of the first group of women to go on patrol. She retired as a Second Grade Detective from the 102 Squad in 1998 and began her second career at the Queens County DA's Office. Good Work Georgianna. Pictured presenting the award is Association President Lina P. Santamaria (right).

## KINGS COUNTY DET. MIKE NIED RETIRES

### Elected National Trustee at F.O.P. Convention



Last month I had the privilege of attending the 59th Biennial National Conference of the Fraternal Order of Police in Long Beach, California. At the Conference I served as State delegate and witnessed our own Mike Nied win the election for National Trustee for the State of New York. In this position Mike will speak for the more than 17,000 members of law enforcement who are active FOP members in New York State. I was proud to see Mike wage a clean, professional campaign to unseat the incumbent Trustee, Charles Caputo, who is also the state president. Mike will work with President Charles Caputo to shape and design goals and objectives for the State and representative the members of the FOP at the national level. Each State has one national trustee and one President. I am sure that Mike will show the same level of commitment and intelligence in this new position as he has shown while working on the DIA Board and in his role as president of FOP Lodge 38. From all the Board we wish you all the best Mike!! – John Fleming

## From the Boroughs

### Bronx DA's Office Forms Special Task Force

Earlier this summer, the Bronx District Attorney's Office formed a Gang/Major Case Task Force. This unit is being supervised by Lt. Rocco Galasso, and consists of seven Detective Investigators: SDI Vincent Cantarella, SDI Floyd Coor, SDI Brian O'Loughlin, SDI John Reilly, SDI Al Rosario, SDI John Wall and Det. Inv. Merrybet Tavarez. The Task Force will work in conjunction with a Lieutenant and four Detectives from the NYPD Bronx District Attorney's Squad. Since the inception of the Task Force, a search warrant has resulted in the recovery of stolen property and two separate incident arrests for criminal possession of firearms were made. There are also a number of investigations currently ongoing. If any other DA offices want to contact the Task Force, then can contact Lt. Galasso at (718) 838-7625.

## BRONX MEMBER

# MAKES IT IN SHOWBIZ



Lieutenant Raymond Jones of the Bronx District Attorneys' Office wrote a play that was shown at Shelter Studios, in November.

"Savannah, Black and Blue" is a story about an African American female police officer who fulfills her dreams of becoming a New York City Police Officer. Despite conflicts and resistance from her husband, her family, and the community she battles to fulfill her dream.

At the story's center is the life and conscience of Savannah, a composed and earnest African American woman. As a child watching television police shows in the 1970s, Savannah dreams of becoming a police officer. Her adolescent aspirations are complemented by her thoughtful questions about the police, how they are portrayed by the media, and how the police see themselves. Throughout the play, Savannah encounters and triumphs over a series of personal, domestic, and socio-political experiences.

Her development into a first-rate police officer is marked by both academic and occupational achievements. The play examines just what it means to be an African American police officer in America's foremost metropolis.

Lieutenant Jones has worked for the Bronx District Attorneys' office since 1985. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant in 1999. He is currently in charge of the Investigations Unit. His wife, Sharun, is a Commissioner with the Department of Probation in the Bronx. They live in Brooklyn and have two daughters.

## JERRY GEORGIO CELEBRATES 50 YEARS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Jerry was born in Greenwich Village and has the blood of a New Yorker in his veins. On October 30, 1959, he entered the New York City police academy as a probationary patrolman. Upon graduation, he was sent to the 20 Precinct on Manhattan's Upper West Side. He was assigned a foot post on West 84th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam avenues — the area known as the highest crime block in the City.

Time passed and his street knowledge grew. In 1966, a sketch on the station house bulletin board caught his eye. The artist rendition was of an individual wanted for rape and attempted murder. Within a day after seeing the sketch, Jerry had the individual in custody. Chief of Detectives Freddie Lusen immediately promoted Jerry to Detective.

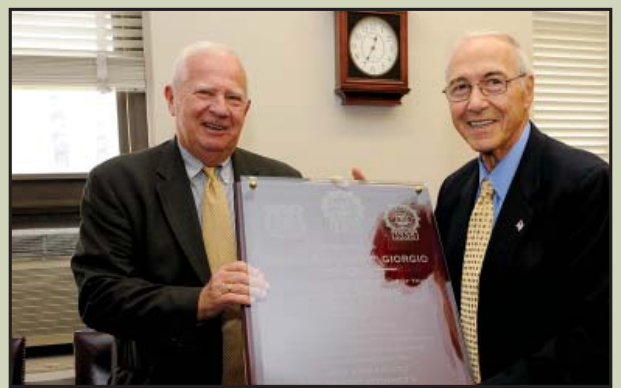
In 1967, while assigned to the 26 Squad, Jerry was broken in by legends of the Department — Jack Hill, Jim Luttati and Joe Piucci to name a few. Ever humble, Jerry credits their training and mentoring as the basis for his successes on the job. In 1972 he was assigned to the 5th Homicide Squad, and four years later was transferred to the Detective Boro Manhattan Task Force where he partnered up with Detective Juan Medina. In 1986, Jerry was assigned to Homicide in Manhattan North. There he concentrated on the drug related homicides plaguing the 34 Precinct in Washington Heights.

Jerry has received numerous awards, too many to be listed. Two of the most prestigious are the "Man of the Year" presented in 1994 by the NYPD Holy Name Society and the "Cop of the Year in New York State" presented in 1994 by then-Governor Mario Cuomo.

In 1997, Jerry retired from the NYPD, took a three day "vacation" and started as a Senior Detective Investigator with the Manhattan District Attorney's Investigation Bureau. For the past 12 years, he has worked closely with the Trial Bureau, investigating and helping to enhance the original PD Investigations. He has re-worked "cold cases" with amazing results. He continues to assist not only the ADAs, but the other members of the Investigations Bureau. His wealth of knowledge is evenly shared to all that ask. His ready smile and laconic manner belie the fact that he is still at the top of his game.

The rest, as they say, is history. Congratulations Jerry, and thank you.

Pictured is Jerry with Terry Hayes, Manhattan Racketts Investigator.







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# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual DIA Awards Ceremony





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As we go forward into the holiday season, the DIA has taken huge steps to let the people of New York City know about the great work done by the members of this Association. To that end, we held our Third Annual Awards Ceremony on November 13, 2009 at Russo's on the Bay in Queens. The breakfast was a huge success, with more than 150 in attendance, and was attended by major news outlets, distinguished guests, and of course, the members.



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During the course of the year, all our members made us proud with the outstanding work they accomplished. Our winners will be posted on our web site so that you can see them all. This year the committee gave out awards that recognized everything from personal achievement in high profile long-term investigations, to Unit Citations for groups who worked together to achieve successful prosecutions, to our most prominent individual awards, the Career Achievement award and the Fred Ghussin Memorial Award. The recipients of the Career Achievement Awards were individuals whose careers epitomized what it means to be a Detective Investigator, imparting knowledge and pride to young and future Investigators of this Association. Then there's the Fred Ghussin Memorial

Award, the award that goes to the Investigator who without thought of consequence performs his duties selflessly and to the best of his abilities.

I am very proud of how the committee worked tirelessly to make sure that the breakfast proceeded with pride and dignity. I would like to take this time to acknowledge the hard work of committee members, Cres Deluca, Juan Medina, and a special thanks to Jack Freck, whose work behind the scenes was invaluable. So let me say I wish all of you and your families the very best holiday season, and I look forward to seeing all of you this coming year. —

**VP Anthony Franzolin**



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- 1 Queens DA Richard Brown and Bronx DA Robert Johnson
- 2 Queens Detective Steve Brown
- 3 VP Anthony Franzolin, Manhattan DA Investigators Barry Anfang and Jeremiah Harrington, President John Fleming
- 4 Bronx DA Auto Crime Unit
- 5 Secretary-Treasurer Jack Freck, Manhattan Det. Siobhan Berry, President Fleming
- 6 Inv. Terry Hayes, former partner of Fred Ghussin
- 7 Manhattan Investigator Jerry Bergold
- 8 Brooklyn Trial Division
- 9 Ericka Loperena Hunter (Queens DA) with President Fleming
- 10 Det. Jessica Cowan (Brooklyn DA) with President Fleming
- 11 Deputy Chief Manhattan Terrence Mulderrig, Special Narcotics Chief Leon Schwartzman, DIA President John Fleming, Queens Chief Lawrence Festa, Bronx Chief Steven Nasta, and Brooklyn Chief Joseph Ponzi
- 12 Sgt. Mary Picone (Queens DA)
- 13 President Fleming talking with Queens Chief Larry Festa
- 14 Lt. Daniel Collins (Queens DA)
- 15 MC Mike Sheehan

**Photos by Andre Walker Photography**



# HONOREES

## FRED GHUSSIN MEMORIAL AWARD

**Det. Frank Brumfield**  
Bronx District Attorney

## CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

**Deputy Chief Frank Chiara**  
Bronx District Attorney

**Assistant Chief Gerald Zino**  
Brooklyn District Attorney

**Supervising Investigator Terrence Quinn**  
Manhattan District Attorney

**Deputy Chief Albert Velardi**  
Queens District Attorney

**Deputy Chief William Cook**  
Special Narcotics

## COMMENDATIONS

**Det. Juan Crosas-Medina**  
Bronx District Attorney

**Inv. Jeremy Rosenberg**  
Manhattan District Attorney

**Inv. Jerimiah Harrington**  
**Inv. Barry Anfang**  
**Inv. Jerry Bergold**  
Manhattan District Attorney

## COMMENDATIONS

**Det. Steve Brown**  
**Lt. Daniel Collins**  
**Sgt. Mary Picone**  
**Det. Alan Schwartz**  
Queens District Attorney

**Det. Thomas Devine**  
**Det. Bernard Malone**  
Special Narcotics

## UNIT CITATIONS

**Lt. Rocco Galasso**  
**Lt. Frank Thorp**  
**Det. Daniel Donovan**  
**Det. Lawrence Hinrichs**  
**Det. Anthony Rambazis**  
**Det. William Qualls**  
Bronx District Attorney  
Auto Crime Unit

**Trial Division**  
Brooklyn District Attorney

**Major Narcotics Unit**  
Brooklyn District Attorney

**Sgt. Frank DiGregorio**  
**Det. William Abatangelo**  
**Det. Jamie Figueroa**  
**Det. John Lavin**  
Queens District Attorney  
El Dorado Task Force







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## CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

**Det. Jessica Cowan**

Brooklyn District Attorney

**Det. Siobhan Berry**

**Det. Jack Paterson**

**Det. Joyce Lam**

**Det. Joel Washington**

Manhattan District Attorney

**Ericka Loperena Hunter**

Queens District Attorney

**Lt. Daynal Bachok**

Passaic Prosecution Office

**ADA William Zelenka**

Bronx District Attorney

**ADA Suzanne Corhan**

Chief, Major Narcotics Bureau

**ADA Lawrence Oh**

Bureau Chief, Major Narcotics Bureau

## HUMANITARIAN AWARD

**Cynthia L. Gross**

President

Catch a Falling Star Law

Enforcement Assistance Program

- 16 VP Franzolin with Juan Crosas-Medina
- 17 Detectives Thomas Devine and Bernard Mallone (Special Narcotics) with Lt. Daynal Bachok (Passaic Prosecution Office)
- 18 VP Franzolin, Det. Frank Brumfield and President Fleming
- 19 President Fleming addressing the nearly 150 attendees
- 20 Det. Alan Schwartz (Queens DA)
- 21 VP Franzolin, Inv. Jeremy Rosenberg (Manhattan DA), President Fleming
- 22 VP Franzolin, Humanitarian Award Winner Cynthia L. Gross, President Fleming
- 23 Unit Citation to the Queens DA's El Dorado Task Force
- 24 Career Achievement Awards to Albert Velardi, Terrence Quinn, Frank Chiara, William Cook and Gerald Zino
- 25 Major Narcotics Unity, Brooklyn District Attorney



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# Health Corner

## Body Scans Could Save Your Life

Ever since 9/11, the DIA has encouraged its members to pay more attention to their health, especially in light of the many health issues that surround our work environment. Part of this initiative includes regular check-ups, blood work, and a full body screening at Inner Imaging, located in Manhattan.

One of the many benefits we offer our members is a reimbursement toward a full body scan at Inner Imaging. It is something we highly recommend and encourage our members to take advantage of. It is a one-time only benefit, and is for members only, not dependents. While the price for this body exam is usually around \$850, the DIA has been able to reduce the price for our members to \$375.

Active members will get a \$200 reimbursement, thereby paying only \$175. Retired members can take advantage of the offer by undertaking this four-test body scan at the deeply discounted price of \$375.

Coronary artery disease is the single biggest killer of Detectives. More of us die from heart disease than all forms of cancer combined plus the next three leading causes of death. Every 26 seconds an American has a coronary event and every minute someone dies from this disease. More than 300,000 of these deaths occur in the emergency room or before the patient gets

to the hospital. Half of the people who have a heart attack have no prior symptoms of heart disease. In fact, 50% of men and 64% of women who die suddenly from coronary artery disease have no history of heart problems! Those lucky enough to survive their first heart attack, 25% of men and 38% of women die within a year. So, what is your risk for a heart attack?

You may think you know and your physician may have told you what he/she believes your risk to be. But the truth is that the standard "risk factor evaluation – The Framingham Risk Index" used by most physicians, falls far short of estimating any one individual person's risk by as much as 50%! Coronary Artery Disease will affect one out of every two men and one out of every three women. That represents most of us. The older we are the odds don't improve. We know that you look good and feel fine but we want you to be sure that you are. We ask that you consider our suggestion. Have a Heart Scan. One half hour test could save your life.

But if you have symptoms; crushing chest pains, pain along the jaw line, shooting pain down your left arm, shortness of breath, light headed and dizzy then go to the nearest emergency room and explain your symptoms. You can also call Inner Imaging at 212-991-5445 and they will help you.

## DIA EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PLAN READY TO GO

We are putting the finishing touches on the DIA Employee Assistance Program that the union began assembling in May. We have worked with many professionals in the field and are quite proud of our achievement. Shortly, each active and retired member will receive a booklet outlining the services provided and contact information for peer officers who are willing to listen should you need someone to talk with. Also, there will be a 24-hour hotline manned by professional volunteers associated with the Samaritans, a non-for-profit group nationally known for suicide prevention and education. The booklet will also contain contact information for psychologist, psychiatrist, social workers, alcohol and drug counselors who have a history of working with law enforcement groups. All take your medical coverage. The mission of the program is to provide you an objective, non judgmental resource you can turn to for advice and assistance to work out your problems. It is free and totally confidential. I want to thank Det. Janet Helgeson from Queens who was instrumental in helping get this program running. Janet will be coordinating certain aspects of the program.





# Legal Corner

## What Should I Know About Line Of Duty Injuries

### WORKERS' COMPENSATION VS. 207-C

#### **What is the difference?**

If injured at work as a Detective Investigator, you are covered by New York State Workers Compensation; and if injured in the performance of your duties also by 207-C. Both cover you for medical treatment without the need for co-pays. If you are losing time from work, 207-C provides full salary payments, tax free while you are out. A portion of those monies are paid by Workers Comp through the NYC Law Dept. ALL 207-C injuries are Workers Comp, but NOT ALL Workers Comp claims are 207-C.

#### **Confused yet?**

There may be times when you are injured at work but not taking police action. Sometimes the City will argue you are just entitled to Comp. This is rare but can occur. **THAT IS WHY ALL INJURIES OCCURRING WHILE AT WORK SHOULD BE FILED AS WORKERS COMPENSATION IN ADDITION TO LINE OF DUTY REPORTING.** Remember ALL 207-C injuries are Workers Comp but the reverse is not necessarily true

#### **What are the rules for reporting an accident or filing a claim?**

You must notify your employer within 30 days of an accident and then file a claim with the Workers Compensation Board within two years. Do not forget to tell your health care provider or emergency room providers that you were injured while at work.

#### **What are the benefit increases under the new Workers Comp law for dates of accidents after March 13, 2007?**

All accidents or all dates of disablement for occupational illnesses occurring after July 1 of every year may have a different rate. If you were injured between July 1, 2007 and July 1 2008 your maximum rate will be \$500 per week; July 1, 2008 through July 1, 2009, \$550; July 1 2009 through July 1 2010 \$600 per week.

For accidents after July 1, 2010 the rate will be two-thirds of the state average weekly wage. It could automatically change every year from 2010 forward.

#### **What if I worked prior for NYCPD or another agency who did not have Workers Comp?**

Now as a Detective Investigator, you are covered by Workers Comp. Under Comp you have the right to choose your own doctor, but you may not have the right to choose your own pharmacy or medical test location. The City Law Department can now contract with them and require you to use locations they decide they want you to use.

#### **Do I have to lose time from work to bother filing a claim?**

**ABSOLUTELY NOT!** If you are injured at work and need to seek medical care of any kind, you must file a workers comp claim! With certain injuries to extremities such legs, arms, hands etc. you may be entitled to tax free cash award even if you have not lost a day from work; but not if you have not filed properly and timely.

#### **What about medical treatment?**

Authorization is only needed for tests or treatment costing more than \$1,000. Many MRIs for example, now cost less than \$1,000 so in theory, you will not need to wait around for months before you have an MRI approved. Workers Compensation provides many benefits and any questions regarding line of duty injuries should be asked immediately.

**For more information, you can reach Jordan Ziegler, Esq. from Brecher, Fishman, Pasternack, Heller, Walsh & Tilker at (800) 692-3717.**



## Caps for Sale & More

The DIA has a new line of products designed specifically for DIA members. All proceeds of the sale of these products go to the union's scholarship fund, which will start up again in 2010. The following products are offered:

Baseball Caps (black, navy blue) \$10

Golf Shirts (white) s-xl \$25; xxl \$27

Tee Shirts (navy, grey) s-xl \$10

Hooded Sweatshirts (navy blue, grey) sm-xl \$30; xxl \$35

Fleece Full Zipper (navy blue - grey) sm - xl \$29 xxl \$33 xxxl \$35

See your Trustee for order information and updates on products.

## 2010 DIA Membership Cards

**The DIA will soon be mailing out 2010 membership cards to both active and retired members. Active members who don't receive theirs by the first of the year should contact their Trustees. Retirees who do not receive theirs by the first of the year should contact President John Fleming at (646) 533-1341. In addition, the Detectives' Endowment Association will be sending out its yearly membership cards. Members should be receiving those directly from the DEA.**



Happy Holidays from the DIA  
Executive Officers & Board of Trustees



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