



CITY OF
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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CITY HONORS FALLEN OFFICERS DURING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK MAY 14-20

Bainbridge Island, Wash., (May, 2017) Communities across the United States will come together during National Police Week—May 14-20—to honor and remember those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as the family members, friends, and fellow officers they left behind.

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15th falls as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those Law Enforcement Officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

This year, the names of 135 officers killed in the line of duty are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC. Included in the dedication this year will be King County Sheriff's Deputies George Hyeaman JR and John Mines, along with Tacoma Police Officer Jake Gutierrez.

On May 13th, the 29th Annual Candlelight Vigil will take place and the names of the fallen officers will be dedicated at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC. The Candlelight Vigil and national observance is organized by a group of organizations led by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), Concerns of Police Survivors, the Fraternal Order of Police and the Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary.

In tribute to American law enforcement officers and at the request of the NLEOMF, Public Law 103-322 designates May 15th National Peace Officers Memorial Day, which is one of only two days each year during which government agencies, businesses and residents are to fly their U.S. flags at half staff. The Bainbridge Island Police Department encourages citizens to honor our fallen heroes by flying their U.S. flags at half staff.

Bainbridge Island Police Chief Matthew Hamner asks everyone to “Please take a moment and direct your thoughts to those officers who have laid down their lives on our behalf, and to also think of the spouses and children who are left behind to mourn the loss of their loved one.”

Locally, you can show your support for law enforcement by picking up a blue ribbon from the Bainbridge Island Police Department. The ribbons can be displayed or worn to honor National Police Week and show support for local officers. Citizens can also display blue lights or candles in their home or business windows throughout the week.

For more information about National Police Week, please visit www.LawMemorial.org/policeweek or contact Officer Carla Sias at csias@bainbridgewa.gov.

You can also sign a pledge to show your support for law enforcement and ‘Stand with the Thin Blue Line’ by visiting the following website:
<http://www.nleomf.org/officers/support-law-enforcement/>.

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