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(Neb.)-Next Week Is National Police Week; Chadron Area Encouraged To Take Part



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 05/06/2013 11:30 AM

(CHADRON)-Chadron police chief Tim Lordino is encouraging residents to celebrate National Police Week, which occurs each year during the week in which May 15th falls. The week aims to recognize the service and sacrifice of U.S. law enforcement. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition, honor and remembrance to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

During this week, thousands of police officers and their families will be in Washington D.C. to honor those officers who have paid the ultimate price. This year, the names of 321 officers killed in the line of duty are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. These 321 officer "in the line of duty deaths" include 120 officers who were killed during 2012, plus 201 officers who died in previous years but whose stories of sacrifice had been lost to history until now.

One officer is killed somewhere in the U.S. on average every 50 hours. Lordino says it is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards and sacrifices that the men and women of law enforcement face every day. The safeties of our communities and the individual freedoms we enjoy have come at a high price.

A Law Enforcement Memorial Service will take place in Chadron at Greenwood Cemetery on Wednesday, May 15th. It will start shortly after noon at around 12:15 p.m. Lordino invites residents to take time out of their day to express your appreciation to the men and women of law enforcement during National Police Week.

Some interesting facts related to the law enforcement profession include the following:

In the line of duty deaths by years

- In 2013: So far 39, 35 males and 4 females
- In 2012: 120, 108 males and 12 females
- In 2011: 176, 165 males and 11 females

Most common death in the line of duty

- Gunfire
- Automobile accidents
- Heart attack
- Vehicle assaults

Average age is about 40

Average years of service is about 13

There are more than **900,000** sworn law enforcement officers now serving in the United States, which is the highest figure ever. About **12 percent** of those are female.

Crime fighting has taken its toll. Since the first recorded police death in 1791, there have been over **19,000** law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Currently, there are over **19,660** names engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

On average, more than 189 police officers are assaulted every day in the U.S. resulting in 62,000 assaults yearly with 21,000 injuries, which many are permanently disabling.

The **1920s** were the deadliest decade in law enforcement history, when a total of **2,318** officers died, or an average of almost **232** each year. The deadliest year in law enforcement history was **1930**, when **290** officers were killed. That figure dropped dramatically in the **1990s**, to an average of **161** per year.

The deadliest day in law enforcement history was September 11, 2001, when **72** officers were killed.

During the past ten years, more incidents that resulted in felonious fatalities occurred on **Tuesday** than any other day of the week. The fewest number of felonious incidents occurred on **Monday**.

Two police officers are shot every day in the United States.

Most officers are killed between 4:00 p.m. and midnight.

Approximately 25% of officers are killed with their own weapon.

Most officers are killed within 60 seconds of contact with a suspect and 40% of the time the officer is alone or has no backup available.

--Chadron Police Department