



News Release

Mansfield Department of Police
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Jason Bammann, Chief of Police

For Immediate Release

Date: May 8, 2024

Number: 19

Subject: National Police Week – May 12 –18, 2024
Peace Officer Memorial Day - May 15, 2024

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week.

In recognition of law enforcement officers in Mansfield and throughout the country, the United States Congress has designated May 12th through the 18th 2024 as Police Week.

Peace Officer's Memorial Day will be held on Wednesday, May 15th, 2024, and we ask that all residents take advantage of this opportunity to honor the men and women who serve Mansfield as police officers, in their own way.

We ask that you please remember the families of Mansfield Police Officers Brian D. Evans killed December 26, 2007, Michael R. Hutchison killed February 6, 1976, William J. Taylor killed February 26, 1949 and John Englehart Jr. killed August 7, 1893, who have given their lives to protect others in Richland County.

Did you know that according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund website:

In 2023 136 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty, The number of law enforcement professionals nationwide who died in the line of duty in 2023 decreased by 39% compared to the previous year.

47 officers were shot and killed in the line of duty in 2023. This represents a 25% decrease compared to 63 officers who were shot and killed in 2022.

A decrease in traffic-related fatalities in 2023 is also welcome news for law enforcement agencies nationwide. In 2023, 37 officers died due to traffic-related crashes, such as single-vehicle accidents, vehicle collisions, struck by incidents and motorcycle crashes while working along our nation's roadways.

52 officers died of other causes in 2023, such as falling objects, fire-related incidents, and medical-related illness/events including COVID-19, heart attacks, and strokes while in the performance of their official duties.

Mayor Jodie A. Perry has issued a proclamation, proclaiming May 12th – 18th, 2024 as Police Week and May 15th, 2024 as Peace Officer's Memorial Day in the City of Mansfield.

In memory of those officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our community, Mansfield officers will wear “mourning badges” during National Police Week.

On Monday, May 13, 2024, at 8:00 AM, the Mansfield Police Honor Guard will honor all fallen officers from Richland County in a ceremony held at the Mansfield Police Memorial on the south side of the Square.

At 9:00 AM, the Honor Guard will participate in a second ceremony honoring the fallen officers from the Mansfield Police Department. This will take place on the second floor of the Mansfield Municipal Building and conclude with a reading of the Police Week Proclamation. Everyone is invited to attend both Memorial Services.

As a reminder, flags on all federal buildings will fly at half-staff on May 15th, commemorating Police Officers Memorial Day. In 1994, President Clinton signed a law P.L. 103-322, requiring the American flag to be lowered on this day as a tribute to the more than 24,280 law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. This is a rarest of honors. The only other regularly scheduled day that the flags fly at half-staff is Memorial Day. Like those in our armed services, our fallen law enforcement officers died while protecting the lives and freedoms of others.

RELEASED BY:

JASON BAMMANN
CHIEF OF POLICE