

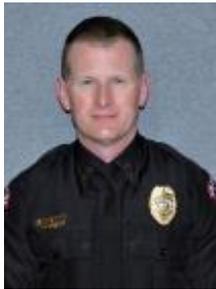
IOWA POLICE JOURNAL



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE IOWA STATE POLICE ASSOCIATION

2014 IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPLE HEART HONOREES

The Iowa State Police Association (ISPA) will recognize the service and sacrifice of three officers and their families at the 82nd Annual ISPA Conference in October.



Lieutenant Patrick Richardson
Newton Police Department
E.O.W. 09-01-2013

A 20-year veteran of the Newton Police Department, Lieutenant Patrick Richardson died on September 1, 2013. He had commanded the department's SWAT team on a high-risk search warrant on August 28, 2013. Upon returning home safely that night, Lieutenant Richardson complained of chest pains that lasted for over an hour, and he continued to have symptoms throughout the Labor Day weekend.

Lieutenant Richardson discounted the chest pains as simple heartburn and, despite the pain, went out on a run in preparation of the department's mandatory bi-annual physical fitness test. During the run, he developed heavy chest pains and realized he was having a heart attack. He summoned bystanders for assistance and was eventually flown by air ambulance to Iowa Methodist Medical Center where he ultimately died.

Pat is survived by his wife, three children, one grandchild and many family and friends who dearly miss him.



Officer Jamie Buenting
Rockwell City Police Department
E.O.W. 09-13-13

Police Officer Jamie Buenting was shot and killed during a standoff in the early hours of September 13, 2014. Officers had responded to the home four hours earlier after receiving a report that a man, wanted for felony domestic assault, was at the location. The man refused to exit the home when officers arrived and barricaded himself inside. The subject fired a single shot at approximately 1:40 a.m. and struck Officer Buenting, killing him.

The subject remained barricaded inside the home until surrendering at approximately 5:30 a.m. He was charged with first degree murder. Officer Buenting had served with the Rockwell City Police Department for eight years and had served in law enforcement for a total of 12 years.

Jamie is survived by his wife, two children, and many family and friends who love and respect him.



Sergeant Brendan Zeimet
Maquoketa Police Department
Date of Incident: 04-01-2014

Sergeant Brendan Zeimet was shot and seriously injured during a suspicious person investigation during the early hours of April 1, 2014. While ending his shift just before 3:00 a.m., Sergeant Zeimet observed a truck parked on the wrong side of the road with its lights off and one occupant. Sergeant Zeimet pulled his squad in front of the truck to investigate and conduct a welfare check on the occupant. Upon exiting his squad and approaching the male occupant, Sergeant Zeimet observed an assault rifle in the occupant's hands. Sergeant Zeimet ordered him to put the weapon down as he quickly retreated for cover. The occupant raised the assault rifle and a gunfight ensued.

Sergeant Zeimet was shot once in the left forearm and the gunman was shot once in the leg. Neither wound was life threatening. A combined 21 rounds were fired by Sergeant Zeimet and the gunman during the gunfight. The gunman then fled the scene and later wrecked the truck. The gunman was found dead at the accident scene as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Sergeant Zeimet has served the Maquoketa Police Department for 13 years.

Brendan is married with two daughters.



About the Purple Heart Award

The Purple Heart Award is granted to any sworn Iowa peace officer who has been seriously, critically, or fatally injured in the performance of law enforcement duty. In addition, this award may be conferred if an injury was averted by the wearing of body armor. This award will be given in all cases resulting in line of duty death, but will otherwise be limited to those cases involving an attack by an assailant or the performance of an act of valor Please visit our [Purple Heart page](#) to nominate an officer for this award.