

# IOWA POLICE JOURNAL

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE IOWA STATE POLICE ASSOCIATION



## IOWA C.O.P.S.

By Tiffany Ehler, Board President of Iowa C.O.P.S.



Iowa Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) has a large mission to uphold — to provide resources that assist in rebuilding the lives of surviving families and affected co-workers of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. There is a proactive portion of our mission, as well, and that is to provide training to law enforcement agencies on survivor victimization issues and to educate the public on the need to provide ongoing support to the law enforcement profession and its survivors.

My name is Tiffany Ehler, Board President of Iowa C.O.P.S. It is truly an honor for me to serve survivors, law enforcement officers and families of Iowa in this capacity. My passion and devotion to Iowa C.O.P.S. has enabled me to become part of a national community of people that wish they never had to come together as “survivors.” But because of C.O.P.S., they are able to survive!

Unfortunately, although very difficult to discuss, it is much easier to be proactive and prepared as a department, an officer and a family than it is to be reactive when that tragedy occurs.

As the month of September begins, I am especially mindful of the tragic deaths that occurred last September. Jamie Buenting and Pat Richardson, both Iowa law enforcement officers, made the ultimate sacrifice. My thoughts are with those family members as they come together and celebrate the lives of their officers and recognize the anniversary of the day that changed their lives forever, the day their officer gave his final 10-42!

We have several services to help your agency. We provide departmental-level in-service training sessions that deal primarily with law enforcement family issues, which is appropriate for all agencies. We also offer statewide full training sessions geared toward officers and other personnel who interact with survivors, such as administrators, personnel managers, police chaplains, CISD teams, authors of general orders and law enforcement labor groups.

For more information about Iowa C.O.P.S. and National C.O.P.S. please visit [lowacops.org](http://lowacops.org) or [nationalcops.org](http://nationalcops.org). You can also view our informational brochure [here](#).

Remember, no agency wants to face a line-of-duty death! The only thing worse than the death itself is being unprepared to handle the chaos. Let the Iowa C.O.P.S. be there for you.