



International Union of Police Associations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Police Week 2026 Statement from Sam A. Cabral, President of the International Union of Police Associations (I.U.P.A.)

May 15 is National Police Officers Memorial Day. For us, it is every day.

Every day across this nation, men and women kiss their families goodbye and head to work knowing there are no guarantees they will return home. In 2025, one hundred eleven did not. While this is the lowest number in eighty years and a twenty five percent decrease from the year before, it is still far too many.

During Police Week, May 10 through 16, we honor those who gave their lives in the line of duty.

In Washington, D.C., thousands will gather for events that reflect both remembrance and unity, including memorial bike rides, 5K runs, and the Candlelight Vigil on May 13.

At this solemn vigil, law enforcement officers from across the country stand together as the names of the fallen are read aloud. This year, in addition to those lost in 2025, we will also recognize officers from years past whose sacrifice had not yet been formally honored. A total of 363 names will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

We pray daily for these brave American heroes who stand watch over our communities while we sleep. We honor them, not only with our words, but with our unwavering commitment to stand behind those who continue to serve.

Law enforcement protects us. It is only right that we stand with them.

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*NOTE: Originally chartered in 1979, the **International Union of Police Associations** is the only chartered labor union that exclusively represents law enforcement personnel. The I.U.P.A. represents active-duty, rank and file law enforcement professionals and emergency medical personnel nationwide – including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. The I.U.P.A.'s mission is to protect and advance officers' wages, benefits, and work conditions. Membership includes officers from agencies throughout the United States, including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.*

More information is available at www.iupa.org. Follow us on Twitter at [IUPA34233](https://twitter.com/IUPA34233).