

Brothers and Sisters,

It has come to my attention that several of our members have a misconception as to the degree of legal representation the FOP provides. Let me try to clear this up as succinctly as I can. **If you are sued or have criminal charges filed against you as a result of actions you took on duty in an official capacity, the FOP will provide an attorney at no charge to you. However, if criminal charges are brought against you for off duty non police related conduct your legal representation is up to you.** What attorney you choose to retain and whatever fees you and they agree upon are a private matter and not the business or an expense of the FOP.

Having said that, it has been a long standing practice of this lodge to assist any member in arranging for bail whether arrested for on duty or off duty conduct. We recognize that not everyone who gets arrested is guilty and that it is very hard to prepare a defense while confined to jail. For many years our attorneys have agreed to provide this service free of charge as a courtesy. Obviously, if you are facing departmental actions, the FOP will provide whatever level of representations is necessary to deal with the administrative side.

Fraternally,

Lodge 123 Fraternal Order of Police