

Monthly news & updates

December | 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

[2024 Holiday Party](#)

ONLINE TRAINING

[16 Hour Online CTP Course](#)

[8 Hour Online Training](#)

A Message from IPPFA President, James McNamee



As we enter the holiday season, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many first responders who have tragically lost their lives while bravely serving and protecting their communities. The IPPFA Heroes Family Fund is dedicated to providing financial support to the families of our brothers and sisters who have paid the ultimate price or have been catastrophically injured in the line of duty. Each month, we will highlight a fallen hero in our newsletter, sharing their story to honor their sacrifice and to remind us of the loved ones they left behind.

This season, please consider making a donation to the IPPFA Heroes Family Fund. Your generosity can make a meaningful difference for these families, offering support in their time of need. Let us come together to remember these heroes, and may we all hold our loved ones a little closer in their honor.

Sincerely,
James McNamee
IPPFA President

HEROES FAMILY FUND

Hero Spotlight: Officer Eric DeWit, Matteson Police Department

This month, we pay tribute to Officer Eric DeWit, who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the Matteson Police Department. On February 17, 2003, at just 23 years old and with only four months on the force,



Officer DeWit tragically lost his life in the line of duty.

In the early hours of that fateful day, Officer DeWit and his partner were on patrol when an unexpected turn by another vehicle forced them to take evasive action. Their squad car struck a fire hydrant, resulting in fatal injuries to Officer DeWit and minor injuries to his partner. His dedication to his community was evident even in his brief tenure, and his loss remains a profound reminder of the risks faced by first responders.

Officer DeWit's family was the first family to receive support from the Heroes Family Fund, formerly known as the Remembrance and Survivors Fund. Since its establishment in 2003, the fund has distributed over \$200,000 to support the families of more than 40 fallen police officers and firefighters.

May Officer DeWit's sacrifice, and the impact of his service be forever remembered.

Join Us in Supporting the Heroes Family Fund

Help us honor Officer DeWit and others like him by contributing to the Heroes Family Fund. Your generosity ensures that we can continue supporting the families of our fallen heroes in their time of need.

- Guardian Sponsor: \$10,000+**
- Protector Sponsor: \$5,000–\$9,999**
- Courage Sponsor: \$2,500–\$4,999**
- Bravery Sponsor: \$1,000–\$2,499**
- Honor Sponsor: \$500–\$999**
- Community Sponsor: \$250–\$499**
- Supporter Sponsor: \$10–\$249**

Scan the QR code below to make your donation today.



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2024 Heroes Family Holiday Gala: A Season of Giving
December 12th, 2024



December 12th, 2024

2024 Heroes Family Fund Holiday Gala: A Season of Giving

This holiday season, join us for an evening of celebration and support at the **2024 Heroes Family Fund Holiday Gala**.

The **IPPFA Heroes Family Fund** provides crucial financial assistance to the families of police officers and firefighters

who have lost their lives or suffered catastrophic injuries while serving Illinois communities.

As our most important fundraiser, this gala empowers us to continue delivering essential aid to those who need it most.



Riverside Receptions

35 N. River Lane, Geneva, IL 60134

[View on map](#)



Thursday, December 12th, 2024

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM | *Cocktails, Silent Auction and Raffles*

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM | *Buffet Dinner*

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM | *Live Music and Dancing*

What to Expect:

- **Silent auction** and **exciting raffles** with exclusive prizes
- **Live music** to set the festive mood
- **Complimentary cocktails** and **hors d'oeuvres** throughout the evening
- An opportunity to connect with community leaders and supporters
- **Complimentary admission for all IPPFA members**
- \$100 registration for non-members

RAFFLE PRIZES

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

Make an Impact by Becoming a Sponsor

Unable to attend? You can still make a meaningful impact by sponsoring the event. **All sponsors will be prominently recognized** on event signage, the gala website, and across our social media platforms.

By becoming a sponsor, you demonstrate your commitment to supporting the families of our

fallen and injured heroes. **Every sponsorship helps us continue our mission of care and assistance.**

SPONSORSHIP

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact [Julie Guy](#).

Make a Difference This Holiday Season

All proceeds benefit the Heroes Family Fund, ensuring we stand by the families of those who protect and serve.

Together, let's honor their service and support their loved ones.

REGISTER

REGISTRATION CLOSES 12/04/2024

SAVE THE DATE

2025 Illinois Pension Conference

May 7 - 9, 2025



Eagle Ridge Resort
444 Eagle Ridge Drive
Galena, IL 61036

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!

2025 MidAmerican Pension Conference

October 1 - 2, 2025



Oak Brook Hills Resort
3500 Midwest Rd.
Oak Brook, IL 60523

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!

DOWNLOAD OUR APP!



Free new app helps Illinois' public safety, teachers, and municipal employees track retirement benefits

A free new app developed by the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association (IPPPFA) will allow active firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency services personnel, Chicago teachers, and employees covered by the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) to track their anticipated pension benefits and receive important information that can help with future financial and tax planning.

The IPPFA Pension Participant App is now available for free download from Google and Apple app stores.

"This new app will help these public employees to better understand what benefits they are entitled to and how to maximize those benefits and plan tax strategy to have a successful retirement," said IPPFA President Jim McNamee. "The app allows employees to access this information any time, anywhere and it will feature the latest updates for pension systems in which the employees are enrolled."

The IPPFA Pension Participant App was developed for active pension participants in downstate police and fire systems, the Chicago police and fire systems, Chicago teachers, and IMRF covered employees. The app contains the pension codes of the systems and provides detail on members' well-earned benefits, including

pensions, Social Security, Section 457 deferred compensation and retirement healthcare funding. Section 457 plans are the local government equivalent of 401(k) plans.

"Retirement peace of mind is now just a screen tap away for thousands of public employees," McNamee said.

[View IPPFA App News Release Here](#)

[**Download for Apple Devices**](#)

[**Download for Android Devices**](#)

NEWS LINKS

[Oak Park shooting: Officer killed, suspect seen leaving bank with gun wounded, police say](#)

[Tier 2 Information for 2025 for Article 3 and Article 4 Pension Funds](#)

[Texas Sues Big Three Asset Managers Over Coal](#)

[Firefighter Injured When Semi Hits Fire Truck On Interstate 90](#)

[Chicago Set to Spend 21% More to Fight Homelessness, But Shortage of Shelter Beds Looms](#)

[Teachers, cops, firefighters and other public sector employees rally at Illinois capitol for pension fix](#)

[Funeral service for fallen CPD Officer Enrique Martinez held on South Side](#)

[2025 Cost of Living Adjustments for Your Retirement Plan Administration](#)

[Push underway to reform Illinois' Tier II pension with \\$5 billion taxpayer cost](#)

[Expect Higher Costs for Your Health Care Benefits Next Year](#)

[Is Pay Beating Inflation? It's Complicated](#)

[Illinois House Speaker on Protecting Reproductive Rights, Balancing the State Budget](#)

[The Social Security Fairness Act explained](#)

[Social Security Update: Republicans Reverse Course on Expansion Bill](#)

[Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker has warning for Donald Trump: 'You come for my people, you come through me'](#)

[Realtors Are Sharing The "Subtle" Red Flags They Look For When Seeing A Home For The First Time, And They're So Smart](#)





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