



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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NEWS RELEASE

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WELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIM MAY 10-16 AS WELD COUNTY POLICE OFFICERS WEEK

WELD COUNTY, CO – During their Monday meeting, the Board of County Commissioners proclaimed May 10-16 as Weld County Police Officers Week and May 14 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day. The week is dedicated to honoring law enforcement officers who work tirelessly to fight against crime and to protect individual rights.

The proclamation states: In 2014, every 69 hours, an American Law Enforcement Officer died in the line of duty somewhere in the United States, and 127 men and women lost their lives while on duty, including one officer from Colorado.



From left: Commissioner Julie Cozad, Commissioner Sean Conway, Officer John Broderius, Sheriff Steve Reams, Commissioner Chair Barbara Kirkmeyer, Commissioner Mike Freeman and Commissioner Steve Moreno.

"During this week, we encourage all Weld County residents to thank our officers for keeping us safe," said Commissioner Chair Barbara Kirkmeyer. "We also want to honor and remember the officers who lost their lives."

Weld County has lost seven officers, troopers and deputies in the line of duty: Officer Lee Whitman (Greeley Police Department), Deputy Earl Bucher (Weld County Sheriff's Office), Trooper Wallace McCarty (Colorado State Patrol), Officer Richard Ware (Evans Police Department), Officer James Longworth (Greeley Police Department), Officer Richard Hart (Firestone Police Department) and Deputy Sam Brownlee (Weld County Sheriff's Office).

This Wednesday, May 13, at 6:30 p.m., the Weld County Sheriff's Office will auction Deputy Brownlee's patrol car. The event is open to the public and all proceeds will go to Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S), a national organization that helps families of fallen police officers and was instrumental in assisting the Brownlee family. The county donated the car which Deputy Brownlee used, to the Sheriff's Office instead of sending the car to auction as would normally happen when a county vehicle rotates out of service.

On Thursday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m., there will be a Weld County Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony at the Fallen Officers' Memorial in Bittersweet Park, 35th Avenue and 16th Street in Greeley. This event is also open to the public.

For more information about Deputy Brownlee's car auction, visit the Weld County Sheriff's Office website at www.weldsheriff.com.

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