



Founded in 1999, the Omaha Police Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Its mission is to promote and strengthen the Omaha Police Department and help ensure it has highly qualified officers with the training, equipment and technology to prevent crime, save lives and make Omaha a safer community.

D.C. “Woody” Bradford is current board president, with Ruth Ann Popp serving as Vice President and Leonard Sommer as Treasurer. There are 12 additional civic leaders serving on the board, with Chief Todd Schmaderer serving as a non-voting, ex-officio director.

The honorary co-chairs of the 2024 Officer of the Year Awards Luncheon and Fundraising Initiative are Clarence L. “C.L.” Landen, III., CEO, and James “Jim” E. Landen, Sr., Chairman, of Security National Bank. The bank is a long-time supporter of the Omaha Police Foundation in its mission in our community.

Over its 25-year history, the Omaha Police Foundation has funded more than \$8 million of projects in the categories of equipment acquisition, recruitment and training, community outreach and officer/family services. These include:

Co-Responder Program: Raised \$1.5 million for this new seven-member unit staffed by licensed mental health practitioners. In 2023, Co-Responders handled more than 10,000 on-scene calls and conducted thousands of proactive follow-ups.

OPD Drone Team: Purchased more than \$100,000 in equipment including a flight operations van and a remotely operated underwater vehicle.

Youth and Family Engagement Specialist Program: Raised approximately \$1 million to support specialists who work with the OPD, OPS, the Douglas County Youth Center to assist youth and their families through mentoring, positive goal setting to improve school attendance, and healthy decision-making skills.

Law Enforcement Wellness: Provided \$80,000 in financial support to promote the physical and mental wellbeing of

active-duty and retired officers, and their families, with 24/7 access to wellness resources including peer support, training and professional development.

Crime Prevention Programs: Helping OPD strengthen police-community relations through support of community policing events and activities including Bomb Pop with a Cop, safety fairs, seasonal events, and citizens academies.

K9 Unit: Supporting the OPD Canine Unit by funding the purchase and training of K9s and their handlers. In 2023 alone, the OPF provided more than \$30,000 for three canines and associated training.

Since 2018, the OPF has been awarding annual scholarships that honor Dr. Jack K. Lewis, a well-known community volunteer who served as President of the Omaha Police Foundation for more than ten years. The Dr. Jack K. Lewis Memorial Scholarship supports post-secondary education for children or grandchildren of active or retired Omaha police officers.

Over the past six years, the Omaha Police Foundation has presented more than \$35,000 in scholarship funds to high school seniors and current college students studying in a variety of fields.



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