



**MICHAEL G. LUTZ LODGE #5 PHILADELPHIA
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE**

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John J. McNesby, President

James P. Wheeler, Recording Secretary

May 12, 2009

President McNesby wishes to announce the following:

There is information in the media that the President's budget reduces the amount allocated to the Public Safety Officers' Benefit program by \$50 million. The administration citing the trend of fewer line of duty deaths, has decreased the amount of money available in the fund. The end result is that this change in amount will not reduce the benefits received by officers or their families in the event they qualify for a disability or death benefit.

The Public Safety Officers' Benefit Act (42 USC 3796) is a Federal law providing death and disability benefits as well as educational assistance to officers or their families in the event the officer is killed or disabled in the line of duty. These benefits are statutory requirements on the Federal government and each and every approved claim will be paid in full, regardless of how much is budgeted by the Administration or Congress. This is a change in a number and will not effect benefits paid to an entitled family because the government, as stated above it, is obligated by law to provide the benefits.

So in other words if in some circumstance, the budgeted amount is exceeded then funds will be made available from another source.

Information is also available on the Grand Lodge website.

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