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THE FRONT LINE

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MSPBA member marches to beat of law enforcement and God

BY KATHARINE JEFFCOATS
EDITOR

Trey Smith melded his love of God and his drive to help others by becoming a police officer in Ocean Springs, about 30 miles east of his hometown of Gulfport.

Smith is a 2017 graduate of West Harrison High School and a 2019 graduate from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College where he earned an Associate of Arts degree. He was in the drumline at both schools.

He has been honored as First Responder of the Year by Keesler Federal Credit Union. The award is given to first responders throughout the state who show a hard work ethic, a commitment to serving their community well or have displayed extraordinary bravery.

Ocean Springs police Chief Ryan Lemaire said Smith is well-deserving of the award.

"Officer Smith's positive attitude and commitment to Ocean Springs and this department is why he was chosen for



Officer Trey Smith shows off award with his wife, Shelby Smith

this award," said Lemaire. "He is an asset to our community, and those who have the privilege of getting to know him always speak highly of his professionalism, his character and his dedication."



Officer Trey Smith with his colleagues the night he was presented the award

Smith serves in the traffic division and is also the department's chaplain. Smith works community and city events and represents the department in community outreach in the schools. He is a Level 3 Accident Reconstructionist.

This award is just the most recent the officer has claimed since 2021. Smith received department awards for the Most DUI arrests in 2021, the Most Tag Violations Citations in 2021 and the Most Disregarding a Traffic Control Device citations in 2022.

Smith grew up in Northwood Church in Gulfport. Life was tough for Smith and two siblings in a single-parent home.

His mom served in the Navy but left after having her first child. She added another child to the family after marrying Smith's stepdad.

"My mom had to work on and off the clock and after work, she was dealing with us," he said. "My mom met my stepdad, who I consider to be my dad, and they had another kid. My dad helped me to understand that life is hard but I had to work harder.

"Nothing is easy as an adult nor should it be," continued Smith. "Lessons are learned when life gets hard. The special things I remember the most are the moments with my family, church family and childhood friends. When I was a kid, there was nothing more important than those people."

Smith said his dad worked at Ingalls Shipbuilding for almost 24 years.

After considering law enforcement and the ministry as career choices, Smith said he opted to serve and to protect.

"I had always wanted to be a police officer since I was a little kid," he said. "At the same time, I wanted to be in ministry. God allowed me to see ministry was everywhere in law enforcement. I continue to do what I do because I know God is using me in this field."

After college, Smith entered Harrison County Law Enforcement Academy Basic Class 2020-2. He first started in 2019 at the Stone County Regional Correctional Facility as a corrections officer, before heading to Ocean Springs in 2020.

In the summer of 2023, Smith traveled with his church to Israel.

"The missions trip was called the 'Jerusalem Encounter' and was a tour to show us where Jesus did His ministry and to show us the land where God first called His people," he said. "It was about an experience to grow our relationship with God."

He is still passionate about drumming.

"I use that talent to praise God on the worship team," said Smith. "I also serve in the student ministry and kids ministry."

After becoming a law enforcement officer, Smith joined SSPBA as a member of the MSPBA's Gulf Coast Chapter.

"I became a member because I wanted to be protected, I wanted to know if I make a mistake or the worse day of my life occurs, I will have a group of people who

would go to bat for me," he said. "I believe as a member of SSPBA there would be people ready to fight on my behalf."

Smith, alongside his wife, Shelby Smith, has already faced his toughest battle, one that he continues to endure.

"I have been married for one year, anniversary is Dec. 30," he said. "We lost our baby girl on Sept. 10, 2024. My wife went into pre-term labor. It was one of the hardest things I have ever experienced."

Smith is blessed to already have a foundation of love for God and His Word to assist him through this most difficult time. His personal hero is Jesus Christ because "He laid down His life as a sacrifice for humanity." His favorite Bible verse reads, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." – John 14:6 ESV.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Aren't you excited? The window to submit applications for 2025 funds is open until June 1. The link is <https://www.pbfi.org/scholarships-2/>.

We congratulate the 27 recipients of 2024 PBF scholarships and are proud to showcase their efforts. You can be one, too, just apply!

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www.pbfi.org



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Attorney spotlight on Charles E. Cox Jr.: Macon, Ga.



Charles E. Cox Jr.

Charles E. Cox Jr. is a native Georgian, born and raised in Albany. Charlie attended Westover High School, where he played horn in the school band. While in high school Charlie also played horn in the Albany Symphony and All State Orchestra.

Upon graduation from high school, Charlie enrolled at LaGrange College. While in college, Charlie took up guitar and bass, and traveled throughout Georgia, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mexico playing with a Christian band comprised of college friends. In 1982, Charlie graduated from LaGrange College, magna cum laude, with a degree in history.

After college, Charlie attended Mercer Law School, where he served as the student writing editor on the Mercer Law Review and was named to the Brainard Curry Honor Society. Charlie received his Juris Doc-

tor, magna cum laude, in 1986.

Upon graduation, Charlie accepted a position with the Honorable Duross Fitzpatrick, Middle District of Georgia, as his law clerk. Judge Fitzpatrick stressed the importance of practicing law in "the grand manner," and his mentorship was enlightening both personally and professionally.

Following his clerkship, Charlie joined the firm of Hansell and Post where, as a litigation associate in labor and employment law, he first developed his skills as an employment attorney.

In 1989, Charlie was appointed an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia. During his six-year tenure, Charlie prosecuted numerous cases, involving asset forfeiture, tax, bankruptcy, and wire fraud, money laundering, gambling, controlled substances and firearms. His experience as a federal prosecutor was foundational to the determination and expertise he now brings to the defense of those accused of crimes.

In 1996, Charlie and Susan S. Cole established the firm of Cole & Cox LLC, which specialized in employment law, school law, criminal defense and local government law, most notably in the drafting and defense of adult entertainment ordinances throughout the state.

When Cole left the firm to become a U.S. Magistrate in the Northern District of Georgia, Charlie chose to continue work as a sole practitioner, establishing Charles E. Cox Jr. LLC in 2001.

One of Charlie's highest professional honors was his 2021 induction as a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, an organization that limits its membership to the top 1 percent of trial lawyers in any given state. Membership is extended only to those who are rated by their peers as exceptional in courtroom skill, ethics and collegiality.

When not in the office, you are likely to find Charlie



Charles E. Cox Jr. in his law office

at a local venue listening to live music or in his music room playing guitar. Charlie's passion for music, which began with orchestral music in high school, has grown to encompass numerous stringed instruments and genres of music. He and his wife, Claire, are active promoters of Macon's music history and support artists from Georgia to Nashville with many points in between.

Charlie is most proud of his family. Claire is recognized as a leader in local and statewide social justice issues in Georgia. Claire also manages about 850 acres of family land on which she and Charlie are working to reestablish a long-leaf pine habitat.

Charlie's older daughter is changing the world one child at a time as a first grade teacher, and his younger daughter is part of the leadership team for a non-profit in Washington, D.C., that is a resource on environmental issues for state legislators across the country.

Charlie's passion as a lawyer is driven by a quote from one of his favorite leaders, President John Adams: "Facts are stubborn things, and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictums of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence."

In 1770, the future president defended eight British soldiers who had been accused of murder in what was called the Boston Massacre. Six soldiers were acquitted and two were convicted of lesser charges.

Charlie first became a PBA attorney about 14 years ago after a friend was improperly accused of wrongdoing at the law enforcement agency where he worked. Since that time Charlie has handled about 180 different matters for PBA clients.

Joni Fletcher Cawthon serves as director of Legal Services for the Southern States Police Benevolent Association.

"Charlie Cox is a true friend to PBA and to law enforcement officers in central Georgia," she said. "Time and time again, Charlie responded when our members needed help. He and his paralegal, Sherry Hodges, are valuable parts of the PBA team."

Next issue of FRONT LINE will focus on these divisions



If you have story ideas from these
divisions, please email

jblackburn@sspba.org · rbyrd@sspba.org

To read past issues
of the FRONT LINE,
please scan.



Highlight on Andrew Jackson Chapter Board members

BY CINDY BAUGHER
COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT COORDINATOR

The Andrew Jackson Chapter of the Tennessee Division is not afraid to put in the work when it comes to assisting its members at the local level. The chapter hosted a Behind the Badge PTSD seminar, held at Crossroads Church in Lebanon, Tenn.

The members and leadership of the chapter were hands-on and active in the planning and execution of the important event. They secured the church for the meeting venue and in turn the church agreed to provide lunch for all who attended the seminar.

In addition, the chapter members were responsible for procuring donations of over \$4,000 from businesses and individuals. Feedback from those attending the Lebanon Behind the Badge event was positive. The chapter members recognized church members and pastor with a thank you plaque presentation for all they had done to facilitate and host the seminar.

The leadership of the Andrew Jackson Chapter sets the positive tone for the chapter itself. In addition to the regularly scheduled chapter meetings and political screenings, the chapter took on the challenge of planning the PTSD event. All the officers count it as an important accomplishment for their chapter.

President Matthew McPeak

Born and raised in Lebanon, Tenn., in a little community called Tuckers Crossroads, Matthew McPeak said he has "loved this community my whole life."

He felt a call to a career in law enforcement largely due to a domestic violence incident that took the life of his maternal grandmother, following years of spousal abuse, when he was 2 years old.

Although he was too young to remember it, he grew up knowing some of the details and he said the tragedy shaped his decision to enter the law enforcement field.



Board members Mathis, McPeak and Borden

Starting with the Wilson County Sheriff's Office as a correctional officer, McPeak has served with the Wilson County Sheriff's Office since December 2004. He said he feels proud to be serving with the sheriff's office in the county where he was born and raised and always wanted to do his part to make the sheriff's office the best it could be. At the 20-year mark of his LEO career, it's the only place he's worked in law enforcement.

With extensive experience within the agency, McPeak said it's easier to list the divisions that he's not served in, rather than the ones that he has. He's serving in the juvenile division as a corporal, stationed at Lebanon High School as one of two school resource officers.

"I am very proud of this because it is my alma mater, and I have always cared deeply for Lebanon High School," said McPeak. "So it's an honor to get to serve in this capacity."

McPeak joined the PBA for the benefits it provides its members but soon realized he wanted to become more hands-on in terms of chapter leadership.

"After becoming a member, I began to hear about the things that the chapter was doing, and I learned about the chapter board," he said. "I have always



Brittany, Brett, Wyatt and McPeak at son Brett's graduation from Cumberland University.

enjoyed volunteering and learning more about the things around me and in my community, so I began to get involved in that aspect and, eventually, I became the chapter president.

"I think chapters are very important because problems affecting members in my area may not be affecting other areas at all and, without that representation, other members wouldn't know about potential problems for their own area," continued McPeak. "I think it is also nice to have that personal connection to the organization."

McPeak is married with two sons, Brett and Wyatt. His wife, Brittany, is a senior director at Davita. Although he is busy with his family, he still lists volunteering as a personal hobby.

"I enjoy volunteering my time quite a bit, and I try to be involved in all the community events I can," he said. "I think volunteering in your community is important as a law officer. I think sometimes that we feel like doing the job is enough and I don't think it is.

"I think becoming involved in the community you serve makes you a better officer because it gives you skin in the game, as they say," continued McPeak. "If you identify with the community you serve, it makes

interactions with citizens much more positive. If they see you out in the community doing good, they will have a much easier time trusting you."

Given his attitude towards his police work and volunteer work with the Andrew Jackson Chapter, it's not surprising that McPeak's favorite quote is from Theodore Roosevelt, "Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing."

In the same vein, he said Capt. Scott Moore is his biggest career influence. McPeak said it's not possible to count the number of times he's leaned on him for advice.

"I have known Capt. Moore almost as long as I have been employed at Wilson County, and he is a big reason I am where I am today," he said. "I modeled the way I do this job after the example he sets. If I make it through my career half as good as he is at this job, I will consider myself more than successful."



McPeak with several students at Lebanon High School who participated in a student led substance abuse deterrent program he helped to start called Youth Prevention Coalition, which is the youth division of Drug Free WilCo, a non-profit coalition that targets opioid addiction

Senior Vice President Catrina Borden

Catrina Borden is the senior vice president of the Andrew Jackson Chapter. As a correctional lieutenant with the Wilson County Sheriff's Office, Borden also serves as the assistant commander of the WCSO crisis negotiations team and is a founding member and secretary for the Tennessee Crisis Negotiators Association. In 2016, she was honored as her agency's Administrative Assistant of the Year.

After growing up and attending high school in Riverside, Calif., Borden moved to Tennessee in 2009 and has worked in law enforcement, specifically corrections, for 14 and a half years. She received her associate degree in criminal justice in 2016 from Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin, Tenn.

"I had been a PBA member for approximately 10 years," she said. "I became a chapter leader because I believe that I can make a difference and assist members when needed at a local level. Our chapter has assisted with hosting a Glow Run and a PTSD seminar. I believe it is important to have local chapters so that the members are able to have people that they know and trust."

Regarding her career choice and outlook on life, Borden said she wanted to be different by making a difference.

"I have seen the paths that people in my life have taken, and I knew that was not the life I wanted," she said. "I wanted to be the exception to the rule. I truly want to make a difference in the lives of the people around me and the people I can influence."

"I want them to know that there is light at the end of the tunnel and, even though they may have had a rough life, that they can always choose a better life for themselves," said Borden. "If my story can make a difference in one person's life, then I have succeeded."

Borden was inspired in leadership strengths and goals by books and videos by authors Jocko Willink and Leif Babin.



Senior Vice President of Andrew Jackson Chapter Catrina Borden



Board members Borden (l) and McPeak present an appreciation plaque to a donor for the recent Behind the Badge seminar their chapter hosted.

"Listening to Jocko Willink and Leif Babin in these books made me change the way I look at being a supervisor and person," she said. "I have changed my thought process, and I'm working on becoming a better person and leader."

Borden is the mother of a 20-year-old son who's in his third semester of nursing school at Tennessee Tech. When she's not volunteering, Borden enjoys spending time with her cat and dogs and hiking to waterfalls in exotic locations.

Secretary Halle Mathis

Halle Mathis also grew up in Tuckers Crossroads near Lebanon.

“The town is extremely small, welcoming and everyone knows everyone somehow,” she said. “Lebanon is special to me because it is the place where I feel home. I do not think I could ever move anywhere else.”

She graduated from Lebanon High School in 2013 where she was a part of FBLA, FCA and HOSA. She also ran track and field. Mathis attends Volunteer State Community College where she’s majoring in criminal justice with a minor in science. Mathis completed her rookie school at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, Class #1836 and has worked with the Wilson County Sheriff’s Office since 2015. During her career, she’s been part of a partnership with various Middle Tennessee agencies designed to fight back against the car theft crime wave.

She also assisted with Gov. Lee’s detail during the 2021 Wilson County/Tennessee State Fair with the theme of honoring hometown heroes. Like her chapter board colleagues, she found the move to chapter board leadership to be an easy decision.

“When the opportunity came available, I wanted to be more involved, and I knew it would be a smooth sail due to the other amazing leaders,” she said.

The biggest reasons Mathis sees for having an active chapter are to enable more focused discussions, closer collaborations, increased individual participation and deeper relationship building. She noted that the recent work they did for Lebanon’s Behind the Badge seminar is one of the most important things they’ve accomplished to help local members.

Mathis’ grandmother, Robbie Mathis, has been her biggest supporter in everything she does. Mathis said she “never” does anything wrong in her grandmother’s eyes. She said her grandmother listens, gives great advice and instills confidence in her when she needs it most. Likewise, Suzann Lafferty, an assistant direc-



Andrew Jackson Chapter Secretary Halle Mathis

tor and program director of criminal justice at Cumberland University, is another one of Mathis’ biggest supporters.

“I am more than thankful for the opportunities she has given me at the university,” said Mathis. “She is someone I will always admire, and I hope to emulate her success.”

In her spare time, Mathis enjoys reading, blogging, running, gardening, volunteering and collecting challenge coins. She also has a 100 pound, 3-year-old bloodhound named Willa who keeps her company.



Mathis’ bloodhound, Willa



Protecting those Behind the Badge

The Police Benevolent Foundation (PBF), Southern States PBA (SSPBA) and the Virginia PBA (VAPBA) Division of the Southern States PBA have partnered with LEAPS Training LLC, and the New River Valley Chapter of the VAPBA to educate law enforcement administrators, law enforcement officers and their family members about the hidden dangers of PTSD and its connection to the high rate of law enforcement suicide.

Facts for LEOs:

More officers die each year by their own hand as opposed to being killed by an assailant.

Law enforcement suicide is seldom addressed or acknowledged by law enforcement agencies.

Each day an officer makes the choice to take his/her own life.

The effects of law enforcement suicides are long lasting to both the officer's family and the department.

Scan QR to Register!



Join us on **Tuesday, March 11th**, as the PBF, SSPBA, and VAPBA conduct an informational seminar about PTSD and law enforcement suicide. Hosted at **Radford City Office** in **Radford, VA** from **8 am to 4 pm**.

This seminar is absolutely **FREE**, and it is extremely valuable in its potential for saving families, careers, and most importantly - saving lives. We encourage everyone with an interest in securing and/or improving the profession of law enforcement to attend.

Please contact **Randy Byrd** - rbyrd@sspba.org with any questions

PBA screening efforts pay dividends to members and citizens of North Carolina

BY STEVE ANTHONY
NORTH CAROLINA STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Newly elected Raleigh Mayor Janet Cowell has been a longtime friend of the North Carolina Division of the Southern States Police Benevolent Association. Serving in various capacities of state and local government, she understands the value professional law enforcement adds to society.

Her previous roles as Raleigh City Council member, N.C. state senator and N.C.'s first female state treasurer bring the knowledge and ability to work at all levels of government to bring positive results. During her time as state treasurer, she made strides in PBA involvement by having N.C. Division Past President Randy Byrd appointed to The Future of Retirement Study Commission.

This 13-person committee was tasked with ensuring the retirement system at that time was structured correctly for at least the next 50 years. Cowell's purpose for the committee was to prepare recommendations and present them to the General Assembly.

At that time, Standard & Poor's named North Carolina's pension fund for state employees and teachers the second strongest in the nation for the previous three years, and it was close to being fully funded.

"It was a tremendous honor for me to be included on this committee," said Byrd, adding, "North Carolina retirement's system is crucial for law enforcement officers looking to retire in such a way as to not have to worry about their future benefits after working hard for the citizens of North Carolina."

Cowell then recommended Byrd for the Local Government Retirement Board, an appointment made by Gov. Perdue. On this appointment, again Byrd praised the work by Cowell.

"Treasurer Cowell continues to show her dedication by not dismissing the men and women of law enforcement," said Byrd. He added he was grateful to be a part of that crucial board. After two terms as treasurer,



Capital Chapter President Andy McFeaters and newly elected Raleigh Mayor Cowell

Cowell decided not to seek reelection in 2015.

After working for two non-profits, Cowell decided to once again pursue elected office and seek the PBA's endorsement in her run for mayor of Raleigh. The PBA political process is a time-honored tradition that has been in place for decades and was created by our founder, Charlie Maddox. This process involves the members deciding on which races to get involved, along with the issues they want to address politically.

After approval from the legal staff, screening questions are mailed and emailed to the candidates



PBA leaders present a Plaque of Appreciation to treasurer Cowell in 2015

with an invitation letter. This allows the candidate the opportunity to prepare for what is essentially a job interview and to understand the significant issues facing officers.

On the day of the interview, the Capital Chapter and volunteer board members spent their time with Cowell and other candidates to receive answers to the questions that are vitally important to Raleigh officers and their families.

The screening process that a candidate goes through to earn this endorsement is not an easy one, nor is an endorsement guaranteed. Candidates are scored individually based on their responses and then ranked with other candidates by a screening committee. The screening committee's recommendations then go to the appropriate board for a vote on the final endorsement.

Cowell's responses to the questions put before her were in keeping with the fundamentals she ran upon. As her campaign website stated, "As Mayor, Janet will work to support our law enforcement officers by ensuring they have appropriate personnel, equipment, facilities, and training. They also need competitive pay and affordable housing options so they can live in the city they serve. They should also have the same degree of accountability as any other city department."

After assisting Cowell in her winning campaign, the PBA was proud to be on hand when she was sworn in as the next mayor of Raleigh. The beginning of

her term comes at a challenging time locally and nationally for recruiting, hiring and retaining police officers. Despite the City Council's two 5 percent raises for public safety staff this year, pay will be an issue that Mayor Cowell and her council will continue to address.

"I have had a good working relationship with the PBA for 20 years as an elected official," said Cowell. "I appreciate the PBA's advocacy on behalf of police officers and their goal of creating a safe and secure community for everyone. I look forward to working with the PBA as the mayor of Raleigh."

Capital Chapter President Andy McFeaters said PBA is equally eager to work with the new mayor on law enforcement issues.

"The City of Raleigh is seeing their officers leave in unprecedented numbers because of the pay and benefits they are receiving," he said. "Raleigh is simply serving as a training ground for other agencies. We are looking forward to working with Mayor Cowell on this and other issues to make Raleigh a safe place to live, work and raise a family."

David Rose is the N.C. Division president.

"When our volunteer members and chapter leaders see the importance of getting involved in the SSP-BA politically – we are able to effect change," said Rose. "I am truly honored to be a part of this great association and have the playbook that Charlie Maddox created."

Meet ARPBA Division scholarship winner Chloe Weathers

BY CINDY BAUGHER
COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT COORDINATOR

Describing Chloe Weathers as well-rounded seems like an understatement. As a recipient of an ARPBA division scholarship, her resume is as extensive as it is impressive.

By her high school graduation in 2022, Chloe had logged 170 volunteer hours with her Clarksville High Beta Club through various service projects. She also volunteered to coach with the Clarksville Sea Dragons swim team and was a volunteer lifeguard for the local aquatics center. As a college student at the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville, Ark., she continues to volunteer at swim meets, basketball, softball and soccer games.

Chloe earned multiple athletic titles in high school, including being named All-State nine times and All-Conference 12 times for her performances in swim, cross country and track. She was chosen as a member of the All-Arkansas Academic Track and Field Team by the Arkansas Track Coach Association and received the Centennial Bank Swimmer of the Year Award in 2019, Cross-Country Athlete of the Year in 2021 and Track Athlete of the Year in 2021.

She was also named the River Valley Prep Swimmer of the Year in 2020 and 2021. In addition, she played French horn in the high school marching band and was a member of Clarksville's Christian Student Union.

In college, Chloe has continued to receive accolades for her athletics and academics. She was named 2023 ASC All-Conference and Freshman of the Year for track, University of the Ozarks Freshman of the Year ASC All-Conference and Newcomer of the Year for cross-country, SCAC Swimmer of the Week, SCAC Academic All-Conference for swimming, and 2024 University of the Ozarks Female Athlete of the Year.

She accomplished all of this while maintaining a 4.0 GPA and was also awarded Scholar All-American Honors in all three sports for her efforts in the class-



Chloe after being selected the 2024 University of the Ozarks Female Athlete of the Year

room.

University of the Ozarks was Chloe's choice for college because it allowed her to be close to her family and swim and run track and cross country for the U of O Eagles. Another perk to staying local was that she is still able to coach off-season for the Sea Dragons swim team, where she was hired to continue the work that she's been invested in for so long.

Considering how dedicated Chloe is to the Sea Drag-



Sisters Macy and Chloë Weathers receive their checks from ARPBA River Valley Chapter President Jamie Gray. With them are their parents, Kevin and Lori Weathers.

ons swim team and to her own athletic pursuits, it's understandable that her major at U of O is elementary education with a minor in athletic coaching.

"I chose to follow my heart in selecting my career goals," she said. "Since I was very young, I have always had strong passions for running, swimming, reading and helping others. Additionally, I love to work with children, especially the ones that struggle either academically or socially. My ultimate goal is to encourage young students and athletes to find the confidence to work hard and pursue their dreams."

Chloe is hopeful that she will be able to help her future students become more confident and successful. As someone who loves reading, she wants to also instill that love in the children she meets in her classroom. She's planning to become certified as a coach or physical education teacher. She believes that "sharing my love for physical fitness and a

119th U.S. Congress Legislative Updates

The following links will take you to the lists of federal legislation we are currently monitoring. The lobbying software we are using will allow you to be informed and help you to track bills important to your profession.

SSPBA Tracked legislation:

- [U.S. 119th Congress Police Related Benefits Bills](#)
- [U.S. 119th Congress Firearm Related Bills](#)
- [U.S. 119th Congress Police Labor Related Bills](#)
- [U.S. 119th Congress Police Working Conditions Bills](#)

healthy diet will also help students build more confidence in their own strengths and abilities.”

The Weathers family is close-knit and has strong community ties. Her mother is a retired math teacher who taught in their hometown of Clarksville for 29 years of her 32-year teaching career. Chloe’s younger sister, Macy, is two years younger and is newly enrolled at the University of the Ozarks.

Chloe described Macy as “an awesome swimmer and runner” who has joined Chloe on the Eagles swim, cross country and track teams. She loved competing alongside her sister in high school and is looking forward to the same opportunity in college.

Chloe’s father, Kevin Weathers, has been in law enforcement for 31 years. He retired in June 2021, only to start back the next day as an auxiliary police officer with Clarksville Police Department. He wore many hats throughout his 31 years of service: dispatcher, patrolman, senior patrolman, sergeant, detective sergeant, captain and chief.

Weathers became an officer after he was encouraged to do so by several friends who were already in the field.

“I enjoy the challenge of each day,” he said. “What I enjoy the most about law enforcement is the diversity of the job. You never know what the next call is going to entail.”

Considering this statement, his opinion on PBA membership is understandable.

“I became a member of the SSPBA to protect my job as well as my family,” he said. “In choosing a career that’s sole purpose is to serve my community, SSPBA has given me added peace of mind. I would definitely recommend PBA membership to my friends and colleagues.”

Chloe said it is “an honor to be the daughter of a police officer and also an honor to be chosen for a PBF scholarship.” Her father’s membership enabled her eligibility, and Chloe’s pride in him is evident.

“My dad is a true servant of the community,” she said. “Whether he is at work, home or church, he is always the first to volunteer to help someone in need. Being

a police officer has never been ‘just a job’ to my dad. It is who he is. He takes pride in helping others and never wants anything in return. I am very blessed to be his daughter.”



Chloe Weathers with her proud dad, Kevin Weathers, an auxiliary officer with Clarksville Police Department in Arkansas and member of PBA.