



# SLPOA Welcomes Chief Tracy

By Joe Steiger-SLPOA Business Manager

As you all know by now, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department has a new Chief of Police. I would like to start by congratulating Chief Robert Tracy and welcoming him to our SLMPD family. We here at the SLPOA are looking forward to working with him and we are glad this selection process has finally come to an end. Despite the many issues and lack of transparency, it is reassuring to know that there will finally be some stability in the Chief's Office.

Chief Tracy will face many challenges within the community and with fighting crime, but he will also take the helm of the department during a massive staffing crisis with all-time low numbers for officers and support staff alike. Chief Tracy is dealing with a serious recruitment and retention problem that stems mostly from the huge pay disparity between our officers and the officers from other departments in the surrounding area. I hope this pay disparity and the poor morale throughout the department are two of the first things he tackles in his new position.

Chief Tracy will also have a full plate trying to navigate the dynamics of this city. Being an outsider could be good and bad. It might take him a bit longer to steer through all of the City politics but maybe it also provides him a fresh start with some old and damaged relationships he inherited from prior

administrations. Having a fresh perspective could also be an advantage especially when it comes to how the department's resources are deployed and in personnel decisions. We can only hope that he will effectively place his staff and resources based on best policies and results not based on friendships and loyalties which has sometimes been an issue in the past. SLPOA hopes to have a voice in these decisions because no one knows this department better than the men and women who are out there on the streets doing the job each and every day.

I'm sure many of you were disheartened by the decision to look outside of the ranks of our own department, myself included. There were certainly many qualified and worthy candidates within the ranks of our own command. I hope the decision to go outside doesn't negatively impact the City's ability to retain these quality commanders for future promotions. We all know how many of the surrounding departments like to poach talent from our ranks. Promoting from outside certainly discourages those who have worked so hard to ascend through the



ranks with the hope of reaching that top spot on the department. Going outside to select the chief sends a bad message to those commanders currently within the department. It creates a perception that our internal candidates were not good enough and demonstrates there may be limits for the advancement of their careers. We all know the first part is not accurate, but we certainly hope the

latter part is not. This decision will likely create yet another difficult hurdle for the new chief to clear.

With all of that being said, we are encouraged by what we've heard from Chief Tracy thus far. SLPOA President, Jay Schroeder, has made contact with some of Chief Tracy's former officers and the feedback has been very positive. We are optimistic that he will address officers' morale and we were pleased by his willingness to engage with SLPOA, and the other leadership groups, shortly after being introduced during his press conference. We stand ready to assist in making this a smooth transition for him and we are excited about the opportunity to work with him going forward. We would encourage everyone to give him a chance to make things better and hope that he makes our concerns his priority.



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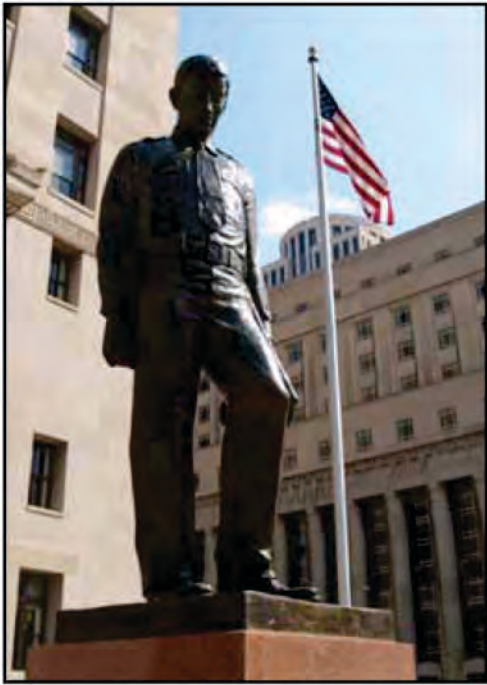
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## See Calendar Page 16

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Michael Gibbons  
1915



Edward Spilcker  
1915



James King  
1920



No Picture Available  
John Bohlen  
1925



Edward Lally  
1927



Roy Berry  
1929



John Walsh  
1929



Edward Burke  
1953



Glennon Jasper  
1964



Nicholas Sloan  
2004

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GENDARME

Printed Monthly

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

January 25  
February 22  
6 p.m.

E-BOARD MEETING

January 25  
February 22  
4 p.m.

VETERAN’S MEETING

January 11  
February 8  
11:30 a.m.

POLICE WIVES MEETING

January 11  
February 8  
7 p.m.

2023

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# Officer in the Spotlight

By Joe Steiger



SLPOA would like to begin a new column where we highlight an officer or a unit for some exemplary work either on or off duty. We are looking to feature any good deed or action that goes above and beyond the normal call of duty and would especially like to draw attention to the many fundraising and charitable activities so many of our members take part in on a regular basis.

This month we would like to shine the spotlight on Detective Julie Johnson. Detective Johnson organized a collection from the Child Abuse Unit, Sex Crimes Unit and the Domestic Abuse Response Team Unit to adopt a family this Christmas. They chose a family with a mother who is a single parent, raising eight children ranging in age from two to thirteen, while working a full-time job. Julie and her colleagues were able to raise nearly \$500 for presents and stockings for the family. Julie approached her SLPOA representative about helping and the Executive Board agreed to contribute another

\$500 allowing them to buy a new sectional couch for the family's home. Detective Joe Kerth even graciously donated a dining room table and chairs for the family.

With the funds they collected, Julie and her fellow officers were also able to purchase some much-needed toiletries, a family pass to the Science Center and a few gifts from each child's wish list. The family was very grateful, and SLPOA is proud to support this amazing effort.

We are so happy to highlight Detective Johnson, Detective Kerth and all the other members who helped make this family's Christmas special. If you would like to nominate



someone for the "Officer in the Spotlight" please reach out to me or your division representative with the details.

## THANK YOU OFFICERS !



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Retired P.O. Richard Brown

Date of Birth: 11/20/1939  
Date of Death: 12/13/2022

Date of Employment: 12/02/1968  
Date of Retirement: 12/04/1993

Assignment: Warrant Fugitive



Retired P.O. Michael W. Marshall

DOB: 04/03/1944  
Date of Death: 12/20/2022

Date of Employment: 07/29/1968  
Date of Retirement: 10/16/1995  
Assignment code: 5TH

It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish. Family and friends must say goodbye to their beloved Michael William Marshall (Lesterville, Missouri), born in Saint Louis, Missouri, who passed away at the age of 78, on December 20,2022. Family and friends can send flowers and/or light a candle as a loving gesture for their loved one. Leave a sympathy message to the family in the guestbook on memorial page of Michael William Marshall to show support.



## FADEOUTS

SGT John P. Sabin	530	01/01/2023
PO Roxann L. Ali	455	12/18/2022



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# PRS UPDATE



To: Trustees of the Police Retirement System of St. Louis

From: Marquette Associates, Inc.

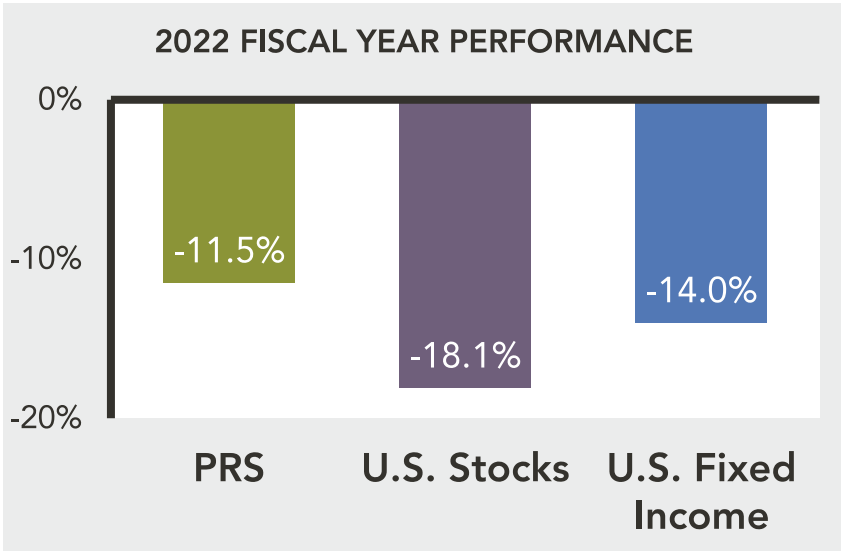
Date: December 19, 2022

Re: Weathering the Storm

This memo is to outline a response to some inaccurate claims being made in the public arena about the investments of PRS. 2022 has been a very difficult investing environment for all public pension plans, as public equities and public fixed income both were down across the board. We are happy to report that the PRS portfolio has weathered the storm quite well and in fact performed better than 84% of U.S. public pension plans for your fiscal year ending September 30, 2022.

The below items outline responses to inaccurate claims being made:

- **Emerging Markets:** PRS is not heavily invested in emerging markets. To the contrary, emerging markets equities made up approximately just 4.4% of the total portfolio (~\$34M as of 9/30/22). This weighting is in line with other public pension plans throughout the country.
- **China:** PRS is also not heavily invested in China. PRS’ China exposure mostly comes from of the emerging markets equity fund in the above bullet point. There may be an investment in a Chinese company here and there for some other managers, but that is not going to move the needle much. The emerging markets equity fund mentioned in the above bullet point has about 34% allocated to China (close to the emerging markets equity index they aim to beat). So that is about \$12M in investments with China. Of the entire PRS portfolio, that is about 1.5%. That is also in line, if not less, than many other public pension plans throughout the country.
- **“Green energy funds”:** PRS does not invest in any dedicated “Green energy funds.” If any investment manager sees an opportunity purely from an investment return standpoint, they have discretion to invest in a green energy opportunity because it makes business sense. To the contrary of the “Green energy fund” claim, PRS actually has some dedicated oil and natural gas fund investments.
- **Peer rankings:** While investment returns were negative this past fiscal year (along with all other public pension plans), the rankings for PRS relative to peers have been strong. In addition to PRS’ performance being ranked at the 16<sup>th</sup> percentile this past fiscal year (better than 84% of other public pension plans nationwide), PRS’ trailing rankings the past seven years are consistently in the top half of public pension plans, and usually in the top quartile.
- **“Risky investments”:** With respect to a claim that PRS is comprised of “risky investments”, the chart to the right shows PRS’ returns versus two common public security benchmarks. In the past fiscal year the plan was down -11.5% net of fees, but fared quite well compared to them. During the past fiscal year, the U.S. stock market (the Russell 3000 index) was down -18.1% and the main index of fixed income (the Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index), was down 14.0%. That bond index is generally considered to be far safer than stocks, and is comprised with approximately 40% of US Treasury Bonds.



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- Across
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- 4

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"Arabian Nights" bird
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- 4

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Out for the long term
- 7

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- 8

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Australian lake
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- 19

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Stuff of life

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People are telling us they've gotten emails warning that their sensitive personal information is being sold in the shadowy marketplaces of the dark web. Some emails list the stolen information, like all or part of the person's Social Security number, date of birth, and driver's license number. If you've gotten one of these emails, take steps to help protect yourself against financial loss from identity theft.

**Don't click a link or use a phone number in the message.** It could be a "phishing" email, designed to trick you into disclosing sensitive information to scammers. If you think the message is legit — for example, if you have a credit monitoring service or a credit card with a company that monitors the dark web — contact the company using a website or phone number that you know is real.

**Change your passwords to secure your accounts.** Start by changing the passwords on your email accounts. Email accounts often are the weak link in online security because password resets for other accounts go to your email. If your email account password has become known, then an identity thief can log into your account and intercept your password reset emails.

- Pro tip: When setting up new passwords, consider using a password manager. Free ones are built into most browsers and will automatically create passwords that are hard to guess. Be sure to use different passwords for each account and, if the account offers multifactor authentication, use it for added security.

**Check your credit reports.** After securing your accounts, make sure nobody has opened new accounts using your information. Visit [AnnualCreditReport.com](http://AnnualCreditReport.com) to get an annual free credit report from each of the three nationwide credit bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. Through

# Did you get an email saying your personal info is for sale on the dark web?

By Seena Gressin - Attorney, Division of Consumer & Business Education

December 2023, you can get a free credit report every week from each of them at the website. If you find an account or transaction you don't recognize, visit [IdentityTheft.gov](http://IdentityTheft.gov) to report the identity theft and get a personal recovery plan.

**Consider freezing your credit.** A credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, is free to place and remove and is the best way to protect against an identity thief opening new accounts in your name. Alternatively, place a free fraud alert on your credit to make it more difficult for an identity thief to get new credit in your name.

Visit [IdentityTheft.gov/databreach](http://IdentityTheft.gov/databreach) for more steps to take, depending on what information was exposed. And, if you get one of these emails, please tell us at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](http://ReportFraud.ftc.gov).

Did you get an email saying your info is for sale on the dark web?

Before you act, read this Consumer Alert from the FTC.



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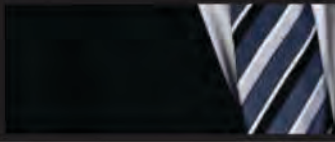


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# HOW TO FIND OUT IF SOMETHING IS A SCAM

Here are some ways you can tell you're dealing with a scam:

- Scammers usually pressure you to act quickly. They don't want you to have time to check what they're saying.
- Scammers tell you to pay in a specific way. They want it to be hard to get your money back, so they'll say to pay by gift card, by wire transfer, or with cryptocurrency.
- Scammers ask for your personal or financial information — things like your Social Security, credit card, or bank account number.

Before you act, type the company or product name into your favorite search engine with terms like “review,” “complaint,” or “scam,” and see what you find.

For more on how to recognize a scam, go to [ftc.gov/scams](https://www.ftc.gov/scams).

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## Crossword Solution from pg. 10

1	R	2	O	3	E		4	B	5	L	6	I	7	P		8	T	9	E	10	D
11	O	F	T			12	F	I	O	N	A					13	R	Y	E		
14	C	F	C			15	I	N	C	A	R					16	I	R	E		
				17	H	18	A	N	D	I	C	A	19	P	P	E	D				
20	S	21	P	I	C	E	S			22	O	D	E								
23	H	O	N	E	D			24	E	M	E	R	25	G	E	27	S				
28	E	G	G				29	B	R	A			30	E	A	T					
31	D	O	S	32	S	33	I	E	R		34	L	35	H	A	S	A				
				36	I	N	N			37	H	E	A	R	T	Y					
38	C	39	H	A	R			41	M	A	G	N	E								
42	L	O	B			43	A	F	O	R	E		44	D	45	A	46	D			
47	U	S	E			48	W	I	D	E	R		49	U	R	N					
50	E	E	L			51	S	T	E	M			52	P	T	A					

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

# Time for Laughter

It is always enjoyable to take a break during the day and have a good laugh. Here are some stories that gave me a chuckle.

### Bargaining With God

Mickey climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God. Looking up, he asks the Lord, "God, what does a million years mean to you?"  
The Lord replies, "A minute."  
Mickey asks, "And what does a million dollars mean to you?"  
The Lord replies, "A penny."  
Mickey asks, "Can I have a penny?"  
The Lord replies, "In a minute."

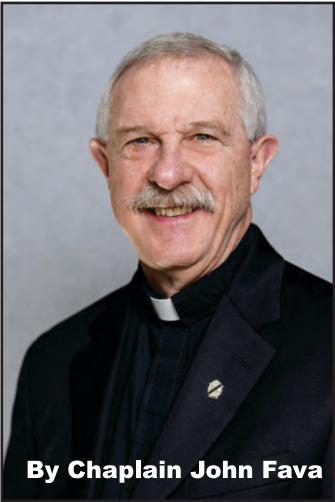
### The \$5.99 Special

My wife and I went to breakfast at a restaurant where the "seniors' special" was two eggs, bacon, hash browns and toast for \$5.99. "Sounds good," my wife said. "But I don't want the eggs."  
"Then, I'll have to charge you \$6.49 because you're ordering a la carte," the waitress warned her.  
"You mean I'd have to pay for not taking the eggs?" my wife asked incredulously.  
"YES!" stated the waitress.  
"I'll take the special then," my wife said.  
"How do you want your eggs?" the waitress asked.  
"Raw and in the shell," my wife replied.  
The waitress served our food, and my wife took the two eggs home and used them to bake a cake.  
Don't mess with seniors!!! We've been around the block more than once!

### The Car Accident

An old man crashes his car into a very expensive automobile. The owner jumps out, confronts the old man and says, "Give me \$10,000 cash, or I will beat you to a pulp!"

The old man replies, "Whoa. Wait, buddy. I don't have that much money; but let me call my son; he trains dolphins."  
The old man dials his son, and as he is about to speak, the owner of the expensive car yanks the phone out of the old man's hand and says, "So you train dolphins, well your old man just hit and damaged my car. Bring me \$10,000, or I'm gonna beat the heck outta him and you!"  
The son answers, "OK, give me 10 minutes, and I'll be there."  
In exactly 10 minutes, the son pulls up in a truck, ten men jump out, and beat the heck out of the expensive car owner.  
Meanwhile, the son walks over to his Dad and says, "Dad, I train Navy Seals not dolphins."



By Chaplain John Fava

### Ship's Captain

A captain notices a light in the distance on a collision course with his ship. He turns on his signal lamp and sends, "Change your course 10 degrees west."  
The light signals back, "Change your course 10 degrees east."  
The captain gets a little annoyed, and he signals, "I am a U.S. Navy Captain. You must change your course, sir."  
The signal comes back, "I am a Seaman First Class. You must change your course, sir."  
Now the captain is mad, and he signals, "I am an aircraft carrier, and I am not changing my course."  
The light signals back a final message, "I am a light house. Your call."

(Cont. on pg. 15)



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# Time for Laughter

(Cont. from pg. 14)

### Paddy & Mick

Two Irishmen Paddy and Mick were at Mick's house having a few beers and watching the football game on TV. When the game ended, Paddy got up to go home, but they noticed that it was pouring down rain outside.

"Stay the night here, Paddy," said Mick. "I'll go and make up the bed in the guest room for you. It will just take a few minutes."

When Mick came back downstairs, he saw that Paddy was drenched to the bones. Mick asked, "What the heck happened to you?"

Paddy replied, "I went home to get my pajamas."

### Crossword Puzzle

A Cyclops was doing a crossword puzzle and asked his wife, "How do you spell Hawaii?"

She replied, "You need two eyes."

The Cyclops said, "Well, that's rude."

### Car Keys

As I was walking into the store, it dawned on me that I did not have my car keys. They were not in my purse or my pockets. I then realized that I must have left them in the car. Frantically, I headed for the parking lot. My husband has scolded my many times for leaving my keys in the car's ignition. He's afraid that the car could be stolen. As I looked around the parking lot, I realized that he was right. My car must have been stolen because it was not in the lot. I immediately called the police, gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and said that it had been stolen.

Then I made the most difficult call of all, the one to my husband, "I left my keys in the car, and it has been stolen," I said squeamishly.

There was a moment of silence. I thought I had been disconnected, but then I heard a voice, "Are you kidding me? I dropped you off at the store," he barked.

Now it was my turn to be silent. Embarrassed, I said, "Well, come and get me."

He retorted, "I will; just as soon as I convince this police officer that I did not steal your damn car!"

### The Mule

Curtis and Leroy saw an ad in the Herald-Citizen in Cookeville, Arkansas, and bought a mule for \$100. The farmer agreed to deliver the mule the next day.

The next morning the farmer drove up and said, "Sorry, fellers, I have some bad news. The mule died last night."

Curtis and Leroy replied, "Well, then just give us our money back."

The farmer said, "Can't do that. I went and spent it already."

They said, "OK then, just bring us the dead mule."

The farmer asked, "What in the world ya'll gonna do with a dead mule?"

Curtis said, "We're gonna raffle him off."

The farmer said, "You can't raffle off a dead mule!"

Leroy said, "We sure can! Heck, we don't hafta tell nobody he's dead!"

A couple of weeks later, the farmer ran into Curtis and Leroy at the IGA grocery store and asked, "What'd you fellers ever do with that dead mule?"

They said, "We raffled him off like we said we wuz gonna do."

Leroy said, "Shucks, we sold 1000 tickets fer two dollars apiece and made a profit of \$1,898.00

The farmer said, "My Lord, didn't anyone complain?"

Curtis said, "Well, the feller who won got upset. So we gave him his two dollars back."

Curtis and Leroy now work for the government.

May God Bless  
all of you as you begin  
the new year.



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St. Louis Police Officers Association



The Official Publication of the ST. LOUIS POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE - Lodge 68

JANUARY 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2	3	4	5	6 PAYDAY	7
8	9	10	11 VETERANS MTG 11:30 AM POLICE WIVES 7PM	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17	18	19	20 PAYDAY	21
22	23	24	25 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG 6PM E-BOARD MTG 4PM	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 PAYDAY	4 SCOTT LASCHOB MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER
5	6	7	8 VETERANS MTG 11:30 AM POLICE WIVES 7PM	9	10	11
12 	13	14 Happy VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16	17 PAYDAY	18
19	20 PRESIDENT'S DAY	21 Mardi Gras	22 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG 6PM E-BOARD MTG 4PM	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 PAYDAY	4
5	6	7	8 VETERANS MTG 11:30 AM POLICE WIVES 7 PM	9	10	11
12 	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day PAYDAY 	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 E-BOARD MTG 4:30 PM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG 7 PM	30	31 PAYDAY	