National Law Enforcement Officers <u>MEMORIAL FUND</u> RESPECT. HONOR. REMEMBER.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER DEATHS: MID-YEAR 2011 REPORT

# **RESEARCH BULLETIN**

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## Law Enforcement Fatalities Increase 14% in First Half of 2011; Firearms-related Fatalities Reach 20-Year High

Following an alarming 25% increase in 2010, the number of law enforcement fatalities in the U.S. have continued to rise in the first six months of 2011.

According to preliminary data from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 98 officers were killed from January 1, 2011 to June 30, 2011— a Total Fatalities: Mid-Year 1961-2011



14% increase from the same time frame in 2010, when 86 officers were killed in the performance of duty.

For 13 years in a row, traffic-related incidents have been the leading cause of officer fatalities, but for the first half of 2011, firearms-related fatalities have out-paced traffic-related fatalities as the primary cause of law enforcement deaths, with 40 officers shot and killed. This represents a troubling 33% increase from 2010, when 30 officers were killed by gunfire.

Four of these officers were from the state of Florida, which has lost 10 officers in the first six months of this year, tied with Texas for the most law enforcement fatalities in the United States.

Traffic-related fatalities have claimed the lives of 35 officers in 2011, a 17% decrease from the first six months of 2010, when 42 officers were killed.

Of the 21 officers killed in automobile crashes, 13 law enforcement officers were involved in an assistance activity, six were killed in accidents relating to criminal activity, and two were killed en route to or from work in their patrol vehicles.

The data and statistics contained in this report are preliminary and do not represent a final or complete list of individual officers who will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in 2012.

## A Closer Look: Florida

#### Miami-Dade Police Department



Detective Roger Castillo and Detective Amanda Haworth were shot and killed while serving a felony murder warrant. The officers arrived at the suspect's residence to serve

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EOW: 1/20/2011

Castillo

residence to serve a warrant when the suspect opened fire, shooting three officers. Detective Castillo was pronounced dead at the scene, and

Amanada Lynn Haworth EOW: 1/20/2011

pronounced dead at the scene, and Detective Haworth later died during surgery.

#### St. Petersburg Police Department

Officer Jeffrey Yaslowitz was

shot and killed while serving a warrant for aggravated battery. As Officer Yaslowitz approached the suspect to arrest him, the suspect opened fire and barricaded



Jeffrey Adam Yaslowitz EOW: 1/24/2011

himself in the attic. Sergeant Thomas Baitinger was shot and killed while trying to rescue the wounded officers. He was part of the entry team assigned to rescue Officer Yaslowitz



Sergeant Thomas John Baitinger EOW: 1/24/2011

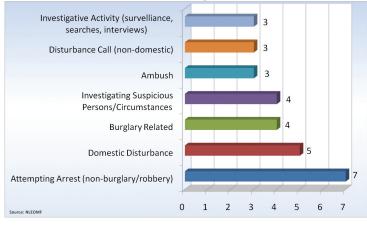
and a Deputy Marshal. Sergeant Baitinger was also shot by the suspect.

## Firearms-related Fatalities: Mid-Year 2011

In the first half of 2011, firearms-related fatalities reached a 20-year high, with 40 officers killed by gunfire — a 33% increase from that same point in 2010, when only 30 officers were fatally shot.

Eleven officers — 28% of firearms-related fatalities — were shot and killed in January, the deadliest month for gunfire deaths this year. In one 24-hour period, 11 officers were shot, with three killed and eight wounded.

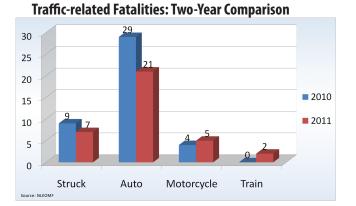
#### Circumstances of Fatal Shootings: Mid-Year 2011

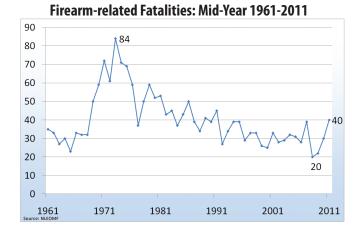


## Traffic-related Fatalities: Mid-Year 2011

For the first time in five years, traffic-related fatalities were lower than firearms-related fatalities, with 35 officers killed in the first six months of 2011, compared to 42 during the same time frame in 2010.

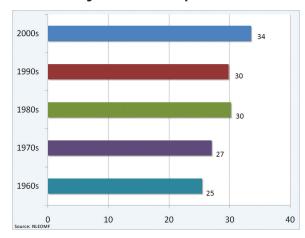
Twenty-one officers were killed in automobile crashes, seven were struck and killed, five were killed in motorcycle crashes, and two were struck and killed by a train while in an automobile.





Three multiple-fatality, "cluster-killing" incidents (when two or more officers were shot and killed) have occured in 2011— two in Florida (St. Petersburg and Miami-Dade) and one incident in Grundy, VA.

Seven officers were killed when attempting arrest in a non-burglary/robbery situation, followed closely by fatalities while responding to domestic disturbance calls. Four officers, respectively, were killed during burglaries, and while investigating suspicious persons and activities.



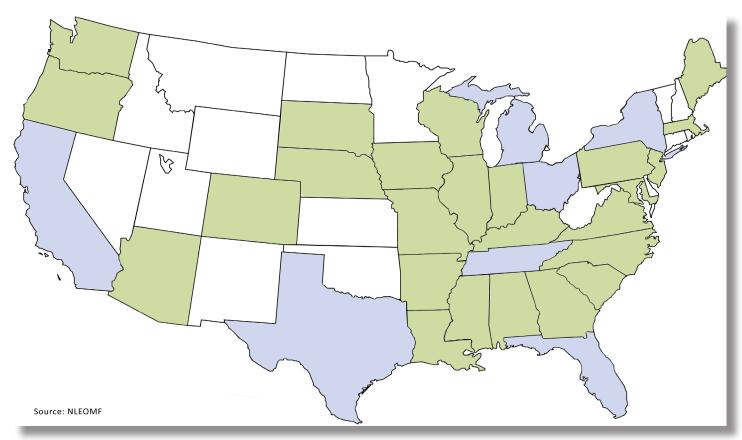
#### Mid-Year Average Traffic Fatalities per Decade: 1960-2010

Since 1960, traffic-related fatalities have steadily increased each decade.

Mid-year 1979 had the lowest number of trafficrelated fatalities with 17, and they spiked in 2007 when 47 officers were killed in traffic-related incidents.



## **Geographic Distribution of Officer Fatalities: Mid-Year 2011**





Thirty-two states lost a law enforcement officer in the first six months of 2011, with Texas and Florida experiencing the most fatalities in the nation. Closely following is New York with eight fatalities and Ohio, with seven. Tennessee, Michigan, and California had four officer fatalities.

Nine federal officers have been killed in the first half of 2011; matching the entire 2010 total.

Eighteen states (AK, CT, DE, HI, ID, KS, MN, MT, NV, NH, NM, ND, OK, RI, UT, VT, WV, and WY) and the District of Columbia did not lose an officer in the first half of the year.

States with four or more fatalities

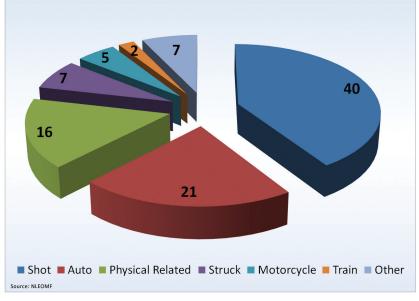
States with at least one fatality

## Fatalities by State

CA 4 SC 2   MI 4 WA 2 Federal 9   TN 4 AR 1 1   AZ 3 IL 1 1   LA 3 IN 1 1   MO 3 IA 1 1   VA 3 KY 1 1   AL 2 ME 1 1   GA 2 MS 1 1	FL TX NY OH	10 10 8 7	MD NJ NC OR	2 2 2 2	NE PA SD WI	1 1 1 1
LA 3 IN 1 MO 3 IA 1 VA 3 KY 1 AL 2 ME 1 CO 2 MA 1	MI TN	4 4	WA AR	2	Federal	9
AL 2 ME 1 CO 2 MA 1	LA	3	IN	1		
	AL CO	2 2	ME MA	1 1		



### Causes of Officer Deaths: Mid-Year 2011



Traffic and firearms-related fatalities accounted for 77% of all law enforcement fatalities in the first half of 2011. Sixteen officers died from physical-related job injuries.

One officer lost his/her life due to each of the following: aircraft accident, beating, electrocution, officer falls to his/her death, bomb blast, crushed, and strangled.

Demographic Profile:								
Race/Ethnicity		Gender	Jurisdiction					
Caucasian	78	Female	8	Municipal Officer	s 50			
African American	8	Male	90	County Officers	23			
Hispanic	10	Average Age	41	State Officers	16			
Native American	1	Average Years of Service	13	Federal Officers	9			
Asian American	1							

Rank	<b>Total Fatalities</b>	Rank	Total Fatalities
Police Officer	33	Senior Police Officer	2
Deputy Sheriff	16	Special Agent	2
Trooper	8	Corporal	1
Sergeant	7	District Administrator	1
Correctional Officer	5	Game Warden Pilot	1
Captain	3	Investigator	1
Detective	3	Lieutenant	1
Border Patrol Agent	2	Master Patrolman	1
Chief of Police	2	Patrol Officer	1
Deputy Marshal	2	Public Safety Officer	1
Park Ranger	2	Senior Officer Specialist	1
Patrolman	2		

#### **A Closer Look:** Correctional Officers



**Correctional Officer** Casimiro Maximino Pomales New York State Department of Correctional Services

EOW: 1/28/2011

Correctional Officer Pomales was killed in an automobile crash while transporting an inmate.

#### **Correctional Officer Jayme Lee Biendl**

Washington Department of Corrections EOW: 1/29/2011 **Correctional Officer Biendl** was strangled to death by an inmate who attempted to escape from the Washington State Reformatory.





#### **Correctional Officer Greg**

Malloy Florida Department of Corrections EOW: 2/2/2011 **Correctional Officer Malloy** was shot and killed while searching for a suspect wanted for murder.

#### **Correctional Officer Ronald Edward Johnson**

South Dakota Department of Corrections EOW: 4/12/2011 Correctional Officer Johnson was assaulted and killed by inmates attempting to escape from the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls.



**Corrections Officer IV Craig** Orrell

Texas Department of Criminal Justice EOW: 5/12/2011 Corrections Officer Orrell died of a heart attack while jogging during an annual physical test.



This Research Bulletin was produced by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, in conjunction with Concerns of Police Survivors.

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