

## **ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATE – FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE NO. 1**

### **PREAMBLE:**

The Fraternal Order of Police Omaha Lodge No. 1 (FOP) is a 501 (c) (8) Fraternal Beneficiary Society non-profit organization which is comprised of Active Duty and Retired Omaha Police Officers. FOP Lodge No. 1 promotes both professional and social relationships.

### **POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Omaha Police Department (OPD) to recognize the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 1 (FOP) as an affiliate organization. As such the FOP is authorized to utilize the branding symbols of the OPD. The procedures below are printed as a reference for the benefit of the FOP.

### **PROCEDURE:**

#### **I. Eligibility and Membership**

- A. Any active duty or retired officer of the OPD or other law enforcement agency is eligible for membership with the FOP.
- B. Dues are fourteen dollars (\$14) per month and can be paid through a payroll deduction or via an annual payment of one-hundred-sixty-eight dollars (\$168.00).
- C. The members of the FOP meet monthly on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Tuesday of each month at 1900 hours at the Omaha Police Officer's Association Hall which is located at 13445 Cryer Ave. This meeting is open to all members and officers who are interested in membership. The meeting is followed by dinner and a social hour.
- D. The FOP has an Associate Member program.
  - 1. Associate Members must be family, friends, and business leaders who support law enforcement.
  - 2. Associate Members must be recommended by a current member of the FOP.
  - 3. Associate Members must pay dues of forty dollars (\$40) annually.
- E. The FOP Auxiliary/Embrace Blue is an organization supported by the FOP. The auxiliary is comprised of spouses, family, and friends of law enforcement.

#### **II. Benefits**

- A. Life Insurance Coverage
  - 1. The FOP provides a group life insurance plan for each member belonging to the organization and meeting the requirements for coverage.
  - 2. Applicants for insurance membership must not be older than forty (40) years of age to be eligible to participate in the Life Insurance Program.

**NOTE:** The only exception to this rule is open enrollment of a new police recruit class where a recruit member might be over forty (40). In this case, the recruit over forty (40) years of age has the time within the training academy to apply for the FOP Insurance. After graduation from the recruit training academy, the recruit over forty (40) would not be eligible for the insurance program.

3. The insurance premium is a part of the monthly dues and are adjusted according to age and plan cost.
4. The members spouse is covered as long as the member is a member in good standing and covered by the plan. The spouse amount is reduced based on the age of the member.

B. Retirement / Pensions

1. If a member retires on a regular pension, is over age fifty-five (55), has been a member for ten (10) continuous years, and wishes to retain membership:
  - a. Dues are paid for by the lodge.
  - b. The member has the option to continue in the insurance plan with the member paying the premium through electronic deduction.
2. If a member retires and takes a disability pension, regardless of age, prior to full retirement benefits, is totally disabled and cannot work for the OPD or in any civilian occupation that would be gainful employment, the member's dues will be paid by the FOP.
  - a. After taking a disability pension, it is the member's responsibility to provide information that the member is not gainfully employed.

C. Nebraska State Lodge (nefop.org)

1. Every member of the FOP is also a member of the Nebraska State Lodge and is eligible to participate in any plans or programs offered by the State Lodge.

D. National Lodge FOP (FOP.net)

1. Every member of the FOP is also a member of the National Lodge and able to participate in any plans or programs offered by the National Lodge.
2. The National FOP offers a Free College Benefit Program and is affiliated with several online college programs you can view more information at <http://fopfreecollege.org/>.
3. The National FOP offers a Legal Defense Plan. This program is designed to cover law enforcement exposures faced by members of the plan. The Plan will pay legal defense costs on behalf of participating members for the following actions and proceedings:

D. Other Benefits

1. Emergency funds are also available to the FOP members in the event of certain catastrophes; i.e. loss of home, furnishing, or clothing due to fire, storms, floods, etc. Both State and National FOP offer support in these circumstances as well.
2. The FOP has a scholarship program for children of members attending college. Scholarships are awarded based on the graded score of the application. Applications received are scored and awarded the following:
  - a. Scholarship applications can be found on the FOP's social media pages or at <https://fop1omaha.com/scholarships/>.

3. The FOP provides sponsorship on a limited basis to its members for golf, softball basketball, and other team and individual sporting events. The FOP also supports and sponsors youth activities for the children of its members.
4. Each year the FOP hosts membership events and activities including:
  - a. Picnic and Storm Chasers Night at the ball park.
  - b. Skate with Santa
  - c. FOP Golf Outing
  - d. FOP Kansas City Chiefs Football Trip

## **VI. Charities**

- A. The FOP donates to various charities throughout the year with an emphasis those charities supported by its members and the OPD.
- B. Requests for donations can be submitted in writing to the FOP through a board member.

## **VII. OPD Authorized Branding**

- A. The FOP is authorized to use OPD logos, badges, and images.
  1. FOP leadership shall contact the OPD Public Information Office for current logos, badges, and images as needed.

## **REFERENCES:**

### **I. Previous OPD Orders**

- A. Previous OPD General Orders include: #66-18.
- B. Previous OPD Personnel Orders include: #11-5.

### **II. PPM Update**

- A. PPM Update #11-2017, and #06-2018.