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# Police Unity Tour

"WE RIDE FOR THOSE WHO DIED"

## Chapter VII Southern California

### 2018 Ride Edition

[Socalput.com](http://Socalput.com)

#### Our Mission

The primary purpose of the Police Unity Tour is to raise awareness of Law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.



#### Our History

In May 1997, the Police Unity Tour was organized with the hope of bringing public awareness of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty and to honoring their sacrifices. We started with 18 riders on a four day fund-raising bicycle ride from Florham Park, NJ to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C. which raised \$18,000.00.

In late 2005, the Police Unity Tour pledged \$5 million in support of the National Law Enforcement Museum. Inspired by our commitment and our motto, "WE RIDE FOR THOSE WHO DIED" the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund has selected our organization to be the sponsor of the Museum's Hall of Remembrance.

Having completed the \$5 million commitment to the museum in 2009, the Police Unity Tour dedicated the 2010 ride to the restoration of the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. The \$1.1 million restoration project include the re-engraving, coating and sealing of the 18,983 names on the memorial as well as the cleaning of the walls and other memorial improvements.

In 2011, the Police Unity Tour became the official sponsor of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial's *Officer of the Month Program*. Officers of the month are honored at a special awards luncheon each May in Washington D.C. during National Police Week.

This past May, we had nearly 2400 members across the country who made the trip and we are proud to announce that we were able to donate over \$2.6 million to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

## 2017 Ride Itinerary

The 2018 ride will leave Somerset New Jersey on May 10<sup>th</sup> and arrive in Washington, DC on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Candlelight Vigil will take place May 13<sup>th</sup> at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOM).

### May 9<sup>th</sup>

Bike Assembly, Medical check-in and Safety Meeting

### May 10<sup>th</sup>

Somerset, NJ to Philadelphia  
Approximately 80 miles.

### May 11<sup>th</sup>

Philadelphia PA to Baltimore MD. Approximately 108 miles.

### May 12<sup>th</sup>

Baltimore MD. to Washington DC. Approximately 50 miles

**All members are expected to attend the Vigil.**

**The route is subject to change due to various conditions out of our control such as road permit requirements, road construction and lodging constraints. Therefore the Tour route map will not be published prior to the ride.**

**Ride two by two. Stay to the right.  
Never pass a motor on the left!**



## FUNDRAISING

**Each member is required to raise a minimum of \$1,900.00 (after the \$150.00 registration fee has been received) in order to participate in the Tour.**

**Note:** Any additional donations help offset overall costs of hotels (5 nights), breakfasts, transportation costs, porta johns, rental vans, fuel, food, supplies, and insurance.

New members **must** submit \$500.00 in **donations** within 60 days of their registration acceptance.

**Note:** October 19, 2017 is our first team meeting and is mandatory for all new members.

**The Police Unity tour is a not-for-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and while fundraising for participation in the tour, members must comply with all Federal, State and Local laws governing such fundraising.**

Each member will have his or her name listed on the Chapter VII donation page. Each member will have an opportunity to customize their own donation page profile and view their own fundraising progress.

**Note: April 1, 2018 All funds/donations are due.**

A completed sponsor form may be submitted with each check donation to accurately credit you and your sponsors. Please include your name and department affiliation in the memo line when mailing a check to the Chapter. Without this information it may not be possible to provide you with an accurate record of contributions. Pamphlets are available at team meetings with sponsor tear offs. All donations are tax deductible. The tax identification number is 22-3530541.

To inquire about your account balance, email: the Chapter VII Donation Coordinator at [Terie@socalput.com](mailto:Terie@socalput.com). Your fundraising progress will be displayed on your donation page. Check donations will be added to your fundraising progress page once they are received and credited by the donation coordinator.

## CHALLENGE RIDE

**All Challenge Ride participants are expected to attend a Safety Meeting/Dinner on the evening of May 9th in Somerset. Details will be provided by the ride coordinator.**

### 2018 Challenge Ride Itinerary

**Day 1: May 10th, 2017** - The ride starts in Somerset/Franklin NJ traveling through the rural countryside of central New Jersey and crosses the Delaware River at New Hope entering southeastern Pennsylvania. Day one will take us to downtown Philadelphia.

On day one you will be provided with breakfast, lunch and snacks during the ride. You will be on your own for dinner in the city of Philadelphia.

**Day 2: May 11th, 2017** - The ride begins through historic Philadelphia and then south into Delaware and Maryland arriving in Baltimore blocks from Inner Harbor. This is the longest day of riding at over 108 miles.

On day two you will be provided with breakfast, lunch and snacks during the ride. You will be on your own for dinner in Baltimore.

**Day 3: May 12th, 2017** - This is the shortest day of the Tour. The ride continues south into Washington DC where you will meet up with all the other chapters at RFK Stadium for the final few miles to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Approximate mileage is 50 miles.

On day three you will be provided with breakfast, lunch and snacks during the ride. Upon arrival in Washington, DC the Tour is not responsible for any expenses incurred for meals.

The Candlelight Vigil will take place on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the National Mall. *All members are expected to attend the Vigil.*

### **Meals:**

Meals provided by the Tour are as follows:

Day 1: May 10th: Breakfast, Lunch,

Day 2: May 11th: Breakfast, Lunch,

Day 3: May 12th: Breakfast, Lunch

## Training

Members are required to be in above-average physical condition in order to complete the Tour. New riders must complete an evaluation ride prior to acceptance and returning riders may be required to participate in an evaluation ride. Training ride information will be provided in emails and on the Chapter VII Facebook page.

It is recommended that you train with an experienced Tour rider and become familiar with riding in a group.

## SAFETY

**Riders: Ride two by two. Stay to the right. Never pass a motor on the left!**

All bikes are required to have a Challenge Ride number on their bicycle, the ride coordinator will direct where said number shall be placed on their bike. All bicycles as well as support vehicles will have a numbering system.

- x Only traditional two wheel bicycles are to be used while participating in the Police Unity Tour and Police Unity Tour sanctioned events. All participant bicycles are subject to inspection.
- x Helmets less than 5 years old and eye protection are required at all times.
- x Calling out road hazards and notifying fellow riders of slowing or stopping are important to everyone's safety.
- x **iPod(s) or entertainment devices that use earplugs, ear buds or headphones are prohibited.**
- x **Ride two by two and Do Not pass motorcycles on the left!**
- x No rider may hold on to any moving vehicle. **Do not pass the lead vehicle** or request that the pace of the ride be changed. Tour officials set the pace to ensure rider safety and accommodate cyclists of various skill levels while maintaining SAFETY & UNITY.
- x Riders must ride two by two. Any rider who fails to stay ahead of the last ride marshal will be asked to ride in the sag van until the next rest stop. This direction **MUST** be honored.

During the Tour we may cross grated bridges. *Riders are required to dismount their bicycles and walk over the bridges. **DO NOT** straddle your bicycle.* There will be a motorcycle and ride marshals posted before the bridges to notify the riders.

If there are any unexpected stops, all bicycles should be immediately moved off the roadway.

### Ride Marshals:

Ride marshals are official representatives of the Police Unity Tour and they have the authority to enforce the rules set forth by the Executive Board.

Ride marshals will be assigned to assist and monitor the riders. They will be wearing florescent green gloves and are available if you have any questions during the Tour.

### Motor Team

Motorcycle escorts ensure the safe and efficient movement of the bicycle procession by blocking intersections, ramps, driveways, traffic lights and riding alongside the bicycles. Motorcycles require room to safely pass riders, be aware of their presence.

**Ride two by two. Stay to the right. Never pass a motor on the left!**



## Rest Stops

There will be breaks approximately every 25 miles. Water, Gatorade, snacks and fruit will be available. Lunch is provided, usually at the second rest stop of the day.

All riders are asked to assist our support team with policing the rest areas prior to departure. This will not only be a sign of good faith to those who graciously allow us to use their facilities, it will also allow for a timely and smooth departure.

When departing a rest stop, line up in an orderly manner and be prepared to exit the rest area two by two. **Ride two by two. Stay to the right. Never pass a motor on the left!**

**Use the comfort stations provided at the breaks. It is unacceptable to urinate in the woods or on the side of the road.**



## Support Team

The support teams consist of procession, break, motors, luggage and hotel logistics. Prior to the start of the Tour you will be notified of your assignment by the Ride Coordinator. Each support member is invaluable to the overall safety and success of the Tour.

## Agency / Team Support Trailers

The Police Unity Tour has decided to allow for vehicles from individual agencies, or groups of riders to accompany them on the tour. However, these vehicles must be approved by Gil Curtis [Cur-tis@socalput.com](mailto:Cur-tis@socalput.com) or Chuck Buttitta [buttitta@socalput.com](mailto:buttitta@socalput.com).

All support members must be registered members of the Police Unity Tour.

The operators must be accepted members of the Police Unity Tour and adhere to the conditions set forth below:

“I am requesting permission to utilize the aforementioned vehicle during the Police Unity Tour. The sole purpose of this vehicle is for the convenience of my agency/group. I understand and agree that this vehicle will go directly from hotel to hotel and at no time will it participate or interfere with the operation of the Police Unity Tour bicycle procession or break teams, nor will any member of my group interfere with the Hotel Logistics Team by attempting to obtain room keys and/or check in with hotel staff or at the front desk. **For all participants any request for keys, change of room or any problem dealing with your room assignment must be done through a member of the Hotel Logistics Team.**”

Operators and occupants of these agency / group trailers may be called upon to assist in other functions relating to the safe operation and efficiency of the tour. Failure to comply may result in removal from the tour.

**The Police Unity Tour represents federal, state and local law enforcement nationwide. As members of the Police Unity Tour, we realize our greater responsibility to the brotherhood, our profession and what we represent as ambassadors to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. For that reason, as Members of the Police Unity Tour, there will be no consumption of alcohol during the Tour operating hours. There shall not be any possession or consumption of alcohol on the grounds of the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial. Any violation of this policy will result in my immediate ejection from the tour.**

## Uniforms

Riders must wear the approved blue Police Unity Tour jersey, Police Unity Tour shorts or solid black shorts or pants, an approved helmet manufactured in 2013 or later, and eye protection.



**Department patches may be sewn ONLY on the center back pocket of the jersey or riding jacket.** Under NO circumstances shall any advertisements be affixed to Police Unity Tour uniforms, jackets or support shirts.

Under NO circumstances shall any departmental patches, sponsor logos, or advertisements be affixed to the 15<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary jerseys.

Do not cut or alter the jerseys. Do not put any advertisements on the jerseys, jackets or any other part of the uniforms. This applies to riders, motors and support personnel.

Jerseys and riding jackets are to be worn by Tour members only. They are **NOT** to be sold or given to nonmembers.

There is no rank on the Tour. Your rank should not appear on your nametag.



The blue & white jacket must be ordered through Bikeland using the order form available on the website. Department patches may be sewn on the left sleeve of the blue & white jacket. Under NO circumstances shall any advertisements be affixed to any Police Unity Tour uniforms, jackets or support shirts.

Uniforms can be purchased by going to the uniform website listed on your personal donation page.



**Support members** must wear a blue Police Unity Tour polo shirt (support shirt) and black pants or shorts. Black boots, sneakers or shoes are acceptable. Open toed shoes are not permitted. **The support shirts must be ordered through the Web site under the Uniform tab.** Department patches may be sewn on the left sleeve of the support shirt. Under NO circumstances shall any advertisements be affixed to any Police Unity Tour uniforms, jackets or support shirts.



**Riders two by two, Stay to the right, Never pass a motor on the left!**



## Applications/Registration

Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Incomplete applications will not be processed until they are entirely completed. Any delay caused by submitting an incomplete application may result in your name being placed on a waiting list.

Please complete your application on the Chapter VII web page ([SOCALPUT.com](http://SOCALPUT.com)). A Non-Refundable and Non-Transferable \$150.00 Application Fee is required in addition to raising \$1900 in sponsorship.

**Note:** Any additional donations help offset overall costs of hotels, breakfasts, transportation cost, porta johns, rental vans, fuel, food, supplies, and insurance.

\*\*\* When completing your application please be sure to include an email address **other than your agency issued address**. Due to sensitive firewalls and enhanced security we are experiencing difficulties with departmental and government email addresses! We cannot guarantee efficient communication through such email addresses.\*\*\*

Each member is encouraged to purchase a memorial bracelet with the name of an officer who died in the calendar year preceding the Tour. If you wish, it is your responsibility to contact the fallen officer's department and/or family to inform them about the Police Unity Tour and make arrangements to meet the officer's family and/or department members at the Memorial and present the bracelet to them. If they are unable to meet you, the bracelet can be sent to them upon completion of the Tour. You can special order bracelets for an officer that died in previous calendar years. It is recommended that you order a duplicate bracelet if you would like to keep one for yourself.

## Survivor Escorts



The Police Unity Tour has the honor of escorting survivors to the Candlelight Vigil.

Members participating in the survivor escorts must wear their Class A uniform or professional business attire with official credentials.

Anyone interested in participating must email [shobbs@policeunitytour.com](mailto:shobbs@policeunitytour.com). Spots are limited and filled on a first come first served basis.

**[SOCALPUT.CO](http://SOCALPUT.CO)**

**For more  
information visit  
our web site at  
[socalput.com](http://socalput.com)**

**Like us on Facebook [Police Unity Tour, Southern California Chapter VII](#)**

**Follow us on Twitter at [SOCALPUT Chapter VII](#)**

## TRANSPORTATION & ACCOMODATIONS

The Police Unity Tour provides hotel rooms as follows: May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> in Somerset, NJ; May 10<sup>th</sup> in Philadelphia PA; May 11<sup>th</sup> in Baltimore, MD; and May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 13<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC / Virginia.

The tour is not responsible for incidentals. Members are required to swipe their personal credit card for incidentals at each hotel.

Prior to May 8<sup>th</sup>, members are responsible for hotel rooms in Somerset NJ. Additionally, members remaining in Washington DC, after May 13<sup>th</sup> are responsible for their own hotel arrangements and expenses.

Members flying into NJ should arrive at the Newark Liberty Airport in order to be transported to their assigned hotel. From the airport, take the train to New Brunswick station where a Chapter VII support van will shuttle you to your hotel. A contact phone number for the shuttle will be provided on Chapter VII's Facebook and Twitter prior to the tour.

All members will be asked to complete the hotel roommate request. If no request is submitted you will be randomly assigned a roommate. The tour is not responsible for incidentals. Members are required to swipe their personal credit card for incidentals at each hotel.

**Under no circumstances shall any member of the tour attempt to obtain hotel room keys or make any change in their room assignment through the hotel staff. Only members of the hotel logistics team will communicate with hotel staff. All keys, change of room or any problem dealing with your room assignment must be done through a member of the Hotel Logistics Team.**

Luggage must be labeled with each member's name. Luggage tags will be provided for the overnight bag and for your DC bag. Bags will be delivered to your hotel and may be brought to your room. *If luggage is misdirected to your room, please bring it to a hotel team member in the lobby immediately.*

Each member is permitted to have an overnight bag that is **small** containing only the items you need for the three days during the ride. A second suitcase will go directly to DC. That piece will be unavailable until check in at the DC hotels on May 12<sup>th</sup>. A very small day bag is permitted for rain gear used during each day of the ride. The day bag will be held in the support trailer.

When packing keep the weight of your luggage to a minimum! Remember that support team members will be moving that luggage every day to ensure it gets to your hotel each night.

Members are required to place their luggage on the appropriate truck at the designated time each morning.

**Weapons are not to be transported in your luggage! We are not responsible for weapons lost or left in luggage!**

Each member is responsible for their own transportation home from DC.

## BIKE SHIPMENT

Bike shipment will be the responsibility of the individual rider. A group shipment from Southern California may occur. Watch for notification through your email. *The Tour will not ship any bicycle that is not in a hard sided bike shipping box.*

If you need to ship your bike, please include your name on the box and make sure it arrives by May 8<sup>th</sup>. Bicycle mechanics will be available to assist you with assembly at the hotel. Bicycles shipment should be arranged from the DC hotel and is the responsibility of the individual rider.

**Bike boxes will be transported directly from the Somerset NJ to DC in trailers and will be unavailable until check in at the DC hotels! Be sure to remove anything needed during the ride from your bike boxes immediately after unpacking your bike.**



## Meeting Dates for the 2016 Ride

October 19, 2017

February 15, 2018

April 12, 2018

**All meetings are on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM and will be held at:  
Los Angeles Protective League  
1308 W. 8TH Street Los Angeles Ca. 90017**

### Out of State Members

We understand that some of the out of state members will not be able to attend the scheduled meetings in Los Angeles. If you have any questions, please send questions to [SOCALPUTinfo@socalput.com](mailto:SOCALPUTinfo@socalput.com)



**Police Unity Tour  
Chapter VII**  
23890 Copper Hill Drive, Suite 170  
Valencia, CA 91354



### Contact Information

Our website is a valuable resource where you can check Meeting Dates, Important Events, Sponsors, Active Rosters and Download Forms: [socalput.com](http://socalput.com)

If you are unable to find answers to any questions you may have on the website or in this information packet we have developed the following list of email addresses that you can use to request specific information:

- x General questions, additional information or requests to post events on the calendar:  
[SOCALPUTinfo@socalput.com](mailto:SOCALPUTinfo@socalput.com)
- x Support questions:  
[Terie@socalput.com](mailto:Terie@socalput.com)
- x Media information  
[Storm@socalput.com](mailto:Storm@socalput.com)