



**Washington Watch: Legislative Update
For the Week of 10 January 2011**

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I. LEGISLATIVE NEWS AND ACTIVITY

Executive Director Pasco spoke with Bruce Cohen, Majority Chief Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to discuss the agenda for the 112th Congress.

Executive Director Pasco spoke with Ed Pagano, Chief of Staff to Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D-VT), Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, to discuss the agenda for the 112th Congress.

Legislative Liaisons Jessica Caswell and Breanna Bock-Nielsen represented the FOP at a monthly coalition meeting of law enforcement and criminal justice organizations.

Legislative Liaison Jessica Caswell met with William Van Horn, Chief Counsel to Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD). Senator Cardin serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism for the Committee on the Judiciary. They discussed re-introducing Blue Alert and Law Enforcement Officer's Procedural Bill of Rights in the 112th Congress.

Legislative Liaisons Jessica Caswell and Breanna Bock-Nielsen met with several stakeholders in the law enforcement community to discuss funding for Byrne JAG and COPS in the upcoming fiscal year.

II. THIS WEEK IN CONGRESS

The previously scheduled legislative business, including the bill (HR 2) to repeal the health care overhaul laws (PL 111-148; PL 111-152), has been postponed in light of the events in Tucson.

Action in the House

House passed a draft resolution relating to the shooting in Tucson, Ariz., involving Congresswomen Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ). No votes were taken this week.

Action in the Senate

The Senate stands in recess and will reconvene at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011.

III. UPDATE ON FOP TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

For the complete list of cosponsors for all of our top legislative priorities, or to find out if your Representative and Senators are cosponsors of specific bills, check out <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

A. Social Security Issues

(1) Support the "Social Security Fairness Act"

This legislation, which would repeal both the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), has not yet been reintroduced. Staff from the National Legislative Office are engaged with staff in both the House and the Senate to get these bills introduced quickly.

(2) Opposing any legislation that would require the participation of public employees in Social Security

The FOP will continue to lobby against this scheme and oppose any legislation which would mandate participation in Social Security.

B. Support the "Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act"

This legislation, which would guarantee the right of public safety employees to bargain collectively with their employers over hours, wages and conditions of employment, has not yet been introduced. The National Legislative Office staff has already contacted key Members of Congress regarding this legislation and we are working on an introduction strategy.

C. Support the "Law Enforcement Officer's Procedural Bill of Rights Act"

This legislation, which would provide a minimum level of procedural protections for law enforcement

officers accused of administrative wrongdoing because of the gravity of potential harm to officers created by this lack of uniform safeguards, has not yet been introduced. National Legislative Office staff are engaged with staff in both the House and the Senate to get these bills introduced.

D. Support the "Law Enforcement Officers' Equity Act"

This legislation, which would provide would provide 6 (c) benefits to approximately 30,000 Federal law enforcement officers who currently do not have them, has not yet been introduced. National Legislative Office staff are engaged with staff in both the House and the Senate to get these bills introduced.

IV. Help the Fraternal Order of Police Foundation!

Danner is graciously planning to host a beer hour during the final hour of the first two days at SHOT show in Las Vegas, Nevada. Danner will donate \$5 on behalf of each beer hour attendee to the Fraternal Order of Police Foundation. Danner says "The FOP Foundation was mentioned by a few of our Sales Reps around the country as a great organization to give back to and support the men and women in the law enforcement community." If you or anyone you know will be attending the SHOT Show next week, please stop by and support the Fraternal Order of Police Foundation.

V. FOP NEWS: Day on the Hill 2011: 14-16 February!!!

Your participation in this year's *Day on the Hill* event could not be more important. Following a historic mid-term election, the 112th Congress was sworn in this week, resulting a change of control of the U.S. House of Representatives and a dynamic shift in the political climate on Capitol Hill. We need to make our voices heard at the start of the Congress, and work hard to ensure that our issues are considered in the next two years. *Please attend if you can--we need your participation!!!*

The ***FOP Day on The Hill 2011*** will begin on Monday, 14 February 2011. The National Legislative Office and the National Legislative Committee will host a short briefing on our legislative agenda at the District of Columbia Lodge #1 at 711 4th Street, NW. The briefing will take place on Monday afternoon at 3pm and last approximately one hour. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Tuesday and Wednesday, 15-16 February, will be devoted to your meetings with Members from your home States and districts. ***These appointments should be made in advance!!!*** Event participants should make every effort to have their Representative or Senator attend the meeting along with the appropriate staff person.

Accommodations for "Day on the Hill" Participants

The National Legislative Office has arranged for accommodations at the Hamilton Crowne Plaza (<http://www.hamiltonhoteldc.com/>) at 14th & K Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20005. The hotel is located just one block from the Metro, making it easy for you to move around Capitol Hill and the city.

The rate is \$181 per night, and you must identify yourself as part of the **National Legislative Office** to get this special rate. Make your reservations now by calling 202-682-0111, or through the website above.

The cut-off date for reservations is 1 February 2011, so don't delay--make that reservation today!!!

VI. FOP NEWS: National Legislative Office is now on Facebook!

Because our grassroots are so important to our efforts on Capitol Hill, we have created a National Legislative Office Facebook page to keep our members informed.

Take a moment now to join our Facebook page to stay current with the latest information from Washington, D.C. Please feel free to join in any of our discussions and don't forget to invite all your FOP brothers and sisters to join!

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**National Fraternal Order of Police PAC
Contribution Form**

Please return the form and contribution to:
National Fraternal Order of Police PAC
328 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.
Washington, DC 20002

Name of Contributor _____

Occupation _____

Employer _____

Home Address _____

Phone # _____

E-mail Address _____

Contribution Amount (Please circle one):

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$150 \$200 Other \$_____

Date _____

Is contributor a member of the F.O.P.? Y N

A. If YES, please list:

F.O.P. State Lodge _____

F.O.P. Local Lodge _____

F.O.P. Membership # _____

B. If NO, please list:

F.O.P. Member's Name _____

Your Relationship to F.O.P. Member _____

(son, daughter, spouse, etc.)

Contributions or gifts to the National Fraternal Order of Police PAC are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Only PERSONAL or NON CORPORATE checks may be accepted. A contribution of \$25 is suggested, but please contribute more if you are able, and a lesser amount if you are not. Contributions to the NATL FOP PAC are strictly voluntary and FOP members have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Your contribution will be used to support candidates for federal office who support law enforcement. Federal law requires political action committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 per calendar year.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please send an email to grassroots@fop.net with REMOVE and the State you live in, in the Subject Line

Questions or Comments? E-mail us at grassroots@fop.net or call (202) 547 - 8189.

[Grand Lodge Website](#) / [Legislative Office](#) Homepage