

CONNECTICUT

DEATH BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO THE SURVIVING FAMILIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY



To obtain certified copies of registered personal documents, contact the Bureau of Vital Statistics: Submit written request to 410 Capitol AVE. MS# 11VRS, Hartford, CT 06134. Office: (860) 509-7700. www.ct.gov

** In Connecticut, death benefits are governed by the General Statutes, and include the general retirement benefits for all state employees. There are **no special state benefits** for police officers killed in the line of duty, although benefits are provided from other sources, such as unions and the federal government.*

STATE DEATH BENEFITS

STATE EMPLOYEES SEC. 5-144.

If any state employee sustains an injury while acting within the scope of his/her employment, which injury is not the result of his own willful or wanton act, and dies as a result of such injury, and a spouse and dependent child(ren) under eighteen years of age survive him, the comptroller, upon the recommendation of the appointing authority, and with the approval of the attorney general, shall draw his order on the treasurer for the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), payable in equal monthly installments over a period of not less than ten years to such employee's spouse, provided any such payments shall terminate on the death or remarriage of such spouse within said ten-year period, and the comptroller, upon the recommendation of the appointing authority and with the approval of the attorney general, shall also draw and order on the treasurer for monthly payments of fifty dollars (\$50) for each dependent child under eighteen years of age, payable to such spouse or the guardian of such child or children until such child or children reach eighteen years of age. If such employee leaves a spouse and no dependent child(ren) under eighteen years of age, the comptroller, upon recommendation of the appointing authority and with the approval of the attorney general, shall draw an order on the treasurer for the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), payable in equal monthly installments over a period of not less than ten years, to such spouse, provided any such payments shall terminate on the death or remarriage of such spouse within a ten-year period. If such employee leaves no spouse and no child(ren) under eighteen years of age but leaves a parent or parents dependent upon him, the comptroller, shall draw an order on the treasurer for the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), payable to such employee's parent or parents in equal monthly installments over a period of not less than ten years, provided, on the death of one such parent, the surviving parent shall continue to receive the entire

monthly payments under the provisions of this section. Payments shall cease on the death of both such parents during such ten-year period.

For more information visit www.wcc.state.ct.us

ALLOWANCES FOR SURVIVORS OF MEMBERS OF STATE POLICE DIVISION
WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
STATE EMPLOYEES SEC. 5-146

- (a) If any member of the Division of State Police within the Department of Public Safety in employment on June 21, 1961, who has elected survivors' benefits or any state police officer who commenced employment subsequent to June 21, 1961, and who in either event was not subject to the Federal Insurance Contributions Act for such employment, dies from any cause before retirement from state service, leaving a surviving spouse or dependent unmarried children under the age of eighteen years, there shall be paid survivors' allowances from the state employee's retirement fund on and after July 1, 1982, on the following basis:
- (1) To the surviving spouse, a monthly allowance of five hundred fifty dollars (\$550) commencing immediately upon the death of such member of the division of state police within the department of public safety payable for the surviving spouse's lifetime or until subsequent remarriage;
 - (2) If there are less than three surviving dependent children, a monthly allowance of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per child payable to the surviving spouse or other guardian until each child reaches the age of eighteen or until the child's marriage if such occurs earlier;
 - (3) If there are three or more surviving dependent children, a monthly allowance of five hundred seventy-five dollars (\$575) to be divided equally among all the dependent children; as each such dependent child reaches the age of eighteen years, or marries, if such occurs earlier, that such child's share shall be deemed divided equally among the remaining surviving children, provided each child's share not exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250); when the shares of all but one of such surviving children have ceased, the pension to the remaining surviving child shall be two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

For more information contact the Connecticut Division of State Police, 111 Country Club DR, Middletown, CT 06457. Office: (860) 685-8190. www.ct.gov

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

The University of Connecticut, Connecticut State University, and the community-technical colleges must waive tuition for the dependent children of paid and volunteer police officers and fire fighters killed in the line of duty (CGS §§10a-77(d), 10a-99(d), and 10a-105(e)).

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Workers' Compensation coverage is compulsory for employers in Connecticut. These benefits include a maximum \$4,000 burial expense, and a weekly compensation equal to 75% of the employee's weekly earnings payable to the spouse or the spouse and child(ren). *Benefits are subject to Social Security benefit offsets.* Spouse receives benefit until remarriage. Children receive benefits until age 18, or beyond age 18 if physically or mentally disabled, or until age 22 if full-time students. To receive workers' compensation benefits the surviving spouse must take the initiative and file a workers' compensation claim through a workers' compensation attorney to receive any compensation. The determination as to whether the claim will be paid will be determined by the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. For more information contact the State of Connecticut Worker's Compensation Commission Capital Office at 21 Oak ST. Hartford, CT 06106. Office: (860) 493-1500. www.wcc.state.ct.us

HEALTH BENEFITS

Connecticut provides health insurance coverage for the surviving spouse and dependent children of any law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty. Children's coverage terminates at age 18; remarriage will **not** terminate spousal coverage. The group medical plans offered to survivors are the same plans that are available to state retirees. Currently, available plans range from no cost to nominal cost. For more information contact Office of State Comptroller, State of Connecticut, 55 Elm ST, Hartford, CT 06106. Office: (860) 702-3300. www.osc.ct.gov

RETIREMENT/PENSION

Individual cities and municipalities are responsible for providing retirement and pension plans for law enforcement officers. Contact your local agency's Benefits Assistance Officer.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

PEER SUPPORT ORGANIZATION

Established in 1984, Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., (C.O.P.S.), is a national, non-profit organization that works with law enforcement agencies, police organizations, mental health professional, and local peer-support organizations to provide assistance to surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. C.O.P.S. has

CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS PO BOX 3199 CAMDENTON, MO 65020
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WWW.NATIONALCOPS.ORG COPS@NATIONALCOPS.ORG

become a "lifeline" to police survivors nationwide. **Contact the C.O.P.S. National Office (800) 784-2611 or visit www.nationalcops.org/chap.htm for information on a chapter in your area.**

Founded in 1967, The **100 Club of Connecticut** is a private organization that comes to the financial aid of public safety officers killed in the line of duty. After an initial grant to the spouse, Hundred Club representatives provide close and frequent follow-up on the well-being of the family to alleviate any special problems which may develop.

The Club, through its Special Assistance and Scholarship Committee, provides families with the necessary help to manage the often crushing expenses that may overwhelm them. It arranges for any medical, dental or other professional services. If there is one area of singular pride, it is the college and vocational school funding project. For more information contact The 100 Club, 119 Oakwood Drive, PO Box 419, Glastonbury, CT 06033. Office: (860) 633-8357. www.hundredclubofct.org

FUNERAL AND CREMATION BENEFITS

Dignity Memorial funeral, cremation and cemetery providers created the Public Servants Program for emergency service personnel. This program provides dignified and honorable tributes, at no cost, for career and volunteer law enforcement officers who fall in the line of duty. Visit their website for complete information @ www.dignitymemorial.com and look under Public Servants for details. You may also call 800-344-6489 and speak with a representative.

Wilbert Funeral Services, Inc. provides complimentary burial vaults and related services for fallen law enforcement officers. For more information visit www.wilbert.com or call (888) WILBERT.