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*THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU*

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## **United Airlines Flight 629 Mile High Memorial Dedication**

On November 1, 2025, the Denver Police Museum (DPM) was joined by The CELL Museum (Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab), History Colorado, Wings Over the Rockies, the University of Denver Adult Enrichment Program, Church in the City and the Weld County Flight 629 Memorial Committee to dedicate a long overdue memorial to the victims of the bombing of United Airlines Flight 629 on the 70th anniversary of the tragedy.

The museum was honored to spearhead this memorial event recognizing this important event in the history of our state. Mike Hesse, DPM President, had the vision to “Remember the Victims and Honor their Families” and succeeded in making that happen. Museum volunteers Jeff Burke, Diane Degenhart and Linda Remley spent countless hours researching family trees and organizing important logistics necessary to make the event an overwhelming success. We were absolutely honored to have over 100 victim’s family members join us as we recognized their loved ones. The fact that after seventy years so many family members attended this memorial speaks volumes about their families’ love. The museum raised the funds to pay for the memorial, transportation to memorial events and meals. Families paid for their own transportation to Denver and accommodations. We would like to thank Sage Hospitality for arranging a special low rate at the Hilton Denver City Center (17th and California) to serve as the hub of our activities. We would also like to thank the Moore Family Foundation for their early support and recognition of the

importance of this event.

We would like to recognize the Patidar family, the Old Stapleton Tower owners, for allowing the museum to place a permanent memorial at the entrance to the facility. FlyteCo Tower, which operates the brewery and entertainment venue, was a wonderful host for the memorial. Their staff was over the top with their hospitality and work ethic. They truly moved heaven and earth to make this event a special affair for all our guests. We certainly would encourage Denver Police Officers, families and retirees to visit the memorial and have lunch or dinner at their establishment. The memorial is definitely worth a visit and the atmosphere is great. Sean Henson, curator of the Old Stapleton Tower Museum, provides a walk up the tower and is worth the effort. The view is wonderful and the history of Stapleton Airport and the tower is very compelling.

Once learning of the tragedy, many citizens were inspired to undertake special activities to honor the victims. Several FlyteCo Tower employees designed a special mural in the tower honoring the victims with depictions of 44 Colorado columbines that included the initials of each victim. In addition, a nurse from Weld County created a painting of United 629 being captured by angels. Many Denver Police Officers, museum supporters, and everyday Coloradans purchased the challenge coin specifically designed for these events and helped the museum raise the funds necessary to finance the memorial. Our longtime true blue former Denver Police civilian employee and wonderful person Debbie Libonati, designed a memorial cake, that impressed everyone.

We would also like to recognize the Denver Country Club and the Christian Anschutz Foundation for allowing us to host the families for a special dinner the night of October 31. The staff at the country club provided their usual outstanding service and elegance to the event. We appreciate Former Colorado State Senator Robert Gardner for attending and making a presentation of Colorado flags flown over the State Capitol to victim's families by Denver City Council Members Kevin Flynn and Darrell Watson, Former Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey and Denver Police Chief Ron Thomas. Frederick-Firestone Fire Chief Jeremy Young gave inspiring remarks and talked about a future memorial in Weld County where the plane came down. Conrad Hopp, a Weld County resident and 18 years old at the time of the tragedy, was one of the first on the scene and gave heartfelt remarks. Philip Bearly, son of Clayton Bearly who was manager of Johnson Corner, was honored for his efforts in supporting the first responders after the tragedy. Jeremy Hubbard, Fox 31

anchor, served as the Master of Ceremonies for the dinner and produced a half hour special for Fox 31. Segments of the special were shown on Fox 31 nightly the week of the memorial and the full episode will air later this year.

We would like to thank Colorado Governor Jared Polis, the Members of the Denver City Council and the Weld County Commissioners who all enacted proclamations declaring November 1, 2025 as Flight 629 victims Memorial Day in Denver, Weld County and Colorado. We sincerely appreciate the Denver Office of Special Events for lighting the Denver City and County Building blue on October 31 and November 1 to honor the victims.

Denver Mayor Michael Johnston joined attendees at the memorial dedication and gave a speech to mark the occasion. We were privileged to have Denver District Attorney John Walsh and Denver FBI Special Agent in Charge Mark Michalek and former Assistant Denver District Attorney Marshall Fogel give tributes honoring former Denver District Attorney Bert Keating, and FBI Agents Roy Moore and Donald Sebesta. We were especially honored to have former Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey serve as the Master of Ceremonies for the actual memorial dedication and gave an outstanding presentation at the symposium at the Wings Over the Rockies. Several children of the victims also shared their difficult stories about their parents and how their individual families dealt with this horrible tragedy.

The memorial events wouldn't have happened without the help of all the volunteers and contributors listed below. We apologize if anyone was inadvertently missed.

- Denver Sheriff Department Honor Guard
- Honor bell from Fort Logan National Cemetery
- Robert Murphy of Denver Fire Department (ladder trucks and American flag display outside the tower)
- Brandon Jewett, J B Air Services, LLC (DC 3 flyover)
- Colorado State Patrol (flags)
- Phil Vaughan (prayers)
- Susan Smith (poem)
- Brigadier General Micah Fesler
- Chaplain, Colorado National Guard's Philip Vaughan
- Simon Obert and John Krauss (Church in the City)
- Denver Police Museum Volunteers – Barbara Cisneros, Chris Hoag, Holly Kaye, Mike Martinez, Bill Nagle, April Overman, Rosie Sapegin

- Denver Police Museum Marketing Committee – Tim Burgess, Jenna Kelly
- Nancy Gapter and husband Michael Martinez
- Adrian Swenson (photographer)
- Bo Ramsour (DA badge)
- Reina Love (VIPS volunteer and piano player)
- Grace and Matt Sanchez, volunteers from
- Weld County 629 Memorial Committee
- Tina Kezlan, Live Print Center (programs)
- Dustin Barajas, SNG Signs, created plaques honoring DA Keating, and FBI Agents Moore and Sebesta

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Donald DeBruno 50th Anniversary**

We are working with the DeBruno family to recognize the 50th anniversary of the sacrifice of fallen Denver Police Detective Donald DeBruno.

We hope you will join us on December 10, 2025 to honor his memory.





**DENVER POLICE**  
**MUSEUM**



**PLEASE JOIN**

**The Denver Police Museum and  
the Denver Police Department**

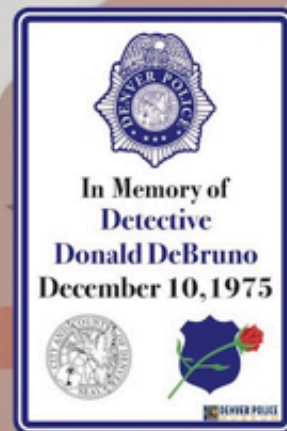
**As we honor the memory of  
Denver Police Detective  
Donald Lee DeBruno  
on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his sacrifice  
serving the Citizens of Denver**



**Detective Donald DeBruno**

**Ceremony:**

**Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 2025, at 11 am  
17<sup>th</sup> and Broadway, Denver**



## **106th Anniversary of Fallen Officer James E. Boggio's Sacrifice**

On January 8, 2026 we will be honoring the one hundred and sixth anniversary of the EOW (End of Watch) of Denver Police Patrolman James E. Boggio. We

have successfully found members of his family who will join us for the ceremony. We will be placing a memorial sign at the location where he lost his life and will be doing a special gravesite service at Mt. Olivet Cemetery that morning. Please join us as we acknowledge his service and his tragic death at the age of 25 years.

We always claim that our fallen will not be forgotten. This is an opportunity to make sure we are true to our word.



**DENVER POLICE**  
**MUSEUM**



**PLEASE JOIN**

**The Denver Police Museum and  
the Denver Police Department**

**As we honor the memory of  
Denver Police Officer**

**James E Boggio**

**on the 106<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his sacrifice  
serving the Citizens of Denver**



**Officer James E Boggio**

**Ceremony:**

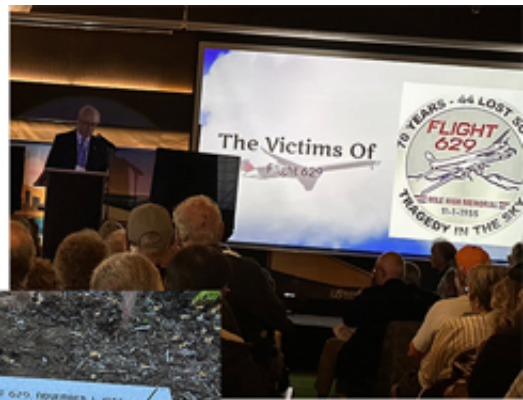
**Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> 2026, at 11 am  
1834 West 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Denver**



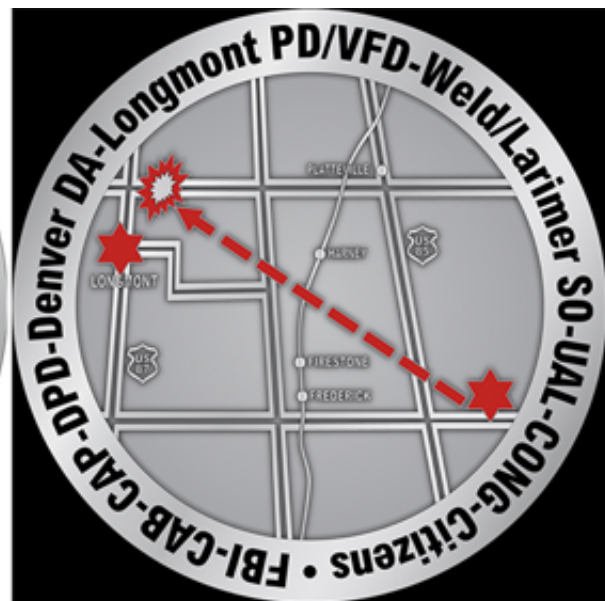
**LAST MONTH WITH DPM**

**FLIGHT 629 MILE HIGH MEMORIAL DEDICATION**





The Denver Police Museum dedicated a memorial to the 44 victims of United Flight 629 at 11:00am at the former Stapleton Tower on the 70th Anniversary of the tragedy. The memorial also honored the many first responders and agencies who responded that fateful day. We also held a symposium at Wings Over the Rockies sharing the details of the events, trial and impact of that horrible tragedy on our state and travel throughout the United States. An overflow crowd of over 250 attendees, including over 100 victims' family members who traveled to Denver, attended the memorial at the tower.



UA629 Mile High Memorial Challenge Coin (available for \$30 donation)

## Former Denver District Attorney Bert Keating's Service Recognized in Denver City Council



# Proclamation



Denver trailblazer Bert Keating was recognized for his many contributions to the City and County of Denver, including leading the successful prosecution of the UA 629 bombing.



Former Denver District Attorney Beat Keating's family, former Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey and current Denver District Attorney John Walsh.



A proclamation honoring Former FBI agents Roy Moore and Donald Sebesta was sponsored by Councilman Darrell Watson. Pictured are the Sebesta family and Deputy FBI Agent in Charge.

And another proclamation sponsored by Council member Diana Romero Campbell honored the victims of UA629.





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Cake remembering UA629 families.



Victims' Families at Church of the City



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## Family and Friends Remember Denver's First Female Patrol Officer

Click the image for the 9News segment.



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## 2025 International Police Chief Conference Denver

The month of October 2025 may go down in Denver Police Museum History as the busiest month in our existence. We partnered with the International Police Chiefs Conference and the Denver Police Department to organize a Denver Police Historical Display at the Colorado Convention Center from October 17 to 21. The display was viewed by participants from throughout the world and allowed the museum an unprecedented opportunity for visibility. Our displays were organized by retired DPD Sgts Chris Hoag and Dean Christopherson (who actually traveled to attend the convention) and Barb Cisneros. The museum sold challenge coins, and plush police dogs at the booth and turned the opportunity into a money-making venture. Volunteers shared historical facts and stories about the history of the Denver Police Department with interested participants.



Erik Estrada posed with DPM Volunteers Chris Hoag, Diane Deginhart, Dean Christopherson, Bill Nagle, Michael Martinez, Ri and the '64 Galaxie.

Thanks to the efforts of Dean Christopherson, our booth was visited by lead actor Erik Estrada from the former wildly successful TV Police Show CHIPS, who posed with museum volunteers. We were also lucky to have Former New York Police Commissioner and Los Angeles, Boston Police Chief Bill Bratton stop by and visit our booth where we shared some of our department's history.

Participants expressed positive impressions about the professionalism of the officers of the Denver Police Department and the welcoming climate offered by the City of Denver. This year marks the third time the Denver Police Department has hosted this important International Police Conference. The first time was in 1975, later in 2013 and now in 2025. Our hats are off to all the officers and the IACP staff who make the conference an outstanding success. We would also like to acknowledge the many Denver Police Directors and Officers who made presentations during the conference. Their presentations were extremely well attended and highlighted the outstanding efforts and trail blazing work done by the Denver Police Department!



Numerous law enforcement officers from throughout the world also came by the booth and posed for pictures.



Former New York City, Los Angeles and Boston Police Commissioner William Bratton.





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## Youth Programs

The museum is proud to serve Denver area schools through immersive educational programs that incorporate fun and interactive learning for middle school and high school youth. These programs deliver age-appropriate content, create pathways for career exploration in law enforcement, STEM, and public service, and help to build trust between youth and law enforcement.

On October 28, students from Denver's Bryant Webster and Place Bridge Academy Middle Schools learned about the four dimensions of Resiliency and Wellness and career opportunities with Denver Metro SWAT, Denver Public Schools, SPARK (Service, Persistence, Achievement, Responsibility, Kindness) and Denver Police Museum representatives.



Cherry Creek Innovation Campus students were introduced to traffic safety concepts by Denver Police officers. Topics included traffic stops, crash investigations and DUI situations. Students experienced mock traffic stop scenarios and DUI simulations with the googles demos.





## New Officers Join Denver Police Department

Forty-five new officers graduated from the Denver Police Academy on November 7.





## Volunteer Opportunities





As a volunteer-driven organization, volunteers play a critical role for sharing our mission, celebrating history, and connecting with the community. The Denver Police Museum is dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of the Denver Police Department while fostering community engagement through educational programs, exhibits, and events.

Please see current volunteer openings on our website: [Volunteer Opportunities](#)

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## **Visit the Denver Police Museum Store for Holiday Gifts**

The season of giving is right around the corner, and the Denver Police Museum has a wonderful selection of gifts ready for you. From water bottles and keychains to hats and ornaments, you'll find something special for everyone on your list. Explore our collection [here](#).

### **The 2025 DPM Holiday Ornament has arrived!**

Everyone is amazed by its beauty and elegance. It is truly a must have for police collectors. You may acquire an ornament when you make a minimum donation to the Denver Police Museum of \$30. Please visit [www.denverpolicemuseum.org](http://www.denverpolicemuseum.org) for details. The museum will make our usual holiday update to District Roll Calls in early December.



## **DPD Anniversary Badge**

### **Honoring America's 250th Anniversary**

We are happy to report that a special Denver Police Badge is available for retired and active Denver Police Officers who make a donation to the Denver Police Museum. Pictured below is a rendition of the special anniversary badge. Chief Thomas has approved the badge to be worn by active Denver Police Officers beginning in 2026! Supply is limited. For further details, please email [gymbuff47@comcast.net](mailto:gymbuff47@comcast.net).



The Denver Police Museum is helping to create safer, stronger, and more vibrant communities in Denver and beyond. Since its founding in 2008, DPM has focused on building bridges between law enforcement and our communities. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, DPM is dedicated to



providing opportunities for people to hear, see, feel, participate, understand, and appreciate the value of police in our lives and communities. We couldn't do it without you.

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**Thank you so much for helping us make these events possible  
and for your participation!**

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## 2025 Museum Challenge Coin

As a proud member of the Denver Police Museum, you'll receive a limited-edition 2025 challenge coin honoring the service of our Denver Police Officers during the particularly violent time of the 1920s. The 2025 challenge coin acknowledges the sacrifice of the thirteen Denver Police Officers who lost their lives during the decade. The other side of the coin celebrates the Denver Police Department serving as the host of the International Police Chiefs Conference in October of 2025—the third time Denver has played host to the conference including in 1975 and 2009.



2025 has brought forward hope and promise, we hope you will consider continuing your membership or becoming a member of the Denver Police Museum. Your tax-deductible gift ensures our continued success and your

support allows future generations to better appreciate the real stories of our law enforcement heroes, their struggle, along with their daily lives and sacrifice. We invite you to join us in our mission to help create safer, stronger, and more vibrant communities in Denver and beyond!

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**Become a Member Today!**



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