

# ***Fugitive Safe Surrender in Washington, D.C.***

## **Nearly 500 Police Officers Killed During Warrant Service**

## **Police Officer Deaths in 2007 among the Highest in Decades**

## **Four Days Until Fugitive Safe Surrender**

For Immediate Release, October 29, 2007: For Fugitive Safe Surrender, contact: Leonard Sipes, 202-220-5616 (office) or 240-882-8274 (cell), or Bernard Graham, US Marshal's Service at 202-359-5766 (cell).

For national data on police officer deaths and injuries, contact please contact Kevin Morison at 202-737-7134 at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund,

A major goal of Fugitive Safe Surrender is to eliminate needless confrontations between police officers and citizens by allowing nonviolent offenders with warrants to voluntarily surrender.

According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund in Washington, D.C. (<http://www.nleomf.org>), a minimum of 474 police officers have been killed in the line of duty while serving warrants from the beginning of the country's history until today. The first incident in which a police officer lost his life while serving a warrant occurred in 1792. An account of that homicide is available via fax from the Memorial or Len Sipes.

Tens of thousands of police officers have been injured in the process of serving warrants.

A surge of fatal shootings has led to a dramatic increase in officer deaths throughout the country. Police officer deaths in 2007 are among the highest they have been in decades.

Many of these homicides and injuries have occurred when a police officer interacts with a suspect or makes a traffic stop *without knowing that the individual has a warrant*. In thousands of cases, the offender assumes that the police officer is making the stop because of an existing warrant and is willing to take evasive or violent actions to escape the officer. Those actions endanger the entire D.C. metropolitan area community.

Recent examples of police officer deaths while serving warrants are available on the DC Fugitive Safe Surrender web site at [www.dcsafesurrender.org](http://www.dcsafesurrender.org) under Links and Resources.

### **Fugitive Safe Surrender in DC Basics:**

**When:** The program will commence on Thursday, November 1 and run through Saturday, November 3. Hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Where:** The location is the Bible Way Church, 1100 New Jersey Ave, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001 at the intersection of New York and New Jersey Avenues.

Please add the following to your web sites to assist citizen inquiries:

- [www.dcsafesurrender.org](http://www.dcsafesurrender.org)
- **Telephone Answering System at 202-585-SAFE (7233)**

Details regarding Fugitive Safe Surrender as well as *a list of frequently asked questions and program eligibility* are available on the web site. The television and radio ads are included. For those who missed the original press release, it is also available on the web site under News and Updates.

Fugitive Safe Surrender is for DC non-violent warrants only. Warrants from other states are not eligible.

Fugitive Safe Surrender is a national program of the US Marshal's Service and is being supported by the DC Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. The national program web site is <http://www.usmarshals.gov/safesurrender>.