

# **MAINE**

## **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 220 Capital ST. Augusta, ME 04333-0011. Office: (207) 287-5500. [www.maine.gov/dhhs/](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/)

### **STATE DEATH BENEFITS**

If the Chief (Chief of the State Police) determines that a law enforcement officer died while in the line of duty, the State shall pay a benefit of \$50,000 as follows:

If there is no surviving child of the law enforcement officer, to the surviving spouse.

If there is a surviving child or children and a surviving spouse of the law enforcement officer, ½ to the surviving child or children in equal shares and ½ to the surviving spouse. If there is no surviving spouse, to the child or children in equal shares.

If there is no surviving child or spouse, to the parent or parents of the law enforcement officer in equal shares.

### **EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS**

Tuition is paid, up to 5 years per child, in any (in-state) University system school. For more information contact the Finance of Authority of Maine, 5 Community DR, PO Box 949, Augusta, ME 04332. Office: (207) 623-3263. [www.famemaine.com](http://www.famemaine.com)

### **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

Workers' Compensation coverage is compulsory for employers in Maine; however, waivers are allowed. Benefit is 80% of worker's after-tax earning for a spouse or a spouse with child(ren) with a maximum weekly benefit for a maximum period of 500 weeks. Benefits are subject to UI benefit offsets, excluding lump sum settlements. Children receive benefits beyond age 18 if physically or mentally disabled. There is also a maximum burial allowance of \$4,000. An additional \$3,000 will be paid to the employee's estate as incidental compensation.

For more information contact the Workers' Compensation Board, 27 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. Office: (207) 287-3751. [www.maine.gov/wcb](http://www.maine.gov/wcb)

### **HEALTH BENEFITS**

Health benefits vary depending upon police department benefits. Spouses of state and county officers may elect to continue to participate in the same benefit program in effect at the time of the officer's death. Contact the Benefits Coordinator at your agency.

## **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 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](http://www.nationalcops.org/chap.htm) for information on a chapter in your area.**

The Maine Chiefs of Police Association established in 1990 the Law Enforcement Memorial Committee. A fund has been established for a one-time payment to a family struck by the line of duty death of a law enforcement officer. For more information contact The Maine Chiefs of Police Association, PO Box 2431, South Portland, ME 04116. Office: (207) 799-9318. [www.mainechiefs.com](http://www.mainechiefs.com)

### **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](http://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](http://www.wilbert.com) or call (888) WILBERT.