



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

May 5, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Police Week – May 9 - May 15

The Anderson County Sheriff's Department will join law enforcement agencies across the nation in celebrating **National Police Week, May 9 through May 15, 2010.**

May 15 is National Peace Officers Memorial Day, and the week containing May 15 has been National Police Week, since President John F. Kennedy signed Public Law 87-726 on October 1, 1962. It was not until May 15, 1982, that the first National Peace Officers' Memorial Day service was held. Activities during National Police Week now include the annual Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial in Washington, DC. The National Peace Officers' Memorial Day Service on May 15 draws thousands from across the nation.

The Sheriff's Department has lost seven officers in the line of duty. Six were killed by gunfire and one died in an automobile accident.

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| • Deputy Sheriff Robert Harmon | Shot To Death | February 7, 1904 |
| • Sheriff Cleve Daugherty | Shot To Death | July 19, 1933 |
| • Deputy Sheriff Lee McGhee | Shot To Death | January 9, 1934 |
| • Deputy Sheriff Reuben Fox | Shot To Death | August 20, 1943 |
| • Deputy Sheriff Willie West | Shot To Death | October 23, 1954 |
| • Deputy Sheriff William Scott | Died In Car Crash | January 21, 1980 |
| • Reserve Deputy Ray Brown | Shot To Death | June 9, 1981 |

Since last year's memorial service, records of another line of duty death were found. Deputy Sheriff Reuben Fox was shot and killed with his own gun while trying to arrest an army deserter in August of 1943.

We have also discovered there was an error in the national database and Deputy James Stafford was not killed in Anderson County, Tennessee. Deputy Stafford was a member of the Anderson County, Texas, Sheriff's Department and was shot in Texas in 1899.

A memorial service sponsored by Chief David Beams and the Oak Ridge Police Department will be held at **1:00pm on Friday May 14** on the plaza in front of the **Oak Ridge Municipal Building**. Local, state, and federal agencies from the Anderson County area will be represented.

Sheriff Paul White