



Traditionally the Two Rivers Police Department recognizes Police Week by performing ceremonies at LB Clarke, Koenig, Magee and St. John's Schools. The students are advised of the significance of May 15 and a brief posting of the colors is conducted by the Two Rivers Police Department Honor Guard.

**After the school presentations on Monday, May 15, 2023 at noon, a wreath will be laid on the Law Enforcement Memorial Bridge (22nd St Bridge) in honor of our fallen officers and others.**

The Two Rivers Police Department would like to invite all active and retired officers and their families to attend these ceremonies. In addition, the wreath laying ceremony at the 22nd St Law Enforcement Memorial Bridge at Noon and the Manitowoc County courthouse ceremony at 2:45pm are **open to the public**. If you have any questions or are a former or current law enforcement officer wishing to attend, please contact Captain Andrew Raatz at (920) 793-5504.



# Peace Officer's Memorial Day



*"In valor there is hope"*

**Monday, May 15, 2023**

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as Peace Officer's Memorial Day to honor those that gave the ultimate sacrifice in serving their communities. Since that date, the day and week surrounding it has been commemorated throughout the United States as Police Week. In 1994, President William Jefferson Clinton signed a law requiring the American Flag to be flown at half staff on May 15. Flying the flag at half staff is a rare honor and serves as a tribute to the 25,747 United States Law Enforcement Officers who have died in the line of duty.

Many officers die in the line of duty as they serve the citizens of our communities. Across the nation, 245 officers died in the line of duty last year. In the last 5 years, 1,784 officers have died in the line of duty. Since January of this year, there have already been 33 reported deaths with 3 of them being in the State of Wisconsin

It is important to remember those who have died in the line of duty while serving this noble profession and those that continue to serve and are willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice to protect the citizens of their communities.



### In Memory of our fallen officers



**Leo Rocque:** On October 5, 1926, Police Officer Leo Rocque, a five year veteran of the Two Rivers Police Department and first shift patrolman, reported for his tour of duty on the night shift. Between 2:00 and 3:00 AM a bell, used to summon police services, was activated at the Police/Fire station entrance, then located at 17th and Washington Streets. As Officer Rocque looked through the window in an attempt to locate the caller, a .30 caliber bullet crashed through the window glass and struck Officer Rocque in the throat. Officer Rocque collapsed and was pronounced dead at the scene. No arrests were ever made and the investigation remains open.



**Thomas R. Dodge:** On September 10, 1975, at 2:36AM, Police Officer Thomas R. Dodge, a six month veteran of the Two Rivers Police Department, and his partner were sent to a south side residence to check the welfare of a walk away hospital patient. Upon knocking on the second story apartment door, the officers were met with gunfire directed at them through the closed door. A single round from a 12 gauge shotgun struck Officer Dodge in the left side of his chest, fatally injuring him at the scene. The assailant was subsequently apprehended and was confined to a Wisconsin State mental health facility where he eventually died in 2004.