

In December, the U.S. Congress approved \$750,000 in federal funding for the Museum project! This money will be used to relocate utility lines that are now located on the Museum site. We had been working long and hard to obtain this funding. Special kudos to House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer and U.S. Rep. Jim Moran for pushing this through. On the Senate side, U.S. Senators Patrick Leahy and Arlen Specter, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid were all very helpful.

We have now acquired some 6,000 artifacts for the Museum collection. One of the latest additions is the bullet-resistant vest worn by Prohibition mobster Al Capone. The vest will be displayed in the "Gangsters and T-Men" section of the History Gallery. Included there will be the story of how U.S. Treasury Special Agents Eliot Ness and Elmer Irey, among others, worked together to bring down Capone.

We have now topped the \$33 million mark in funds raised (not including the federal funds)! It is worth noting that we now have more than 6,000 Museum capital campaign donors to date, including more than 370 law enforcement organizations (35 of those law enforcement groups have given \$100,000 or more!). Some of the larger gifts that have come in during recent weeks include:

- • \$250,000 from LexisNexis
- • \$100,000 from Eli Lilly and Company
- • Nearly \$75,000 from a fundraising reception hosted by American Police Beat
- • \$50,000 from Securitas Security Services USA, Inc.

Our goal is to break the \$40 million barrier by mid-year so that we can commence construction later in 2008. Please encourage your friends and colleagues to join in the campaign to support the National Law Enforcement Museum! Feel free to forward this e-mail and encourage them to go to <https://secure.donationreport.com/donation.html> to make an on-line contribution.

I am extremely pleased to report that the California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA) has become the seventh million dollar (and above) donor to the National Law Enforcement Museum campaign! Mike Jimenez, CCPOA's President, met me at the recent Corrections USA conference in Las Vegas, where we made the official announcement. The CCPOA represents some 30,000 correctional peace officers working inside California prisons and youth facilities, along with the state's parole agents who supervise inmates after their release. The CCPOA will be the official sponsor of a special exhibition area planned for the National Law Enforcement Museum that will educate visitors about corrections and honor the men and women who serve in correctional facilities across our nation.

Corrections is clearly one of law enforcement's toughest beats. Our corrections professionals work in a volatile world where they face the nation's most serious and violent criminals every day. There are more than 500,000 correctional officers serving our nation, who are responsible for some 2.3 million inmates nationwide. More than 500 correctional officers have lost their lives in the line of duty and all of their names are proudly inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

One other piece of good news—we have just launched our new Web site for the National Law Enforcement Museum! Please check it out at www.LawEnforcementMuseum.org and encourage your friends and colleagues to do the same. It has all the latest news about the Museum, including a virtual tour and detailed description of all of the Museum's main galleries, and a complete list of the Museum's top donors to date. We are continuing to make excellent progress on the National Law Enforcement Museum thanks to your continued interest and support.

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