



[Police Officer Jane E. Thompson-Bowman - EOW: Thursday, March 9, 1989](#)

Officer Thompson-Bowman succumbed to a gunshot wound received eight years earlier. She was assisting other officers on a narcotics search warrant when she was shot in the abdomen with a .25 caliber handgun. The wound required 30 surgeries and required her to be hospitalized 60 times before she succumbed to the wound.

Officer Thompson-Bowman was the first female officer with her agency to be killed in the line of duty. She had been with the agency for 3 years at the time of the shooting.



[Patrolman Harry E. Shaffer - EOW: Monday, March 9, 1925](#)

Patrolman Harry E. Shaffer was appointed July 1, 1920, and was killed March 9, 1925, while pursuing a suspected auto thief at midnight at Broad and Lazelle Streets. Patrolman Shaffer, on foot, was struck by an auto and died in Grant Hospital without regaining consciousness. Patrolman Shaffer had served with the agency for five years. He was survived by his expectant wife and two children.



[Chief Frederick E. Kundts - EOW: Sunday, March 22, 1936](#)

Chief Kundts died as a result of injuries he sustained in an automobile accident on State Route 3 in Clinton County. Chief Kundts was operating a city-owned vehicle in the performance of his official duties while returning to Columbus after surveying flood conditions in Southern Ohio for the American Red Cross. He had planned to make a flood survey during an airplane flight with Colonel Black of the Highway Patrol. However, due to a Finance Committee meeting at City Hall with other department heads, Chief Kundts cancelled the flight and made the trip by car. Wendell Wright operated the automobile that collided head-on with the automobile operated by Chief Kundts. Information from several news articles indicated that Mr. Wright and the occupants of his automobile had been consuming alcohol the entire evening prior to the accident.



[Patrolman Curtis L. Staton - EOW: Wednesday, March 22, 1972](#)

Patrolman Staton was shot and killed after he and his partner responded to a domestic dispute. Upon their arrival the male suspect shot Patrolman Staton in the chest twice with a .357 caliber handgun. As the suspect attempted to flee he was shot and killed by Patrolman Staton's partner.

Patrolman Staton had been with the agency for two years and was survived by his wife and three children.



[Officer William Averay Sexton - EOW: Tuesday, March 25, 1913](#)

The sixth officer killed in the line of duty was Officer William Sexton drowned while performing rescue operations during the Great Flood of 1913.

During the rescue operations he fell from the rowboat in the area of Rich Street and Mitchell Street. His body was recovered five days later. Approximately 500 people were killed throughout Ohio during the flood, including Captain Allen McGown of the Findlay Police Department.

Officer Sexton had served with the Columbus Police Department for eight years.



[Patrolman Horace D. Elliott - EOW: Tuesday, March 29, 1927](#)

Patrolman Horace D. Elliott, who came into the department July 13, 1923, was the 20th officer killed in the line of duty. About 11 a.m. on March 29, 1927, he was riding his motorcycle at Sandusky and West Broad Streets when he skidded and crashed into a safety zone. He suffered a fractured skull and later died. Patrolman John Garner was also injured the same night when his motorcycle skidded and crashed as he went to summon aid for Patrolman Elliott.