



Van Buren Charter Township FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 23, 2013

VBT Police present Colors in Washington D.C. Annual event honors families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty



(From L to R: Officer Valinski, Officer Bidwell, Lieutenant Buckberry, Officer Hayes and Captain Laurain)

On Monday, May 23 during National Police Week, the Van Buren Township Honor Guard presented the colors at a celebration in Washington D.C. during an event commemorating the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund and honoring the families of Law Enforcement Officers killed in 2012.

Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, United States Attorney General Eric Holder, and National President of the Concerns of Police Survivors Madeline Neumann were the keynote speakers at the event.

Captain Laurain, Lieutenant Buckberry, Officer Valinski, Officer Hayes and Officer Bidwell were honored to represent the Van Buren Township Department of Public Safety at this event during the 2013 National Police Week.

Captain Laurain shared, “This was the second time our team was invited to Washington to take part in the activities during National Police Week. We presented Colors on Monday at the entrance as family members of officers killed in the line of duty along with dignitaries entered Judiciary Square to the candle light vigil. It was an honor for Van Buren Township to be invited to handle this prestigious detail.”

It was estimated that over 20,000 people assembled to take part in the Candlelight Vigil at the National Police Officers Memorial. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund maintains the memorial, which now has 19,981 names on its walls, which are read in a final roll call of honor as a special tribute during the Vigil.

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