

Media Release

Date: 12/05/2005

Release: Immediate

Contact: Paul Gertsen 651-489-8080

On Saturday, December 10, 6:30 PM at the Peace Officers Memorial on the State Capitol grounds in St. Paul, the Minnesota Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors will be holding Minnesota's first ever Project Blue Light kick-off ceremony.

Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) promote Project Blue Light during the holiday season as a visual display of support and gratitude for the men and women who serve as the peacekeepers in our communities. The blue lights also shine in honor of the peacekeepers that have made the supreme sacrifice in the performance of their duties.

The color blue is associated with law enforcement, and it is also symbolic of peace. By displaying blue lights at our homes, businesses, and law enforcement agencies during the holidays, a dual message is sent - that we support America's peacekeepers and that we hope the coming year will be a year of peace.

Speaking at the brief, 25 minute ceremony will be Paul Gertsen, President of the Minnesota Chapter of COPS, Sue Lange, Vice President of Minnesota COPS, and Minnesota Public Safety Commissioner Mike Campion.

Also on hand, and speaking briefly, will be Chief Pecchia of the Lino Lakes Police Department, Chief Harrington of the St. Paul Police Department, and Chief Uselman, of the Wadena Police Department. All three officers will also light a blue candle in memory of the officer their department has lost in 2005.

Many other law enforcement officers and surviving family members of Minnesota's fallen heroes will also be in attendance.

Please call 651-489-8080 for more information.