

# COLUMBIA POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION



600 East Walnut Street, Columbia, Missouri 65201

**TO: CPOA Members**  
**FROM: Don Weaver, President**  
**DATE: January 30, 2008**  
**RE: Measures to Improve Member Communication**

I have several ideas concerning our association that I believe will enhance our ability to remain relevant, become more agile and responsive, and be seen as conferring a true benefit upon our membership. The first of these improvements relate to improving communication between our membership and the governing board.

In the past, many great ideas have been discussed at board meetings for months before being implemented. After the fact, some members complained. Members expressed discontentment because they claimed they were unaware of the issue and the preceding months of discussion, and they claimed, had they been aware, they would have provided input.

With the goal of increasing communication and improving awareness, and eventually reducing after-the-fact complaining, I have implemented the following changes:

- Beginning at our February 2008 CPOA Board meeting, and continuing until further notice, all members will be invited to attend all board meetings.
- Relatively detailed agendas for all of our general membership and board meetings will be posted in the display cabinet at the police department and posted on our internet site at least seven days before the meeting.
- All members may request that the agendas be emailed to their personal email address a week before the meeting.



MISSOURI LODGE 26

- There will be an issue submission form on our website wherein members may submit an issue to the board for discussion at the next scheduled meeting.
- Relatively detailed minutes of all of our general membership and board meetings will be posted in the display cabinet at the police department and posted on our internet site no later than seven days after the meeting.
- In addition to the agendas and minutes, other information will be added to our website including media releases, links to our supports, member benefits and more.

In summary, members will be provided a detailed agenda at least a week before meetings, members have the ability to communicate to their representatives or any executive board member before meetings, members will have the ability to submit an issue or comments for discussion at the meetings, members will be invited to attend meetings and provide input, and members will be provided detailed minutes of the meetings.

Although these measures will not halt all of the grumbling and complaining that occurs after a decision is made, they will, without all doubt, cause the *legitimate* complaining to cease.

To request that your email address be added to our list for agendas and minutes please ensure that the member information sheet was completed and returned to Secretary Stroer. If you did not receive a member information sheet, please contact Secretary Stroer as well.

The Columbia Police Officers Association's website is [www.columbiapolice.org](http://www.columbiapolice.org).