



## Upcoming Events:

ICPRA Conference 19-20  
June 2014  
Cape Town, South Africa

Lawyers Network  
Conference 19 – 20 June  
2014  
Cape Town, South Africa

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## Message from ICPRA President

Greg O'Connor

Kia ora ICPRA members,

As Chairman of our International body which now represents over 1.5million police officers around the globe, and on behalf of our Executive, I offer you best wishes for the coming festive season and for 2014.

In 2013, our executive met in Copenhagen where we fare-welled Peter Ibsen, the outgoing Danish President and a long-time executive member of ICPRA.

Peter, along with the Danish Police Union, has played an important role in establishing ICPRA, and in building our relationship with Eurocop.

At that same Executive meeting, we established a strategic plan designed to grow our influence in the Policing world.

We were reminded many times through the year of the vulnerability of the members we represent, as many of our jurisdictions had officers killed and badly beaten while carrying out their duties. Our Scottish colleagues are grieving over the loss of two of their colleagues who were killed in a helicopter crash in Glasgow, along with a number of civilians. Our sympathies go out to the families of all our fallen and incapacitated colleagues, as we are reminded that our profession is by nature a dangerous one.

We also congratulated and celebrated with our South African Colleagues in SAPU who celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a remarkable achievement given the challenges facing police and unions in that country.

And of course SAPU will host the 2014 bi-annual ICPRA conference in Capetown in June, and we look forward to a strong representation from African Police Associations who are at various stages of development.

Our real challenge is to continue to grow in numbers and in influence so we can assist police officers in countries who are still struggling to gain the right to associate and form unions.

Thank you again for your contributions to ICPRA. We are an entirely voluntary organisation, and as I discovered during my domestic election this year, ultimately it is how well we are able to represent our members at home that determines our effectiveness. For this reason, we must strive to be relevant in improving the working conditions of all police officers.

I wish you all the best for 2014 and I hope I am able to make contact with you all through the year.

Greg O'Connor

Chairman.

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## **ICPRA on Twitter**

By Calum Steele

The International Council of Police Representative Associations has joined Twitter. You can now follow us at @ICPRA

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## **ICPRA Website Upgrade**

PFA

We are pleased to advise that the new ICPRA website successfully went live on the 12th November 2013 <http://www.icpra.org/>. If anyone has any comments on how the site can be further improved please contact Kath Potts at the following email address [Kathleen@pfa.org.au](mailto:Kathleen@pfa.org.au)

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## **ICPRA Congratulates SAPU on Reaching Twenty Years**

The International Council of Police Representative Associations (ICPRA) extends our heartfelt congratulations to the South African Police Union (SAPU) on reaching the momentous occasion of your twentieth anniversary.

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## **ICPRA Executive Meeting 25 -26 May 2013 Copenhagen Chairman's Report**

By Greg O'Connor

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## **A European Overview**

By Anna Nellberg President European Confederation of Police

At the end of this month we will have our scheduled committee meeting in Prague. We will be holding workshops for our 60 delegates which will decide our priorities as the voice of European policing and lead to an evidence-based corporate programme of engagement with the European Commission. We may, like most of the rest of the world, be slowly emerging from the recession but the damage done to policing through lack of investment, reduction in police numbers and badly shaken morale will not be easily or quickly repaired.

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## **SAPU Welcomes Arrest In Maswanganyi Murder**

SAPU Press Release 01 July 2013

The South African Policing Union (SAPU) would like to welcome the swift arrest of suspects in the murder of Johannesburg Cluster command Major-General Simon Maswanganyi. Initially it was two and now the total is four. This is a commendable job as Major General Maswanganyi was only buried last week Thursday. As much as we are aware that he won't come back, the arrest of his alleged killers is a source of comfort to his colleagues and family. We take our hats off for the team of detectives who worked around the clock in bringing the culprits to book.

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## **SAPU Calls on Mthethwa to Resign Over Police Audit**

SAPU Press Release 29 July 2013

The South African Policing Union would like to call upon the police minister MR Nathi Mthethwa and the national police commissioner General Riah Phiyega to do the honourable thing-resign from their position. We have been calling for a judicial commission of enquiry into the SAPS simply because there is no leadership and management in the police.

SAPU would like to state it categorically clear that the so-called audit report as released by the minister has no credibility. We have been calling for its terms of reference to be made public. The lack of credibility in the audit report comes from the fact that even its findings are inaccurate. SAPU as a professional union do not condone any acts of ill-discipline or illegality in the police.

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## **International Call for More PSNI Officers**

Liam Barnes 12 August 2013

The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) desperately needs more officers to cope with the continuing disorder in the region, a global policing union has said.

The International Council of Police Representative Associations (ICPRA) issued a petition calling for 1,000 additional officers after 56 PSNI officers were injured policing a series of incidents across Belfast on Friday night.

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## **Representation in Times of Austerity – An Irish Case Study**

### **The Road to Recognition for the Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors in Ireland**

By John Redmond General Secretary, Association of Garda Sergeants & Inspectors, Ireland

Against a backdrop of continued austerity in Ireland, the plight of members of An Garda Síochána and our own Association weighed heavily on our shoulders this year. But the Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors (AGSI) made history by achieving direct negotiating status with the Government on pay and conditions for the first time in 35 years.

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## **ICPRA Difficult Times**

By Rodger Randall General Secretary British Transport Police

The past two years has seen a raft of changes to England and Wales Police conditions and pay. We are coming to the end of a two year pay and progression freeze and look forward to only a 1% pay rise in the next two years. Conditions have been changed drastically due to both elements of the Governments Winsor Review.

To add to the low morale brought about by the Winsor changes we have Lord Hutton's review of public service pensions this has led to retirement ages for police being increased to 60, a change to a career average pension scheme and substantial penalties for retiring before the age of 60.

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## **The Deficits in Police Labour Rights: Shifting Focus from Southern Africa to South America** By Professor Monique Marks

Professor Monique Marks gives her account of attending the recent symposium "Police work and unions: issues for a discussion" held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June in the UMET auditorium in Buenos Aires Argentina. Professor Marks "was struck by the similarity of experiences of the brave police who began the process of unionization in South Africa and those who are trying now to do the same in Argentina".

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## **Australian Federal Election** By Mark Burgess CEO Police Federation of Australia

As it has done for the past decade, the Police Federation of Australia (PFA) presented all political parties in Australia with its pre-election document "2013-2016 National leadership for a Safer Australia". The document highlights 17 key priorities identified by the PFA and seeks the responses of all the political parties to those key priorities.

[Click Here](#) for a copy of the PFA's pre-election document. [Click Here](#) for a copy of the PFA Election Special eNews containing the political party responses to the PFA's pre-election document.

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## **Good Faith Protection** By Calvin Gnech, Principal Solicitor, Queensland Police Union Legal Group, Australia

Police operate in a rapidly changing environment which often involves high level emotions of fear, anger, and anxiety. Add a dose of adrenaline, and you are left with a workplace like no other (military aside).

In such circumstances, a human being (whether dressed in a blue uniform or not) is not a robot, and is prone to make mistakes. A professional and competent police officer could set out for work on any given day with the best of intentions, to serve and protect the community to the best of their ability, only to face a situation caused by circumstances out of that officer's control.

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As a result, the officer could ultimately face a lengthy legal process (administrative or criminal) that could include serious consequences such as termination of employment and/or criminal prosecution. It is because of these possible serious consequences that the QPU ardently advocates for legislation in Queensland that adequately protects police.

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