



### Future Events:

ICPRA Conference  
**20-21 March 2012**  
**Baltimore, USA**

Police Federation of England  
and Wales  
Annual Conference  
**15-17 May 2012**

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## ICPRA Chairman's Foreword

Greg O'Connor, Chairman, ICPRA.

With the ICPRA biennial conference in Baltimore now only weeks away we have received the good news that we will be joined by our colleagues from COBRAPOL (Confederation of Brazilian Police) who represent 400,000 civilian police in Brazil. Our colleagues from Portugal Armando Ferreira has acted as our liaison and will fortunately also be attending the conference to assist with translation. This considerably increases the membership numbers and of course the geographic representation for ICPRA.

We are looking forward to being hosted by our FOP colleagues and Chuck Canterbury and Rick Weisman have done an excellent job of organising the conference.

In a post-global financial crisis environment police forces and their representative organisations are under considerable threat as hard won gains are being removed. It is important that we present a united voice and importantly a well informed one so that policy makers understand the implications of such changes. The information sharing that our ICPRA organisation and conference provides is an essential component in achieving that. So once again I look forward to meeting with affiliates in Baltimore with a view to using the combined knowledge and strength of our relative organisations to improve the working conditions of police officers throughout the world.

Greg O'Connor

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## **ICPRA Conference 2012 – Baltimore, USA**

Welcome by Chuck Canterbury, National President FOP

On behalf of the ICPRA Executive Committee and the National Fraternal Order of Police, I would like to welcome you to the ICPRA Council 2012. We are all glad that so many of you have taken the time to meet in Baltimore to discuss the issues facing law enforcement today. Now more than any time in recent memory it is vital that we come together to support one another through these troubled times. Economic hardships across the globe have led to cuts in wages, benefits, and staffing for many of our affiliated agencies. Law enforcement officers, including those in the United States, have even found our very right to collectively bargain under attack. The week presents a valuable opportunity for us to learn from one another, to share our experiences and help to develop strategies for how to best represent the worldwide law enforcement community.

While you are in Baltimore week we hope you will take the time to venture out into the city. In addition to the hospitality rooms and other scheduled events that will be detailed in your registration packet, you will want to make time to explore the Inner Harbor and find out for yourself why Baltimore is called “Charm City.”

After the ICPRA Council concludes its business, those of you who have planned to do so may attend the NFOP State Presidents Meeting and the NFOP National Board Meeting to be held at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel. Speaking for the Executive Board, we would consider it a privilege to have you attend these meetings and learn more about the National Fraternal Order of Police.

Chuck Canterbury

### **Message from the Secretariat**

Calum Steele, Scottish Police Federation

Baltimore 2012 will be the eighth bi-annual meeting of ICPRA. Since its inception in 1996 and first formal meeting in 1998, ICPRA has grown from a meeting of a handful of Police Associations, primarily in English speaking nations to an organisation whose reach now spans four continents taking in 43 police associations over nearly 30 countries (speaking many more languages) with a combined membership of almost 2 million police officers.

The 2010 meeting was hosted by the Danish Police Union (Politi Forbundet) in Copenhagen, Denmark.

**[Click here to view the post 2010 Conference Report](#)**

This years' meeting of Council will bring together over 35 delegates from all corners of the world and will see members of Cobrapol, the civilian police union of Brazil attending for the first time. This is an exciting development for ICPRA, as we are now presented with the opportunity to extend our

influence and reach into one of the BRIC nations, into a new continent and to offer assistance to over an additional 400,000 members.

The ICPRA agenda is attached.

**[Click here to view the 2012 Conference Agenda](#)**

**[Click here to view the ICPRA draft Rules](#)**

This year also sees the inaugural meeting of the ICPRA Lawyers network. Lawyers from all corners of the world, who primarily work with and on behalf of police unions and associations, will be afforded the opportunity to share their collective expertise for the ultimate benefit of all. The ability to call upon some of the most experienced legal minds from across the world will send a powerful message to our employers and governments.

Issues on the Lawyers network agenda include –

- Anti-corruption bodies and their approach to tackling perceived corruption
- Defences in the criminal law for high speed urgent duty driving
- Compulsory drug and DNA testing in the work place
- Differing entitlements for injuries sustained in the work place

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## **Website**

Following the 2010 Conference in Copenhagen, the Police Federation of Australia has taken over the hosting and redevelopment of the ICPRA website. The website is now up and running and contains information about the Conference, Rules and Electronic Newsletters. All of the historical documents in the library have also been moved over to the site. The website, together with other forms of communication will be discussed at the 2012 Conference. If you have any comments/suggestions prior to the meeting please let us know and we'll endeavor to incorporate them into the site.

**[Click here to visit the website](#)**

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## **Mobile Broadband Communications for Public Safety**

Mark Burgess, Chief Executive Officer, Police Federation of Australia

In Australia, the push for spectrum for law enforcement and emergency services is a step closer with a key Parliamentary Committee of the Federal Parliament recommending that spectrum be allocated for dedicated mobile broadband radio-communications.

The debate continues about just which spectrum should be set aside for public safety, and how much spectrum is needed. But the latest Australian studies suggest 20 MHz of spectrum is the absolute minimum, and up to 60 MHz will be needed to cope with communications in extreme events, meaning that public safety agencies will also need priority access to commercial networks to supplement their dedicated communication network (once it is secured).

The prospects of Australian public safety agencies having interoperability with USA or New Zealand counterparts, or those in the Asia Pacific region, due to them using the same spectrum are receding, because it looks like Australian agencies will be forced into the 800 MHz band. Clearly, this is regrettable and very shortsighted on the part of the Australian Government which had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have harmonized spectrum in the vacant Digital Dividend. This is likely to result in Australian agencies having to use more costly handsets because there will be only a small Australian market for the equipment they need. Sometimes governments fail to learn the lessons of the past and budget pressures to return to surplus get in the way of sound public policy decisions for the long haul.

Nevertheless, the Police Federation of Australia's campaign to secure quality spectrum for Australian law enforcement and other first responders will not falter.

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## **Dear Congress: Who Benefits From "Across The Board" Cuts?**

Jon Adler, National President, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, United States

There is an epidemic of government complacency when it comes to protecting funding for law enforcement. As nations struggle with economic volatility, they are blindly reducing law enforcement budgets without thought of the dangerous impact. Governments worldwide have attempted to decrease their budget deficits by reducing law enforcement ranks through furloughs or attrition. Additionally, they consistently attack law enforcement officers' pay and benefits.

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## **SAPU Stand Firm in the Face of Political Interference and Manipulation**

Thabo Matsose, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, South African Policing Union

After SAPU President Mpho Kwinika was removed from a television panel that was to discuss policing and justice, SAPU discusses representing its members in the face of political manipulation and interference.

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## **207 Police Officers Declare Bankruptcy**

Armando Ferreira, President of SINAPOL

Police Officers in Portugal are declaring bankruptcy at 10 times the national rate, and yet face further pay cuts in the coming years. President of SINAPOL, Armando Ferreira discusses the difficulties these officers are facing.

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