



March 2026 Newsletter

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of **Sergeant Jason Whelen**, an 18-year veteran of the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office.

Sergeant Whelen dedicated his life to serving and protecting the community with honor, integrity and compassion. He was a proud husband and devoted father of four, including a child he and his wife recently adopted.

Please keep the Whelen family, his colleagues, and all who knew him in your thoughts during this difficult time.



End of Watch: 2/24/26

Introducing Our Board of Directors

Our mission is guided by seven dedicated board members who are deeply committed to supporting the families of fallen peace officers and firefighters. Each month, we'll introduce you to one of the leaders making this work possible.

Jeff Swindel Vice Chairman



Jeff retired from Chevron in 2018 and often says, "I was proud to work for Chevron and represent them in the community." Throughout his 38 year career, Jeff held numerous leadership roles in project management, marketing, sales, public relations, and community outreach.

For more than 20 years, Jeff has been an active supporter of his local community, with a special focus on serving active military members, veterans, and first responders.

Jeff proudly supports Police and Fire: The Fallen Heroes out of deep respect and gratitude for the many first responders who protect our communities every day. He believes those who make the ultimate sacrifice must be honored and their families deserve continued care and support.

Outside of his community work, Jeff enjoys hiking, kayaking, fly fishing in the Sierras, and spending time on local golf courses.

We're Seeking Experienced Volunteers

As we continue to grow our impact, Police and Fire: The Fallen Heroes is seeking experienced volunteers to support key areas of our organization.

We are currently looking for individuals with demonstrated experience in:

- **Social Media Management (ongoing):** Assist with content creation, content scheduling, and building our online presence.
- **Website Support (occasional):** Assist with periodic updates, content changes, and basic maintenance.
- **IT Support (occasional):** Offer technical assistance as needed to help keep our systems running smoothly.

If you're ready to apply your skills and experience to make a meaningful difference, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact us at info@thefallenheroes.org to learn more.

Thank you for helping us advance our mission.

Create a Legacy of Support

Our mission is to honor Peace Officers and Firefighters who make the ultimate sacrifice during the performance of their duties, and offer support to the families left behind.

As you give thought to your legacy, we hope you will consider including Police and Fire: The Fallen Heroes in your plans. Your generosity helps provide scholarships for the children and spouses of our fallen heroes while also delivering immediate assistance to families when they need it most.

Through the support of our community, we ensure that the sacrifice of these heroes is never forgotten.

Stay connected: Visit our website and follow us on social media

www.thefallenheroes.org

Website design by Robert Coutts, Daevvara Consulting



Police and Fire: The Fallen Heroes is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization - EIN #26-4835405

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