



**Department of Public Safety**  
Eugene T. Meyer, Commissioner  
215 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
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For immediate release  
Monday, May 10, 2010  
Des Moines, Iowa

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## **IOWA PEACE OFFICER MEMORIAL 2010 ADDITIONS**

1. **Chief Cole B. Shatswell, Onawa Police Department** – On October 22, 1989, Chief Shatswell was dispatched to a shoplifting call in Onawa, Iowa. When Chief Shatswell arrived he encountered one male and one female in a vehicle outside of the business. Chief Shatswell ordered the female subject out of the vehicle several times, but the subject refused. Chief Shatswell was assisting the female subject out of the vehicle when a struggle ensued. During the struggle Chief Shatswell suffered a heart attack. Chief Shatswell died on October 22, 1989 at the age of 37.
2. **Marshall William Ross Hanshaw, Fairfield Police Department** – On August 1, 1917, Marshall Hanshaw was shot and killed by a suspect who was high on morphine and threatening citizens of Fairfield with a rifle. Marshal Hanshaw had gone to the man's home and was attempting to reason with him when the suspect suddenly grabbed the rifle and shot him. Marshall Hanshaw was able to return fire hitting the suspect twice. Several citizens arriving on the scene shot and killed the suspect.
3. **Officer Jake Frith, Milwaukee Railroad Police Department** – Officer Frith and Officer Henry Talcott were shot and killed on April 14, 1893, while attempting to remove tramps from a coach car in the railroad yards at 19<sup>th</sup> Street in Dubuque, Iowa. Officer Frith was shot in the neck and back.
4. **Officer Henry Talcott, Milwaukee Railroad Police Department** – Officer Talcott and Officer Jake Frith were shot and killed on April 14, 1893, while attempting to remove tramps from a coach car in the railroad yard at 19<sup>th</sup> Street in Dubuque, Iowa. Officer Talcott was shot in the head.



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5. **Sheriff Ernest Henry Wahlert, Hancock County Sheriff's Office** – Sheriff Wahlert was accidentally shot and killed when his revolver fell from its holster and discharged on February 4, 1930. Sheriff Wahlert and another Deputy were pursuing bootleggers during a snow storm when their vehicle left the road and became stuck in the snow. As the two officers attempted to push the car out of the snow Sheriff Wahlert's revolver fell from his shoulder holster, discharged, and struck him in the chest.
6. **Special Officer Allen F. Shoemaker, Union Pacific Railroad Police Department** – Special Officer Shoemaker was shot and killed May 17, 1925, while conducting a railroad train check in Missouri Valley, Iowa. He came across nine men riding in a gondola car. Officer Shoemaker turned his flashlight on them and demanded to know what they were doing. One man drew a gun and shot Officer Shoemaker four times. He died a short time later in the railroad yard office.
7. **Special Officer Robert G. Murray, Union Pacific Railroad Police Department** – Special Officer Robert Murray was shot and killed in Council Bluffs, Iowa on October 14, 1921 while he and several other local and federal officers raided a farmhouse being used by bootleggers and rail thieves. Officer Murray was guarding five men in one room while a Council Bluffs Police Officer was guarding a woman and a man in a second room. The woman was able to slip a revolver to the man who opened fire, killing Officer Murray and wounding the Council Bluffs officer.
8. **Corporal Jon Eric Hermann, Woodbury County Sheriff's Office** – Corporal Hermann and another officer, Captain Heimbecker, were transporting prisoners by leased airplane from the Woodbury County Jail to state facilities at Oakdale and Mount Pleasant, Iowa on June 11, 1993. On their return trip, the officers stopped in Fort Madison, Iowa to pick up prisoner Armando Cardenas for transport to the Woodbury County Jail. Upon departure from the Fort Madison airport the plane crashed, killing both Corporal Hermann and Captain Heimbecker. Prisoner Cardenas was seriously injured, but survived the crash.



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9. **Patrolman Sylvan E. Dykstra, Sioux City Police Department** – Patrolman Dykstra was accidentally shot and killed on July 18, 1953 while working at the police station, when another officer’s service weapon accidentally discharged.
10. **Sheriff Jack L. Woodard, Polk County Sheriff’s Office** – Sheriff Woodard was killed in an automobile accident on January 21, 1974 after giving a speech at a gathering for the Peace Officers’ Association. Road conditions were described as slick.
11. **Deputy Dewey Marshall, Polk County Sheriff’s Office** – On October 30, 1926, Deputy Marshall was assisting Deputy Grover Brent from Sedalia, Missouri with a warrant and extradition for William H. Boyd. When Deputies Marshall and Brent arrived at Boyd’s residence in Mitchellville, Iowa Boyd shot and killed Deputy Marshall. Deputy Brent also shot and wounded. Boyd took Deputy Marshall’s weapon and fled into a field.
12. **Marshal George M. Butcher, Missouri Valley Police Department** – Marshal Butcher was shot and killed on August 16, 1911, while searching for two suspects. During the search one of the men used a handgun to shoot Marshal Butcher twice. Although wounded, Marshal Butcher was able to exchange fire until he was finally shot a third time and killed. It was later discovered both suspects were brothers who had escaped from the Anamosa Prison. Both drowned when they attempted to swim the Missouri River near Omaha, Nebraska in an attempt to escape a pursuing posse.
13. **Marshal Abner Whitney, Missouri Valley Police Department** – Marshal Whitney was shot and killed on April 28, 1894, after he and several other law enforcement officers surrounded a house where two robbery suspects were hiding. When the officers entered the house the suspects opened fire, killing Marshal Whitney. One of the suspects was shot and killed by other law enforcement officers. The second suspect was lynched by a mob.
14. **Officer Harry E. Davis, Marshall County Sheriff’s Office** – Officer Davis was shot and killed on September 9, 1978. That day a man opened fire on the Marshall County Jail’s lobby using a high powered rifle. Officer Davis was sitting in the lobby of the jail at the time of the shooting. He was shot and killed instantly. The suspect was captured later that day.



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15. **Officer Elijah Edward Wishart, Des Moines Police Department** – Officer Wishart was shot and killed by a man attempting to illegally dump rubbish in a graveyard. Officer Wishart had been appointed to guard the graveyard against dumping. When Officer Wishart approached, the suspect drew two, .350 revolvers and shot Officer Wishart. Officer Wishart succumbed to his injuries on July 1, 1891.