

The Department Grieves Too

A fallen officer leaves more than an empty chair at home.

Officers are trained to manage their emotions at a scene. That training doesn't come with an off switch. When an officer is lost, the squad room grieves quietly, in pieces, and often without anyone naming what is happening. That silence needs a witness.

WHAT TO DO

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| ☐ Say the officer's name at roll call — regularly, not just once. | ☐ Check in individually with officers who were close to the fallen. |
| ☐ Give officers language: it is not weakness to say you are struggling. | ☐ Make chaplain access easy and visible — no appointment required. |
| ☐ Watch for officers who go quiet and pull away from the team. | ☐ Plan a department acknowledgment at the one-month mark. |

DO THIS WEEK

Say the fallen officer's name at the next roll call. Just the name. Let the silence that follows do its work.

ASK YOURSELF

Who in your department is grieving quietly right now, and has anyone checked on them?

“The department needs someone to name what everyone already feels.”