

ISPA Secretary-Treasurer Report

It's hard to believe another year is already coming to a close and the holiday season is upon us. I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you were unable to attend the 2025 ISPA Annual Conference hosted by Davenport Local #2, you truly missed a great event. The food, training, and venue were outstanding, and their hard work really showed. They certainly set the bar high for next year's conference, which will be hosted by Waterloo Local #12 from October 12–14, 2026.

I would like to welcome our newly elected Jr. Director, Bill Enockson of Sioux City Local #7. He was elected during the October conference. In this newsletter, you will find an article from Bill introducing himself. He looks forward to serving ISPA members in his new role on the board.

By now, your local—and/or you personally—should have received a reminder that your 2026 ISPA membership dues are payable on January 1, 2026. Please remember that dues become delinquent at the end of February. If you have not received notification or are unsure whether your dues have been paid, please send me an email. Also, please remember to update your beneficiary information. It only takes a few minutes and could save your loved ones significant difficulty and heartache in the future. The Change of Beneficiary form can be found on our website under the ISPA Membership tab, and you may email the completed form to me.

If you know of an officer in need, please keep the ISPA Officer Assistance Program (OAP) in mind. Established in 2018, this program provides temporary financial aid—up to \$1,250—to members experiencing difficult times. Members in good standing may request assistance for a variety of reasons, including debilitating illness or injury affecting themselves, their spouse, or their dependent children, or in the aftermath of disasters such as tornadoes, house fires, or floods. Since its inception, the OAP has donated more than \$62,000 to over 60 ISPA members. This support is made possible through the generous donations of ISPA Locals, ISPA Sponsors, and our membership. More information can be found on the Officer Assistance Program tab on the [website](#).

Many of you have already heard that in August, the ISPA Board of Directors voted to create the Iowa State Police Association Legal Defense Fund Trust (ISPA LDF). The LDF will be managed and governed by seven LDF Trustees—four ISPA board members and three appointed At-Large Trustees. The current Trustees are:

- Gavin Carman, ISPA 2nd Vice-President
- Ryan Anderson, ISPA 3rd Vice-President

- Matt Mullen, ISPA Senior Director
- David McFarland, ISPA Secretary-Treasurer
- Josh Bell, Local #5 Cedar Rapids (At-Large)
- Matt Dahlen, Local #10 Des Moines (At-Large)
- Anthony Vondrak, Local #7 Sioux City (At-Large)

I am pleased to report that Local #7 Sioux City members have already enrolled in the LDF, as their previous coverage contract was nearing expiration. For all other members, LDF coverage will be available beginning January 1, 2026. This benefit is exclusively for ISPA members. Annual LDF membership is \$150, or \$75 semiannually. (We are still working on a monthly subscription option.) For less than \$15 per month, LDF members will have access to legal defense should they be involved in a critical incident, face charges related to on-duty conduct, be named in a civil suit, or be subject to an administrative action against their license. LDF attorneys—like the officers they support—will be on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If an ISPA LDF member needs assistance, including immediate response following a critical incident, ISPA attorneys will respond, whether it's noon or 2:00 AM.

More information about the LDF is available on our [website](#) or by contacting either Plan Administrator, Stephen Foertsch, or myself.

Lastly, I want to thank Past President Judy Kellen for her dedication and hard work during her time on the board. We will miss having Judy on the Board. I also want to extend my appreciation to the entire Board of Directors and to all members of the Iowa State Police Association for your continued support and commitment. You are the reason this association is not only the largest police association in Iowa, but also the best.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David McFarland | Secretary-Treasurer
Iowa State Police Association
PO Box 108 | Gilbertville, IA 50634
515-299-5320 | ispaonline.com