



STATE OF NEW YORK
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
Alfred E. Smith Office Building
80 South Swan Street
Albany, New York 12210
<http://criminaljustice.ny.gov>

The State of New York
Police Officers Memorial Advisory Committee
cordially invites you to
the Police Officers Memorial Remembrance Ceremony at the
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA
Albany, New York

on Wednesday, the eighth of May
at one o'clock

R.S.V.P. by April 23, 2013

For information
(518) 485-2091

History of the State of New York Police Officers Memorial

In January 1989, New York State enacted into law legislation authorizing the Commissioner of the Office of General Services (OGS) to construct "a monument, tablet, or memorial...honoring and properly reflecting the duty, dignity, and devotion of the police officers of New York State who are slain in the line of duty."

To assist in the design and construction of the memorial, the Commissioner formed an Advisory Committee comprised of leaders of major police organizations in the State. The Committee was asked to solicit ideas from police officers, departments and organizations throughout the State, as well as from other interested parties, and then to guide the development of a fitting memorial.

The Advisory Committee agreed that the memorial should embody a sense of commitment, dedication and sacrifice. The conceptual design chosen was submitted by the Office of General Services Design and Construction Group and inspired by an idea submitted by Colleen Dillon Bergman, the daughter of slain State Trooper Emerson J. Dillon, Jr.

In a letter to the Committee, Ms. Bergman wrote that she felt "an arc or bridge spanning a section of water could symbolize that through their lives and deaths (police) officers spanned and touched many lives. The arc or bridge could also signify how the police officers' families, through an unexpected and tragic event in their lives, would be joined together."

The Memorial, located at the Empire State Plaza in Albany, includes a fountain and pool bordered on the left by a curved wall faced with polished granite on which the names of police officers, their departments and their dates of death will be engraved. A wall to the right of the fountain displays the name of the memorial and the following quote from Ms. Bergman's letter:

"It doesn't matter from which department they came,
the feeling of loss is experienced the same."