

The Official Newsletter of Blue Light Ministries

# A message from the Executive Director

Sean Terrell

On behalf of the board of directors, I want to thank you all for your support of Blue Light Ministries. While we are still in the infant stage, the love and support shown to this ministry has been inspiring.

There is no other profession that faces the day to day scrutiny that Law Enforcement officers faces. Our police officers need our love and support, so thank you!

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# *Journey to the founding of Blue Light Ministries*

#### by Sean Terrell

Theoretically speaking, Blue Light Ministries was born on July 02, 2012. That is the date that I started my new career in Law Enforcement in the Tulsa area. I knew that God was calling me to the Law Enforcement profession for one simple reason: To reach lost police officers with the Gospel. I have always viewed Law Enforcement as my mission field. And just like any missionary, the first step is to learn the language, the culture, the customs and traditions before you can adequately reach a people group with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The more I immersed myself in the Law Enforcement culture, the more I fell in love with my brothers and sisters in blue. They are dedicated, honorable, and courageous. They sacrifice their time, their talents, and even their lives for the sake of their communities. In Law Enforcement I've experienced a camaraderie few professions can relate to.

But there is also a dark side to the Law Enforcement experience. As dangerous as the job is, police officers are more likely to die by suicide than in the line of duty. Police officers are five times more likely to develop PTSD than the average citizen. Officers are often vilified daily in the media for doing their jobs. There is a heavy price to pay for being a police officer. And that's why I founded Blue Light Ministries. The time has come for the Church to step up and shine the light of Christ into the Law Enforcement community. God showed me a vision where Law Enforcement and the communities they serve were transformed by the power of the gospel.



"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." - Matthew 9:37



# The importance of building a strong community

We believe that for a department to provide the best possible police service to their communities, officers must be physically, spiritually, and emotionally healthy. Historically speaking, Law Enforcement culture has done a poor job of focusing on the spiritual and emotional health of police officers. But in the 21st Century, we are doing a much better job. There are plenty of programs, free counseling services, and checks and balances in place to ensure that officers are mentally fit for duty.

However, there still remains a large disconnect between police officers and the citizens they serve. Many still view the relationship as "us verses them". As long as we continue to view the relationship between the police and the community in these terms, progress to restore those broken relationships will remain stagnant. It is for this reason that we believe it is vitally important that citizens and police officers foster and maintain personal relationships with each other outside of work. Restoring trust in policing starts with building relationships. The stronger the relationships, the stronger the community. And that is what we at Blue Light Ministries want to do. We want to foster healthy relationships between the Church and the Law Enforcement Community. We believe that through these relationships, the brokenness of our communities can be restored. The loudest voices today spout hatred towards police officers. Let's be louder with our love!



"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his son cleanses us from all sin." - 1 John 1:7 BLUE LIGHT MINISTRIES

# ADOPT-A-COP PROGRAM

Transforming Law Enforcement through the power of prayer

### WWW.BLUELIGHTMINISTRIES.ORG/ADOPTACOP

Adopt-A-Cop assigns a police officer to an individual or family who is commiting to praying for them daily and loving them unconditionally. The Adopt-a-cop Program launched on January 23, 2019.

The program assigns police officers to individuals and families who pray for them, love them, and intercede for them.

visit our website for more information about this wonderful program.

# Transforming Law Enforcement through prayer

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people," - 1 Timothy 2:1

# Upcoming Events

February 28 – Law Enforcement Appreciation lunch for the Tulsa Police Department Gilcrease Division

March 1-2 - St Baldrick's Foundation Fundraising Event & Basketball Tournament

Visit our website for more information on upcoming events



### www.bluelightministries.org