



This is the first newsletter of 2022 from the Iowa State Police Association (ISPA). That means the junior board member gets to introduce themselves....so here it goes.

First, a little personal information about myself. I am a lifelong resident of Iowa. I grew up in a small town in western Iowa, then moved to Iowa City to attend the University of Iowa and now live in the metro area where I work for the Des Moines Police Department. I have two daughters who are young enough to enjoy spending time with me, but old enough to be relatively self-sufficient. I see this “sweet spot” of raising girls ending very soon, and then will be stuck playing Monopoly by myself while they are upstairs on their phones texting their friends about what a nerd their dad is.

I have been in law enforcement for longer than I care to admit, starting in the fall of 2001 with the University of Iowa Police Department (UIPD) as a part-time dispatcher. In 2004, UIPD hired me as a police officer. I worked patrol for four years for UIPD and then spent five years assigned to the Johnson County Drug Task Force. In 2013, I made the jump to the Des Moines Police Department. Since joining DMPD, I have worked patrol (1st and 3rd Watch), the Summer Enforcement Team (twice), Planning and Budget Section, and was recently promoted to Sergeant. If you can't tell, I am a bit of a restless soul and always excited for a new challenge. This is why law enforcement has been a good fit for me. I can change my daily tasks without having to change careers.

While working for DMPD, I spent 5 years on the Bargaining Unit's Executive board, and this is how I was first exposed to ISPA, Ray Gallardo, Matt Harkin, and Rick Host. I was able to witness the impact these individuals had working at a statewide level on legislation, pensions, and other purposeful projects. This was very appealing to me and the driving force behind running for a position with ISPA. In the few short months of being on the board, I have been motivated by the other members of the executive board. The dedication and knowledge of this group is a force to be reckoned with and I am excited for what the next 8 years will bring.