

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

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Alderman Edward Burke Honors Police at History Museum In The Line of Duty

(CHICAGO) – On February 6, 2013, Chicago **Alderman Edward Burke** will visit the Chicago History Museum to dedicate an artifact installation that honors Chicago police officers that have served throughout the city’s history. *In The Line of Duty* features four badges that celebrate the service and sacrifice of Chicago police officers that served in the midst of corruption, violence and upheaval during the city’s first century. The Chicago Police Historical Committee will also will be on hand with Alderman Burke to view *In The Line of Duty* on **February 6, 2013 at 1 p.m.**

The badges include events that have watermarked Chicago history including a badge worn by constables that were appointed to each ward. The constables worked only part-time issuing warrants or working the night watch looking for fires, drunks and criminals. Another badge dates back to the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition and belonged to one of the 2500 guards that were on hand to manage and police the fair’s record breaking crowds. Some of these guards were injured in July 1893 trying to rescue firefighters and visitors when a blaze broke out in the fair’s Cold Storage Building.

In The Line of Duty also features a badge worn by an officer at the Haymarket Affair on May 4 1886. While police officers were dispersing a peaceful protest, an unknown assailant lobbed a bomb in the crowd killing eight officers and injuring 60. The installation rounds out with a key to a police key box that was operated by women employees. After 1913, when the department switched to two-way radios, women were integrated into the police force to handle issues relating to women and children. A year later, women won greater integration with presidential suffrage in Illinois.

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The installation is located in the Chicago History Museum's *Chicago: Crossroads of America* which explores the city's history through a series of galleries that highlight artifacts, interactive features, and multimedia presentations.

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The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 73, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is \$14 adults with audio tour, \$12 seniors/students with audio tour, free for children 12 years and younger. Please call 312.642.4600 or visit us at www.chicagohistory.org. The Chicago History Museum is affiliated with the Chicago Historical Society and gratefully acknowledges the Chicago Park District's generous support of all the Museum's activities.