

Court Information Release



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U.S. Marshals Service and Courthouse Family Remember Fallen Heroes on 25th Anniversary of Their Sacrifice

CHICAGO, Ill. – Today at noon U.S. Marshals, Court Security Officers, members of the courthouse family, and family of the fallen gathered at the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse to remember Deputy U.S. Marshal Roy Frakes and Court Security Officer/Special Deputy Marshal Harry Belluomini. Today marks the 25th anniversary of their sacrifice. In front of a memorial plaque dedicated to DUSM Frakes and CSO Belluomini, Mike Belluomini, son of CSO Belluomini; District Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer; U.S. Marshal Edward Gilmore; and former law enforcement colleagues spoke to the dedication and bravery of the fallen heroes.

“For those of you who lost loved ones and colleagues that day, I hope there is some comfort in knowing that Roy Frakes and Harry Belluomini died serving this court and the system of justice in this country. But I also know that for those of you who loved these men, the loss and pain will always be with you,” said Judge Pallmeyer, in her remarks.

“There is something else that lasts, as well. We judges of this court, and all of the men and women who work in this building, continue in our efforts to carry out justice and enforce the guarantee of due process. You, the members of the Marshals Service and our Court Security Officers, and the Federal Protective Service – all of you make our work possible. We do not thank any of you often enough, so today I do so on behalf of this court,” Judge Pallmeyer added.

On July 20, 1992, DUSM Frakes and CSO Belluomini were shot and killed by a suspect who was attempting to escape from the federal courthouse in Chicago, Illinois. The suspect had removed his handcuffs with a smuggled key, assaulted a guard in the basement of the courthouse, and took the officer’s revolver. As he attempted to escape from the basement, he encountered

Deputy Marshal Frakes and shot him twice.

The suspect was then confronted by CSO Belluomini and the two exchanged gunfire. Special DUSM Belluomini was mortally wounded and the suspect was seriously wounded. The suspect then committed suicide.

Deputy Marshal Frakes had served with the Marshals Service for one year. He was survived by his wife.

Harry A. Belluomini was a decorated and respected retired Chicago Police Detective with 32 years of service. Special Deputy Marshal Belluomini had served as a CSO with the Marshals Service for three years. He was survived by his wife, son and two daughters. His three children all went on to serve with the Chicago Police Department.

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Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer speaks at memorial service