

## PRESS RELEASE: Ferris to Host Eight Annual Police Memorial

Sandy C Gholston to: Archive

05/09/2011 08:20 AM

From: Sandy C Gholston/FSU
To: Archive/FSU@FERRIS

Included below is a press release regarding the upcoming Police Memorial of Central West Michigan held on the Ferris State University campus. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, May 10 at 9 a.m. outside of the FLITE building. Any questions regarding this release can be directed to Sandy Gholston, interim assistant director of News Services.

For Immediate Release May 9, 2011

Sandy Gholston Ferris State University Interim Assistant Director of News Services sandygholston@ferris.edu, (231) 591-2021

## Ferris to Host Eight Annual Police Memorial

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University will be hosting the eighth annual Police Memorial of Central West Michigan on Tuesday, May 10 at 9 a.m. outside the FLITE building.

The ceremony honors men and women who have dedicated their lives to serving the public and maintaining freedom – sometimes sacrificing their lives in the line of duty.

"It's with great respect for law enforcement officers who have given their all that we take this time every year to recall that 'freedom is not free' in our cities, towns and rural lands," said Ferris Department of Public Safety Director Martin Bledsoe. "Our regional police memorial follows the tradition established by former President John F. Kennedy, in 1962, to remind us of the blessings realized in a free society due to law enforcement officers and their families."

Officers from Big Rapids, Ferris, Mecosta County, the Michigan State Police, and other university public safety departments and local, county, state and federal agencies will participate in the event, which includes the playing of Taps, a 21-gun salute, bag pipers, flag and gun salutes, laying of the wreath and the remembrance of fallen heroes' names.

"Community members and police officers alike leave this event with a renewed spirit for the work we collectively do to keep people safe," Bledsoe said.

For more information about the Police Memorial of Central West Michigan, contact Ferris State University's Department of Public Safety at (231) 591-5000.

Interim Assistant Director of News Services/Social Media PR Ferris State University

420 Oak Street

Prakken Building 108 Phone: (231) 591-2021

News Services Web site:  $\underline{www.ferris.edu/news}$ 

Ferris State University News Blog: <a href="mailto:ferrisstatebulldogs.blogspot.com/">ferrisstatebulldogs.blogspot.com/</a>

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