

# Honoring A Fallen Officer



As always, National Police Officers Memorial Week is a somber time for all police officers. It is a reminder, albeit an important one, of the dangers we face very day that we put on that uniform and go to work. This year offered a special reminder of the passing of one of our own, Francis "Frankie" D. Hemilright.

Frankie Hemilright started with the Southern Shores Police Department in September of 1991. Frankie worked over 20 years in law enforcement most notably as the first policeman for the incorporated Town of Kitty Hawk. As a native of Dare County being born and raised in Manns Harbor, Frankie's knowledge of the area and his law enforcement experience served the citizens and Town of Southern Shores well in his eight years of service with the department. Frankie's sense of fairness, down to earth approach and dry wit endeared him to all who knew him. And even those who may not have liked him certainly respected him.

Frankie's tour of duty ended on January 14, 2000. In the early morning hours of January 14<sup>th</sup>, a large fight involving 100 or more persons broke out in the parking lot of the Port O' Call Restaurant in Kill Devil Hills. The Kill Devil Hills Police Department requested mutual from all available units. Frankie responded to the call for help and checked on scene within 14 minutes of receiving the call. Unfortunately, Frankie was not able to get out of his patrol car as he had suffered a major heart attack. Saint Michael had come to take him home.

Although Frankie was honored on the wall in Washington D.C. at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, he had never been added to the North Carolina Peace Officers Honor Roll. That oversight was corrected at this year's ceremony at Charity Baptist Church in Kannapolis, NC on May 6, 2009. Attorney General Roy Cooper, in his closing remarks, recognized Francis Duon Hemilright for his commitment to law enforcement and officially added his name to the North Carolina Peace Officers Honor Roll.

The Southern Shores Police Department remembers Francis "Frankie" Duon Hemilright with respect, pride and warmest heartfelt thanks for his contribution to this department and the Town of Southern Shores. **Rest in Peace Frankie.**

## Special points of interest:

- May 18-31 **Click It or Ticket**



- April 26 - May 4 is **Safe Kids Week** For more information see [www.usa.safekids.org](http://www.usa.safekids.org).

- May is **National Mental Health Month**. For more information see [www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov)



- May is **Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month**.

- Beginning May 15th until September 15th, dogs will not be allowed on Southern Shores beaches.



## Did You Know?

### **NCGS § 14-4.**

#### **Violation of local ordinances misdemeanor.**

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), if any person shall violate an ordinance of a county, city, town, or metropolitan sewerage district created under Article 5 of Chapter 162A, he shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500). No fine shall exceed fifty dollars (\$50) unless the ordinance expressly states that the maximum fine is greater than fifty dollars (\$50).

(b) If any person shall violate an ordinance of a county, city, or town regulating the operation or parking of vehicles, he shall be responsible for an infraction and shall be required to pay a penalty of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).