



**Phoenix Police Department**  
**Public Affairs Bureau**  
620 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



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# MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

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## **Historical Marker Unveiling for Fallen Officer** *80th Anniversary of Officer David “Star” Johnson’s Death*

**Date/Time:** Thursday, May 2, 2024, 9:00 a.m.  
**Event:** Unveiling of the historical marker for Officer David “Star” Johnson  
**Location:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Jefferson Street, Southside of Jefferson Street

On May 2, 1944, Officer David “Star” Johnson was killed in the line of duty when he was fatally shot during a traffic stop in the downtown area. On the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death, the Phoenix Police Department will be unveiling a Historical Marker dedicated to Officer Johnson. Officer Johnson’s sacrifice has never been recognized before; this will be the first time a historical marker has been hung in his honor.

The dedication will be on May 2, 2024, at 9 a.m. Third Street south of Jefferson Street will be restricted for event parking.

The City of Phoenix created signs to mark locations throughout the City where both police officers and firefighters have made the ultimate sacrifice. Officer Johnson’s will be the 42<sup>nd</sup> sign that will be hung to honor a police officer.

The media is invited to attend the short ceremony. The individuals who were instrumental in getting Officer Johnson recognized will be in attendance. Sgt. Vincent Cole will be available for interviews following the dedication to talk about Officer Johnson and the research that went into getting recognition for him.

Learn more about his sacrifice in a documentary the department produced:  
<https://www.phoenix.gov/newsroom/police/3051>.

Media will be asked to be set up by 8:45 a.m. and a mult box will be available to plug into for sound. This event will not be streamed on social media.

Please email Phoebe Crump at [phoebe.crump@phoenix.gov](mailto:phoebe.crump@phoenix.gov) if you are planning to attend.