



News Release

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Utah's Fallen Officers to Be Recognized through a New Law Enforcement Memorial at the Utah State Capitol

Kennecott Utah Copper to Donate the Metals for the Statues

(Salt Lake City, Utah) – Utah's 118 Fallen Officers will soon be formally recognized for their service in a monument on the west side of the Utah State Capitol. In 2004, the Capitol Preservation Board began the preservation and restoration of the Utah State Capitol. The small wall-sized memorial that previously recognized the officers has been removed and will not return. The small sized memorial in the Capitol that previously recognized officers was to be moved outside with other memorials. So, in 2006 a group of officers created the Utah Law Enforcement Memorial Inc., for the sole purpose of creating a life-size permanent memorial to be located on the grounds of the Utah State Capitol.

Kennecott Utah Copper (KUC) has graciously donated about 6,000 pounds of metal to build the three-statue memorial. The \$22,000 worth of copper will be crafted into a set of three sculptures to be unveiled with the names of the fallen officers. The metal will also be used to make the officer name plates on the memorial as well as the large medallion on the floor of the memorial. "Kennecott has been a partner in this community for more than 100 years and we are proud to offer these resources to help fallen officers

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gain the recognition for their incredible sacrifice," said Terry Maio, General Manager, Kennecott Utah Copper Refinery.

After a long, national search, Lena Toritch, Salt Lake City, has been commissioned to sculpture the memorial statues. Toritch specializes in commissioned monuments and portraits, she has created numerous statues that depict prominent figures in local history as well as custom design an site-specific monuments. Sculpted in traditional realistic style, Toritch's statues grace some of the finest homes and various businesses around the country. To review a rendering of the monument layout, visit <http://www.UtahsFallen.org/project.htm>.

The overall cost of the memorial is about \$1.3 million with generous donations coming from KUC, the Utah State Legislature, Sahara Construction Inc., Utah Peace Officers Association, Spillman Technologies and officers throughout the State of Utah. To date, about \$600,000 has been raised for the project; another \$700,000 is still needed in order to complete the project.

Currently 118 officers have died in the line of duty in Utah since 1853. Early efforts to honor Utah's fallen officers were sketchy at best. The first police memorials were typically confined to individual departments or communities who wished to preserve their officers' memories. The first fallen officer in Utah was Salt Lake County Deputy Sheriff Rodney Badger who died while saving a family from a swollen river in 1853. The latest fallen officer was Officer Stephen R. Anderson, Utah Department of Corrections died just a few weeks ago when. He was shot and killed by an inmate who gained control of the officer's weapon during treatment at University Hospital.

"The rate of officers killed in the line of duty has increased since 2000. Today, a Utah police officer dies on an average of every eight months," said Clarke Christensen, President, Utah Law Enforcement Memorial, Inc. "Unfortunately, there is no police memorial at the State Capitol upon which to add their names. Kennecott, as well as our other sponsors and donors will us help rectify that."

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For a complete list of the fallen officers or to donate toward the fund drive or to learn about the many officers who have died in the line of duty, visit

<http://www.UtahsFallen.org/>

About Utah Law Enforcement Memorial, Inc.

Utah Law Enforcement Memorial Inc., was established in 2006 for the sole purpose of creating a permanent memorial to be located on the grounds of the Utah State Capitol. The Memorial shall preserve and honor the memories of police officers who lost their lives in the performance of their duties to the citizens of Utah. It is further intended that the memorial serve as a place of solace for surviving family members and friends, as a visible reminder to the citizens and elected officials of the price for the public's safety, and as the location of an annual ceremony during which the names of recently fallen officers are added. www.utahsfallen.org

About Kennecott Utah Copper:

As the second largest copper producer in the United States, Kennecott Utah Copper provides about 15% of this country's copper needs. Kennecott Bingham Canyon Mine is the largest man-made excavation in the world. It has produced more copper, 17.3 million, tons, than any mine in the world. Every year, Kennecott produces about 300,000 tons of copper, along with 400,000 ounces of gold, three million ounces of silver, about 24 million pounds of molybdenum, and about one million tons of sulfuric acid, a by-product of the smelting process. Rio Tinto purchased Kennecott Utah Copper in 1989 and has invested about \$2 billion in the modernization of KUCC's operations. KUCC has also spent over \$350 million on the cleanup of historic mining waste and \$100 million on groundwater cleanup. Kennecott Utah Copper has 1,600 full-time employees and 600 contractors. For 70 years it was the largest private employer in the State of Utah. www.kennecott.com

About Lena Toritch

Lena Toritch's skilled expressive hands can sculpt just about anything in clay and preserve it in bronze. She received her MFA degree from the Academy of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg, Russia. Being a daughter of a known sculptor, she became aware of the magic of art at an early age. In 1992, Toritch was accepted into the Artist's Union of Russia and participated in its shows, working in ceramics and bronze. In 1993, Toritch moved to United States and three years later she received her permanent residency as an artist of exceptional ability. Here in the U.S., Lena's talent was recognized by the prestigious Society of Animal Artists, which accepted her as a member. Lena's sculpture was featured at Cypress Gardens in Florida, Christie's Auction House in London and in historical buildings in Utah. www.bronzeportraits.net