

## **Public Safety Officer Benefit Act Public Act 46 of 2004**

The Public Safety Officer Benefit Act provides for a one-time payment of \$25,000 for the care of a public safety officer permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty. In the event the public safety officer was killed in the line of duty, the spouse, children, or estate of the officer may be eligible for the one time payment of \$25,000. Benefits paid under the Act are retroactive to incidents resulting in an officer's death or permanent and total disability that occurred on or after October 1, 2003.

### **Covered Public Safety Officers**

“Public safety officer” means an individual serving a public agency in an official capacity, with or without compensation, as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, rescue squad member, or ambulance crew member. “Law enforcement officer” means an individual involved in crime and juvenile delinquency control or reduction or the enforcement of the criminal law. It includes police, corrections, probation, parole, bailiffs, or other similar court officers. “Firefighter” means a volunteer or employed member of a fire department of a city, county, township, village, state university, community college, or a member of the Department of Natural Resources employed to fight fires.

### **Eligibility**

The one-time \$25,000 benefit is paid to an eligible beneficiary(ies) in the following order:

- If the public safety officer is permanently and totally disabled, the one-time benefit will be paid to the spouse; if there is no spouse, then to the dependents of the officer. If there are no dependents, then the benefit will be paid to the entity providing care to the officer.
- If the officer is killed in the line of duty, the benefit will be paid to the spouse. If there is no surviving spouse, then to dependents of the officer. If there is no surviving spouse or surviving dependents, then the benefit will be paid to the estate of the deceased officer.

### **For more Detailed Information and an Application**

To receive additional information on the Public Safety Officer Benefit Act and an *Application for Benefits*, please write or call the Commission at:

Public Safety Officer Benefit Program  
Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards  
106 W. Allegan, Suite 600  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Phone: (517) 322-1417