

San Pablo Police Department



Public Safety Standing Committee
April 29, 2026



National Police Week

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls, as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.



Officer Robert Chadwick Wheeler



Age: 42
Tour: 18 years
Badge: 21
Military Veteran



SAN PABLO POLICE DEPARTMENT, CALIFORNIA
END OF WATCH: THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 1977

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Officer Robert Wheeler was shot and killed while responding to a silent alarm at Musselman's jewelry store, located at 1615 23rd Street, around noon.

The store had been known to send out false alarms in the past. When Officer Wheeler walked into the store, he was shot by two men who were committing a robbery. One of the suspects was arrested in the area shortly after the shooting. He refused to give the name of his accomplice, who was never apprehended.

The suspect, 26, was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life. In 2010 he was denied parole for the 16th time. He still refuses to reveal the identity of his accomplice. He was still in prison in 2015.

Officer Wheeler was a United States Marine Corps Korean War veteran and had served with the San Pablo Police Department for 18 years. He is survived by his wife and two sons.



National Police Week is a collaborative effort of many organizations dedicated to honoring America's law enforcement community.

National Police Week occurs every May, and in 2026, we will commemorate it with live, in-person events. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund will hold ceremonies, including the 38th Annual Candlelight Vigil, to honor the fallen officers whose names have recently been added to the Memorial.



WE ARE SAN PABLO

