

Dear Members of the New York State Police Investigators Association,

My name is Kurt Labuda, and I am honored to announce my candidacy for President of the NYSPIA. I currently serve as the Senior Investigator in Troop F, SP Monroe Backroom. As I'm in my 19th year with the New York State Police, I want to share my experience and vision for the future of our organization.

I graduated from the 193rd class and spent 8 years as a Trooper in Troop F (Wurtsboro and Liberty). For the past 11 years, I've worked in the BCI, spending 8 years as an investigator in SP Liberty and the last 3 years as Senior Investigator in SP Monroe. Before joining the NYSP, I served in the U.S. Army during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. After my service, I worked in a warehouse and for a local highway department before beginning my law enforcement career in 2006. I've been married for 24 years and am a proud father of three children.

My 11 years in BCI have allowed me the privilege of working alongside some of the finest investigators in law enforcement. I've received training in several specialties, including CCU, Forensic Child Interviews, Bias Crime Investigation, and Crisis Negotiation. Throughout my career, I've investigated a wide range of cases, from murder and sexual assault to drug trafficking and burglary. I've built strong relationships with local PDs and prosecutors through open communication and cooperation.

Over the years, I've seen both the best and worst of humanity, and I deeply understand the complexities and demands of being an investigator. Today, recruiting and retaining qualified members is more challenging than ever, and I'm committed to addressing these challenges head-on. I am proud to be part of BCI and the New York State Police and firmly believe that we are the premier agency and investigators in New York.

If elected as your NYSPIA President, my goal is to continue moving our union forward with transparency and communication. I will consult with members more frequently through polls and feedback, ensuring that everyone has a voice in shaping our future. I also intend to improve the Surgeons Group, making it more accessible and useful for all members across all Troops. I recognize the importance of financial planning for our members, including deferred compensation, life insurance, and retirement plans. It's crucial that we're well-informed and prepared for the future. I will also prioritize ensuring our members are fairly compensated, not just financially but in terms of quality of life. The increasing demands of our work should be met with the appropriate support and recognition.

I take this opportunity seriously and understand the responsibility that comes with representing your Union. This is your Union, your Life, and your Future, and I am committed to serving you with pride, respect, and professionalism.

Fraternally,

Kurt Labuda