



The American Armor Foundation, Inc.

Protecting America's Heroes

MISSION

American Armor is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that assists America's underfunded law enforcement agencies in their efforts to provide their officers with life-saving body armor.

BACKGROUND

It is widely known in the law enforcement industry that body armor is credited with more than 3,000 "saves" over the last three decades (NIJ Statistics) and that officers who wear their body armor routinely are much less likely to suffer a fatal injury from a torso shot. Fortunately, most agencies now issue body armor and have adopted mandatory wear policies under which all officers must wear their vest while on duty.

However, there are many small agencies throughout the United States that are grossly underfunded and unable to provide their officers with body armor. Most of these agencies employ 10 or fewer officers and serve populations of 10,000 or fewer citizens. According to the FBI's 2017 Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) report, these agencies held the second (among city agencies) highest rate of officers murdered over the last decade.

In 2015, Georgia-based police chief Brandon Perkins became aware that this issue existed after coming across a RAND study from 2010 that estimated as many as 200,000 law enforcement officers were working without body armor in the United States. Perkins completed his own research on the issue and found that this is, in fact, a real issue and founded the American Armor Foundation in an effort to help these agencies provide their officers with the equipment they need to keep them safe.



April 2015 - American Armor incorporates in the State of Georgia as a non-profit corporation.

June 2015 - American Armor receives 501(c)(3) tax exempt status from the IRS.

June 2016 - American Armor provides its first ballistic vest to Newburg, WI.

September 2016 - American Armor "Officially" launches with a PR event providing 7 vests to the Woodbury (GA) Police Department (entire agency).

October 2016 - American Armor founder, Chief Brandon Perkins, receives "40 Under 40" Award from the International Association of Chiefs of Police, in part, for his work with the organization.

March 2017 - American Armor's first "Brew for the Blue" fundraiser event held at Abide Brewery in Newnan, Georgia.

December 2017 - American Armor provides its 35th ballistic vest.

August 2018 - American Armor provides body armor to the Issaquena County, Mississippi Sheriff's Office, one of the lowest per capita income counties in the country.

September 2018 - American Armor provides its 50th vest!



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GETTING INVOLVED

American Armor's success depends on the generosity of individuals, businesses, and groups who believe in our mission and want to assist us in helping small, underfunded agencies purchase body armor for their officers. Consequently, there are several ways to get involved as a supporter:

Monthly Heroes - We believe there is power in numbers and building a large base of individuals who are willing to give monthly starting at \$5 is vital to our success. Just 1,000 supporters at \$5 a month would provide 130 vests per year!

One-Time Donations - A one-time donation in any amount will go a long way towards helping us reach our goals!

Sponsor a Vest - Through a pricing a agreement with our distributor, we are able to provide brand new Point Blank body armor for only \$450.

Donate A Vehicle - We will take virtually ANY vehicle in ANY condition ANYWHERE in the U.S. and turn it into funding for body armor!

Host a "Spirit Night" - Many restaurants across the country support non-profits through spirit night programs where individuals coordinate to have supporters have a meal on a certain night and a portion of the proceeds (10% to 20%) go to their selected charity. The average is usually enough to buy one vest!

Host Your Own Fundraiser - Local businesses, motorcycle clubs, and others have successfully held their own events on our behalf and have been extremely successful!

IMPACT

Since our launch, we have provided over 50 ballistic vests to agencies in Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia and we're committed to growing that number exponentially going forward!

"This is an absolute blessing and I will sleep better at night knowing my officers are better protected, especially during times like these when it's already a difficult task just being a police officer." **Gary Brankel, Chief of Police, Dixon (MO) PD**

