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## Donations sought to aid Transit Police officer injured in shootout with Boston Marathon bombing suspects

Posted by [Matt Rocheleau](#) April 23, 2013 01:05 PM

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Donations are being collected online and via mail to help Transit Police Officer Richard "Dic" Donohue Jr., who was shot and critically injured during a violent exchange of gunfire with the two men suspected of bombing the Boston Marathon.

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The MBTA Police Association Benevolent Fund has launched a website, [www.officerricharddonohue.com](http://www.officerricharddonohue.com), to collect money to aid the 33-year-old officer and his family as he recovers from wounds that left him in critical condition. Donohue, a Woburn resident and Winchester native, is married with a 7-month-old son.

He was one of numerous officers who chased two men – who allegedly killed an MIT police officer Thursday night and orchestrated the deadly marathon bombing Monday – to the corner of Dexter and Laurel streets in Watertown where a gun battle broke out early Friday morning.

During the mayhem, Donohue was shot. A bullet ruptured an artery and vein in his right thigh causing him to lose nearly all of his blood and his heart stopped beating, doctors have said.

Donohue remains in critical but stable condition at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, T spokesman Joe Pesaturo said Tuesday.

Transit Police patrol Officer Bob Marino, who is president of the MBTA Police Association, said the donation website for Donohue launched on Monday afternoon.

As of noon on Tuesday, about \$15,000 had been raised, according to Marino.

"We just got the site up there and hadn't really done any advertising until this morning," he said by phone Tuesday afternoon. "So I feel really good about that start."

Marino said that the MBTA is helping to spread awareness about the fund, including by prominently displaying a link to the donation website and a photo of Donohue on the homepage of the T's popular MBTA.com website. The association is also reaching out to police departments nationwide and others to seek donations.

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He said the money will go to help pay for Donohue's medical expenses and his family's day-to-day bills.

"It's so early in the game and we don't know how long it's going to take and how the recovery process will go," Marino said. "He's showing positive signs so far -- knock on wood -- but it could take a significant amount of time before he returns to work."

He said he and Donohue work different shifts, but the two have worked together occasionally. Marino described Donohue as a "great, intelligent guy" who is a "hard worker," a good friend and colleague who is missed around the department.

The donation website said Donohue joined the Transit Police department three years ago. A graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, he served as US Navy officer before joining the Transit Police.

"The MBTA Police Association Benevolent Fund, Inc. extends its deepest sympathy the victims of the Boston Marathon Bombings and their families," the site said. "Our thoughts and prayers are also with the family of our brother, Officer Sean Collier of the MIT Police," a 26-year-old who died after the two bombing suspects allegedly shot him Thursday night.

Collier was a friend of Donohue. They attended the Transit Police Academy together.

Donations to Donohue and his family can be made at [www.officerricharddonohue.com](http://www.officerricharddonohue.com), or by mailing checks payable to the "MBTA Police Association Benevolent Fund, Inc." and mailed to: MBTA Police Department, c/o Officer Donohue Fund, 240 South Hampton Street, Boston, MA, 02118.

To read more about Donohue, click [here](#) and [here](#).

*For the latest and complete coverage of the Boston Marathon bombings, visit [Boston.com](http://Boston.com).*

*E-mail Matt Rocheleau at [mjrochele@gmail.com](mailto:mjrochele@gmail.com).*

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