

# The Connecticut Police Chiefs Law Enforcement Memorial



**James W. Burns**  
**Officer**  
**Bristol**  
**Died: 05/29/1941**

On May 29, 1941, Officer Burns, 48, was shot five times after responding to a disturbance at the home of his brother-in-law, Henry J. Cornetski, 36, of 16 Union Street, Bristol. Also shot in the leg was patrolman Ed O'Connor. Suspect opened fire on Officer Burns and O'Connor along with five other officers after a day of drinking. Cornetski was eventually overpowered. Officer Burns left a wife, 2 daughters, his mother, 5 brothers and 3 sisters. He was a police officer for 21 years.

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