



Agenda Memorandum

Agenda Item – 4.B.

City Council Meeting
February 13, 2023



Strategic Priority 2: Proactive Public Safety

Enhance public safety to emphasize both prevention and enforcement, engage the community through education and outreach and provide the resources necessary to ensure safety and well-being throughout Westminster.

Subject: National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day Proclamation

Prepared By: David Lester, Interim Deputy Police Chief

Recommended City Council Action:

Councillor Ezeadi to present the School Resource Officer Supervisor and Staff with a proclamation for National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day on February 15, 2023.

Summary Statement:

- The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) has declared February 15, 2023, as National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day.
- The first National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day was declared in 2022, but the City has not yet declared a date specifically to honor the service of the City's school resource officers.
- School resource officer (SRO) staff in the City include Drew Smith, Kelly Jacobsen, Tom Steele, Charles Gonzales, Pat Clarke, Andrew Nevil, Mike Wazny, Adam Albers, and Kurt Frenzel.

Fiscal Impact:

\$0 in expenditures

Source of Funds:

Not applicable.

Policy Issue(s):

None identified.

Alternative(s):

None identified.

Background Information:

SROs throughout the United States will celebrate National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day on February 15, 2023. The City of Westminster has eight employees in the SRO Unit consisting of seven SROs and one SRO Sergeant who are dedicated to providing exceptional value and quality of life through Service, Pride, Integrity, Responsibility, Innovation, and Teamwork (SPIRIT). The City has 35 schools in three school districts, which include private and charter schools that are covered by the SRO Unit.

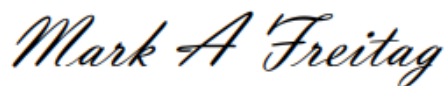
SROs are carefully selected, specially trained, and properly equipped to work with the youth in our schools. They build positive relationships with students through informal counseling, mentoring, public safety education, and demonstrating the role of law enforcement. Each SRO in the unit has attended a 40-hour Basic SRO Course, and several have attended a 24-hour Advanced SRO Course. Additional training includes adolescent mental health, threat assessments, social media safety, digital threat assessments, and interacting with students with special needs. This is in addition to all of the standardized training police officers are required to complete.

SROs spend much of their time working during school hours to support students in the classrooms, spelling bees, reading to students, after school sporting events, concerts, plays, and other school-related events.

The annual observance that started in 2022 by the NASRO is an opportunity to increase awareness of the role SROs play in bridging the gap between youth, law enforcement, and the communities they serve.

Proclaiming February 15, 2023, as National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day supports the City's Strategic Priority of Proactive Public Safety by recognizing the outstanding SRO personnel for their passion and dedication to keeping our City and community safe.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark A. Freitag". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark A. Freitag
City Manager

Attachments:

National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day Proclamation