



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: March 12, 2019

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____



4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Honoring And Congratulating Detective Patrick Gerke As 2019 Exchange Club Sonoma County Peace Officer Of The Year

Whereas, Patrick Gerke grew up in Auburn, California and graduated from Placer High School in 1994. After High school he worked and attended Sierra College for two years followed by the Police Academy through Sacramento City College from August of 1996 to June of 1997; and

Whereas, on July 14th 1997 Gerke was hired by Petaluma Police Department where he worked until 2002 before serving briefly at Placer County Sheriff's Department, finally returning to the Petaluma Police Department in 2003; and

Whereas, upon his return to Sonoma County, Gerke resumed college studies, graduating from Sonoma State in spring 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science; and

Whereas, in 2005 he was selected as a Field Training Officer/Corporal, holding that rank until 2016 when he advanced to Detective; and

Whereas, Detective Gerke has distinguished himself as a truly dedicated investigator with a reputation for thorough investigation. As lead investigator on protocol cases he demonstrates an exhaustive work ethic; and

Whereas, in 2018 Detective Gerke investigated human trafficking cases, attempted homicides, sexual assaults, child pornography, domestic violence, elder abuse, and property crimes, including forgery and burglaries. Gerke has been commended by Redwood Children's Center for his compassion and excellence in taking care of the most vulnerable victims; and

Whereas, Detective Gerke acts as a mentor to younger officers and takes every opportunity to assist them in their investigations; and

Whereas, when mentoring younger officers, Detective Gerke embraces the philosophy of "teaching the trade, not the tricks of the trade." He mentors by modeling the correct way to investigate cases, not the easy way; and

Whereas, Detective Gerke stays composed as he handles stressful incidents and investigations; he has even been told he acts "sergeantly" as he holds himself to the highest standard. Gerke is a leading example of a tenured police officer who gives his all for victims of the crimes he is investigating.

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Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors honors and congratulates Detective Gerke as the outstanding recipient of the Exchange Club's 2019 Police Officer of the Year.

Supervisors:

Gorin:	Zane:	Gore:	Hopkins:	Rabbitt:
Ayes:	Noes:	Absent:	Abstain:	

So Ordered.