

ANACORTES POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Ensuring Public Safety; Earning Public Trust"

1218 24TH STREET, ANACORTES, WA 98221 • (360) 293-4684 - FAX (360) 293-1935

May 20, 2021

Mr. Kevin Coyne
Sons of the American Revolution

Dear Mr. Coyne,

The purpose of this communication is to nominate Anacortes Police Chief (retired) John Small for the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal.

Chief John Small has been on the leading edge of the evolution of policing for over twenty-seven years. He has been a positive influence and a mentor for so many in law enforcement.

Chief Small started his career in law enforcement as a Patrol Officer at the Anacortes Police Department (APD) in 1993. While working at APD, Chief Small has served as a Field Training Officer, Bike Patrol Officer, Volunteer Coordinator and School Resource/DARE Officer. Chief Small was promoted to Sergeant in 2001, serving as both a Patrol Sergeant and Detective Sergeant. Chief Small was promoted to Captain in 2008. He first served as the Patrol Captain and oversaw the Patrol Division. He then served as the Administrative Captain and oversaw the Detective and Crime Prevention Divisions of the APD. Chief Small was appointed to the position of Chief of Police in April 2017.

Chief Small's wealth of experience has always been reflected by his active participation in the hiring process of new officers beginning with his assignment as a Captain. The quality of officers who are employed by the Anacortes Police Department can be attributed to Chief Small's belief that hiring individuals should be based on integrity, values, and dedication as those are qualities that cannot be taught at the Police Academy. He inspires officers to remain kind, be caring, and uphold a high ethical standard throughout a long career where officers are many times exposed to others while they are at their lowest moments. In a recent interview with a local news report I said, "APD has definitely benefitted from his leadership, and I have personally become a better manager under his guidance."

Upon Chief Small's retirement he reflected, "I am proud to have spent my entire career in Anacortes and it has been an honor and blessing to serve this community. My greatest legacy is going to be the Police Department staff I leave behind who will continue to protect and serve the City of Anacortes."

Anacortes Mayor Gere said of Chief Small, "Chief Small truly exemplifies what servant leadership is. He shows up every day to serve every citizen of Anacortes through protection, enforcing the law, and taking care of people at their most vulnerable times. He leads by example in his department and has created a culture of service."

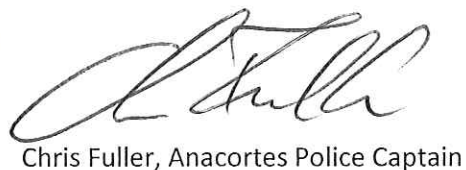
He willingly gave of his time for the betterment of the citizens of which he proudly served as the public servant he had committed his life to.

Thank you for considering this nomination and all that the Sons of the American Revolution do for our community and nation.

Sincerely,



Dave Floyd, Anacortes Police Captain



Chris Fuller, Anacortes Police Captain