

RESOLUTION NUMBER 72

Sergeant Thomas J. Eckhard

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that Sergeant Thomas J. Eckhard DSN 0235 is retiring from the Saint Louis Metropolitan Police Department after 35 years of dedicated service; and

WHEREAS, throughout the term of his distinguished career, Sergeant Eckhard served as a Police Cadet starting in June 1974 in the Academy, the Fifth District, Medical Division and Communications. After graduating from the Police Academy in June of 1975, he was assigned to the Mobile Reserve Section, the First District, and the Third District. In March of 1985, Patrolman Thomas Eckhard was promoted to Sergeant Thomas Eckhard where he then served in the Fifth and Fourth Districts, the Inspection Unit, the Fifth District and finally he is retiring from the First District, where he served the last sixteen years wearing badge #89.

WHEREAS, for many years, Sergeant Eckhard was assigned to many parades and civic events, and he protected many elected officials, including Heads of State while assigned to details for the City of St. Louis. Sergeant Eckhard built relationships between the Police Department and many important St. Louis businesses; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Eckhard, is a 1972 graduate of Bishop Dubourg High School, where he starred as an outstanding baseball player. Following high school, he honed his education skills at St Louis Community College prior to joining the SLMPD. Sergeant Eckhard is an avid fisherman having recently garnered the coveted Joseph Capkovic Award for excellence in fishing; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Eckhard, while serving the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, received two Chiefs Letters of Commendation. In 2009, Sergeant Eckhard was awarded with the first ever "District One Leadership Award." In addition to normal training, Sergeant Eckhard received a Proficiency Level A for "Applicant Oral Screening." Sergeant Thomas Eckhard while dedicated to his profession, also was active as a board member in two neighborhood associations, making the quality of life better for both the Mt. Pleasant and Dutchtown Neighborhood Associations.

WHEREAS, Sergeant Eckhard and his wife, Marion, and sons, Aaron, Adam and Andrew can now rest knowing their husband and father will no longer have to work long hours and toil for the City of St Louis, and the citizens can be proud that an outstanding leader of men has served them well for the last 35 years; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis extends a sincere thanks to Sergeant Thomas Eckhard for his long and productive service to the City of St. Louis and the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to thank and recognize Retired Sergeant Thomas J. Eckhard for his long and productive service to the City of St. Louis and the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. We express our best wishes to him for good health and happiness on his retirement and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 19th day of June, 2009 by:

Honorable Craig Schmid, Alderman 20th Ward

Honorable Matthew Villa, Alderman 11th Ward

Honorable Fred Heitert, Alderman 12th Ward

Honorable Alfred Wessels, Jr., Alderman 13th Ward

Honorable Stephen Gregali, Alderman 14th Ward

Honorable Jennifer Florida, Alderwoman 15th Ward

Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25th Ward

Adopted this the 19th day of June, 2009 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen

