



Release of Public Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Leon County Sheriff's Office and Tallahassee Police Department to Provide Funeral Escorts for Fallen Military Personnel

The Leon County Sheriff's Office discontinued funeral escorts many years ago. The escorts were manpower intensive, led to overtime expenditures and were inherently dangerous to the law enforcement personnel and the general public. Sheriff Campbell and Chief Jones met yesterday to discuss a recent request asking that the policy be revisited in light of the current wartime effort. Sheriff Campbell and Chief Jones are both military veterans and understand the sacrifice made by members of the military and their families. As a result of the meeting, Sheriff Campbell and Chief Jones have agreed to a cooperative effort between the agencies to facilitate honoring local members of the military, law enforcement, fire and emergency medial services who give their lives for their community. Active local military personnel who are killed while serving in a war zone will be provided a funeral escort based on available staffing from each agency.

Sheriff Larry Campbell said "This issue was never a matter of not wanting to provide this service to our fallen heroes. As a United States Marine I truly respect all our men and women in uniform who protect this great nation of ours everyday; however it was of great importance to me that if we provide a funeral escort for our fallen heroes that we get the job done safely, while providing a professional and consistent level of service for such a somber occasion. Chief Jones and I have been able to establish a good professional and personal relationship. This was of great importance in our being able to reach an agreement to resolve the problem and provide this service to the community."



Leon County Sheriff's Office

