

Ask the Chief - current media report dealing with Law Enforcement

Recently I have been asked for my opinion regarding current law enforcement issues that have captured the public's attention in national media. These questions can be difficult to answer because there are often facts that are not shared with the media.

As I stop and think about all the current issues that exist in law enforcement I am reminded about how important character and integrity are to police officers. The duties of law enforcement put a tremendous amount of stress and demand on officers and their families. What they are called upon to do and see can take its toll on even the strongest and that is why I prefer to talk about what makes a person a good officer.

In my search to learn what it means to be a good police officer I have read many books, but probably the best one I have read says, "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

These are the principles I try to live and work by. These are the principles I teach officers to follow. These are the principles I look for when I review media reports regarding law enforcement and this is why it is so important to hire the right people to serve the public.

Don't always believe what you read or hear in the media and rather than drawing a conclusion based upon sensationalized reports look for the character and integrity of the officer of your community.

Sincerely,

Chief Bill Bolt