



Anthony R. Kies
Chief of Police

MUSCATINE POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE POLICE CHIEF
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Steven Snider
Assistant Police Chief

Presented to Assistant Chief Steve Snider

Medal of Merit

In recognition of your outstanding career and loyalty to the Muscatine Police Department. Over 37 years of dedicated service, you have not only witnessed the department's growth but have been a driving force behind its most pivotal advancements. Without your vision our department would absolutely not be where it is today.

From the beginning, you have been focused on community needs and a pivotal to the development of many new programs to the Muscatine Police Department that benefit our community.

- In 1991, you founded the department's first K-9 program, adding a vital tool for law enforcement that continues to serve the city today. Hats off to you and Cesar for giving us the direction to keep pushing this program forward.
- In 2001, you established the first Muscatine County SWAT Team known as Special Response Team (SRT), creating a specialized unit to handle our most complex and dangerous incidents with precision and care. This was no easy task and we are indebted to you for the opportunities you shared with us and the foundation you had set for what was once a (3) man unit who did everything, to now an unit that consists of (7) negotiators, (4) snipers, and (15) entry members a team of (33) members known as the Muscatine Special Operations Response Team (MSORT) that conducts operations in (3) counties and went from caring for 20,000 people to now a community of 100,000 people. To think that my first operations were riding in the back of your pick-up truck (personnel) truck to having a fully armored vehicle, Rescue vehicle and command staff with their own vehicles is absolutely insane. Not to mention you budget was 0 dollars and now we have approx. \$750,000 in MSORT equipment and a collective budget of around \$40,000 annually.
- In 2020, your forward-thinking leadership brought the ABLE program to Muscatine, empowering officers to support each other and fostering a culture of peer intervention that remains a hallmark of our training. Prior to the implementation of this program we investigated 13- 15 internal complaints a year at the Muscatine Police Department. Since its implementation we have averaged 2-3 complaints a year and still haven't hit what used to be our annual average in the last 5 years!



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- In 2022, you initiated the Co-Responder Mental Health Program, ensuring that our response to crises is both effective and compassionate, setting a new standard for community care. You went against the grain on this and yet pushed forward with this program to create an outstanding partnership with Muscatine Police Department and Robert Young Center. This has not only cut down on our time with calls for service, but gives the community someone who is qualified to handle the situations that we are called to with more than just handcuffs and jail.

Assistant Chief Snider, your vision and dedication have shaped the Muscatine Police Department into the exemplary agency it is today. You leave a legacy of innovation that will continue to protect and serve our city for decades.

Chief Anthony Kies
Muscatine Police Department