



Legislation Text

File #: 18-0677, **Version:** 1

Supervisor Ranalli recommending the Board:

1) Welcome Chaplain Tim Thompson of the Sierra Law Enforcement Chaplaincy program to provide the Board and members of the public with information on the history of the Sierra Law Enforcement Chaplaincy program and the scope of services and support that the volunteer Reserve Chaplains provide to local law enforcement personnel and their families as well as members within our community who are affected by a crisis; and

2) Approve and authorize the signature of all five members of the Board of Supervisors on Proclamation that recognizes the members of the Sierra Law Enforcement Chaplaincy program for their dedication and service.

(Est. Time: 15 Min.)

The Sierra Law Enforcement Chaplaincy was formed by Chaplain Tim Thompson in 1990. The program has grown and developed to provide a diverse service to many individuals throughout the county as an ecumenical ministry that responds to the needs of victims and law enforcement personnel, regardless of religion, belief, denominational background or lack thereof.

Today, the Sierra Law Enforcement Chaplaincy provides services to the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office, El Dorado County Probation Department, El Dorado County District Attorney's Office, Folsom Police Department, Placerville Police Department, California Highway Patrol Placerville Office, and the U.S. Forest Service.

The members of the Sierra Law Enforcement Chaplaincy respond to the needs of the sworn personnel serving in law enforcement, as well as the needs of those in our community who are experiencing emotional or physical trauma, are the victim of a crime or a tragedy, are facing a life-threatening illness, or have lost a loved one. Chaplains work with first responders and are trained to help people experiencing emotional trauma due to crime, disaster or tragedy and provide counseling and comfort to everyone involved.

While the chaplains represent many different backgrounds and faiths, they are neutral on the subject of religion when working with victims. Each possesses the ability to be adaptable to different cultures and faiths which allows them to work with each individual or family by identifying common ground. They also serve as a referral resource to put people in contact with the appropriate agency or agencies that can provide them with assistance.

Due to the dedication of the men and women who volunteer their time as members of the Sierra Law Enforcement Chaplaincy program, residents throughout our county and surrounding region are provided comfort, compassion and support when facing crisis, tragedy and grief.