

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

## CITIZENS HONORED FOR COMING TO AID OF TANSI POLICE OFFICER



On October 27<sup>th</sup>. 2022, at the annual POA membership meeting, I had the pleasure of presenting two Lake Tansi men with citizen hero certificates.

When the word hero is heard, it usually brings to mind visions of a soldier serving in wartime or emergency service members such as a police officer or firefighter placing themselves in harm's way by committing acts of bravery protecting the communities they serve. This is often accurate. These men and women make their living serving in this way. I want to speak of another kind of hero, the citizen hero. This is a person who is not paid to put themselves in harm's way but chooses to do so solely because they see a need and meet that need even though they have no duty or obligation to do so. There was recently an incident that brought two citizen heroes into the light.

On October 08<sup>th</sup> 2022, a Lake Tansi Police Officer was working alone and was attempting to take a violent suspect into custody. The officer was facing a violent subject that was much larger than himself and the subject appeared to be under the influence of some type of drug. The officer was struggling to gain control of the subject and two citizen heroes, John Nesteruk and Jeff Renshaw came to his aid and assisted in getting the subject into custody without anyone getting injured. Their willingness to assist without regard to danger to themselves exemplifies the meaning of a citizen hero.

I want to publicly say a big thank you to these men for stepping up and coming to the aid of an officer in need. Their actions enabled the officer to do his job and go home safe at the end of his shift. If we had more citizens like them, the world would be a better place.