



Founded 1876
Incorporated 1899

TOWN OF JEROME, ARIZONA

POST OFFICE BOX 335, JEROME, ARIZONA 86331
(928) 634-7943

July 14, 2025

TO: Chief Russell San Felice

FROM: Christina "Alex" Barber, Mayor
Brett Klein, Town Manager

RE: Letter of Commendation

This letter of commendation is based on your exemplary actions and leadership displayed during a perilous event on July 3, 2025.

On the afternoon of July 3, 2025, you received information from Jerome Police Officer David Freeman that an armed and potentially dangerous person had displayed a handgun shortly after leaving the Town Hall / Municipal Court building. Further details from Officer Freeman conveyed that the person was sitting in his car, with the handgun placed upon on his dashboard.

You immediately responded to assess and manage the rapidly developing situation, along with Officer Zachary MacGregor. During your response, you learned that the armed individual had repositioned his car in the driveway of the parking lot, thereby preventing any automobile ingress or egress from the lot. Moreover, the position of the vehicle was directly adjacent to, and a very short distance from, State Highway 89A. The apparent change in the person's behavior made it clear that the risk to community members and responding officers had increased, and that swift containment was crucial. You requested additional resources to assist with that effort.

Although tragically the person chose to take his own life, the command and leadership prowess you displayed throughout the event inarguably prevented the expansion of the afflicted area. Your actions isolated the individual, which prevented harm to others, and played an essential role in resolving the situation.

Your leadership on that fateful day reflects the highest traditions of the Jerome Police Department and set a textbook example for the law enforcement community as a whole.

With admiration and respect, thank you for handling the tragic situation with expertise and tact, while mitigating the threat to first responders and innocent bystanders.

Sincerely,

Christina "Alex" Barber,
Mayor