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CITY OF MERIDIAN
CITY CLERKS OFFICE

November 11, 2022

To: Mayor Robert Simison and Meridian City Councilmembers

Letter of Interest in the open City Council seat soon to be vacated by Sen. Treg Bernt:

I would like to submit my name to be considered for the open City Council seat currently occupied by Treg Bernt. I have had a very long career working with the City of Meridian. This journey started in 1989 and I continue to work towards keeping our city thriving even after retiring from the Meridian Police Department in 2017. I have always had a passion for this city. I went to Meridian Jr. High School and Meridian High School and have watched this city grow from a very small size of less than 9,000 people in 1990 to what it is today.

During my time at the city, I worked on several very important areas that are even more vital today. The first one was traffic in the city. I sat on various committees during my time as the city was involved with collaboration with other entities like ACHD, the West Ada School District, Idaho Transportation Department, The MDC, and others, to try and address current and future traffic issues and solutions.

For over ten years, I supervised the School Resource Officer program and worked directly with the West Ada School District Administration to address their needs, handle our annual contracts making sure that both entities fully understood what was expected of them with SRO's in their schools.

I was in charge of the division that built up the (MADC), or Meridian Anti-Drug Coalition which still works well today to educate, inform and protect our youth from dangerous drugs. We were the first location in the state to begin the Prescription Drug Take-Back Program.

I also worked collaboratively with Planning and Building on incorporating the CPTED, or Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, standards into code. Many other members of Planning and Building also stepped up and were trained.

I handled all licensing approvals for the City Clerk's office when they needed police approval or backgrounds for such things as solicitors, ice cream truck drivers, or special applications that needed police department involvement.

I was involved with our police budget and the city budget process for many years. I worked closely with several people in the finance department using tools they provided us to help the city not only know what the current year's budget was, but to try and forecast as best we could on how future budget years would be impacted through the replacement of capital assets and hiring of additional employees to deal with the growth of the city.

There were many more programs and processes that I really enjoyed, including being an integral part of the hiring process at the police department, as well as running the Office of Professional Standards and Training, or Internal Affairs, as it is sometimes called. We strived to maintain the best employees in the police department through a culture of accountability and excellence in law enforcement.

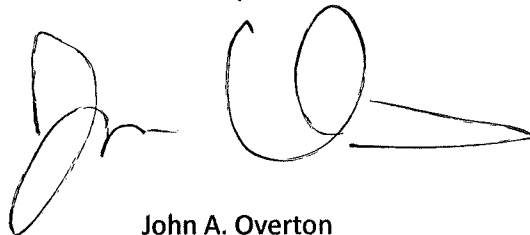
Upon retirement, I was quickly asked to sit on our Woodbridge Subdivision HOA board. I have been the President of the HOA for the past three years. It can be a rough assignment at times, but I am surrounded by very good people who work hard to keep our development looking great.

One last area of note is National Night Out. I ran the division when we first started participating in National Night Out, or NNO. We would organize who would work where, contact the Mayor's office and coordinate Council assignments as well as spend our night meeting with Meridian residents. Since retirement, my wife and I have worked on our own Woodbridge NNO event (this is our neighborhood), trying to get more of the residents involved in this fantastic event. I look forward to continuing to participate in NNO as a city council member.

As I look back, I've had the good fortune to work with every department in the city at some point. I believed back then that the only way to be successful was by working together as a collaborative team and to develop those cross-department relationships and I still do today. I would like the opportunity to carry on that belief in teamwork to continue to work hard for the City of Meridian as I began to develop an even broader collaborative team moving forward.

Please accept my letter of interest for the position of City Council Member for the City of Meridian.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by 'A. Overton'.

John A. Overton

Resume

John A. Overton

Home Address: 1922 E Bowstring St.

Spouse: Nora Overton – 31+ years

Meridian, ID 83642

208-949-5406

20+ years

Education:

Meridian High School – Graduated in 1982

Boise State University – B.S. Degree in Criminal Justice Management

Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command #160 (10-week upper management program)

F.B.I. Command College – (1 week management program)

Idaho P.O.S.T. certificates: Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, Supervisory and Management

Relevant Work Experience:

9/30/1989 – 3/1/2017 – (27.5 years) Meridian Police Department

2017 to 2022 (present) – Woodbridge Homeowners Association – last 3 years serving as President

Professional affiliations – Past and present

- President Elect of Meridian Police Association (MPA) – 1995-1997
- Idaho Juvenile Justice Association (IJJA) – 1991-1994
- Idaho Crime Prevention Association (ICPA) – 1991-1994 and 2006-2014
- Idaho Narcotics Officers Association (INOA) – 1994-1996
- Advisory Board Member – Boys and Girls Club of Meridian – 2001-2004
- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) -- 2004-2008
- Idaho Chiefs of Police Association (ICOPA) -- 2005-2007
- Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) -- Leadership Institute class of 2011