



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: May 3rd, 2021

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Turu VanderWiel, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Introduction of Police Officer

RECOMMENDATION

Introduction and Swearing in of Police Officer Antonio Shouse.

DISCUSSION

Antonio Shouse tested for this position in May of 2019 and was identified as the most desirable candidate on that eligibility list. However, recruitment efforts were put on hold due to a six-month military deployment Shouse was committed to. Once he returned from overseas, we continued with pre-employment screening and ultimately hired him as a Police Trainee. The City of Sonora sponsored Mr. Shouse as a Cadet at the Contra Costa County Law Enforcement Training Center. Mr. Shouse started the academy on October 5, 2020, and graduated on April 9, 2021.

Mr. Shouse began his law enforcement journey by enlisting in the California Air National Guard in 2014 as a Security Forces Airman. He still serves on reserve status with the 129th Security Forces Squadron based out of Moffett Air National Guard Base in Mountain View. During his time in the military, he has achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant, certified as a Patrol Supervisor, deployed to Kuwait, and was selected as Airman of the Year for 2019.

Over the past six years, Mr. Shouse has dedicated at least one weekend a month to volunteer with a youth program based at Camp Parks in Dublin. He is an adult mentor who works with kids from the ages of 13 to 17, teaching them skills related to the military. During this time, Mr. Shouse has mentored over 100 young men and women and provided them with skills they can carry with them for the rest of their lives. Mr. Shouse hopes to carry on similar volunteer work with the youth of Sonora.

Mr. Shouse's father and grandparents have lived in Tuolumne County for twenty years and have been residents of Sonora for the past seven years. He considers it a privilege to have called Sonora his home away from home for the better part of his life and is excited to now call Sonora home. He is greatly appreciative of the opportunity to serve this amazing community as a Police Officer with the Sonora Police Department.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund as this position was previously funded.