



Public information Release

Sgt. Garrett Parten

(Cell) 612-673-5800

(Email) PolicePIO@minneapolismn.gov

Minneapolis Police Chief Announces Passing of Beloved Mounted Patrol Horse, Haven

January 11, 2025 (MINNEAPOLIS) Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara is saddened to announce the passing of Haven, a cherished member of the Mounted Patrol Unit. Haven passed away on January 11, 2025, following complications from surgery.

On January 10, 2025, Haven experienced intestinal issues and was transported for treatment. Despite initial signs of recovery, he suffered a medical emergency this morning and passed during surgery.

Born in 2008, Haven joined the MPD Mounted Patrol in 2017. The 16-hand-tall Fresian/Shire/Quarter gelding quickly became a trusted and beloved partner in the department. Known for his friendly demeanor and calm strength, Haven embodied the qualities essential for a Mounted Patrol horse. He was steadfast in chaotic situations and approachable to the community, earning the admiration of those who worked with him and countless citizens who met him.



"Haven wasn't just a horse; he was a vital part of our team and a bridge between our officers and the community," said Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara. "Mounted Patrol horses bring unique skills and value to our mission. They provide strength, calmness, and a sense of connection, often fostering positive and meaningful interactions between officers and the public. Haven was an exceptional example of this, and his loss is felt deeply throughout our department, especially by those who worked closely with him. He will be missed but never forgotten."

Haven will be cremated, and the MPD will honor his legacy with a memorial service this spring.

The Mounted Patrol Unit plays a key role in fostering connections between the police and the Minneapolis community. Haven's life and service exemplify the deep bond between officers and their equine partners, underscoring the importance of sustaining and supporting this valued program.

End of Watch: January 11, 2025

For more information about the Mounted Patrol Unit or to support its work, please contact the Minneapolis Police Mounted Patrol Foundation at:
<http://www.minneapolismountedpolicefoundation.org/donate.html>

Donations to the Minneapolis Police Mounted Patrol Foundation may be mailed to:

19 N 4th St, Minneapolis, MN 55401

Additionally, the Minneapolis Downtown Council is administering "Friends of the Mounted Patrol," a 501c3 that is accepting donations to support the Minneapolis Mounted Patrol. Contributions are tax deductible, and persons interested may contact Adam Duininck, CEO of the Minneapolis Downtown Council at

aduininck@mplsdowntown.com.

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