

# My Promise to Serve

MATT BEICKERT FOR SHERIFF-FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2018

I am often asked what I would do as Sheriff. For me that is an easy question and one I like to answer. I would like to explain about a couple aspects of what I would like to accomplish to further the betterment of the Sheriff's Office.

I want to build on the foundation of what we have done and what we are doing. I want the Currituck County Sheriff's Office to excel and reach heights that we have not reached before. To go farther, to achieve more than we have before. Not just in traditional areas in law enforcement, but also in achieving excellence in community policing. It's great to have the latest equipment and technology and the Currituck Sheriff's Office does. It's great to have highly trained employees and the Currituck Sheriff's Office as we are fortunate to have.

To be truly successful, I believe that there has to be a personal connection with the community. In general law enforcement depends on the community as much as they depend on us. Where we identify problems and correct them we can also predict problems and prevent them. We will accomplish this by understanding that we are members and stakeholders in the community not just care takers. A personal connection will make us unique. We will rely on the community and they on us. They will see us as members and not just as law enforcement. Not just our involvement in the community but the community's involvement with the Currituck Sheriff's Office. We will use the expertise that communities have to offer. Experiences only they have.

With dedication and commitment we could set a new standard in community relations. Not just working with the community but as part of the community. I would like to see CCSO set the standard that others refer to. That our standard could be the model for others. In this standard our employees will be mentored to be leaders and managers. They will train others to be leaders. To be a leader you must be a servant. I think that law enforcement is one of the best professions to be in if

you want to serve your community. I pledge that I will serve the community and county as best as I am possibly able.

Another area that I would like to talk about is our youth. As far back as I can remember I have heard it said that there isn't anything for the youth in Currituck County. Especially the at risk youth. I will work hard so that can't be said any longer. I will implement a summer program for our youth. We will need partners to accomplish and run this program. I know we have these partners in Currituck. These partners just need a strong reliable commitment from the Sheriff's Office.

This program will run from June through August. We will have activities including sports, enrichment, education and mentoring. My goal will be to have a program that the community can rely on to help our youth. This program will expose the youth to many possibilities that they may never have imagined. We will stay in contact with all that participate beyond the summer program. We will rely on the state, community, youth based groups, faith based groups and the county to help accomplish this task. I look forward to being part of this program.

I promise dedication to this county each and every day. I will always strive to make everyone confident in the Currituck County Sheriff's Office.