



CITY OF MARYSVILLE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nonprofit Organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. Names Winners in 2019 K9 Law Enforcement SUV Giveaway Contest

Thanks to an anonymous donation Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. was able to name not one, but two winners in their annual K9 Law Enforcement SUV Giveaway Contest. By pure coincidence both winning K9 teams are from Michigan. The first place K9 team is Officer Michael Kasdorf and K9 Lando of the Hazel Park Police Department and in second place is Officer Justin Reeves and K9 Heiko of the Marysville Police Department. These two contestants received the most public votes and will each receive a brand new Chevy Tahoe patrol vehicle from the organization. Twenty-nine K9 teams nationwide competed for public votes for the entire month of October to win one new Chevy Tahoe SUV with Police Pursuit Package and additional K9 unit customizations – a prize worth up to \$50,000. Per the wishes of an anonymous donor, the organization is able to give away a second vehicle to the runner-up contestant.

“We were delighted to see the support nationwide that the law enforcement teams received throughout the SUV Giveaway contest. Our commitment is to protect our nation’s K9s and this is just one more way we can accomplish this goal,” said Sandy Marcal, President of Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.

As the top two finishers in the contest which drew a total of 278,846 votes from the public, 32,794 went to Officer Kasdorf and K9 Lando and 26,204 votes went to Officer Reeves and K9 Heiko. All the contestants worked hard to get votes throughout October, from daily appeals via social media, creative videos including the K9 team, members of the department and the local community, to billboards, radio, television and visits to schools and businesses.

“We want to thank each person along with businesses and fellow agencies that voted, shared, and supported us throughout the whole month,” said Tom Konik, Chief of the Marysville Police

Department. “We are grateful to share this award with the Hazel Park (MI) Police Department. It is humbling to see the amount of support from our community.”

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity, located in East Taunton, MA. Their mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. The non-profit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor and other services for their four-legged K9 officers. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provided over 3,600 protective vests, in 50 states, through private and corporate donations, at a value of \$6.3 million dollars. For information about Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. visit www.vik9s.org or call 508-824-6978.

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