

Dear Members,

As many of you know, I have been nominated to run for the office of President and Treasurer for Blue Knights II, a prospect I am very excited and passionate about! For those of you who do not know me well, I thought I would provide a brief bio. I started my career in 1990 as a security specialist in the U.S. Air Force. After serving our great nation, I began working at Douglas County corrections until 1998 when I was accepted on the Elkhorn Police department. Shortly after training, I was hired on at the Omaha Police Department where I have served for the past 17 years. Throughout my career at OPD, I have been on the street for 8 years, the motor unit for six years and am certified on motors, bicycles and Segway. I am currently assigned as a School Resource Officer at Burke High School. I am married to Jennifer, who is the most beautiful women in the world and my best friend. We have three children; Ashtin (24) who is married to Kyle Wambold, Zachary (21) and Enzo (17). We also have a nearly- two year old grandson. His name is Carson and he is the light of my life! Jennifer is a sales agent with State Farm insurance, Ashtin is a dental assistant, Zach is in construction and Enzo attends North High with a 4.8 grade point average. My hobbies include camping, fishing, hunting, Blue Knights, riding motorcycles and teaching motorcycle techniques to new and current riders.

Now, a little about what I feel I can bring to the table as your president and what I would like to do for this club. I want the same thing most of us want for this club, to grow! I believe we need to recruit more new and younger members to help make us the best, most approachable and charitable chapter. I believe the future of any good club is membership and participation. I would like us to focus on holding more fundraisers and more community events. Our community should know they can rely on us both while we are at work and at play. And last, but certainly not least, is that I want everybody to know who the Blue Knights are, what we stand for, what we do and what we believe in. Honor, integrity and pride.

Why would I make a good president? I believe that my track record speaks for itself when it comes to the River City Police Motor skills and Training event. For the past two years I have chaired the committee for the competition and I believe that I and the committee with the generous help of our members, their families, and volunteers, have put on an exceptional event that continues to get better each year. To do this it takes extreme leadership, backbone, commitment, accountability, delegation and organization. Those are the qualities it takes to make a good leader, and I feel I possess. I also believe a very important part of leadership is to make those hard decisions and, at times, must say the word "NO". As much as people do not like to hear that word, we cannot please everyone and a good leader will always hold the best interest of the club at front of mind. In addition, I think it is extremely important to hold people accountable. I also understand, as I hope you do, that we are all not going to agree on everything but at the end of the day we are all adults and brothers in this club. I believe for the position of president, you need to have the time to devote to club business. I am at a time in my life, where we are nearly empty nesters. I will now have the flexibility and time to devote to our club. I have also been the club's treasurer for the past six months and have had some very big shoes to fill taking over for Jeff Fox (hope I made you proud Jeff). As Jeff will tell you, the Treasurer position can get very overwhelming, especially, when you have two huge events going on back to back. I think that this position has been a great learning experience and stepping stone for becoming your president and has also allowed me to be part of your board of Directors.

In closing, I want to say that the most important thing for our club is that all members get involved and come to meetings. That being said I would like to see every member at the meeting on November 13th at 1300 hrs to vote.

PLEASE REMEMBER, PER THIS MONTH'S MEETING, THERE WILL NOT BE ANY ABSENTEE BALLOTS, YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO VOTE! Regardless of who you vote for, please just come to the meeting! I would also ask that if you do not believe I would make a good president for you that you please vote for me to remain in the Treasurer position. I have tremendous respect for our current leadership and would love to stay on the Board of Directors and serve you as the Treasurer.