



NEWS RELEASE
CITY OF DEARBORN HEIGHTS
Police Department



For Immediate Release

Daniel S. Paletko
Mayor

Lee A. Gavin
Police Chief

January 6, 2017

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**DEARBORN HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT'S K9 "Bain"
TO GET NEW BODY ARMOR**

Dearborn Heights, Michigan - Dearborn Heights Police Department's K9 Bain will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9's, Inc. K9 Bain's vest is sponsored by Oliver and Rita Miller of Taylor, MI and will be embroidered with the sentiment "Protect this K9 from harm in memory of Lori Miller". Delivery is expected within eight to ten weeks.

"We are grateful to both the Miller family and Vested Interest in K9's for their generosity" explained Dearborn Heights Police Chief Lee Gavin. "Their gift, which is being presented in Lori's memory is a welcome and most appreciated gesture. The vest will certainly be put to use as it helps Bain remain safe while performing his duties as our K9 officer."

Vested Interest in K9's, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity located in East Taunton, MA whose 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 for their four-legged K9 officers. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9's, Inc. provided over 2,200

(more)

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protective vests, in 50 states, through private and corporate donations, at a cost of over 1.9 million dollars. All vests are custom made in the USA by Armor Express in Central Lake, MI.

The program is open to dogs actively employed in the U.S. with law enforcement or related agencies who are certified and at least 20 months of age. New K9 graduates, as well as K9's with expired vests, are eligible to participate.

The donation to provide one protective vest for a law enforcement K9 is \$1,050.00. Each vest has a value between \$1,795 – \$2,234 and a five-year warranty, and an average weight of 4-5 lbs. There is an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9's throughout the United States. For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9's, Inc. provides information, lists events, and accepts tax-deductible donations of any denomination at www.vik9s.org or mailed to P.O. Box 9 East Taunton, MA 02718.

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PHOTO CAPTION

Dearborn Heights Police Department K9 Officer “Bain”, who will soon receive a protective vest from the Massachusetts-based Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., The vest is being sponsored by a donation by Taylor residents Oliver and Rita Miller.

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