

**FTO**

Shaun Reagan [sreagan@outlook.com]

**Sent:** Monday, January 05, 2015 9:28 AM

**To:** Monterey Police Chief

Chief,

I am writing this letter in support of Sgt. Johnson.

As you know, I am a military veteran and my dream was to carry my service to our great country, to the beautiful county I grew up in. My police career started out with a sponsorship to the part time academy from a town, with no guarantee of a job upon completion of the academy. While in the academy, I began sending my resume to every single town in Berkshire County that hires part time officers, asking for a chance. The only town that got back to me was Monterey.

I went through the interview process with Sgt. Johnson, then you, then the select board. I began the unpaid field training program set up by Mike. It was longer than most of the other towns training at the time and very financially stressful due to it being unpaid. Mike was nice enough to let me start doing road details and get money in before I finished training.

Sgt. Johnson's training methods were to say the least, very tough. Field training programs are designed to weed out people who are not meant to be police officers and to build the skills that you need to handle situations on your own. I would have to say, during the whole training process, I clashed with Mike the whole time. I did not understand his training methods at all. Even after completing the program, I clashed with him on occasion about the training and about the way I did the job.

It wasn't until after I was hired by the Pittsfield Police, full time, and sent to the full time police academy that I understood the method to his madness. Sgt. Johnson's field training program was built off of the full time academy. I felt like the full time academy was so much easier because of how he prepared me (without even knowing it) during his training. This gave me a heads up on the other recruits, who had to learn from the beginning.

I feel like the experience I had in Monterey, helped me with my police career and set me up with a great base, that I have been continually building off of.

Thank you,

Shaun (Reagan)