

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter serves to express my enthusiastic support for Steve Spodyak as the next sheriff of Park County. Steve is currently the undersheriff of the Park County Sheriff's Office, and it is in that capacity that I first met him. As an almost 40-year veteran of law enforcement, I have become acquainted with a multitude of officers across a diverse number of policing agencies. Undersheriff Spodyak stands out as one of the outstanding professionals of that number for several reasons.

What immediately comes to my mind is that Undersheriff Spodyak is a "cop's cop," that is, he does not consider himself "above" the fundamental work expected of his newest deputies. On any given day of the week, Undersheriff Spodyak can be heard on the radio calling on duty (usually early in the morning) to immediately begin conducting traffic stops, answering calls for service, and generally assisting on-duty deputies with their tasks of keeping the community safe. At the same time, he is the Sheriff's "right-hand man," substantially assisting in the often-mundane administration of the Office. In other words, Undersheriff Spodyak is willing to *personally* do whatever needs to be done to ensure that our community members and the Sheriff's Office employees are well served.

Another impressive characteristic of Undersheriff Spodyak is his sense of esprit de corps with regard to collaboration with and support of other entities, including other local law enforcement agencies. For instance, Fairplay Police Department holds annual mandatory training during which its officers are not available for general calls for service. During these occasions, Undersheriff Spodyak generously arranges law enforcement services to the towns of Fairplay and Alma to allow the police department to complete the required training. Undersheriff Spodyak further encourages his deputies to work closely with and assist other officers from outside departments, sadly a level of teamwork not always prevalent among law enforcement agencies.

Not only does Undersheriff Spodyak possess the appropriate proactive attitude to be an exceptional Sheriff, but he also has the necessary background and education. Particularly, Undersheriff Spodyak recently attended and successfully completed the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy. The rigorous 10-week course trains attendees to improve the administration of justice in their agencies by raising standards, knowledge, and extra-agency cooperation. Only highly qualified candidates – proven leaders in their organizations – are accepted by the FBI to its premier school. Having completed this challenging program, Undersheriff Spodyak is significantly helping to improve the professionalism and excellence of service of the Sheriff's Office to the people of Park County.

Given these reasons, I believe Undersheriff Spodyak is an outstanding candidate for the crucial Office of Sheriff. Although I do not speak for the Town of Fairplay or even for the Fairplay Police Department, I am honored to offer my hearty, personal endorsement of Undersheriff Spodyak as the next sheriff of Park County!

Thank you,



Jeff Worley
Chief of Police