



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAYETTE COUNTY SHERIFF ELECTED TO NATIONAL BOARD

Uniontown, PA – Fayette County Sheriff James Custer was recently elected to the National Sheriffs' Association Board (NSA) of Directors for a three-year term.

One of the United States' largest nonprofit law enforcement professional organizations, the National Sheriffs' Association boasts a membership of approximately 14,000 individuals. More than 3,000 are elected sheriffs from across the country.

The association's goal is to raise the level of professionalism among law enforcement, public safety and criminal justice. It also serves as an information resource for government agencies and helps shape national policy on critical criminal justice and homeland security issues.

Elections for the NSA's executive committee and board of directors took place at the end of June, during an annual conference in Kansas City, Mo. While the executive committee has supervision, control and direction of the NSA's affairs and serves as corporation trustees, the board of directors annually reviews the association's progress and outlines the law enforcement policies that guide its activities.

Custer said he's "excited for the opportunity" to work with NSA leadership and his 19 fellow board members.

"We'll have three regular meetings at the time and place of the annual meeting of the members and one in conjunction with the executive committee's winter meeting," he said. "The board will also meet upon demand of a majority of its members."

Custer has been an NSA member since he first took office as Fayette County's sheriff in 2016, serving on its Animal Abuse, Rural Sheriff and Community Outreach committees.

"I've met many sheriffs from around the country and, no matter the size of the county or their office, they all share the same challenges facing law enforcement today," he said.

The appointment is the latest in a string of accolades for Custer, who was recently appointed to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). In 2020, he became the first sheriff in Fayette County history to be named President of the Pennsylvania Sheriff's Association.

A Laurel Highlands High School graduate, Custer served in the United States Air Force from 1984-88, and the Air Force Reserves from 1989-91. He began his career with the Pennsylvania State Police in 1989, serving in the patrol, criminal investigations, fire marshal and Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement divisions.

Upon retiring from the department in 2011, he became a Fayette County deputy sheriff, completing his training and certifications at Penn State University. While in office, Custer has attended the National

Sheriff's Institute Leadership Academy in Aurora, Colo.; been deeply involved with community programs promoting drug prevention, active shooter training and church security; and currently sits on several county boards.

He lives in South Union Township with his wife, Renee, and their daughters, Morgan and Mariah.

To learn more about the National Sheriffs' Association, visit www.sheriffs.org.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit www.fayettecountypa.org.

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For more information, contact Kristi Kassimer Harper, Public Relations Specialist, at 412-691-0262, kkassimer@fayettecountypa.info or Kaylie Moore, Community Relations Coordinator, at 724-430-1200 Ext. 1611, kmoore@fayettepa.org.