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News Release

For Immediate Release

Police Retire Service Dogs "Zeke" and "Kilo"

Recently, the Springfield Police Department retired two police service dogs, "Zeke" and "Kilo" who had served the department and the community for over 16 years collectively.

The SPD received Zeke in January 2003. Zeke completed his Patrol and Narcotics Certifications in May 2003. Zeke officially retired in March 2012 and was euthanized April 17th 2012, due to continuing complications from a surgery and illness - he was 11 years old. During Zeke's 9-year career he had over 2,000 deployments and was responsible for approximately 175 narcotics finds, located over 70 suspects and/or missing persons and located over 30 pieces of evidence and/or lost articles. Zeke's actions directly resulted in the arrests of over 200 suspects. A highlight of Zeke's career was the track and find of a missing autistic child.

The SPD received Kilo in January of 2005. Kilo completed his original Patrol and Narcotics certifications in May 2005. Kilo was euthanized April 25th 2012 due to continued complications from injuries sustained while on duty - he was 9 years old. During Kilo's 7 year career he had over 1,900 deployments, was responsible for over 150 narcotics finds, located over 60 suspects and/or missing persons and located over 30 pieces of evidence and/or lost articles. Kilo's actions directly resulted in the arrests of over 180 suspects. One highlight of Kilo's career was the location and apprehension of a murder suspect.

Additionally during their careers, Zeke and Kilo assisted numerous Federal, State, County and Municipal Law Enforcement Agencies in Southwest Missouri with requests for K-9 assistance.

The SPD appreciates the service of the K-9's to the department and the community they served. Both Zeke and Kilo will be missed by their handlers and the officers who have worked with them over the years.

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Release authorized by: Lt. Greg Higdon