

City of Venice  
Venice, Florida

*In Appreciation of*

**DAVID A. SMYTH**

*A Retirement Tribute*

David Smyth completed 34 years of service with the Venice Police Department on June 18. When he applied to the Venice Police Department, he stated on his application that he is interested in police work for several reasons: "First, I would like to serve the community in a meaningful way and I believe that police work is one of the most important in community service. Second, I have an educational background which is aimed at a career in law enforcement. Third, I believe that a career in law enforcement is a fulfilling career in terms of a sense of community involvement and community service. Fourth, I believe that law enforcement careers have good benefits and the pay scale and benefits are increasing."

His interest in law enforcement began when he was in the JROTC Leadership Training from 1972 – 1976. His career with the VPD actually began in October 1978 as a Complaint Officer. Following that he was a Dispatcher for about four months and then became a Police Officer.

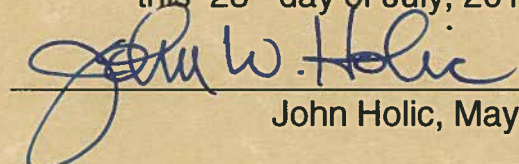
In 1982 he was instrumental and gained City Council approval to build a motorcycle trail on a spoil area at the Venice Airport. His compassion for the youth led to his involvement in many activities, such as coaching youth soccer and organizing several bike rodeo fund raisers. He won an award as the Southeast United States Money Raiser for the Danny Thomas St. Jude Children's Hospital.

He was an advisor to the Police Explorers Post for over five years, the Fraternal Order of Police President for a total of 10 years and received the 2004 "American Heroes" Award from the American Red Cross for all his years of dedicated work.

His file is peppered with letters from the public thanking him for his assistance, and to show their appreciation for his help at public events, his compassion on-scene during troubled times with family members, and his consistent involvement with the community youth. His laid back manner and ease with which he speaks with people instantly makes people feel comfortable.

Patrol Officer Smyth, thank you for serving our City with honor, integrity, and hard work. You are commended for loyalty to your chosen profession and to the citizens of our great City. We truly appreciate your service over the last 34 years and wish you a happy retirement.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto  
set my hand and caused the Seal  
of the City of Venice to be affixed  
this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2013.

  
John Holic, Mayor