



Sergeant Joe Whitehead Retirement

Sergeant Joe Whitehead retired from the Venice Police Department on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 after serving 29 years. Joe began his law enforcement career with the City of Venice Police Department on April 12, 1984. Prior to employment with our agency, Joe served with the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department as an Auxiliary Deputy. Joe, an original Floridian, has deep roots in Englewood where he and his siblings were raised. No stranger to law enforcement, his brothers, Ed and Bruce, both retired from area police departments.

Joe retired as a Patrol Sergeant and is greatly missed by his squad. During his career Joe also served as Training Sergeant, Gun Range Master, Crime Prevention Officer, and Marine Patrol and was a long standing Field Training Officer. Joe left an indelible and positive mark on department members. Although Joe possesses many positive attributes, his best quality is that he willingly accepted new responsibilities and always presented a positive image to department members and our community, including activities with the Explorer Program.

In his off-duty time, Joe loves fishing, hunting and he and his wife, Sue enjoy a menagerie of pets including dogs and birds. Together, they frequently help those less fortunate, a testament to his strong ethical values and compassion.