



BERRIEN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION  
B23121979  
December 7, 2023

**WHEREAS**, Leonard Paul Bailey, born October 23, 1955 in Benton Harbor, Michigan, is a lifelong resident of Berrien County; and

**WHEREAS**, a 1975 graduate of Eau Claire High School he furthered his education at the college level until graduating from the Kalamazoo Valley Community College Police Academy in 1979; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1979 he has served in various communities as a police officer and in one community as the Police Chief, until being elected as Berrien County's "Top Cop", and taking office as the Sheriff in January of 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, Sheriff Bailey's daily job was overseeing the operations of the Berrien County Sheriff's Office which includes the Jail Division, Enforcement Division, Marine Unit, Detective Bureau, Narcotics, Emergency Management/Homeland Security Division, Tether Unit, Crime Prevention, Court Security, Animal Control Officers, and the K-9 Unit; and

**WHEREAS**, he was an excellent leader to over 200 men and women serving the residents of Berrien County every day and he never hesitated to work right beside them for some good old fashioned, hands on, police work; and

**WHEREAS**, beyond the badge he was active in the communities and organizations across the County and not only active, but selfless of his time and talents for the good of others; and

**WHEREAS**, he has also achieved success in the most important role that he has, that of family man with his wife, children and grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, Berrien County Sheriff L. Paul Bailey, after 40 years in law enforcement, has decided to retire at the end of 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, in reflection of the Mission of Berrien County, the Board of Commissioners deems it appropriate to honor L. Paul Bailey for his 40 years of service and for the role that he played in promoting public safety, health, well-being and prosperity in order to improve the quality of life for present and future generations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners honors Sheriff L. Paul Bailey for being a true asset to the residents of Berrien County and wishes him a long retirement filled with peace, happiness and good health.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that his life, actions, and contributions reflect most favorably upon himself, his family, the law enforcement community, Berrien County, the State of Michigan, and the United States of America.

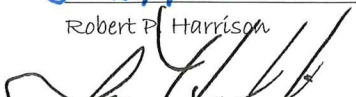
RESPECTFULLY,


BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


  
Robert P. Harrison

  
R. McKinley Elliott

  
Mamie L. Yarbrough

  
Jon Hinkelman


  
Teri Sue Freehling

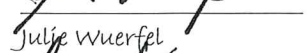
  
Rayonte D. Bell


  
Alex R. Ott

  
Chokwe Pitchford

  
Michael J. Majerek

  
Jim Curran

  
Julie Wuerfel

  
David Vollrath