

Good afternoon Chair and Representatives,

My name is David Ham and I am the Seaside Police Department Chief of Police. I am here today to show support of the resolution to honor Sergeant Jason Goodding with a Fallen Officer Memorial Highway Sign. Over the years that Jason worked at the Seaside Police Department we became more than just co-workers, we became the best of friends. Outside of our professional work hours, we spent much of our off duty time together and our families became very close and we frequently vacationed together. As a police officer Jason was the best of what you would want to see in a public servant. He performed his police duties better than most, he treated others with respect, and he was an excellent officer and a great supervisor. I encourage you to support the passage of this resolution to honor Sgt. Jason Goodding, who made the ultimate sacrifice for the citizens of Oregon.

Sgt. Jason Goodding began his police career as a reserve officer with the City of McMinnville before being hired full time by the Seaside Police Department in 2003. During his tenure with our department Sgt. Goodding worked very hard at being a respected and trusted member of the department. Sgt. Goodding was not one to sit and be idle, he was a very active officer who stayed busy with self-initiated contacts in our community. On February 5th, 2016 Sgt. Goodding self-initiated a contact with a known person to him who had an outstanding warrant for his arrest. Sgt. Goodding and the cover officer with him at the time used their training, used good tactics in confronting this wanted felon and gave the suspect time to cooperate and comply with their lawful orders. A less lethal use of force was used against the suspect, in an attempt to gain compliance, but ultimately Sgt. Goodding was killed in the line of duty when the felon murdered Sgt. Goodding by firing a round from a concealed pistol in his jacket pocket, striking Sgt. Goodding and mortally wounding him. The devastating impact to Sgt. Goodding's family, our department and the Seaside community in his loss is felt to this day and will be for many years to come.

Jason had a great personality and was a fun loving friend to many. There was not much Jason would not do for his friends and family, as well as for those in need. One homeless person who is well known to our department told me after Jason's death that Jason was one person who would give him money, on more than one occasion, to make sure he had something to eat. Jason gave to others in other ways as well. Jason was a coach to many youth over the years. In the last few years he was passionate about coaching his young daughters and their teammates in basketball. Watching him interact with these kids was amazing and he has made a positive impact on the youth, as well as adults, in our community.

Jason married his high school sweetheart, Amy. They have two gorgeous daughters, Joslyn and Jayden, who adored their father. It is absolutely heartbreaking to see this family suffer the tragedy of their loss during this line of duty death. While we all experience loss during our lives, most never have their personal grief and anguish publicly displayed like the Goodding family has had to endure. They understand the responsibility that comes with the death of their husband, father, son, brother and they humbly accept the recognition that accompanies the honoring of their hero. Our families regularly vacationed at Detroit Lake, both enjoying the summer time water recreation and winter time cabin trips with excursions up to the snow line. It is at the request of Amy Goodding that if this memorial sign is authorized that it be placed on the eastbound side of the road as you approach Detroit Lake from the west, so it is viewed by all who pass by it on their way to or past the beautiful playground that Jason enjoyed so much.