

As Police Week 2013 comes to a close I would like to thank the citizens of Tullahoma for the support, confidence, and trust you have placed in your Police Department and in me. Although National Police Week focuses on the fallen officers of the department and nation, we should all make it a priority to thank those now serving for their sacrifices and dedication. I have often stated that being a police officer is one of the most noble of professions. As an officer there are expectations of integrity, honesty, loyalty, and duty. These expectations are not just while on duty but in our personal lives as well. The police officer is often called upon to be a crime fighter, counselor, mediator, medical person, and legal advisor. But through it all, a police officer is still a human being with challenges like everyone else; family issues, health concerns, financial worries, and varying personalities. And just as the public, officers will make mistakes. But our response to mistakes should be one of taking the negative and turning it into a positive.

On Wednesday, May 15, the Police Memorial Day ceremony was held on the front steps of the South Jackson Civic Center. The Law Enforcement agencies of Coffee County all came together to pay tribute to the six lawmen that had died in the line of duty. The law enforcement agencies in attendance included the Sheriff's Office, Manchester PD, Tullahoma PD, AEDC Security Police, and Corrections Academy staff. Also attending to pay tribute were the three Mayors, the District Attorney, local Judges, and several elected officials. Above all, there were many community members that joined us for this event. Through the efforts of law enforcement, our elected and appointed officials, and the community, we partner to make Coffee County a safe and desirable place to live and raise our children.

To all the citizens, thank you for the support you show Law Enforcement, your kind words, and above all – your trust. I can be reached at pblackwell@tullahomatn.gov or (931) 455-0530.