

Dear OKSOA members,

I wanted to take this opportunity to request your support as I run for a National Tactical Officers Association Board of Directors position. This position represents the Central Region of the USA. I have held this position for nine (9) years.

Some of you know me, but for those that don't I will provide a brief overview (my resume, awards, etc. is on the NTOA election site).

I have 37 years of law enforcement experience and worked for the Olathe Police Department (Kansas City area) for 20 years with 18 of those as a member of the Tactical Support Unit. I was an operator, breacher, sniper, team sergeant and tactical operations center commander. I worked for the Department of Defense as an embedded counter-terrorism investigator in Iraq and Afghanistan and served in combat alongside military units to include the US Army Special Forces, US Naval Special Warfare (SEAL Team 2 and 3), 173rd Airborne, 2-13 CAV, the 10 Mountain Division, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. The mission was to identify terrorist cells killing American military personnel and dismantle it by addressing high value terrorist targets. I served in this role and as a counter-terrorism SME for the US Department of State and the US Department of Justice for eight (8) years. I returned and have served since 2014 as the Chief of the Kansas Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC).

I have been a member of the Heartland Tactical Officers Association (HTOA), formerly the KCMTOA since 1990 (33 years). I served as the Director or board member for approximately 17 years. I also served as an instructor in numerous SWAT courses for members of the KCMTOA/HTOA during that period. This gave me the opportunity to develop strong friendships with fellow midwestern area SWAT team members and invest in the success of their organizations.

As an NTOA board member I have been able to ensure that the Midwest is represented at a national level. This includes training, resources and reviewing scholarship submissions from the children of Central Region SWAT members. I would like to continue to represent you in that manner.

I am opposed this year by a SWAT Captain, who I have no doubt is qualified. My concern is that he retired from Berkley CA PD, worked for Boise, ID, and has now moved to the Central Region (Texas) where he operates a private company. He has never conducted law enforcement operations in the Central Region and has no knowledge or investment in the Midwest or our culture. I think that there are problems with applying Berkley law enforcement dynamics and culture to the Midwest. It is just a different viewing prism. I have concerns that the Midwest will lose our national "place at the table" and become an afterthought.

I would respectfully ask for your support in the upcoming election.

Those with individual memberships or the point-of-contact (POC) for your team can place a vote by logging on to the site below and opening the tab for Central Region.

[Director Elections | NTOA](#)

Respectfully,

Chief Bart Branyon- Kansas ABC

Work Cell: 785-230-0062 Personal Cell: 913-909-8015