



Proclamation

*By unanimous motion from all Council Members
Members of Greenville County Council, and the Sheriff of Greenville County wish to honor*

Chief Deputy John Eldridge

WHEREAS, Chief Deputy John Eldridge began protecting and serving the citizens of Greenville County on September 4, 1990; and

WHEREAS, his strong work ethic and tactical skills were quickly noticed and he soon earned placement as a valuable member of the SWAT team where he mastered skills, trained his fellow team members and developed the vision for what the team would soon become; and

WHEREAS, Chief Eldridge's abilities as a deputy were omnipresent, as he moved up through the ranks, and in 2000, he assumed control as the Sergeant over the N.E.T team where he truly established himself as a person of influence by modeling his leadership under the concept of "Train them up and get out of the way"; and

WHEREAS, a respected leader, he was promoted to the rank of Shift Lieutenant in 2001, before a brief stint as Captain in 2005, and then finally the ultimate title of Chief Deputy, where he has served for the past 12 years; and

WHEREAS, as Chief Deputy, John Eldridge has been the architect behind managing a forty-two million dollar budget that included the establishment of the first, fully-funded K9 team in Greenville County, bringing the would-be division from zero, to a fully-fledged 18 team unit; and

WHEREAS, he has strategically reallocated resources by placing training and equipment at the top of his priorities and has thus established the Greenville County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Units as the most respectable and highly efficient teams in the entire southeast; and

WHEREAS, Chief Deputy Eldridge established himself as the ultimate model for a law enforcement officer, and became a mentor and friend to generations of officers who proudly call it an honor and privilege to have served with him;

NOW, THEREFORE, Greenville County Council hereby honors Chief Deputy John Eldridge for 27 years of outstanding service to the people of Greenville County, and Sheriff Will Lewis proclaims that John Eldridge be sworn in as the 47th Sheriff of Greenville County from June 2, 2017 to June 12, 2017.

Signed this 6th day of June 2017

Herman G. "Butch" Kirven, Chairman
Greenville County Council

