



Leicester Police Department

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Dedication Ceremony

Officer Ronald Tarentino Jr. Memorial Highway (Leicester) and Bridge (Auburn)

Remarks delivered by Leicester Police Chief Jim Hurley
on behalf of the entire department.

Good Morning,

On behalf of all the members of the Leicester Police Department, I would like to thank everyone for coming out today to honor, remember, and memorialize our fallen brother Ron Tarentino Jr. I would like to thank Senator Moore, Representatives Frost and Campanale, along with the Massachusetts Coalition of Police Officers for helping to make these dedications become a reality. I would like to thank all of the federal, state, and local officials who are here today, including from Leicester TA David Genreux and Select Board members Doug Belanger and Dianna Provencher. I would also like to thank two municipal administrators who are here today that provided a great deal of support to their police departments in the days and weeks after the Tarentino murder. Thank you to Auburn Town Administrator Julie Jacobson and former Leicester Town Administrator Kevin Mizikar. I would also like to recognize all of Ron's friends, and law enforcement colleagues who are here today to honor and remember Officer Ronald Tarentino Jr. and most of all I would like to recognize and welcome the Tarentino family. Ron and Trish's son Ron cannot be here today as he continues the Tarentino legacy of

service in the United States Military. I would ask everyone to take a moment to think of Ron and his colleague's in the military.

Two years ago tomorrow we suffered a devastating loss with the line of duty murder of Officer Ron Tarentino, Jr. All of Ron's family, friends, and colleague can still vividly recall where they were when they heard the news of Ron's murder. A piece of each and every one of us died early that morning with the loss of Ron. We will no longer see his enormous smile; hear his infectious laugh, or end up doubled over laughing as he told one of his famous stories. His family lost a husband, father, son, brother, uncle and cousin. His colleagues lost a loyal friend. While the loss of Ron is something we think about every day, these two new roadside memorials will serve as reminder to all who pass by that Ron Tarentino is a hero. He died protecting the Town of Auburn and beyond. I remain steadfast in my belief that Ron saved others from being killed by the pure evil he encountered on that traffic stop 2 years ago, and, as sad as the loss of Ron has been, and as much as we all wish we could turn back time for a different ending on the morning of May 22, 2016, I know that Officer Ron Tarentino Jr would not change what he didhe would again protect his community no matter what the cost because that is what Ron was about Helping others and making the world a better place.

I would also like to recognize Ron's family for carrying on Ron's legacy. Despite the tragic loss that they have sustained, they have turned their darkest hour into a positive multi-purpose mission that expounds all that they and Ron believed in, by providing scholarships to high school students, support for families during a serious illness, injury, or loss, and support for other first responders and military based non-profit organizations through the recently formed Ronald Tarentino Jr. Charitable Fund. I am certain Ron is looking down on his family with a big smile on his face as

his family helps others in need through the charitable fund..... you are an amazing family.

To the Tarentino family, thank you for sharing Ron with all of us we are fortunate to have had him in our lives in so many different ways.

To Ron, we miss you; we love you, and know that you are watching over us each and every day.

Thank you.