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CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

Issued Date: June 27, 2019

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Kearney Police Introduce the New Police K-9 and Handler

Members of the Kearney Police Department are excited to introduce Police Service Dog “Bane”, the 2nd member of our K-9 Unit. Bane is a 2 year old Belgium Malinois/German Shepherd mix from Holland. Kearney Police purchased Bane from Canine Tactical in Chariton, IA, thanks to a generous, anonymous donation. Officer John Alstrom and Bane recently completed a sixteen week Basic Police K-9 School with Nebraska State Patrol in Grand Island. Alstrom and Bane received certification in both Patrol Operations and Narcotics Detection. Obtaining certification is a great accomplishment for both Officer Alstrom and Bane, the course is demanding and challenging for the handler and the dog.

In an effort to maintain a consistent, cohesive, highly trained K-9 Unit, the second dog team was added to serve both KPD and BCSO. The addition of the second K-9 Team will allow the department to have a K-9 Unit on duty covering both patrol shifts. The Unit will also be utilized to further engage the community during events throughout the city.

Officer Alstrom was selected as the K-9 Handler for Bane after serving two years in the Patrol Division. Alstrom and his partner will join our current K-9 Team, Officer Paul Cox and “Kira” forming the Kearney Police K-9 Unit.

Police K-9 “Bane” will be officially sworn in during the July 9 City Council Meeting with a ceremonial Paw Print and treat.

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.

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