

To the Mayor, Board of Commissioners, and the Citizens of Smiths Grove,

The past year has been a challenging year for our community, our Commonwealth, and our country. The COVID-19 Virus brought forth challenges the like of which none of us could have foreseen. In many parts of our country and the world, loved ones were lost and families struggled. Our country experienced pain both socially and economically and was forced to confront the very worst of human nature. Our children's education has been a challenge for our educators, our children who have had to adjust to ever-changing schedules and parents who have had to find ways to provide both resources and hands-on help while juggling their careers. Businesses have struggled, with many having to make the hard choice to shut their doors permanently. With all the uncertainty and loss, it can be a challenge to see the good around us.

Since taking office in January 2020, I have been humbled by the generosity and kindness of this community. I have witnessed neighbors, friends, community partners, churches and businesses all lend a hand in times of need. The community rallied around our local businesses, providing support and patronage to ensure that their doors would remain open. And throughout the uncertainty and fear felt by many, this community remained an excellent reminder of what true "community" is all about.

As we go forth into a new year, it is my hope that that we, as a community, continue to work together for the common good of every citizen, patron, and interstate visitor. I am confident that there is no challenge, no obstacle, that we cannot overcome if we continue to support and treat our neighbors as neighbors should: with respect and an unwavering commitment of support. To each one of you, thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully,



Jason Franks

Jason Franks

Chief of Police

Smiths Grove Police Department

