



MINNESOTA POLICE AND PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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Check of funds raised, along with new accessible vehicle, given to Waseca Officer Arik Matson and family from law enforcement fundraiser

(St. Paul, Minn.) – This Wednesday, the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA), in partnership with Dave Syverson Ford Lincoln in Albert Lea, Minn., presented a check of funds raised from a GoFundMe campaign, along with a new, accessible vehicle to Arik Matson and his family.

Waseca Police Officer and member of MPPOA, Arik Matson, was shot and critically wounded in the line of duty on January 6, 2020. Matson returned home to Waseca on October 19, 2020 after nearly seven months in a rehabilitation facility in Omaha, Neb.

While he has made great progress in his recovery, he still faces challenges. One challenge the family faced is reliable and accessible transportation for Matson and the family to use for his many medical appointments.

Last month, the [MPPOA organized a “GoFundMe” campaign](#) to raise funds directly for a vehicle to accommodate his wheelchair and their family of four. All funds raised will go directly to assist the family.

The vehicle selected is a 2020 Ford Expedition. In addition to the vehicle, enough funds were raised to provide the family with an additional \$25,000 towards further transportation needs.

Megan Matson, wife of Arik Matson, said, “Our family is blessed and thankful for the support of so many. Each day Arik gets stronger.”

Brian Peters, executive director of the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, said, “Supporters of law enforcement came together in a tremendous way to support Arik and his family, as well as leaders at the Dave Syverson Ford Lincoln in Albert Lea. We are so happy to have Arik on the road to recovery.”

Brandon Harmdierks, sales manager at Dave Syverson Ford Lincoln and friend of Arik Matson, said, “It has been nothing short of amazing to witness the support, brotherhood, and sisterhood of the law enforcement community through all of this. In addition, thank you to the Syverson family. It is a privilege to be a part of a place that does things the right way and simply takes care of people. And thank you Arik. You are a hero. You are an inspiration to all that know you and all that know your story.”

Jim Mortenson, executive director, Law Enforcement Labor Services, said, “Our first responders selflessly risk their lives every day to protect our families, friends, and communities. We are thrilled Arik is getting stronger.”



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The event was livestreamed on Facebook on the MPPOA's account,
<https://www.facebook.com/MNPoliceAssn>.



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The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) represents Minnesota's 10,000+ public safety officials who hold active law enforcement licenses in the state of Minnesota. Members include police officers, correctional officers, dispatchers, and firefighters. The MPPOA is the largest association representing public safety professionals in the State of Minnesota.



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