



HR0654

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Chief Mike Riley retired from his position as  
3 Chief of Police of the Village of New Baden on July 1, 2015;  
4 and

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WHEREAS, A young Mike Riley moved with his family to New  
6 Baden in 1957; he graduated from Wesclin High School in 1970;  
7 from there, he pursued his higher education at Southwestern  
8 Illinois College and then transferred to Southern Illinois  
9 University in Edwardsville to receive his bachelor's degree;  
10 and

11

WHEREAS, After college, Mike Riley began his career as a  
12 patrolman in New Baden under Chief Bob Volmer; he worked hard  
13 as a patrolman and worked his way up the ranks to become Chief  
14 of the Department in April of 1979; and

15

WHEREAS, As Chief, Mike Riley helped to serve his community  
16 through many hardships, including the devastating tornado that  
17 struck New Baden in December of 1982 which killed 2 people,  
18 injured over 64 people, and damaged over 140 homes, causing  
19 nearly \$8 million in damage; during this dark time, Chief Riley  
20 served as a bright light by leading and managing rescues,  
21 coordinating with nearly 200 first responders from local  
22 communities, and assisting with subsequent clean-up efforts

1 over the following days and weeks; and

2 WHEREAS, Mike Riley has always strived to improve himself  
3 to provide better service for the people under his care; in  
4 1990, he traveled to the FBI National Academy in Quantico,  
5 Virginia, where he graduated as a member of the 162nd Session  
6 of the prestigious training for Police Executives; and

7 WHEREAS, In recognition of his outstanding service, Mike  
8 Riley was recognized as the Alumnus of the Year at Wesclin High  
9 School in 1993; and

10 WHEREAS, Mike Riley has served the New Baden community for  
11 nearly 40 years under 4 Village Presidents and has commanded  
12 over 60 officers during his tenure; throughout his career, he  
13 has served as a great example for officers and members of the  
14 community alike; and

15 WHEREAS, The City of New Baden and the members of this body  
16 are grateful for the service Mike Riley has provided during his  
17 tenure and extend our thanks to him for the 40 years that he  
18 has dedicated to the safekeeping and betterment of the New  
19 Baden community; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1 congratulate Chief Mike Riley on the occasion of his retirement  
2 and recognize him for his outstanding achievements and  
3 contributions to the New Baden community; and be it further

4       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
5 presented to Chief Mike Riley and the New Baden Police  
6 Department as a symbol of our respect and esteem.