



Chief Terrence McDonnell

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It is truly hard to believe how quickly a year has passed and that I am writing this article to the MACP membership as I prepare to transition to Immediate Past President. It was certainly a busy year, which is likely why it passed in the blink of an eye.

As I write this, we are currently in the middle of what has been described as the most unique and critical, non-war event in the history of our country. The COVID-19 pandemic has been and continues to be a monumentally challenging situation for all of us, both professionally and personally. It is my prayer that this virus can be defeated as soon as possible.

There were many highlights over the last year as I served as your President. I thoroughly enjoyed being present at the Accreditation award ceremonies throughout the state. Michigan continues to be a leader in this effort and we should all be proud of that. We worked hard to promote and gain participation in the use-of-force reporting program. It was believed at one point during the year that there would be a mandate from the legislature to make reporting mandatory. As we all know, this system would probably have proven to be much less user-friendly than the system in use today. I am proud of our member agencies that recognize what an important issue this is, signed on and are currently reporting monthly. The members of the Board should be given special praise for working in their districts to promote participation in the system.

The incoming Board will face its own unique set of challenges in the coming year. I am certain that under the leadership of incoming President, Geoffrey Smith, they will continue to elevate our Association to new heights. In working with Geoff on the Board over the last year, I have come to know him as an exceptionally talented, driven and principled individual who will be an exemplary leader for our Association.

The MACP plays a vital role in our profession and I hope that this year, each member will find a way to serve the organization that serves you. We will continue to monitor legislation that affects your ability to practice law enforcement. We will continue to provide networking and continuing-education opportunities. If you have stepped up in the past, we thank you. If you have not yet done so, now is the time.

I would like to give a special thanks to our MACP staff for making this a very successful year. Robert Stevenson, our outstanding Executive Director, along with Janeice Morrow, Neal Rossow and Briann Banas, who are truly the heart and soul of this organization. Their work on our behalf is second to none and their assistance to me during my tenure has been invaluable.

Lastly, I thank you all – the members of the MACP – for allowing me to serve as your President over the last year. It has been an honor, a joy and an experience that I will always cherish. I have met many new and interesting colleagues, made many new friends, and enjoyed it to the fullest. I look forward to seeing you at upcoming MACP events in the future. And, as always, please keep all who work in law enforcement in your prayers as they dedicate themselves to the protection of the communities they serve.

God bless you, your families and our country! 🇺🇸