PIKE COUNTY SHERIFF PHILIP BUEKI

I have been serving Pike County as a Law Enforcement Officer for 36 years. I was elected Sheriff in 2001 and have served four terms in office. On the night of September 12, 2014 I received an emergency call from Bernie Swartwood of the Pike County communications center. He stated that the State Police barracks at Blooming grove was under attack and that several Troopers had been shot. I immediately activated my Office and opened same with Sheriff's Office personnel. I then called the Blooming Grove barracks and offered all of my resources to the State Police. I immediately responded to the scene to the Blooming Grove Baptist Church where a Command Post had been set up. I met with State Police High Command and organized in getting topographic maps to assist in search areas since I have firsthand knowledge of all local trails and roads in the area. Due to the large scale of the operation, and very limited space at the Command Center, I met with Major Degnan who was in charge of the event. I brought Major Degnan to the Pike County Training center to show him our capabilities to possibly transfer the command center to this large and better equipped facility. During the search I coordinated Deputy Sheriff's to supply personnel to all local Schools due to the public fear over the uncertainty of the whereabouts of Eric Frein. I also assisted all County Agencies with any Law Enforcement needs. I received many phone calls from camps and local businesses concerning safety issues. This event affected Pike County in a way that has never happened in the History of the County. The support from the Businesses and the public during the search was outstanding, and brought the community together and united for one cause to bring Eric Frein to justice.