

MC27 BUDGET TESTIMONIAL

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I joined the M-NCPP volunteers in 2015 after my wife, who joined in 2013, suggested we could patrol park trails together on horseback.

As trail riders, we value Montgomery County parks equestrian trails and as volunteers we can help ensure they are safe and well maintained for everyone to enjoy.

Beyond mounted patrols, I've enjoyed supporting community events like the Keith Joseph Basketball Tournament and the annual Turkey Bowl, which promote community spirit and positive interaction with law enforcement.

Our volunteer work also helps allow officers to focus on higher-priority tasks.

During the time of our volunteer service, we saw the beginning of the Black Lives Matter movement. Many police departments have come under serious scrutiny and experienced funding cuts. Budget cuts will have a detrimental effect. The community service programs perform an important function to allow the county residents to see the officers and volunteers as members of the community, not outsiders. Thank you for

allowing me to share my thoughts and I hope that you can see your way to increase the budget and help us continue this important work.