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NEWS ADVISORY

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Johnson Takes Reins as KLEMF Executive Director

After nearly 35 years of service in and for law enforcement in Kentucky, Horace Johnson has taken on a new role of service to law enforcement officers and their families across the commonwealth. In September, Johnson assumed the position as executive director for the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation.

Johnson has served as chief of police for the Glasgow (Ky.) Police Department for the past two years. From 1999 to 2007, Johnson was employed with the Department of Criminal Justice Training, where he served in various roles including Training Operations Division director, overseeing the Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training branches and the Kentucky Leadership Institute.

In his new position as KLEMF executive director Johnson will serve as the face of the foundation as it launches a new fundraising campaign to grow the foundation and allow for more assistance to law enforcement officers and their families across the state.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to give back to a profession that has given so much to me throughout my career," Johnson said. "Helping bring in support for the memorial foundation is a challenge I look forward to tackling and I am even more excited to see the abilities of the foundation to help Kentucky's officers grow in the coming months and years."

The Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation was established in 1999 to build a unique memorial recognizing all Kentucky peace officers who have been killed in the line of duty. Once the memorial was completed in 2000, the organization expanded its efforts to include an ongoing financial endowment program, which helps Kentucky peace officers and their families with educational, medical and emergency needs.

More than 70 percent of the foundation's proceeds come from the sale of foundation license plates. For each law enforcement memorial plate sold or renewed at any county clerk's office, KLEMF receives \$10 to further its endeavors to meet the needs of and offer assistance to Kentucky's officers and families. In the 11 years since its inception, the foundation has given \$154,962 in financial assistance to law enforcement officers and their families and has provided \$186,000 to more than 172 students in educational scholarships.

Johnson began his law enforcement career with the Western Kentucky University Police Department in 1976 and served as chief from 1991 to 1999. During his tenure, the Western Kentucky University Police Department became the fourth agency in the state to be accredited by the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police.

Johnson is also a U.S. Army and Kentucky National Guard veteran with 34 years military service. He is a retired lieutenant colonel with numerous awards.

For more information on the KLEMF and how to support the foundation visit www.klemf.org or call (859) 622-8081.