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# Board of Supervisors Memorandum

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December 7, 2021

**Naming of the Pima County Sheriff's Department Headquarters  
Building in Honor of (Ret.) Sheriff Clarence W. Dupnik**

Background

(Ret.) Sheriff Clarence W. Dupnik's professional career began in 1958 with the Tucson Police Department. He quickly demonstrated his leadership abilities as he rose through the ranks, ultimately becoming a major. In 1977, he was appointed as the Chief Deputy of the Pima County Sheriff's Department, serving as the executive officer charged with guiding the agency. In 1980, he was appointed Sheriff and began his tenure as the longest serving top lawman in Pima County history, capturing nine consecutive elections, and retiring as Sheriff of Pima County in 2015. He dedicated 38 years with the Pima County Sheriff's Department – 35 of those years as Sheriff, and overall a total of 57 years in local law enforcement.

Under his leadership he instituted many award-winning crime-prevention programs that were nationally recognized and lead the Pima County Sheriff's Department into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. In 2009, both the House and the Senate of the United States Congress recognized his efforts and recorded them into the Congressional Record. In 2008, (Ret.) Sheriff Dupnik was the recipient of the FBI Director's Leadership Award. His foresight led to many united efforts and the implementation of regional achievements with many local law enforcement agencies, i.e. SWAT, Bomb Squad, Law Enforcement Academy, Officer Memorial Ceremony, Narcotics Task Force, and Communications Systems and Information Technology. He led the Sheriff's Department through decades and into the new millennium, and always considered the safety of his deputies and the public his highest priority, and was steadfast in ensuring that the deputies had access to the latest and innovative equipment and training to get the job done.

(Ret.) Sheriff Dupnik's legacy is his humble commitment and noble dedication to public safety and service to the citizens of Pima County. He led with impeccable personal integrity, sound ethical foundation, and exhibited the highest level of professionalism during his tenure. His honorable service and tireless efforts to thwart criminal offenders in our community through crime fighting programs and innovative ideas have made Tucson a safer place, and his effective leadership and accomplishments as Sheriff of Pima County for 35 years are far to integral to accentuate on paper.

Recommendation

In recognition for (Ret.) Sheriff Dupnik's demonstrated commitment, leadership, and dedication to public safety and the citizens of Pima County, I recommend that the Pima County Sheriff's Department Headquarters, which is located at 1750 E. Benson Highway, Tucson, Arizona, be named in honor of (Ret.) Sheriff Clarence W. Dupnik and that county staff be directed to install the appropriate signage on the building.

**Facility Name: *Clarence W. Dupnik - Sheriff's Center***

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Leshner".

Jan Leshner  
Chief Deputy County Administrator

JKL/dym – November 19, 2021

c: The Honorable Chris Nanos, Pima County Sheriff