



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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K-9 Officer Rusty to Retire

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, February 14, 2013 - After more than 8 years of service to the citizens of Bainbridge Island, K-9 Officer Rusty will retire from the Bainbridge Island Police Department at the end of the month.

Rusty will be honored with a retirement celebration near the start of the City Council meeting on Wednesday, February 27, during which he will be presented with words of thanks, a round of applause and a special gift commemorating his years of service.

Officer Dale Johnson, Rusty's handler, states that during his service, Rusty completed 214 search applications with 547 finds (location of controlled substances and/or paraphernalia), assisted with 181 arrests, 12 vehicle seizures, and a number of cash seizures totaling more than \$131,000. He also assisted other law enforcement agencies including the Bremerton, Gig Harbor, Poulsbo, and Suquamish Police Departments, the Kitsap and Jefferson County Sheriff's Offices, Washington State Patrol, West Sound Narcotics, U.S. Customs, U.S. Postal Service and Drug Enforcement Agency.

"Officer Rusty is an exceptional dog who consistently provided good and faithful service to Bainbridge Island, and he will be missed," said Interim Public Safety Director Larry Dickerson.

Officer Dale Johnson will remain with the department, while Officer Victor Cienega will take over the K-9 program. A new K-9 partner for Officer Cienega (yet to be selected) will join the department later this year.

Rusty will enjoy the rest of his days in happy retirement at the home of Officer Johnson and his family. Bones, biscuits, treats and toys may be directed to Officer Johnson.

For more information, contact the Police Department (842-5211).

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