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Thank you for

My President:

I want to thank you for presenting a commendation to me.

I want you to know that I am proud to serve God, and Country.. I am proud to serve The State of Michigan, and also The City of Grand Rapids.

To be a police officer is a privilege. I have received many honors as a police officer. These honors are also a tribute to the great men I work with, my fellow police officers.

The letter, and commendation from you, shows every police officer the high regard, you , my President, and the Nation has for their services..

I have been very fortunate during my life, to have been associated with great men. These men helped mold me into what I am.. I am a composite of many of them.. They were my teachers, coaches, military leaders, and fellow police officers. I thank God for my association with these men.

My President, my mother taught me to love God, Country, and my Fellow Man. My father taught me courage, strength, and patriotism. He came to this country at the age of fifteen, and "adopted" it. The United States provided him with a freedom denied to his family. He was asked to return to his country of birth, but stated, " America is MY COUNTRY:!"

Everyday I am privileged to work with individuals who accomplish acts of heroism. However, this is only

considered part of their daily routine. When others leave a troubled area, these individuals respond. When there are unsolvable problems, they are called. When a life has to be saved, or protected, they are sent for. I am speaking about my fellow police officers.

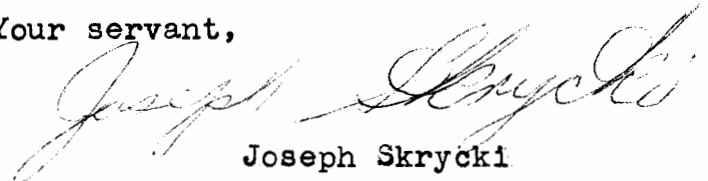
I am proud to be associated with those men. The future of our cities are secure. Men, and women have stepped forward, and continue to do so, to become police officers. They enter one of the greatest professions. They serve God, Country, and their Fellow Man. Those who enter this profession, as in the past, have that extra special "something" which earns them the title of "Police Officer".

A police officer's main function is to serve and protect everyone. As police officers, we are in a position where we can earn our citizens' respect. We can also help reduce the barriers of hatred and fear. Police officers must be concerned about their fellow man, because the problems that arise, affect all of us.

May God guide you, and our dedicated police officers.

I love America as dearly as you do.

Your servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joseph Skrycki". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joseph Skrycki