

Two minutes with the Boss

By: Joseph Andalina

Happy Happy

It's a new year. Let's get jiggy wit it. Or, ah, er, whatever you may want to do with the new year. As I write in an essay for an upcoming Rap Sheet article, "Did you all party like it was 1999 in 2009?" (Look for that newsletter sometime in early March.)

Going to make it a better year? More stats? More movers and parkers? Better arrests? Cleaner courtroom testimony in that you promise yourself that you will actually read your own police report before taking the stand in that criminal case?

Going to be on time for roll call? Not blow off those calls and if you're in the bureau, actually contact some victims?

Going to be civil to dispatchers, records clerks, CSOs, cadets, department gofers, reserve officers, detention aides? Going to try to tolerate your sergeant and upper strata personnel, and really try to understand what a commander does? Try to remember what it was like to be a grunt if you are a sergeant or lieutenant?

And the chief? Forget about it. Doesn't matter. Impossible to understand most of them. If they don't know what they are doing half the time, how can you figure them out?

Going to be more patient, too? With the brass, your partner, the press, citizens, defense attorneys, and prosecutors?

Going to be home more with the family? Play with the little ones, the grandkids, and the mutt? Going to saddle up and ride into the magic forest called retirement?

Going to do it with dignity? Going to be the best you can be? And most of all, you are going to come home every night and see 2010 next year?

To quote Sarah Palin "You betcha."

Have a safe 2009. Live long and prosper and visit us here on the web for more MAP news as we close out the first decade of the new millennium.

Stay safe, be safe, play safe.

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