For Immediate Release

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Friends of Rockford Police K9 Mourn the Loss of K9 Nyx

Non-profit organization that raises funds to support the Rockford Police K9 Unit saddened at the loss of a hero.

Rockford, III. (January 29, 2024) – **Friends of Rockford Police K9 (FORPK9)**, a nonprofit organization that exists to support the expansion and maintenance of the City of Rockford Police Department K9 Unit, today expressed its deepest condolences to the Rockford Police Department and its team of K9 officers and dogs on the loss of K9 Nyx, who was killed in the line of duty while protecting her handler on January 28, 2024.

Since its inception in 2017, FORPK9 has raised over \$400,000 to support the Rockford Police K9 Unit, including the purchase and training of K9 Nyx, a Belgian Malinois from Poland, and the vehicle that the canine and her handler used during their patrol duties.

"We are devastated at the loss of K9 Nyx," said Kathy Hansen, president of the 11member FORPK9 board of directors. "Our hearts go out to Nyx's handler and the rest of the K9 officers and dogs who risk their lives every day to protect our families and make our community a safer place to live and work. As a fundraising organization that helps to support the unit, we receive ongoing statistics that demonstrate how valuable our K9 unit is for protecting public safety. Today, that statistic includes saving a human life."

Funds raised by FORPK9 are disbursed to the K9 unit to purchase additional dogs, vehicles, specialized equipment, safety vests, training and new technology.

To learn more about the Friends of Rockford Police K9 Unit or to make a donation, community members can visit <u>friendsofrockfordpolicek9.com</u>, its <u>Facebook</u> page, or by mailing a donation to:

Kathy Hansen Friends of Rockford Police K9 5484 Ter Maat Court Roscoe, IL 61073

Donations made to the Friends of Rockford Police K9 Unit 501©3 are tax deductible.

Friends of Rockford Police K9 is a non-profit 501(c)(3) that exists to support the expansion and maintenance of the City of Rockford Police Department K9 Unit. The funds we raise are integral to the development of some of the country's most talented police canine teams, including canine acquisition, best-in-class training, specialized equipment and vehicles, and ongoing support. Friends of Rockford Police K9 works to educate the community about the value and effectiveness of using dogs in police work.