

August 23, 2016

Tim Potts, Chief of Police
City of Columbia Police Department
707 North Main Street
Columbia, TN 38401

Dear Chief Potts,

This past Saturday 8/20/2016, my stepfather's (Max Stephenson) funeral was held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in downtown Columbia. After the church service, there was processional through town to the cemetery at St. John's Church in Zion. As luck would have it, as soon as we left the church it began to rain very hard and it continued for the remainder of the processional.

The lead officer for the processional was Officer Landon Barber. Officer Barber did a great job of safely guiding the processional through a busy part of town during a severe rain storm. He slowed the processional down to provide additional safety and actually timed the arrival at the cemetery just rain the rain stopped. Ok, that may have been a little out of his control. But I will give him the credit. I would like to express our deep gratitude for Officer Barber's assistance.

Additionally, Officer Logan Wagner was stationed at the intersection of Trotwood Ave. and James Campbell Boulevard. I was driving my mother (the wife of the deceased) right behind the hearse in the processional. The torrential rain was probably at its heaviest when we passed by Officer Wagner at that busy intersection. It was raining so hard it was somewhat difficult to see Officer Wagner. **However, Officer Wagner had is hat removed and his hand over his heart honoring my stepfather.** I am not able to express in words how much that meant to my mother, me and our family. Officer Wagner's actions will be remembered for a long time and are very much appreciated.

Chief Potts, I know you have a very tough job. Please know there are many who appreciate what you and your officers do on a daily basis. Your officers made a difficult situation much better this past Saturday.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Karner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "S".

Scott Karner