

**For Immediate Release**

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## **The Front Line Foundation Tees Up Its' Continued Support for Minnesota's Brave Law Enforcement Community**

*The Beyond the Call of Duty Golf Tournament on June 27 will put faces to the names of those injured or killed while protecting Minnesota communities*

**MINNEAPOLIS, MN (May 18, 2023)** – [The Front Line Foundation](#) (TFLF) announced today plans for its' [Beyond the Call of Duty Golf Tournament](#) that will take place on June 27 at Olympic Hills Golf Course in Eden Prairie. With a recent rise in officer-involved shootings, organizers believe it is imperative to work even harder to support Minnesota's first responders.

The fundraising tournament is a partnership between TFLF and [Cars Against Crime](#), a nonprofit raising funds to provide grants to service organizations benefiting all first responders. The organization utilizes a world class collection of cars used in television and movies to enhance events, create memories and bring joy to the community.

"Cars Against Crime is proud to partner with The Front Line Foundation for this very special event," said Michael Karch, Founder of Cars Against Crime. "Using our Superhero Cars to support our real superheroes in law enforcement is our mission. Now, more than ever, these heroes need our support. We are looking forward to a great event."

“Our law enforcement officers have never been more vulnerable than they are today,” said Justin Zenanko, The Front Line Foundation Founder & Co- Chairman. “It is our mission to bring awareness and raise funds to support these brave individuals. This tournament is a big part of what we aim to do.”

Since its inception in late 2018, The Front Line Foundation has supported Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, EMTs and members of the National Guard across Minnesota, to grant financial support to families of first responders who have died in the line of duty. The Foundation’s mission is to bridge the gap between the death and benefits being paid, which can help families with ongoing expenses. The Foundation also provides support in the purchase of tactical equipment for first responders which is not included in department budgets. To date The Frontline Foundation has paid out \$348,000 in death benefits and equipment funding since it was founded in 2018.

So far in 2023, seven Minnesota law enforcement officers have been killed, or severely injured in officer involved shootings.

“We need to shed light on this pressing need and inform potential donors that our local heroes need our support,” said Suzanne Holt, President, and CEO of TFLF. “We cannot support our brave first responders without the help of generous donors from all walks of life.”

In addition to supporting the families of law enforcement officers killed on-duty, the Foundation also strives to support officers who are injured in incidents.

Two such law enforcement officers; White Bear Lake officer Ryan Sheak and Waseca police officer Arik Matson know first-hand how TFLF can help when it matters most. Both officers were severely injured on the job, and miraculously survived, but not without many challenges, both physically and financially.

"Every day we put on that uniform we expect to come home, but the reality is it isn't happening like it used to," said Matson, who was shot in the head when responding to a routine call. "It breaks my heart."

For [Officer Sheak](#), who was shot multiple times last winter, the support he received from TFLF has been key in his recovery.

“Simply put, the Foundation has my back,” said Sheak. “They were one of the first organizations to step up and help me. I will never forget the support I got from them.”

Both Sheak and Matson are scheduled to attend the golf tournament to tell their stories and thank donors.

“It’s going to be a great day to support all of our state’s first responders,” said Holt. “We are always humbled by the numbers of donors who step up and help us continue our mission.”

**About The Front Line Foundation:**

[The Front Line Foundation](http://www.thefrontlinemn.org) began as an attempt to help and support our Fallen Heroes, including Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, EMTs, and the Minnesota National Guard. The Frontline Foundation provides support to those who died while in the line of duty, by giving benefit payments to dependents of fallen first responders. Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, and EMT First Responders face armed and dangerous criminals, impaired individuals wielding weapons, even emotionally charged, and threatening domestic disputes. They are The Front Line Defenders of our neighborhoods, towns, and cities who face and diffuse the high-risk, frequently appalling situations we know or hear about, with disbelief, on the news. In addition to providing endowments and support for the families of fallen heroes, The Front Line Foundation will underwrite scholarships and training registration costs for Front Line personnel as well as support preparedness training for safety officers in hospitals, schools, and places of worship. Further, we assist with the purchase of needed safety and tactical equipment not currently within the budget of the local unit of government. For more information, please visit. [www.thefrontlinemn.org](http://www.thefrontlinemn.org)

**About Cars Against Crime:**

[Cars Against Crime](http://www.carsagainstcrime.org) is a nonprofit raising funds to provide grants to service organizations benefitting police, fire, and first responders. The organization utilizes a world class collection of movie cars and television cars. These crime fighting vehicles serve as tools to enhance events, create memories, and bring joy to the community. Our world-class showroom is located in the Chanhassen AutoPlex in Chanhassen, Minnesota. Accessible, dynamic and spectacular, the actual "crime fighting" cars from popular movies and TV include the Batmobile, Scooby Doo Mystery Machine, Gotham City Police Dept. paddy wagon, Back to the Future DeLorean, Austin Powers Shaguar, Mayberry RFD police car, the Munster's Munster Koach, plus many, many more.

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