



Press Release: Officer Jake Reed Memorial Bridge Dedication

Date: September 5th, 2023

Media Contact: Captain William Davis 417-623-3131 x1446

The Joplin Police Department would like to formally invite members of the media and the general public to the Officer Jake Reed Memorial Bridge dedication ceremony that will be held on Tuesday, September 12th, at 4:30 p.m. The ceremony will take place on the west side of the 20th Street Bridge, located at 1200 E. 20th Street. Parking will be available in the Harmony Heights Baptist Church parking lot. The bridge ceremony will also include the presentation of the Joplin Police Department Medal of Honor to Officer Reed's family.

On March 8th, 2022, Officer Jake Reed fell in the line of duty after attempting to arrest a suspect who was involved in a disturbance and attempted theft near 4th and Geneva Avenue. During the struggle, Officer Reed suffered gunshot wounds and was unable to survive his injuries. On March 11th, 2022, Officer Jake Reed died in the line of duty and his organs were donated so that others may live.

On August 7th, 2023, the Joplin City Council passed resolution number 2023-015, which officially recognized the ultimate sacrifice paid by Officer Reed and honored him by naming the 20th Street bridge the "Officer Jake Reed Memorial Bridge". The ceremony being held on September 12th will be the official unveiling of the signage for the Officer Jake Reed Memorial Bridge.