



The Mesa Police Association

Centennial Center, 123 N. Centennial Way Suite #207 Mesa, Arizona 85201 Phone: (480) 641-1787

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August 7, 2008

Dear Mr. Russell Pearce,

The Mesa Police Association thanks you for taking the time to meet with us to discuss public safety issues affecting Mesa. The last time you communicated with the MPA was during your last election campaign.

The MPA takes our commitment to protecting Mesa's citizens very serious. We feel equally about our endorsement of the candidate for District 18 State Senator. We recognize the impact this office has on the safety and security of our citizens and the ability of our front-line officers to carry out their jobs.

After careful deliberation and discussion, The Mesa Police Association has chosen to endorse your opponent (Kevin Gibbons).

Among the many factors affecting the MPA's endorsement were:

- Your support of legislation that threatens major funding for police and fire, while subverting an identical bill providing funding for training and immigration enforcement, that did not threaten state funding.
- Supporting legislation that undermines a Chief of Police's ability to run the police department,
- Your desire to eliminate current 20 year retirement for officers, which will hurt front-line officer's families and police agencies ability to attract and retain qualified candidates,
- A lack of communications and inclusion of front-line Mesa officers, and
- Unrealistic, unfunded approach to local immigration enforcement

Gibbon's inclusion of front-line officers, plans for fighting crime and gangs, realistic approach to fund immigration enforcement training will provide Mesa police officers and the community with public safety they deserve.

Sincerely,

Fabian Cota
President, Mesa Police Association

Representing Police Officers with Professionalism, Integrity & Pride