Service Commendation
CHARLES T. CRAFT

WHEREAS, **Charles Craft** began his career as a police officer with the City of Troy in 1980, after serving three years as a police officer with the City of Clawson; and

WHEREAS, In 1986, **Charlie** was selected as Troy's Police Officer of the Year. Prior to his appointment as Chief, he achieved the ranks of sergeant, lieutenant, and captain. As sergeant and lieutenant he had the opportunity to supervise and manage Patrol Operations, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Intelligence, Special Operations, and Internal Affairs; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure as captain, **Charlie** initially commanded the Patrol Division, was appointed as commander of the Criminal Investigations Division; and promoted to Police Chief on April 13, 1998, a role he has served for almost 11 years; and

WHEREAS, **Charlie** become a recognized expert in the interest based bargaining process, establishing a more personalized approach to management/employee relations. The department now functions in an atmosphere where management and employees assess problems, pursue solutions, and work through issues with minimal conflict; and

WHEREAS, During **Charlie's** tenure as **Chief**, the community has seen a consistent decrease in serious crime, ranking as the safest city in Michigan with a population of 75,000 or more since 2004. Troy was also designated as the fifth safest city in the United States in 2006, and the sixth safest in 2005; and

WHEREAS, The **Chief** has consistently recognized the importance of a broad-based approach to public safety, supporting and stressing the vital partnerships between the police department and organizations responsible for ensuring a strong and vibrant community including the Troy School District, the 52-4 District Court, the Troy Community Coalition for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, the Troy Boys & Girls Club, Troy Youth Assistance, and HAVEN, to name just a few; and

WHEREAS, Charlie met his future wife Janine, who was a Troy police service aide on his first day as a Troy police officer in 1980. They have been married since August 19, 1981 and are the proud parents of Mary and Anna; and

WHEREAS, **Charlie Craft** retired from the Troy Police Department on Feb. 28, 2009 after **29 years of dedicated service**; and

WHEREAS, In his retirement **Charlie** plans to stay active with his competitive softball team; his band, Cross Town, with which he plays bass and guitar; his church; his family and is open to the possibility of new endeavors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN, That the City Council of the City of Troy takes this opportunity to express its appreciation to **Chief Charles Craft** for his many contributions to the betterment of the City; and

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN That the City Council of the City of Troy, on behalf of themselves, City management and the citizens of the City of Troy, extends wishes of prosperity, good health and happiness to **Charlie** during his retirement years. His influence and contributions will remain alive in our hearts and will impact each of us as we journey into the future.

Presented the 23rd day of February 2009.