



Honoring
John Short

For His Outstanding Contributions to Ventura County First Responders

Whereas, John Short founded The Ride for the Blue in 2015 to honor all law enforcement agencies in Ventura County. The Ride for the Blue provides resources to help First Responders and their families from 18 local agencies and EMS companies through funding for equipment, wellness training and mental health support and training. The Ride covers 115 miles to visit nine police stations throughout Ventura County; and

Whereas, in 2019 The Ride for the Blue was renamed the Sergeant Ron Helus Ride for the Blue to honor Sergeant Ron Helus for his bravery and ultimate sacrifice during the deadliest mass shooting in Ventura County history on November 7th, 2018 at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks. This year will mark the 8th Annual Sergeant Ron Helus Ride for the Blue to be held on May 6, 2023; and

Whereas, in 2021 the event's focus expanded to provide support to all First Responders in Ventura County including Fire, Police, Doctors, Nurses, and EMS in light of their heroic response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas, in 2022 the Sergeant Ron Helus Ride for the Blue attracted more than 400 riders, including participation from the Ventura County California Highway Patrol; and

Whereas, the Sergeant Ron Helus Ride for the Blue provides an outlet for the motorcycle community to show their respect and support for law enforcement at a time when the profession's reputation has been tarnished by the actions of a small minority of bad actors; and

Whereas, the Sergeant Ron Helus Ride for the Blue recognizes that law enforcement officers, firefighters and paramedics respond to emergency calls regardless of a person's race, religion, country of origin, gender, sexual orientation or political affiliation; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, The Ventura County Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in honoring John Short, Founder of the Sergeant Ron Helus Ride for the Blue. His dedication to and leadership of this event is recognized for its outstanding contributions to our community and the First Responders on whom the County of Ventura places so much reliance.

Presented on this 28th day of February 2023


Chair of the Board of Supervisors
Matt LaVere, Supervisor 1st District


Jeff Gorzll, Supervisor 2nd District


Kelly Long, Supervisor 3rd District


Janice S. Parvin, Supervisor 4th District


Vianey Lopez, Supervisor 5th District