

# THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON 21ST CENTURY POLICING

## **John Layton**

Born and raised in Indianapolis, John R. Layton joined the Marion County Sheriff's Department in February, 1974, beginning a law enforcement career that has spanned four decades, seven Sheriffs, and earned a place in Indiana history. From the early days of working the hospital detention ward at Wishard Memorial Hospital, through the years spent as a road patrol deputy responding to calls for help and assistance from citizens, John Layton came to know the streets and the people in ways only a dedicated law enforcement officer can. Such knowledge gathered attention from his supervisors, and gave rise to promotions and new assignments. He became a detective, first working undercover investigating narcotics and vice violations, and then sexual and physical abuse, earning laudatory comments and commendations, as well as media attention.

Then Sheriff Jack Cottey appointed John Layton to the rank of Captain and gave him the task of creating and commanding a new investigations unit. That unit, the Marion County Sheriff's Regional Gang and Intelligence Unit, forged new ground by melding computer intelligence analysis and gang investigations. As a result, the Unit established ties with the Federal Bureau of Investigation as participants in the Safe Streets Task Force, and mounted several major gang/organized crime investigations.

Recognizing his creativity and management ability, Sheriff Frank Anderson, upon election in 2002, selected John R. Layton to play a key role in his administration, elevating him to the rank of Colonel and charging him with executing Anderson's vision of developing the Department as a modern 21st century law enforcement agency. Thus, Colonel John R. Layton served eight years as the Chief Executive Officer of the Marion County Sheriff's Department, mentoring and guiding the Department to bring effective public safety for the citizens of Marion County.

In November 2010, the citizens rewarded John R. Layton for his outstanding public service as he was elected Sheriff of Marion County. Sheriff Layton took office on January 1, 2011, and brought with him a new energetic Executive Staff to match his personal quest for excellence. Sheriff Layton enjoys widespread support within the rank and file. One of John Layton's first tasks as Sheriff was to introduce legislation providing for a merit system for Marion County's Sheriff Deputies. Sheriff Layton looks forward to the continuing and new challenges of providing effective and efficient public safety for the citizens of Marion County.

Sheriff Layton is married to his wife, Laurie, and they have five children, along with seven grandchildren.