

## WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

50 Jesup Road Westport, Connecticut 06880-4385

Telephone: 203-341-6000 Fax: 203-341-6092

Foti Koskinas Chief of Police

#### PRESS RELEASE

# Westport Police Department to Announce the Retirement of Police Service Dog Koda at Ceremony

It is with a heavy heart that the Westport Police Department plans to announce the early retirement of Police Service Dog Koda due to recently diagnosed health concerns. Koda is a nine-year-old Belgian Malinois that was imported from Hungary and joined the Westport Police Department in February of 2012. At eighteen months old, Koda completed a thorough ten-week training course where he became certified in narcotics detection, tracking, handler protection, and criminal apprehension. Since beginning his law enforcement career, Koda has been partnered up with Officer James Loomer, who joined the department in February of 2010. Officer Loomer and Koda have since worked full time in the patrol division. Through the duration of their partnership, they have responded to over six hundred canine related calls for service for the town of Westport and other neighboring municipalities.

To honor Koda's career, the Westport Police Department plans to raise funds to purchase and train a new police service dog that will continue Koda's impressive legacy.

In order to officially announce Koda's retirement, as well as to mark the commencement of this fundraising drive, all are welcome to join us for a brief ceremony to be held at 9:30am on Friday December 13, 2019 in the Westport Police Department's classroom; located at 50 Jesup Road in Westport.

Additional information on Police Service Koda as well as details on the fundraising drive will be distributed both at the event and electronically



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via press release on that same day for members of the media or public unable to attend. For any questions or for further information on any of the above please contact Officer James Loomer via phone at (203) 341-6000 or via e-mail at <u>JLoomer@WestportCT.gov</u>



Officer James Loomer and Koda

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12.11.2019
Lieutenant Anthony Prezioso
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