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**Kris Tharp Earns Major Endorsements for State Senate Campaign**

A police officer for the past 25 years, Tharp was born and raised in the district he represents in the State Senate

*\*media interviews available\**

Wood River, Ill. – Kris Tharp’s campaign for Illinois State Senate earned the support of three major statewide organizations this week.

The Police Benevolent and Protective Association of Illinois (PBPA) and the Illinois Federation of Teachers endorsed Tharp, who’s been a union member since he began his career as a police officer 25 years ago.

“Unions make sure the men and women who dedicate their lives to public service - teachers, police officers, and first responders - are fairly compensated for their work. They lift up our communities and make us stronger,” said Tharp. “As I work to bring jobs to the 56th district, I will prioritize finding well-paying union jobs while protecting their bargaining power and supporting workers’ unionizing efforts.”

Tharp’s wife and son also work in law enforcement and are both union members. He was born and raised by his single mother in Wood River, IL and attended Wood River public schools. Tharp is the Jail Administrator and a Captain at the Madison County Sheriff’s Office and he serves as Deputy Commander of the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis. His previous endorsements include the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and the AFL-CIO.

“We’re a community of hard-working families and those families make this district great,” Tharp said. “The district is built on the backs of hard-working people, and it’s time we get what we are owed. That means safe communities, good-paying jobs, and a life where we don’t have to struggle to make ends meet.”

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