

Hometown Hero Outdoors

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November 23, 2021

City of St. Paul Island,

My name is Chris Tetrault and I am the Vice President of Hometown Hero Outdoors (HHO). I appreciate your time to evaluate the content of this letter. I humbly request that you take into consideration a significant request from our organization regarding traveling to your beautiful island to fulfill an injured police officer's dream - pursuing a King Eider.

Hometown Hero Outdoors is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization that facilitates outdoor recreational activities for law enforcement officers, military service members and veterans of the military. These trips are therapeutic and assist with rebuilding camaraderie amongst those we serve.

I am reaching out to you regarding our most impactful hunt we will host to date. Officer Matson is a police officer in Waseca, MN; he was shot in the head while trying to apprehend a suspect in January 2020. Miraculously, he has been on the mend and making great strides in his recovery. Officer Matson is married with two little girls and is an avid outdoorsman.

HHO recognized that Officer Matson's life is forever changed and we decided to extend a dream hunt of his choosing. Officer Matson chose an Alaskan King Eider hunt. HHO obliged and booked a hunt for Officer Matson with Charles Summerville. The hunt is to take place on January 14 - 18, 2022. In addition, HHO has extended Officer Matson the ability to bring two (2) people of choosing who have been impactful in his life. He chose his uncle who established Officer Matson's passion for waterfowl hunting and a close friend who he shares the passion with.

In addition to the hunt, HHO has been filming a **documentary** of Officer Matson's recovery, life since his injury and his King Eider expedition. Filming started when he returned home in October 2020. We intend to film through spring of 2022 with the documentary being released on a streaming service in fall of 2022.

As you can see, a significant amount of moving pieces have been placed into Officer Matson's hunt. Since HHO began fundraising/filming for his hunt, his

life altering circumstances have gained national attention to include HHO filming his hunt. The amount of support from major sponsorships to smaller donations has been instrumental in fulfilling Officer Matson's hunt - HHO has raised approximately \$75,000, to complete this project and may invest up to \$100,000. Everything has been booked to include airfare and we have one more piece left - completing Officer Matson's hunt.

We fully understand the impact of Covid-19. It has touched all of us in some way; currently one of our board members on a ventilator and we pray for him daily. We also understand that not everyone has a second chance at life. Officer Matson has received a second chance and we pray that our board member also has a second chance. HHO **pleads** with the city to allow Officer Matson to experience his hunt of a lifetime as we are on borrowed time with him. Now that the world is two (2) years into Covid-19, no one can accurately predict what will occur in the coming years. We do not know that Officer Matson will be with us in 2023, due to his injuries. He is with us now and gets out of bed daily to engage in his rehabilitation so he can have a successful hunt. It is one of his driving forces in life to "get back to his old self."

Several conversations have taken place with Mr. Summerville. Based on his plans, he intends for us to be remote and isolated from other persons outside of our group. Our group of travelers intend to self quarantine for two (2) weeks leading up to the trip and test for Covid-19 frequently. In total six (6) people will accompany Mr. Summerville. We will also take other safety precautions that are requested of us from the city.

In conclusion, HHO humbly requests that the city make an exemption from their 60 days emergency ordinance for Officer Matson to complete his trip. As this letter is dated, Officer Matson begins his adventure in fifty-one (51) days and would fall within your 60 day rule. I am also available to meet with the city virtually with Officer Matson to discuss this matter further.

Please see the attached hyperlinks to view what HHO has publicly released for Officer Matson to further understand his journey.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CT', is placed over a light gray rectangular background. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Christopher Tetrault
Vice President
Hometown Hero Outdoors

[Officer Matson Hunt - Webpage](#)
[Home Coming & Hunt Excitement](#)

