

THE RUN

This past Friday the 184th Entrant Officer Class did the traditional end of course run to honor an officer killed in the line of duty. For the 184th the officer was Floyd Montgomery, who died in January, 1948.

I had the opportunity to offer a reflection at the end of the run. I told the recruits that the run was one of the most important events of their Academy life – for it had a noble purpose: To remember and honor the sacrifice of Officer Montgomery, and, in a way, the sacrifice of all who have died in the line of duty, down to this day, remembering especially Wyandotte County Deputy Sheriff Elijah Ming.

I invited the members of the 184th to recognize that now they had a special relationship, a bond, with Officer Montgomery, and, every Spring, when all fallen officers are remembered, as his name is sounded, they would remember this day's run and say "Yes, yes, he's one of ours." And in that moment rededicate themselves to the highest ideals of those who serve as police officers, called to protect and serve. Officer Montgomery could leave no greater legacy to his fellow officers than this. He did not die in vain.

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