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NEWS RELEASE

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Deputy Succumbs to Injuries in Motor Vehicle Crash

It is with a heavy heart that Sheriff Eddie Cathey announces the death of Sergeant Jeffrey Wayne Greene this morning. Sergeant Greene died from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle crash involving a tractor trailer truck at the intersection of Sutherland Avenue and U.S. Highway 74 just after 7:00 am this morning. The cause of the crash is currently under investigation by the North Carolina Highway Patrol, but preliminary indications are that Sgt. Greene's car was stopped in a turn lane on westbound U.S. Highway 74 at the Southerland Avenue intersection, when a tractor-trailer overturned on top of him. The N.C. Highway Patrol has deployed an accident reconstruction team to the site, and traffic is expected to be diverted for several more hours as the team completes its work. The Monroe Police Department has established traffic diversion routes around the crash site, and motorists should be alert to the traffic direction by officers working those posts.

Sergeant Jeff Greene, 54, began his career with the Union County Sheriff's Office in December 2004. Greene was promoted to the rank of Corporal in November of 2005 and subsequently promoted to Sergeant in September of 2006. He served in two Divisions of the agency during his time here, including the Detention and Security Division and the Services Division. He currently supervised the Support Services Bureau which oversees the issuance of gun permits, fingerprinting and sex offender registration. Sergeant Greene was also a proud Air Force Airman and a United States Marine, serving his country for 10 years and receiving an Honorable Discharge in 1989.

Sergeant Greene is survived by his wife April, children, Nicolle and Allison and five grandchildren. He attended church in Monroe, and served in numerous civic organizations, including prior service with the N.C. Baptists Men's Association. He also was a member of a law enforcement motorcycle club that performed charity assistance for members and families of public safety organizations.

"Jeff Greene was a personal friend, a family man, and a valuable member of our Sheriff's Office family," said Sheriff Eddie Cathey. "His loss is a tragedy, not only to his family and friends, but to the citizens of Union County. His orientation of service to the community was a quality that should be embraced and emulated by us all. He will be missed."

Sheriff Cathey also wishes to gratefully acknowledge the Monroe Police Department, the Monroe Fire Department, Union EMS, the N.C. Highway Patrol, and the many local,

state and federal law enforcement partners who have extended messages of condolence and concern to the Greene family and to this agency. Any loss in the public safety community touches us all, and the expressions of care and support we have received today have affected us all very deeply. Funeral arrangements will be announced at the appropriate time, but Sheriff Cathey requests that everyone keep the Greene family in their thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



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