

Samuel Jelsma – Background Information

Accumulated 29+ years of sworn law enforcement service with Hawaii County Police Department in the following capacity:

Police Acting Assistant Chief (5-months) assigned to Administration Division. Responsible for overseeing the Administrative and Technical Services of the Department.

Police Major (1-year +) assigned to the Area I Field Operations Bureau and later Administration (from June 2018 to April 2020), two of three major commands in the department. Responsible for overseeing operations of patrol districts of South Hilo, Puna, North Hilo and Hamakua, Investigative operations of the Criminal Investigative Division of East Hawaii inclusive of detectives assigned to VICE, Juvenile Aid Section, and Criminal Investigation Section, additionally overseeing the Area I Traffic Enforcement Unit.

Police Captain (8-years +) assigned as the Commander of Kona Patrol and later Puna Patrol (period of November 2009 to June 2018) which entail two of the three most demanding and largest (officers allotted) districts in the county. During Command of the Puna District oversaw multiple (justifiable) police related shooting incidents and a volcanic eruption in a populated subdivision which lasted 4-months, destroying an excess of 700 homes. Responsible for planning, directing and coordinating the function and activity of district patrol operations. Utilizing personnel effectively through scheduling and supervisors to achieve maximum services to the public within budget and allotments provided.

Police Lieutenant (2-years +) assigned to command the Area I Vice Section and later Watch Commander in South Hilo Patrol (period of March 2007 to November 2009). During the 1-year as a Vice Lieutenant managed four separate Federal Grants, scheduled personnel and supervised major drug investigations, issued press releases for significant arrest/seizures, attended various meetings with other agencies, gave presentations and public speaking engagements. After returning from a yearlong military overseas deployment assigned as a South Hilo Patrol Lieutenant supervising a patrol watch.

Sergeant (7-years +) assigned to the Traffic Enforcement Unit, later as a Puna District Patrol supervisor, and lastly as an Area I Juvenile Aid Section “Domestic Violence Detective” (period of May 1999 to March 2007). Also included in this period was 5-years assigned as a tactical Special Response Team leader (from the creation of SRT for our department). As a Traffic Enforcement Unit Sergeant (Initial 5-years) responsible for scheduling seven TEU officers island-wide, planning traffic related enforcement projects, conducting training for police recruit and other officers, supervising investigations of all traffic related deaths, compiling statistics, generating media releases.

As a Puna Patrol Sergeant had a responsibility to supervise a watch of uniformed officers. In the Juvenile Aid Section as a Domestic Violence Detective conducted felony domestic violence and sexual assault investigations, public speaking and media engagements regarding the topic of Domestic Violence.

A member of the tactical Special Response Team (part time) participated in rigorous weekly training, actual SRT callout situations, provided instruction, wrote policy, and managed the equipment inventory for the SRT team. Selected as the Statewide recipient of the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) "2000 Law Enforcement Award" with Hawaii County Council recognition after increasing DUI arrests of the Traffic Enforcement Unit by 179% in just over a year after being assigned to lead the unit.

Patrol Officer (8-years +) assigned to Kona Patrol, later South Kohala Patrol, and lastly Puna District Patrol (period of February 1989 to February 1990 and period of January 1992 to May 1999) working in three of the four most demanding district in the County. Took on primary district Intoxilyzer Supervisor responsibility which entailed regularly changing solutions and testifying in court on DUI cases. A Field Training Officer for new recruits, a certified Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), and department Instructor on several subjects. Selected as the Aloha Exchange Club of East Hawaii's "1997 Police Officer of the Year"

Military Service Retired from the Hawaii Army National Guard with the rank of First Sergeant (E-8) in October 2017 having 21+ years of credited military service, inclusive of 3-years on active duty in the U.S. Air Force Security Police. While later serving in the Army National Guard participated in three separate overseas combat deployments to Iraq (2004) as a soldier in a HQ Infantry Scout Platoon stationed in Baghdad, Kuwait (2008) as an intelligence analyst and a member of a HQ convoy escort team providing security for resupply convoys of trucks traveling through Iraq, and Afghanistan (2012) as a soldier in a Security Forces Assistance Team assigned to advise Afghanistan Police officers in the Zabul province. Graduated from Infantry Senior Leadership Course (2016), attended at Camp Shelby, Mississippi

Law Enforcement Specific Training Graduate of FBI National Academy's 245th session in June 2011, attended at the FBI training center in Quantico Virginia

Other related prior experience State of Hawaii Adult Corrections Officer (8-months) employed and assigned to Hawaii Community Correctional Center in Hilo.