

**G.R.I.T. EMAIL UPDATE: May 25, 2007**

I received an email from Sultan Police Chief Fred Walser a little while ago containing the following message:

**"I notified the Mayor I intend to retire/resign effective August 15, 2007. I thank the citizens of Sultan and the Sky valley for all their support and the opportunities I've been given while chief here.**

**I intend to continue my efforts for the U.S.2 Safety Coalition and some other projects."**

**(The Chief's letter is printed below the signature line.)**

My response to this news? I'd like to share a few of the words spoken during last night's council meeting by Frank Linth about **Sultan's Police and their leader, Chief Fred Walser**, the content of which I absolutely echo:

*"He's an extraordinary person and I'd like this on the record. He's a consummate cop and an exceptional leader. And my experience is he's just truly a remarkable individual. About doing the right thing, he's tenacious, he's a bulldog. He will not quit. He truly loves people. He loves this community, and he loves the job that he does best. What I'm expressing here is just an opinion, but if you were to ask around, you'd find others with the same level of respect and esteem, and among people as highly placed as the Governor's office, all the way out to residents of the Sticker-Patch. And I'd like to point out that that in itself is remarkable.*

*He's incredibly resourceful. He's proven that time and after time, and maybe there lies the rub. If there's a shortage of funds, he figures out a way to make do with what he has. If there's a shortage of personnel, he figures out a way to spread the load to keep the boat afloat. He's done it time and time again. And he has, in fact, done so much so many times with so little, getting by, doing so much with so little that it almost seems like he can do almost anything with almost nothing....I wonder if we really know in this community how much does it cost to run a police department? Because he has consistently done it for less.*

*Whatever decision as to where the police department ends up, this one thing remains: There are always negative things that can be said, there are always fingers that can be pointed, but there are many positive things that can be said about this community, where it's at, where it's been, and especially where it's going. And many of those things can at least in part be attributed to the fine work and tireless sense of duty of one police chief, Fred Walser.*

L. Storm, Co-Founder, G.R.I.T.

**WALSER'S RESIGNATION LETTER:**

**Ben Tolson  
Mayor  
City of Sultan**

**Re: retirement/resignation**

**Dear Mayor Tolson:**

**I hereby advise you of my resignation and retirement as Chief of Police of the City of Sultan, effective August 15, 2007.**

**For everything there is a season: a time to start and a time to finish. It is now time for me to finish my career as Sultans Chief of Police. I move on to pursue other goals.**

**The next several months will be busy times for the Sultan Police Department. You and the city council will have difficult choices to make and you have my assurance that I will work cooperatively with you to provide for an orderly transition to new leadership.**

**I have enjoyed my years of service in Sultan. I am indebted to the citizens of Sultan for the opportunities first to meet them, then to know them, and always to have been of service to them.**

**I hope my future pursuits will be equally as rewarding.**

**Very truly yours,  
Fred Walser**