



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Pleasanton Police Welcomes New K-9 Team

The Pleasanton Police Department is delighted to introduce “Matsjo” (pronounced Macho) the latest addition to its K-9 program. Matsjo is a two year old Belgium Malinois. The Pleasanton Police K-9 program began in 1974 and Matsjo is the 19th police dog for the City of Pleasanton. He and his handler, Officer Tim Martens, recently completed their five-week basic training course where they trained to search for missing persons, locate contraband and apprehend criminal offenders.

Officer Martens is an experienced handler who has been a member of the Pleasanton K-9 Team for over 15 years. When asked about his work with police dogs he said, “One of the things I love about being a K-9 officer is being able to utilize my specialized knowledge and training to keep the community safe and support my fellow officers on patrol.”

Officer Martens and Matsjo began patrolling the streets of Pleasanton as a functional K-9 team on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Matsjo lives at home with Officer Martens and his family.

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# PLEASANTON POLICE

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