To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of Alex Lape's candidacy for the position of Fairfield County Sheriff. In my previous capacity as chief of police for the City of Lancaster, I had many occasions to work closely with Alex. From planning a visit to Lancaster by a former president of the United States, to jointly investigating criminal cases of mutual interest, I have always found Alex to be very competent, eminently reasonable and highly professional.

Chief Deputy Lape has served the Fairfield County Sheriffs office for over twenty-five years. He has been promoted to key positions of trust within that organization and now serves as the agency's executive officer. Because he has risen through the ranks of the office, he has acquired comprehensive knowledge regarding every aspect of the agency's operation. This is a huge advantage for the community and could do much to ensure a smooth transition.

Current employees of the agency have commented to me that Chief Deputy Lape is a kind and effective leader. His management style appears to unite, rather than divide employees. Alex has been mentored by Sheriff Phalen and has availed himself of the sheriff's extensive experience and wisdom.

Sheriff Dave Phalen will leave behind a considerable legacy upon his retirement. I can think of nobody more qualified to take over and continue that legacy of service than Alex Lape.

I urge you to support Chief Deputy Lape's candidacy for sheriff of our county.

Best regards,

David W. Bailey