## **Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office**

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## For Immediate Release

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## Sheriff Welcomes Public to Open House and K-9 Introduction

Sheriff Thompson is proud to announce the Grand Re-opening and Open House of the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office on **Wednesday, February 14**<sup>th</sup> **from 10am to 1pm**. Following several months of demolition and renovation of the front lobby and administrative office area, the agency is happy to have the office fully reopened for business.

This renovation, performed by InVision Architects, Peters Construction and several subcontractors has taken several months and was paid for by federal ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds for the project. The goal was to make more accommodating and private the inmate visitation areas and spread out the civilian clerical staff, while improving workflow efficiency and employee workstations at the sheriff's office. "In total, the sheriff's office was authorized \$512,858 in ARPA funds by the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors for this upgrade/update, though the project did cost a bit more than that." says Sheriff Thompson. "Other funds, such as the jail commissary fund did cover most of the rest of the upgrades."

As an added bonus, anyone attending the open house will also have the pleasure of meeting K-9 Mary, the new Community Engagement and Crisis Response Canine that was officially sworn into service last Tuesday morning, January 30<sup>th</sup>. "Mary is a

A CRIMINAL CHARGE IS MERELY AN ACCUSATION AND THE DEFENDANT IS PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.

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wonderful addition to our staff and I look forward to seeing all the great work that she and her handler, Deputy Karla Altenbaumer will do and the impacts that they will have as a team in Black Hawk County." says Sheriff Thompson.

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#New Beginnings

**#Puppies Behind Bars** 

#K9DeputyMary