

Rep. Steineke: Rock County chief deputy to be named Assembly 'Hometown Hero'

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MADISON - The Wisconsin State Assembly will recognize Chief Deputy Barb Tillman from Janesville, Wisconsin as a "Hometown Hero" at the upcoming Assembly session on January 21st.

Rock County Chief Deputy Tillman, who was nominated by State Representatives who serve Rock County, Amy Loudenberg (R-Clinton), Debra Kolste (D-Janesville), Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit), and Don Vruwink (D-Milton), is retiring after 37 years of service at the Rock County Sheriff's office. Beyond her lengthy service, Chief Deputy Tillman is revered as a trailblazer for women in law enforcement, breaking down barriers for women to serve in supervisory ranks in the sheriff's office.

"I am honored to host Chief Deputy Tillman on the Assembly floor, as her incredible years of service are a true testament to her commitment to her community," said Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna), who selected her for the award. "I applaud her efforts to not only keep Rock County safe, but also to make meaningful changes for women in law enforcement."

Beyond her service in the Rock County Sheriff's office, Chief Deputy Tillman was a founding member of the Wisconsin Association of Women Police, serving on the board of directors and as vice president. Additionally, she was the recipient of the Mary Rita Ostrander Leadership Award for her continued acts that support women in law enforcement.

“Thirty seven years of service to Rock County shows Chief Deputy Tillman’s incredible dedication to our Rock County communities,” said Rep. Loudenberg. “I’m incredibly thankful for her lighting the way for women in law enforcement.”

The Wisconsin State Assembly sees giving back to the community as one of the most valuable characteristics one can have. The Assembly Hometown Heroes program seeks to identify and recognize individuals from around the state who give of themselves to make a difference in our communities and in the lives of those around them. Hometown Hero Award winners are invited and introduced as a special guest at an Assembly floor session and given the opportunity to speak.