



## Bedford County Sheriff's Office

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Michael J. Brown  
Sheriff

Committed to Excellence

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

February 17, 2011

### **Sheriff Honored by Governor of Kentucky**

On January 15, 2011, Sheriff Michael J. Brown was honored at the Virginia Moose Association banquet in Richmond, Virginia, with being commissioned as an official "**Kentucky Colonel**," the highest honor awarded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Colonel Pete Carter, Aide-de-Camp to Governor Steven Beshear, presented the honor, along with the Kentucky Colonel Bowtie, to Sheriff Brown during the association's banquet at the Ramada Inn. Sheriff Brown and his wife Janet are members of Moose Lodge 1897 in Bedford, Virginia.

Colonel Carter said "*This award is being made to Sheriff Brown as a result of his efforts, recognized even in Kentucky, to protect children on the Internet and his dogged determination to arrest and prosecute as many child sexual predators as possible; a daunting task considering how many of our youth are on the Internet and how many sexual predators use the Internet to find their next victim.*" Colonel Carter went on to say that this crime against our children is one of the most horrific ever imagined by decent people. He said that we must protect our children, our future, and Sheriff Brown and his task force, headed by Lt. Mike Harmony, are standing 10 feet tall in this war against evil.

Sheriff Brown was taken completely by surprise and thanked Colonel Carter and the Governor for this award.

Mr. Wes Crowder was also recognized as a Kentucky Colonel by Colonel Carter for his leadership in Moose Lodge 1897.

*#End#*

*Photo and copy of Honorable Order attached*

The Honorable Order of  
**KENTUCKY COLONELS**



STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

The highest honor awarded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky is that of Kentucky Colonel. Our Colonels are Kentucky's ambassadors of good will and fellowship around the world.

It all began when Kentucky's first governor, Isaac Shelby, named his son-in-law, Charles S. Todd, the "colonel" of his staff. Shelby later issued commissions to all who enlisted in his regiment in the War of 1812. Subsequent Kentucky governors commissioned colonels to act as their protective guard; the colonels wore uniforms and were present at most official functions.

The official "Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels" was founded in 1932 by then-Governor Ruby Laffoon, and has since been incorporated as a charitable organization. Through the years, Kentucky Colonels have contributed thousands of dollars to worthy causes. Kentucky's governor and lieutenant governor serve as the commander-in-chief and deputy commander-in-chief, respectively. All officers serve without pay or compensation.

Kentucky colonelships are commissioned for an individual's contributions to his or her community, state or nation, and for special achievements. With your commission as a Kentucky Colonel, the Governor recognizes your service and accomplishments on behalf of others. A list of Kentucky Colonels is a "Who's Who" of outstanding men and women around the world. The certificate, signed by the Governor and Secretary of State and bearing the Great Seal of Kentucky, has hung on the walls of such distinguished leaders as President Lyndon B. Johnson and English Prime Minister Winston Churchill. John Glenn, America's first person in space, was commissioned during his historic mission while orbiting Earth.

Other well-known Colonels include: Harland "Colonel" Sanders, Muhammad Ali, Betty White, George Clooney, Ashley Judd, Johnny Depp, Kenny Perry and Elvis Presley.

