**Jesse’s Eagle Court of Honor**

**Welcome *Chris:*** Good evening. My name is Christopher Rollins, and I’m pleased to serve as master of ceremonies as we honor Jesse Rollins for attaining Scouting’s highest rank, the Eagle Scout Award. This is a moment worthy of celebration.

Before we begin our program, a special welcome to our family members who have traveled from Colorado, Iowa, Missouri, and California to be here today. I’d also like to welcome former Chapter Chief of Yaha Hajo Chapter, Osceola Lodge of the Order of the Arrow, Shamus Savage, and from Two Rivers District, Training Chairman, Tom Tanner.

I’d like to invite all of you to join us for the meal honoring our new Eagle Scout immediately following the ceremony.

Now please rise for the invocation, presented by Father Michael Povey, and remain standing for the presentation of the colors.

**Invocation *Father Povey***

**Presentation of the Colors *Color Guard***

***Tony:*** Color Guard advance. Scout salute. Color Guard post the colors. Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. Please join me in the Scout Oath and Law. Color Guard dismissed.

***Chris:*** *(motion for people to sit down)* I now call on Tom Tanner, as a representative of Boy Scouts of America, to officially convene this court of honor.

***Tom:*** By the power vested in me by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, I declare this court of honor to be duly convened for the sole purpose of presenting the Eagle Scout Award to Jesse Rollins. **Page 1**

**Lighting of the Scout Law Candles *Chris:*** Will the Honor Guard please come forward *(line up behind the candles, John, Kevin, Caleb, then Tony)*

***Chris:*** *(holding lighted “Spirit” candle)* this candle represents the Spirit of Scouting, a spirit which burns brightly in the heart of every Scout. Let us renew our spirit by reminding ourselves of the meaning of the Scout Law as explained by John Wayne.

“A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.” Nice words. Trouble is, we learn them so young we sometimes don’t get all the understanding that goes with them. I take care of that in my family. As each boy reaches Scout age I make sure he learns the Scout Law. Then I break it down for him with a few things I’ve picked up in more than half a century since I’ve learned it.

***Chris:*** *(Take candle to John)*

***Chris:*** A Scout is trustworthy.

***John:*** *(light candle before speaking)* The badge of honesty. Having it lets you look any man straight in the eye. Lacking it, he won’t look you back. Keep it at the top of your list.

***Chris:***  A Scout is loyal.

***John:*** The very word is life itself, for without loyalty we have no love of person or country.

***Chris:*** A Scout is helpful.

***John:*** Part sharing, part caring. By helping each other, we help ourselves, not to mention mankind. Be always full of help – the dying man’s last word.

*(Pass candle to Kevin)*

***Chris:*** A Scout is friendly. **Page 2**

***Kevin:*** *(light candle before speaking)*  Brotherhood is part of that word. You can take it in a lot of directions – and do – but make sure you start with brotherhood.

***Chris:*** A Scout is courteous.

***Kevin:*** Allow each person his human dignity, which means a lot more than saying “Yes, ma’am” and “Thank you, sir.” It reflects an attitude that later in life you “wish you honored more … earlier in life.” Save yourself that problem. Do it now.

***Chris:***  A Scout is kind.

***Kevin:*** This one word would stop wars and erase hatreds. But it’s like your bicycle. It’s just no good unless you get out and use it.

*(Pass candle to Caleb)*

***Chris:***  A Scout is obedient.

***Caleb:*** *(light candle before speaking)*  Start at home, practice it on your family, enlarge it to your friends, share it with humanity.

***Chris:*** A Scout is cheerful.

***Caleb:*** Anyone can put on a happy face when the going’s good. The secret is to wear it as a mask for your problems. It might surprise you how many others do the same.

***Chris:*** A Scout is thrifty.

***Caleb:*** Means a lot more than putting pennies away, and it’s the opposite of cheap. Common sense covers it just about as well as anything.

*(Pass candle to Tony)*

***Chris:*** A Scout is brave. **Page 3**

***Tony:*** *(light candle before speaking)* You don’t have to fight to be brave. Millions of good, fine decent folks show more bravery than heavyweight champs just by getting out of bed every morning, going out to do a good day’s work, and living the best life they know how against a lot of odds. Brave. Keep the word handy every day of your life.

***Chris:*** A Scout is clean.

***Tony:*** Soap and water help a lot on the outside. But it’s the inside that counts, and don’t you ever forget it.

***Chris:*** A Scout is reverent.

***Tony:*** Believe in anything you want to believe in, but keep God at the top of it. With Him, life can be a beautiful experience. Without Him, you’re just biding time. *(Pass candle back to Caleb)*

***Chris:*** And finally, the three parts of the Scout Oath

***Caleb:*** *(light candle)*A Scout promises upon his honor to do his best to do his duty, to God and his country *(pass candle to Kevin)*

***Kevin:*** *(light candle) to* do his dutyto other people, by helping them at all times *(pass candle to John)*

***John:*** *(light candle) to* do his duty to himself, by keeping himself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight (blow out Spirit candle)

**Video Presentation *Chris:*** Now we would like to show a video including some of Jesse’s Scouting experience.

**Eagle Scout History *Chris:*** I would now like to introduce former Cubmaster of Pack 100, former Scoutmaster of Troop 100, and Order of the Arrow Adult Advisor Javier Aristimuno, to give us a look from Cub Scouts, to working with Jesse now in the Order of the Arrow.

***Javier:* Page 4**

**Eagle Scout Charge**

***Chris:*** Honor Guard escort Jesse to the stage and I would now like to bring up Scoutmaster Chris White.

***Mr. White:*** Jesse, I have the honor to give you the Eagle Scout charge on the occasion of your elevation to the highest rank in Scouting.

The Boy Scouts of all nations constitute one of the most wholesome and significant movement in the world’s history. The rank of Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in Boy Scout and YOU have been declared worthy of this rank. All who know you rejoice in your achievement.

Your position, as you well know, is one of honor. Your responsibility goes well beyond your fellow Scouts; it extends to your duty to God, family, friends and your country. America has many good things to offer you and your children after you; but these things depend for the most part on the quality of her citizens.

Our country has had a great past. You are here to make the future greater. Jesse, I charge you to undertake your citizenship with solemn dedication. Be a leader, but lead only toward the best. Lift up every task you do and every office you may hold to the highest level of service to God and to your fellow man. So live your life and serve mankind so well that those who know you will be inspired to do great things themselves.

I charge you Jesse, to be among those who dedicate their skills and ability to the common good. Build America on the solid foundations of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship and reverence for God. Leave behind a record of which you and the Scouts will truly be proud.

Jesse, with the high hope that you will always represent the finest of character and citizenship; always holding the ideals of honor and service without reservation, we welcome you into the brotherhood of Eagle Scouts and congratulate you, your parents and your Scout leaders. **Page 5**

**Eagle Scout Award Presentation**

***Chris:*** For the award presentation, here is Committee Chairman David Langhout.

***Dave:*** We are finally at the point of this ceremony that you have all been waiting for, the Eagle Scout award presentation!

The Eagle Scout candidate will now take the Eagle Scout pledge. As the candidate takes this pledge for the first time, will Eagle Scouts who are present in the audience please come forward and face the audience to reaffirm your pledge.

Will each of you please give the Scout Sign and repeat after me in unison:

**On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty to God. On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty to my country. I reaffirm my allegiance to the three promises of the Scout Oath. I thoughtfully recognize and take upon myself the obligations and responsibilities of the rank of Eagle Scout.**

**On my honor, I will do my best to make my training an example, and make my rank and influence strongly count for better scouting and for better citizenship, in my troop, in my church, in my community, and in my contact with other people, regardless of race, color, or creed. To this, I pledge my sacred honor.**

All Eagle Scouts from the audience may now be seated.

Honor Guard please escort Jesse’s parents to the stage.

Jesse, you deserve much credit for having achieved Scouting’s highest award. Wear you award with humility, ever mindful that the Eagle Scout is looked up to as an example. May the Scout Oath and Law be your guide for tomorrow and onward.

And so, by the authority vested in me by the Boy Scouts of America, it is my privilege and honor to bestow the rank of Eagle Scout to you.

(*Hand Eagle Medal to the Jesse’s mother to pin on her son)* **Page 6**

Please pin the Eagle Medal on your son.

*(Give Eagle pin for mother to Jesse)* No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from the mother of this Eagle Scout, which has led to this evening. As the symbol of what this mother has made possible, this Court now asks Jesse to present his mother a miniature Eagle pin.  *(Jesse pins Mom)*

*(Give lapel pin for father to Jesse)*

Typically, at this point in the ceremony, Jesse would pin his dad and the parents would be escorted back to their seats, but Jesse’s dad has also done a few things to help this process along. Like some other scouts in this room, Jesse has never known his dad when he wasn’t a scout leader. As a symbol of what this father has made possible, this Court now asks Jesse to also present your Dad with the lapel pin.

Honor guard please escort Jesse’s parents back to their seats.

Jesse, by repeating of the Eagle Scout pledge before your fellow members, you have become an Eagle Scout. When you pledged yourself on your sacred honor, using the same words which are found at the end of the Declaration of Independence, you sealed your eternal loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout. By the authority vested in me be the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, it is my privilege and pleasure to pronounce you an Eagle Scout. May the oath you have taken remain true in your heart.

Ladies and Gentlemen and Scouts, I present to you Eagle Scout Jesse Stuart Rollins. **Page 7**

**Flag Presentation *Chris:*** I would now like to bring up Former Scoutmaster and Life to Eagle Advisor, Dennis Schnack to talk about a tradition at Troop 23.

***Dennis:*** At Troop 23 there is a tradition of having a flag flown over the capital on the day of an Eagle Scout’s Court of Honor. There was one flown today, just like one on the table, with Jesse’s name on it.

The gift is congratulations for Jesse’s accomplishment, but the flag represents the Eagle Scout’s never ending duty to his fellow man, his community, and his country. Congratulations, Jesse.

**Chris:** Now it’s time to hear from the new Eagle Scout.

**Eagle Scout Speech *Jesse:***

**Mentor Pin Presentation *Jesse:***

*(Honor Guard: escort Jesse back to his seat)*

**Closing *Chris:*** I’d like Father Povey to come up one more time

**Benediction *Father Povey:***

**Retire Colors *Chris:*** Will everyone please rise for the retiring of the colors.

***Tony:*** Color Guard advance, Color Guard retrieve the colors, Scout salute, Two, Color Guard dismissed

***Chris:*** Thank you for coming. Please join us for the meal. Good night.

*(Honor Guard: escort Jesse’s family to the reception)*

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