I am Robert Moss, but people know me as Bob. I have been with the Panama City Beach Police Department, just shy of three years. Last year I was selected by my peers to be the Officer of the Year. Before I worked for PCBPD, I worked for the Department of the Navy, as a civilian police officer on NSA-PC. I am also a military police officer, in the Army Reserves, with a total of five combat tours, with one tour to Iraq, and four to Afghanistan, and a pending deployment to Cuba. I have been awarded two Bronze Stars, three Army Commendation medals, and a Combat Action Badge, just to name a few awards.

There are many specialized units within the police department, that I believe that I would be an asset to with my experience. I learned how to operate a boat, and conduct water rescues, while with the Navy. I am currently not able to join the boat unit, since part of the training, is submersion training, also known as “water proofing.” This is where they put you in a simulated vehicle and turn you upside down while underwater. I am not able to partake in that training, since I wear contacts. I am also not able to go out into the surf to rescue swimmers in distress while having contacts. As a result of this we end of the incidents like the “Human Chain”, that happened this summer. We also have a department SWAT team, which I am not able to try out for, since part of the training includes CS/tear gas, which I cannot be around and wear contacts. I have had extensive firearms training through the military and again would be an asset to the team, but am not able to while wearing contacts.

As far as my everyday duties, I am very hesitant to use my OC spray, in fear of getting splash back in my eyes. This limits the tools that I can use to try to deescalate a situation, since I can’t use everything that I have at my disposal, thus putting the citizens of Panama City Beach at risk, as well as my own welfare.

I have been wanting to have Lasik done for some time, thinking it would improve my job performance. I am the father of four kids, so needless to say having money for something like Lasik makes it out of my reach and not a priority when it comes to my family’s welfare.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity for even being a candidate for the free service. I would like to thank you providing this service for all my brothers and sisters in the first responder community.

Ofc. Bob Moss