

Jonathan Franco Eagle Scout Court

Scoutmaster – Jackie Garza

Prayer – Jonathan Franco

Flag Ceremony – Julian (call), Enrique, Joshua, Liam, and Kyle
posting flags

Master of Ceremonies – Hayden Bordovsky

Candle Lighter – Ben Bordovsky

Eagle Charge – Joaquin Escobar

6:00PM

Mrs. Garza: *Welcome, my name is Jackie Garza and I'm the scoutmaster for Troop 1514. The Franco family has provided dinner at the back tables. If you haven't already signed the guest list, please do so. Jonathan Franco, our Troop Chaplain, will you please come forward and give a blessing over the food this evening.*

(Jonathan-Troop Chaplin, will say a prayer, and we will dismiss families for food first, then the scouts)

6:30PM

(Ceremony begins, Julian goes to podium to do color guard, Kyle and Joshua will hold the American flag, and Enrique and Liam will hold the Troop flag.)

Julian: *Ladies and gentlemen, please rise for the opening ceremonies.*

Colorguard, attention!

Colorguard, forward march.

(When flags come to the front) Colorguard, halt.

Colorguard, cross the colors. (U.S flag crosses in front of troop flag first)

Colorguard, halt.

Colorguard, prepare to post the colors.

Colorguard, post the colors. Scout salute!

Please join me in the pledge of allegiance. (Pledge)

Please join me in the scout oath. (Oath)

Please join me in the scout law. (Law)

Colorguard, reform.

Colorguard, return to post.

Colorguard, halt.

About, face!

Colorguard at ease, audience at ease.

(Julian takes a seat, Color Guard returns to seats, Hayden walks up to podium, Ben walks over to the candles)

Hayden: *Good evening my name is Hayden Bordovsky, and I will be the master of ceremonies for this evening. I would like to thank everybody for being here to celebrate Jonathan having attained the rank of Eagle Scout.*

It is now my pleasure to declare this Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jonathan Franco officially open. As we begin this court of honor and examine the trail to Eagle, it is fitting that we start with the fundamentals of scouting, the scout oath and scout law. We have just joined together in the reciting of both. Let us now begin by lighting candles symbolic of the three parts of the scout oath.

(Ben lights a candle after each of the words in bold is said)

Duty to God and country. *(Pause to light middle candle)*

Duty to others, *(light candle) by helping other people at all times.*

Duty to self, *(light candle) by keeping oneself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.*

The rules of scouting are found in the 12 points of the scout law. After one enters scouting, the scout law that the scout has promised to follow is put into effect as occasions and circumstances may demand. One by one candles representing the scout law will be lit. Each aspect

of the scout law is equally important and meaningful, a cornerstone in the building of a strong character.

A scout is:

Trustworthy (pause for lighting after each)

Loyal

Helpful

Friendly

Courteous

Kind

Obedient

Cheerful

Thrifty

Brave

Clean

Reverent

(Pause until Ben is finished lighting)

The pathway to Eagle can be described as a steep trail leading up to three mountain peaks, the highest being that of Eagle Scout.

(Ben lights at each bolded word)

*Officially the trail starts with the **scout rank** (Pause), then proceeds to the **tenderfoot rank** (Pause) and continues through to the **second class rank** (pause), and **first class rank** (Pause). While working on achieving these ranks, this scout has showed spirit in his troop and patrol. They have also learned skills in first aid, fitness, navigation and cooking. This is where the mountain climbing begins.*

Continuing along the trail, a scout must be active for at least 4 months while showing both scout spirit and leadership skills and abilities. The scout must earn at least 6 merit badges, 4 of which are designated as Eagle required as they are required to be earned by all scouts in

*pursuit of the rank of Eagle. The scout must also serve in a position of responsibility within the troop for 4 months, and participate in a minimum of 6 hours of public service. With a scoutmaster conference, as well as a board of review, the scout achieves **Star Rank** (Pause for lighting). The rank of Star scout is considered the first of the three mountain peaks.*

*The scout must then be active in their troop for 6 additional months, continuing to demonstrate spirit and leadership. The scout will acquire 5 additional badges, 3 of which being Eagle required and they must serve in a leadership position within the troop for another 6 months. The scout must take the time to educate a lower ranking scout and help them to complete particular rank advancements utilizing the EDGE method, EDGE being an acronym for Explain, Demonstrate, Guide and Enable. While a Star scout, they must also participate in another six hours of leader approved service. Upon completion of another scoutmaster conference and board of review, the scout will be awarded the **Life Rank**. (Pause for lighting). The Life Rank is the second of the three mountain peaks.*

The final mountain peak is the rank of Eagle, and it is earned when the scout has been active in the troop and held a position of responsibility for an additional six months as a Life Scout. They must continue to show scout leadership and spirit during this time. They must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges in total, with 13 of these being Eagle required. Jonathan has earned a total 33 merit badges.

The scout must then plan, develop, and lead a service project approved by the troop and district leadership that benefits their community or an organization outside of scouting. Jonathan's Eagle Scout project was completed with the City of Morgan's Point to revamp the local cemetery in the community that Jonathan has lived in nearly his entire life. From pressure washing and repainting the parking lot lines, to applying new roofing to Sarah's memorial on the cemetery's grounds. The project left the city's cemetery looking good as new for an inviting appearance to those who visit the oldest active

*cemetery in all of Harris County. Upon completion of the project and acceptance by the beneficiary of the project, the scout must then acquire letters of recommendation, submit a personal statement of ambitions, participate in their final scoutmaster conference, and sit for their Eagle Scout board of review. Once all of this has been completed and approved by the local and national scouting organization, the scout will be awarded the rank of **Eagle Scout**.
(Pause for lighting)*

(Once all candles are lit, Ben will return to his seat)

Tonight, you will witness the awarding of this hard-earned and well deserved achievement. Jonathan, will you please stand up to receive your Eagle Scout rank. I will now ask for Mrs. Garza to come to the podium. I will also ask for Jonathan's father and mother, Jonathan and Adriana Franco, to come to the podium, as well.

(Mrs. Garza and parents come to podium)

Mrs. Garza: And now in recognition of the many hours of patient guidance given by her in your efforts, will you please pin the Eagle mother's pin on your mother.

(Jonathan pins the mother's pin on Adriana)

Mrs. Garza: The symbol of your success in scouting is the Eagle award medal, which I now present to your mother. Your mother, in turn, will pin the medal over your heart.

(Adriana pins the Eagle Medal on Jonathan's left pocket flap)

Mrs. Garza: Jonathan, in recognition of the wisdom and guidance given to you by your father, will you please present him this Eagle father's pin, which he will proudly wear in your honor.

(Jonathan pins the father's pin on Jonathan)

In turn with all the years of support from your Father, he will present you with the Eagle neckerchief and Eagle Slide.

Your father will place the Eagle neckerchief on top of the old neckerchief, so the chain of Scouting is not broken. Then he can remove the old neckerchief.

(At this point, Mr. Franco will put the Eagle neckerchief and slide on Jonathan)

Mrs. Garza: *Your parents may now return to their seats.*

(Adriana and Jonathan leave podium area, Mrs. Garza returns to seat, Hayden returns to podium)

Hayden: *In recognition and appreciation of a person that has provided exceptional leadership and guidance along Jonathan's path and throughout his journey, Jonathan will now present the mentor pin, and say a few words.*

(Jonathan will give his mentor speech, then call up his mentor pin recipient and present them with the pin.)

Hayden: *I would now like to introduce Mr. Joaquin Segura, himself an Eagle Scout, who was a scout in Troop 1514 for all of his Scouting career as a Boy Scout and recently acquired the rank of Eagle back in 2023.*

(Joaquin will ask all present Eagle Scouts in attendance to stand and deliver the Eagle charge)

Hayden: *Lastly, would anybody like to say a few words about our new Eagle Scout, Jonathan Franco? Please feel free to stand and share any experiences, memories or kind words.*

(Audience participates and speaks, when nobody has anything else to say, move on)

Hayden: *I now declare this Eagle Scout Court of Honor closed. We invite everyone to congratulate Jonathan on his Eagle rank, take pictures if you'd like and feel free to stay awhile and eat and converse with everybody before going home for the night. Thank you all for attending this evening in support and recognition of Jonathan's achievement.*

(Ben blows out candles)