## EAGLE COURT OF HONOR

## Charles Horne and Vivek Ananthan

At the beginning of the ceremony, there should be two candles on either end of the table in the front of the sanctuary, and twelve candles in the center. There should be three chairs on the stage and Raaj should be sitting in one. The parents of the Eagles should be seated in the front rows of the pew and the next two-three rows should be reserved for Scouts.

At 2:00, Charles and Vivek walk down the aisles on either side of the stage carrying the candle lighters and light the candles on either side of the stage and sit in the front with their parents.

TROOP ASSEMBLY AND PLEDGE

Kyle Durfey (Stand on Sanctuary steps):   
"Ladies and Gentleman may I please have your attention". "Please stand for the Presentation of Colors".

"Color Guard, advance the Colors".

(Color Guard comes forward and rotates to face the audience.)

"Will the audience please join in the Pledge of Allegiance" "Scouts, Salute!"

(Kyle leads the Pledge of Allegiance)

"Color Guard, post the colors".

(Color Guard posts the colors, returns to the front of the line, and salutes the Flag.)

"Troop take your seats".

(Scouts file into the seats going all the way down to the end.)

Raaj Parekh comes forward to the microphone on right hand side of sanctuary stage.

Raaj: “Would everyone please be seated."

Raaj:   
Good afternoon honored guests, ladies, gentleman, scouts and scouters. My name is Raaj Parekh. I am a Life Scout in Troop 12. It is my pleasure to be the Master of Ceremonies for this Eagle Court of Honor, honoring Vivek and Charles. I would first like to introduce Eagle Scout William Thornton, grandfather of Charles Horne who will give the invocation.

INVOCATION

(Bill Thornton comes forward and gives invocation from the pulpit)

WELCOMING REMARKS

Raaj : Thank you Mr. Thornton, I would now like to introduce Mr. Joe Andrew, Advancement Chairman of Troop 12, for some welcoming remarks.

(Joe comes forward and speaks from the pulpit)

Joe Andrew:

"Today we have the honor and pleasure of recognizing Vivek and Charles for the award of Eagle Scout. Charles and Vivek, will you come forward and be seated on the stage.

(Charles and Vivek come up and *sit up straight* by Raaj on the stage)

Today is a celebration not only for Vivek and Charles but for their parents and Troop 12 and, on behalf of Troop 12 and Vivek’s and Charles’s parents, I would like to welcome you all. Before we convene the Court of Honor, I would like to introduce Ellen Kern, Chief of Staff to Pennsylvania Senator Pat Browne, who has a special presentation to make.

(Charles and Vivek stand up and walk to the front of the stage, Ms. Kern comes forward and makes presentation)

Joe Andrew:

“Thank you Ms. Kern. The presentation of the Eagle Scout Award is an important and serious matter. For the Eagle candidate, this is the climax in his Scouting efforts. This is an occasion for pride and joy, as well as a time for serious reflection. The Eagle is the highest recognition that Scouting offers to Scouts. It is earned through the advancement program, and only a small percentage of boys who begin in Scouting receive this honor. The wearer of the Eagle award is the epitome of Scouting's best efforts and beliefs. The attainment of this award is made possible through the assistance of those with the candidate today-his Scoutmasters, Troop leaders, fellow Scouts, parents, family, friends, and members of the community.

The wearer of the Eagle award is the embodiment of Scouting's best efforts and beliefs. Charles and Vivek have distinguished themselves through continued performance of active service in Scouting. They are trained and practiced in his leadership abilities. And, they are marked by the character gained through an understanding of the Scout Law. “

(Joe sits down. Joey Guth and Mike Andrew come forward. Mike goes to table in front of stairs. Joey goes to pulpit)

Raaj:

“Thank you Mr. Andrew. I would now like to introduce Joey Guth, Eagle Scout Candidate from Troop 12, who will read the Scout Law to remind us of the ideals of scouting and Mr. Mike Andrew, Life Scout, who will light the candles symbolizing the twelve parts of the Scout Law. “

SCOUT LAW CEREMONY

(Joey Guth reads from the pulpit. Mike Andrew lights the candles using the lit candles on each side of the table, alternating from one side to the other.)

Joey: “The candles on either end of the table represent the Spirit of Scouting in the hearts of Charles and Vivek. Let us renew their spirits by remembering the meaning of the Scout Law.

* **A Scout is Trustworthy**. A Scout tells the truth. He is honest, and he keeps his promises. People can depend on him.
* **A Scout is Loyal**. A Scout is true to his family, friends, Scout leaders, school, and nation.
* **A Scout is Helpful**. A Scout cares about other people. He willingly volunteers to help others without expecting payment or reward.
* **A Scout is Friendly**. A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts. He offers his friendship to people of all races and nations, and respects them even if their beliefs and customs are different from his own.
* **A Scout is Courteous**. A Scout is polite to everyone regardless of age or position. He knows that using good manners makes it easier for people to get along.
* **A Scout is Kind**. A Scout knows there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated. Without good reason, he does not harm or kill any living thing.
* **A Scout is Obedient**. A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey them.
* **A Scout is Cheerful**. A Scout looks for the bright side of things. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy.
* **A Scout is Thrifty**. A Scout works to pay his way and to help others. He saves for the future. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.
* **A Scout is Brave**. A Scout can face danger although he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.
* **A Scout is Clean**. A Scout keeps his body and mind fit. He chooses the company of those who live by high standards. He helps keep his home and community clean.
* **A Scout is Reverent**. A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others. “

(Joey and Mike return to their seats. Karl Kramer comes forward)

KEYNOTE SPEECHES

Raaj: Thank you Joey. To speak on behalf of Vivek and Charles, I would now like to introduce Mr. Karl Kramer, former Scoutmaster of Troop 12, who was the leader of this Troop for many years while Vivek and Charles were young scouts.

(Karl Kramer now speaks from the pulpit.)

(Karl sits down. Bob Durfey comes forward.

Raaj: Thank you Mr. Kramer. I would now like to introduce Mr. Robert Durfey, current Scoutmaster of Troop 12, who will speak on behalf of Vivek and Charles.

(Bob Durfey now speaks from the pulpit)

(Bob sits down. John Maxwell comes forward).

Raaj: Thank you Mr. Durfey. To help convey the responsibilities of the Eagle Rank to our new candidates, I would now like to introduce John Maxwell, the first Scoutmaster of Troop 12 after it was rechartered in 1999, and former Scout Executive of the Minsi Trails Council. Mr. Maxwell has traveled here from Maryland to be here today.

(Vivek and Charles stand and come forward and face Mr. Maxwell from center stage)

EAGLE CHARGE

Mr. John Maxwell from the podium:

" 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 influences in the world's history. You have been counted worthy of this high rank. All who know you rejoice in your achievement. As you live up to your obligations, you bring honor to yourself and your brother Scouts.

Your responsibility extends to your country and your God. America has many good things to give you and your children after you, but these good things depend for the most part on the ability of her citizens. Our country has a great past, you can make the future still greater.

I charge you to undertake your citizenship with solemn dedication. Be a leader, but lead only towards the best. Lift up every task you do and every office you hold to the high level of service to God and your fellow man.

So live and serve, that those who know you will be inspired to the finest living. We have too many who use their strength and their brains to exploit others and to gain selfish ends. I charge you to be among those who dedicate their hearts and hands to common good.

Build America on the solid foundation of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship, and reverence for God. Then, whatever others may do, you will leave behind you a record of which you may be justly proud.

Eagle Scout Candidates Vivek and Charles, I charge you to enter the Eagle Scout Brotherhood, holding without reservation ever before you, the ideals of honor and service. By repetition of the Eagle Scout Promise before your fellow Scouts, you will become an Eagle Scout. Though the words you use may be similar to those by which you joined Scouting, today they will mean more than they could have meant at any time in the past. When you pledge yourself on your sacred honor, you will be sealing your eternal loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout, with the words which closed the Declaration of Independence"

(John Maxwell turns to the audience and says:)

EAGLE PROMISE:  
"Will all the Eagle Scouts present today join as I administer the Eagle Scout Promise".

(Wait for the Eagle Scouts to reach the front and line up.)

"Will everyone please stand."

"Eagle Scouts, please give the Scout Sign and repeat after me".

"I reaffirm my allegiance to the three promises of the Scout Oath. (pause)

I thoughtfully recognize and take upon myself (pause)

the obligations and responsibilities of the rank of Eagle Scout. (pause)

On my honor, I will do my best (pause)

to make my training an example of my rank (pause)

and my influence count strongly and for better citizenship, (pause)

in my home, in my community and in my contacts with other people. (pause)

To this I pledge my sacred honor."

(All Eagle Scouts except candidates, please return to seats.)

Raaj:   
"Will Scoutmasters Kramer and Durfey and Mr. Andrew please come forward and present the Eagle Award"

PRESENTATION OF THE EAGLE AWARD

Mr. Durfey:   
"Will the parents of Vivek and Charles please come forward."

"Vivek and Charles, I hereby award the rank of Eagle Scout to you. You are deserving of much credit in having achieved Scouting's highest award. However, wear your award with humility, ever mindful that the Eagle Scout is looked up to as an example. May the Scout Oath and the Scout Law be your guide for tomorrow and onward."

(Bob gives Eagle Medal to Mary and Lata to pin on their sons.)

"Will you please pin the Eagle Medal on your son."

(Karl gives Eagle pin for mother to Charles and Vivek)

Karl: "No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from the mother of these Eagle Scouts which has led to this afternoon. As the symbol of what your mothers have made possible, please present your mothers a miniature Eagle pin."

(Eagle Scouts pin pins on mothers)

(Joe gives lapel pins to Eagle Scout to present to Rod and C.B.)

Joe: "In recognition of fatherly advice and guidance along the trail to Eagle, would you also present your fathers with the lapel pin."

Bob (facing audience): It is with great pleasure that I present to you, Eagle Scouts Vivek Anathan and Charles Horne.

(Crowd goes wild)

(Parents return to their seats.)

PRESENTATION OF FLAG

Raaj:

“I would now like to introduce Ed Keller, Chartered Organization Representative for Troop 12 to make a special presentation.”

(Ed Keller comes forward and presents flags.)

"Thank you Mr. Keller. Charles and Vivek have received many letters and certificates from dignitaries and friends who could not be here this afternoon. These congratulations are displayed on the tables outside the sanctuary and will be on display downstairs after the ceremony"

EAGLE SCOUTS’ ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Raaj:   
"Charles and Vivek, it is now time to hear from you"

(Charles and Vivek speak from the pulpit)

BENEDICTION

Raaj: Thank you all for coming. Refreshments will be served downstairs following the ceremony. Before closing, Charles and Vivek have asked that all the Scouts of Troop 12 join them for one last time to give the Scoutmaster’s benediction”

All Scouts present join Charles and Vivek on the stairs and face the audience and give the Scoutmaster’s benediction.

(Give the Benediction)

Charles and Vivek blow out the 12 middle candles (*with dignity*), pick up the candles on either end and hand them to the Scouts nearest them (cannot be part of the Color Guard) who will carry them out of the sanctuary. Charles and Vivek proceed downstairs, followed by all scouts who are not part of the Color Guard.

CLOSING

Kyle Durfey:   
"Will everyone please rise..... Color Guard retire the Colors.

(Color Guard retrieves the colors and exits.)

Special Note to all speakers: If at anytime Charlie Dent should arrive, please stop at the next reasonable point and introduce him (“our representative in Washington, the Honorable Charles Dent”) and allow him to speak.