



1/11/2017

## Press Release

To: Area media outlets

From: Hampton Police Department

Re: Hampton Police Department Award Presentations

On December 8<sup>th</sup> 2016 the Hampton Police Department recognized a number of officers for their Exceptional Services that contributed to the overall mission of the agency.

Sgt. Joseph Jones, Officer Paul Morais, Officer Robert Kenyon, and Officer Derek Brown were awarded the department's Medal of Bravery for the actions during an October 27, 2016 incident at a beach motel. While assisting with a follow-up investigation regarding a burglary in a neighboring community, officers were alerted that a wanted subject was in the room of the motel. Upon locating the wanted person, officers were fired upon from within the room. Still under threat of gunfire, the officers set up a perimeter, and evacuated other rooms to ensure the safety of the public. The suspect unfortunately took his own life during the incident. The officers' detailed and immediate response, while risking their personal safety, prevented harm to innocent bystanders. The Medal of Bravery is awarded for acts of conspicuous bravery or self sacrifice so notable as to set the individual apart from his or her peers, and in which the risk to life was extraordinary, and the member demonstrated a willingness to risk his own life in the performance of duty while operating under the most adverse conditions and at extreme personal risk.

Officer Charles Karpenko was awarded the department's Lifesaving Medal for his actions on June 17, 2015 when responding to back up a NH Trooper on Route 101 on the Exeter town line. Officers made contact with the operator of a motor vehicle who then began stabbing himself with a knife. Officer Karpenko and the trooper took immediate steps to subdue the man and get him immediate medical attention for his injuries, saving his life and restoring order. The Department Lifesaving Award may be awarded for an act performed which through prompt and alert action, results in saving a life.

Communications Specialist Melissa Kierstead was also awarded the department's Lifesaving medal for her actions on the night of October 5, 2015. On that occasion, Dispatcher Kierstead made telephone contact with a man who had threatened to end his own life. Dispatcher Kierstead had little information on the man and did not know

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where he was located. She spent approximately a half hour on the phone convincing the man to not harm himself. During this time, she successfully located where the man was and dispatched help to his location, all while still speaking to the man. He was subsequently located and agreed to seek help as a result of Dispatcher Kierstead's actions. Dispatcher Kierstead's prompt and alert actions directly resulted in the prevention of the suicide and was instrumental in saving the caller's life.

The Exceptional Service Award was presented to Officer Peter Moisakis for his actions during a civil disturbance incident on the beach on May 25, 2016. On that occasion, Officer Moisakis responded to a fight that he observed break out in front of him during an unusually busy pre-summer day. During his response, Officer Moisakis would become surrounded by approximately 300 unruly people. The rowdy crowd began chanting against Officer Moisakis adding uncertainty and heightened risk to an already volatile situation. Ultimately, the arrestee was securely detained, the crowd was disbursed, and there was no further injury. Approximately 45 minutes later, the crowd reemerged and grew even more disorderly. Officers took appropriate measures to disburse the crowd and took the necessary steps to prevent further similar disorder for the remainder of the summer. Throughout the incident, Officer Moisakis displayed professionalism and remained calm. The actions of Officer Moisakis that day are viewed as a highly creditable accomplishment.

Officer Timothy Galvin also received an Exceptional Service Award for his actions while assisting a senior citizen who was experiencing difficulties with her vehicle. Officer Galvin went above and beyond to ensure that the citizen was able to obtain the appropriate funds to get her vehicle from a garage after finding herself stranded and without a ride. The actions of Officer Galvin that day were viewed as a highly creditable accomplishment that brought public acclaim to the officer, the department, and the police profession. Officer Galvin was also awarded a Commendation for his assistance to the Chief of Police during the summer months to fill department needs during the absence of other department members.

Corporal Jayson Jackson, Corporal Robert Kenyon, and Corporal Vitalijs Sorokins received Commendations for their outstanding work during the summer schedule. During this time, the Corporals directly supervised, reviewed, mentored, and trained approximately 35 part-time officers, while managing the schedule, events, and operational overview of all beach activity for the summer months. Additionally, they assisted with the execution, management and review of approximately 690 arrests, and approximately 400 incidents. They ensured the delivery of quality police services; and the pursuit of excellence and dedication in the performance of those services. The actions of the Corporals serve as an example of outstanding service and dedication to duty, which is in keeping with the highest standards of our profession.

Officer Charles Karpenko was recognized as the department's Motor Vehicle Enforcer of the Year while Officer Christopher Keyser was recognized as the department's DWI Hunter of the Year. Their efforts furthered the department mission of preventing crime

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while aggressively working to solve those crimes which occur. Additionally, the officers delivered quality police services; and the pursuit of excellence and dedication in the performance of those services.

This year, two civilian awards were also presented. In keeping with the department's efforts to encourage community outreach and coordination, the agency wanted to recognize two citizens whose commitment to the police department mission, it's officers, and the community were deemed highly creditable. Mr. James Mills of Hampton was awarded the Civilian Award for over 9 years of volunteer services to the agency. During this time, Mr. Mills voluntarily assisted records clerks with proper scanning and filing under a new system. Additionally, in that time, Mr. Mills assisted the Training Division with training records management of over 175 personnel. Mr. Mills' volunteer service also includes the digital scanning of over 49,000 motor vehicle citations and more than 15,000 parking tickets into the agency database, a dynamic contribution to the police department mission. The unmatched volunteer hours dedicated by Mr. Mills highlights his dedication to giving back to his community. Additionally, his service has had a significant and lasting impact on the operations of the department as a whole.

The second Civilian Award was presented to Mr. Walter Kivlan of Hampton for his actions over numerous summers as he donated water and rehydration beverages to the agency during the grueling summer months. Mr. Kivlan repeatedly expresses his gratitude for the hard work that the officers do, enhancing morale within the agency. His outstanding assistance has assisted with maintaining the safety of officers in the field and the department as a whole.

The Hampton Police Department is proud of the dedication and selfless action that these individuals displayed. They performed split second decision making under adverse conditions to ensure the safety and welfare of the citizens of the town of Hampton

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Photo attached, more photos available upon request.

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Officer Christopher Keyser (Left) receives the Hampton Police Department DWI Hunter Award from Chief Richard Sawyer (Right).