

TO PROTECT AND SERVE

Our monthly recognition for the best of the best



Police Officer of the Month

DETECTIVE AMY B. COARSEY

Detective Coarsey is honored as Police Officer of the Month because she is a skilled investigator who closes difficult cases quickly and methodically. On July 22, 2006, a woman was the victim of an armed burglary and sexual battery by an unknown white male. Amy received the case on the 25th, immediately contacted the victim and conducted a thorough interview. The victim was able to provide detailed information about the attack and the assailant.

Based on the information provided, Amy canvassed the neighbors and obtained information about a former resident who had been convicted of a similar charge several years ago and was recently released from prison. Next, Amy arranged a photo spread for the victim to view and she immediately identified the former neighbor as her assailant. Based on the positive ID, the suspect was arrested and returned to jail. Less than 36 hours after receiving the case, Amy successfully closed it.

Sheriff Rutherford: "Amy, I commend your hard work and dedication. Your investigative abilities have removed a dangerous criminal from the streets, and your actions prove you to be *Community Focused* and *Worthy of Trust*. Congratulations.



Corrections Supervisor of the Month

DONNA S. McWATERS

Sgt. Donna S. McWaters, supervisor in charge of the MCC Security section for three years, is recognized because she is knowledgeable and respected by those in her chain of command and by her co-workers. She oversees the Community Projects Team, the K-9 Search Team and the Security Program.

She coordinates community cleanup projects with homeless camps, Super City Cleanups, police sub-sector targeted cleanups, and last year's Head Start School Cleanups.

Donna coordinated and scheduled Operation Corrections in Actions (Operation CIA) during the hurricane season. As a part of Operation CIA, she worked with residents in need of assistance, networking with other government agencies to solve difficult problems. She located specialty equipment, such as wood chippers, and heavy equipment to aid in the storm cleanup. Donna also coordinates MCC's portion of the Citizen Academy, and Zone 3's ShAdCo Safety Fair.

Donna is a talented supervisor, dedicated to providing excellent results. She is adept at handling command level paperwork and makes competent decisions. "I have only to give her basic guidelines for a project, and she is able to manage and complete complicated tasks without my assistance," says Lt. Michael Copeland.

These are just a few highlights of Donna's versatility and ability to get things done. There are many more, including her work with the fire marshal and our accreditation staff. She demonstrates integrity, honesty, and excellence in all that she does and is congratulated for winning Corrections Supervisor of the Month.



Police Supervisor of the Month

SGT. DONALD C. WILFONG

Sgt. Donald Wilfong skillfully supervises detectives in Zones 1 and 6 and monitors their investigations for accuracy. He also manages the Property Recovery Squad and ensures that inspections and seizures are properly conducted.

His supervisory skills during Operation Ice Cold prove his ability to manage complex cases. This two-month-long undercover operation targeted individuals in Duval County who were stealing, brokering and re-installing stolen air conditioners. Wilfong implemented a plan for an undercover operative to infiltrate the theft ring, obtain probable cause to arrest the suspects and stop the group of thieves. He coordinated undercover buys, oversaw the operation's investigative funds, and ensured that the undercover detective was covered by a safety officer to reduce the risk of harm to all involved.

As a result of the successful operation, 14 suspects were identified and 12 were arrested. A large amount of stolen equipment was recovered, including ranges, air conditioner units, hot water heaters, dishwashers, and refrigerators. During Operation Ice Cold, Wilfong met with code enforcement officials and members of the North Florida Builders Association to develop better procedures to prevent theft from construction sites.

Congratulations for being honored as Police Supervisor of the Month.



Reserve Officer of the Month

WILLIAM (BILL) J. CUARTERO

Since August 1990 Reserve Officer Bill Cuartero has been riding patrol in the Arlington area. The patrol officers in Zone 2 depend on his capabilities and knowledge of the area.

Bill also dedicates Thursday nights during baseball season to provide an additional law enforcement presence at the Jacksonville Suns Games. These events draw large crowds and his presence is needed and greatly appreciated.

When he is not patrolling Zone 2 or working Suns Games, Bill owns and manages a local computer company. Bill and his wife of 34 years have two grown sons – one a law enforcement officer with the Duval County School Board and the other an Information Technologies professional.

Congratulations to Bill for his years of dedication to JSO law enforcement and for being recognized as Reserve Officer of the Month.



Corrections Officer of the Month

HUBERT T. HENSLEY

Last September Officer Hensley, assigned to the relief squad on the 4th floor at the Pre-Trial Detention Facility, proved without a doubt that he is committed to the Sheriff's Office and to the safety of his fellow officers. Many of the inmates housed on this floor have long prison sentences, and it is not unusual for the inmates to become violent.

On the morning in question, Hensley and Officers Larry Greer, Thomas Stevens and George Peterson were moving the inmates, one of whom was on the phone when the move began. The inmate

was asked to hang up the phone and participate in the move, but he refused and began arguing violently with the officers. Hensley instructed the Control Officer to turn off the phones in the Four East Pod room to terminate the inmate's conversation.

At this point the inmate dropped the phone, picked up a mop wringer from a nearby mop bucket and began swinging it as a weapon. When he took aim at Greer's head, Hensley raised his arm and stepped into the path of the swinging weapon to protect Greer. The mop wringer hit Hensley on the arm and head, and he collapsed to the floor. The inmate then began choking Greer. Hensley re-engaged in the fight, and the officers were able to subdue the inmate and restore order to the Pod.

After the incident, Hensley realized his head was bleeding and his arm was injured, and he was transported to Shands Hospital for evaluation. X-rays showed that his arm was not broken, but he did receive staples in his head for a severe laceration. When later asked why he put himself in such danger, he responded, "I did not even think about it; I just acted." He returned to work the following morning with a headache and sore arm, ready for another day.

His courageous actions were commended by Sheriff Rutherford who presented to him the Corrections Officer of the Month award, as well as the Purple Heart, and announced that because of his courageous actions, he is to be a finalist for the Florida Sheriff's Association 2006 Corrections Officer of the Year Award.



Civilian of the Month

ALAYNA S. TARVER

Alayna S. Tarver is recognized as Civilian of the Month because she always shows team spirit in performing her duties as Clerical Support Aide II in the Alarms/Citations Unit. Responsible for processing traffic tickets, she processed 97,275 tickets into the citations database in 2006. She also provides information to the Clerk of the Courts, issues all kinds of citations and maintains a database of seat belt violations as required

by the State of Florida.

Alayna took the initiative to be cross-trained on the False Alarm Tracking System (FATS). When there was a backlog of alarm citations, she worked to ensure the citations were recorded in a timely manner. She produces admirable results, maintains excellent attendance and looks for opportunities to assist others.

At the awards ceremony Sheriff Rutherford said, "Alayna, I value the hard work and team spirit that you display each day. Congratulations on winning Civilian of the Month."

Information on this page prepared and submitted by Katie Seay, Community and Media Relations Specialist, JSO



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