

TO PROTECT AND SERVE

Our monthly recognition for the best of the best



Police Sergeant of the Month

LONNIE MILLS

Lonnie Mills is honored for his excellent leadership and the positive results he has provided since assuming responsibility of the Property and Evidence Unit in 2006. When he took over this unit, he was asked to implement changes as a result of an internal audit. He used his vast experience gained from assignments in Patrol, Burglary, Sex Crimes, Homicide and Inspections/Accreditations to create a positive environment and change the culture of the unit. He instituted the following innovations:

Employee questionnaires allowing employees to recommend methods to improve the unit, monthly employee and supervisor's meetings to share ideas, information and ensure accountability, frequent employee training programs, employee recognition programs for employees and supervisors, a complete inventory and reorganization of the facility and the filling systems, new processes to increase efficiency and internal controls, and a revision of the unit's directives to correspond with the new processes.

Lonnie's overhaul of the Property and Evidence Unit was successful; after last September's audit, it received an Exceeds Expectations rating with a less than two percent error rate.

Congratulations on receiving the Police Supervisor of the Month award.



Corrections Supervisor of the Month

MIKE JOWERS

Sgt. Mike Jowers is Corrections Supervisor of the Month because of his persistence and persuasive ability in solving a crime last November at the Montgomery Correctional Center. An inmate was severely beaten by four other inmates in Dorm F4. The inmate identified the attackers, but lack of evidence prevented the JSO from making arrests. When Mike came on duty at 10:45 p.m. he learned of the attack from Sgt. Manning and at 5 a.m. an inmate also told Mike about the attack.

Mike assessed the situation, went to Dorm F4 and ordered into the hallway all inmates housed near the attack. He gave each inmate a statement form and asked them to write down any pertinent information they might know about the attack, assuring them the information would be confidential. Three inmates provided helpful information, which Mike took to Lt. Jolly who contacted Zone 6 Sgt. W. Vanaman for assistance. Officer Copeland was sent to investigate the incident. Because of the excellent intelligence Mike gathered, four inmates were arrested and charged with Battery in a Detention Facility and removed from the MCC.

Mike's persistence and persuasive abilities sent a strong message that violence will NOT be tolerated in the Corrections Department. Congratulations on receiving this award.



Reserve Officer of the Month

GARY CARLSON

Gary Carlson has served the JSO for 29 years with dedication and distinction, whenever and wherever needed. Originally he worked in the four-wheel drive posse and then moved to the Marine Unit when all of the reserve units were combined into one. Currently, he is a great asset in Zone 6 as a second officer on patrol.

In addition to his volunteer activities with JSO, Gary (who is married and has a grown child) works two jobs: a full-time night shift for CSX and part-time day shift for Anheuser Busch. He routinely donates blood two to three times a month to the Florida Georgia Blood Bank to benefit the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the Fraternal Order of Police. Gary's donations have directly benefited JSO employees and their families.

The Reserve Officer program is invaluable to JSO. These volunteers have families, careers and other responsibilities, and yet they take time away from their lives to help maintain a strong law enforcement presence in the city – for no other reason than because they feel the call to serve.

Congratulations for being named Reserve Officer of the Month.



Police Officer of the Month

JIMMY W. BRITT

Zone 6 Officer Jimmy Britt has gone to great lengths to build an excellent relationship, promoting two-way communication and cooperation with the citizens in the sub-sector he patrols. They know he can be counted on to address their crime-related problems, and that rapport has led to numerous arrests of bad guys. For example:

Last April, using his contacts in the neighborhood, he quickly located and apprehended a domestic battery suspect who beat up his wife and fled the scene.

That same month Jimmy assisted in apprehending three auto burglary and auto theft suspects who had been breaking into and stealing cars on Black Hammock Island, as well as four armed suspects in May.

On July 2 thieves broke into a JSO officer's Oceanway home and stole more than \$10,000 worth of personal possessions and several police-issued weapons and apparel, including a 9mm Glock, a Taser, police radio and bulletproof vest. Using his experience and skill to track down the suspects, on August 12, Jimmy and several other police officers arrested the suspect.

Later in July, Jimmy helped investigate a home invasion, using his relationships with area residents to track down one of the suspects.

Sheriff Rutherford reiterated the importance of good relationships with law-abiding people JSO works to protect and serve, and says, "This officer is a wonderful example of how that translates to the job of solving and preventing crime. We cannot do this alone, and I commend you for doing your job with this understanding of community policing. Congratulations on receiving the Police Officer of the Month award."



Corrections Officer of the Month

MICHAEL S. HENRY

Michael Henry was working as a Housing Security Officer in the Pre-Trial Detention Facility when his diligence prevented a dangerous situation for fellow officers. Last July an inmate slipped him a note stating there were weapons in the dorm and he was concerned for his personal safety. Michael advised his supervisor, Sgt. Kelsey, and they began a shakedown of the dorm and the cell of the inmate noted in the tip. An initial search did not uncover any weapons, but Michael searched the inmates' mattresses more closely and found two small incisions in one of them. Taking the mattress apart, he found a sturdy 8"-9" steel shank and a mace-like sock with a twisted wire handle and a weighted end. The weapons had been crafted by the inmates in the cell and could have been used to inflict deadly wounds on either the officers or other inmates.

Michael is reliable and knowledgeable in all areas of the Intake Transportation Release section of the PTD and is a Field Training Officer who offers assistance to new trainees, fellow officers and supervisors alike. His excellent work and the value he placed on the safety and security of other officers and inmates is invaluable to the JSO. Congratulations on being named Corrections Officer of the Month.



Civilian of the Month

Police Emergency Communications Officer JOE E. FOOSHEE II

Joe Fooshee, a valued JSO employee since 1990, can always be counted on to handle any emergency situation in the Communications Center (CC) and to work voluntary overtime as needed. He is a Training Officer and a Person in Charge (PIC) in the absence of a supervisor.

Last April, he received a commendation from Homicide Sgt. Jim Parker for his work as Investigative Dispatcher on an officer-involved shooting at Spring Park and University Blvd. Parker stated that he appreciated Joe's "efficient and professional manner in handling the dispatch aspect of the incident."

In January 2007, Joe led PIO Ken Jefferson and Florida Times-Union reporter Adam Aasen on a tour of the CC, providing insightful information about the various pieces of equipment and technology used to achieve its daily objectives. Later Aasen wrote an educational article chronicling the 20-year anniversary of 9-1-1 availability in Jacksonville.

Joe is *Worthy of Trust*, an employee supervisors can depend upon no matter what the situation and deserves being honored as Civilian Employee of the Month.

Lifesaving Awards

OFFICER CHRIS KORNEGAY, DET. LATOSHA M. AGNEW, OFFICER DAVID J. COUCH, OFFICER FRANK H. CANADAY, OFFICER RYAN T. FRASER



L. to r., Police Officers Chris L. Kornegay, Ryan T. Fraser, David J. Couch and Det. Latosha Agnew

On Nov. 14, 2007, Jose Moreno was speeding down San Marco Blvd when he drove his BMW off the right-hand side of the road and hit a tree. Zone 3 Officer Chris Kornegay and Burglary Detective Latosha Agnew, working nearby on a burglary deployment, responded quickly to the scene. They attempted to remove Moreno from the vehicle; however, the impact had crushed the front of the car and his legs were pinned underneath the burning engine. With repeated efforts, Kornegay shattered the window, cutting his hand in the process, while Agnew retrieved a fire extinguisher from her car.

Officers responding to the officers' call for assistance joined the efforts to extinguish the fire while Moreno cried out that he was burning alive. They, as well as a citizen from a nearby home, kept the fire at bay until JFRD arrived and extinguished the flames. It took 45 minutes to extricate the victim from the wreckage, and he was transported to Shands, then flown to Gainesville to the burn unit.

JFRD Lt. Randy White said "without the quick actions of these officers, and the lack of concern for their own safety, I believe the outcome of the patient would have been much different."

On Aug 15, 2007, Zone 4 Officers David Couch, Frank Canaday and Ryan T. Fraser, along with Officers Edith Jawaorski and Nathan Smith responded to a vehicle crash involving a fire near San Juan Ave and the Cedar Creek Bridge. Jeremy Cothren had crashed his car into the bridge and was unresponsive when the officers arrived. Fraser approached the vehicle, realized the man could not get out on his own, and attempted to remove him from the car.

The driver's door was jammed shut, so Fraser, Canaday and Couch began pulling the unconscious victim from the window of the burning car, while Smith used his fire extinguisher to reduce the flames near the officers. Working together as a team, the officers quickly extracted the man from the burning vehicle, saving his life.

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