

# To Protect and Serve

*Our monthly recognition for the best of the best*



## *Correctional Supervisor of the Month*

### SUZANNE KIRKPATRICK

Sgt. Kirkpatrick, assigned to the Inspections/Accreditation Unit, is responsible for three accreditation processes, assisting with two other accreditations and ensuring full compliance with Florida Model Jail Standards. She ensures that all three facilities understand and comply with all accreditation standards.

She performs her duties flawlessly and eagerly takes on new tasks, performing them with confidence and professionalism. Required to maintain certification as a Florida Jail Inspector and Fire Safety Inspector, she conducts random, innovative inspections

of all three facilities, creating a marked improvement within the Department of Corrections.

She also participates in scheduled work-a-longs with DOC staff in random areas. Knowing the importance of self-improvement, she recently graduated from Liberty University with honors, receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Multi-Disciplinary Studies.

Kirkpatrick's willingness to share her knowledge and assist her subordinates in their duties has produced a solid team of experienced and reliable cross-trained officers. She thrives on the challenge of meeting all DOC standards, is a consummate professional who will not settle for mediocrity, and completes her tasks with meticulous thought and research. She never misses a deadline and her work has earned her praise from all levels of the Department. She has been involved in the accreditation process from the beginning and has proven to be one of the agency's greatest assets to that process.

An example for all sergeants, Kirkpatrick is truly deserving of the honor, and will always be Supervisor of the Month to the officers under her command.



## *Reserve Officer of the Month*

### WILLIAM HUTCHINSON

Earlier this year Officer Hutchinson was at the Train Works on San Jose Blvd. when he observed a citizen within the store experiencing extreme physical trauma of unknown origin. He immediately took control of the situation, asked the storeowner to call 911 and attended the victim who was having a severe seizure.

Hutchinson assured the victim that help was on the way, comforted him and prevented him from incurring physical injury during the violent moments of the seizure.

Fire Rescue responded to the call and took over while Hutchinson advised them what happened.

When the victim was transported to the hospital, Hutchinson followed to provide assurance and comfort to the family during his diagnosis and treatment. The victim, Mr. Anthony Ferrizzi, was extremely grateful for Officer Hutchinson's professionalism and compassion and wrote a letter of appreciation expressing his gratitude for a job well done. He feels very lucky to have had a well-trained and professional officer near him in his time of need.

His actions on that day and during the performance of his normal duties are proof of such professionalism. Congratulations on being selected Reserve Officer of the Month.



## *Correctional Officer of the Month*

### DENNIS DAVIS

In his 21 years with the JSO, Officer Dennis Davis has established himself as a valuable asset to the Department of Corrections. He is respected and trusted by his fellow officers and superiors, is diligent and hard working and most important of all, is a true professional. He has accepted the responsibility of a K-9 Officer, Field Training Officer and currently is assigned as a Substance Abuse Treatment Officer.

On July 6, Davis responded to a dorm where he observed an inmate standing on the second tier with a sheet tied around the railing. The man threatened to hang himself and began tying the sheet around his neck. After calling for assistance, Davis convinced the inmate to stop his suicide attempt and come down from the second tier, where he was restrained without further incident.

This is an outstanding example of Officer Davis putting his years of experience and extraordinary interpersonal skills to use. He highly supports and promotes the Total Therapeutic Community Concept, making it widely known that here at the Community Corrections Division we are changing people's lives for the better, and by doing so we make Jacksonville a better place to live for the community we serve.

Congratulations on his selection as the Correctional Officer of the month.



## *Civilian Employee of the Month*

### ANGELA BINDEL

Angela Bindel, a fingerprint technician assigned to the Identification Unit, is well known for dedication to her job and assisting others. Recently, she learned that a suspect, booked in our jail on local charges, had been released without a requested out-of-state detainer being placed.

She immediately notified Bucks County (Penn.) Sheriff's Office, who had received a call from the suspect's sister. They provided the sister's address, to which Ms. Bindel had officers dispatched; however, the suspect was not there. She

then located a work address, where the suspect was subsequently detained on the Pennsylvania charges.

Another example of Ms. Bindel's dedication occurred in May while she was processing an arrest docket. An NCIC message advised that the suspect was wanted in North Carolina for failing to register as a sexual offender. She contacted the N.C. agency which requested that we make him register as a sexual offender in Florida. Additional charges were placed on the suspect and Detective Brennock commended Ms. Bindel for ensuring this suspect was not released from jail.

In both cases, she paid close attention to detail, communicated with all involved and followed up on phone calls to ensure that these suspects would not be free to walk the streets in our community. Her persistence and dedication is applauded.

Congratulations for being selected Civilian Employee of the Month.



## *Police Officer of the Month*

### CHRISTIE UPTON

Last July while on routine patrol, Officer Christie Upton noticed several cars parked along a gated area at an address on Golfair Boulevard. She completed her reports and made note of a specific vehicle that, although not reported stolen, she felt suspicious about. During her tour of duty the next day she observed that same vehicle driving recklessly in the area and attempted to catch up to it.

The speeding vehicle couldn't stop and struck another vehicle at an intersection. The driver attempted to flee but was apprehended by Officer Upton after a short foot pursuit. She

searched the suspect, checked the other vehicle occupants, then discovered a dead body in the trunk. She and other officers checked vacant houses in the area and located the crime scene where the murder occurred.

Officer Upton completed all necessary reports and remained vigilant in her investigation of the incident, which would not have occurred had she not documented the vehicle contact from the previous night.

She is a dedicated worker, completes superior documentation regarding investigations, and is a role model for younger officers. She is an FTO, a lead officer for the watch, compiles statistical data on burglary reports, and has received numerous compliments for her actions as a decoy when working with Narcotics.

Her work is exemplary and embodies JSO's core values - Community Focused, Worthy of Trust, and Always Improving. Congratulations on being selected Police Officer of the Month.



## *Police Supervisor of the Month*

### LAWRENCE V. SCHMITT

Sgt. Schmitt, assigned to the Zone 3 COPS Unit since December 2003, leads his team working long-term community focused complaints, quality of life issues, zero tolerance, broken windows deployments and special events. He supervises officers in various roles, requiring flexible hours and last minute schedule changes.

In May, 14 vehicles were burglarized in a Mandarin apartment complex. With a photo of the suspect, Schmitt directed officers to canvass the apartment complex, and within an hour the suspect was identified and arrested. At the conclusion of the investigation four suspects were arrested, 14 burglaries cleared and 46 grams of marijuana seized.

During the past year, the European Deli at 3935 Toledo Road was the source of numerous complaints of violence, drug activity, underage drinking and general disturbances. Sgt. Schmitt coordinated efforts to DART the facility and identify and arrest those responsible for the criminal activities. Eleven people, including the manager, were arrested, assorted illegal drugs were recovered and four curfew violators were located. The closure of the business received praise from the community through the media and there have been no further incidents of violence.

As the COPS supervisor, he leads by example and displays the core value "Always Improving." He is an asset to the JSO and deserves the honor of being selected Police Supervisor of the Month.



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