

TO PROTECT AND SERVE

Our monthly recognition for the best of the best



Civilian of the Month

WANDA LEWIS

Wanda Lewis is known for her overall commitment to the Court Liaison Office and the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. As senior Bailiff in the Court Liaison Office at the Duval County Court House, Wanda is responsible for officer notification of court activities from the State Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office and private attorneys. She also provides the activity totals for the week and month.

"It's hard to point to one specific outstanding example since Wanda does so much," says Sgt. Steven Foster. "I make special demands on her time quite often when I need data quickly and she always comes through with the needed information."

Congratulations for winning the Civilian Employee of the Month Award.



Corrections Supervisor of the Month

SGT. ROBERT G. ROSEPILER

Robert Rosepiller is honored as Corrections Supervisor of the month because of his leadership skills, dedication and tenacity, as evidenced by his actions on the evening of August 2, 2006. He was inspecting the security shakedown hallway when an inmate advised that jewelry was missing from his property inventory. Robert began a thorough investigation of the inmate's claim: he reviewed tapes from the new video camera to determine if the inmate did in fact have jewelry upon admittance to the facility; he checked CMIS to see what other inmates

entered the system at the same time; he had each inmate searched and their property inventory checked in an unsuccessful attempt to locate the jewelry.

Robert then reviewed the video of the shakedown hallway and noticed an inmate sitting on the bench, stuffing something behind the bench. He had the bench and area searched and located the original inmate's property bag, but no jewelry. The suspect and his property were searched again and finally Robert found the stolen jewelry, valued at \$1000, in a rolled up pair of socks. A charge of grand theft was added to the inmate's sentence.

An 8-year veteran of JSO, Robert has been a supervisor for four years and "his day-to-day performance is outstanding," says Lt. Purvis, his commanding officer. "He has the ability to manage and motivate his people, who work in a relief capacity in two high-liability areas of Intake and on the sixth floor, which houses mental health, self-harm and administrative confinement inmates."

Congratulations to Sgt. Rosepiller for receiving this award.



Police Officer of the Month

DET. MIKE J. MEISSNER

Mike Meissner from the Auto Theft Unit was named Officer of the Month because of his quick actions, which led to the recovery of stolen property that might have otherwise not been recovered. Last July 24, he was assigned a case where unknown suspects burglarized an air conditioning / heating business. The suspects stole tools from the business and used one of the company trucks to facilitate the crime; however, the suspects were polite enough to return the truck after burglarizing the business.

During the early hours of the investigation, Meissner's co-worker, Det. Koivisto, received crucial information from a complainant that the truck used in the crime was equipped with a GPS. Mike immediately followed up on the lead, responding to the location indicated by the GPS. He arrested one suspect (who denied him access to the property), ensured other detectives had secured the residence, then returned to the office to draft a search warrant.

When the detectives searched the residence, they located all the stolen property, as well as property from numerous other crimes - most notably, a bullet-proof vest and pay stub stolen from a Florida State Trooper. The total value of the recovered property was in excess of \$90,000. "In 18½ years of police work, I have never seen a better organized and detailed list documenting the results of a search warrant," says Sgt. Steven Zona.

On July 25, Mike was called to interview 12 auto theft suspects who had been arrested by patrol officers. Working through the night, he obtained eight additional written confessions for auto thefts. The suspects also implicated themselves in numerous auto burglaries. During this two-day marathon investigation, Mike worked extended hours, never complained and provided a successful conclusion to both of his cases.

In appreciation for the dedication, diligence and spirit of teamwork shown by Meissner, he is recognized with this award. Congratulations!



Corrections Officer of the Month

MICHAEL RICHARD CAETANO

Michael Caetano, a dual-certified officer employed with JSO since September 2003, is a true asset to the Corrections Department. His dedication and attention to detail have kept contraband from our detention facilities. For example, last January while he was assigned as the 4 East Security Officer, he found a black plastic bag containing tobacco, two packs of rolling papers and three books of matches during a search of the inmate visitation area.

In April, during a search of an inmate in 4 West, Caetano discovered a chapstick container filled with four small white rocks. After notifying his supervisor of the potential stash of crack cocaine, Michael had the rocks tested by a patrol officer. The rocks proved to be crack cocaine, and the inmate was charged with introduction of contraband into a detention facility.

Because of the thoroughness and dedication of officers such as Michael, our organization excelled in the recent Florida Corrections Accreditation Inspection. Always displaying JSO's Core Values, Caetano's hard work and dedication to the corrections profession earned him the honor of Corrections Officer of the Month.



Police Supervisor of the Month

SGT. RICKY BROWN

Ricky Brown is honored this month because he is dedicated to developing police and community partnerships. On June 3, 2006, at the request of event host Councilwoman Gwen Yates, Ricky assisted with the Grand Opening of the J.P. Small Baseball Park. Using his community connections, Ricky provided donated food, sodas and water for the event. He also organized all the manpower needed for a production of this size. More than 300 people attended the celebration and experienced firsthand the positive impact JSO made in the community.

On July 29, JSO held the annual Back-to-School Safety Jamboree at Wayman Academy on Labelle Street, which was a huge success. Ricky is the inspiration behind this event; he conceived, planned and produced the Jamboree for the children in the community. He secured 20 sponsors who donated cash and materials to provide supplies for the children: 800 packets of school supplies, 150 bicycle helmets and 24 bicycles (awarded based on improved school grades). At least 250 children were trained in bicycle safety, and 1400 people enjoyed a great meal and the community spirit of the JSO.

Sgt. Ricky Brown is the epitome of "Community Focused." In appreciation for his commitment to developing excellent relationships with the members of our community, he is named Police Supervisor of the Month.



Reserve Officer of the Month

KEVIN A. BROWN

A JSO reserve officer since 1997, Kevin Brown has always served with distinction. For example, he resolved a potentially life-threatening incident in April of last year. When he observed an armed suspect assaulting an ATV rider with a knife at an intersection on the Westside of Jacksonville, he immediately alerted dispatch of the situation, drew his weapon, ordered the suspect to the ground and took him into custody as backup arrived.

Kevin routinely participates in the city's special events and responds to call outs. In addition, he spends a great deal of time assisting the Narcotics Unit. He has an abundance of experience working with officers in high-crime areas and consistently displays his courage and ability as a reserve officer.

Kevin, an attorney for The Brown Firm, "is an excellent public servant to the citizens of Jacksonville," says Reserve Officer Michael Bragg. "He deserves recognition for his exemplary service to our community."

Congratulations on winning Reserve Officer of the Month in recognition for his public service, loyalty and dedication to law enforcement.



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

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