



2017 VALOR AWARDS

LOUDOUN COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Congratulations from StoneSprings Hospital Center
to this year's Valor Award winners.



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Hospital Center**

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AGENDA

WELCOME

- + Tony Howard
Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

- + Honor Guard
Leesburg Police Department, Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Department, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, Purcellville Police Department

BAGPIPER

- + Deputy First Class Sean McCartan
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

NATIONAL ANTHEM

- + Sgt. Josh Brumbaugh
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

INVOCATION

- + Gary Hamrick
Pastor, Cornerstone Chapel

LOUDOUN FIRST RESPONDERS FOUNDATION

- + Ed Williams
Chairman, Loudoun First Responders Foundation

LUNCH

SPONSOR & VIP RECOGNITION

SIGNATURE SPONSOR REMARKS

- + Inova Loudoun Hospital

STU PLITMAN AWARD

- + Tony Howard
Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce
- + Barbara Plitman

VALOR AWARDS PRESENTATION

- + Autria Godfrey and Larry Smith
ABC7 News Anchors

CLOSING REMARKS

- + Tony Howard
Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce

SPONSOR LIST

SIGNATURE SPONSOR

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- + Flags of Valor

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A LETTER FROM THE

LOUDOUN COUNTY CHAMBER

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, we thank you for attending the Annual Loudoun County Valor Awards.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, we thank you for attending the Annual Loudoun County Valor Awards.

We hope you enjoy this year's ceremony, which is part of a proud Loudoun County Chamber tradition that allows our business community to express its deep and abiding gratitude for the service of our community's career and volunteer emergency first responders. The Chamber also is proud to honor those citizens who, when faced with an emergency situation, stepped in to assist another person in their time of desperate need.

Your participation in today's Valor Awards is a powerful expression of your support for our 2017 Valor Award honorees, whose heroic and often life-saving actions are clearly worth describing as "above and beyond the call of duty." Your involvement also shows your strong support for all of our first responders, whose contributions to Loudoun County are irreplaceable.

Loudoun County is truly fortunate to enjoy our nation's finest business climate and a vibrant, healthy community. At the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, we value the service of Loudoun's uniformed career and volunteer public safety personnel, whose contributions to our community are essential to our prosperity and our quality of life.

In addition, we also deeply appreciate the strong partnership the Chamber enjoys with our emergency first responders, from the leadership of the Police, Sheriff and Fire and Rescue agencies in Loudoun to the personnel that serve our community every day.

On behalf of the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, we are proud to offer our hearty congratulations to the 2017 Valor Award honorees! We know that you, our Loudoun County Chamber members, join us in extending those congratulations.

Sincerely,



Tony Howard
President & CEO



Tina Johnson
2017 Chair of the Board





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The National Conference Center Extends Congratulations to Our Local Heroes and Valor Award Winners



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A LETTER FROM THE

AGENCY CHIEFS

The Loudoun County Public Safety Community is honored to welcome you to the Loudoun County Valor Award's 32nd celebration of our citizens, men and women in Fire & EMS and Law Enforcement who have taken great personal risk or exhibited exceptional judgment in their duty to protect our community.



The Loudoun County Public Safety Community is honored to welcome you to the Loudoun County Valor Award's 32nd celebration of our citizens, men and women in Fire & EMS and Law Enforcement who have taken great personal risk or exhibited exceptional judgment in their duty to protect our community.

Heroic and life-saving actions are extraordinary accomplishments.

Today, we honor the Award recipients and their incidents, deeds, acts or accomplishments and are thankful to have them as members of our community.



As the leaders of our Loudoun County Public Safety agencies, we are humbled to work daily with these distinguished men and women in Loudoun County, and to be a part of this recognition ceremony.

We thank all of the Award recipients for their service and contributions both in-and-out of the line-of-duty. We also congratulate all of our 2017 Valor Award honorees for their distinguished initiative and personal bravery in providing first aid, professional assistance, protection, or any physical act that contributed to the preservation of a human life. The prestigious awards that will be presented today are to honor our career and volunteer emergency first responders, and citizens alike.



Each year, we partner with the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce to present the annual Loudoun County Valor Awards. With the support from the Chamber and the community, we have been able to recognize hundreds of public safety personnel in our community and we extend our sincere thanks for these partnerships.

Thank you to all of our Loudoun County public safety personnel and award recipients for your performance of duty and commitment to this community!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "WKB".

System Chief W. Keith Brower
Loudoun County Combined
Fire and Rescue System

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Chapman".

Sheriff Michael L. Chapman
Loudoun County Office
of the Sheriff

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory C. Brown".

Chief of Police Gregory C. Brown
Leesburg Police Department

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VALOR AWARD CLASSIFICATION & CRITERIA

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD

Recognition of everyday citizens for their extraordinary acts of courage or performance of heroic actions in emergency situations.

UNIT CITATION

Recognition of actions not normally involved in the performance of duties, actions of an extraordinary nature, or actions that display outstanding execution of duties by a unit/division/company which demonstrate unusual judgment, zeal, ingenuity and/or bravery.

LIFESAVING AWARD

Recognition of actions not normally involved in the performance of duties, actions of an extraordinary nature, or actions that display outstanding execution of duties by an individual which demonstrate unusual judgment, zeal, ingenuity, bravery and/or personal risk and directly result in the saving of a human life.

CERTIFICATE OF VALOR

Recognition of actions not normally involved in the performance of duties, actions of an extraordinary nature, or actions that display outstanding execution of duties by an individual which demonstrate unusual judgment, zeal, ingenuity, bravery and/or personal risk.

BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

Recognition of actions not normally involved in the performance of duties, actions of a heroic nature, or actions that display outstanding execution of duties by an individual which involve personal risk and demonstrate unusual judgment, zeal, bravery and/or ingenuity.

SILVER MEDAL OF VALOR

Recognition of actions not normally involved in the performance of duties, actions of a heroic nature, or actions that display outstanding execution of duties by an individual which involve significant personal risk and heroism and demonstrate unusual judgment, zeal, bravery and/or ingenuity.

GOLD MEDAL OF VALOR

Recognition of actions not normally involved in the performance of duties, actions of a heroic nature, or actions that display outstanding execution of duties by an individual which involve supreme sacrifice or extreme personal risk and heroism and demonstrate unusual judgment, zeal, bravery and/or ingenuity which is clearly above and beyond the call of duty.

STU PLITMAN FIRST RESPONER COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

This Award is given in honor of Stu Plitman, the founder of the Loudoun First Responders Foundation and a tireless advocate for all career and volunteer emergency first responders, and their families, in Loudoun County.

The Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce believes that law enforcement and emergency response is most effective when a community's first responders enjoy a positive and proactive relationship with the businesses and citizens they serve.

The Stu Plitman First Responders Community Service Award is granted to those emergency first responders who demonstrate the highest commitment to fostering positive relationships with the Loudoun County community in ways that positively enhance the safety and security of our citizens.

THE STU PLITMAN FIRST RESPONDER COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



DFC Milton Castelle,
DFC Victor LoPreto,
DFC Dawn Taylor

THE STU PLITMAN FIRST RESPONDERS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD is granted to those emergency first responders who demonstrate the highest commitment to fostering positive relationships with the Loudoun community in ways that enhance the safety and security of our citizens. This Award is given in honor of Stu Plitman, the former Chairman of the Valor Awards, founder of the Loudoun First Responders Foundation and a tireless advocate for all career and volunteer emergency first responders in Loudoun County.

The outstanding leadership of Deputies Dawn Taylor, Milton Castelle and Victor LoPreto and their tireless efforts to raise awareness about the important issues within Loudoun's communities, are a true reflection of the Sheriff's Office and this award.

Deputy First Class Dawn Taylor dedicated her time to growing community partnerships between the residents and the Sheriff's Office. She has been involved in summer camps, festivals, clean-up days, and saturation patrols during the holidays, though the heart of Deputy Taylor's work is based on building friendships. Her constant interaction with the members of the community is evident in her generosity and good deeds. For instance, Deputy Taylor reached out to a contact of hers to fix an A/C unit for a resident that otherwise couldn't afford it. She organized a complimentary hotel room for a person that had no place or money.

Deputy First Class Milton Castelle committed his efforts to the community by expanding the trust with the homeowner associations and the Sheriff's Office. Deputy Castelle used his extensive knowledge and ability to portray information to the community through writing articles in community magazines, attending monthly meetings and school

functions, and setting out signage in effort to reduce larcenies from vehicles/ homes, juvenile drug problems, speeding and trespassing. Most recently, Deputy Castelle developed and implemented the project S.A.F.E Initiative, to aim enforcement in school zones to keep the children of the county safe. This initiative produced an increase in law enforcement presence during designated dates and it is a collaborative effort between the Sheriff's Office and Loudoun County Public Schools.

"...[their] tireless efforts to address and raise awareness about the important issues within Loudoun's communities..."

Deputy First Class Victor LoPreto showed passion and instilled belief into the community that the Sheriff's Office cares and will be there for them at any time. Deputy LoPreto represented and developed the community resource presentation as part of the Citizens' Police Academy, and he regularly attends community ceremonies and book readings. Specifically, Deputy LoPreto demonstrated his commitment to the community through his interaction as a positive role model to the youth. He has been seen reading stories such as "T was the Night Before Christmas" during the Lovettsville Winterfest or mingling during Halloween events, all as a part to demonstrate his passion for law enforcement.

Similar to the words of Mr. Plitman these deputies believe that through ingenuity, dedication and a commitment to serving our community, anything could be achieved. For these reasons, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce is proud to honor Deputies Dawn Taylor, Victor LoPreto and Milton Castelle with the 2017 Stu Plitman Community Service Award.

INCIDENT ONE

UNIT CITATION



FF Michael Haynes,
FF Tyler Joyave

DURING THE BLIZZARD OF 2016, Firefighters Joyave and Haynes responded to a call from a patient who believed she had overexerted herself shoveling snow.

They waded through a block of waist-deep snow to find their patient, who they quickly determined was not merely suffering from overexertion, but having a heart attack.

They carried the woman through the snow to the ambulance and transported her to Inova Loudoun Hospital. The patient attributes her survival in part to the care and professionalism of Firefighters Joyave and Haynes.

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INCIDENT TWO

UNIT CITATION



DURING THE BLIZZARD OF 2016, MEDIC 613 AND ENGINE 620 responded to an early morning call. They arrived to an unplowed street which required crews to carry their equipment a half of a mile through waist high snowdrifts to reach the scene.

Once on scene, Lieutenant Cressler and Technician Riese found that their patient was unresponsive, seizing, and having airway difficulties – she needed to get to a hospital, and she needed to get there fast.



Firefighters Wright, Bania, Bredow, and Silvernale helped carry the seizing patient the half mile back to Medic 613 only to find that the bridge that the unit would need to cross to get to the hospital had become blocked by an overwhelmed snowplow.

Crews rendered care in the back of the ambulance for another half hour before another medic unit could make it to the other side of the bridge. They then carried the patient down the road, across the bridge, and into the unit which transported her to the hospital.



The patient made a full recovery with no deficits thanks to uncompromising dedication to patient care on the part of Lt. Cressler, Technician Riese, and Firefighters Wright, Bania, Bredow, and Silvernale.



FF Richard Bania; FF Andrew Bredow; Lt. Robert Cressler; Technician Nicholas Riese; FF Andrew Silvernale; FF Conor Wright



INFRASTRUCTURE

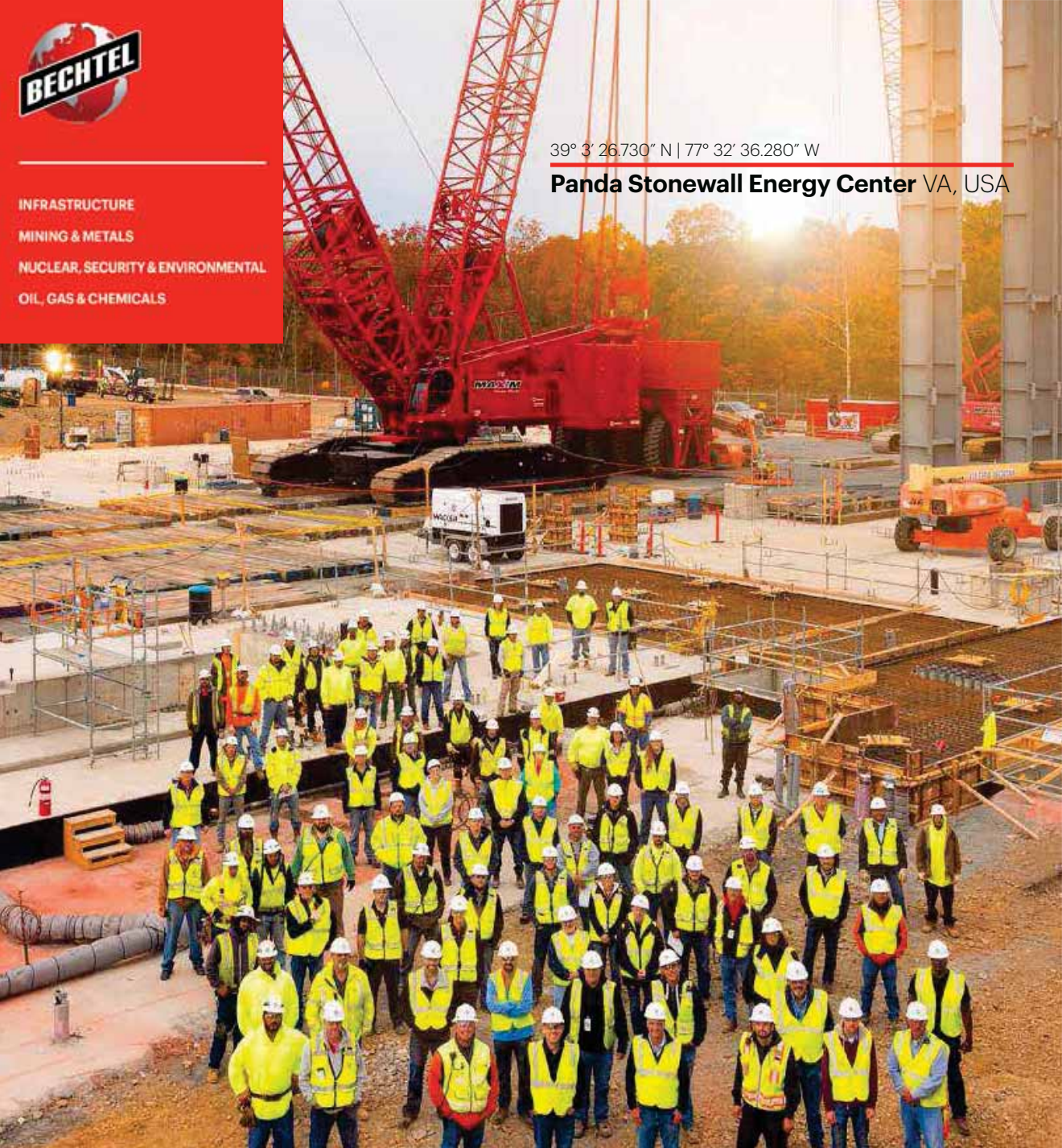
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Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to this year's Valor Award recipients from all of us at Bechtel working in Loudoun County.

Your commitment to protecting our families, our neighbors and our community is inspiring.

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INCIDENT THREE

UNIT CITATION



Lieutenant Jordan Coleman,
EMT Tisha McLendon,
Captain Karen Trumbull

ON JANUARY 23, 2016 ONE THE MOST DEVASTATING BLIZZARDS IN YEARS had struck our region. That same morning, a 41-year-old male patient was brought to the Ashburn HealthPlex ER with complaints of chest and arm pain.

An EKG was performed which did NOT show an acute heart attack. All vital signs were within normal range and the patient was treated with aspirin. Then a blood test revealed the patient had experienced serious cardiac muscle injury, even there was no sign of a heart attack.

Medical personnel attempted to have the patient admitted to Inova Loudoun Hospital, but the road and weather conditions meant driving was nearly impossible. The patient was made comfortable with medications and settled in to ride the storm out, but his condition began to deteriorate.

Tests revealed his heart muscle was continuing to die and he needed a cardiac catheterization immediately. This urgency for transport was relayed to dispatch at Physician Transport Service.

Captain Karen Trumbull, Critical Care Paramedic, EMT Tisha McLendon, and Communications Lieutenant Jordan Coleman with Physician Transport Service jumped into action. A plan was devised where Lieutenant Coleman would drive the company's snow plow directly in front of the PTS ambulance with Captain Trumbull and EMT McLendon.

These crews traveled six miles in blizzard conditions to pick up the patient in Ashburn; then drove another eight miles to Inova Loudoun Hospital, risking their own lives

By 8 p.m. the patient and ambulance crew arrived safely at Inova Loudoun Hospital. A Cardiac Catheterization was performed and the procedure saved his life. The patient continues to do well thanks to the efforts of the staff of PTS.

For these reasons, the Loudoun County Chamber is extremely proud to honor Captain Karen Trumbull, Critical Care Paramedic, EMT Tisha McLendon, and Communications Lieutenant Jordan Coleman with a Unit Citation.

On an extremely sad note, EMT Tisha McLendon unexpectedly passed away this past October.

"...[they] traveled six miles in blizzard conditions to pick up the patient..."

We Salute You!



The residents and staff of Ashby Ponds extend our gratitude to the heroic first responders and everyday citizens honored here today. Thank you for going above and beyond to protect Loudoun County.



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WHEN: Monday, September 25th, 2017
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WHERE: River Creek Golf Course,
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This event is hosted in celebration of Martin Klaiber's life at the course he lived, loved and strived to master - all while giving back to three organizations that give hope and save lives every day - Tails of Hope, Washington Regional Transplant Community and the Loudoun First Responders Foundation.

Visit www.givingandsavinglives.org today to learn more about how to get involved, give back, and save lives!

INCIDENT FOUR

LIFESAVING AWARD



Officer Steven Holmes,
MPO Heather Maupin

ON MAY 21, 2016 AT 1:53 PM, Officer Steven Holmes and MPO Heather Maupin were dispatched to assist Loudoun County Fire Rescue units who were responding to a report of a subject who repeatedly passed out and regained consciousness.

The officers were first to arrive on scene and observed the subject walking in front of a discount store, but his knees were buckling and he was gasping for air. As the officers approached, the subject collapsed to the ground.

The officers quickly assessed that the subject was not breathing and his pupils were fixed and Officer Holmes retrieved the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) from his police vehicle. The subject then repeatedly regained consciousness and lost it again and each time stopped breathing. Meanwhile, Officer Holmes and MPO Maupin deployed the AED and it advised to begin CPR. The officers began the chest compressions and breaths, stopping and then resuming each time the subject fell unconscious and stopped breathing again.

The subject eventually regained consciousness and stabilized, was transported by ambulance, and fully recovered.

“The officers quickly assessed that the subject was not breathing...”

INCIDENT FIVE

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD



Andre Bosch

ON OCTOBER 3, 2016, the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to the intersection of Old Ryan Road and Mooreview Parkway for a two-vehicle crash. The initial information included that one of the vehicles had caught fire. While members from the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office and the Virginia State Police were still several minutes away, Mr. Andre Bosch, a civilian, came to the aide of the occupant of the vehicle that was on fire. The driver had been operating a 2016 Dodge Challenger which as a result of the crash, was engulfed in flames.

The driver was unconscious inside of the vehicle and was incapable of exiting by himself. Seeing that the vehicle was in flames, Mr. Bosch disregarded his own safety and made his way to the vehicle. He was able to pull the driver out of the vehicle and safely away from the burning car. The courage exhibited by Mr. Bosch allowed him to act without regard for his own safety and undoubtedly saved the life of the driver.

INCIDENT SIX

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD



Ron Embrey

ON OCTOBER 14, 2016, the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to the intersection of Airmont Road and Bloomfield Road for a single vehicle crash.

The initial information included that the vehicle was overturned and had caught fire. While members from the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office were still several minutes away, a civilian, Ron Embrey came to the aid of the occupant of the vehicle that was on fire.

The driver was trapped inside of the vehicle and was incapable of exiting by himself. Mr. Embrey, seeing that the vehicle was in flames, disregarded his own safety and made his way to the vehicle.

He was able to pull the driver out of the vehicle and safely away from the burning car. Mr. Embrey's heroic actions undoubtedly saved the life of the driver, who received severe burns to the lower portion of his body. Without the extraordinary efforts by Mr. Embrey, the driver's injuries could have been fatal.



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INCIDENT SEVEN

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD

AS A BUS DRIVER FOR LOUDOUN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, Michele Coates was driving her route to Harmony Middle School when she was faced with an emergency she had trained for, but never thought she'd encounter.

On the way to the school, Coates detected an unusual smell. Her students smelled smoke and thought they saw flames, so she immediately pulled over and evacuated the children from the bus.

Once the kids were out and all accounted for, she called 911. When emergency personnel from Loudoun County Fire and Rescue and the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office arrived, they learned that there was both smoke and a gas leak.

Coates ended up being taken to the emergency room and treated for smoke inhalation. Seventeen students were treated at Inova Loudoun Hospital for symptoms related to exposure to the fumes. No student suffered serious injuries, thanks to Coates quick thinking and decisive action.

She put the lives of her students above her own to make sure they were all safely removed from the bus. Even as she left the scene in an ambulance and recovered in the hospital, Coates kept asking if her kids were safe.

INCIDENT EIGHT

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD



Todd Horting

IT WAS MARCH 10TH, 2016 WHEN FIRE AND RESCUE UNITS RESPONDED to a restaurant in Sterling. When they arrived they encountered an adult male patient who was conscious and breathing thanks to the quick actions of another patron.

A group was dining at a sports bar when a piece of food became lodged in a man's throat, causing him to choke. Todd Horting, also at the table, noticed the person was in severe distress and was turning blue. So he began delivering abdominal thrusts to dislodge the obstruction.

The patient then lost consciousness so Mr. Horting began applying chest compressions which ultimately dislodged the food, allowing the patient to breathe and regain consciousness.

The patient was transported by fire and rescue to Reston Hospital Center for examination and was later released. The quick and effective actions of Mr. Horting, and his knowledge of CPR, undoubtedly helped save a life that evening.

"The patient then lost consciousness so Mr. Horting began applying chest compressions..."

INCIDENT NINE

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD



Annika Pracher

ANNIKA PRACHER'S FATHER WAS DRIVING HER TO SCHOOL one morning when she noticed the car suddenly veering to the left. Turning to her father, she saw his head was slumped over and he was not responding to her. Their car crossed over three lanes of traffic, across a median, then over 2 lanes of oncoming traffic.

Annika had the presence of mind to grab the wheel, navigate away from oncoming vehicles or other obstacles, took her father's foot off the gas pedal and put the car in park. She called 911 and then called her mother.

Emergency crews soon arrived to take Annika's father to the hospital, where on route he suffered a brief cardiac episode. The emergency personnel surmised that he had a similar episode while driving his car. Mr. Pracher went to the heart and vascular cath lab, where he was successfully treated.

The remarkable actions of this young lady saved her father's life and prevented herself and others from getting hurt.

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INCIDENT TEN

UNIT CITATION



Lt. Michael Behret,
FF David Eaves, EMT Lauren
Hunt, FF Brandon Ferguson,
EMT Christopher Ritz

IT WAS A COLD AND FOGGY NIGHT AROUND 1:30 AM when Ambulance 626 was dispatched to a report of an incapacitated man with altered mental status on the Appalachian Trail. Recognizing the likely complexities involved with an emergency on the trail in the middle of the night, the crew called for additional resources.

*“...the crew
hiked two
and-a-half
miles up
the trail...”*

After parking their ambulance, the crew hiked two-and-a half miles up the trail in the dark, with equipment, to find their patient at a camp site. It turned out that the patient had recently suffered a stroke and required advanced medical care. Additional manpower was also needed to move the patient.

While waiting for additional help, the crew took the initiative to start a campfire to lessen the risk of hypothermia. Because conditions were too foggy for helicopter transport, the patient had to be carried to the ambulance.

The crew knew it would take more than 90 minutes to follow the trail back. Using their knowledge of the area, crew members developed a route through the woods to a housing development behind the trail. They also coordinated with other crews to ensure an ambulance was ready when they emerged.

These emergency response professionals displayed resourcefulness in adverse conditions and impeccable teamwork throughout this challenging incident.



Tech Jeremy See,
FF Daniel Turner

UNIT CITATION & CERTIFICATE OF VALOR



UNITS WERE DISPATCHED TO ASSIST A YOUNG MAN WHO HAD FALLEN from a rope swing tied to a tree overhanging a cliff, twenty feet high. The victim had let go of the rope near the cliff and landed in a narrow patch of shallow water, suffering a head injury in the process.

Initial advanced life support providers slid down the embankment and entered the water to assess the patient. There was no horizontal shoreline on which to place equipment. The shallow area that responders were sharing with the patient extended only a few feet before steeply dropping off.

The patient was critically injured, and due to his head injury, combative. Medics had to help the struggling young man keep his head above water while attempting to assess and stabilize his condition without falling off the narrow underwater ledge.

Adding to the urgency of the already dire situation, crews had only 90 minutes of usable daylight in which to accomplish this high-angle, water rescue. To beat the clock, the incident commander called for a helicopter early and divided the personnel on scene into teams to make the most use of their skills and to expedite the operation as safely as possible.

Some firefighters had to operate on the steep embankment to lower equipment to the rescuers below, who continued patient care and packaged the patient so he could be safely raised. Other personnel rigged a rope system with which to lift the patient, using the same tree that had held the rope swing.

“...personnel rigged a rope system with which to lift the patient...”

UNIT CITATION:

Lt. Patrick Dougherty, Tech
Aaron Estep, Lt. Ghorley
Gregg, FF. Andrew Jenkins, FF.
David Lison, BC. P. Timothy
Menzenwerth, Lt. Nicholas
Pierson, FF Warren Valentine



The patient had to be lifted without the benefit of a tagline to steer his ascent because there was nowhere to stand and hold on. Instead, one rescuer had to lean over the precipice and grab the ropes to maneuver the victim around the uneven vertical terrain. Crewmembers performed all these tasks with precision and care to avoid creating more casualties.



Despite these overwhelming obstacles, less than an hour elapsed between the arrival of the first responders on scene and the departure of the patient via helicopter thanks to the ingenuity, expertise and courage of these crews.

While first responders aim at all times to maintain their own safety in the course of preserving the safety of others, there are occasions when circumstances require the risk of potentially life threatening injury to fire department personnel to avoid certain death for someone else. This was one of those cases.



CERTIFICATES OF VALOR:

Lt. Troy Gittings, Capt. Herb Rundgren III, FF. Shawn Nugent, FF. Wade Mahaffey III

THE OPIOID ABUSE CRISIS

Like much of America, the crisis of opioid abuse – from prescription painkillers to heroin – has struck Loudoun County with a vengeance. The Centers for Disease Control has called this crisis “the worst drug epidemic in history,” while Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe has declared it a Public Health Emergency. Here in Loudoun County, opioid overdoses rose by nearly 60% over 2015, resulting in 17 deaths. To help battle this scourge, Loudoun County’s sheriff’s deputies have been trained in the use of the potentially life-saving drug naloxone in cases of opioid overdose.

At today’s 32nd Annual Loudoun County Valor Awards, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce is proud to honor nine Loudoun County Sheriff’s Deputies who, at various times throughout 2016, employed their training to effectively address the likely fatal effects of an opioid overdose.

If you or a loved one are battling an opioid addiction, there is help available. Please contact any of these offices:

Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Developmental Services at (571) 258-3026

Loudoun County Public Schools Student Assistance Services (571) 252-1014

To learn more about the devastating impact that opioid abuse is having on America, visit www.fbi.gov and search for Chasing the Dragon, a documentary aimed at educating students and young adults about the dangers of addiction.



"Even against the greatest of odds, there is something in the human spirit - a magic blend of skill, faith, and valor - that can lift men from certain defeat to incredible victory."

- Walter Lord, American Author



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INCIDENT TWELVE

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARDS



ON NOVEMBER 11, 2016 Mr. John Schloegel, a resident of Ashby Ponds in Ashburn, was crossing the street at a crosswalk when he was struck by an oncoming vehicle. Seeing this occur from his post at the Gate House, Security Officer Patrick Allotey quickly reported this accident to his Supervisor.

Safety Officers Zach Grinder and Matt Quist arrived to find Mr. Schloegel lying on the asphalt 50-feet from the crosswalk. They found him with severe injuries to his leg and both arms, though he did have a pulse and labored respirations.



Security Officers Benjamin Sakyi and Jeremy Shivers, followed by Security Supervisors Carla Cox and Ozzie Gomez and Medical Center Practice Manager Lea Wotorson, arrived quickly to assist.

Officers Quist and Shivers began providing medical care, while Officer Grinder held pressure on Mr. Schloegel's wounds. Until Deputies arrived, Supervisor Gomez provided oversight to the officers and worked with Mr. Schloegel while Supervisor Cox collected names of witnesses and managed the scene.



The Ashby Ponds security officers assisted Loudoun County EMS & Sheriff's Deputies when they arrived to take over medical care. When it was determined that Mr. Schloegel would be airlifted to Inova Fairfax Hospital, Officers Quist and Grinder rode with him to the landing zone and stayed until he was placed into the helicopter.

The personnel from the Ashby Ponds Security and Emergency Services team acted with remarkable poise, teamwork and professionalism to respond to a terrible accident and deliver the very best possible aid to Mr. Schloegel.



Patrick Allotey, Carla Cox, Ozzie Gomez, Zach Grinder, Matt Quist, Benjamin Sakyi, Jeremy Shivers, and Lea Wotorson

INCIDENT THIRTEEN

LIFESAVING AWARD



IN 2015, THE LOUDOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CREATED A PILOT PROGRAM

issuing deputies nasal naloxone spray, a medication that reverses the effects of an opiate overdose to include heroin, oxycodone, and hydrocodone. The program was created in response to the increase in opiate overdoses nationwide.

The deputies were trained by members of the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue System, under the authority of Dr. John Morgan, Operational Medical Director for Loudoun County's Combined Fire and Rescue System.

For their sound thinking and effective efforts, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize Deputies Erick Ambrose, James Gutshall, Ryan Hamilton, Jeffrey

Bruggeman, Jeremy Long, James Lim, Eric Urbain, Patrick Keough and Ty Crane.

These deputies responded to ten separate incidents involving an unconscious non-breathing individual suffering a suspected opioid overdose. Thanks to their decisive and quick action, those deputies used their issued Narcan and saved a total of ten lives.

*"...these
deputies saved
a total of ten
lives in 2016..."*

DFC Eric Ambrose,
DFC Jeffrey Bruggeman,
DFC Ty Crane, DFC James
Gutshall, DFC Ryan Hamilton

DFC Patrick Keough,
DFC James Lim

DFC Jeremy Long,
DFC Eric Urbain

INCIDENT FOURTEEN

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN & CERTIFICATE OF VALOR AWARDS



ON SEPTEMBER 8TH AT 1:30 PM, Deputy First Class Victor LoPreto was dispatched for a motor vehicle crash in Leesburg, near the intersection of James Monroe Highway and Lovettsville Road. When he arrived he observed three citizens, Wanda and Joe Flack along with Mark Jagoe assisting the driver of a vehicle which had run off the road and struck a tree.

As they were assisting the driver up a steep hill, the driver passed out and fell to the ground. Unexpectedly the driver quickly regained consciousness and was able to get up on his own and attempted to leave the area.



When he rose to his feet, the driver had a folding knife in his right front pants pocket which the Deputy attempted to remove but the driver became combative. He pushed the Deputy's hand away, grabbing the knife. He walked a few steps away from the citizens, firefighters and the Deputy and suddenly turned around, facing the group. He took a fighting stance and held out the unopened knife.

As a group, they were able to separate themselves from the driver until he eventually complied with the Deputy's commands to drop the knife. Because of outstanding warrants, Deputy LoPreto approached the driver to begin the handcuffing process, but the man became combative once again and began to resist arrest. This led to a taser deployment in the attempt to complete the arrest.



The taser deployment, at such a close distance, caused both the driver and the Deputy to fall with the driver landing on top of the Deputy, pinning him to the ground.

Upon the completion of this taser cycle, the driver quickly became aggressive towards the Deputy for the third time. The Deputy used the taser for the second cycle during which two of the firefighters, along with Joe and Wanda Flack, went to the ground and began to physically restrain the driver. This allowed the Deputy to crawl out from underneath the man, free himself and regain control of the situation.

With the assistance of this group, the Deputy was able to secure the driver safely into handcuffs prior to the arrival of other law enforcement resources.



CERTIFICATE OF VALOR:

Lt. Jake Everly; FF William Green; FF Zack Kline, FF Raymond Snoots



MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD:

Marcellus Hay Jagoe, IV;
(not pictured) Michael Flack, Wanda Flack

INCIDENT FIFTEEN

LIFESAVING AWARD



Deputy Colin Whittington

IT WAS JUNE 19TH WHEN DEPUTY WHITTINGTON RESPONDED to assist fire and rescue crews with an unconscious person near Cardinal Glen Circle in Sterling. Deputy Whittington arrived at the home first, where he discovered a man lying on the kitchen floor. He quickly checked for a pulse but found none.

Deputy Whittington initiated CPR, doing chest compressions and rescue breaths as he was trained. His efforts are the reason why this gentleman regained a pulse and was later transported to the hospital by ambulance.

It was exactly six months later when Deputy Whittington responded to a call from a Chantilly home concerning a year-old infant who had stopped breathing.

Deputy Whittington again arrived first and started to perform CPR. The child was resuscitated and was transported first to a local hospital then a Children's Hospital where the pulse and breathing were maintained.

Sadly, this child passed away several days later. Yet Deputy Whittington's sound thinking and effective efforts provided the family several precious days to say goodbye.

INCIDENT SIXTEEN

LIFESAVING AWARD



DFC Casey Johnson,
Sgt. Justin Maas

ON JUNE 12, 2016, LOUDOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE WAS CALLED to Markwood Drive in Sterling for a report of a 13-year-old autistic male who was making suicidal statements. The juvenile was acting disorderly, breaking glass and furniture inside a home.

When units arrived the juvenile was holding a knife to his throat and threatening suicide. DFC Casey Johnson along with other units secured the residence and set up a perimeter in order to keep the juvenile from moving around. DFC Johnson established contact with the juvenile who would switch from crying to a screaming rage.

Because of the location, stature of the teen, and the knife pressing against his throat, DFC Johnson spoke to the juvenile using empathy, compassion and CIT training and got the male to put the knife down. Once the knife removed, the juvenile's neck had visible injuries from the knife.

Sgt. Justin Maas took over the conversation with the juvenile. The teen was still agitated and emotional with the knife lying beside him. After speaking with the juvenile for an hour and half the juvenile gave up and was taken into custody and was provided with additional help from Loudoun Department of Mental Health.

Both deputies displayed exceptional patience, compassion and empathy during the situation. Working as a team, the juvenile was prompted to listen, trust the deputies and eventually accept their offer of mental health support. Throughout the situation both deputies remained calm and kept the situation under control which led to the saving of the juvenile's life.

INCIDENT SEVENTEEN

LIFESAVING AWARD



SGT Wael Abilmona; Officer
Brad Codori; MPO Damian
Moreau; MPO Gregory Parsons

THROUGHOUT THE DAY ON AUGUST 31, 2016, officers and detectives of the Leesburg Police Department had been attempting to locate a 21 year old man who was reported missing and had left a suicide note at his home. Investigating detectives obtained a tip that the subject might check into a local hotel and arranged for the hotel staff to call the Police Department when he arrives.

At approximately 1 a.m. on September 1, MPO Damian Moreau had not heard anything from the hotel and decided to check personally. MPO Moreau and MPO Gregory Parsons confirmed with the clerk that the subject had checked in and subsequently found him in his room, naked and suffering from severe self-inflicted lacerations on both arms.

One of the wounds was still bleeding profusely and the subject's face was pale from apparent blood loss and shock. MPO Moreau immediately radioed for an ambulance to respond and summoned SGT Wael Abilmona and Officer Brad Codori to assist them.

Prior to the arrival of the ambulance, MPO Moreau and MPO Parsons used pressure points to slow the blood flow to the most severely injured arm and applied a blood clotting agent and a pressure dressing to the wound. They did the same for the other arm and MPO Moreau applied a tourniquet to the more severely injured arm, swiftly bringing the bleeding under control.

Officer Codori arrived and treated the subject for shock by wrapping him in a blanket from the hotel bed. The subject was stabilized when the ambulance crew arrived and he was transported to the emergency room. ER staff stated that the quick and deliberate actions of these officers likely saved this patient's life.

"...[he] treated the subject for shock by wrapping him in a blanket..."

INCIDENT EIGHTEEN

LIFESAVING AWARD



Sgt. Paul Medonich; DFC Adrian Smith; DFC Dustin Woomer

ON DECEMBER 27, 2015, AN INMATE INCARCERATED at the Loudoun County Adult Detention Center attempted to commit suicide by cutting both her wrists with a razor blade.

Inmates wishing to shave are issued a security razor regularly on Sunday nights. This inmate requested a razor and was given one by Deputy Adrian Smith. Approximately 12 minutes later, Deputy Smith went back to check on this inmate and observed that this inmate had broken the security razor apart, removed the razor blade and was cutting her wrists. Deputy Smith immediately called for assistance.

Sergeant Paul Medonich was the first to respond. Sergeant Medonich and Deputy Smith entered the cell as this inmate was actively cutting her wrists. Sergeant Medonich and Deputy Smith immediately restrained her wrists and removed the razor blade from her hand.

At this time, Deputy Dustin Woomer arrived on scene to assist. He restrained the inmate, relieving Deputy Smith so he could remove the razor blade from the cell. During this time the inmate continued to struggle with the deputies, resisting their efforts to stop her from further injury.

The combined efforts of these deputies resulted in saving the life of a suicidal person.

“The combined efforts of these deputies resulted in saving the life of a suicidal person.”

INCIDENT NINETEEN

LIFESAVING AWARD



ON OCTOBER 19, 2016, AN INMATE WAS OBSERVED attempting to harm himself during a routine check of security cameras at the Adult Detention Center.

Sgt. Zane Freeman noticed that the inmate had removed his jail issued pants, and was crawling under his cell bunk, in an attempt to tie his pants around his neck away from staff's view. Sgt. Freeman alerted the staff of the inmate's actions and Deputies Elvin Bermudez, Pamela Hart, William Harris and Donald Wilhelm responded to the cell.



Upon arriving, they noticed that the inmate had tied his pants around his neck and was attempting to strangle himself. Deputy Hart opened the cell door and gave commands for the inmate to come out from under the cell bunk, however, he refused. Deputies Harris and Bermudez then entered the cell, and removed the inmate from underneath the cell bunk.

Upon staff attempting to exit the cell, the inmate displayed aggressive behavior and attempted to run out. Deputy Wilhelm was able to safely prevent the inmate from charging out of the cell and secured the door without unnecessary force.

Thanks to the hard work and quick response of the Adult Detention Center deputies, this inmate was unsuccessful in his attempt to take his own life.



DFC Elvin Bermudez; SGT Zane
Freeman; DFC William Harris;
DFC Pam Hart; DFC Donald
Wilhelm

INCIDENT TWENTY

CERTIFICATES OF VALOR & MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD



ON DECEMBER 14TH, AT STONE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, Loudoun County Public School Security Officer Amy Ressler was conducting her security rounds through the school property.

SSO Ressler entered a storage area behind the school main gymnasium and to her surprise, found a young male who had hung himself. SSO Ressler was not able to free the child on her own, and she summoned School Resource Officer Ritchy Fowler. SRO Fowler called for additional patrol assistance and went to the gymnasium storage area to assist SSO Ressler.



Deputy Micah Torres arrived at the school to help SRO Fowler and SSO Ressler free the young man. Deputy Jeremy Krapfl and Deputy John Snow arrived soon after. Deputies Fowler, Torres and Snow held the boy, supporting his neck and back, while Deputy Krapfl cut him free.

Deputy Krapfl and Deputy Torres started CPR until medics from Loudoun Fire and Rescue arrived. Medics took over CPR and eventually transported the boy to hospital.



He was then transferred to Inova Fairfax Trauma Center. Hospital staff placed the young man on life support, where he remained in critical condition for several days prior to passing away. The seamless teamwork and critical life-saving measures of the deputies and the school security enabled the family time to be with their son before he passed away.



CERTIFICATES OF VALOR:

MD John Fowler; DFC Jeremy Krapfl; Deputy John Snow; DFC Micah Torres

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD:

School Security Officer Amy Ressler



INCIDENT TWENTY-ONE

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD



Lydia Wills

ON NOVEMBER 4, 2016, JUST AFTER 6 PM, Lydia Wills’ neighbor knocked on her door at the Ashburn Meadows apartment complex because she observed a male in the breezeway that needed help.

Ms. Wills observed the male attempting to climb the stairs while bleeding from the neck and torso area. She told her neighbor to call Loudoun County Sheriff’s Office and went back into her apartment to grab her first-aid bag and immediately began to assist the victim.

She assessed the victim and made sure that the cuts were indeed on the neck and hand prior to treating him. She applied pressure to the wound on the neck to stop the massive amount of bleeding and then addressed the cut on the hand by wrapping it and having the victim apply pressure. During this critical period, Ms. Wills also determined the victim’s cognitive ability by asking him several questions, checking his pulse, all while being vigilant for possible threats to her own safety prior to the arrival of law enforcement.

Ms. Wills’ quick, effective and selfless response undoubtedly saved the life of the victim.

INCIDENT TWENTY-TWO

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN AWARD



Eileen Axeman, Tonya Helman

ON JUNE 8, 2016 AT NOON, Tonya Helman, a nurse instructor, and Eileen Axeman were driving to work at Monroe Technology Center when they witnessed a man lying on the sidewalk along Catocin Circle in Leesburg.

The two instantly stopped to help. They discovered that he did not have a pulse, so they initiated CPR until emergency crews responded.

The patient regained a pulse and was breathing on his own at the hospital, though he did later pass away.

As a result of the quick and decisive efforts of these two brave women, the family of the patient were able to have a few more days with their loved one.

Congratulations
to the winners and...

Thank You
to all the men and women
who bravely serve
Loudoun County.

Loudoun Times-Mirror





INCIDENT TWENTY-THREE

UNIT CITATION



(first row) FF David Arrington; FF Michael Burgess; Fire Chief Eric Carroll; Capt. Brandon Frieder; Capt. Justin Green; Capt. Andrew Hopkins
(second row) Lt. Nicholas Krukowski; Lt. Edward McMichael; Tech Chad Michael
(third row) Lt. Greg Moore; FF Clinton Murphy; Lt. John Myers
(fourth row) FF James Newton; Paramedic Michael Shivik
(fifth row) Tech Jason Taylor; FF Christopher Waybright



UNITS RESPONDED TO A PATIENT WITH HEAT STROKE and a possible broken leg, located on a steep and rocky trail a mile away from the nearest roadway. Recognizing a potentially critical situation, personnel called for additional resources.

When crews reached the patient, he was unconscious, his skin was hot to the touch and he was actively seizing. Crews immediately moved the patient to the shade and administered aggressive cooling and advanced life support interventions. It was clear that in the time it would take to package and carry the patient back to the ambulance, he would probably die.

The incident commander called for a helicopter to retrieve the patient, while other personnel cleared debris and attempted to make their location visible from the air. Because of the foliage and terrain, the helicopter could not land at the scene and the patient had to be attached to a cable and hoisted into the airborne helicopter.

While the helicopter was en route, crews continued cooling the patient and packaged him so he could be safely attached to the cable. By the time the helicopter arrived, the patient had stopped seizing and was able to speak to his rescuers.

Personnel at the receiving hospital attributed the patient's survival to the quick thinking, excellent patient care and crucial decisiveness of these responders.

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PROUD TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL HEROES



INCIDENT TWENTY-FOUR

CERTIFICATE OF VALOR & BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR



ON APRIL 4, 2016, at approximately 3:19 p.m., the Purcellville Police Department and the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office responded to a domestic dispute between a father and son.

Corporal Paul Kakol and Deputy First Class Ryan Hamilton arrived simultaneously. Deputy Hamilton was carrying his medical trauma kit. Corporal Kakol and Deputy Hamilton came in contact with the caller, a very distraught young woman. Frantically, she advised them that her father was badly hurt and laying on the kitchen floor and the suspect was still in the home.



Both Corporal Kakol and Deputy Hamilton rendered first aid to the victim who was covered in a large amount of blood. Deputy Hamilton and Corporal Kakol found the victim to have severe stab wounds to the neck and abdomen. The victim also suffered from burn marks.

Deputy Hamilton provided Corporal Kakol with wound bandaging material to pack the neck wounds and to apply pressure. Pressure was then applied to the abdominal wounds and the victim was stabilized and prepared for transport by the rescue team when they arrived.



As the rescue team conducted their work, the officers and deputies secured the scene for the safety of the victim, witness and paramedics. Sergeant Wagner coordinated a methodical search of the home. Immediately upon discovering the suspect had fled the home, Sergeant Wagner broadcast a lookout over the radio. All area units were looking for a highly emotional teenage male, armed with a knife.



Off-duty Fairfax County Sheriff's Office Deputy Chris Loftis, was returning home to Purcellville in his marked cruiser. Being diligent in his duties, he had turned his radio frequency from a Fairfax County radio channel to a Loudoun County radio channel and heard the broadcast.

He located the suspect, where he challenged him, took him into custody without incident, and immediately advised officers over the radio of his location. The suspect was turned over to the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office.

The teamwork and coordination exhibited by the officers and deputies demonstrated a high level of professionalism, ingenuity and bravery.

CERTIFICATE OF VALOR:

Fairfax County Sheriff's
Deputy Chris Loftis;
Sergeant Robert Wagner

BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR:

DFC Ryan Hamilton;
Corporal Paul Kakol

"...[he] rendered first aid to the victim who was covered in a large amount of blood."

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