

The graphic features a large, stylized red shield with a white 'V' and a yellow star in the center. The background is a vibrant orange with various white icons: a police badge, a star, a flame, a medical cross, a heart with an ECG line, and a ribbon. There are also abstract shapes like circles and stripes. A dark red banner across the middle contains the text '2022 VALOR AWARDS'.

2022 VALOR AWARDS



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Strength. Service. Sacrifice.

Thank you to all the first responders who
selflessly give of themselves every day.
StoneSprings Hospital Center congratulates
this year's Valor Award winners.



**StoneSprings
Hospital Center**
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Order of Events

WELCOME

Tony Howard, Loudoun Chamber

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

*Honor Guard, Leesburg Police Department
Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Deputy Christopher Wechsler, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

INVOCATION

Gary Clemens, Loudoun County Clerk of the Circuit Court

SPONSOR & VIP RECOGNITION

LOUDOUN FIRST RESPONDERS FOUNDATION

Ed Williams, Board President

LUNCH

SIGNATURE SPONSOR REMARKS

Inova Loudoun Hospital

STU PLITMAN AWARD

*Tony Howard, Loudoun Chamber
Barbara Plitman*

VALOR AWARDS PRESENTATION

Ashlie Rodriguez, WJLA ABC 7 Anchor

CLOSING REMARKS



He won't forget his
family when he deploys.
And neither will we.

Veterans who work at Dominion Energy are in good company: 1 in 5 new hires has served in the military. And should they be deployed while on the job, we'll proudly continue their family's benefits for up to five years and cover the difference between their current salary and military pay. **Because family watches out for family, and they'll always be a part of ours.**



Actions Speak Louder



A LETTER FROM THE

Loudoun Chamber

Welcome to the 37th Annual Loudoun County Valor Awards!
On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Loudoun Chamber, we thank you for joining your Loudoun County friends and neighbors for this proud Loudoun Chamber tradition.

Your participation in today's Valor Awards ceremony is a powerful expression of your support for our 2022 Award honorees, whose heroic and often lifesaving actions in the line of duty are clearly deserving of being described as "above and beyond the call of duty."



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

Your involvement in this program demonstrates your strong support for all first responders, whose contributions to Loudoun County are irreplaceable.



Loudoun County is truly fortunate to have our nation's finest business climate and a vibrant, healthy community. Your Chamber values 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.



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 Chamber, we are proud to offer our hearty congratulations to the 2022 Valor Award honorees! We know all Loudoun Chamber members join us in extending those congratulations.

Anthony J. Howard

Tony Howard, President &
CEO, Loudoun Chamber

Shawn Mitchell

Shawn Mitchell, Chair of the
2022 Board of Directors



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Congratulations to this year's award winners
and thank you for your service!



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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 37th celebration of our men and women in Fire & EMS, Law Enforcement and citizens 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 and we should recognize these persons with the highest regard.



Each year, we partner with the Loudoun Chamber 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.



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 are appreciative of the Award recipients for their service and contributions both in-and-out of the line-of-duty. We congratulate all of our 2022 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.

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

System Chief
Keith H. Johnson
Loudoun County
Combined Fire and
Rescue System

Sheriff
Michael L. Chapman
Loudoun County Office
of the Sheriff

Chief of Police
Gregory C. Brown
Leesburg Police
Department

Chief of Police
Cynthia A. McAlister
Purcellville Police
Department

Congratulations & A Heartfelt Thank You to all First Responders

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BEING INSENSIBLE TO DANGER;
BUT IN BEING PROMPT TO
CONFRONT AND DISARM IT.**

-- WALTER SCOTT

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Valor Awards Classification & Criteria

CIVILIAN MEDAL OF VALOR

This award honors local citizens, who are not trained first responders, for their extraordinary acts of heroism in an emergency situation, while facing significant personal risk.

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 RESPONDER 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.



Thank you
&
CONGRATULATIONS
to all Valor Award
Recipients



STU PLITMAN FIRST RESPONDER COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



NATALIE MARTZ
Loudoun County
Sheriff's Office

VOLUNTEERS DO NOT NECESSARILY have the time, they just have the heart. These words ring true for Investigator Natalie Martz who has served Loudoun County as a protector of the community both through her career with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office and as a volunteer with the Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Her commitment to Loudoun County began over two decades ago when she was just 16 years old after joining Lovettsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue in 1998. After responding to many rescue calls and observing law enforcement on scenes, she decided she wanted to pursue a career in law enforcement.

In 2004 she was hired by the LCSO as a Field Deputy and later became a Field Training Officer (FTO). A FTO is quite possibly one of the most influential roles in a young deputy's career. After graduation, the new deputies are assigned FTOs for the next four months to guide, mentor and teach them how to navigate through their early careers.

In her current position as a Background Investigator, Investigator Martz continues to play a vital role in finding the most talented and experienced applicants to ensure the LCSO continues to be recognized as a premier law enforcement agency. Investigator Martz has maintained her passion for training and is responsible for training new Background Investigators.

For the past 24 years, despite taking on these roles with the LCSO, she has continued to dedicate countless hours as a volunteer with the Lovettsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue and now with the Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad.

In addition, Investigator Martz answered the call from the Loudoun County Combined Fire-Rescue System to assist with the administration and record keeping for the COVID-19 vaccine. She volunteered at the county's Dulles Town Center vaccination site where she administered hundreds of vaccines to the public. She did this while maintaining her full-time duties with the LCSO and volunteering with the Leesburg VFD.

Investigator Martz was also a previous recipient of a Lifesaving Award at the 2019 Loudoun Valor Awards. She was recognized for her actions while off-duty when she and her husband rendered aid to a man suffering a medical emergency behind the wheel of a vehicle.

Investigator Martz truly exemplifies the spirit of the Stu Plitman Community Service Award through her commitment to the Loudoun County Community in ways that positively enhance the safety and security of our citizens.

INCIDENT ONE

Lifesaving Award



Sgt. Marc Rodriguez

ON AUGUST 7, 2021, Sergeant Marc Rodriguez responded to a domestic situation in Aldie, VA. Prior to his arrival, the suspect in the incident had left the residence with a handgun and ran towards a wooded area.

The subject had already cut his arms with a knife and was under the influence of alcohol and possibly drugs. As he was arriving on scene, deputies heard a shot coming from the wooded area across the street.

Sergeant Rodriguez contacted the subject over the phone and spoke to him for over thirty minutes trying to get him to drop the weapon and come towards the deputies with his hands up. The subject was crying during the phone call and saying he had the gun and was ready to take his own life. The phone call was briefly ended.

“Sergeant Rodriguez was able to convince the subject to place the weapon down...”

Sergeant Rodriguez inadvertently called the subject back on FaceTime and spoke to the man face to face. The man held a gun under his chin and again said he wanted to end his life. Sergeant Rodriguez remained calm and kept the man talking, utilizing his Crisis Intervention Team Training.

Sergeant Rodriguez was able to convince the subject to place the weapon down and meet deputies to turn himself in. Sergeant Rodriguez’s calm and caring demeanor helped end a serious situation, allowing the man to receive medical attention.



INCIDENT TWO

Lifesaving Award



DFC Tristan Rossetti

ON AUGUST 8, 2021, Deputy First Class Tristan Rossetti responded to a Sterling home for a welfare call of a 15-year-old male. The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office had received a tip that the teenager was going to attempt suicide by inhaling carbon monoxide from a vehicle.

DFC Rossetti approached the front door of the male's residence and could hear a faint sound coming from the direction of a vehicle parked in the driveway. There was a fitted cover over the vehicle, and he was initially unable to see inside.

DFC Rossetti placed his hand on the hood of the vehicle, over the car cover, and could tell the vehicle was running. He removed the cover and noticed there was an unconscious juvenile male sitting in the front passenger seat. The doors of the vehicle were locked, and DFC Rossetti attempted to wake the juvenile by repeatedly knocking on the windows and shaking the vehicle. The juvenile was holding the end of a rubber nose near his face and would not initially wake up. The hose was inserted through the rear window and was fed into the exhaust pipe of the vehicle. DFC Rossetti removed the hose from the vehicle and continued to attempt to wake the juvenile.

DFC Rossetti was preparing to break a window when the juvenile woke up and unlocked the door. DFC Rossetti had him exit the vehicle and sit on the sidewalk while Fire Rescue personnel responded to check on him. The juvenile was admitted to the hospital for further care.

DFC Rossetti went above and beyond by remaining cognizant of his surroundings and fully investigating the scene based on the information provided. His actions on this day resulted in saving the life of a juvenile.

INCIDENT THREE

Certificate of Valor



DFC James Gutshall
Sgt. Justin Maas

ON OCTOBER 20, 2021, Deputy First Class James Gutshall and Sergeant Justin Maas responded to a Leesburg address to meet a man who said he needed to speak with deputies.

On scene, DFC Gutshall and Sergeant Maas initially spoke with the man regarding a question he had about his vehicle. The male then entered his home and returned holding a gun. The male informed Sergeant Maas and DFC Gutshall that he wanted to end his life.

“The male then entered his home and returned holding a gun.”

Sergeant Maas, a member of the agency’s Negotiations Team, and DFC Gutshall spoke with the male for approximately 45 minutes, trying to build a rapport with him and to keep him calm. DFC Gutshall coordinated the response of additional deputies to the scene while Sergeant Maas continued to speak with the man.

Sergeant Maas and DFC Gutshall were able to convince the man to drop his gun, ending a potentially violent incident. The male was transported to a local hospital to receive additional treatment.



INCIDENT FOUR

Lifesaving & Meritorious Civilian Award



LIFESAVING AWARD

DFC Tavis Henry

MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN

Dana Steinberg
(not pictured)

ON OCTOBER 8, 2021, Deputy First Class Tavis Henry, the School Resource Officer of Stone Bridge High School, heard a medical emergency call over the school radio.

A student with severe medical conditions had stopped breathing. The school nurse, Dana Steinberg, was in the classroom performing CPR. DFC Henry responded to the classroom and observed Nurse Steinberg performing CPR with the student lying on a table.

DFC Henry lifted the student off the table and placed him on the floor. Nurse Steinberg and DFC Henry continued providing life-saving measures to the student until medics arrived, who continued providing medical aid. The student was rushed to a local hospital.

The actions of DFC Henry and Nurse Steinberg provided the parents of the student additional time with their son before his passing on October 10, 2021.

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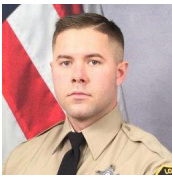
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INCIDENT FIVE

Lifesaving & Meritorious Civilian Award



MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN

Greg Foster

Maria King

LIFESAVING AWARD

DFC Scott Kennedy

DFC Tyler Sinclair

ON NOVEMBER 11, 2021, Deputy First Class Scott Kennedy and Deputy First Class Tyler Sinclair responded to a report of an unconscious male on the W&OD trail near Hamilton. A 59-year-old male had fallen off his bicycle and was found by citizens on the trail.

DFC Kennedy was the first to arrive and found citizens, Greg Foster and Maria King, performing CPR on the male. DFC Kennedy relieved the citizens and checked for a pulse. He initially detected a pulse; however, it soon was no longer present. DFC Kennedy began CPR.

DFC Sinclair arrived shortly later and assisted DFC Kennedy with CPR. The man's pulse and breathing briefly returned at which point the deputies rolled the man into the recovery position while monitoring his pulse. As the man's breathing faded, the deputies rolled him back on his back and started CPR again.

DFC Sinclair and DFC Kennedy continued CPR until medical personnel arrived on the scene. The man was taken to a local hospital where he received additional medical assistance. After a successful treatment, the patient was discharged home.



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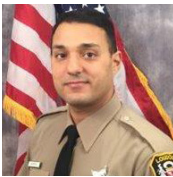
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INCIDENT SIX

Lifesaving Award



Sgt. Michael Hall
DFC Sam Shenouda

IN THE AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 23, 2021, employees of the Nissan dealership in Sterling flagged down several units at Commercial Drive and Pacific Drive.

Sergeant Mike Hall and Deputy First Class Sam Shenouda responded and found a male employee in the driver seat of a car on the dealership lot. Several efforts to wake the male were unsuccessful. Sgt. Hall discovered the male did not have a pulse.

Sgt. Hall initially started CPR with the male reclined in the driver seat. He then requested assistance in removing the male from the car and onto the ground. Sgt. Hall continued chest compressions and DFC Shenouda provided breaths. After a few minutes, DFC Shenouda took over chest compressions and Sgt. Hall provided breaths. Sgt. Hall ordered a deputy to obtain Narcan just as LCFR arrived and took over treatment.

LCFR administered Narcan, the male became conscious, and he was transported to Ashburn HealthPlex where he made a full recovery.

The actions of Sgt. Hall and DFC Shenouda played a vital role in the successful recovery of the male.

INCIDENT SEVEN

Unit Citation & Certificate of Valor



UNIT CITATION

Jon Boese
Mike Crowe
Ron Kauffman
Jeff Kish

UNIT CITATION

Tammy Marcum
Krissy Meredith
Brandon Panitz
Daniel Pryce

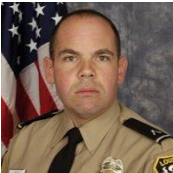
ON OCTOBER 2, 2021, MEMBERS OF THE

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Section were attempting to serve warrants on a wanted subject in Ashburn. The deputies observed the man enter a vehicle and attempted to contact him.

Deputy First Class Luik approached the vehicle and tried to take him into custody. The man drew a firearm and pointed it at DFC Luik, who quickly managed to distance himself from the car. The male fled from the scene in his vehicle and a pursuit was initiated.

The male fled in the direction of Fairfax County. Multiple deputies converged on the scene and attempted to locate the suspect. Dispatchers with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office worked to provide deputies with up-to-date information and helped coordinate the response of the Fairfax Police Department, Prince William Police Department, and Virginia State Police.

"The man drew a firearm and pointed it at DFC Luik..."

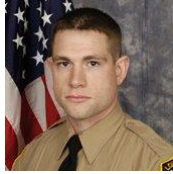


UNIT CITATION

Dispatcher
Heather Turner
Dispatcher
Claudia Torres

CERTIFICATE OF VALOR

DFC Joseph Hacay



CERTIFICATE OF VALOR

DFC Kenneth Foster
DFC Sean Luik
DFC Brandon Noland

The male suspect exited the vehicle in the area of Bull Run Post Office Road. He was discovered in a wooded area and was armed with the firearm and a knife. DFC Foster and DFC Noland attempted to utilize less lethal force options to get the suspect into custody. Eventually, DFC Hacay managed to speak with the suspect and convince him to surrender himself peacefully.

The suspect was charged with numerous felonies. The coordinated response between deputies, dispatchers, and other agencies allowed a potentially deadly incident to be resolved without serious injuries to law enforcement or the suspect.

INCIDENT EIGHT

Lifesaving Award



DFC Christopher Freck
DFC Nelson Gonzalez

ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 8, 2021, members of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office responded to an address on Church Road in Sterling, Virginia. The reporting party told dispatchers that their 29-year-old son had a knife and was possibly threatening to harm himself.

It was determined that he was a former Marine veteran with previous mental health issues, including a prior threat to harm himself. Before the deputies arrived, the male left the residence in his vehicle. Units were checking area shopping centers but could not find the subject.

Deputy Nelson Gonzalez remained at the home obtaining reporting information. After checking the area, Deputy Christopher Freck arrived back at the home to assist Deputy Gonzalez and see if there was any further information.

While deputies were inside the home, the subject arrived in his vehicle. He exited and approached the front door. When he opened the door, Deputy Freck observed the subject holding his throat. There was a tremendous amount of blood escaping from a large puncture/laceration to the subject's neck. His shirt, jacket and pants were saturated with blood. After entering, the subject collapsed.

Deputy Freck asked for a towel and then used it to apply direct pressure on the subject's neck. Deputy Gonzalez advised dispatch that the subject had arrived back at the home and was in immediate need of medical attention. Both Deputies alternated placing direct pressure to the large wound as they put gloves on their hands. Deputy Gonzalez continued talking with the subject to keep him conscious.

Rescue personnel arrived and quickly packaged the subject for transport to Reston Hospital where he was immediately taken to surgery. Ultimately, the male subject successfully completed surgery and is expected to recover. Doctors at the hospital advised that the man's survival is related directly to the quick actions of Deputy Christopher Freck and Deputy Nelson Gonzalez.



INCIDENT NINE

Certificate of Valor



DFC Andrew Golden
DFC Michael Matias
DFC John McGlynn

ON APRIL 26, 2021, DEPUTIES RESPONDED to a Sterling home for reports of a Spanish speaking male who was holding a knife and preventing five victims from leaving the home.

When deputies arrived at the home the victims were standing outside on an upper-level balcony. Deputies attempted to speak with the suspect, however, he only spoke Spanish.

Deputy First Class Matias was called to the scene and quickly contacted the man, who was standing at the top of the stairs holding two knives.

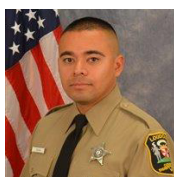
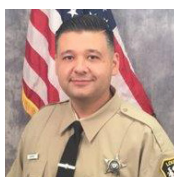
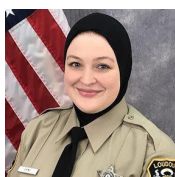
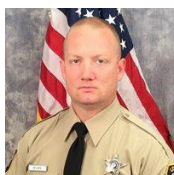
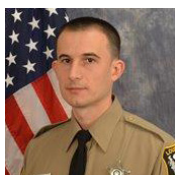
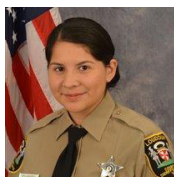
“They utilized the ladder to bring the five victims to safety.”

While DFC Matias was speaking with the suspect, DFC McGlynn and DFC Golden grabbed a ladder from the back of a work truck that was parked on the roadway. They utilized the ladder to bring the five victims to safety. DFC Matias continued to speak with the man and utilized his Crisis Intervention Skills Training. He successfully managed to have the man drop the knife and comply with deputies and be taken into custody.

The quick-thinking of these deputies helped solve a potentially deadly situation without any injuries to the victims, suspect, or deputies.

INCIDENT TEN

Civilian Medal, Bronze Medal & Certificate of Valor



CIVILIAN MEDAL OF VALOR
Carlos Zapata

CERTIFICATE OF VALOR
DFC Elvir Hozanovic
DFC Kelsey Long
DFC Joseph Rosado

CERTIFICATE OF VALOR
DFC Evlin Valladares
BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR
DFC Brandon McGhee
DFC Abdulah Rasooli
DFC Jorge Zavala

ON APRIL 30, 2021, Deputy First Class Rasooli was driving down Sterling Boulevard when he noticed smoke coming from the apartment buildings on Chase Heritage Circle. Deputy Rasooli immediately headed towards the fire.

On scene DFC Rasooli ran from the first floor to the third floor, yelling for people to evacuate the building. DFC Rasooli successfully evacuated all residence from the apartment building.

DFC Rasooli then ran to the adjacent buildings and began to evacuate people from every floor. In one apartment he found an elderly woman in a wheelchair. DFC Rasooli picked up the woman in her wheelchair. DFC McGhee arrived on scene and assisted DFC Rasooli in carrying the woman to safety.

Deputies Rosado, Long, Valladares, Hozanovic, Detective Zavala, and maintenance worker Carlos Zapata arrived on the scene and began helping evacuate occupants from the adjacent buildings. The smoke was heavy inside all of the buildings, however the deputies and Mr. Zapata ran through the smoke to ensure everyone was out of the building.

Fire and Rescue soon arrived on the scene and were able to control the fire. The fire caused two and a half million dollars in damages and two apartment buildings sustained serious fire damage.

Three of the deputies were transported to a local hospital due to smoke inhalation. Two were released within a few hours and one was kept in the ICU overnight to monitor his oxygen levels. He was released the following day.

Due to the deputy's and Mr. Zapata's swift actions, there were no injuries or fatalities to any civilians who lived in the apartment. The deputies successfully evacuated 56 people from the burning buildings.



INCIDENT ELEVEN

Meritorious Civilian Award

ON JUNE 4, 2021, Kelly Lawless and Katelyn Monteverde were near the Potomac River at Algonkian Park when they saw two intoxicated women struggling to swim in the water.

Ms. Lawless and Ms. Monteverde rushed to the aid of the two women and successfully helped them to shore. As Ms. Lawless and Ms. Monteverde were walking the two women towards the parking lot, one of the intoxicated women ran back into the water and began floating downstream.

“...they saw two intoxicated women struggling to swim in the water.”

Ms. Lawless and Ms. Monteverde contacted the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office and Loudoun County Fire and Rescue. Ms. Lawless and Ms. Monteverde assisted deputies and Fire Rescue personnel, who were able to locate the woman near the shoreline. Both women were taken to a local hospital for additional care.

Ms. Lawless's and Ms. Monteverde's actions on this day prevented a potentially tragic incident.



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Volunteer Run Charity

100%

Of LFRF funding comes from
fundraisers and partner donations



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INCIDENT TWELVE



Meritorious Civilian Award



Klaus Fimmel

ON TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021, Klaus Fimmel was riding his bicycle on the WO&D bike trail from Purcellville to Ashburn, VA when he saw a 66-year-old male experiencing a cardiac arrest, who then fell from his bike to the ground.

Klaus immediately stopped, determined the patient was not effectively breathing and had no pulse before beginning CPR. Klaus performed this task without waiting for direction or consulting with the 911 operator. After a couple rounds of CPR, Klaus describes the patient as “taking a deep gasping breath and began to vomit”. Klaus stated he quickly placed the patient on his side to protect his airway, maintained a continuous dialog and assessment of the patient until the arrival of the medic unit.

Since the location of the incident was along the WO&D bike trail, it was a challenge for crews to quickly access the patient and perform a thorough assessment. Upon EMS arrival, the patient was alert but disoriented and speaking non-comprehensible words. EMS thoroughly assessed for trauma and transported the patient emergently to Inova Loudoun Hospital.

Enroute to the hospital, the patient showed improvement, and the Medics determined the patient was experiencing a heart attack. After a successful treatment, the patient was discharged home.

Klaus Fimmel's knowledge, skills, ability, and willingness to administer CPR quickly was a critical link in the chain of survival for this patient.



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INCIDENT THIRTEEN

Meritorious Civilian Award



Mike Burke
Christine Huseman

ON OCTOBER 12, 2021, at Loudoun County Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Headquarters in Leesburg, Christine Huseman, Horticulture Analyst, heard what sounded like something hitting the ground in a nearby cubicle. Christine called out to see if Chris Kenney, the Horticulturist for PRCS, 'dropped something' and did not get a response.

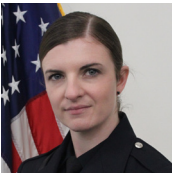
Christine got up to check and found Chris Kenney on the floor, unresponsive. She contacted 911 and alerted nearby colleagues. Mike Burke, Division Manager, joined Christine in Chris' cubicle. Mike and Christine assessed Chris' condition and found that she had no signs of breathing and no pulse. They began CPR immediately.

As Mike performed CPR, Christine continued to monitor Chris' condition. After other staff brought over an AED, Mike applied the pads as directed. Recognizing that Chris was having a heart attack the AED proceeded to shock her. They continued CPR until the arrival of LCFR staff who then took over treatment.

As a result of Mike and Christine's swift action, Chris survived the incident and was transported to the hospital for immediate heart surgery. After receiving treatment and undergoing rehabilitation, Chris has returned to full working duty.

INCIDENT FOURTEEN

Lifesaving Award



Corporal Alamgir Awan
Officer Stephanie Ferreira
Officer Percy Goitia
Officer Ricardo Peterson
(not pictured)

ON NOVEMBER 6, 2021, officers responded to the main terminal of Dulles International Airport for a complaint of a patron who was unconscious in front of the East Security Checkpoint. Mr. Amer Khouri was walking with Mr. Eli Naffaa. Mr. Naffaa suddenly complained of severe dizziness and then collapsed. Mr. Khouri called 911 and reported the emergency.

Corporal Awan responded to the scene in under two minutes after being dispatched. Officer Ferreira, Officer Peterson and Officer Goitia also quickly responded. Corporal Awan, Officer Peterson and Officer Ferreira immediately started to evaluate Mr. Naffaa and determined CPR was necessary. Officer Goitia arrived with an AED and gave it to the three police officers. Corporal Awan and Officer Peterson took turns performing CPR compressions while Officer Ferreira quickly opened the AED and applied the electrical pads to Mr. Naffaa.

Officer Ferreira calmly communicated with all officers to stay clear. Officer Ferreira then administered a shock with the AED. Corporal Awan and Officer Peterson quickly started CPR again. The three officers stayed calm, they communicated extremely well with each other, and continued providing lifesaving aid to Mr. Naffaa until they were relieved by MWAA Medics.

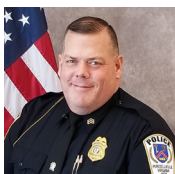
MWAA Fire Captain Christopher Amos stated that he believes CPR was done so quickly and properly that it did not give Mr. Naffaa's body a chance to die. He explained every time his personnel would switch out or stop CPR for an instant Mr. Naffaa would fall back into unconsciousness. When CPR was restarted Mr. Naffaa would become responsive again. He explained that it was directly related to the actions of these officers performing timely CPR when they arrived on the scene.

Due to the quick actions of the police officers, Mr. Naffaa survived and was able to walk out of the hospital a couple days later.

INCIDENT FIFTEEN



Lifesaving Award



Sgt. Robert Wagner

ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2022, Sergeant Robert Wagner was off-duty and in civilian attire while operating a marked Purcellville Police Department SUV in Stephens City (Frederick County), Virginia. Sergeant Wagner was in Stephens City handling an administrative task at the home of a fellow Purcellville officer who resides there.

While Sergeant Wagner was in the area of Talamore Drive and London Downs Circle, he was flagged-down by a man running in his direction while pushing a baby stroller. The man advised Sergeant Wagner of a female who appeared to be unconscious behind the wheel of a vehicle at a nearby playground.

Sergeant Wagner responded to the playground and quickly located the vehicle. In the driver's seat, Sergeant Wagner found a forty-year-old female unresponsive and slumped over toward the passenger seat. Initially, Sergeant Wagner attempted to awaken the woman by calling to her, gently shaking her, and then performing a sternum rub. When these efforts proved unsuccessful, Sergeant Wagner checked her vital signs and determined the woman was not breathing and had no pulse. At that point, Sergeant Wagner examined the victim further and recognized physiological indications of drug use.

By this time, several bystanders gathered near the vehicle. After confirming one of the citizens was on the phone with Frederick County 911, Sergeant Wagner ran to his police vehicle and retrieved a dose of department-issued Narcan before returning to the unconscious woman.

Sergeant Wagner administered the drug as he was trained, but never before called upon to perform. When there was no rapid response from the patient, Sergeant Wagner feared he was too late to save her. As Sergeant Wagner prepared to reposition the woman's body to begin CPR, she suddenly moaned and then gasped for air. Moments later, she began to regain consciousness and was scared as she became aware of her surroundings.

Sergeant Wagner established a rapport, kept her calm, and remained kneeling by her side until transferring care to rescue personnel from Stephens City Rescue Squad, who arrived approximately seven minutes later.

Deputies from Frederick County Sheriff's Office responded and took control of the scene. Investigation revealed the patient had an extensive history of drug use. Drugs and hypodermic needles were discovered in her handbag. During an interview with the Deputies, the woman admitted she took Fentanyl.

Sergeant Wagner responded without hesitation after discovering a victim with no pulse or respiration. He recognized the signs of a drug overdose and wasted no time in summoning help and administering Narcan. Rescue personnel did not arrive until seven minutes later. Were it not for Sergeant Wagner's quick and crucial action, the female victim likely would not have survived.

INCIDENT SIXTEEN

Certificate of Valor



Officer Jorge Castro
Officer Kyle Wagner

ON DECEMBER 12, 2021, the Leesburg Police Department's Emergency Communications Center (ECC) received an emergency phone call from the Loudoun Behavioral Health Facility (LAMPS) at Inova Cornwall Hospital in reference to an out-of-control patient.

Hospital staff relayed that a man was suffering from a psychotic episode and had armed himself with a weapon. It was additionally learned that the security officers and staff were unsuccessful in controlling the man as he had overturned a computerized diagnostics station and was actively punching holes in the wall, inflicting significant damage to the facility.

After arriving on the scene, Officer Kyle Wagner and Officer Jorge Castro quickly navigated the hallways of the hospital and accessed the behavioral health facility where the subject had trapped himself in a locked hallway corridor. Upon entering the corridor, the team of officers encountered the man that had armed himself with a piece of stainless-steel handrail with protruding screws that he had torn from the wall.

In response, Officer Wagner unholstered his Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) and placed it alongside his leg as he calmly approached the man and requested that he put his weapon down. In response, the man began advancing on Officer Wagner requesting to be shot and stating that he wanted to die.

To further continue his efforts in deescalating the tense situation, Officer Wagner continued speaking calmly with the man to establish a rapport while advancing towards him to close the distance in case the need to deploy his CEW arose.

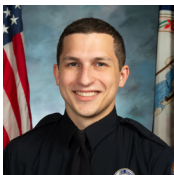
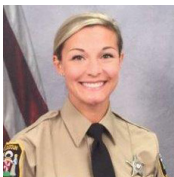
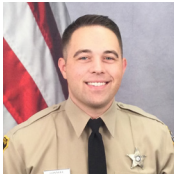
As Officer Wagner closed the distance, the man eventually stopped and responded to Officer Wagner's emphatic and reassuring message by suddenly throwing his weapon to the hospital floor. In response, Officer Castro quickly jumped into action and handcuffed the man while Officer Wagner maintained cover with his CEW.

As a result of their quick and calm response, recognition of the signs of a person experiencing an emotional crisis, their dedication to the deployment of crisis intervention de-escalation techniques, a tragic outcome was avoided. The man was able to be safely detained without the use of significant force and provided much needed mental health assistance.



INCIDENT SEVENTEEN

Unit Citation



PO III Mathew Connell
PO II Austin Kallmayer
MPO Heather Maupin
PO I Allison Rawlings
Officer Eric Zuzzi

ON JUNE 17, 2021, Leesburg Police Department Team One responded to the report of a fight in the area of Oakview Drive SE.

Upon arrival, Officer Zuzzi, who was alone, was confronted by an adult male in his underwear running down Rockbridge Drive. The subject was uncooperative and was quickly walking away from Officer Zuzzi towards a busy Sycolin Road.

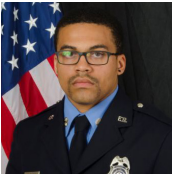
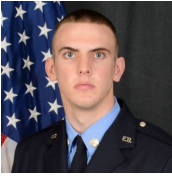
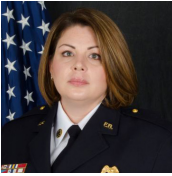
As additional members of Team One, MPO Heather Maupin, PO III Mathew Connell, PO I Allison Rawlings, and PO II Austin Kallmayer, quickly arrived on the scene to assist this now combative and uncooperative subject.

They were able to successfully work together to contain and then detain the subject, using minimal force, as he continued to lunge towards the roadway and traffic of Sycolin Road. Officers were able to shut down traffic as the subject continued to make his way in that direction. They were able to assess the subject and determine that he was either experiencing a mental health crisis and/or was under the influence of drugs/alcohol.

In lieu of arrest, LCFR was summoned for evaluation, possible treatment, and transport to Inova Loudoun Hospital as units had initiated an Emergency Custody Order. All of Team One members showed outstanding collaboration and communication with the subject, and great personal restraint in attempting to deescalate the situation.

INCIDENT EIGHTEEN

Unit Citation & Lifesaving Award



UNIT CITATION

Captain Nicole Artistt
FF Trevor Bruley
FF/Paramedic
Gerald Cook

UNIT CITATION

Prob. Member Deijon-
Imano Wiley
EMT Katrina Kenneweg
EMT Katlyn Kicak

ON CHRISTMAS DAY, a wife and her husband went for a drive when suddenly the wife looked over and noticed her 39-year-old husband was beginning to pass out. She quickly pulled over into the parking lot of a school and flagged down a passing LCSO Sherriff's Deputy for assistance.

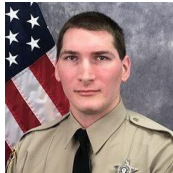
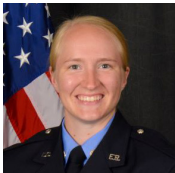
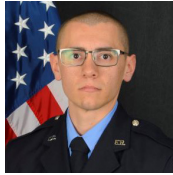
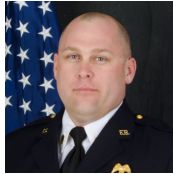
Deputy Mieszala pulled into the parking lot behind the family and realized the passenger was having a medical emergency. He pulled the gentleman from the car and quickly recognized the patient was in cardiac arrest. Deputy Mieszala began CPR immediately and called in the cardiac arrest to dispatch.

The incident occurred a few blocks away from Sterling Fire Station 18, and Truck 618 and M625 arrived on scene quickly to assist Deputy Mieszala and take over patient care. Lieutenant/Paramedic Christopher Turner and Paramedic Kate Passow began ALS care while the crew from T618 and M625 took over CPR, applied an AED, and immediately began delivering shocks to the patient.

As additional paramedic units began to arrive, M635

with Firefighter/Paramedic Gerald Cook and EMS601 with Captain/Critical Care Paramedic Nicole Artistt, they began assisting with ALS interventions, helping intubate the patient and administering additional medications.

The time between the patient going into cardiac arrest and when CPR was begun was so short the patient was demonstrating signs of CPR induced consciousness. This is an uncommon phenomenon and generally only occurs in situations of witnessed cardiac arrest where immediate CPR is performed. It is a situation in which the patient's heart is not beating, generally they are in a shockable rhythm, but the patient appears awake, may be moving and talking, blinking or even moaning. In this case, the patient was receiving such high-quality CPR from our public safety personnel, that he was talking and moving his head and arms even though his heart wasn't beating.



UNIT CITATION

FF/EMT Brook Longo
Paramedic Kate Passow
FF/EMT Abigail Savat

UNIT CITATION

Lt. Christopher Turner
FF/EMT Richard
Wellhouse, III

LIFESAVING AWARD

Deputy Steven Mieszala

All the crew members diligently worked to revive the patient, taking turns administering CPR, coordinating efforts to ensure the highest possible level of care was being provided. Multiple medications were given to try to get the patient's heart restarted, and as the crew continued to work tirelessly, they moved the patient into their ambulance and drove the patient as quickly as they could to the hospital.

After shocking the patient 15 times, 5 of which were using 2 AEDs simultaneously to administer a very large dose of electricity and exhausting every medication option that was in their arsenal, the patient finally regained a pulse just as they were pulling into Inova Loudoun Hospital. The patient re-arrested one more time in the ED but was again revived and taken to the ICU.

The patient woke up 24-hours later, his breathing tube removed, and he was discharged home after a short stay in the hospital. This case is remarkable due to the extraordinary measures the crew went through to provide care above and beyond the norm compared to other EMS systems. It demonstrates the true nature and teamwork across our public safety family involving Fire, EMS, Police and both Career and Volunteer system members working together to save a life.

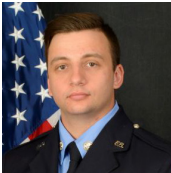
INCIDENT NINETEEN

Unit Citation



UNIT CITATION

Tech John Atchison
Tech Josh Brotherton
Lt. Charlie Brown



UNIT CITATION

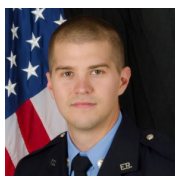
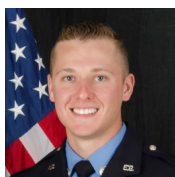
Captain Henry Charles
FF/EMT Brandon Halsall
FF/EMT Matthew Hartman

ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021, Engine 620, Truck 620, and Rescue 620 were alerted for a first-due commercial building fire in the historic district of downtown Leesburg. The caller advised there was a fire in the kitchen of a two-story restaurant and pub.

Leesburg Rescue 620 arrived at the two-story historical building to find large volumes of smoke from multiple floors and windows. The crew from Rescue 620 encountered a large volume of fire extending out a side doorway into a small outdoor alleyway. The fire was a direct threat to the building behind it and a wooden porch.

Upon arrival, Engine and Truck 620 firefighters worked to advance the initial hose line to a side entrance. Working as a team, they quickly entered the structure with zero visibility. They encountered high heat and advanced the hose line quickly and efficiently through a tightly packed, maze-like kitchen to find the source of the fire and extinguish it.

While crews worked to extinguish the fire, firefighters threw multiple ground ladders to the front of the building to provide egress points for firefighting crews. While trying to raise the aerial ladder, the ladder encountered a mechanical problem rendering the aerial ladder inoperative and this apparatus was quickly replaced.



UNIT CITATION
FF Sean McGrath
Tech Michael Spry

UNIT CITATION


FF/EMT Hunter Hayn
FF/EMT William Jones
FF/EMT Clarence Kidwell

After repositioning, firefighters went back to work, gaining roof access by way of a ground ladder and beginning the process of vertical ventilation. After the arrival of the other ladder companies, they were assisted by other members in creating several ventilation holes, which released hot gases and smoke to slow the spread of fire and make the interior environment more tenable for interior firefighting crews.

At any given time during the first 20 minutes of operations, dense and noxious black smoke pushed out of the building and filled the streets outside, adding another layer of difficulty to the chaotic scene. Crews remained calm, working together displaying exemplary teamwork.

The quick thinking and timely actions of the three crews from Station 20 undoubtedly steered the successful outcome of this incident.

“...dense and noxious black smoke pushed out of the building and filled the streets...”

A detailed close-up of an eagle's head, showing its white feathers, yellow beak, and intense brown eye. The eagle is looking slightly to the left.

"Even against the
greatest of odds,
there is something in
the human spirit – a
magic blend of skill,
faith, and valor..."

– Walter Lord, American Author

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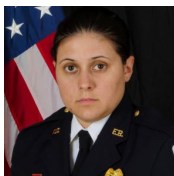
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INCIDENT TWENTY



Silver Medal of Valor



Captain Lindsay Jacobs

ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2021, Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Captain Lindsay Jacobs was off-duty traveling west on Route 7, when she arrived first on scene of a serious motor vehicle accident in the area of Clayton Hall Road.

Calls began to arrive to the Emergency Communications Center from civilians stating that a vehicle had rolled over, was starting to catch fire, and that there was a signal occupant trapped inside with a head injury.

Captain Jacobs directed her mother and child to stay in her vehicle while she evaluated the situation. She then subsequently crawled under the smoke and into the vehicle to render care. While with the patient, she stabilized and held manual pressure to an obvious head injury and calmed the patient by encouraging her to keep talking with her throughout the incident.

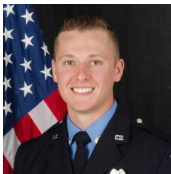
The head injury coupled with the inability to extricate the patient without additional resources, as well as the looming potential for the vehicle to erupt in flames, created a dire and potentially grave situation for Captain Jacobs. Captain Jacobs maintained composure as she coached the patient through the anxiety, pain, and fear she undoubtedly felt.

Loudoun County Fire and Rescue units arrived on scene and extinguished the vehicle fire. Captain Jacobs provided valuable input on extrication efforts to ensure the highest quality patient care and comfort was received. She maintained care until relieved by EMS crews, and her efforts to stabilize the traumatic head injury set the stage for early and definitive prehospital care. The patient also received a blood transfusion while under the care of Loudoun County Fire and Rescue EMS personnel.

Captain Jacobs' selfless acts of leaving her family while off duty and placing herself in harm's way without proper equipment is a testimony to her professionalism and commitment to those she serves.

INCIDENT TWENTY-ONE

Unit Citation & Bronze Medal of Valor



UNIT CITATION

Lt. James Best
Tech Ethan Burns
FF/EMT Jeremy Cappert
FF/EMT Jared Creamer
Tech Aaron Estep

UNIT CITATION

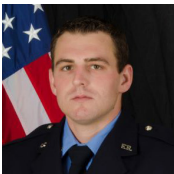
Lt. Jake Everly
FF/EMT Christopher Hebert
Lt. Christopher Jenkins
FF/EMT Jacob Keck
FF/EMT William Jones

ON NOVEMBER 9, 2021, units were dispatched to Victory Lane in Leesburg for a confined space rescue of an individual who had jumped into a drain and was now stuck.

Upon arrival it was determined that two teenage subjects had made their way into a storm water runoff drain. The two individuals were in the middle of an approximately 80-foot-long, 16-inch diameter pipe. Both individuals in the drainage pipe were drifting in and out of consciousness. R620 personnel quickly made contact and discovered access on both ends of the pipe with assistance from E620 and TT620. Upon arrival of R635, rescue personnel worked through numerous possible solutions to gain access to the subjects in the pipe. In a combined effort, crews attempted to send inflated hoses and ropes to the subjects but were unsuccessful.

A request was made for Fairfax R439 to respond to provide necessary supplied air equipment for personnel to make an entry if necessary. E620 and TT620 provided invaluable assistance during the time crews were waiting for the equipment to arrive from Fairfax. The crew from Engine and Truck 620 quickly and efficiently supplied the rescue personnel with the equipment to attempt each rescue idea that was developed. None of the non-entry attempts were successful.

The decision was made that we were going to have to send someone into the pipe to retrieve the subjects.



UNIT CITATION

FF/EMT Timothy Kofoet
Tech Chris Kinnaird
Lt. Greg Moore

BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

FF/EMT Aaron Mundt
FF/EMT Shawn Nugent

As four members of R620 and R635 dressed to enter the pipe, the remainder of the crews assisted by E620 and TT620 set up and prepared the retrieval rope system to attach to the individuals entering the pipe. R439 arrived at this time and supplied crews with the necessary air equipment to make entry to the pipe.

Due to the size of the pipe, the normal strategy of personal protective equipment and two-man teams had to be pushed aside. Two separate one-man teams made entry crawling through the pipe for approximately 40-feet, retrieving one subject each. Firefighter Aaron Mundt and Firefighter Shawn Nugent were the two individuals who made entry to the space. When making entry both individuals had to remove some of their normal safety gear. Helmets and harnesses would not allow either of the Rescue individuals to fit into the space. Without harnesses to attach the retrieval ropes, both entry firefighters had a rope tied around their waist and a backup tied around their ankle.

FF Nugent and FF Mundt entered the space without hesitation knowing time was running out and that they were the only chance the subjects had for rescue. They acted bravely and courageously with minimal safety gear. Crews from both R620 and R635 provided the necessary support for the entry personnel to successfully retrieve both subjects who were then transported to the hospital in stable condition.

FF Mundt and FF Nugent acted in a valiant manner in the rescue of these two individuals in a quite unique situation. The Crews from R620 and R635 worked together flawlessly and applied their critical thinking skills and training to facilitate a successful outcome of this emergency incident. Also, the crews from E620 and TT620 provided incredibly valuable knowledge of the facility and out of the hot zone support.

INCIDENT TWENTY-TWO

Meritorious Civilian Award, Silver & Bronze Medals of Valor, Unit Citation



MERITORIOUS CIVILIAN

Jade Pusloskie
Muhammad Amin

SILVER MEDAL OF VALOR

DFC Charles Ewing



BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR

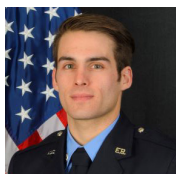
DFC Cameron Gentry
Lt. Jason Ilowite
FF/EMT Christopher Cloud



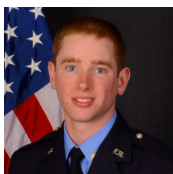
ON JANUARY 2, 2021, Deputy First Class Cameron Gentry and Deputy First Class Brandon Ewing responded to the Sterling Walmart for a shoplifting complaint. DFC Gentry and DFC Ewing attempted to secure the suspect located in the loss prevention office. The suspect began resisting their efforts and, without warning, drew a firearm that he had concealed and began shooting. DFC Gentry was struck multiple times in both legs and both loss prevention officers suffered minor injuries. DFC Ewing immediately sprang into action and returned fire to stop the suspect who was struck and fled the area on foot into the Walmart parking lot. DFC Ewing returned to his partner and applied two tourniquets and rendered aid to the two loss prevention officers.

Loudoun County Fire Rescue units were alerted to respond and during the response, information was received that several people were shot, including a Sheriff's Deputy. Rescue 635 was the first unit to arrive on scene. A deputy ran to the apparatus and advised that the injured deputy was inside. There had not yet been any confirmation on the location of the shooter, and the scene was clearly still very active.

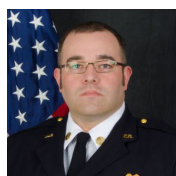
Without hesitation, FF/EMTs Bryan Jennings and Christopher Cloud entered the store with Lieutenant Ilowite. FF/EMT Noah Wing worked outside to ascertain where other victims might be. Lt. Ilowite, and FF/EMTs Jennings and Cloud located the injured deputy who was suffering multiple gunshot wounds.



BRONZE MEDAL OF VALOR
FF/EMT Bryan Jennings
UNIT CITATION
Captain Dan Shealy



UNIT CITATION
FF/EMT Noah Wing
PM/Lt. Andrew Fields



The injured deputy was still losing a massive amount of blood and additional tourniquets were applied by DFC Ewing and the EMTs which were effective in stopping the blood loss. There is no question that the rapid application of tourniquets helped to save the injured deputy's life.

EMS Supervisor, Captain Daniel Shealy arrived, and the Deputy was loaded into Medic 635 where Paramedic/Lt. Andrew Fields and FF/EMT Bryan Jennings set to further remove the deputy's clothing which exposed a previously concealed gunshot wound which was packed with gauze. M635 quickly departed for Reston Trauma Center. Finding the deputy's vital signs to be clearly indicative of significant shock from prolonged severe bleeding, Captain Shealy consulted Dr. John Morgan and received immediate orders to initiate a field blood transfusion en route to the trauma center.

The actions of the suspect were sudden and violent. DFC Ewing and DFC Gentry demonstrated courage, poise, and character. DFC Ewing was able to successfully stop the threat and protect DFC Gentry and the citizens in the room from further harm. His calm demeanor and response allow for clear communication which expedited the response of aid to DFC Gentry. For their actions and bravery, DFC Ewing and DFC Gentry are awarded Silver and Bronze Medals of Valor.

The immediate actions of Lt. Ilowite, Firefighters Jennings and Cloud which placed them in potential danger while operating within an active scene, were meritorious in action and they are each awarded a Bronze Medal of Valor.

The transport crew of Capt. Shealy, Paramedic/Lt. Fields and FF/EMT Jennings performed rapid stabilization and transport with life-saving blood transfusion and Firefighter Wing's efforts to identify additional patients are being recognized with a Unit Citation.

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- + Dr. John Morgan, Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System
- + Chief Michael Nally, Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System
- + Dorri O'Brien, Inova Loudoun Hospital
- + Amy Paratore, StoneSprings Hospital Center
- + Sherry Phillips, Loudoun County Fire and Rescue
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