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Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-426-9622
F: 817-426-9390
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

The Medal of Valor, Lifesaving awards and an Honorary Lifetime Dispatcher award were presented at the Burleson Police Department's annual banquet.

The top awards include Officer of the Year Chaz Garrett, Rookie of the Year Brandon Wichman, Supervisor of the Year Sgt. Darin Pool, Civilian Employee of the Year Courtney Haley, Telecommunications Operator of the Year Katie Reynolds, Community Policing Award winner Officer Tim Mabry, and Ofelia Blair Character Award winner Commander Chris Havens.

Phil Lewis, a telecommunications operator who had to leave his post due to medical reasons, received a standing ovation when he was presented with the Honorary Lifetime Dispatcher Award. According to the nomination, Lewis was honored for his "time and dedication to this dispatch center and for the love he has for his sisters and brothers in law enforcement."

Medal of Valor and Lifesaving awards were earned by Officer Kevin Cordell and Commander Havens; Officer Cameron Pilgrim; and officers Jonathan Gomez, Mark Pate, David Wardlaw and Tracie Fowler. Officer Travis Brown and Sgt. Roger Hall earned Medal of Honor and Lifesaving awards. The incidents included a suicidal person armed with knives who was cutting herself; a man who was cutting himself with a knife at a daycare; and a felony warrant call that turned into a standoff with a man who was pointing a pistol at his head.

In separate incidents, Lifesaving Awards were earned by Officer D'Arcy Warrick; Sgt. Craig Bastible and Officer Mike Owen; and officers Shaun Kellum, Kasey Martin, Pilgrim and Scott Bartlett. The incidents included a suspicious vehicle call that evolved into a woman attempting suicide; a suicidal man armed with a pistol who had threatened to kill his parents; and a call in which a car was on top of a victim (firefighters and the officers lifted the car enough to get the victim out and to medical treatment). Det. Tom Catron was also awarded a Police Commendation for one of the incidents.

Meritorious Conduct awards were presented to School Resource Officer Johnny Schumacher; officers Larry Sparks and Don Adams; Sgt. Wes Routson; officers Mike Alley, Jack Goleman, Kellum and Pilgrim; Officer Adams; Officer Kellum; former sergeant Diron Hill; Sgt. Brian O'Heren; and Sgt. Pool and officers Tiffany Bauereisen, Garrett and Pilgrim.

The Meritorious Commendation criteria included a commendation for the handling of a sensitive situation at a school; assisting in the investigation and arrest of suspects involved in a homicide in Johnson County; developing a program to assist with providing security for inmates when they require prolonged medical care or psychological

evaluation; working patrol for the Johnson County Sheriff's Office while deputies attended the funeral of JCSO Deputy Clifton Taylor; the search of a vehicle that resulted in the recovery of more than 55 grams of cocaine and the arrest of a suspect who was subsequently convicted and sentenced to 36 years in prison; assisting an elderly resident with obtaining an air conditioning unit and then installing that unit for him during August 2011; leadership of the Citizens Police Academy program and the Citizens On Patrol program; and leadership in the Burleson Police Explorer Post.

Police Commendations were awarded to Officer Sparks; Sgt. Pool, Sgt. Jody Trumble, officers Bartlett, Bauereisen, Jae Berg, Jay Davis, Nick Grace, Randy Hicks, Kasey Martin, Nick Thorne, and David Wardlaw; Sgt. O'Heren and traffic officers Cordell, Robert Sorrels and Birchie Stillwagoner; and, Officer Owen.

The basis of the Police Commendations include diffusing a domestic disturbance that had turned into a man threatening to shoot a female and threatening to shoot at officers; participation in and dedication to the Burleson Police Honor Guard; assisting with traffic detail for the funeral of Johnson County Sheriff's Deputy Clifton Taylor; and, arresting a suspect who was later linked to three robberies in Burleson and one in Joshua.

Community Service awards were given to officers Shelly Henken, Gomez, John Fields, Wichman and Owen; Karen Goodman, Commander Cindy Aaron, Sherra Hawpe, Sgt. Trumble, Brad Schaefer, Kathy Allen James, Officer Owen, Commander Doug Sandifer, Det. Catron, Paula Ibsen, Chief Tom Cowan, Randy Hicks, Shannon Kimberling, and Commander Havens; Officer Martin, Haley, Sgt. Pool, Officer Sorrels, and Officer Garrett; and Sgt. Bastible, Sgt. O'Heren, and officers Henken and Davis. These officers participated with the Burleson Fire Department in a toy drive and softball game to benefit Heart For the Kids; participated in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Burleson 2011 and raised more than \$4,800; participated in the 2011 Burleson Old Town Boo Bash; and participated in the Pie In the Face fundraiser at the 2011 Founders Day celebration.

Civic Achievement awards also went to sergeants Trumble, Pool and O'Heren, Det. Catron, and officers Davis and Bauereisen for participating in the Texas Public Safety Association regional competition.

Service award winners include: 25 years, DARE/School Resource Officer Randy Hicks and Community Resource Officer Jack Goleman; 20 years, Records Supervisor Kathy Allen James and Det. David Feucht; 15 years, Traffic Officer Kevin Cordell and Sgt. Wes Routson; 10 years, Telecommunications Operator Desire Norman, Traffic Officer Robert Sorrels, Traffic Sgt. Brian O'Heren, Officer D'Arcy Warrick and Chief Tom Cowan; and five years of service, Sgt. Craig Bastible and officers Kasey Martin, Cody Austin and Nick Thorne.

And Safe Driving Awards went to Cordell and Pool, 15 years; Kellum, six years; and Officer Brown and Officer John Morgan, three years.