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This officer's goal is to "have 100 percent satisfaction from the public." Officer Joe Byrom was honored for that character trait with the Burleson Police Department's 2014 Ofelia Blair Character Award. The honor is named for Ofelia, a clerk in the department's criminal investigations section, who lost her battle with cancer in 2003.

"I was shocked, and very appreciative of the award," Byrom said. "I've never won an award like the Ofelia Blair award before."

One of Byrom's best traits is that he is caring, according to Sgt. Craig Bastible. "He takes extra time during his calls to explain to citizens why certain actions are being taken. Burleson is his home, it's where he grew up, and he takes personal interest in the city. He has strong personal convictions and speaks up when he feels like something is wrong. He speaks of his faith to all around him and he uses his Christian beliefs to guide him and his actions."

Byrom not only grew up in Burleson, but the 27-year-old officer was an explorer with the department's Police Explorer program, 2003-2005.

"I have wanted to be a police officer since I was five years old," the award winner said. "Two of my mentors were Burleson officers – Officer (Randy) Hicks and Officer (Johnny) Schumacher. And my brother, Stephen Byrom, is also my mentor. He is an officer for the Frisco Police Department. I was always trying to be like him because I looked up to him."

The Burleson Police Department hired Joseph Byrom in November 2011. He had worked as a security officer at the Parks at Arlington. The patrol officer has three years of college under his belt.

Byrom's family includes his wife, Shannon Byrom; his father, who is the parts manager at Central Dynamic; his mother, who is a homemaker who works at the Texas Rangers games during the regular season; and his brother. He and his wife also have two dogs "that are our kids."

The character award is sponsored by the Burleson Area Chamber of Commerce.