



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Councilors

FROM: Rich Olson, City Manager
Eddie M. Buffaloe, Jr., Chief of Police

DATE: January 5, 2016

REF: Consideration - Recommendation for Mayoral Certificates for Exemplary Police Service

- a. Staff is requesting that the following Elizabeth City Police Officers be recognized publicly for exemplary service: Sergeant Ryan Boyce, Officer Jeremy Dowdy, Officer Cathy Hewitt, Sergeant Jamie Judge, Officer Aaron Lewellyn, Officer Mason Peters, Officer Allen Peterson, Officer Eddie Rodriguez, Officer Brendan Seay, Sergeant Anthony Spellman, and Officer Jeffrey Way.

These officers are being recognized for exemplary police service in response to the following call:

On December 17, 2015 at approximately 1815 hours, Elizabeth City Police Officers were dispatched to calls for service involving an individual with a gun who was threatening to commit suicide. The individual was in his car and had stopped talking to the family members who were trying to counsel him into surrendering his weapon. Upon police arrival, the subject fired one round from the gun into the windshield of his vehicle. Due to the exigent circumstances involved, officers promptly evacuated nearby houses in the neighborhood for safety purposes and quickly established a perimeter. A central negotiator was also designated, and the roles of everyone on scene were established. After lengthy communications with the lead negotiator, the subject surrendered himself and the weapon peaceably to police. In this critical incident, all officers worked together and played different roles with the end result being that no one was hurt. All officers went home safe and what could have been a tragedy for one family ended in hope. These officers are therefore recommended for a Mayoral Certificate of Recognition and also an "Exemplary Service" pin/award, both of which are recommended for presentation at the next regular City Council Meeting session to take place on Monday, January 11, 2016.

- b. In addition, staff is requesting that the following Elizabeth City Police Officers also be recognized publicly for exemplary service: Officer Kevin Burgess, Detective Benjamin J. Martin, and Officer Stacey Rodriguez. These officers are being recognized for exemplary police service in response to the following call:

On December 18, 2015 at approximately 1255 hours, Elizabeth City Police Officers were dispatched to a possible drug overdose in the area of West Ward Street. Officer Burgess, Officer Rodriguez, and Detective Martin all arrived on scene in response to the call. The original call reported that a subject was in a small gray vehicle; however, it was later determined the subject was inside his residence. Officers were able to locate the subject in his residence and found that his skin had turned blue and he was unresponsive. In an attempt to revive the victim, officers administered sternum rubs, which caused the subject to open his eyes momentarily and keep them open for a second. Sternum rubs continued to be administered by the officers until EMS arrived, at which time the subject was injected with Narcan and was completely revived. The initial sternum rubs performed by the officers proved critical in the life-saving efforts of this individual. The quick response of officers to the victim's urgent and life-threatening situation are police work and partnership at its finest. These officers are therefore recommended for a Mayoral Certificate of Recognition and also a "Life Saving" pin/award, both of which are recommended for presentation during the next regular City Council Meeting session to take place on Monday, January 11, 2016.