



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council

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

DATE: November 8, 2019

RE: Presentation – Mayoral Certificate of Recognition for George Lewis Parsons, III

BACKGROUND:

There are times when private citizens provide assistance to police during the course of performing their duties. These acts of bravery never go unnoticed and are immeasurably appreciated.

On the afternoon of Thursday, October 24, 2019, Elizabeth City Police Officer Andre J. DiMichele was attempting to take a suspect into custody on a warrant, at which time the suspect eluded arrest and fled into a nearby field. Officer DiMichele gave pursuit and the suspect became combative with the officer while the two were alone in the field. A private citizen, who lived in close proximity to where the event was occurring witnessed Officer DiMichele with the combative suspect. Without reservation, he provided assistance to Officer DiMichele by tackling the suspect. This individual had no obligation, whatsoever, to intervene in this matter, which was undoubtedly aggressive and potentially harmful. However, seeing that Officer DiMichele was in a concerning situation, this private citizen immediately went to his aid. Thankfully, the citizen was not injured during the incident; and the situation was soon afterwards brought under control, and the suspect was taken into custody.

The private citizen who helped Officer DiMichele is Mr. George Lewis Parsons, III. In recognition of Mr. Parsons' heroic act, the Police Department has requested that he be awarded a Mayoral Certificate of Recognition during the November 12, 2019 City Council Meeting. Mr. Parsons and his family have been invited to attend and will be present in to receive the certificate.