



City of Phoenix

To: Paul Taylor, Lieutenant
Public Affairs Bureau

Date: June 6, 2016

From: Phoebe Volk
Public Affairs Bureau

Subject: 2016 ANNUAL AWARD CEREMONY AWARD RECIPIENTS

On May 17, 2016, the Phoenix Police Department held the 2016 Annual Awards Ceremony at Grand Canyon University Arena. During the ceremony, 89 officers were recognized for Medals of Valor, Merit, Lifesaving, Police Chief's Unit Award, and Supervisor of the Year. A majority of the incidents recognized occurred in 2015, with the exception of a few being recognized from previous years.

Here are the descriptions of the incidents that officers were recognized for:

- **Officer Michael Jessie** was awarded the Police Shield for his actions on September 19, 1993, when he was shot twice while apprehending a suspect.
- **Officer Justin Gillett and Officer Charles Price** were awarded the Medal of Valor for their actions on March 5, 2015, when they saved a driver from a vehicle fire.
- **Officer Phillip Akins** was awarded the Medal of Valor for his actions on March 11, 2015, when he was stabbed while taking a suspect into custody.
- **Officers Mark Rao, William Clark, Todd Schiltz and Nick Wolfenden** were awarded the Medal of Valor and **Sergeant Jesse Abernathy, and Officers Jon Shadowens, Troy Clark, and Robert Wallace** were awarded the Medal of Merit for their actions on December 1, 2013, while apprehending a suspect of an aggravated assault who had been shooting at officers.
- **Officer Timothy Norton** was awarded the Medal of Valor and **Lieutenant Russell Frederiksen, Officer Craig Maze and Jeffrey Johnson** were awarded the Medal of Merit for their actions on March 26, 2015, when they responded to a residential burglary and took a violent suspect into custody.
- **Officer Terrance Reilly** was awarded the Medal of Merit for his actions on May 7, 2015, when he took a suspect into custody who had a stolen gun at a Light Rail platform.
- **Lieutenant Nicholas Diponzio, Sergeant Chad Ryan, Sergeant John Oehler and Officer Christopher Jones** were awarded the Medal of Merit for their actions on June 16, 2015, when they brought a suicidal subject to safety.
- **Sergeant Leroy Potter, Sergeant Brian Rimsza, Sergeant Andrew Gaboury, Officer Thomas McKee, Officer Leslie Montoya, Officer Michael Collard and Officer Michael Buvala** were awarded the Medal of Merit for their actions on December 16, 2014, for stopping a suicidal subject from harming a 14-year-old.

- **Officer Don Tarazon and Officer Dave Salgado** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on September 10, 2015, when they evacuated residents from an apartment building that was on fire.
- **Officer Mylen Lubker** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on July 18, 2015, when he performed CPR on a child who nearly drowned.
- **Officer Mark Laird** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions taken on June 12, 2015, when he placed a tourniquet on a man who was bleeding extensively, saving him.
- **Officer Adam Giordano and Officer Philip Schabron** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on June 22, 2015, when they responded to a residential burglary and saved the residents from the home that had been set on fire by the suspect.
- **Officer Andrew Williams and Officer Kendall Goo** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on June 28, 2015, when they saved a woman who had been found unconscious.
- **Officer Corey Butler and Officer Kenneth Harbaugh** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on March 25, 2015, when they talked a suicidal man off the edge of a five story parking garage.
- **Officer Franklin Marino and Officer Kevin Wilson** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on March 31, 2015, when they rendered first aid to a stabbing victim.
- **Officer Jude Joseph and Sergeant Assad Ali** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on July 2, 2015, when they saved two children who had nearly drowned.
- **Lieutenant William Wickers** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on July 17, 2015, when he was on vacation and saved two victims from a rip-tide.
- **Officer Joshua Adams, Officer Tyrel Busby and Officer Matthew Callahan** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on August 19, 2015, when they provided first aid to subject who was combative and bleeding heavily.
- **Officer Mark Boirum and Officer Rob Scott** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on March 3, 2015, when they saved a suicidal man from the top of a parking garage.
- **Officer Mark Laird and Sergeant Lainn Caldwell** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on March 31, 2015, when they saved a suicidal man, who had attempted to hang himself.
- **Officer Chase Ditwiler and Officer Ginger Matherly** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on March 19, 2015, when they found an unconscious woman who had attempted suicide and provided for her medical attention.
- **Officer Joanna Collier** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for her actions on April 2, 2015, when she applied a tourniquet to an unconscious woman who was bleeding, saving her.
- **Officer Kent Barnes and Officer Glen Yoder** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on May 6, 2015, for saving a suicidal man.

- **Officer Dave Salgado** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on June 2, 2015, when he performed CPR on a 15-month-old near drowning victim.
- **Officer Lawrence Naranjo and Officer Mark Figueroa** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on February 15, 2015, when they saved a suicidal woman who had overdosed and was in an idling car in a closed garage.
- **Officer Stephen Salazar** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on January 21, 2015, when he performed CPR on a child.
- **Officer Scott Ferrante and Officer Phil Fortuna** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on January 29, 2015, when they found a woman who had been missing from work because she sustained spinal injury and had been paralyzed.
- **Officer John Sticca** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on September 16, 2015, when he rendered first aid to a gunshot victim.
- **Officer Scott Sweet** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on October 17, 2015, when he saved a woman from an apartment fire.
- **Officer Thomas Lannon and Officer Brandon Cozad** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on October 13, 2015, when they rendered aid to a combative subject.
- **Officer Eric Miller and Sergeant Mark Tovar** were awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for their actions on June 5, 2015, when they performed CPR on a fellow officer, saving him.
- **Sergeant Don Sherrard** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on December 16, 2015, when he performing CPR on a traveler at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport, saving him.
- **Officer Daivd Kerns** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on September 2, 2015, when he rendered aid and saved a man who was found unresponsive in his home.
- **Officer AJ Buffa** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for his actions on October 11, 2015, when he performed CPR on a victim for five minutes until paramedics arrived.
- **Officer Lisa Brookins** was awarded the Medal of Lifesaving for her actions on December 28, 2015, when she evacuated a family from an apartment filled with carbon monoxide.
- **Lieutenant Russ Frederiksen, Sergeant Guy Manning, Sergeant Nick Jimenez, Officer Robin Gokool, Officer Tyler Tatge, Officer Phil Belsterling, Officer Angie Briggs, Officer Tony Diefert, Officer Mike Davidson, Officer Travis Lachance, Officer Nate Brooks, Officer Dave Jurgenson, Officer John Mason, Officer Eric Buchanan, Officer Butch Geis, Officer Dave Williams and Officer Matthew Walker** were awarded the Police Chief's Unit Award for their work on the Violence Impact Project in the Cactus Park Precinct from March 2015 to January 2016.
- **Lieutenant Charles Consolian** was awarded Supervisor of the Year for his leadership during 2015 in the Downtown Operations Unit while overseeing a number of high profile events in the downtown area.

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All of these officers' actions are keeping with the highest standards and traditions of the Phoenix Police Department. A video of the ceremony can be accessed on the Phoenix Police Department's YouTube channel or via this link: <https://youtu.be/xBXxUmhum8c>.