Contents

Introduction .................................................................................................................. 2

Formal Department Awards ....................................................................................... 2
Informal Commander’s Commendations ..................................................................... 2
Automated Complaint and Commendation System ..................................................... 2
District and Bureau Discipline ..................................................................................... 3
Formal Internal Investigations and Discipline .......................................................... 3
Formal Department Awards ....................................................................................... 4

Medal of Honor .............................................................................................................. 5
Distinguished Service Cross .......................................................................................... 6
Purple Heart .................................................................................................................. 10
Life Saving Award ....................................................................................................... 12
Meritorious Service Ribbon ......................................................................................... 16
Chief’s Commendation Certificate .............................................................................. 22
Chief’s Unit Citation .................................................................................................... 38
Certificate of Appreciation – Citizen’s Award ............................................................... 43

Informal Commander’s Commendations .................................................................. 47

Commander’s Commendation Certificate ................................................................ 47

Automated Complaint and Commendation Report ...................................................... 73

Automated Complaints by Type ................................................................................ 74
Automated Complaints by Validity ............................................................................. 75
Automated Complaints, Results .................................................................................. 76
Automated Complaints, Follow Up Contact Method .................................................. 77
Automated Commendations by Type ......................................................................... 78

Automated Complaint and Commendation System, ................................................... 79
Miscellaneous Information on People Reporting ....................................................... 79

District and Bureau Discipline Report ....................................................................... 81

Formal Internal Investigations and Discipline Report ................................................ 86
Introduction
In conjunction with our core values of integrity, honor and duty, the Aurora Police Department strives for professionalism in the performance of our duties. We encourage positive behavior in our employees by use of awards and commendations. We also encourage our employees and citizens to report any perceived misconduct by our officers. We investigate every complaint and concern reported to the Department and take appropriate action, protecting the rights of the citizen and the Department member. This report reflects our commitment to openness and transparency to the people we serve.

The Department has two systems to award outstanding performance and three systems to manage complaints and discipline. The two award systems are Formal Department Awards and Informal Commanders’ Commendations. The three systems used to manage complaints and discipines are: the Automated Complaint and Commendation System; District / Bureau Discipline; and Formal Internal Investigations and Discipline.

Formal Department Awards
All employees of the Department who become aware of outstanding performance are encouraged to nominate employees and citizens for recognition through the Formal Department Awards program. Department Directive 10.7 describes the guidelines for these awards. See the Directive at the end of this report under the “Department Directives Cited in this Report” section. The Awards Board reviews and investigates all nominations for formal awards and then makes a recommendation to the Chief of Police. The Chief of Police makes the final decision on the appropriateness of each award. Awards available under the Formal Department Awards program are: Medal of Honor; Distinguished Service Cross; Purple Heart; Life Saving Award; Meritorious Service Ribbon; Chief’s Commendation Certificate; Chief’s Unit Citation; Community Commitment Certificate; and the Certificate of Appreciation – Citizen’s Award. These awards are described in the Formal Department Awards section of this report.

Informal Commander’s Commendations
Any Command Level Officer may, without a nomination to the Awards Board, award a Commander’s Commendation Certificate. The Informal Commander’s Commendations section of this report describes the certificate.

Automated Complaint and Commendation System
The Aurora Police Department created the Automated Complaint and Commendation System in 2006 to manage the investigations of and record all complaints and commendations received on sworn officers of the Department. Regardless of how received, all complaints and commendations are entered into the automated system.

Citizens can enter their complaint or commendation directly online through the City’s website. If the Department receives a complaint or commendation in person, on the telephone or in writing, the receiving employee enters the information into the system. Once entered in the automated system, the complaint or commendation remains open until closed by the officer’s Division Chief.
The system directs the complaint or commendation to the officer’s immediate supervisor for an investigation. The supervisor reports his/her finding to his/her supervisor, who approves or disapproves the investigation. That process continues until the officer’s Division Chief ultimately reviews all decisions in the chain of command and approves the investigation and resulting actions. (The policy for handling automated complaints in place for 2015 and has since been changed for 2016.)

Safeguards built into the system include the following: no one can delete the complaint or commendation. Only one supervisor can work on the complaint at a time (following the chain of command). Supervisors can add information but cannot remove it. All information inserted into the system is saved, documenting the date and time submitted and by whom. Supervisors can search the system to determine if the officer has like complaints and or commendations.

The system records all of the information and produces statistical information. Police managers use the information to determine future training needs as well as to decide an appropriate level of discipline.

**District and Bureau Discipline**

The most severe result of incidents reported in this section are Written Reprimands, which are the lowest level of formal discipline. The Internal Affairs Section investigates cases that may require discipline greater than a Written Reprimand. Cases that result in corrective measures (training verses discipline) are recorded in the Automated Complaint and Commendation System. A Police Department Supervisor or Manager investigates all District / Bureau Discipline cases. He/she obtains all of the necessary information and reports his/her findings to his/her supervisor. The employee’s chain of command reviews the investigation. If any supervisor in the chain of command determines that the employee violated a Department Directive(s) and decides the appropriate level of discipline is a Written Reprimand, he/she makes that recommendation to the Chief of Police. If the Chief concurs with the findings, a Written Reprimand is prepared, reviewed, and approved by the Chief. The Chief of Police may personally issue and serve the Written Reprimand on the employee or delegate this duty to a command officer within the employee’s chain of command. The Written Reprimand is part of the employee’s permanent discipline file.

**Formal Internal Investigations and Discipline**

The Chief of Police orders all formal internal investigations. As a general rule, the Chief orders formal investigations on allegations that could potentially result in discipline that is greater than a Written Reprimand. Additionally, critical incidents (i.e. police shootings, use of force resulting in serious injuries or death, serious traffic accidents involving officers, etc.) may result in the Chief ordering a formal investigation regardless of whether there is any evidence or accusation of misconduct. The Chief’s order will allege a violation(s) of Department Directive(s). The Internal Affairs Section completes the investigation and reports its findings to the accused officer’s Division Chief. The officer’s Division Chief decides whether the evidence proves the alleged violation(s). If so, the Division Chief will sustain the allegation(s). When the Division Chief sustains an allegation, the Chief of Police orders discipline in accordance with the City’s and Department’s policies.


### Perspective Statistics

The Department provides the following statistical information for the purpose of perspective. The Department currently employs 691 sworn officers and 124 civilian employees (total 815). During 2015, the Department handled 210,497 calls for service from the public, arrested 10,975 suspects, issued 6,252 criminal summonses (non-custodial arrests) and issued 47,372 traffic citations.

### Formal Department Awards

During 2015, the Aurora Police Department presented 192 awards through the formal program. The Department did not present a **Medal of Honor** award. The Department honored seventeen (17) officers with the **Distinguished Service Cross**. The Department presented two (2) **Purple Heart Awards**. The Department presented twenty (20) officers with the **Life Saving Award**. The Department recognized twenty-two (22) officers with the **Meritorious Service Ribbon**. The Chief commended ninety-six (103) officers with **Chief’s Commendation Certificates**. The Chief presented nine (9) **Chief’s Unit Citations**. The Department presented twelve (19) citizens with the **Certificate of Appreciation - Citizens Award**.
Medal of Honor

The Medal of Honor may be awarded by the Chief of Police to members who distinguish themselves by intentionally and knowingly placing themselves in a situation that involves an actual and imminent danger of death and whose actions demonstrate conspicuous bravery or heroism significantly above and beyond the call of duty. The member must perform an act so outstanding that it clearly demonstrates extraordinary courage beyond the requirements of the Distinguished Service Cross. The member must have been aware of the great personal danger to himself/herself prior to the performance of the act and the act must have involved an imminent, actual and substantial threat to the member’s life. This award will be a medal, pin and a certificate presented by the Chief of Police.

The department did not present a Medal of Honor award in 2015.
Distinguished Service Cross

The Distinguished Service Cross may be awarded by the Chief of Police to members who distinguish themselves by demonstrating exceptional bravery despite an imminent risk of serious bodily injury or death. A member may be aware or unaware of great personal peril to himself/herself prior to the performance of the act. This award will be a medal, pin and a certificate presented by the Chief of Police.

The department presented seventeen (17) Distinguished Service Cross awards in 2015.

Lieutenant Jad Lanigan

On December 3, 2014, Lieutenant Lanigan was on his way to work when he observed an auto accident on E470 and E. Quincy Ave. Lieutenant Lanigan noted the car was in the ditch and it appeared to have rolled several times. Lieutenant Lanigan ran down the embankment and approached the car. He was able to see the driver was pinned in the driver’s seat and was unconscious. The rear of the car and part of the driver’s side of the car were fully engulfed in flames. The flames were approximately 4 feet high. Lieutenant Lanigan tried to open the car doors, but they would not open due to the accident. Lieutenant Lanigan crawled into the car through the front passenger side window. He was able to grab the driver of the car and pull him out. Lieutenant Lanigan, along with two civilians, were able to move the driver out of the car to a place of safety. The driver’s jacket was burned onto his shirt, but the driver was not burned due to Lieutenant Lanigan’s quick actions.

For demonstrating exceptional bravery despite facing imminent risk of serious bodily injury or death, Lieutenant Jad Lanigan is commended for his actions and is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Distinguished Service Cross.
Officer William Woods
On June 3, 2015 Officer John Reiter was at the Walmart at 9400 E. Hampden Ave. when he heard that a shoplift suspect ran from him and attempted to run him over. The suspect was believed to be armed with a handgun. Officer Bill Woods heard this over the radio and headed to help locate the suspect. At 1417 hours an alarm came into dispatch at 4219 S. Alton St. where it was confirmed that suspect broke into the house. Information obtained from the resident was that her vehicle was in the garage and the keys were in it. Officer Woods showed great bravery when he placed two blocking vehicles in front of the residence’s garage to contain the suspect, prevent escape, and mitigate the threat to the surrounding community. The suspect fired one shot from a handgun through the garage at Officer Woods when the police SUV was positioned against the garage door. Officer Woods was exposed to a known risk when performing this task.

For demonstrating exceptional professionalism and bravery Officer William Woods is commended for his actions and is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Distinguished Service Cross.

Officer Specialist Lonnie Crump, Officer Ryan Bergstrom, Officer Keith Burke, Officer Richard Day, Officer Matthew Wells-Longshore, and Officer Matthew Wyche
On November 14, 2015 at about 11:15 a.m., a woman entered the Family Dollar store at 9131 E. Colfax Avenue and passed a note to a clerk at the store stating that people would get hurt if they did not follow the instructions in the note or if the police were called. The woman produced two knives, locked the front door and ordered customers, including children and staff to a back office. A customer called 911 and Officers Richard Ray, Officer Keith Burke, Officer Lonnie Crump, Officer Matthew Wyche, Officer Bryan Bergstrom, and Officer Matthew Wells-Longshore responded. Officer Burke attempted to break the front door glass, distracting the suspect which allowed the store manager to jump the front counter and unlock the door. The officers made immediate entry into the store, confronting the knife wielding suspect, who made a dash toward the back office where the hostages were being held. Officer Crump flanked the woman and deployed his taser, safely subduing her and ending the incident. None of the hostages were harmed.

For demonstrating exceptional professionalism and bravery, Officer Specialist Lonnie Crump, Officer Bryan Bergstrom, Officer Keith Burke, Officer Richard Ray, Officer Matthew Wells-Longshore and Officer Matthew Wyche are commended for their actions and are hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Distinguished Service Cross.

Sergeant Mike Holm, Officer Daniel Iovine, and Officer Paul Seiwald
On April 22, 2015 officers responded to 16250 E. 40th Ave. on a report of a possible hostage situation in a room on the 6th floor. The first arriving officers learned that a housekeeper was being held by a male who was on drugs. Realizing the potential harm to the employee officers established an emergency arrest team and began to develop a rescue plan. Officer Mel Cobb set himself up in an adjoining room where he could attempt to listen to conversations and attempt contact with the male and victim. Officer Dan Iovine arrived shortly after and took position as the officer in charge of the rescue team. As more officers arrived the rescue team was adjusted to have Sergeant Barry Cape and Officer Mike Eli as breachers with Officer Iovine and Officer Seiwald as first to enter the room followed by Sergeant Mike Holm. Due to the construction of the door, when breached, only the lower half broke off causing the
initial officers to crawl through a hole in the door to make entry into the room. The male had choked the victim and was dragging her around the room threatening to throw her out a broken window. Members were given the order to execute the rescue. Officer Iovine and Officer Seiwald entered the room first and contacted the male who was in the process of assaulting the female, all four ended up on the floor where a violent fight ensued. Sergeant Holm was able to get the victim away from the suspect and pass her off to Officer Eli who safely removed her from the room. Sergeant Carlson and Officer Tim Jeffrey tased the male. When that did not stop him from fighting Officer Seiwald utilized the carotid control hold, at which time officers were able to handcuff the male and eventually place him in a hobble. Due to the quick actions of all officers involved and the rescue plan set up the hostage was rescued safety and the suspect arrested.

For demonstrating exceptional bravery despite facing imminent risk of serious bodily injury or death, Sergeant Michael Holm, Officer Daniel Iovine and Officer Paul Seiwald are commended for their actions and are hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Distinguished Service Cross.

Officer Dale Leonard
On November 14th, 2014 at around 9 p.m., Officer Ryan Burns and Officer Dale Leonard were riding as a two officer unit performing routine patrol duties. They initiated a traffic stop on a suspicious vehicle that unknown to them had just been stolen from E. 17th Ave. and Fulton St. Upon approaching the vehicle the driver of the car fired several shots at Officer Burns with a handgun. Officer Burns was struck in the right leg above the knee, inflicting severe life threatening injuries. Officer Leonard immediately returned fire in defense of Officer Burns and himself as the vehicle sped away. Officer Leonard observed that Officer Burns was severely wounded and was losing a significant amount of blood. Officer Leonard immediately applied a tourniquet to Officer Burns’ leg to stop the bleeding. Officer Joseph Cornell arrived on scene and made the life saving decision to load Officer Burns into his patrol car and transport him to the ER at University Hospital rather than wait for rescue to arrive. Officer Burns was taken immediately into surgery, which lasted 6 plus hours. There is no question that the actions of both Officer Leonard by applying immediate first aid, and Officer Cornell’s decision to transport to the hospital, saved the life of Officer Burns.

Sergeant Craig Baumfaulk and Officer T.J. Campagna stayed with Officer Burns for the duration of the surgery, reassuring him that he would be ok, and relaying information to his family and APD leadership to keep them constantly updated. The response and support to this incident was overwhelming, with close to two hundred officers arriving in the area, including DPD, to establish a perimeter, search for the suspect, and set up command operations. The actions of all officers, dispatchers, and civilians involved were vital to the overall mission, investigation, and later successful prosecution.

For demonstrating exceptional professionalism and bravery in the face of such a horrific and traumatic event, Officer Dale Leonard is commended for his actions and is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Distinguished Service Cross.
Officer Stephenson Cary, Officer Robert Wong, Officer Brandon Meadows, Officer William Hummel, Officer Jeff Olson

On April 27th, 2014 at 0240hrs., APD units were dispatched to 1661 Geneva St., Apt#6, on a report of domestic violence incident. The female (victim) at the location was reporting her boyfriend (suspect) had threatened to kill her and their two children with a knife. Suspect was on cocaine and very violent. Victim was able to escape the apartment, but left her two boys, ages 5 and 8 inside. Officers’ Wong, Meadows, Olson, Hummel and Cary arrived on scene and immediately formed an arrest and entry team. As they approached they could hear the children screaming from inside the apartment. Officers’ were able to see the suspect through a window holding a knife. The suspect was given verbal orders to drop the knife and open the door, which he ignored and took the children into a back bedroom. The Officers’ fearing for the lives of the boys made immediate entry. As a team the Officers’ entered the apartment and converged on the bedroom. They opened the door of the bedroom and one of the boys, the 8yo, ran out, screaming, bleeding from a cut on his hand. The 5yo was sitting on a bed, crying and screaming, as the suspect stood next to the bed, knife still in hand. The Officers rushed into the bedroom where Cary and Olson grabbed the child and removed him from danger. Wong, Meadows and Hummel engaged the armed suspect, ordering him to surrender and comply. The suspect dropped the knife and was taken into custody without the use of deadly force. It was later learned that when the Officers entered the apartment the suspect grabbed the 8yo and held the knife to his throat. The 8yo, fearing for his life, grabbed onto the knife blade attempted to disarm the suspect, cutting his hand, prior to Officers entry into the bedroom.


**Purple Heart**

The Purple Heart may be awarded by the Chief of Police to any member who sustains a gunshot wound, stab wound, or serious injury, under aggravated and hostile circumstances, which could have resulted in death or could potentially result in a permanent disability, which may force the member to retire. This award will be a medal, pin, and a certificate presented by the Chief of Police.

The department presented two (2) Purple Heart award in 2015.

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**Officer Thomas Faustin**

On May 4, 2015 at approximately 0027 hours, Officer Thomas Faustin was conducting a traffic stop in the area of E. Colfax Ave. and Moline St. Officer Faustin was walking back to his patrol vehicle after contacting the driver regarding the traffic stop. Officer Faustin observed a vehicle change lanes from the inside to the outside lanes of traffic as it approached the location. Officer Faustin initially stopped in front of his patrol vehicle in order to wait for the vehicle to pass. However, the vehicle stopped just short of his patrol vehicle in a manner indicative of a motorist waiting for the officer to return to his vehicle. Once Officer Faustin stepped out from in front of his patrol vehicle, the suspect vehicle immediately accelerated, squealing its tires and drove directly at Officer Faustin. The suspect vehicle struck Officer Faustin’s legs and the front driver’s side quarter panel of his patrol vehicle. The impact threw Officer Faustin onto the hood of his patrol vehicle and he subsequently fell to the ground.

Officer Faustin immediately got into his patrol vehicle and began to pursue the suspect vehicle, which was trying to flee the area. Although Officer Faustin had sustained injury to his legs after being struck by the suspect vehicle, he continued to pursue and kept a visual on the suspect vehicle while calmly airing the information. Officer Faustin was forced to stop his pursuit after his patrol vehicle began to smoke and become inoperable, however assisting officers were able to get in the area to obtain a partial plate and suspect description before the vehicle evaded the police at a high rate of speed. After having what appeared to be an attempt on Officer Faustin’s life, he was still able to engage the suspect in a pursuit that allowed officers to obtain critical information that resulted in the arrest of the suspect later that night. Officer Faustin showed exceptional bravery in recovering from such a violent assault and engaging in a pursuit with a suspect that he believe posed a great risk to citizens, officers and himself.
For wounds suffered as result of this encounter, Officer Thomas Faustin is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department - Purple Heart.

**Officer Ryan Burns**

On November 14th, 2014 at around 9 p.m., Officer Ryan Burns and Officer Dale Leonard were riding as a two officer unit performing routine patrol duties. They initiated a traffic stop on a suspicious vehicle that unknown to them had just been stolen from E. 17th Ave. and Fulton St. Upon approaching the vehicle the driver of the car fired several shots at Officer Burns with a handgun. Officer Burns was struck in the right leg above the knee, inflicting severe life threatening injuries. Officer Leonard immediately returned fire in defense of Officer Burns and himself as the vehicle sped away. Officer Leonard observed that Officer Burns was severely wounded and was losing a significant amount of blood. Officer Leonard immediately applied a tourniquet to Officer Burns’ leg to stop the bleeding. Officer Joseph Cornell arrived on scene and made the life saving decision to load Officer Burns into his patrol car and transport him to the ER at University Hospital rather than wait for rescue to arrive. Officer Burns was taken immediately into surgery, which lasted 6 plus hours. There is no question that the actions of both Officer Leonard by applying immediate first aid, and Officer Cornell’s decision to transport to the hospital, saved the life of Officer Burns.

Sergeant Craig Baumfaulk and Officer T.J. Campagna stayed with Officer Burns for the duration of the surgery, reassuring him that he would be ok, and relaying information to his family and APD leadership to keep them constantly updated. The response and support to this incident was overwhelming, with close to two hundred officers arriving in the area, including DPD, to establish a perimeter, search for the suspect, and set up command operations. The actions of all officers, dispatchers, and civilians involved were vital to the overall mission, investigation, and later successful prosecution.

For sustaining life threatening wounds in the line of duty as a result of this horrific encounter, Officer Ryan Burns was awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Purple Heart Medal.
Life Saving Award

The Life Saving Award may be awarded by the Chief of Police to members who personally save a life. The life-saving effort will normally involve one of the learned life supporting processes: mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, the Heimlich maneuver for choking victims, or the control of severe bleeding. Actions meriting this award will be significant actions by the member. The award will only be bestowed if the victim survives the incident. The request for a life-saving award will be accompanied by a document from witnesses or an attending physician stating the methods applied contributed significantly to the victim’s survival. This award will only apply when victims are at imminent risk of death. This will normally not include deliberate actions taken by the victims, unless the victims have inflicted injury upon themselves that is actually life threatening. This award will be a pin and certificate presented by the Chief of Police.

The department presented twenty (20) Life Saving Awards in 2015.

Sergeant Graham Dunne

On August 30, 2015, Sergeant Graham Dunne responded to 10590 E. 25th Avenue reference a party hanging in the garage. A neighbor and the male’s wife cut him down prior to Sergeant Dunne’s arrival. As Sergeant Dunne arrived, he found the male was laying on his side on the ground and his wife and neighbors were standing by, the male was not breathing and had no pulse. Sergeant Dunne rolled the male onto his back and tilted his head to facilitate an open airway, he was still not breathing. Sergeant Dunne started CPR, after about two minutes another officer checked for a pulse at the ankle and found that with the compressions there was blood flow. Rescue arrived about three minutes into performing CPR and took over. They transported the male the University Hospital. Without the quick actions of Sergeant Dunne, the male would not have survived.

Sergeant Graham was awarded the Life Saving Award for his efforts.

Lieutenant Marc Paolino and Officer Specialist Darryll Huntsman

On April 11, 2015 at 4:22 pm Officers were dispatched to the Best Western located at 800 S. Abilene St. on a report of a suicidal male with a gun. Sergeant Brian Saupe was first to arrive and was able to obtain a key card and room number for the male. At one point the male opened the door but then shut it quickly. Officer Darryll Huntsman and Sergeant Marc Paolino arrived on scene, they could hear what they thought was the male barricading the door. Sergeant Paolino and Officer Huntsman then evacuated the second floor of the hotel. Sergeant Saupe attempted to make contact with the male by phone and knocking on the door. When they had no contact they used the key card to enter the room where they found the male hanging by a bed sheet behind the door. Officer Huntsman was able to untie the male and lower him to the ground at which time he was unconscious and not breathing. Officer Huntsman removed the sheet from around his neck and checked for a pulse. The male came to a short time later and was transported to the hospital where he made a full recovery.
The lifesaving actions of these Aurora Police Department members shows a tremendous example of commitment to community, selfless service and teamwork, providing this man with another opportunity at life. Sergeant Marc Paolino and Officer Specialist Darryll Huntsman are hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department Life Saving Award.

**Officer Patricia Southwick**

On June 4, 2015, officers were dispatched to a welfare check where a female had cut her arms and had a history of suicide attempts. Officer Patty Southwick arrived first and took control of the female who had cut her upper left arm and was covered in blood. Officer Keith Matthews arrived and took control of the female’s right arm as she was still struggling with Officer Southwick. Officer Lonnie Crump arrived and handed a tourniquet to Officer Southwick who applied the tourniquet. At this time the three officers were able to control the female and stop the bleeding. A 5 inch steak knife was located in the kitchen and large amounts of blood on the floors where she had cut herself and was struggling with the officers. Rescue arrived and transported the female to the hospital. Due to the amount of blood loss, if Officer Southwick would not have applied the tourniquet, the female would have lost an arm and possibly her life. The life saving actions of these officers shows a tremendous example of commitment to community, selfless service and teamwork, providing this female with another opportunity at life.

Officer Patricia Southwick was awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Life Saving Award

**Officer Michael Moore**

On September 21, 2015, Officer Michael Moore was dispatched to General’s Park at 1561 Quentin Street on a report of a man down. The man was face down, had stopped breathing and was turning purple. Officer Moore rolled the man on his back and positioned his head to open the airway. Officer Moore prepared to start CPR and removed some clothing from the man’s chest. A weak pulse was detected and the man started to gasp for air. University of Colorado Police Officers arrived, followed by Aurora Fire Rescue personnel. The man was transported to the hospital and made a full recovery. The University officers stated that Officer Moore’s initial actions were instrumental in saving the man’s life.

Officer Michael Moore is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Life Saving Award.

**Officer Steven Cortese and Officer Clark Orchard**

On November 16, 2015 Office Steven Cortese observed a man lying in the parking lot at 11025 E Colfax Ave. A woman was next to the male attempting some type of first aid. Officer Cortese observed that the male was turning blue, was not breathing and was not responding to verbal commands. Officer Cortese learned from the female the male was suffering from a heroin overdose and she had attempted to inject him with Narcan but broke the needle. Shortly after starting CPR Officer Clark Orchard arrived on scene and relieved Officer Cortese and continued the CPR on the male. Officer Orchard checked for a pulse and the male began to breathe on his own. Rescue arrived on scene and transported the male to the hospital where he fully recovered.

The life saving actions of these Aurora Police Department officers shows a tremendous example of commitment to community, selfless service and teamwork, providing this man with another opportunity...
at life. Officer Steven Cortese and Officer Clark Orchard are hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department Life Saving Award.

**Officer Daniel Veith**

On March 15, 2015, at approximately 4:30 a.m., Officer Daniel Veith was dispatched to 1429 Macon Street, Apt. 8 on a fire assist. Dispatch was having difficulty getting clear information from the reporting party, but aired that the incident was regarding a 21-year old male that was unconscious and not breathing. On arrival, there were a number of people in the apartment, but no one could communicate clearly with Officer Veith to explain the situation. The residents were from Nepal and only spoke Burmese, putting Officer Veith in a situation where he had to rely solely on his training and experience to assess the situation. Officer Veith observed Prabish Rai (09/25/94) laying on the living room floor. Rai was unconscious, had no pulse and was not breathing. Officer Veith immediately determined that life saving measures needed to be taken and began to administer CPR. Officer Veith was alone on the scene for a number of minutes and administered approximately 200 compressions waiting for paramedics to arrive on scene. Once rescue arrived on scene, they took over CPR and Rai was immediately transported to the University of Colorado Hospital. As a result of Officer Veith’s initial lifesaving efforts in conjunction with the Aurora Fire Department’s procedures, Rai’s life was saved.

For demonstrating exceptional professionalism and skill, Officer Daniel Veith is commended for his life saving actions and is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Life Saving Award.

**Officer Dale Leonard and Officer Joseph Cornell**

On November 14th, 2014 at around 9 p.m., Officer Ryan Burns and Officer Dale Leonard were riding as a two officer unit performing routine patrol duties. They initiated a traffic stop on a suspicious vehicle that unknown to them had just been stolen from E. 17th Ave. and Fulton St. Upon approaching the vehicle the driver of the car fired several shots at Officer Burns with a handgun. Officer Burns was struck in the right leg above the knee, inflicting severe life threatening injuries. Officer Leonard immediately returned fire in defense of Officer Burns and himself as the vehicle sped away. Officer Leonard observed that Officer Burns was severely wounded and was losing a significant amount of blood. Officer Leonard immediately applied a tourniquet to Officer Burns’ leg to stop the bleeding. Officer Joseph Cornell arrived on scene and made the life saving decision to load Officer Burns into his patrol car and transport him to the ER at University Hospital rather than wait for rescue to arrive. Officer Burns was taken immediately into surgery, which lasted 6 plus hours. There is no question that the actions of both Officer Leonard by applying immediate first aid, and Officer Cornell’s decision to transport to the hospital, saved the life of Officer Burns.

Sergeant Craig Baumfaulk and Officer T.J. Campagna stayed with Officer Burns for the duration of the surgery, reassuring him that he would be ok, and relaying information to his family and APD leadership to keep them constantly updated. The response and support to this incident was overwhelming, with close to two hundred officers arriving in the area, including DPD, to establish a perimeter, search for the suspect, and set up command operations. The actions of all officers, dispatchers, and civilians involved were vital to the overall mission, investigation, and later successful prosecution.

For saving the life of Officer Ryan Burns, Officer Specialist Dale Leonard and Officer Joseph Cornell were awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Life Saving Award.
Sergeant Tim Holt, Officer Brandon Meadows, Officer Jeremy McElroy, Officer Victor Oviedo, Officer Ryan Burke, Officer Mark Moore, Officer Ryan Marker, Officer Jeff Olson, Officer Virgil Majors, Officer Christopher Thivierge

On October 4, 2014, at approximately 4:26 am, Officer Richard Romero aired to District 1 officers that a vehicle was traveling the wrong way on Interstate 225. He stated the vehicle was traveling south, in the north bound lanes of the interstate. Officer Benjamin Petering observed the red in color GMC Sierra (suspect) driving south on the west shoulder of northbound Interstate 225 approaching Alameda Avenue. Officer Brandon Meadows was south on I-225 in an effort to assist Officer Petering with the traffic stop. The suspect stopped on I-225 just north of Alameda Avenue. Officer Petering exited his patrol car and began to approach the GMC Sierra. As he neared, the suspect began to drive away, still traveling south in the north bound lanes of a well-traveled interstate. Sergeant Tim Holt was traveling south in the south bound lanes of Interstate 225. Sgt. Holt kept a constant watch on the vehicle as he paralleled the truck going south on Interstate 225. Just south of Mississippi Avenue, Sgt. Holt observed sparks from where a collision had occurred. Sgt. Holt then saw the GMC Sierra laying on its side. Sgt. Holt could clearly see that the male suspect had been ejected and was trapped underneath the truck. Sgt. Holt observed the suspect was still breathing, although it was slow, deliberate and extremely labored. Numerous other Officers in the area responded to the crash scene to assist. Two Childrens' Hospital Flight for Life Medics happened to be driving on the interstate at this time and also stopped to assist, Adam O'Leary and Zack Quimby. Citizen Jeff Byers (one of the victim vehicles on NB I225) also assisted. Realizing that the suspect’s life was clearly in danger, Sgt. Holt, officers on scene, and the three citizens, surrounded the GMC Sierra and physically lifted the truck to free the suspect from the crushing weight. Officer Jeffrey Olson and Officer Ryan Burke pulled the suspect from the under the wreckage. The suspect’s left arm was partially amputated near the bicep area. Officer Mark Moore applied a tourniquet to the suspect’s left arm near the bicep area in an attempt to stop the massive blood loss. The suspect’s left arm was eventually amputated at the hospital during surgical procedures, but he did survive the crash and is currently recovering from his injuries. The life saving actions of these Aurora Police Department officers, along with the assistance of several citizens, shows a tremendous example of commitment to community, selfless service and teamwork, providing this man with another opportunity at life.
Meritorious Service Ribbon

The Meritorious Service Ribbon may be awarded by the Chief of Police for service rendered in the line of duty when a member, because of diligence and perseverance, performs difficult tasks under unusual circumstances and goes far beyond that which is normally expected of members. This award will be a pin and certificate presented by the Chief of Police.

The department presented twenty-two (22) Meritorious Services Ribbons in 2015.

Sergeant Matthew Brukhacher
On August 6th, 2015, Sergeant Brukbacher was covering an officer when a routine traffic stop was conducted which rapidly developed into a scene of charged racial tension and hostility. During this volatile situation, Sergeant Brukbacher’s disciplined leadership under pressure successfully inspired the officers to maintain their professional composure and the appropriate use of force for the situation. His ability to multi-task was soundly tested as he maintained situational awareness of the violently resisting suspect and the suspect’s encroaching crowds of hostile supporters who were verbally and physically interjecting themselves into the situation. Sergeant Brukbacher’s leadership of twenty-four APD officers at various fronts ensured the safety of the APD officers as well as the safety of the aggressive crowd members and ultimately resulted in the successful arrest of the suspect. Sergeant Brukbacher was there upon initial contact with the offender, coordinated additional resources, and stayed until he ensured all officers had safely departed the area.

Sergeant Matthew Brukbacher was awarded the Meritorious Service Ribbon.

Officer Steven Gerdjikian
On December 18th, 2015, at about 4:22 a.m., officers were dispatched to a report of a suicidal female who was intoxicated and was planning on jumping off of a bridge onto the E-470 highway. Officer Steven Gerdjikian located the female on the Hampden Avenue overpass. Other officers shined lights on the woman and distracted her. Officer Gerdjikian was able to grab her as she was climbing the bridge rails and pull her away from the edge of the bridge, preventing a possible suicide attempt and safely resolving the situation.

Officer Steven Gerdjikian was awarded the Meritorious Service Ribbon.

Officer Levi Huffine
On the evening of November 22, 2015 Officer Levi Huffine was dispatched to 2241 Fulton Street on the report of a car fire. Upon arrival Officer Huffine saw flames shooting from under the vehicle and the passenger compartment was filled with smoke. Officer Huffine opened the driver’s door and found an unresponsive male. Officer Huffine could now see that the flames had traveled into the passenger compartment. The male was resisting Officer Huffine’s attempt to remove him from the vehicle. Officer
Huffine was able to pull the male from the vehicle and pulled him to a safe location. By the time Aurora Fire arrived the vehicle was fully engulfed in flames. Aurora Arson Investigators stated that Officer Huffine put himself at risk of injury due to exposure of toxic products and an active fuel fire that was burning under the vehicle.

For his performance of difficult tasks under unusual circumstances brings great credit upon himself and the Aurora Police Department, Officer Levi Huffine is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Meritorious Service Ribbon.

Officer Paul Seiwald and Officer David Wilson
On September 10, 2015 Officers David Wilson and Paul Seiwald responded to the intersection of Piccadilly Road and Highway 30 on a report of a traffic crash involving multiple injuries. Officer Wilson arrived first and pulled a crash victim from one of the cars which had flipped onto its roof. A short time later Officer Seiwald arrived and crawled into the car to check on the condition of the driver which he found to be deceased. Officer Seiwald then found a seven year old female trapped in the back seat. Officer Seiwald could see the child had serious injuries and needed to be removed due to fears it may catch fire. Officer Wilson crawled into the trunk of the car to cut the seat belt which was holding the child in the car. The officers were unable to free the child but remained with her providing comfort and reassurance while firefighters from Aurora Fire cut the child out of the car.

For demonstrating exceptional professionalism and bravery, Officer Paul Seiwald and Officer David Wilson were commended for their actions and were awarded to Aurora Police Department’s Meritorious Service Ribbon.

Sergeant John Kessler, Officer Gerald Armstrong, and Officer Marc Sears
On October 21, 2015 officers were dispatched to a one car accident at E. 6th Ave. and Interstate 225 where the vehicle had run off the road into a retention pond, and no one had exited the vehicle yet. Sergeant Jonathan Kessler was first on scene and could see a small car in the pond with the windows up, doors closed and the water level to the top of the door frame. A witness reported that he saw the car go into the pond and no one had exited yet. As Sergeant Kessler was entering the pond to check the car he could see an outline of a person in the driver’s seat. The doors were locked and the person was not responding as Sergeant Kessler was yelling through the closed window. Officer Marc Sears arrived on scene, Sergeant Kessler told him to run and grab something to break the window. As Sergeant Kessler was waiting he tried the rear driver side door which was unlocked. The female driver was shaking uncontrollably and unresponsive. Sergeant Kessler was able to unlock the driver door by reaching around the driver seat. Officer Gerald Armstrong arrived on scene and with Officer Sears and Sergeant Kessler were able to pull the female out of the car and carried her to the bank of the pond. Rescue arrived on scene and transported her to the hospital.

For performing a difficult task, under unusual circumstances, Sergeant Jonathan Kessler is commended for his actions and is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department - Meritorious Service Ribbon.
Sergeant Cassidee Carlson, Officer Michael Eli, and Officer Timothy Jeffrey

On April 22, 2015 officers responded to 16250 E. 40th Ave. on a report of a possible hostage situation in a room on the 6th floor. The first arriving officers learned that a housekeeper was being held by a male who was on drugs. Realizing the potential harm to the employee officers established an emergency arrest team and began to develop a rescue plan. Officer Mel Cobb set himself up in an adjoining room where he could attempt to listen to conversations and attempt contact with the male and victim. Officer Dan Iovine arrived shortly after and took position as the officer in charge of the rescue team. As more officers arrived the rescue team was adjusted to have Sergeant Barry Cape and Officer Mike Eli as breachers with Officer Iovine and Officer Seiwald as first to enter the room followed by Sergeant Mike Holm. Due to the construction of the door, when breached only the lower half broke off causing the initial officers to crawl through a hole in the door to make entry into the room. The male had choked the victim and was dragging her around the room, threatening to throw her out a broken window.

Members were given the order to execute the rescue. Officer Iovine and Officer Seiwald entered the room first and contacted the male who was in the process of assaulting the male, all four ended up on the floor where a violent fight ensued. Sergeant Holm was able to get the victim away from the suspect and pass her off to Officer Eli who safely removed her from the room. Sergeant Carlson and Officer Tim Jeffrey tased the male; when that did not stop him from fighting, Officer Seiwald utilized the carotid control hold, at which time officers were able to handcuff the male and eventually place him in a hobble. Due to the quick actions of all officers involved and the rescue plan set up the hostage was rescued safety and the suspect arrested.

For performing a difficult task, under unusual circumstances, Sergeant Cassidee Carlson, Officer Michael Eli, and Officer Timothy Jeffrey are commended for their actions and are hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department - Meritorious Service Ribbon.

Officer Thomas Faustin

On May 4, 2015 at approximately 0027 hours, Officer Thomas Faustin was conducting a traffic stop in the area of E. Colfax Ave. and Moline St. Officer Faustin was walking back to his patrol vehicle after contacting the driver regarding the traffic stop. Officer Faustin observed a vehicle change lanes from the inside to the outside lanes of traffic as it approached the location. Officer Faustin initially stopped in front of his patrol vehicle in order to wait for the vehicle to pass. However, the vehicle stopped just short of his patrol vehicle in a manner indicative of a motorist waiting for the officer to return to his vehicle. Once Officer Faustin stepped out from in front of his patrol vehicle, the suspect vehicle immediately accelerated, squealing its tires and drove directly at Officer Faustin. The suspect vehicle struck Officer Faustin's legs and the front driver's side quarter panel of his patrol vehicle. The impact threw Officer Faustin onto the hood of his patrol vehicle and he subsequently fell to the ground. Officer Faustin immediately got into his patrol vehicle and began to pursue the suspect vehicle, which was trying to flee the area. Although Officer Faustin had sustained injury to his legs after being struck by the suspect vehicle, he continued to pursue and kept a visual on the suspect vehicle while calmly airing the information. Officer Faustin was forced to stop his pursuit after his patrol vehicle began to smoke and become inoperable, however assisting officers were able to get in the area to obtain a
partial plate and suspect description before the vehicle evaded the police at a high rate of speed. After having what appeared to be an attempt on Officer Faustin’s life, he was still able to engage the suspect in a pursuit that allowed officers to obtain critical information that resulted in the arrest of the suspect later that night. Officer Faustin showed exceptional bravery in recovering from such a violent assault and engaging in a pursuit with a suspect that he believe posed a great risk to citizens, officers and himself.

For his actions in the immediate aftermath of being struck by a car and pursuing the offender, going above that which is normally expected of members, Officer Thomas Faustin is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department – Meritorious Service Ribbon.

**Officer Ryan Burns and Officer Joseph Cornell**

On November 14th, 2014 at around 9 p.m., Officer Ryan Burns and Officer Dale Leonard were riding as a two officer unit performing routine patrol duties. They initiated a traffic stop on a suspicious vehicle that unknown to them had just been stolen from E. 17th Ave. and Fulton St. Upon approaching the vehicle the driver of the car fired several shots at Officer Burns with a handgun. Officer Burns was struck in the right leg above the knee, inflicting severe life threatening injuries. Officer Leonard immediately returned fire in defense of Officer Burns and himself as the vehicle sped away. Officer Leonard observed that Officer Burns was severely wounded and was losing a significant amount of blood. Officer Leonard immediately applied a tourniquet to Officer Burns’ leg to stop the bleeding. Officer Joseph Cornell arrived on scene and made the life-saving decision to load Officer Burns into his patrol car and transport him to the ER at University Hospital rather than wait for rescue to arrive. Officer Burns was taken immediately into surgery, which lasted 6 plus hours. There is no question that the actions of both Officer Leonard by applying immediate first aid, and Officer Cornell’s decision to transport to the hospital, saved the life of Officer Burns.

Sergeant Craig Baumfaulk and Officer T.J. Campagna stayed with Officer Burns for the duration of the surgery, reassuring him that he would be ok, and relaying information to his family and APD leadership to keep them constantly updated. The response and support to this incident was overwhelming, with close to two hundred officers arriving in the area, including DPD, to establish a perimeter, search for the suspect, and set up command operations. The actions of all officers, dispatchers, and civilians involved were vital to the overall mission, investigation, and later successful prosecution.

For his efforts in coordinating the initial response at the hospital under difficult and unusual circumstances, Officer Joseph Cornell was awarded the Aurora Police Department - Meritorious Service Ribbon.

For his bravery and commitment during a lengthy and painful recovery, Officer Ryan Burns was awarded the Aurora Police Department - Meritorious Service Ribbon.

**Officer Paul Cancino, Officer Brant Harrold, Officer Paul Jerothe**

On August 12, 2014, at about 8:20pm, District 1 patrol responded to the area of I-225 SB HWY @ E. 6th Ave on a report of a male sitting on the bridge looking like he was going to jump off. Officers arrived to find a 21yo adult Hispanic male sitting on the I-225 bridge over the E. 6th Ave. eastbound lanes. He had
climbed over the small chain link fence atop the concrete guard rail with the intentions of jumping off to commit suicide. Officer Paul Cancino, CIT trained, arrived and immediately began talking with the subject. The subject’s wife and child arrived on scene a short time later and it was discovered he has a history of depression. Trained rappel SWAT Officers Brant Harrold and Paul Jerothe quickly set up on the bridge directly behind the subject and tied ropes around their waist and secured it to their police truck in the event they had to grab the subject. While Cancino continued to talk with the subject he continued making suicidal threats. A plan was made that if the opportunity presented itself Officers Harrold and Jerothe would grab him and pull him over the fence. Officer Cancino was made aware of this and did an outstanding job talking to the subject in an attempt to get him to give up while at the same time keeping his attention diverted from what Officers Harrold and Jerothe were doing. At one point the subject raised his arms and placed them on top of the fence making it possible to grab and secure him. Officers Harrold and Jerothe quickly jumped up on the guardrail, reached over the fence, and grabbed onto the subject’s arms. He resisted, but was successfully pulled up and over the fence. Officers Harrold and Jerothe performed a difficult task, under unusual circumstances, going far beyond what is normally expected of members, putting themselves at risk for serious bodily injury when they launched themselves over a fence sitting several stories above E. 6th Avenue. The actions of Officers Harrold, Jerothe, and Cancino, all contributed in keeping the subject from jumping off the overpass in full view of the public, as the fall certainly would have caused serious injury or death.

**Sergeant Mike Gaskill, Agent Mike Thrapp, and Officer Kevin Rossi**

In 2012 the City of Aurora experienced an escalation on gang crimes. The crimes were tied to two different gangs, the Rollin 60’s and the 83 Gangster Crips. Sergeant Mike Gaskill, Agent Mike Thrapp and Officer Kevin Rossi partnered with the Arapahoe County District Attorney’s office, Mike Angel and Daniel Seidel, to begin a grand jury case against the Rollin 60’s in order to reduce this escalation of violence. The Rollin 60’s were first documented in Los Angeles, California in the 1970’s and became notorious for their violence. The Rollin 60’s spread to Aurora in the 1980’s and continue their presence today. The subsequent two year investigation by the Aurora Police Department’s Gang Investigation Unit, the 18th Judicial District Attorney’s Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigations Rocky Mountain Safe Street Task Force resulted in a 73 count indictment and the arrest of 25 members and associates of the Rollin 60’s street gang. The primary indictments consisted of shootings, assaults and robberies. The Rollin 60’s focus on stranger robberies with a showing of force through weapons and/or numbers or drug related robberies, again through the use of force and numbers. In addition, many members of the gang committed burglaries with the goal of obtaining guns to sell back to the gang. The Rollin 60’s also engaged in violent and assaultive conduct to increase their reputation within the broader community. The hard work and dedication of everyone involved in this case resulted in a substantial impact on the Rollin 60’s and their ability to negatively impact the community. This cooperative, complex investigation against a violent street gang benefited the entire community and can be used as a model for future investigations and prosecutions.

**Officer Erick Ortiz**

On June 6th, 2014, at 4:00pm, APD patrol officers responded to 3358 S. Nucla Way on a report of a possible suicidal adult male that was threatening to harm himself and may be armed with a rifle. District 3 DART Officers Erick Ortiz and Thomas Lord were riding as a two man unit and responded to the scene. They parked three houses down from the address and approached the location on foot. They observed
an adult male standing in the driveway of the residence, talking on the phone, going back and forth in and out of the open garage. As they walked closer Officer Lord yelled out, “Rifle!” Both officers retreated to cover and concealment, airing the information to other responding officers. Officer Ortiz retrieved his duty rifle from his patrol vehicle and took up a position on the west side of the street behind the engine hood of a parked pick up truck. Erick observed the other officers coming up behind him, and from the other direction to the south. At the same time he observed the male subject reacting to their actions, walking in and out of the garage and bringing the rifle up to his shoulder level several times. Based on the aggressive actions of the subject, Officer Ortiz perceived that the lives of his fellow officers were in danger and used deadly force by firing his duty rifle to eliminate the threat. Officer Ortiz is commended for his actions, making a very difficult decision under unusual circumstances in order to protect the lives of his fellow officers.

Officer Beau Ewen
On November 3, 2014 officers were dispatched to 1765 N. Chester St. on reports of a man chasing others in the area with a knife. Officer Beau Ewen was in the area and witnessed the suspect chasing another man with a large kitchen knife into the courtyard. Officer Ewen, by himself and knowing the dangerous situation, left the safety of his patrol car and confronted the suspect, who stopped his pursuit of the victim and turned his attention to Officer Ewen. The suspect at first refused to drop the 10” knife. Following repeated requests the suspect then tossed the knife to the ground and rushed at Officer Ewen, who was able to transition to his taser. He then deployed the taser to subdue suspect until help could arrive. The suspect continued to thrash and fight with the officers who arrived to assist and eventually had to be chemically compelled to stop fighting by Aurora paramedics. For performing a difficult task, under unusual circumstances, Officer Beau Ewen was commended for his actions and is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Meritorious Service Ribbon.
Chief's Commendation Certificate

The Chief’s Commendation Certificate may be awarded by the Chief of Police to a member for exceptional contribution to the progress of the Department, or to individuals who perform their duties in an unusually effective manner. The contribution must be adopted by the Department and increase the administrative or operational efficiency of the Department. The Chief of Police may recognize individual members of other law enforcement organizations, or multi-jurisdictional task forces, for this award.

The department presented ninety-six (103) Chief’s Commendation Certificates in 2015.

David Ord (Crime Scene Investigator)
CSI Technician David Ord is the Crime Scene Investigator responsible for the Video Evidence Recovery for the Aurora Police Department’s Crime Scene Investigation Section. He is the main source for detectives and officers when video evidence needs to be collected from video surveillance systems, as no surveillance systems are ever the same. Even systems by the same manufacturer often have been set up differently and require additional inquiry and research. David has gone as far as spending time on the phone with companies or vendors as far away as China to access the data correctly. An example of David’s commitment was when he responded to a liquor store at the request of a detective while on his way home from work in his own personal vehicle. David has, and continues to go above and beyond what is expected of him, providing excellent customer service and maintains the integrity of all evidence he collects for future prosecution. For providing an exceptional contribution to the progress of the department by performing his duties in an unusually effective manner CSI Investigator David Ord is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Chief’s Commendation.

Sergeant Graham Dunne
On December 28, 2015, Sergeant Graham Dunne, being aware of several armed robberies committed by the same suspect, took it upon himself to try and find the offender. Sergeant Dunne knew from a bulletin that the suspect’s mother was staying at a local motel and checked the parking lot. He saw the suspect standing outside smoking a cigarette. The Sergeant initiated a foot pursuit with the suspect and located him in a room in the motel. Sergeant Dunne held the suspect at gun point until backup officers arrived. Sergeant Graham Dunne showed great commitment to the city of Aurora and safely apprehended a dangerous armed criminal.

Agent Stephen Conner
While investigating a cold murder case, 05-31673, Detective Steve Conner showed great tenacity and investigative skill. Due to his work in methodically reviewing this cold case and developing new evidence and witness statements, justice was served. Detective Conner showed great dedication to making sure the victim, Carolyn Colleen Jansen, was not forgotten and his diligence was instrumental in a successful prosecution and a guilty verdict. His hard work and professionalism reflects not only on himself but the men and women of the Aurora Police Department.

Crime Analyst Jamie Newsum and Crime Analyst Ruth Eisner
In 2014 the Aurora Police Department was granted a JAG grant to hire a part time Crime Analyst for the Traffic Section. The job would be a contract position. After numerous interviews Jamie Newsum was
selected and accepted the job. Having very little knowledge of what the job would entail Jamie remained positive and accepted any assignment or task given to her. Chief Metz later tasked the traffic section to develop a DDACTS model program of law enforcement for the department. This operational model integrates location based crime and traffic crash data to determine the most effective methods for deploying law enforcement and other resources. Jamie, with her mentor, Senior Crime Analyst Ruth Eisner, went to work, collecting over five years worth of crime and traffic data for the entire city. From this data a schedule was developed for each district, advising when and where to place officers for enforcement and high visibility. The goal was to decrease crime and accidents in those selected areas, while increasing discretionary time for officers to do proactive community police work. This was a monumental task for both Jamie and Ruth. The model was accomplished in record time and presented to the District Commanders for immediate implementation. The DDACTS concept continues today, with adjustments being made constantly by Jamie and Ruth’s hard work and dedication in making Aurora a safer place for its citizen to live in.

**Sergeant Matthew Brukbacher**

Throughout 2014, Sergeant Matthew Brukbacher completed several projects on his own volition as he had recognized the significant needs of the Aurora Police Department’s Emergency Response Team (ERT). The projects included both outfitting the Department’s Mobile Command and Communications Unit (MCCU) with relevant and current audio/visual equipment, as well as specialized and general maintenance which had not been completed when ERT initially received the MCCU. Sergeant Brukbacher also researched and obtained new gas masks through APD seizure funds. Through his diligence, the Emergency Response Team received new/updated masks that are relevant to their duties in comparison to the standard issue Department gas mask. Through Sergeant Brukbacher’s tireless efforts, the MCCU is an extremely valuable command and control platform and the members of ERT and the citizens of Aurora benefit directly from the research and procurement of the unique gas masks.

**Administrative Specialist Linda Mann**

Administrative Specialist Linda Mann is being recognized for her significant contributions to the Record’s Section, along with the Aurora Police Department as a whole. Linda takes her job duties very seriously and is diligent with her tasks. She is responsible for overseeing approx. 800 various forms in the department and has been editing, updating, and creating new documents to be used throughout the department. She follows through with contacting individuals and departments to review the forms and works with PSS to get them uploaded into the system. She spent a great amount of time updating the department’s traffic summons, making traffic and patrol officers jobs easier and quicker out on the street. Linda recently volunteered to help out in the Chief’s office due to staffing issues, working closely with the Police Legal Advisor on Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) requests. She is extremely well-organized, focused, and enjoys being busy. She is always willing to lend a hand and goes the extra mile in the work she accomplishes.

**Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Deputy Adam Lendi and Arapahoe County Sheriff’s K9 Orry**

On September 17, 2015 at 1025 hours officers were dispatched to 4301 S. Andes Way on a burglary in progress. Officers confirmed that suspect Joseph Allen was inside the residence alone. Officers set up on the location and made announcements but no contact was made with the suspect, with no APD K9 on duty at the time, Sergeant McKinney requested assistance from Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Office K9
Unit. Deputy Adam Lendi was finishing up a demonstration at Eaglecrest High School and on his way home when the request came out. Deputy Lendi without hesitation headed over to the location with K9 Orry. Deputy Lendi deployed K9 Orry and held the perimeter while APD officers attempted negotiations. It was determined that K9 Orry would be deployed. Deputy Lendi first made announcements with no contact from the suspect. After the third attempt K9 Orry was deployed to begin clearing the living room, K9 Orry then ran down a hallway. As Deputy Lendi entered the residence he could hear a male yell “Officers” then start screaming as K9 Orry made bite contact. K9 Orry engaged the suspect’s right lower leg as the suspect was grabbing K9 Orry’s head on both sides. APD officers entered the room and grabbed the suspect’s arms and Deputy Lendi controlled K9 Orry as to not allow bites to the officers. Joseph Allen was placed into custody and transported to the hospital for his injuries. If not for the expedient assistance the outcome of this situation could have ended differently. The actions of Deputy Lendi reflect great credit upon himself and to the law enforcement profession as a whole.

Administrative Technician Kellie Craft
Administrative Technician Kellie Craft was recognized for her exceptional contributions to District 1 and to the Aurora Police Department. In September of 2014, Kellie embarked on an effort to help make the District 1 facility safer for those that work there. She worked side by side with Public Works to develop a site security plan that included fencing, gates, lighting and cameras. Because of her tenacious efforts, the design plans and budget were approved and implemented. The district station security upgrade was completed in March of 2015, on time and on budget. Due to her efforts, Kellie has helped pave the way for additional safety enhancements for both district two and three. Additionally, in the wake of a 2015 grand jury decision, Kellie was asked to assist in the organization and implementation of the department’s mutual-aid contingency planning book. The document was so comprehensive it was added to the department’s resource guide. Kellie also continues to make a difference at many levels. In addition to her day to day efforts, she has committed her time to the department’s Awards Board, Civilian Committee, EOC Logistics Team, and volunteered to assist the new SRT unit as their administrative support.

Officer Ryan Marker
On June 21, 2015, Sergeant Stephen Redfearn with EMATT put out a bulletin reference a stolen black Cadillac possibly being driven by an individual wanted on an attempt homicide warrant as well as being the driver of the stolen vehicle that had been pursued by FLAG, FAST and DART 3 the previous week. Later that evening, at approximately 8:00 pm, the vehicle tripped the License Plate Reader on E. Mississippi Avenue traveling westbound. Traffic Officer Ryan Marker was driving an unmarked patrol vehicle in the area and observed the suspect vehicle in the parking lot at E. Mississippi Avenue and S. Abilene Street. Officer Marker immediately contacted DART 3 officers to respond to attempt a tactical stop of the vehicle based upon the suspect’s violent actions and warrants. Officer Marker maintained visual observation of the vehicle as it left the location and began traveling north on I-225 where he was eventually joined by the DART officers. All continued to follow the suspect vehicle as it went west on I-70 to I-25. During this time, Officer Marker did an outstanding job calling out locations, trying to keep dispatch informed as channels were patched with other jurisdictions, while not being observed by the suspect. The suspect vehicle continued north on I-25 to Highway 36 and west towards Boulder. As the vehicle approached Westminster, Westminster PD was able to get in position and deploy stop sticks. A short pursuit by Westminster PD ensued, and the suspect was taken into custody a short time later.
without further incident. Officer Marker is commended for his professionalism, and ability to remain calm as he communicated vital information to everyone involved in order to contain the vehicle and the violent suspect without it fleeing and placing the public in danger.

**Aurora for Youth Programs Program Assistant Jeanne-Anne Moran**
In July of 2013, Jeanne-Anne Moran began her career with the Aurora Police Department, which was the same year the Aurora for Youth Police programs were beginning. Her passion and commitment to these programs were immediately obvious and she has been instrumental in their success ever since. Jeanne-Anne frequently stays late, works weekends, and takes projects home to ensure timely and professional results. She has created posters and fliers for special events, and managed information documenting youth and officers involved on all the programs. The volunteers who prepare thousands of graduation bags for DARE and GREAT students are influenced by her supervisory skills and leadership. She is proactive in anticipating upcoming events and putting schedules and action plans in place, making the jobs of the people she works with easier. Jeanne-Anne always gives 100% each and every day, inspiring others to serve passionately in our service to the city and each other.

**Officer Roland Albert**
In February of 2015, Officer Roland Albert began teaching the “Success for Teens” program at Jefferson Hills and Excelsior Youth Centers. He has so far instructed over 150 students in this life skills educational program. He continues to bridge the prevention and intervention programs, impacting our youth who need it the most. Officer Albert has brought in guest speakers and motivated his students to a new level of situational awareness. He has become a positive role model for the Aurora for Youth APAC programs, which is much appreciated by the staff at both facilities, as well as the students he influences. His dedication and professionalism is affecting the future of our youth, one student at a time!

**Officer Specialist Lonnie Crump**
For over 9 years Officer Specialist Lonnie Crump has been a positive role model to Aurora’s youth, teaching DARE and GREAT programs at numerous schools. He has instructed at Wheeling, Mission Viejo, Jewell, and Peoria Elementary Schools with great success. When instructing at these schools, Lonnie does more than just show up and teach for a few weeks. He takes ownership of the school and the students, teaching a variety of topics to all ages. Lonnie is proactive and motivated to create programs that improve the safety and well-being of our youth. His approach to keeping students out of trouble and focused on their goals is commendable! He is respected and appreciated by school staff, parents, and mostly by the students he influences.

**Officer Jordan Odneal**
When the Aurora Police Department began teaching a new character trait development program called GREAT, Officer Jordan Odneal was the first officer to enthusiastically jump on board and begin instructing. Jordan volunteered to teach every 6th, 7th, and 8th grader in health class at South Middle School. His reviews and evaluations from students, staff, and parents have been outstanding! He continues to promote the program enthusiastically by recruiting more officers to teach, and getting additional schools to join in for the benefit of their students.
Officer Danno Singleton
Officer Danno Singleton is a shining example of the Aurora for Youth programs! He is a GREAT instructor, APAC Officer, Explorer Advisor, a member of the Teen Academy Staff, and the Director of the Police Explorer Academy. His dedication and commitment to these programs is amazing, requiring him to supervise the 16 week academy on weekends, along with the planning, scheduling, interaction with parents and creative problem solving that comes with everything. Danno is a great role model, mentor, and leader for the youth participating in these programs. His professionalism and dedication have made all the Aurora for Youth programs the success they have become to date.

Officer Dan Smick
Officer Dan Smick is the Assistant Director of the Police Explorer Academy. He has sacrificed many hours to this 16 week commitment of training, supervising, and getting recruits mentally and physically prepared for the challenges of becoming Aurora Police Explorers. Additionally, Dan is the lead instructor for the Explorer Shoot Team, coordinating the preparations and logistics for the Metro and LEEPAAC shooting competition event hosted by APD. Dan is a great model for the Explorers, motivating and inspiring them to be the best they can be. His dedication and professionalism have made the Aurora for Youth programs the success they are today.

Officer Dan Smick was commended for his actions and was awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Chief’s Commendation.

Sergeant Bill Revelle, Officer Chad Berger, Officer Travis Moody, Officer Jason Pray, Officer John Sangi
On July 18, 2015, Sergeant Bill Revelle, Officer Chad Berger, Officer Travis Moody, Officer Jason Pray and Officer John Sangi, along with Sergeant Revelle’s son Will and friend Timothy Franzen were enjoying an off-duty camping trip at the American Basin campground. A 14 year old girl ran into the campground to get help after her father’s leg was severely broken when a boulder rolled onto it. The off-duty officers assisted other volunteers in crossing treacherous terrain, guiding search and rescue responders, and evacuating the injured man. Rescuers had a 700 foot ascent to reach the victim. Officers Moody, Berger and Pray were each given 100 pounds of gear to carry. A national guard helicopter was unable to rescue the hiker due to the treacherous terrain, so the injured man had to be carried on a stretcher back to the campground, being lowered one person at a time.

For rendering critical assistance during this rescue, Sergeant Bill Revelle, Officer Chad Berger, Officer Travis Moody, Officer Jason Pray and Officer John Sangi were presented the Aurora Police Department’s Chief’s Commendation Certificate.

Officer John Campbell, Officer Eugene Cowell, Officer Matt Helfer, Officer Tom Muldoon
Officers Matt Helfer, Gene Colwell, John Campbell, and Tom Muldoon have consistently demonstrated outstanding sustained commitment to the Aurora community by volunteering year after year to prepare and serve the Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner at the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Lodge in District 1. For 2015, the officers prepared and cooked 97 turkeys, 44 hams, 35 pans of stuffing, 30 gallons of gravy, 10 gallons of cranberry sauce, 800 pounds of potatoes, and 200 pounds of sweet potatoes. The meals were prepared as 600 to-go dinners for elderly persons unable to attend the event, 2,100 dinners for elderly persons attending the event, and 300 dinners sent for the less fortunate and homeless at the Denver Rescue Mission. While other officers, civilian volunteers, and members of the Aurora Fire
Department assisted with serving meals, these officers took on the bulk of the mission, spending countless hours over the years preparing for and participating in this community event. Their selfless commitment to others is much appreciated by the Fraternal Order of the Eagles and the hundreds of senior citizens participating in the event whom without this assistance would go without a Thanksgiving Holiday meal.

Officer John Campbell, Officer Eugene Colwell, Officer Matt Helfer, and Officer Tom Muldoon are commended for their actions and are hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Chief’s Commendation.

Property and Evidence Supervisor Rebecca Luna, Agent Alan Shank, Property Technician Cynthia Camp, Property Technician Sean Dailey, Property Technician Sherrie Knodel, Property Technician Michael Mittleider, and Property Technician Ashley Oberg

Since June of 2013 the Aurora Police Department’s Property and Evidence Unit has gone through significant change. This has allowed the department to progressively move forward in instituting and maintaining the best business practices for the storage and preservation of property and evidence. Implementing new business practices included reorganizing all storage locations, renaming property locations, conducting audits and most recently preparing the MJC location for construction. This meant that all staff, property and evidence had to be temporarily moved from MJC to the warehouse at the Central Facilities. This was a monumental task that involved breaking down and moving heavy storage shelves, furniture, supplies and the relocation of over 40,000 items, both property and evidence, to the warehouse. The Aurora Police Department’s Property team; Mike, Sherri, Sean, Cindy, Alan, Ashley and Rebecca also moved into the warehouse becoming a very close knit family in the cramped working area. This was done without any outside professionals, saving the city several thousand dollars. Not only was the move and working in close proximity to one another stressful but the staff had to prepare and assist with three different audits while being housed in a temporary location. APD’s accreditation for CALEA was dependent on the Property and Evidence Unit successfully passing the CALEA audit. The team’s professionalism and dedication ensured the successful passing of all of the three audits. The independent auditors conducting the audits commented on the dedication of the employees and were extremely impressed that none of the 40,000 items were lost in the transfer of locations.

For providing an exceptional contribution to the progress of the department by performing their duties in an unusually effective manner Property and Evidence members Supervisor Rebecca Luna Agent Alan Shank, Property Technician Cynthia Camp, Property Technician Sean Dailey, Property Technician Sherrie Knodel, Property Technician Michael Mittleider, and Property Technician Ashley Oberg are hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Chief’s Commendation.

Lieutenant Marcus Dudley, Lieutenant Troy Edwards, Lieutenant Gary Millspaugh, Sergeant Chris Amsler, Officer Jennifer Krause, Officer Virgil Majors, Officer Crystal McCoy, Officer Darnesha Montgomery, Officer Amber Roberts, Crime Analyst Shawn Cooley

In March of 2015, the Aurora Police Department through the Chief of Police, Nicholas Metz, identified a number of initiatives to enhance its relationship with the community. One such initiative was the designation of a Recruiting Strategies Committee (RSC) comprised of internal members and private
sector business partners working together to develop departmental recruiting strategies and approaches. The RSC was tasked with making recommendations to the Chief of Police, seeking not only to enhance the overall quality and quantity of applicants, but also to improve the diversification among applicants to build an organization that more closely mirrors Aurora’s multi-cultural community. The RSC was also tasked with identifying prospective community partners committed to forging strong public-private partnerships that could implement the recommendations. After nine months of collaboration, the RSC crafted a comprehensive report that will serve as the department’s recruiting blueprint for the foreseeable future and beyond.

For providing an exceptional contribution to the progress of the department by performing their duties in an unusually effective manner Lieutenant Marcus Dudley, Lieutenant Troy Edwards, Lieutenant Gary Millspaugh, Sergeant Chris Amsler, Officer Jennifer Krause, Officer Virgil Majors, Officer Crystal McCoy, Officer Darnesha Montgomery, Officer Amber Roberts, and Crime Analyst Shawn Cooley were awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Chief’s Commendation.

**Sergeant Steven White**

In 2012, Sergeant Steve White put together an exploratory committee to see if it was possible to host the Colorado Police and Fire Games. He found that not only was it possible, but that we had hosted about 20 years ago. He formed a bid packet that included possible venues and hotels that were capable of hosting the event here in Aurora. He then presented that bid in front of the state Olympic Committee, which later voted on and approved them. As the games drew closer, he began to form another committee of people who had previously participated in the games or other large scale type activities. He appointed a game coordinator for each game. As there were several games that we could find no interest in, he ended up coordinating several sports by himself, including racquetball, volleyball, the 5k run and horseshoes. He coordinated with the city and obtained the necessary permissions and permits to hold the games at different venues across the city. These venues included the Beck Center, the APD Range, the Aurora Reservoir, the Aurora Sports Park, Murphy Creek Golf Course and Hinkley High School. He coordinated sponsorships which came in two forms: donations of money and donated goods and merchandise. This built a positive working relationship with local Aurora Businesses and provided a venue to showcase the City of Aurora to police and fire professionals from all over the region. After the games, money was donated to charities which directly benefited the City of Aurora Charities including Cops Fighting Cancer, the Special Olympics, and The Aurora Firefighters Benevolent Fund.

**Sergeant Barry Cape, Sergeant Seth Robertson, Officer Cory Budaj, Retired Officer Mel Cobb, Officer James Gentry, Officer Brandt Smith, Officer David Wilson**

On April 22, 2015 officers responded to 16250 E. 40th Ave. on a report of a possible hostage situation in a room on the 6th floor. The first arriving officers learned that a housekeeper was being held by a male who was on drugs. Realizing the potential harm to the employee, officers established an emergency arrest team and began to develop a rescue plan. Officer Mel Cobb set himself up in an adjoining room where he could attempt to listen to conversations and attempt contact with the male and victim. Officer Dan Iovine arrived shortly after and took position as the officer in charge of the rescue team. As more officers arrived the rescue team was adjusted to have Sergeant Barry Cape and Officer Mike Eli as breachers with Officer Iovine and Officer Seiwald as first to enter the room followed by Sergeant Mike
Holm. Due to the construction of the door, when breached, only the lower half broke off causing the initial officers to crawl through a hole in the door to make entry into the room. The male had choked the victim and was dragging her around the room threatening to throw her out a broken window. Members were given the order to execute the rescue. Officer Iovine and Officer Seiwald entered the room first and contacted the male who was in the process of assaulting the female, all four ended up on the floor where a violent fight ensued. Sergeant Holm was able to get the victim away from the suspect and pass her off to Officer Eli, who safely removed her from the room. Sergeant Carlson and Officer Tim Jeffrey tased the suspect; when that did not stop him from fighting, Officer Seiwald utilized the carotid control hold, at which time officers were able to handcuff the suspect and eventually place him in a hobble. Due to the quick actions of all officers involved and the rescue plan set up the hostage was rescued safely and the suspect arrested.

Sergeant Craig Baumfalk, Sergeant Cassidee Carlson, Sergeant Claude Burns, Sergeant Michael Gaskill, Sergeant Joe Martinez, Sergeant Jason Paulovich, Sergeant Michael Pitrusu, Sergeant Stephen Redfearn (Since promoted to Lieutenant), Sergeant Scott Rutter, Sergeant Eric Scherr, Sergeant John Wilton, Officer Specialist Tomas Campagna, Officer Jason Chilson

On November 14th, 2014 at around 9 p.m., Officer Ryan Burns and Officer Dale Leonard were riding as a two officer unit performing routine patrol duties. They initiated a traffic stop on a suspicious vehicle that unknown to them had just been stolen from E. 17th Ave. and Fulton St. Upon approaching the vehicle the driver of the car fired several shots at Officer Burns with a handgun. Officer Burns was struck in the right leg above the knee, inflicting severe life threatening injuries. Officer Leonard immediately returned fire in defense of Officer Burns and himself as the vehicle sped away. Officer Leonard observed that Officer Burns was severely wounded and was losing a significant amount of blood. Officer Leonard immediately applied a tourniquet to Officer Burns’ leg to stop the bleeding. Officer Joseph Cornell arrived on scene and made the life saving decision to load Officer Burns into his patrol car and transport him to the ER at University Hospital rather than wait for rescue to arrive. Officer Burns was taken immediately into surgery, which lasted 6 plus hours. There is no question that the actions of both Officer Leonard by applying immediate first aid, and Officer Cornell’s decision to transport to the hospital, saved the life of Officer Burns.

Sergeant Craig Baumfalk and Officer T.J. Campagna stayed with Officer Burns for the duration of the surgery, reassuring him that he would be ok, and relaying information to his family and APD leadership to keep them constantly updated. The response and support to this incident was overwhelming, with close to two hundred officers arriving in the area, including DPD, to establish a perimeter, search for the suspect, and set up command operations. The actions of all officers, dispatchers, and civilians involved were vital to the overall mission, investigation, and later successful prosecution.

For successful management of a complex scene involving hundreds of responders in addition to a successful follow up investigation and prosecution of the offenders in this case, Sergeant Craig Baumfalk, Sergeant Cassidee Carlson, Sergeant Claude Burns, Sergeant Michael Gaskill, Sergeant Joe Martinez, Sergeant Jason Paulovich, Sergeant Michael Pitrusu, Sergeant Stephen Redfearn, Sergeant Scott Rutter, Sergeant Eric Scherr, Sergeant John Wilton, Officer Specialist Tomas Campagna, and Officer Jason Chilson are hereby awarded with the Aurora Police Department’s Chief’s Commendation Certificate.
Officer James Giordano and Officer Tim King, Detective Casey Williams, Lieutenant Dan Mark, Sergeant Steve Redfearn, Records Technician Dan Akin, Denver Detective Joseph Delmonico, Denver Detective Joseph Trujillo

An unknown suspect started a series of robberies in several jurisdictions to include Aurora, Denver, and Commerce City. The suspect was violent, unpredictable and attacked two of his victims with the knife he used during the robberies. Agent Casey Williams was assigned the case and put out timely bulletins and communicated regularly with Denver Detectives (Detectives Delmonico and Trujillo) assigned to the Denver robbery cases. On May 13th, 2015 at 1350, the suspect, Ian Griggs, robbed the Subway located at 1470 Chambers Road. Shortly after the robbery was aired, Denver Detectives Delmonico and Trujillo provided information to Aurora Detectives that they had received from an informant. The information provided a moniker for the suspect, the type of vehicle he was driving, the State the vehicle was registered in and where he would most likely go after a robbery. That information was relayed to Detective Williams, who transmitted it to responding officers by radio and he also put out emails. Records Technician Akin was monitoring the emails providing immediate feedback with information about the suspect vehicle and possible driver, which included a Missouri DL photo. Lt. Dan Mark took the information about the vehicle from the email and located the vehicle through the LPR system. Lt. Mark was able to identify the license plate number of the vehicle and even provided a clear still image of the driver operating the suspect vehicle that looked like the suspect in the robbery videos. Sergeant Redfearn located the vehicle via LPR going through the Havana and Colfax readers shortly after the Subway robbery and provided that information and the image of the vehicle to patrol. Officer King located the suspect vehicle at 14th and Tamarac Street and was able to follow it. Once the vehicle had stopped, Officer King was able to block the car from the front. Officer Giordano located Denver Patrol Officers in the area and with Officer King was able to block the suspect vehicle into its parked position and the suspect was taken into custody without incident. A total of 13 robberies in 3 jurisdictions were cleared with the arrest of Ian Griggs. Two of those robberies also included the attempted murder of the victims. The teamwork involved in this incident is what is truly impressive. The responsiveness of the officers and technician who took the information they received without being asked or instructed, made a valuable contribution to the identification and apprehension of a very dangerous criminal. From the time the information was received, it only took approximately 40 minutes to locate the suspect and arrest him.

Officer Salvatore Fazio

On May 5th, 2014, the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO), with the Department of Defense-Defense Logistics Agency, conducted an audit of all the Aurora Police Department’s 1033 program rifles. The auditors are flown in from Battle Creek, Michigan and are accompanied by the state coordinator for the program. These auditors conduct numerous inspections of agencies all across the United States. APD currently has 151 1033 program rifles in its inventory, the second highest in the state. Officer Salvatore “Sam” Fazio, currently assigned to the APD Range, is tasked with monitoring the 1033 program rifles. He has created an extremely organized system for accounting for the rifles, to include a “check out card” which has a photo of each rifle’s serial number and a photo of the officer who signs for it. He also keeps a record book up to date on a constant basis and works diligently to make sure all information is correct. The audit was completed in less than an hour without bringing any of the assigned rifles to the Range.
The auditors commented that the forms with photos were “perfect” and took a copy of the form to members of LESO as an example of the ideal signature card and record keeping system for the program. Officer Fazio is commended for his excellent record maintenance and innovation of the checkout cards. His contribution to the efficiency of the Department will be adopted not only by the APD Range unit, but by other outside law enforcement agencies that participate in the 1033 program rifle program. For taking initiative and setting the example for others to follow, Officer Salvatore “Sam” Fazio, is hereby awarded the Chief’s Commendation Certificate.

Officer Timothy Jeffrey
In the fall of 2013, Officer Tim Jeffrey and Chief Rob McGregor had a conversation about reaching a younger demographic to include in the Department’s already successful Citizen’s Police Academy Program. Chief McGregor challenged Tim to come up with a program directed at the youth in the community, essentially a Teen Citizen’s Police Academy (TCPA). While apprehensive about taking on the commitment of such a program, along with his regular PAR duties, Tim accepted the challenge. During the winter and spring months to follow, Tim began working on the program to develop a schedule, curriculum and coordinate logistics such as location and supplies. Tim’s goal was to design a dynamic and interesting program directed at a comprehensive informational curriculum, while keeping the attention of teens, ages 14 to 17. Working with upwards of 30 members of the department, along with coordinating with outside agencies such as the Denver Police Department, Tim’s vision began to take shape. Working almost 200 hours, both on and off duty, the final outcome was a 2 week, 45 hour program that would expose teens to driving a police car, getting bitten by a K-9, crime scene investigations, along with tours of the Jail, Headquarters, and Municipal Courts. They would also participate in shoot, don’t shoot scenarios at the Academy simulator, learn how to make safe traffic stops, and a wide variety of other law enforcement topics. Tim formed a TCPA support staff, consisting of five SROs and one volunteer officer. To recruit and promote the program, Tim visited local High Schools, giving presentations on the benefits of attending. He also partnered with the department’s Media Relations Unit/PIO to use social media as a recruitment tool. Due to Tim’s initiative, hard work, and dedication, the Aurora Police Department now has a successful Teen Citizen’s Police Academy, with the first class graduating the program on June 28th, 2014.

Administrative Specialist Ruth Brassell
In June of 2014, the Aurora Police Department hosted its very first “Teen Citizen Police Academy” which was attended by over 50 area youth between the ages of 15 and 18 years old. This program was modeled after the effective and popular Citizen’s and Senior Citizen’s Police Academies which have been sponsored and taught by APD personnel for approximately 25 years. Throughout the design and implementation of this new teen program, Administrative Specialist Ruth Brassell willingly and enthusiastically agreed to assist in any way possible in order to ensure the success of the new program. Ruth conducted and implemented a cost analysis, coordinated the logistics, ordering, shipping and delivery of supplies, made name badges, oversaw the design of graphics for application and flyers, distributed the flyers, handled all the incoming applications, had personal telephone contact with the applicants and their families, handled background investigations in order to ensure a “proper fit” for the participants, organized the curriculum binders, made follow up calls for “no-shows” and organized the two separate graduation ceremonies amongst other endless tasks. In short, because of Ruth’s
enthusiastic and professional efforts, the inaugural launch of the APD Teen Citizen Police Academy was deemed a great success.

**Crime Analyst Mary Smith, Administrative Specialist Kathy Payne, and Elizabeth Golden (Volunteer)**

In early 2014, the Aurora Town Center retail shopping district faced sharply rising shoplifting occurrences. Pattern offenders targeted these businesses due to what was perceived as a revolving door, and an ineffective justice system facing pattern criminals. Traditional policing and prosecutorial efforts were failing in addressing this criminal activity. Members of the APD District Two PAR Team met to address and solve this problem. Through an open-ended series of brainstorming sessions, followed up by hard staff work, a model program was developed. Stake holder buy-in from affected retailers was sought out and obtained. Judicial buy in was secured from the City Attorney’s Office, and then from the Chief Magistrate of the Municipal Court. Systems were developed to track repeat and chronic shoplifting offenders. Innovative approaches included mandatory arrests for second-further offenders, and mandatory overnight jailing of offenders with next day court arraignments. All offenders were screened for prior offenses. Items used in furthering criminal activity (vehicles, personal possessions, etc.) were seized as potential nuisance items. A school age educational video was scripted with Aurora Public School drama team assistance, and is being shown to all schools in this large urban community. Text templates were developed to streamline warrantless arrest affidavits, and chronic offenders were flagged in police records for instant identification. Chronic shoplifters were issued trespass notices by impacted businesses. The additional workload would have overwhelmed already short staffed patrol officers. So the District Two PAR Officers altered their work schedules including duty hours and days off to support this pilot program.

As a result of their ideas, staff work, dedication to the citizens of Aurora, and superb teamwork, shoplifting fell 33% in six months. Equally important, overall crime fell 60% in the pilot area. Feedback from offenders is that they are avoiding Aurora Town Center and participating businesses due to this problem oriented policing approach to pattern crime. Other law enforcement agencies are adopting this program due to the demonstrated effectiveness. The program is now being adopted citywide and has received acclaim, emulation from several other law enforcement agencies in Colorado.

**Sergeant Kevin Kenney, Officer Melissa Shipley, Officer Rebecca Yockey, Officer Danno Singleton, Officer Scott Osgood, Officer Richard Grooms**

In May of 2014, Officers Melissa Harden, Rebecca Yockey, Danno Singleton, Douglas Rystrom, Scott Osgood and Richard Grooms were assigned to the Property and Evidence Unit. These officers were detailed to the unit to assist regular staff in dealing with the crushing backlog and re-organization efforts that the department was undertaking. Even though not one of the officers had ever dealt with these issues before they quickly determined the most pressing issues and formulated a strategic plan to relabel, scan, inventory and organize tens of thousands of evidentiary items. Each day was spent searching through hundreds of dust covered boxes of articles. Each box contained anywhere from ten to several hundred cases. Through time the barcode labels had faded and these officers had to manually look up each item in each and every case before printing and attaching new individual labels. In order to spell themselves from the tedium of this task for a brief period, these officers ended up rearranging hundreds of additional boxes of evidence. They moved them from adjacent warehouse aisles up and down numerous flights of stairs and hallways to different buildings. Their dedication was spectacular and their dedication to accomplishing this effort was unwavering. In fact, several officers even
requested to be assigned to the unit to continue forward with projects that they had initiated. By the
time these officers were rotated back to their regular assignments they had sorted through, relabeled,
scanned, inventoried and reorganized over fifty thousand evidentiary items and many hundreds of
boxes of evidence. Rooms at the property warehouse were completely transformed into showpiece
examples. These same officers reorganized better paths for the unit to follow, seized the initiative and
tremendously impacted the manner in which we store our police evidence now and in the future.

Administrative Specialist Lisa McKown, Administrative Specialist Deborah Burgess
Administrative Specialists Deborah Burgess and Lisa McKown are responsible for issuing court
subpoenas and processing court overtime slips for hundreds of sworn officers every day. Deborah and
Lisa noticed that an inordinate amount of court overtime slips were being submitted and processed,
even though the officers’ were not testifying in Municipal Court. Deborah and Lisa formatted a plan and
developed a new court overtime slip to capture the necessary information to determine if officers
needed to be subpoenaed and if their testimony was indeed needed. Data was captured that indicated
many officers’ were not needed for testimony, but an estimated $30,000.00 was spent on court
overtime unnecessarily over a three month period. This information was submitted to city management
with details on how the Court Liaison Office could assist the Municipal Courts and the Aurora City
Attorney’s Office better manage the number of officers that needed to be subpoenaed for testimony,
and help eliminate those that were not. This plan that is under consideration by City Management
would save the city thousands of dollars, increase the administrative and operational efficiency of the
Department, and improve the quality of life for the officers, especially those working night shifts.

Officer Thomas Eckstadt
On March 1, 2014 at about 1340 hours dispatch aired a call of an assist for the Denver Police
Department. Denver Detectives and Fugitive Unit Officers were attempting to apprehend a double
homicide suspect in the area of East Mississippi Ave. and South Chambers Rd. Officer Chris Eckstadt
responded to the area and DPD Officers aired that the suspect vehicle was now eastbound on
Mississippi Ave. The vehicle then turned north on Kalispell St. Officer Eckstadt was directly behind the
DPD Officers who were following the suspect. The suspect vehicle stopped in front of 1020 S. Kalispell St
and he observed 3 young males exit the vehicle and start running away. He chased one of them into the
backyard of the house. He witnessed this party with what appeared to be a z gun in his hand and the party
was wrapping it with a small towel or doo-rag. Officer Eckstadt yelled orders for the party to drop the
weapon and get on the ground and they he disregarded his orders and continued running. All suspects
were ultimately arrested, including the double homicide suspect. Officer Eckstadt is commended for his
courage and bravery as well as his show of reserve in not firing his weapon at what he believed was a
fleeing homicide suspect with a weapon that did not respond to his orders. Officer Eckstadt
performed exceptionally in this quickly evolving, chaotic circumstance and is commended for his actions.

Officer Todd Arntson
On January 10, 2015, at approximately 0410 hours, Officer Todd Arntson assisted Sgt. Holt with a traffic
stop in the area of E. 11th Ave. and Havana St. The vehicle had failed to stop at two red lights. Due to
the time of night, the location of the stop, and the actions of the vehicle, it was unclear if the vehicle
was stolen or possibly involved in another crime in the area. A male passenger in the vehicle fled on
foot as soon as the vehicle came to a stop, suggesting it was more than just a traffic stop. As the subject was running, he kept his right arm by his side, possibly holding or reaching for a weapon. As Officer Arntson got close to the subject, the subject swung at Officer Arntson in an attempt to strike him. Officer Arntson deployed his taser and the subject dropped an item on the ground. The subject continued to run and was tackled and tased again by Officer Arntson. After an intense struggle, the subject was taken into custody. He had a loaded .22 caliber revolver in his pocket. When the area was checked for the item that was dropped by the subject, a fully loaded MAC 11 machine pistol with a 30 round magazine and 1 round in the chamber was recovered. During a search of the subject, drugs were found on his person and he was later found to be a previous offender.

**ARAPCO DA Dan Seidel and ARAPCO DA Mike Angel**

In 2012 the City of Aurora experienced an escalation in violent gang on gang crimes. The crimes were tied to two different gangs, the Rollin 60’s and the 83 Gangster Crips. Sergeant Mike Gaskill, Agent Mike Thrapp and Officer Kevin Rossi partnered with the Arapahoe County District Attorney’s office, Mike Angel and Daniel Seidel to begin a grand jury case against the Rollin 60’s in order to reduce this escalation of violence. The Rollin 60’s were first documented in Los Angeles, California in the 1970’s and became notorious for their violence. The Rollin 60’s spread to Aurora in the 1980’s and continue their presence today. The subsequent two year investigation by the Aurora Police Department’s Gang Investigation Unit, the 18th Judicial District Attorney’s Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigations Rocky Mountain Safe Street Task Force resulted in a 73 count indictment and the arrest of 25 members and associates of the Rollin 60’s street gang. The primary indictments consisted of shootings, assaults and robberies. The Rollin 60’s focus on stranger robberies with a showing of force through weapons and/or numbers or drug related robberies, again through the use of force and numbers. In addition many members of the gang committed burglaries with the goal of obtaining guns to sell back to the gang. The Rollin 60’s also engaged in violent and assaultive conduct to increase their reputation within the greater community. The hard work and dedication of everyone involved in this case resulted in a substantial impact on the Rollin 60’s and their ability to negatively impact the community. This cooperative, complex investigation against a violent street gang benefited the entire community and can be used as a model for future investigations and prosecutions.

**Officer Kevin Deichsel**

On May 6, 2013, a drunk driver turned left in front of an on-coming motorcycle. This resulted in a crash that took the life of the motorcycle rider, who was an off-duty Littleton Police Officer. Officer Kevin Deichsel was called to respond to the crash. He conducted field sobriety tests on the suspect and led the physical examination and subsequent reconstruction of the crash. As a result of the investigation, the suspect was charged with Vehicular Homicide. In preparing for trial, the District Attorney’s office was so impressed with Ofc. Deichsel’s work that they chose him to be the advisory officer for the case. Officer Deichsel put in numerous hours of preparation for the prosecution of this case. When he was given the defense experts report the weekend before trial, he took his own time to thoroughly examine the report and found multiple inaccuracies which the prosecution was able to exploit at trial. As a result of his work, testimony and expertise, the defendant was found guilty of Vehicular Homicide by the jury in two and a half hours of deliberation. On March 31, 2015, Judge Marshall sentenced the defendant to the maximum of 12 years in prison followed by five years probation.
Agent Richard Hefty and Denver DA Ralph Stevenson
Detective Richard Hefty was assigned a robbery case where an at-risk elderly adult was robbed of $150,000 cash. The suspect approached the victim in a parking lot claiming to have money from Africa to share. The suspect said he needed to see earnest money from the victim. The victim brought out a suitcase containing $150,000 cash. The suspect assaulted the victim and ran off with the money. The only evidence we had initially was poor quality video of the incident, we were able to identify a black Volvo station wagon. Detective Hefty had a bulletin created with still images of the vehicle and suspects. A Denver Officer responded to the bulletin, identifying the driver and his female passenger. It was later discovered that the suspects that did our robbery had also committed several frauds in Aurora using this same scam and 6 more in Denver, for a total loss exceeding $200,000. Detective Hefty worked closely with Detectives at Denver P.D. and the Denver DA’s office to compile information about the suspects and their crimes. It was discovered that the suspect driving the black Volvo was on parole and living in a halfway house. Detective Hefty worked with Denver DA Investigator Ralph Stevenson and the suspect’s Parole Officer. Both of the male suspects were taken into custody shortly after being identified, halting their crime spree. Detective Hefty, in conjunction with Denver DA Investigator Ralph Stevenson, researched the two male suspects and found out that they were cellmates in prison. Detective Hefty and Investigator Stephenson worked days-off and extended work days to investigate and close these cases. Their efforts and the recovery of this money exemplifies excellent customer service and dedication. Rich took over a multi-case, multi-jurisdiction and extremely complex investigation. He worked tirelessly and in cooperation with a Denver DAs Office investigator to bring justice to our most vulnerable citizens.

Agent Randy Hansen
On November 4, 2013, Detective Randy Hansen was working in the Innocence Lost Task Force through Safe Streets. The unit’s primary function was to investigate Human Trafficking. On this date, patrol Officers responded to a call from the father of a 17 year old female wanting to report to the police that he had noticed a change in his daughter’s behavior. Hoping to find something that would help explain this change, the father had a look through the daughter’s cell phone. On her cell phone he observed text messages and photographs that were sexual in nature. The daughter confessed to her dad that she had been working as a prostitute for a pimp at a local hotel in Aurora. The Crimes Against Children unit contacted Detective Hansen who began looking into the allegations. Detective Hansen learned that a female was recruiting girls for a pimp through advertisements placed on websites. He later learned that the pimp went by the name of “Tennessee”, and that he conducted a majority of his business in Aurora. Detective Hansen learned that “Tennessee” had a photographer take pictures of the girls in their underwear and post them on various websites for escort services. He wrote several search warrants and arrest warrants that helped bring down an elaborate Human Trafficking ring.
Sergeant Kevin Kenney, Lieutenant James Lesnansky, Sergeant Pat Smith

In June of 2013, the Aurora Police Department discovered that there was a distinct possibility that DNA evidence in over 450 cases had been potentially and prematurely destroyed. As a result, five experts from the law enforcement community were empaneled by the Chief of Police to review any and all of the DNA cases that had been destroyed. It took over an entire year to analyze the complex and extensive material. The committee had to review each and every case on its own merit and then make a determination as far as impacts were concerned. It should be pointed out that Sgt. Kenney of the Property and Evidence Unit, took on the task of reviewing all of the cases in addition to receiving some assistance from other members of the department. Sergeant Kenney worked tirelessly during that year to bring information forward that would shed light on how and why the evidence was destroyed. Without the assistance of Sergeant Kenney, this process could not have been accomplished successfully. Ultimately, the department was able to write up a comprehensive DNA report in which it was determined that only two cases of notability were impacted. Although sad in the outcome of finding two sexual assault cases in which DNA had been destroyed, without Sergeant Kenney’s tenacity, and attention to detail this matter could not have been resolved successfully.

Agent Carrigan Bennett

Over the past number of years, Agent Carrigan Bennett has become the resident expert in providing assistance to the APD Awards Board in preparing and planning the annual APD Awards Ceremony presentation, which is held each May to recognize the heroic and notable accomplishments of our officers. Agent Bennett, although saddled with a number of other responsibilities, takes the time, energy and effort, along with his wife Eleanor, to put together a very well organized and thought out awards ceremony presentation. The Aurora Police Department is set apart from other agencies locally because of the professionalism in which their awards ceremony is conducted. It is in no short order that Agent Bennett provides expertise, technical support, and an overall excellent presentation for the awards in which officers are honored and recognized. It is with heartfelt gratitude and thanks that the Aurora Police Department bestows the Chief’s Commendation Certificate to Agent Carrigan Bennett (and in part to his wife, Eleanor, for her narration and voice over capabilities). Thank you for making the awards ceremony a notable experience for all those that attend, past, present, and future.

Officer Randall Ricks, Officer Eugene Vandyk, and Officer Cassie Schell

From February 2014 through January 2015 Officers Randall Ricks, Eugene VanDyk and Cassie Schell have regularly engaged in targeted enforcement actions aimed at contacting gang members and other felons. Through self-initiated field activities, information developed from dispatched calls for service and intelligence gathered from roll call items as well as other officers and field contacts, these officers have confiscated or seized 18 fire arms and 2 illegal weapons. These activities have resulted in numerous felony case filings in District and Federal courts. These activities have been conducted in addition to regular patrol officer duties, there have been repeated occasions where their peers and supervisors specifically request their assistance in these endeavors. These activities have a heightened level of danger to these officers due to the very nature of the contacts involving weapons and that the persons they have contacted, identified and arrested have a vested interest in avoiding contact with law-enforcement due to gang allegiances and criminal activities they routinely engage in. Further noted is that these
enforcement activities involve interviews with suspects that often do not want to cooperate with the police. These investigations require a high degree of technical knowledge in applicable search and seizure laws and the processing and classification of firearms for nationwide identification and linking to other crimes. These activities have made the City of Aurora a safer place for citizens to reside and have undoubtedly prevented the use of these weapons in crimes of violence.

**Retired Officer John Daniel, Retired Officer John Brungardt**

Officer John Daniel and Officer John Brungardt retired from the Aurora Police Department several years ago and have remained active as volunteers with the department. Officer Daniel and Officer Brungardt are known for the special keepsake batons that they beautifully craft themselves for retired APD officers. Additionally, Officer Daniel volunteers his time with the K-9 unit and has maintained the K-9 cemetery at the range for over 15 years. Officer John Daniel is being recognized for his many years of selfless dedication in supporting the officers of the Aurora Police Department in such a meaningful way. Retired Officer John Daniel is hereby awarded the Chief’s Commendation Certificate.

**Officer Daniel Southwick**

On June 13, 2015, an aggravated robbery occurred at the Bottle Shop Liquor store at 876 S. Havana Street. A female pulled a knife out on the store employee after being confronted during a theft of liquor. Detective Schnicke requested assistance from PAR Officer Dan Southwick to help identify the suspects. Officer Southwick has a great rapport with many citizens and extensive knowledge of his area. Without hesitation, Officer Southwick agreed to help. He located a homeless person named Carl, whom he knows to frequent the liquor store, Carl provided several leads that helped the investigation. Officer Southwick followed the leads that resulted in the positive identification of the suspect through a photo line-up. Without Officer Southwick having extensive knowledge of his area and maintaining a great rapport with the citizens, regardless of their circumstances, this case may not have been solved. Officer Southwick's willingness to assist at a moments notice has always been a positive attribute he exemplifies. This is just another example of Officer Southwick's commitment to always doing an outstanding job.
Chief’s Unit Citation

The Chief’s Unit Citation may be awarded by the Chief of Police to an entire unit whose members perform their assigned duties in an unusually effective manner. The Chief of Police may recognize units comprised of officers from the Aurora Police Department as well as other organizations, or multi-jurisdictional task forces, for this award.

The department presented nine (9) Chief’s Unit Citations in 2015.

Aurora Police Explorer Advisors: Sergeant Sue Baker, Agent Reginald DePass, Agent Johnny Lee, Officer Emily Buchan, Officer Amber Buck Roberts, Officer Natasha Cabouet, Officer Stephen Cary, Officer Craig Collins, Officer Diana Cooley, Officer Ken Forrest, Officer Bill Hummel, Officer Jeremy J. Jenkins, Officer Jennifer Krause, Officer Paul McClendon, Officer Darnesha Montgomery, Officer Fermin Moreno, Officer Tom Muldoon, Officer Danno Singleton, Officer Dan Smick, Officer Mike Stricklin and University of Colorado Officer Bret Rhoades

The Aurora Police Explorer Advisors are a special breed! In addition to their normal full time duties, court and late calls, they devote many hours to our 50 plus Police Explorers. Advisors train, mentor, and counsel, along with maintaining equipment, uniforms, vehicles, and scheduling and recruiting events.

Our Advisors go above and beyond, such as buying food out of their own pockets, writing reference letters, and being available for problems that arise 24/7. Our Advisors are great role models and advise and encourage our Explorers for any career or goal they may be pursuing. Due to their outstanding professionalism and dedication to duty, they are shaping our future leaders!

For their dedication and selfless service, the Aurora Police Explorers Advisors were award the Chief’s Unit Citation.

Emergency Response Team

From May 29th through the 31st of 2015, the Rocky Mountain Airshow came to Aurora and was hosted at the Aurora Reservoir. This event attracted multiple international and national air show acts, including the United States Air Force “Thunderbirds.” The Aurora Police Department representatives were involved in the planning aspects of this multi-day event, and logistics were coordinated amongst several APD units. The Emergency Response Team was tasked with designing and implementing a comprehensive security plan for the inside of the venue, to include coordination with other local, state and federal partners to ensure site security for promoters, vendors, visitors and dignitaries. Members of the Emergency Response Team were assigned various duties during the duration of this event, and worked tirelessly in a multitude of weather and crowd conditions. At one point during the event, it became apparent that the resources of an outside vendor became overwhelmed with parking and traffic control issues. The members of the Emergency Response Team recognized these issues, and instantly stepped in to coordinate and control the large volume of vehicular and pedestrian traffic that was entering into the venue. Even though this was not their assigned duty, members worked in a professional and tireless fashion, some for up to eight hours in the hot sun and dusty environment, all the while being subjected to less than hospitable patrons. Additionally, at the culmination of the airshow, ERT members stepped in and provided first aid and basic life-supporting measures to several attendees who fell ill all at once. Throughout the event, members of the public and event organizers
praised the members of the Emergency Response Team for their professionalism, extreme sense of duty, friendliness and professionalism while assigned to the 2015 Rocky Mountain Airshow.

In light of their service, sacrifice and commitment, the Aurora Police Department’s Emergency Response Team was awarded the Chief’s Unit Citation.

**Media Relations Unit**

**Lieutenant Marcus Dudley, Sergeant Chris Amsler, Officer Diana Cooley, Officer Crystal McCoy**

For most of 2015 and all of 2016, the Aurora Police Department has seen significant changes, challenges, opportunities and growth. These include, but certainly not limited to; a new Chief of Police, new department organizational structure, new Senior Command Staff, updated policies and procedures, new technology, high profile incidents, reinforced strategies on community outreach, crime and other public safety challenges. There is one unit that has been, and continues to be, directly involved and impacted by each of the above listed...that is our Public Information Office. Many might assume that the role of the PIO is easy and glamorous. Most do not get to see the amount of work these folks do seven days a week. The demands of ensuring timely communication to the media, community, and especially internal to the department, is daunting and often overwhelming. Their use of various social media mediums (Twitter, Next Door, Periscope, Facebook, Instagram, APD Website, and others) does so much in getting our story out when mainstream media may, at first, lack interest. They are proactive in identifying the true character, role and activities of APD. They do an excellent job in getting out those positive news stories about the great things our employees do each day. They also do a great job of setting the story straight when inaccurate information is disseminated by the media. This is critical to balancing out what often seems to be negative portrayals of police in today’s climate. Educating our local reporters about what we do, and just as important, what we don’t do, is also very important. Our PIO’s have done an excellent job in developing respectful and professional rapport with many local reporters. This has often helped in getting positive, or at least balanced, news coverage. The image of the APD is often in their care and they take that responsibility personally.

In light of their service, sacrifice, and commitment, the Aurora Police Department’s Public Information Officer was awarded the Chief’s Unit Citation

**Property and Evidence Unit – Property Technician Mike Mittleider, Property Technician Rebecca Luna, Property Technician Sherrie Knodel, and Property Technician Stephanie Evan**

Since June of 2013 when the Aurora Police Department’s Property and Evidence Unit learned that DNA evidence had been inadvertently destroyed, Property Technicians Rebecca Luna, Sherrie Knodel, Mike Mittleider and Stephanie Evans went to work towards providing a more effective and accountable process for the members of the Aurora Police Department. Rebecca, Sherrie, Mike and Stephanie have worked towards making the Property and Evidence Unit more productive by helping to reorganize the Property and Evidence Unit at all four storage locations. Due to their teamwork and efforts they saved the City of Aurora several thousands of dollars by providing the manual labor to tear down and assemble new shelves and pallet racking system at the storage locations. They are also completing the first ever audit of over 400,000 items that are stored in the Property and Evidence Unit. They all learned new computer programs, suggested and helped institute new efficient processes in the way the unit intakes, stores and destroys evidence and property. They have also tested a new program on the
continuity of evidence so the locations of items are known from the time it is retrieved from the evidence locker until it is disposed. They are currently implementing the direct evidence program in Versadex to work out the bugs prior to the officers using the program. Once this direct entry program is instituted it will allow officers to cease completing duplicate work, allow them to itemize the property and evidence more quickly, and get them back on the road faster. They have also tested and improved the property intake module allowing for a more efficient way to intake, store and locate property. Rebecca, Sherrie, Mike and Stephanie have done this all while being understaffed and doing their daily assignments and tasks. APD Property Unit Technicians’ Stephanie Evans, Sherrie Knodel, Rebecca Luna, and Mike Mittlieder are commended for providing such an exceptional contribution to the progress of the department and performing their duties as a team in an unusually effective manner.

**Fugitive Apprehension & Surveillance Team (FAST)**

**Officer Eric Bond, Officer John Campbell, Officer James Giordano, Officer Richard Hirtle, Officer Emily Hitchings, Officer Tim King, Officer Tony Martinez, Officer Andrea Scales, Agent Mike Thrapp, Agent Chris Fanning, Agent Randy Hansen**

Teamwork is essential to any law enforcement agency, as is the foundation that is required to accomplish our overall mission. The Fugitive Apprehension and Surveillance Team (FAST) is no exception. FAST consists of two Agents and eight officers. Three of which work out of the Safe Streets Task Force in Bank Robbery, Innocence Lost and the Fugitive; one officer works out of the City Attorney’s Office; and six core officers work the fugitive unit for the department. Each member was chosen for this position through a highly selective process. Every individual on this team is essential to the success of the Aurora Police Department and the safety of its citizens. The FAST team is a selfless group who are undeniably dedicated to working with one another in different capacities but with the same goal in mind; getting the worst of the worst off of the streets. They remain humble in their roles with little time to reflect on past captures or investigations. FAST members are an incredibly committed and motivated team who often work their regularly scheduled shifts in addition to countless hours of overtime; midnight phone calls from confidential sources; and weekend pick-ups. They are quick to downplay what it is they have most recently accomplished and even quicker to dive into their next assignments. This team exemplifies that no one is safe from arrest when FAST is looking for them. Since 2012, the team has not only demonstrated their ability to find anyone anywhere, but their arrest numbers have increased year after year. The team has had great success tracking some of the most dangerous wanted parties across the United States and other countries. This could not have been accomplished without the positive working relationships that have been cultivated by members of the unit with outside agencies. A testament to the hard work and dedication the FAST team has employed during the last four years.

**Traffic Section DUI Team**

**Officer Ryan Marker, Officer Rolando Gomez, and Officer Jason Chilson**

On March 31, 2012, the Aurora Police Department Traffic Section DUI Team was formed. The team, composed of its original members, Officer Jason Chilson, Officer Rolando Gomez, and Officer Ryan Marker, have been relentless in their efforts, arresting to date a total of 3,649 DUI/DUI-D impaired and dangerous drivers. They have been recognized with multiple awards from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Mothers’ Against Drunk Drivers’ (MADD), along with praise from Arapahoe, Douglas, and Adams County District Attorney’s Offices’ for their passion and dedication in removing impaired drivers off Aurora’s roadways. Since its inception, the DUI teams’ hard work has made a
significant impact be reducing of alcohol & drug related serious bodily injury and fatal crashes. Their presence on the road also motivates other patrol officers to actively seek out and stop impaired driver’s as they all know the DUI team will be there to assist and take over the time consuming investigation when requested, so they can attend to other priorities and calls for service.

Teen Police Academy Staff
Officer Aaron Bunch, Officer Rebecca Yockey, Officer Jackie Campbell, Officer Melissa Shipley, Officer Bridget Johnson, Officer Carolyn Renaud, and Officer Danno Singleton
In June of 2014, the Aurora Police Department hosted its very first “Teen Citizen Police Academy” which was attended by over 50 area youth between the ages of 15 and 18 years old. This program was modeled after the effective and popular Citizen’s and Senior Citizen’s Police Academies which have been sponsored and taught by APD personnel for approximately 25 years. Organizationally there are many people “behind the scenes” who are to be commended for their efforts involving this program: Officer Tim Jeffrey for conceptualizing and bringing this program to fruition, Sgt. Shelly Owens for her help and involvement in promoting the concept, Mrs. Ruth Brassell for her organization skills and efforts and invaluable assistance in the implementation process, and the following officers for their spirit and desire to work with the youth of our community and to serve as a volunteer. “Teen Citizen Police Academy” staff members: Officer Aaron “Jake” Bunch, Officer Jackie Campbell, Officer Melissa Harden, Officer Bridget Johnson, Officer C. J. Renaud, Officer Danno Singleton and Officer Rebecca Yockey. All of your actions and efforts combined for a very successful and popular youth program which not only was enjoyed by all who attended, but which has also brought positive National recognition to the Aurora Police Department as well as the City of Aurora, Colorado. Thank you for you continued commitment to the youth of our city and surrounding communities.

Gang Intervention Unit – Rollin’ 60’s Indictments
Sergeant Mike Gaskill, Acting Sergeant Phil Rathbun, Agent Pete Szuch, Agent Mike Thrapp, Agent Pete Page, Agent Nate Meier, Officer Jonathan McCants, Officer Brent Maksyn, Officer Jonathan Dennis, Officer Stewart Brought, Officer Doug Pearson, Officer Kevin Rossi
In 2012 the City of Aurora experienced an escalation in violent gang on gang crimes. The crimes were tied to two different gangs, the Rollin 60’s and the 83 Gangster Crips. Sergeant Mike Gaskill, Agent Mike Thrapp and Officer Kevin Rossi partnered with the Arapahoe County District Attorney’s office, Mike Angel and Daniel Seidel to begin a grand jury case against the Rollin 60’s in order to reduce this escalation of violence. The Rollin 60’s were first documented in Los Angeles, California in the 1970’s and became notorious for their violence. The Rollin 60’s spread to Aurora in the 1980’s and continue their presence today. The subsequent two year investigation by the Aurora Police Department’s Gang Intervention Unit, the 18th Judicial District Attorney’s Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigations Rocky Mountain Safe Street Task Force, resulted in a 73 count indictment and the arrest of 25 members and associates of the Rollin 60’s street gang. The primary indictments consisted of shootings, assaults and robberies. The Rollin 60’s focus was on stranger robberies with a show of force through weapons and/or numbers, and or drug related robberies. In addition many members of the gang committed burglaries with the goal of obtaining guns to sell back to the gang. The Rollin 60’s also engaged in violent and assaultive conduct to increase their reputation within the greater community. The hard work and dedication of everyone involved in this case resulted in a substantial impact on the Rollin 60’s and their ability to negatively impact the community. This cooperative, complex investigation against a
violent street gang benefited the entire community and can be used as a model for future investigations and prosecutions.

**District 2 PAR Team – Shoplifter Program**

_Sergeant Mike Hanifin, Officer Nicole Weiffenbach, Officer Tim Jeffrey, Officer Mike Dziurgot, Officer Candice Iovine, Officer Dan Iovine, Officer Diana Cooley, Officer Jason McIrvin, Officer Jay Van Kam_

In early 2014, the Aurora Town Center retail shopping district faced sharply rising shoplifting occurrences. Pattern offenders targeted these businesses due to what was perceived as a revolving door, and an ineffective justice system facing pattern criminals. Traditional policing and prosecutorial efforts were failing in addressing this criminal activity. Members of the APD District Two PAR Team met to address and solve this problem. Through an open-ended series of brainstorming sessions, followed up by hard staff work, a model program was developed. Stakeholder buy-in from affected retailers was sought and obtained. Judicial buy-in was secured from the City Attorney’s Office, and then from the Chief Magistrate of the Municipal Court. Systems were developed to track repeat and chronic shoplifting offenders. Innovative approaches included mandatory arrests for second-further offenders, and mandatory overnight jailing of offenders with next day court arraignments. All offenders were screened for prior offenses. Items used in furthering criminal activity (vehicles, personal possessions, etc.) were seized as potential nuisance items. A school age educational video was scripted with Aurora Public School drama team assistance, and is being shown to all schools in this large urban community. Text templates were developed to streamline warrantless arrest affidavits, and chronic offenders were flagged in police records for instant identification. Chronic shoplifters were issued trespass notices by impacted businesses.

The additional workload would have overwhelmed already short staffed patrol officers. So the District Two PAR Officers altered their work schedules including duty hours and days off to support this pilot program. As a result of their ideas, staff work, dedication to the citizens of Aurora, and superb teamwork, shoplifting fell 33% in six months. Equally important, overall crime fell 60% in the pilot area. Feedback from offenders is that they are avoiding Aurora Town Center and participating businesses due to this problem oriented policing approach to pattern crime. Other law enforcement agencies are adopting this program due to the demonstrated effectiveness. The program is now being adopted citywide and has received acclaim, emulation from several other law enforcement agencies in Colorado.
Certificate of Appreciation – Citizen’s Award

The Certificate of Appreciation, Citizen’s Award may be awarded by the Chief of Police to any citizen who renders valuable, courageous, or heroic assistance to members of the Aurora Police Department.

The department presented twelve (12) Certificates of Appreciation in 2015.

Anita Avalos and Rose Sabo
In Aurora Police Department’s District 1 there is a block that officers know well. On North Kramer Ct. we have had over 90 calls for service in the last year on their block. There are two neighbors that have lived here for many years and watched what was going on in their neighborhood, but instead of sitting back they became proactive and started working with Officer Tim King to try and stop the criminal activity on their street. Anita Avalos and Rose Sabo are constantly sending pictures, license plates and any other information that relates to these addresses to Officer King usually on a daily basis. Officer King has been able to identify either by past experiences or associates of drug dealers many of the people from these addresses. Previously APD has had marked units in the area watching the houses. Due to the proactive involvement of these neighbors, marked units no longer run up and down the street. This has allowed the suspects to walk around more freely, store stolen cars and harbor other wanted suspects. With the information provided from both Anita and Rose, Officer King has been able to arrest many suspects with warrants, recover stolen guns, remove drugs from the street and recover stolen vehicles that the suspects try to hide in the garages at these locations. Anita lets Officer King know when the suspects leave so arrests can be made away from the residences. One recent arrest recovered a stolen vehicle and the suspect having 3 no bond warrants, and another located and resulted in the arrest of a DOC escape suspect that was hiding out at those residences. For all of their assistance in helping the Aurora Police Department fight problem houses that have resulted in over 30 arrests this year and being proactive in the community. Anita Avalos and Rose Sabo were awarded the Aurora Police Department Certificate of Appreciation-Citizens Award.

Larana Skalicky
On August 6, 2015 while conducting a dance class at the Kim Robard Dance Studio, Larana Skalicky came into contact with an intoxicated male that entered the studio. She asked him to leave, which he did, but he then returned a short time later with a knife in his hand, which he was holding to his throat. The male appeared to be despondent and made statements about killing himself. There were several children and adults inside the studio at the time. Larana remained calm and told her students and the adults to go into the back of the dance studio and lock themselves into the bathroom out of concern for their wellbeing. Larana then used her phone to call 911 to inform them of what was occurring. Until officers arrived, Larana continued to talk with the male in an attempt to keep him calm and to have him let go of the knife. In spite of the potential risk to her during this volatile situation Larana remained calm in her attempt to help the man and keep him from hurting himself.

Larana Skalicky was awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Certificate of Appreciation-Citizens Award.
Mr. Will Revelle, Mr. Timothy Franzen
On July 18, 2015, Sergeant Bill Revelle, Officer Chad Berger, Officer Travis Moody, Officer Jason Pray and Officer John Sangi, along with Sergeant Revelle’s son Will and friend Timothy Franzen were enjoying an off-duty camping trip at the American Basin campground. A 14 year old girl ran into the campground to get help after her father’s leg was severely broken when a boulder rolled onto it. The off-duty officers assisted other volunteers in crossing treacherous terrain, guiding search and rescue responders, and evacuating the injured man. Rescuers had a 700 foot ascent to reach the victim. Officers Moody, Berger and Pray were each given 100 pounds of gear to carry. A national guard helicopter was unable to rescue the hiker due to the treacherous terrain, so the injured man had to be carried on a stretcher back to the campground, being lowered one person at a time.

Mr. Will Revelle and Mr. Timothy Franzen were awarded with the Aurora Police Department’s Certificate of Appreciation – Citizen’s Award.

Georgia Duran, Nita Mosby Henry, Ph.D., Nate Mabe, and Nikki Mitchell
In March of 2015, the Aurora Police Department through the Chief of Police, Nicholas Metz, identified a number of initiatives to enhance its relationship with the community. One such initiative was the designation of a Recruiting Strategies Committee (RSC) comprised of internal members and private sector business partners working together to develop departmental recruiting strategies and approaches. The RSC was tasked with making recommendations to the Chief of Police, seeking not only to enhance the overall quality and quantity of applicants, but also to improve the diversification among applicants to build an organization that more closely mirrors Aurora’s multi-cultural community. The RSC was also tasked with identifying prospective community partners committed to forging strong public-private partnerships that could implement the recommendations. After nine months of collaboration, the RSC crafted a comprehensive report that will serve as the department’s recruiting blueprint for the foreseeable future and beyond. Georgia Duran, Nita Mosby Henry, Ph.D., Nate Mabe, and Nikki Mitchell were awarded the Certificate of Appreciation – Citizen’s Award.

Bruno Mary
On May 17th, 2014, Officer Dennis Dempsey responded to a vehicle verses a motorcycle crash at E. Yale Ave. just west of S. Parker Road. Upon arrival he determined that the motorcycle rider, Yevgeniy Solodukhin, had suffered a serious leg injury and was transported to the Medical Center of Aurora South for treatment, and was in surgery. Upon completion of the on scene investigation, Officer Dempsey responded to the hospital and was advised the victim was going to survive his injuries. Medical personnel advised that the victim, Solodukhin, could have bled out on the scene if a tourniquet had not been applied to his injuries. Officer Dempsey continued with his investigation, contacting a witness, Belinda Torres, who advised she and her husband were driving next to the motorcycle when the crash occurred. Belinda stated after the motorcycle impacted the car she pulled over and her husband, Bruno, exited to check on the injuries of the rider. Bruno, after evaluating the injuries, took a belt from an elderly gentleman on scene and applied it to the rider’s leg as a tourniquet to stop the bleeding. If not for the courageous and selfless actions of Bruno to help a fellow citizen’s suffering, Yevgeniy Solodukhin may have bled out and died from his injuries sustained in this horrific crash.
Adam O’Leary (Flight for Life), Zach Quinby (Flight for Life) and Jeffery Byers
On October 4, 2014, at approximately 4:26 am, Officer Richard Romero aired to District 1 officers that a vehicle was traveling the wrong way on Interstate 225. Officer Benjamin Petering observed the red GMC Sierra driving south on the west shoulder of northbound I225 approaching Alameda Avenue. The suspect stopped on I225 just north of Alameda Avenue. Officer Petering exited his patrol car and began to approach the GMC Sierra. As he neared, the suspect began to drive away, still traveling south in the north bound lanes of a well-traveled interstate. Sergeant Tim Holt was traveling south in the south bound lanes of I225. Sgt. Holt kept a constant watch on the vehicle as he paralleled the truck going south on I225. Just south of Mississippi Avenue, Sgt. Holt observed sparks from where a collision had occurred and saw the GMC Sierra laying on its side. Sgt. Holt could see that the male suspect had been ejected and was trapped underneath the truck. Sgt. Holt observed the suspect was still breathing, although it was slow, deliberate and extremely labored. Adam O’Leary and Zack Quimby, two Childrens’ Hospital Flight for Life Medics happened to be driving on the Interstate at this time and also stopped to assist. Citizen Jeff Byers who’s vehicle was hit also assisted. Realizing that the suspect’s life was clearly in danger, Sgt. Holt, officers on scene, and the three citizens surrounded the GMC Sierra and physically lifted the truck to free the suspect from the crushing weight. The suspect’s left arm was partially amputated near the bicep area. Officer Mark Moore applied a tourniquet to the suspect’s left arm near the bicep area in an attempt to stop the massive blood loss. The suspect’s left arm was eventually amputated at the hospital during surgical procedures, but he did survive the crash and is currently recovering from his injuries. The life saving actions of these Aurora Police Department officers, along with the assistance of three citizens, shows a tremendous example of commitment to community, selfless service and teamwork, providing this man with another opportunity at life.

Colton Scott
On December 12th, 2014, at 10:15 am, Colton Walker Scott was working at the Firestone Auto Care Center at 3120 S Peoria Street when he heard a large crash at the adjacent intersection of East Dartmouth Ave and South Peoria Street. The crash was caused by a female suspect that was driving a stolen vehicle. The suspect was eluding police and had gone through two red signal lights before striking a pedestrian and then crashing into a vehicle. After crashing into the vehicle the suspect exited her stolen vehicle and immediately fled the scene on foot. Colton observing the female running away from the crash took it upon himself to run after her. He chased the female suspect on foot east and then south across S. Parker Road until finally catching up to her in the RTD Park and Ride complex. Colton detained her until APD officers arrived and took her into custody. Colton could have done nothing, but instead he took it upon himself to make sure that the reckless and dangerous actions of this female suspect would not go unpunished.

Aaron Gonzalez and Misty Rose
On February 24, 2015 at 12:45 pm, a strong arm robbery that took place at S. Peoria St. and E. Mississippi Ave. As officers arrived on scene a witness, Matthew Gonzalez, pointed out the male suspect running towards 962 S. Peoria St. Matthew told officers he was in his work truck eating lunch when he observed the male suspect running around the side of a building and in front of his truck. He than saw a female pushing a baby stroller running after the male. Matthew asked the female what was wrong, she told him the male just robbed her. Matthew told her to stay there and call the police as he jumped back into his truck and went after the male. Matthew followed the suspect to 962 S. Peoria St, where he saw
officers driving by and pointed him out. Matthew was able to positively identify the suspect to police who took him into custody and transported him to jail. Without regard to his own safety Matthew took it upon himself to help the victim of this crime, follow the suspect, flag down responding officers, and bring this dangerous criminal into custody.

**Vickie Smejkal**

On 10/12/2014, APD Officer Brian Phipps was dispatched to S. Laredo St. and E. Dartmouth Ave. on a welfare check of an elderly female. Upon arrived Ofc. Phipps contacted the reporting party Vickie Smejkal. Vickie stated that she had seen an elderly female, Jean Peck, slowly walking along the sidewalk with a cane, speaking to herself and appeared to be very cold. It was very windy and the temperature was about 45 degrees. Vickie stated that she passed Jean while traveling in her car and was concerned for her well-being, so she turned her vehicle around and stopped to check on Jean. When she contacted Jean, she seemed to be very confused and was not able to answer who she was, where she had come from, or where she was going. Vickie carefully assisted Jean into her car, turned the heat on, and called APD. Jean was very confused about the situation. AFD was called to the scene and determined Jean needed to be transported for further medical evaluation due to her physical and mental condition. Vickie's concern and compassion were truly evident as she made contact with a total stranger, provided her warmth and shelter from the near frigid temperatures and windy conditions, and notified first responders to the situation. Without her compassion for another fellow citizen in need, the events of the evening would have played out in a dramatically different manner. Vickie's actions are truly traits that others should emulate.

**Matthew Gonzalez**

On the afternoon of August 16, 2015 a hit and run two vehicle crash occurred at the intersection of East Exposition Ave. and South Moline St. The male driver of the at fault vehicle exited his vehicle and started talking to witness Misty Rose. He was mumbling, disoriented and smelled of alcohol. During the conversation the suspect started to walk away from Misty then suddenly turned and ran off. Aaron Gonzalez, a witness on scene, also observed the male suspect run from the scene. Aaron took it upon himself and ran after the male, caught up to him, tackling him to the ground. Misty also ran after to assist. Aaron laid across the resisting suspect’s back, securing him in a head lock, while Misty held down his legs. When officers finally arrived on scene, the suspect was successfully taken into custody and taken to jail. If not for the quick and selfless actions of citizen’s Misty Rose and Aaron Gonzalez this dangerous intoxicated suspect would have fled the scene, possibly avoiding being held accountable for his actions.

**Dianne Abel**

On February 10, 2015 Dianne Abel was driving on Havana St. near E. 13th Avenue when she saw a dog running in the street. Dianne tried to catch the dog which eventually jumped into her car. The dog had tags on it that listed the owner’s phone number and a female’s name. She attempted calling the owner but the call went to voice mail. An address was listed on the other side of the tag so she drove to the address hoping to contact the owner. Once at the address she honked her horn and a female came outside crying and said “He’s beating me up. Can you help me?” The female told her that her boyfriend had thrown the dog out into traffic and had been beating her up ever since. The male suspect came into the front yard and was yelling at her. The female told her that her purse was locked in the trunk of his
car but he wouldn’t give it to her. Even though the situation was very tense and volatile Dianne insisted that the male give the female her purse and phone. Dianne exited her vehicle and escorted the female through the house to get to where his car was parked. After retrieving these items Dianne told the female to get into her car and she would drive her to the hospital for treatment for her injuries. After further investigation, and the assistance of Dianne’s involvement, the male half of this incident was later arrested by APD officers and charged with Felony Menacing, 3rd degree Assault, False Imprisonment, and Domestic Violence. Dianne’s actions are commended as she placed her own safety aside and took it upon herself to help a total stranger in need.

Informal Commander’s Commendations

Commander’s Commendation Certificate

The Commander’s Commendation Certificate may be awarded by Section and Bureau Command Officers to those members who, through their own efforts, perform their jobs in such a manner as to reflect high quality and professionalism in performance of their duties.

The department issued one-hundred eighty five (185) Commander’s Commendations in 2015.

Officer Joseph Duran, Officer Tess Lamphere, Officer Patrick Benda, Sergeant Jeff Longnecker

On January 24, 2015, District Two Officers responded to a structure fire at 18301 East Kepner Place. Upon arrival the entire stairwell was engulfed in flames from the ground to the roof. Officer Joe Duran, Officer Tess Lamphere, Officer Patrick Benda, and Sergeant Jeff Longnecker responded to assist the Aurora Fire Department. A resident in Unit 203 was trapped on his balcony but was very belligerent and refused officer orders to try to climb down. Officers were advised that an elderly female was also trapped in Unit 103. Sergeant Longnecker had to break the sliding glass door, enter the apartment, and carry the female out due to her age and confusion as to what was occurring. Officers Lamphere and Duran assisted in evacuating other residents from the multi-family complex. Officer Benda contacted Darren Campbell DOB 11/01/72, the resident of 204, advised that he had been in an argument with his ex-girlfriend at her address in District Three. He left that altercation with his current girlfriend and headed home to his apartment. His ex-girlfriend, identified as suspect Danielle Palmer DOB 12/29/73, got in her car and beat Campbell back to the Kepner address. Upon Campbell arriving he observed Palmer coming down the stairs to his apartment, where she had lit his clothing on fire using lighter fluid by the front door. AFD Arson investigators, with the assistance of District Three Officers, located Palmer at her house. She had left a phone message with Campbell implicating her involvement in setting the fire. She was arrested and held on Attempt Murder and Arson charges. The building suffered extensive damage. Several AFD personnel commented on the outstanding work done by officers and that their actions on-scene protected the lives of the occupants inside the complex. As a result of their actions these officers are hereby awarded a Commander’s Commendation for their efforts.

Officer Michael Allen and Officer Joseph Sullivan

On January 13th, 2015, at 2107 hours Officer Allen observed a vehicle with dark tint make an unsafe turn from 14250 E Iliff Avenue and across three eastbound lanes of traffic. The vehicle was later stopped at
East Baltic Place and Sable Blvd., based upon this probable cause. A subsequent check of the registered owner, who was also the sole occupant of the vehicle, was run through NCIC/CCIC and found to be on probation for possession of a control substance. Officer Allen contacted the driver and advised him of why he had stopped him. The driver was very elusive and declined a search of his vehicle, despite Officer Allen explaining why he would like to do so. Officer Allen had also discovered that the drivers’ driving privileges were under restrained and that he would inventory, then tow the vehicle as a result. Officer Allen used K-9 as a resource to continue his investigation which led him to believe there may be narcotics in the vehicle. An initial “sniff” by K-9 Marco did not result in any hits on the vehicle exterior but after Officer Allen had started his inventory of the vehicle, he found a baggie with a white residue. This prompted an interior “sniff” by K-9 Marco, at which time there were strong indicators around the gear shift and center console. After maneuvering the plastic cover of that area, two large baggies were located. One baggie contained 147.7 grams of suspected Methamphetamine. The other baggie contained 127.6 grams of suspected Heroin. Both substances came back as presumptive positive after micro chemical testing was completed. Both officers and K-9 Marco did a phenomenal job. Both Officer Allen and Officer Sullivan were issued a Chief’s Commendation for their efforts.

Officer Thomas Lord, Officer Shane Ellison, Officer Eric White, Officer David Sutherland, Officer James Salazar, Officer Jason Moore, Officer Barbara Asmussen, Officer Darren Lantz, Officer Travis Lore, Detective Mike Cahenzli, Detective RJ Wilson, Administrative Specialist Tina Crux

During the weekend of February 22, 2014, several businesses were burglarized in the south Aurora area. One location was the Metro Gang Task Force. Several electronic data storage devices with very sensitive information on them were taken. There was heightened degree of attention to find these items fur to the lost data. Video surveillance of the suspect was obtained. Officer Eric White recognized the suspect from an earlier burglary investigation and disseminated the information. Officer Shane Ellison located the stolen vehicle from another burglary and spotted the suspect who was then arrested. During this arrest, DART officers found the other suspect in possession of stolen items from MGTF. Critical high priority evidence was still missing. District 3 PAR and DART continued to work the area and were instrumental in identifying additional suspects. Officer Barbara Asmussen processed the crime scene. District 3 detectives furthered the investigation and filed the case. Approximately three weeks later, one of the stolen items was sold to a second hand store which was tracked by Tina Crux of the Pawn Unit. Detective Cahenzli recovered the stolen items and the remaining storage device taken from MGTF. Due to the determination, professionalism, and teamwork of the officers along with Detectives Cahenzli and Wilson and Administrative Specialist Tina Crux, the suspects were identified and arrested and highly sensitive evidence was recovered without any exposure or release of damaging information.

Detective Steven Crowe, Detective Larry Martinez, Detective Sue Wynn, Detective Del Matticks, Detective Thomas McGinty, Crime Analyst Shawn Cooley

On Sunday January 11, 2015, Sex Crimes Detective Steve Crower responded to a report of a 15 year old who reported a sexual assault. The victim stated after placing a Craigslist ad looking for work, she received a reply from a male subject using the name “Richard”, offering to pay the victim thirty (30) dollars to give her a massage. The male subject stated he needed hours of massage practice for a Swedish massage school he was attending. The 15 year old victim and her 21 year old sister communicated with the suspect for two days and sent photos back and forth before agreeing to meet
the suspect at their residence. During the massage, the suspect digitally penetrated the 15 year old victim several times and attempted to have intercourse with her. Detective Crowe solicited the help of Detectives Martinez and Wynn to assist with the investigation and Detectives Matticks and McGinty because of their computer skills. Crime Analyst Shawn Cooley sent the photo obtained by the victim to the Department of Revenue facial recognition unit. Based on the positive identification which was obtained within two hours, the detectives learned the suspect, Robert Richard Beattie Smith, had an active warrant out of California for a similar event. Detectives Matticks and McGinty surreptitiously made contact with Smith through a covert email account and arranged for Smith to meet, with what he thought was a young female. The District 1 DART team took custody of Smith as he arrived. During the subsequent interview Smith admitted to the sexual assault on our 15 year old victim and the sexual assault in California. A press release was sent to the media encouraging additional victims to file reports, which resulted in five victims calling APD, one victim calling Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Department and one filing a report in California. This is a great example of how team work and collaboration led to the quick arrest of a sexual predator and made the streets of Aurora a little safer for the citizens.

**Officer Richard Ray, Officer Ernest Gonzales, Officer Michael Moore, Officer Ricardo Hargrove, Officer Clark Orchard, Officer Paul Seiwald**

On February 9th, 2015, officers responded to the call of a robbery with a gun at the EZ Money Payday Loans located at 9520 East Colfax Avenue. Information provided indicated the suspect made the victim kneel down at gunpoint while completing the robbery. While enroute, dispatch provided a description of the suspect that had left the area on foot. Officer Moore arrived in the area, locating the suspect on foot and gave chase. Officer Gonzales responded to the updated location and observed the suspect continue to run through yards. Officer Gonzales was able to locate the suspect in a nearby yard where Officer Orchard and Officer Moore assisted in taking the party into custody. Officer Ray, Officer Seiwald, and Officer Hargrove assisted in having the suspect identified and obtaining a confession. All officers involved conducted a canvass of the area ultimately locating the cash from the robbery, disguise used by the suspect, and the weapon used. The suspect involved had a lengthy criminal history including a nationwide warrant for probation violation out of Illinois. All of the officers involved are commended for their courage, professionalism, and teamwork while capturing this violent offender.

**Officer James Benedict**

On January 12, 2015, Officer James Benedict responded on a report of an armed 15 year old female with mental health issues threatening to stab her father. Officer Benedict was the first officer on scene and found the female’s father standing by the bathroom door while the female was inside the bathroom armed with a sharp kitchen knife. She was very agitated, crying, and breathing heavily. Officer Benedict directed the father to leave the residence for his safety. Using a calm and reassuring voice, Officer Benedict was able to soothe the female to the point where she became compliant with officers. The female put the knife on the floor and Officer Benedict continued speaking with her and keeping her calm while she was searched, evaluated by AFD, and ultimately transported to the hospital. Officer Benedict was awarded this commander’s commendation for his exceptional patience and effective communication skills which brought this very dangerous situation to a successful and safe conclusion.
Officer Jonathan Carelock, Officer Kristopher McDowell, Officer Richard Mervin, Officer Ryan Sweeney

On 4-12-15 Officer Carelock and McDowell responded to 893 N Dawson St on the report of a man armed with a knife. Further dispatch information advised that the man, Jose Del Alamo, bit his sister on the arm and then armed himself with a kitchen knife. Upon arrival Officer McDowell learned that the subject had retreated into the basement, and was still armed with a knife. He immediately began speaking with Del Alamo, and created a rapport, speaking from upstairs, while the subject remained in the basement. Officer Carelock requested more cars and a supervisor. Officers Mervin, Sweeney and Sergeant White responded. Officer McDowell was speaking to the man, who was clearly in a mental crisis state. The male was threatening that if officers came down into the basement, they would be carrying him out in a body bag. The Officers decided who was going to be less lethal, lethal and hands on, while Officer McDowell continued to calm the subject down. After speaking to the subject for about 45 minutes Officer McDowell had talked their way into the basement, and was speaking face to face with the subject. After several more minutes, the subject finally dropped the knife behind the couch and allowed fire to come and evaluate him. In the end the subject walked on his own to the rescue crew where he was later transported to the hospital for a psychological evaluation. This situation called for consistent tactical evaluation, CIT level negotiations, and team coordination to come to a peaceful and successful conclusion. All officers received a commendation for their diligent and persistent actions to successfully end this standoff.

Sergeant Steven White

Officers Terry Patton, John Yates and Doug Stark responded to a suicidal and homicidal female named Sitara Mian. Her mother had called in saying that her daughter had threatened to kill her and her son and then kill herself. Officer Patton advised that upon his arrival on scene, he saw Sitara at the front door. He said she then ran inside and barricaded herself in an upstairs bedroom where she had access to weapons. Sergeant Steve White arrived on scene and is a trained consistent tactical evaluation (CIT) officer. Sergeant White began a dialogue with Sitara and did an outstanding job of calming her down and having her come out of the room without incident. Sergeant White showed exemplar skills and was a key component of this situation ending peacefully. Sergeant White was commended for his skills, dedication and professionalism in this case.

Sergeant Phil Rathbun

On March 19, 2015 a victim was robbed at knifepoint of their vehicle in Glendale Colorado. Glendale Police entered the vehicle as stolen into CCIC/NCIC with the notation of “Suspects armed and dangerous, use caution, armed with a knife”. Later that morning Aurora Police dispatch received an alert based on the vehicles travel along the Colfax corridor. The alert provided the stolen vehicle entry to include the “armed and dangerous” remark along with a photo of the actual vehicle which matched the entry. Sergeant Phil Rathbun was in the area when the information about the stolen vehicle was aired. A short time later he found the vehicle near Colfax Avenue and Havana Street. The vehicle circled the block and proceeded East on Colfax Avenue. Officers attempted to stop the vehicle as it turned south on Moline Street from Colfax Avenue. The vehicle eluded officers continuing South on Moline Street. Officers engaged in a vehicle pursuit with Sergeant Rathbun assuming the role of the primary car. The pursuit continued through portions of North Aurora ultimately ending up on Highway E-470.
and East 56th Avenue. Sergeant Rathbun sought and received permission to perform a PIT maneuver. He executed the maneuver with precision at a reasonable speed as dictated in training and directives wherein the suspect vehicle slid off the roadway and into a muddy field. The two suspects were still armed and taken into custody without further incident. There was negligible damage to the police and suspect vehicles. It was later discovered that both suspects were wanted on active warrants based on prior robberies. Throughout the pursuit, Sergeant Rathbun provided clear and concise updates on the radio as to the speeds and descriptions of the suspects, details known at the time from the Glendale robbery case, traffic and road conditions. It was due to this effective communication that the Watch Commander was able to make minute-by-minute assessments of the need to continue the pursuit balanced with citizen safety concerns. Sergeant Rathbun maintained the presence of mind to consider all attendant circumstances of a supervisory officer while directly involved in the pursuit. He is to be commended on his ability to assess and communicate the ongoing justification for a pursuit of two armed and dangerous offenders, bringing the incident to a safe and effective conclusion.

Officers Mark Hartman, Officer Renda Albergotti, Officer Fred Lang, Officer Amber Buck, Officer Michael Quirk, Officer Blake Beasley

On April 25, 2015, at 0404 hours, District 3 officers were dispatched to 14240 East Radcliff Circle on a report of a car that crashed into a house. Upon arrival, officers found the vehicle crashed through the walls of three town homes. The majority of the load bearing walls were also destroyed and the structure was at risk of collapsing. Officer Hartman and Officer Beasley entered the structure to tend to the driver of the vehicle who was highly intoxicated and trapped inside the vehicle under a large amount of debris. Officers Hartman, Albergotti, Lang, Buck, Quirk, and Beasley could hear screaming coming from the affected units. They entered the units and evacuated all of the residents to a safe place. AFD arrived on scene and was able to stabilize the structure with load bearing supports. It wasn’t until this time that the driver of the car could be safely removed. Later when the building inspector arrived on scene, he stated that the damage to the structure was so severe, he was amazed the middle of the three units hadn’t entirely collapsed and wasn’t sure how it was still standing. Officers Mark Hartman, Renda Albergotti, Fred Lang, Amber Buck, Michael Quirk, and Blake Beasley put their own safety and lives in danger by entering the unstable buildings in order to evacuate the residents and were awarded a Commander’s Commendation for their selfless bravery.

Officer Fred Lang

On April 24, 2015, at 2300 hours, District 3 Officer Fred Lang was patrolling in the area of the 7-11 store located at 18883 East Hampden Avenue. He observed a blue PT Cruiser backed into a parking spot with no front plate and then observed three males at the side of the building in a poorly lit area. Officer Lang was aware of recent 7-11 robberies in the area and circled the area again to find the males gone. He ran the rear plate and found the vehicle was stolen. He called for more units and walked to the corner of the building where he contacted and detained one of the males who was talking toward the vehicle. He ran the rear plate and found the vehicle was stolen. He called for more units and walked to the corner of the building where he contacted and detained one of the males who was talking toward the vehicle. He determined that the male was on a pretrial ankle monitor for aggravated robbery. The other two males were gone. Store video showed this same male going into the store and making a small purchase while suspiciously looked around the store, then returning to the front door where he gave some hand gestures to the other males outside. He opened the door, said something to them and reentered the store. A few seconds later video shows one of the two males quickly walk to the front door, see the
customers inside, and take off running back towards the location of the stolen vehicle. Both males returned, entered the store and spoke to the male inside. All three looked around suspiciously then exited the store as Officer Lang pulled back into the area and detained the one male. Based on the actions of the males at the store, there is no doubt they were intending on robbing the store. Officer Lang’s keen observations and knowledge of recent crime patterns resulted in the recovery of a stolen vehicle and an aggravated robbery having been averted. Officer Lang was issued a Commander’s Commendation for the professionalism he exemplified through proactive policing.

Officer James Waselkow
On February 11, 2015, Officer Waselkow was conducting surveillance on the Travel lodge, an area known for drug use and prostitution. Officer Waselkow observed a vehicle leave the motel. He conducted a traffic stop and made contact with the people inside the vehicle. One of the occupants was a 17 year old female who was found to be a runaway. Officer Waselkow found further evidence of possible prostitution, which she admitted to, but claimed she no longer had a pimp. Based on the circumstances of the contact and the 17 year old female’s statement, Officer Waselkow forwarded the information to the FBI Innocence Lost Task Force. Task force investigators later contacted the female. From the contact and subsequent investigation, a multi-state operation exposed activity involving numerous juvenile prostitutes and adult pimps. During his investigation, Officer Waselkow isolated and identified one of the pimps whose criminal history included charges of homicide, aggravated assault and sex assault on a child. The investigation resulted in several arrests and new information was discovered on related activities. Due to Officer Waselkow’s diligence and assessment of the contact, a juvenile prostitution ring was discovered. Officer Waselkow was issued a Commander’s Commendation for his continuous dedication in his profession and to the community.

Officer Cory Budaj
On February 26, 2015, Officer Budaj was dispatched to the “D Cellulairs” Store on East Colfax Avenue. Officer Budaj was informed that an adult male customer had just inappropriately touched the 11 year old daughter of the store owner. Aurora Police dispatchers gave Officer Budaj a description of the suspect and vehicle. The suspect was in the process of leaving the store. Upon arrival, Officer Budaj found the described vehicle by the store unoccupied and still running. Officer Budaj entered the store and learned that the adult male had just left and confirmed the male’s description. Officer Budaj then quickly set out to find the suspect. He observed foot prints in the snow in the direction of where the suspect was last seen. While following the footprints, Officer Budaj observed a male matching the description provided to him. Officer Budaj called to the male who began running away. A foot pursuit ensued and for a brief moment Officer Budaj lost sight of the male but was able to get the suspect’s direction from other people in the area. Officer Budaj continued to search for the male and again found footprints leading to a space under a mobile home. The male suspect was found hiding there and he was placed into custody without incident. Officer Budaj immediately began to investigate the circumstances of the incident, including having the victim positively identify the suspect. It was discovered that the male had multiple warrants. Through Officer Budaj’s quick response and decision making a suspect was quickly apprehended who may have otherwise not been found. Officer Budaj displayed high level of commitment in his role as a first responder and was awarded a Commander’s Commendation for his professionalism and dedication.
Officer Jim Gentry and Agent Jason McDonald
Officer J. Gentry responded to Serta Mattress Manufacturing on a complaint of possible fraud or theft. Serta was alerted to several mattress sets being sold either on the internet or out of rental trucks. On one such occasion in Hays, Kansas, people were selling the mattress sets at a reduced price advertising them as over stock, not “As Is” (used) across the street from a Serta dealer. Officer Gentry could have viewed this situation as a Civil Matter but decided to author an Embezzlement Report. Officer Gentry after authoring the initial report, responded to the detective sergeant to advise a report was on the way. He had a feeling based upon the facts and initial investigation this incident was much bigger than it appeared. Detective McDonald’s investigation revealed Serta accepts mattress set returns as part of their Warranty Program and then donates the “As Is” mattress sets to Ecumenical Refugee and Immigration Services Inc., (a charity). The charity donation coordinator, Genevieve Cruz, assured Serta all the mattress sets donated, were going to the charity and stored at their storage facilities. Ms. Cruz was present and signed for the mattress sets. The storage unit had been in her name but was transferred to Adam Shryrock, her volunteer. Mr. Shryock has been convicted of Theft and Charity Fraud reference his BOOBIES ROCK scam. It was determined, since March of 2014 to January of 2015, Serta had donated 1,608 mattress sets to Ecumenical, 500 mattress sets have been distributed to refugee housing, and 164 mattress sets remain in storage with Ecumenical. It is believed Ms. Cruz and Mr. Shryock sold 944 mattress sets that were supposed to go to the charity. The 944 mattress sets were sold, plus the 119 mattress sets recovered from the storage facility on E. 40th Ave (not an Ecumenical storage facility) were in the process of being sold equals 1,063 mattress sets stolen from the charity. Using the estimated value by Serta on the “As Is” donated mattress sets, the charity sustained a loss of $1,063,000.00. On 02/23/15, Adams County DA filed Charitable Fraud Theft ($1,000,000.00 and over), on Genevieve Cruz. On 04/24/15, Adams County DA filed Charitable Fraud Theft ($1,000,000.00 and over), on Adam Shryock.

Officer Eugene VanDyk and Officer Jeremy Stenersen
On June 4, 2015, Officers Eugene Vandyk and Jeremy Stenersen were dispatched to 15530 E. 12th Avenue for an unknown problem. Dispatch aired that a knife was involved in the altercation. Upon arrival, Officer Vandyk was approached by the victim who had a very large laceration to the side of his neck. At the same time, the suspect began walking toward the officers. Officers Vandyk and Stenersen ordered the suspect to the ground at gunpoint and he complied. Officer Vandyk then produced his own medical gear and began to apply pressure to the neck wound with gauze. Officer Stenersen held the suspect at gunpoint until other officers arrived and he could be taken into custody. Officer Vandyk kept the victim calm and kept pressure on the wound until the fire department arrived. Once the victim was taken to the hospital Officer Vandyk assisted with searching the crime scene. He was able to locate the knife in a bush where it was very hard to see. Due to the action of these officers, the victim was properly taken care of and the suspect was charged with attempted murder. This was excellent police work.

Officer Brad Graham
On March 24, 2015, SWAT assisted FAST in apprehending Jerold Hernandez, wanted for failing to appear for sentencing for his 1st Degree Murder, POWPO, and Felony Menacing conviction; he was also a suspect in a Denver double homicide. Hernandez was observed standing by a vehicle in an alley, with an unknown male standing nearby and an unknown male in the driver’s seat of the vehicle. When the SWAT officers
deployed, Hernandez reached to his rear waistband and began pulling upward as if he was removing something from his pants. Officer Graham feared that Hernandez was retrieving a weapon and discharged one 40 mm foam round at Hernandez. Hernandez fell to the ground and was taken safely into custody by Officers Gonzales and Edwards without any further use of force. A Tec-9 machine pistol and Kel-Tec 9mm handgun were recovered from the vehicle. It was later determined that Hernandez had remove the Tec-9 from his rear waistband and dropped the gun in the window when shot by the 40 mm foam round. A FN 5.7 handgun was located just south of the van’s location; it is believed it was dropped by the male who had run from the scene and was apprehended a short distance away. All members of the arrest team worked together and were able to render safe a very chaotic and dangerous scene. Officer Edwards moved quickly and aggressively, taking away opportunity for the suspects to act. Officer Graham’s quick and decisive action to deploy less lethal probably kept the arresting officers from being involved in exchange of gun fire with Hernandez. Officer Gonzales remained calm during a stressful encounter, used appropriate arrest control to place Hernandez in custody, and removed him from the area so that the driver could be contacted safely. While other officers were occupied with Hernandez, Officer Ficco continued to his assignment and held the driver, who was also in possession of a firearm, at gunpoint until he was removed and arrested. The training, experience, and professionalism of these officers resulted in the safe arrest of three armed suspects under circumstances that could have easily resulted in a deadly force incident.

Officer Matthew Springer

On June 27, 2015, Officer Matthew Springer responded to the report of a robbery at Blue Grama Grass Park, located at 3323 South Jericho Way. Based on the victim’s identification of the suspect, Officer Springer was able to quickly identify a current address where he located and Mirandized the juvenile suspect with the parent’s permission, obtaining a confession to the robbery charge. Additionally, Officer Springer was able to recover the money that was taken as well as the weapon used in the crime, an Airsoft matching the appearance of the reported black semi-automatic hand gun. Officer Springer is awarded this Commander’s Commendation for his professionalism and diligence in solving a 1st degree robbery. His attention to excellent police work is appreciated and recognized.

Lieutenant Lee Silver

On May 1, 2015, at approximately 1549 hours, a Gateway High School student, walking the open field near the Center Pointe Bus terminal was struck by lightning. The condition of the student was not good. Lt. Lee Silver recognized the seriousness of the situation and made arrangements for Victim Services to contact and assist the family that night. He also saw to it that Aurora Public Schools was made aware of the tragedy. Lt. Silver has continued to monitor the condition of the student. Lt. Silver found out the student’s condition is grave and he is not expected to survive. Lt. Silver learned that the student’s father, who is from Mexico, is visiting on a visa which was about to expire. He also learned that the victim’s sister, who was with the victim the night he was struck, was having issues as a result of the accident. Lt. Silver reached back to Victim Services to assist the family. Lt. Silver also contacted a local church about rendering assistance. Carol O’Shea, of our Victim Services Unit advised it was the direct involvement from Lt. Silver which alerted them to the needs of the family. Because of Lt. Silver, Victim Services has been able to assist with the visa extension along with other help for the family during this tragedy. Ms. O’Shea felt Lt. Silver had a direct impact on the level of customer service given to the
family by the police department. Lieutenant Lee Silver is hereby commended for his compassion for the family as well as his dedication and professionalism in this matter.

**Officer VanDyk and Officer Michael Tilton**  
Officers Gene VanDyk and Michael Tilton responded to a welfare check. The 20 year old female told dispatch that she was trying to kill herself by taking pills and would walk outside to meet the officers. Upon arrival, the officers approached the front porch and observed a female near the door. As the female turned toward the officers, they both observed a black pistol in her hand down by her side. The officers immediately took cover and gave the female orders to drop the pistol. The female complied with orders and dropped the gun. She was then safely taken into custody on an M-1 hold. Upon closer inspection of the pistol, it was discovered by the officers to be a BB gun. It looked identical to a real Walther P99 pistol. The female admitted to officers that she picked up the gun as she exited the house because she was going to point the gun at them so they would shoot her in a “suicide by cop”. The BB gun was placed into property for destruction at the request of the owner, the female’s mother. Officers Vandyk and Tilton did a very good job of using a safe approach to the residence, finding a position of cover, and giving the female verbal commands to drop the pistol. Further, they displayed amazing restraint in not engaging the female with lethal force. This was a job very well done and the officers are commended.

**Sergeant Casidee Carlson, Officer Mike Dziurgot, Officer Bobbie Jo Olson, Officer Chris Barchetti, Officer David McNamee, Officer Robin Thompson, Officer Candice Iovine, Officer Dan Iovine, Officer Jennifer Krause, Officer Brandt Smith, and Officer Jay VanKam**  
During the week of June 22-June 26, 2015, several members of the Aurora Police Department, District 2, volunteered their time to assist with the Operation Nehemiah Youth Basketball camp sponsored by the Restoration Christian Fellowship Church. Officers assisted with coaching, mentoring, logistics and youth development. Organizers were impressed with how much the Aurora Police Department Officers engaged with the youth and their personal investment with the community. It was noted that without the assistance of the Aurora Police Department volunteers, the camp would not have been as successful. The following officers should be commended for their selfless support to the Christian Fellowship Church and to the youth of our community.

**Officer William Woods, Sergeant Graham Dunne, Officer Faith Goodrich, Officer Bryan Knox, Officer Michael Moore, Officer Brian O’Halloran, and Officer Leslie Roberts**  
Officers Bryan Knox, Leslie Roberts, and Brian O’Halloran responded to East 8th Avenue and Fulton Street reference a carjacking at knife point. Officer O’Halloran located the stolen vehicle in the 1100 block of Geneva Street. A male suspect ran from the vehicle and a female stayed with it. Officers O’Halloran and Roberts took the female driver into custody and Sergeant Graham Dunne set up a perimeter for the male suspect. Officer Faith Goodrich was able to speak with witnesses and pinpoint the suspect’s location. Officer Bill Woods was able to locate the suspect. Officers Knox and Woods then took the suspect into custody. Officer Mike Moore transported the victim to the arrest scene and a positive identification was made of the male suspect. The suspect had an extensive out of state violent criminal history.
Officer Javen Harper and Officer Scott Brandon
On March 24, 2014, at approximately 0018, a fatal motor vehicle accident occurred at E. Colfax Avenue and N. Dayton Street. Officers Javen Harper and John Yates responded to investigate the accident. The scene contained significant debris in the roadway from the Ford Expedition driven by Ever Olivos-Gutierrez and the Chevrolet Camaro driven by Juan Dominquez-Palomino (deceased). Olivos-Gutierrez told responding Officers he was drunk and did not remember what happened. Officers Harper and Yates completed the reconstruction of the accident scene. The pre-crash and crash was recorded by Mesh Cameras that were located along E. Colfax Avenue. Officer Harper used the video from three of the cameras to determine the speed of the Expedition. Officer Harper’s calculations produced an average speed of 67.01 MPH and a time/distance calculation resulting in a speed of 67.72 MPH. Officer Yates completed a 360° Momentum calculation for the Expedition and determined the minimum speed of the Expedition was 69.3 MPH. The speed limit on E. Colfax Avenue is 30 MPH. Officers Harper and Scott Brandon conducted the alignment of the two vehicles involved at maximum engagement, which showed the intrusion of the Expedition into the Camaro from the passenger side to just into the right side of the driver’s compartment. Agent Casey Crowfoot coordinated the investigation and filed the case. Arapahoe County prosecutors said that the thoroughness of the investigation led to the successful conclusion of this case. The work performed by Officers Brandon, Harper, Yates and Agent Crowfoot resulted in Olivos-Gutierrez pleading guilty to Murder in the 2nd degree and being sentenced to 40 years in the Department of Corrections.

Officer Stephenson Cary
On 04-24-15 at about 0407, District 1 officers responded to 1090 S. Havana St. on a report of an armed robbery. During the night there had been a string of armed robberies of convenience stores in both Aurora and Denver. During a robbery at 11th and Yosemite in Denver, shots had been fired by the suspect(s). Instead of going to the location of the robbery where there were already several cars, Officer Stephenson Cary began checking the area south on Havana St. where he thought the suspects had been likely to travel. He located a likely suspect vehicle parked in a suspicious location at 800 S. Havana St. The vehicle fit the description and was occupied by suspects also matching the description. Officer Cary followed this vehicle and upon having cover cars with him, attempted to stop it. The vehicle sped away and shortly thereafter, crashed into a fence behind 455 N. Havana St. Two suspects fled on foot and Officer Cary remained with the other suspect in the car. A handgun and incriminating evidence were seen and documented in the car which was processed by CSI. The other two suspects were apprehended after a perimeter was set up. Officer Cary is to be commended for his attention to duty and using his training and experience to recognize and ultimately capture three dangerous felons.

Sergeant Edward Acuti, Sergeant Rex McKinney, Officer Aaron Benes, Officer Chad Berger, Officer Darren Chamberland, Officer Jeremy Fink, Officer Matthew T. Green, Officer Sheldon Irons, Officer Daniel Madera, Officer Kindel Padilla, Agent David Perry, Officer Randy Roedema, Agent Thomas Sobieski, Officer James Salazar, Officer Robert Thompson, Agent Thomas Wilson, and Officer Patrick Youngquist.
On May 7, 2015, three separate pizza delivery businesses were robbed within a short period of time. The suspect was described as a white male matching the same description of two other robberies which occurred a few days earlier. A red truck was identified as the suspect vehicle and District 3 detectives aired this information. Swing shift officers who were just coming on duty joined day shift officers in searching for the suspect vehicle. Officer Chamberland located the suspect vehicle with the suspect
standing outside. Additional officers responded into the area and the suspect was safely taken into custody. This would not have been possible had it not been for the collaborative efforts of officers assigned to the District 3 Patrol, PAR and Detective Units. The following officers are hereby awarded a Commander’s Commandment for their teamwork in expeditiously apprehending a dangerous, prolific robbery suspect, without incident: Sergeant Edward Acuti, Sergeant Rex McKinney, Officer Aaron Benes, Officer Chad Berger, Officer Darren Chamberland, Officer Jeremy Fink, Officer Matthew T. Green, Officer Sheldon Irons, Officer Daniel Madera, Officer Kindel Padilla, Agent David Perry, Officer Randy Roedema, Agent Thomas Sobieski, Officer James Salazar, Officer Robert Thompson, Agent Thomas Wilson, and Officer Patrick Youngquist.

Officer Michael Iovine, Officer Christopher Schipke, and Officer Jose Ortiz
On August 11, 2015, at approximately 0033 hours, District 2 Patrol Officers Michael Iovine, Christopher Schipke, and Jose Ortiz responded to a report of a disturbance and unknown problem. During their ensuing investigation, the officers determined that there had been a domestic violence between a male and female partner. The 30-year old male (Kyle McGowan) was the primary aggressor and he had driven from the scene. The officers observed the male drive back into the area. Officers Schipke, Iovine and Ortiz immediately ordered the driver to stop the car. The suspect stopped but refused to follow multiple orders to “show his hands.” He kept his right hand down near his right front pocket. Officer Schipke then smashed out the driver’s window, unlocked the door, and pulled McGowan from the vehicle. He was immediately taken to the ground. McGowan resisted arrest, placing both hands under his clothes near the waistband of his pants. Officers were able to safely gain control of McGowan and handcuff him. McGowan was searched and a loaded .380 pistol was discovered where he had been reaching during his arrest. The Pistol was seized. Officers Iovine, Ortiz and Schipke through their personal efforts, teamwork and restraint performed their jobs in such a manner as to reflect high quality and professionalism in the performance of their duties and are hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department Commander’s Commandment.

Officer Scott Osgood, Officer Craig Collins, Officer Chad Elliott, Officer Barry Martin, Officer Bobby Wong, and Sergeant Jason Paulovich
On June 24th, 2015 at 1120 hours, Officers Craig Collins, Chad Elliott, Barry Martin, Scott Osgood, and Bobby Wong were working on East Colfax Avenue when a hit for a stolen motorcycle came over their computer via a fixed LPR at Colfax and Havana Street. The motorcycle was a steal out of California. The black, silver, and red 2006 Suzuki Hayabusa was traveling westbound on East Colfax Avenue from Havana Street. Officer Collins was at East Colfax Avenue and Dallas Street when he spotted the motorcycle still traveling westbound on East Colfax Avenue. Officer Collins began to follow the motorcycle and confirmed it had the plate listed in the stolen vehicle hit. Officers Elliott and Osgood, who were waiting at East Colfax and Dallas Street, saw the motorcycle and Officer Collins pass and they began to follow. As the motorcycle approached the red light at Quebec Street, Officer Collins was able to get in front of the motorcycle. Officers Osgood and Elliott got behind the motorcycle and activated their emergency lights then approached the motorcyclist on foot. Officer Elliott held the suspect at gun point on the left and Officer Osgood had the right with a taser. Officer Elliott ordered the driver to shut off the motorcycle, put the kick stand down, and get off the motorcycle. The suspect complied but stiffened up when Officer Elliott approached to handcuff him. Officer Elliott was able to get the suspect to his stomach and with assistance from Sergeant Paulovich was able to handcuff the suspect. Officers Martin and Wong were able to locate
a handgun and drugs on the suspect. Officers Martin and Wong were able to locate a handgun and drugs on the suspect. Officer Martin performed a micro-chemical analysis and concluded it was positive for methamphetamine.

**Officer Adam Price, Officer Gergely Boros, Officer Robert Fowler, Officer Barry Gomez, Officer Ernest Gonzales, Officer Christopher Thivierge, and Officer Daniel Veith**

On May 4\(^{th}\), 2015, District 1 Officers Robert Fowler, Gergely Boros, Daniel Veith, Adam Price, Ernest Gonzales, Christopher Thivierge, and Barry Gomez responded to assist Tom Faustin in the area of E. Colfax Avenue and Moline Street. Officer Faustin had just been intentionally struck by a suspect vehicle. Officer Faustin had been injured and he was engaged in a vehicle pursuit. Officers quickly responded to the area and located the suspect vehicle after Officer Faustin had to stop pursing when his vehicle became inoperable. Officer Fowler was able to get close enough to the suspect vehicle to obtain a partial license plate. Officers were also able to get a general description of the driver. With this extremely limited amount of information the aforementioned officers immediately began conducting suspicious person contacts along the E Colfax Avenue corridor, obtaining multiple listing of similar vehicles based on the partial plate and compiling a list of addresses for registered owners that were consistent with the suspect information. Through the use of networking with other department resources the officers were able to pin point the suspect vehicle to 1764 Elmira Street. The vehicle was not initially located. However, the assisting officers continued surveillance and checking the residence. Through their efforts, the suspect vehicle was recovered at the residence and the suspect was taken into custody without incident the same night. The suspect was subsequently charged with the attempt murder of Officer Faustin.

**Agent Brian McClure**

Detective Brian McClure was assigned Case #14-37660, which involved an 87 year-old man being taken advantage of by a 41 year-old woman in what is known as a “Sweetheart Scam”. The woman, and her husband, swindled almost $100,000 from the victim in less than a month. During the investigative process the victim would often call Detective McClure to discuss the case, among other things, and Brian always found time to talk with him. When the case went to a preliminary hearing the victim spoke very highly of the police department, and especially about Detective McClure. It was discovered that Detective McClure actually picked the victim up and drove him to the hearing because he had no family and no other means to get there. Detective McClure exhibited not only the highest degree of professionalism in his investigation and testimony, but actually went above and beyond any expectations of his job by ensuring that the victim got to and from the court hearing safely. Detective McClure’s actions in this case reflected greatly upon himself, his team, and the Aurora Police Department.

**Officer Jay Van Kam and Officer Jason McIrvin**

On January 28\(^{th}\), 2015, while on routine patrol, Officers McIrvin and Jay Van Kam observed a teenaged male standing at an intersection with a briefcase and a backpack at his feet. Realizing that the average teenager does not usually carry a briefcase, they felt this individual warranted investigation. As the officers turned their vehicle around to get a better look at him, he picked up the items and ran, hopping a fence into a backyard. A foot chase ensued and involved several D2 PAR officers, District 2
and District 3 patrol officers and D2 BIG officers. The suspect was eventually caught and the briefcase and backpack were recovered. Paperwork in the backpack listed to an Aurora address. Officers responded to that address and found evidence of a recent burglary. Residents of that address happened to arrive while officers were on-scene and were able to identify property recovered in the backpack and the briefcase. Officers Van Kam and McIrvin often work together and they both know that Area 17 has had numerous burglaries and is a CQT target area. They both recognized that the part was suspicious and took action to address their concerns.

**Sergeant Dave Cernich, Agent Douglas Daufeldt, Agent Nick Huber, Officer Jeremiah Cooley, Officer Scott Wicklund, Officer Nicholas Muldoon, and Officer Dan Pell**

Detective Nick Huber was assigned an armed robbery case which occurred on 09/15/14 at 17901 E 40th Ave. He developed a suspect in the case who was later identified as Temnell King (11/17/79). King was believed to be responsible for numerous armed robberies in Aurora and Denver. On 09/26/14, Detective Huber and several DPD detectives had located King in the 2300 block of S. Troy Street in Aurora and immediately notified the District 2 DART team. DART Officers Wicklund, Pell, Muldoon, Cooley, and Sergeant Cernich quickly responded to the area. While enroute, a tactical plan was formed and upon arrival King was taken into custody without incident. He immediately refused an interview and was transported to the jail. King’s girlfriend, Sara Hayes, who as on scene, voluntarily consented to an interview with detectives. During the course of the vehicle inventory, the DART officers recognized items in the vehicle to be evidence of a recent robbery. The car was sealed and towed to impound. During the interview, Sara gave voluntary consent to search her residence, which was conducted by the DART members who had located numerous items of evidentiary value, to include a mask, gloves, clothes from numerous robberies and a handgun. These items linked King to several open robbery cases in the metro area. The DART officers should be commended for their ability to formulate a tactical plan while enroute, and the flawless execution, which led to the arrest of a prolific armed and violent robbery suspect. Detectives Huber and Daufeldt were commended for their detective prowess and their ability to gain the cooperation of Sara, which resulted in locating the much needed evidence to secure an arrest of this dangerous suspect. Together, they all exemplify the key values of the Aurora Police Department and provided great service to the citizens of Aurora.

**Officer Jordan Odneal and Officer Ashley Orr**

On July 25, 2015, Officer Jordan Odneal was on routine patrol when he located a vehicle with stolen license plates traveling southbound. Officer Odneal conducted a traffic stop. He subsequently identified the driver and arrested him for multiple arrest warrants. During inventory of the vehicle, Officer Odneal located a machete and a sawed-off shotgun inside the vehicle. Officer Ashley Orr arrived on scene to assist, and noted the driver and vehicle matched the description of a robbery she had taken two days earlier. On that date, District 1 had two armed robberies an hour apart, with the same description of a male armed with a shotgun. In each of these cases a suspect was not yet identified. Due to the excellent teamwork and keen observations of Officer Odneal and Officer Orr, Detectives were able to complete a successful follow-up investigation. The victim then identified the arrested driver as the prior robbery suspect. Through their own initiative and perseverance, Officer J. Odneal and Officer A. Orr displayed the utmost in professionalism which led to the arrest of a violent and armed individual. Officer Ashley Orr is hereby awarded the Aurora Police Department’s Commander’s Commendation.
Officer William Miller, Officer James Benedict, and Officer Philip Rathbun
On September 27, 2015, Dispatch aired a robbery in progress at the Walgreen’s on E. Iliff Avenue. The suspect vehicle was seen leaving the area. Officers William Miller, James Benedict and Sergeant Philip Rathbun responded to the area and strategically positioned themselves along potential escape routes from that area. Officer Miller, who had taken a position at E. Florida/S. Sable Boulevard spotted the vehicle approaching him on E. Florida Ave. As the vehicle turned east on E. Florida, Officer Miller aired that he had the vehicle in sight and turned around to follow it. Sergeant Rathbun and Officer Benedict who were also in the area, caught up with Officer Miller. They conducted a high risk stop on the vehicle. The driver was hesitant to stop, but finally did, and refused to comply with orders, and began walking towards the officers. He was taken into custody without incident, and was positively identified as the robbery suspect. Evidence of the robbery was located in his vehicle. The actions of Officers Miller and Benedict and Sergeant Rathbun demonstrated excellent police work, maturity and team coordination. They used great restraint and safe tactics to take the uncooperative suspect into custody without using force or causing injury. All three officers are commended for their dedication to duty as well as their professionalism in dealing with an armed suspect who assaulted a pharmacy employee with a deadly weapon.

Sergeant Dave Cernich, Officer Jared Krieger, Officer Roland Albert, Officer Jeremiah Cooley, Officer Scott Wicklund, Officer Nick Muldoon
At approximately 2230 hours, District 1 officers responded to a shooting. Due to a large hostile crowd gathering, a call went out requesting all available DART Officers to respond to the scene. District 3 DART Officer Dave Sutherland, Erick Ortiz, and Justin Shipley, immediately responded to assist even though they were at the end of their shift, along with District 2 DART Officer Nicholas Muldoon, while the rest of DART diverted for a time due to another reported shooting on East 6th Avenue. DART 3 Officers immediately joined K-9 Officers and began an area search looking for the suspects. During this time a involved subject was discovered hiding in a bush and detained. It was discovered the incident was captured on video. While reviewing this video, Officer Muldoon immediately realized he recognized the suspect and located the suspects name, address, and picture. DART 3 Officers went to the suspects residence to establish surveillance in case he returned home. They were later joined by DART 2 Officers and Sergeant Dave Cernich who responded to the Major Crimes Unit to liaison with MCU Detectives conducting interviews. The DART 2 & 3 officers, maintained surveillance on the location for multiple hours. At approximately 0500 hours, a female and male left the residence and got into a vehicle. The male was believed to be the homicide suspect. A traffic stop was conducted and the suspect was taken into custody.

Alfred Roberson
On May 1, 2015, Officer Roberson was off duty in the Colorado Springs area, and observed a vehicle matching the description of a wanted suspect in connection with an attempted homicide. The suspect, identified as Joshua Casey, had an arrest warrant for Attempted Murder, during which he allegedly shot another individual several times with a handgun. Officer Roberson had been previously aware of this suspect from a bulletin given out during a Aurora Police Department briefing. Once he realized this was the same vehicle, he maintained his composure and called the Colorado Springs Police Department Communications Department, advising them of his police status and the direction of travel of the suspect vehicle. He maintained his distance and followed the suspect while giving updates to dispatch. Officers
began flooding the area, but the suspect was lost. Officer Roberson and his radio actions eventually led to locating the suspect vehicle near the area where it was initially lost. The suspect was taken into custody without incident. Officer Roberson was instrumental in not only locating the suspect and keeping him in sight, but also directing officers into the area. He kept the safety of citizens a priority by not being too aggressive during the surveillance. On behalf of the Colorado Springs Department, Sergeant Carlos Sandoval extends his appreciation to Officer Roberson in reflecting his commitment to service regardless of the community he is in by assisting in the apprehension of an armed and dangerous suspect. He reflects positively on the Aurora Police Department by his commitment to community and maintaining the highest core values.

Officer Jason Taft
On January 21st, 2014, Officer Taft responded to Macy’s at Town Center for a reported shoplift which escalated into an armed robbery. Two suspects collected handfuls of clothing and then exited the store using physical force to kick open an exit door which was blocked by a loss prevention associate. Once at their vehicle, the male suspect was challenged by loss prevention. He pulled a sawed off shotgun and menaced the employee. Both suspects then fled in the vehicle. Officer Taft quickly gathered what information he could and began diligently working the case. Based on his investigation, he reached out to the Colorado Springs Police Department via teletype, sharing essential details and descriptions while asking for follow up assistance at the residence of the registered owner. As a result of Officer Taft’s quick response and communication with an outside agency, Colorado Springs Police officers were able to quickly capture the suspects, their vehicle, and the illegal weapon used in the commission of a crime. Within just a few hours of the robbery, Aurora police officers transported the suspects and the weapon back to Aurora where they were interrogated by and confessed to detectives. Detective Roberts advised that Officer Taft went far above what most officers would with his extensive follow-up and had he not, most likely the weapon would have never been recovered.

Officer Ryan Sweeney
Officers Johnathan Carelock and Kristopher McDowell responded to 893 N. Dawson Street on a report of a man armed with a knife. Dispatch further advised that Jose Del Akamo bit his sister on the arm and then armed himself with a kitchen knife. Upon arrival, Officer McDowell learned that the subject had retreated into the basement and was still armed with a knife. Officer Carelock immediately began speaking with Del Alamo and created a rapport, speaking from upstairs, while the subject remained in the basement. Officer Carelock requested more cars and a supervisor. Officers Richard Mervin and Ryan Sweeney and Sergeant White responded. While speaking to Mr. Akamo, Officer McDowell realized that he was clearly in a mental crisis state. The male was threatening that if officers came down into the basement, they would be carrying him out in a body bag. The officers set up an arrest team, while Officer McDowell continued to calm the subject down. Officer McDowell talked his way into the basement, and was speaking face to face with the subject. Eventually, the subject dropped the knife behind the couch and allowed Fire Rescue to come and evaluate him. In the end, the subject walked on his own to the ambulance where he was transported to the hospital for a psychological evaluation. This situation called for consistent tactical evaluation (CIT) level negotiations, and team coordination. The officer’s diligence and persistent actions led to a successful conclusion in this stand-off.
Officer Michael Allen
On November 3, 2014 at 9:20 p.m. Officer Allen observed a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot of the northeast corner of East Quincy Avenue & South Buckley Road. He established probable cause to stop the vehicle on a public street where he made a traffic stop. Officer Roberts responded as a cover officer and upon contact with the two occupants of the vehicle a distinct odor of marijuana was noted. The passenger was making furtive movements toward the floorboard. K9 Officer Exstrom and K9 Flash arrived on scene and were present while the driver was removed from the vehicle without incident. However he failed to follow orders, fought officers, and made efforts to access his waist-band and to get into a backpack. A foot chase ensued where K9 Flash apprehended him, and another violent struggle ensued where he accessed a pistol. Officers took him into custody using a great deal of restraint as a much stronger response was justified. While at the hospital for treatment of his injuries another fight ensued where K9 Sergeant Samuels assisted in getting the suspect back into custody. These officers acted in a very professional manner and exercised a tremendous amount of restraint in the arrest of a violently resisting armed suspect. Two other handguns were recovered as well as a large amount of marijuana packaged for sale. The suspects were also persons of interest in a District 2 cases involving armed robberies.

Officer Quint Cox
On July 21, 2015, Officer Quint Cox responded on a welfare check of an elderly female who lived alone at 13998 East Louisiana Place. Officer Cox discovered that Ms. Richardson lost her husband two months prior and was experiencing a number of serious difficulties as a result. She had no food in her home, could not use her telephone, and was forced to sleep on a couch since her husband’s death. Utilizing his own resources, Officer Cox went to a local grocer and purchased food items for Ms. Richardson. In addition, he resolved an issue with her telephone and made sure it was functioning before leaving. Working with victim advocates and a local retailer, Officer Cox was able to obtain a mattress for Ms. Richardson’s use. Officer Cox was awarded this Commander’s Commendation for his selfless actions to go above and beyond his duties to tend to the needs of a highly compromised individual. His continued care and concern for the citizens of Aurora has yet again been displayed with the utmost professionalism.

Officer Adam Roberts and Officer Chad Warner
On May 22, 2015, Detective Tom Wilson issued a bulletin indicating there was probable cause to arrest Kevin Onno Metze for pawning items that had been taken in a burglary the previous day. The bulletin requested that if Metze was contacted in his vehicle, the vehicle was to be impounded pending a search warrant. Officers Chad Warner and Adam Roberts recognized Metze from a contact about two weeks previous. Both officers returned to the location where they had previously contacted Metze. When they arrived, they found him sitting in his vehicle and arrested him without incident. During a search incident to the arrest, Officer Warner found a vial containing heroin. The vehicle was impounded and Metze was jailed for charges related to the stolen property, as well as possession of a schedule II controlled substance. The excellent police work by both Officers Warner and Roberts resulted in the quick arrest of a wanted felon.
Officer Jeff Brown and Officer Patrick Youngquist
On December 3, 2014, Officers Jeff Brown and Patrick Youngquist were dispatched to a medical office located in Centennial, Colorado on a report involving the abuse of an at-risk adult. The 84-year-old male victim stated that he resides at his home in Aurora with his 52-year-old son who has been abusing him for several years, and that the abuse had become progressively more severe. The victim, a retired decorated Air Force Brigadier General who served as a fighter pilot in Korea and Vietnam, sustained visible injuries allegedly caused by his son, and further reported being yelled at, spat upon and repeatedly threatened. The victim went to the doctor’s office because “he didn’t know what else to do.” Officers initiated a thorough preliminary interview of the victim and other family members; completed a detailed report; and made appropriate notifications in support of the investigation and eventual arrest of the suspect by District 3 detectives. Rather than merely taking the required report and simply routing it to detectives for follow up, Officers Brown and Youngquist took a victim-centered approach, focusing on the needs and concerns of the victim in a way that ensured a compassionate and sensitive delivery of service. Officers Brown and Youngquist were awarded this commander’s commendation for performing their duties above and beyond expectation in a manner that reflects the high quality and professionalism of the Aurora Police Department.

Officer Andrew Crowley, Officer Richard Garcia, and Officer Thomas Faustin
On January 28, 2015, a member of the Aurora Police Department’s Intelligence Unit distributed to sworn members a suspicious activity bulletin regarding a volatile adult male with mental health issues who sent an email containing threatening remarks towards the mayor, a municipal judge and officers. On January 30, 2015, Officers Richard Garcia, Andrew Crowley and Thomas Faustin were dispatched to the subject’s residence in response to a 9-1-1 call that was made by both parties who reported a physical altercation between them. The father, a self-described twenty plus years mental health professional, requested a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officer be sent to contact his son. A CIT officer was not available and the dispatched officers handled the call (APD 2015-3957). Each officer engaged the family members in a non-provoking manner to determine what occurred. Applying proper contact and cover principles, they kept family members apart while ensuring officer safety was maintained. The irate adult male son was calmed and eventually agreed to submit himself to be placed on a mental health hold. Officers Garcia, Crowley, and Faustin are commended for their efforts to resolve a highly volatile situation, involving a person with serious mental health concerns, in a manner that allowed him to maintain his dignity and respect and thus avoid further confrontation. Given the prior information known about the adult son, a much more aggressive or defensive approach might have taken place; however, Officers Garcia, Crowley, and Faustin took a victim centered approach. They focused on the needs and concerns of the victim in a way that ensured a compassionate and sensitive delivery of service. The father involved in the incident made a phone call to the police department, recommending that these officers receive an award. Officers Garcia, Crowley, and Faustin were, therefore, awarded a Commander’s Commendation for performance of duties in such a manner as to reflect high quality and professionalism on behalf of the agency.

Officer Thomas Eckstadt
On February 7, 2015, Officer Thomas Eckstadt was dispatched to Denver Health Medical Center on a report of a sexual assault that had occurred within the city of Aurora the day before. Officer Eckstadt
determined that the allegations of the 62-year-old female victim involved a cable repair person who responded to the victim’s Aurora home to fix her internet connection. The victim, who suffers from multiple health illnesses, had not been subjected to physical force or abuse during the alleged sexual assault. She reportedly thought about the incident overnight and decided the next day to go to the hospital to make a report. (APD Case No. 2015-5183) Officer Eckstadt initiated a preliminary interview of the victim; completed a detailed report; made appropriate notifications in support of the investigation; gained the victim’s consent to collect evidence at her home. His efforts determined the identity of the suspect which led to an eventual interview involving a Sex Crimes Unit detective. Rather than merely taking the required report and simply routing it to detectives for follow up, Officer Eckstadt took a victim centered approach which focused on the needs and concerns of the victim in a way that ensured a compassionate and sensitive delivery of service. Officer Eckstadt also recognized the importance to the community of pursuing potential suspect leads without delay. When the internet cable service provider declined to provide the identity of their technician, he vigorously used available resources to identify and locate the suspect. Officer Eckstadt was awarded this commander’s commendation for performing his duties above and beyond expectation in a manner that reflects the high quality and professionalism of the Aurora Police Department.

Officer Bridget Johnson and Officer Robin Thompson
On April 4, 2015, about 1628 hours Officers Bridget Johnson and Robin Thompson responded to an armed robbery at the Popeye’s Chicken located at 3122 S. Parker Rd. They met with the victim Erik Loera who had met with the suspects to purchase ¼ pound of marijuana. When he met the suspects they robbed him of his money by simulating a weapon and then left. As they left Erik was able to get the license plate for the car which he provided to the officers who learned the vehicle listed to an address in District 2. Later that evening Ofc. Darryl Huntsman located the suspect vehicle at the registered address. He contacted the members of the District 2 DART Team. D-2 DART along with Officers from D-1 DART and Officer Hanley from K9 conducted surveillance of the vehicle and the address. Ofc. Huntsman identified the driver through photos he found and a photo lineup was developed by Ofcs. Johnson and Thompson. The victim returned to Aurora and after viewing the lineup, identified the suspect as being the driver of the car used in the crime. After contacting a female leaving the address DART interviewed her and learned the driver was her son and she provided a name of the accomplice. Another photo line was up developed and the second suspect was also identified. Through the diligence and team work displayed by everyone involved one suspect was arrested that night and a warrant was obtained for the second suspect. The work done by Patrol, DART Teams and K9 in compiling information, speaking with the victim and making the arrest is a continual example of the high caliber of officers that comprise the Aurora Police Department. Together they all exemplify the key values of the Aurora Police Department and provided a great service to the citizens of Aurora.

Officer Dara Clodio, Officer Kenneth Forrest, Officer William Hummel
PAR and BIG officers became aware of a subject wanted on burglary warrants out of Denver during the week of August 24th, 2015. On August 26th, 2015 BIG Officer William Hummel established plain clothes surveillance on 12245 E 14th Ave which was a location connected to the wanted subject. During surveillance Officers Hummel and Clodio observed a male matching the description of the subject board an RTD bus and called for assistance as he followed the RTD bus. PAR Officer Ken Forrest responded and
made a stop on the bus at a location on S Peoria St. Both officers boarded the bus and made contact with the male who presented them with a Colorado ID in the name of another person. The officers continued to investigate and through attention to detail determined that the subject on the bus could not be the same male the ID was issued to. The officers arrested the subject on the bus and subsequently found ID on his person that verified that he was the wanted burglary offender. The officers had investigated this subject and found that the subject has an extensive criminal history and that he had a significant number of pawns including numerous lawn mowers. Northwest Aurora had been suffering a significant number of garage burglaries and the vast majority of items pawned by this offender were items commonly associated with garage storage. Since the arrest, similar burglaries essentially ceased. The officers recognized the importance of arresting this offender to prevent further crimes and actively sought him out for this reason.

**Officer Eugene Colwell and Officer Matt Helfer**

On September 1st, 2015 at approximately 1500 hours, Foot Patrol Officers Matt Helfer and Eugene Colwell were on their foot beat in the 9900 block of E Colfax Ave when they observed two homeless men arguing. They responded and broke up the verbal altercation between the two men. Several minutes later the Officers observed the same two men in a physical fight at the MLK Library located at 9898 E Colfax Ave. Both officers ran across the street to break up the fight, one man fled from the fight and the other remained suffering from a stab wound. The officers pursued the fleeing male and quickly learned that he had used a knife to stab the other male. Officers Colwell and Helfer quickly summoned medical assistance, secured the scene and witnesses and arrested the suspect for First Degree Assault. Officers Helfer and Colwell are a valuable resource to District 1 and the PAR unit. They already knew the individuals involved as well as witnesses and had previously established a rapport with many of them through street contacts. Their response to this dangerous incident and investigation is a testament to their knowledge of the neighborhood as Foot Patrol officers.

**Sergeant Gregg Gallozzi, Officer Abdullah Syidi, and Officer Delbert Tisdale**

On October 23, 2015, at about 0048 hours, Officer’s Abdullah Syidi and Delbert Tisdale arrived on the scene of a reported structure fire at 1400 Kingston Street Unit 3. Once inside there was a large amount of smoke coming from inside unit #3 that filled the lower hallway and was also spreading up to the other two levels of this three-story apartment building. Officer Syidi, despite heavy smoke was able to assist Sgt. Gregg Gallozzi with getting the occupant of unit #3 out of the building and also carried out a 3-year old boy who the father did not take with him. Officer Tisdale began knocking on the doors of the nearby units, despite the presence of heavy smoke from a small kitchen fire, officers were able to warn the residents and have them leave the building until AFD arrived. The residents who were leaving the building were continuously coughing and some had to be led out of the building. Due to the quick actions of Sgt. Gallozzi and Officers Syidi and Tisdale, the buildings residents were safely evacuated resulting in no reported injuries.

**Officer Jeff Olson, Officer William Stricklin, and Officer Daniel Veith**

On September 5th, 2015, at about 0330 hours, Officers William Stricklin and Daniel Veith were dispatched to 441 N. Geneva Street #204 reference a welfare check. Upon arrival they contacted a security guard who advised that an extremely intoxicated male had fallen and hit his head in the parking
After falling down he got up and went into apartment #204. The officers knocked on the door and were confronted by two intoxicated and extremely belligerent males. They refused to let the officers check on the intoxicated male and began to forcefully push the door closed on Officer Stricklin. While Officer Stricklin was trying to keep the door from being closed a third male approached him and punched him in the face. Officer Veith moved up to assist and he began getting punched by one of the other suspects. All three suspects began violently attacking both officers by punching them multiple times in the face and head. Officer Jeff Olson arrived on scene and observed Officers Veith and Stricklin being attacked. He quickly responded to their aid. The officers were finally able to get two of the suspects into handcuffs but they continued to kick the officers and were out of control. The third suspect fled back into the apartment and shut the door. Officers had to kick the door open in order to take the third suspect into custody. During this assault all three officers were injured. These officers faced a very violent and unprovoked attack from three suspects. It should be noted that two of the suspects were convicted of 2nd Degree Assault on a Peace Officer, and the third was convicted of 3rd Degree Assault on a Peace Officer. Despite their injuries they maintained their composure, worked together to protect each other, and eventually got all three suspects into custody. Their actions are an excellent example of their professionalism and dedication to their fellow officers and the citizens of Aurora. Officer Jeff Olson is hereby awarded the Commander’s Commendation.

**Officer Robert Little**

On October 6, 2015, Officer Robert Little attempted to make a traffic stop on a vehicle with no headlights on in the area of E. Alameda Avenue and S. Havana Street. The vehicle did not pull over and instead sped away on E. 1st Avenue. Officer Little ceased his attempts to stop the vehicle, but was able to observe it strike multiple curbs near E. 1st Avenue and Dayton Street. The vehicle then turned into an apartment complex and parked at 171 Fulton Street. The driver, Joshua Tally, began to run south through the parking lot while carrying a backpack. Officer Little engaged this party in a foot pursuit, and was able to apprehend Mr. Tally in the parking lot with the assistance of other officers. Mr. Tally was found to be in possession of a handgun, several grams of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. Further, Mr. Tally had several felony warrants for his arrest. Officer Little did a tremendous job of following APD policy concerning eluding vehicles, and was able to apprehend an armed, convicted felon without incident.

**Officer Patricia Perea and Mr. Harry Budisidharta**

During 2015, Officer Patricia Perea began working closely with the Asian Pacific Development Center in her PAR area to assist in developing closer ties with a large refugee community present in the area. Officer Perea developed the idea of bringing refugee youth into the Aurora Police Explorer Program with the idea that such youth could act as ambassadors in the community and foster positive relationships with the Aurora Police Department. With the valuable assistance of Mr. Harry Budisidharta, a young man from the Bhutanese refugee community was identified as a potential candidate. Officer Perea and Mr. Budisidharta spent considerable time coordinating with the candidate and his family prior to his application to the program being submitted. The candidate's application was submitted, he passed all entry requirements, and was accepted to the Aurora Police Department Explorer Academy. The candidate started the academy on January 9th, 2016 and Officer Perea maintains close ties with him as
he progresses. This is an excellent example of community collaboration and both Mr. Budisidharta and Officer Perea should be congratulated for their efforts

**Director of Neighborhood Services Aaron Gagne**

Annually the Aurora Police Department holds an event, National Night Out, which brings the community together. This event is a time for neighbors to meet each other and talk with their PAR officers in an informal meet and greet setting. Aurora Police Department provides food and entertainment for the kids in the area. This year, 2015, members of Community Development and Animal Control donated to the event. Without your contributions Aurora Police District 1 would not have been able to provide the amount of food to the members of the community. Aurora Police District 1 would like to thank everyone in Neighborhood Services for your donations to the event. The help you provided to District 1 for this event is truly appreciated. As National Night Out is a way for the Police Department to bring the community together, Neighborhood Services has shown the true meaning of the CORE 4 values in working with Aurora Police District 1 to make this event memorable for the community.

**Crime Analyst Jamie Newsum**

Beginning in October of 2015, the Denver Metropolitan area began to see an uptick in armed robberies of businesses. Over the course of the next four months, a group was identified and was labeled the “Mickey Mouse Bandits” due to their trademark white gloves. This group was responsible for over forty armed robberies in the Metropolitan area, with fifteen of them committed in the City of Aurora. A total of five suspects comprised the “Mickey Mouse Bandit” group. Between one to four suspects would commit each robbery, but never the entire group of five at any one time. Four out of the five suspects were identified and ultimately apprehended. The fifth suspect was unidentifiable for quite some time, until Aurora Police Department Senior Crime Analyst Jamie Newsum became involved. Jamie conducted research on Facebook, utilized an in-depth analysis of cellular telephone records as well as other investigative means in order to develop a subject that went by the moniker of “Alex.” Jamie was able to develop a suspect by the name of Abdullah Muhammed Mallett, and with the assistance of Safe Streets Task Force investigators was able to secure a Nation-wide extradition warrant for Mallett’s arrest in connection to these robberies. On March 2nd, 2016, Abdullah Mallett was arrested in Tennessee, and is currently undergoing extradition back to Colorado. A full confession was obtained from Mallett in regards to his involvement with the series of robberies that were committed by the “Mickey Mouse Bandit crew.” Due to her commitment, professionalism, attention to detail and dogged determination, Senior Crime Analyst Jamie Newsum is awarded this Commander’s Commendation for a job well done. Her actions and involvement can be directly attributed in taking a dangerous felon off of the streets of our community.

**Officer Bryan Knox, Officer Clark Orchard**

On September 30, 2014 Officer Knox and Officer Clark Orchard were assisting FAST in the apprehension of a fugitive, Andrew Davis. After receiving intelligence from FAST, Officer Knox approached Davis ‘room at the Radiant Inn. The front door was ajar. Based on the high risk nature of the arrest, Officer Knox immediately placed Davis at gun point as he sat stoically at the foot of the bed. Officer Knox’s orders were initially unheeded as Davis appeared to be plotting his next move. Officer Orchard recognized Davis’ intent and took immediate necessary action to change Davis’ focus. Officer Orchard painted Davis
with the laser from the taser to his chest. Officer Knox used the moment to move forward and take control of Davis and his hands. Davis eventually capitulated and was taken into custody without incident. During a search of Davis a gun was recovered from Davis' back pocket. The weapon was checked and it was learned that the weapon was linked to a homicide in Arkansas. Officer Knox and Officer Orchard's quick reaction to a rapidly developing dangerous situation took the initiative from Davis thereby saving the lives of on scene officers. There was no doubt that Davis was plotting a violent encounter, but was at such a disadvantage he elected to surrender.

**Officer Barry Martin**

On August 11, 2015 the Aurora SWAT team hosted an event for the United States Marshal Service. SWAT Officer Barry Martin was tasked to coordinate with the USMS agent and a private range capable of containing the ammunition to be used that day. The event was designed to test the weaknesses in an armored vehicle that had been seized during a federal criminal investigation. The vehicle was armored in a manner similar to the very vehicles that many federal law enforcement agencies use for dignitary protection. The exercise included extrication techniques and ballistic testing of differing high caliber rifle cartridges. Over the course of several months Officer Martin spent many work and personal hours to ensure this event occurred safely and achieved the intended result of the exercise. Officer Martin represented the Aurora SWAT team and our agency with professionalism and in the best possible light in the presence of our federal law enforcement colleagues.

**Acting Sergeant Phillip Rathbun**

On March 19, 2015 a victim was robbed at knifepoint of their vehicle in Glendale, Colorado. Glendale Police entered the vehicle as stolen into CCIC/NCIC with the notation of “Suspects armed and dangerous, use caution, armed with a knife”. Later that morning Aurora Police Dispatch received an alert based on the vehicles travel along the Colfax corridor. Acting Sergeant Phil Rathbun was in the area when the information about the stolen vehicle was aired. A short time later he found the vehicle near Colfax Avenue and Havana Street. The vehicle circled the block and proceeded East on Colfax Avenue. Officers attempted to stop the vehicle as it turned south on Moline Street from Colfax Avenue. The vehicle eluded officers continuing south on Moline Street. Officers engaged in a vehicle pursuit with Acting Sergeant Rathbun assuming the role of the primary car. The pursuit continued through portions of north Aurora ultimately ending up on Highway E-470 and East 56th Avenue. Acting Sergeant Rathbun sought and received permission to perform a PIT maneuver. He executed the maneuver with precision wherein the suspect vehicle slid off the roadway and into a muddy field. The two suspects were still armed and taken into custody without further incident. It was later discovered that both suspects were wanted on active warrants based on prior robberies. Throughout the pursuit, Acting Sergeant Rathbun provided clear and concise updates on the radio as to the speeds, traffic, road conditions and descriptions of the suspects. It was due to this effective communication that the Watch Commander was able to make minute-by-minute assessments of the need to continue the pursuit balanced with citizen safety concerns. Acting Sergeant Rathbun maintained the presence of mind to consider all attendant circumstances of a supervisory officer while directly involved in the pursuit. He is to be commended on his ability to assess and communicate the ongoing justification for a pursuit of two armed and dangerous offenders, bringing the incident to a safe and effective conclusion.
Officer Lonnie Crump, Officer Juan Gonzalez
On May 23, 2015 at 1030 hours, Aurora Police District 1 officers responded to a reported felony menacing call at 11297 E. Colfax Ave. Officer Williby immediately contacted the victims and obtained reliable detailed suspect information. Officer Gonzalez responded to interpret due to a language barrier. His quick response was vital to developing accurate information about the incident and suspect. After officers checked the area for the suspect, Officer Orchard, Officer Matthews and Officer Crump also responded to the victims location to assist with the investigation. While on scene the victim pointed out the suspect near the Park Motel. At the same time, a female motel employee exited the building between the suspect and officers. Officer Williby, Officer Orchard and Officer Gonzalez attempted contact with the suspect by giving orders. The suspect reached into his coat pocket and pulled out a firearm. The suspect immediately laid the firearm on the ground. The officers recognized the suspect was giving up and not threatening them with the gun. They also saw the female in their line of fire. The officers utilized great poise and restraint in resolving this high risk situation without the use of deadly force. After the suspect was taken into custody, Officer Matthews obtained a confession under Miranda. Officer Crump assisted in coordinating the investigation. Officer Williby and Officer Orchard collected evidence and interviewed witnesses and victims. The suspect was arrested for felony menacing and was later charged with POWPO. The initial response, arrest, investigation, and evidence collection were all completed in an exemplary manner. The initiative, hard-work, and investigative prowess displayed by these officers is to be commended. They exemplify the key values of the Aurora Police Department and provided a great service to the citizens of Aurora.

Officer Levi Huffine and Officer Brian O’Halloran
On March 7, 2015, at approximately 2:30 a.m., Officers Levi Huffine and Brian O’Halloran responded to an alarm at the Subway Restaurant located at 13692 E. Iliff Avenue. Officers Huffine and O’Halloran immediately noticed that the rear door of the building was open, and approached this area with caution. The officers then confronted two juvenile suspects who had burglarized the business and were now inside of the restaurant. The suspects fled the scene through the front door of the Subway and ran to the southwest. Officers Huffine and O’Halloran quickly asked for a perimeter to be set up, and were soon assisted by officers from all three districts. An accurate description of the subjects was aired during this time, and Officers Huffine and O’Halloran adeptly used these additional resources to set up an effective search zone. As a result of the quick perimeter and tenacity of Officers Huffine and O’Halloran, the burglary suspects were taken into police custody a short time later. Officers O’Halloran and Huffine should be commended for their quick response to the business alarm, and use of sound tactics during this incident.

Officer Keith Matthews, Officer Clark Orchard, and Machelle Williby
On May 23, 2015 at 1030 hours, Aurora Police District 1 officers responded to a reported felony menacing call at 11297 E. Colfax Ave. Officer Williby immediately contacted the victims and obtained reliable detailed suspect information. Officer Gonzalez responded to interpret due to a language barrier. His quick response was vital to developing accurate information about the incident and suspect. After officers checked the area for the suspect, Officer Orchard, Officer Matthews and Officer Crump also responded to the victims location to assist with the investigation. While on scene the victim pointed out the suspect near the Park Motel. At the same time, a female motel employee exited the
building between the suspect and officers. Officer Williby, Officer Orchard and Officer Gonzalez attempted contact with the suspect by giving orders. The suspect reached into his coat pocket and pulled out a firearm. The suspect immediately laid the firearm on the ground. The officers recognized the suspect was giving up and not threatening them with the gun. They also saw the female in their line of fire. The officers utilized great poise and restraint in resolving this high risk situation without the use of deadly force. After the suspect was taken into custody, Officer Matthews obtained a confession under Miranda. Officer Crump assisted in coordinating the investigation. Officer Williby and Officer Orchard collected evidence and interviewed witnesses and victims. The suspect was arrested for felony menacing and was later charged with POWPO. The initial response, arrest, investigation, and evidence collection were all completed in an exemplary manner. The initiative, hard-work, and investigative prowess displayed by these officers is to be commended. They exemplify the key values of the Aurora Police Department and provided a great service to the citizens of Aurora.

**Officer Gary Oliver**

On March 30, 2015 Officer Gary Oliver responded to Legend Oak Apartments on a theft report of an IPAD. A suspect entered the workout room of the complex and stole an IPAD. Officer Oliver reviewed the video and knew the suspect matched the description of a previous call. Officer Oliver tracked the IPAD down to 2311 S. Jamaica St. Officer Oliver obtained consent from the homeowner to enter the property and look for the IPAD. He located the suspect and located the stolen IPAD in the back alley. Officer Oliver unraveled more than a theft but an actual burglary through perseverance of solving this crime. Officer Gary Oliver through his own efforts and professionalism tracked this suspect down and was awarded the Commander’s Commendation.

**Officer Mark Simmerman and Officer Christopher Mowry**

On August 12, 2014, at about 8:20 pm, District 1 patrol responded to the area of I-225 SB HWY @ E. 6th Ave on a report of a male sitting on the bridge looking like he was going to jump off. Officers arrived to find a 21-year-old adult male sitting on the I-225 bridge over the E. 6th Ave. eastbound lanes. He had climbed over the small chain-link fence atop the concrete guardrail with the intentions of jumping off to commit suicide. Officer Paul Cancino, CIT trained, arrived and immediately began talking with the subject. SWAT Officers Brant Harrold and Paul Jerothe quickly set up on the bridge directly behind the subject and tied ropes around their waist, securing it to a police truck in the event they had to grab onto the suicidal subject. Officer Cancino continued to talk with the subject as he kept making suicidal threats of jumping. A plan was made that if the opportunity presented itself Officers Harrold and Jerothe would grab onto the male and pull him over the fence. Officers Mark Simmerman and Christopher Mowry were instructed to assist Officers Harrold and Jerothe by grabbing their belts should they have to jump over the fence. At one point the subject raised his arms and placed them on top of the fence making it possible to grab and secure him. Officers Harrold and Jerothe quickly jumped up on the guardrail, reached over the fence, and grabbed onto the subject’s arms. When the rescue was conducted Officers Simmerman, Mowry and Sgt. J. Martinez all grabbed onto Officers Harrold and Jerothe to keep them from going too far over the fence, they then assisted with securing the resisting subject and successfully controlled him on the ground so he could be treated by AFD Paramedics. The male resisted the officers, making his body go limp, but was successfully pulled up and over the fence to safety. All the officers performed a difficult task, making a split second decision, putting themselves at risk several stories
above E. 6th Avenue. The officers actions contributed in keeping the subject from jumping off the overpass in full view of the public, as the fall certainly would have caused serious injury or death.

**Officer Joseph Sullivan**

On July 21, 2015 officers were dispatched to Aurora Mental Health on a report of a possible homicidal subject. Upon arrival staff stated that the subject rated a 9 out of 10 on their scale of being psychotic. Staff also stated that he was currently highly hostile and exploded in anger when he was told by the on duty Physiatrist that he was being put on a mandatory mental health hold for further evaluation. Officer Joseph Sullivan, who is C.I.T trained, arrived on scene and started to converse with the subject who was unstable and anxious because of the police presence. Officer Sullivan was calm and patient while talking with the subject. Officer Sullivan built a rapport with the subject and explained to him the importance of the hold and the reason for the hold. Officer Sullivan was able to get the subject to voluntarily get up and walk to the ambulance to be transported to the hospital. Officer Joseph Sullivan exercised great professionalism and genuine concern for the subject and through his actions prevented a possible violent and dangerous altercation from taking place including possible injuries to officers or the subject himself.

**Sergeant Graham Dunne**

On December 9, 2014 at 1249 hours, Sgt. Dunne became aware of a stolen vehicle that was eastbound on E. Colfax Av. and Moline St. Approximately five minutes later, Sgt. Dunne observed the vehicle westbound on E. Colfax Av. at Peoria St. Sgt. Dunne began following the vehicle and asking for assist cars. Sgt. Dunne was also alerted by the BOSS LPR System that the vehicle was taken in a Denver robbery and that the occupants were possibly armed. Sgt. Dunne followed the vehicle to the 1400 block of Moline St. where a pursuit began and the vehicle eluded him. Sgt. Dunne was able to observe the vehicle driving north on Del Mar Pkwy where it eventually crashed in the 1200 block. The driver fled and Sgt. Dunne pursued him for a block where he was taken into custody without incident. It should be noted that a full confession to the robbery and eluding were obtained and a stolen shotgun was recovered from the vehicle.

**Officer Roland Albert, Officer Jeremiah Cooley, Officer Paul Davis, Officer Chad Elliott, Officer Steve Ficco, Officer W.B. Martin, Officer Dan Pell, and Officer Scott Wicklund**

On December 30, 2014 at about 11:30 pm, two citizens were robbed at gunpoint of their truck near 1725 N. Peoria St. Two of the suspects were armed and pointed their weapons at the victims. DART Officers Paul Davis and Chad Elliott quickly located the truck a short distance away. The stolen truck was mobile and occupied by three suspects. Officers Elliott, Davis, Steve Ficco and W.B. Martin began to coordinate a plan to effectively take the suspects into custody. DART Officers Roland Albert, Daniel Pell, Jeremy Cooley and Scott Wicklund heard the tactical arrest being organized and responded to assist. Using unmarked police vehicles, the DART Officers immobilized the suspect vehicle in the 1900 block of N. Galena St. The driver made an intense effort to escape by accelerating back and forth in the stolen truck against the DART vehicles. While this was occurring, the officers tasked with taking physical custody of the occupants worked to seize the driver and stop his assaultive actions. As these officers shouted commands at the occupants, the driver made a motion to the lower right side of his body and into the seat crease, increasing the intensity of the situation. Eventually, the suspects were compelled
to surrender and were taken into custody without injury and only minor damage to the stolen truck. A
loaded handgun was located under the armrest of the front seat and a second loaded handgun was
located under passenger front seat. This fluid and dynamic coordinated tactical effort by these DART
officers bears proof of the training and experience wielded by this elite group, which led to the
successful arrest of these extremely dangerous criminals.
Automated Complaint and Commendation Report

The Automated Complaint and Commendation System accepts and records all submissions. The Department designed the system to manage the complaints and commendations reported on sworn personnel.

During 2015, there were 267 complaints received online or entered by a Police Department member that involved 349 sworn members and 8 non-sworn members.

Additionally, thirty-six (36) commendations were received for sworn officers. There were zero (0) commendations submitted for non-sworn members of the Department.

2015 Automated Complaints and Commendations

89% 9% 2%
Sworn Complaints (349) Non-Sworn Complaints (8) Sworn Commendations (36)
Automated Complaints by Type

The Automated Complaint System categorizes the submissions for the Department to analyze, determine trends and provide instruction if needed.

The system categorize the complaints received during 2015, as follows: Three (3) alleging an illegal search. Zero (0) reported neglect of duty, fifty-six (56) reported violations of court issues or missed court, zero (0) reported violations of Constitutional rights, three (3) allegations of unsatisfactory performance, five (5) allegations of racial profiling, twenty-one (21) reports of excessive use of force, thirty (30) complaints of improper or incomplete investigations, fifty-six (56) for other directives or SOPs not captured under the other types and eighty-eight (88) complaints of rudeness or professionalism issues.

Complaints by Type

- Illegal Search (3)
- Neglect of Duty (0)
- Constitutional Requirements (0)
- Unsatisfactory Performance (3)
- Bias-based Profiling (5)
- Use of Force (21)
- Improper/Incomplete Investigation (30)
- Other Dept. Directive or SOP (56)
- Officer Professionalism (88)
- Court Issue (56)
Automated Complaints by Validity

In each of the complaint submissions received, the officer’s supervisor has investigated the complaint. The officer’s chain of command has reviewed the investigations before closing them.

The Department has reviewed each of the complaints and analyzed the validity of the complaint. From these there were seventy-five (75) sustained, forty-three (43) not sustained, One-hundred-forty-six (146) unfounded, forty-five (45) within policy, two (2) misunderstandings, and forty-four (44) unknown due to unresponsive complainants.
Automated Complaints, Results

The Automated Complaint System records any corrective action taken by the Department as a result of the investigation. The results range from “none justified” to an order by the Chief to the Internal Affairs Section to formally investigate the complaint. Careful study and comparison of this information will reveal that more incidents result in some form of correction than incidents that are found to be valid. This is because the complaint may not be valid in light of the Department Directives, but the supervisor may determine the officer needs some degree of instruction to help him/her do a better job.

The results of the complaints submitted are as follows in descending order of severity. The Chief of Police ordered the Internal Affairs Section to formally investigate forty-one (41) members. The Department issued ten (10) Written Reprimands for violations of Department Directives. A Written Reprinmand is permanent discipline that remain in the officer’s file for his/her entire career. The Department issued twenty-one (21) Corrective Action Reports instructing the officers to change their behavior. The Corrective Action Report is not discipline but a notice or warning to modify behavior. The Corrective Action Report remains in the officer’s file for one to two years, depending on his/her evaluation date and cycle. It is documentation of past problems and corrective measures taken if the officer repeats the behavior. The officer’s supervisors issued thirty-one (31) Performance Appraisal Entry (PAE) reports documenting negative performance. The supervisors use the PAE reports as documentation and are included in the officers’ annual evaluations. On fifteen (15) occasions the supervisors verbally counseled the officers. Thirteen (13) complaints were referred to mediation. The supervisors completed seventeen (17) Performance Appraisal Entry reports that were to document the investigation only (nothing negative toward the officer). The Department concluded in two-hundred-twenty-four (224) of the complaints that the complaint was not valid and that no documentation was needed.

Automated Complaints - Results

- Referred to IAS (41)
- Written Reprimand (10)
- Corrective Action Report (21)
- PAE for Correction (31)
- PAE Documentation (17)
- No Documentation Needed (224)
- Mediation (13)
- Counseling Only (15)
Automated Complaints, Follow Up Contact Method

At the conclusion of the investigation the supervisor is required, if possible, to contact the complainant and explain the findings. The Automated Complaint System records show the supervisor contacted that person.

The supervisors contacted the complainant by telephone in one hundred seventeen (117) of the cases. The supervisors used e-mail sixty-nine (69) times. In thirty-five (35) cases, the supervisor could not contact the complainant (anonymous complaint or attempted but unable to contact). The supervisor met the complainant in person forty-one (41) times.

Automated Complaints
Follow Up Contact Method

- **Phone (117)**: 45%
- **E-mail (69)**: 26%
- **Unable to Contact (35)**: 16%
- **In Person (41)**: 13%
Automated Commendations by Type

The system categorized the thirty-six (36) commendations received during 2015 as follows:

Eight (8) citizen submissions expressed appreciation for the officer. Six (6) others reported a job well done. One (1) submission stated the officer was professional. Four (4) reported the officer went above and beyond expectations and seventeen (17) expressed a thank you.
Automated Complaint and Commendation System, Miscellaneous Information on People Reporting

The automated complaint and commendation system allows the submitting person the opportunity to provide information about himself/herself. The system has a drop-down menu giving the person a choice of options to describe himself/herself. Eighty-one (81) of the people submitting a complaint or commendation indicated they were a citizen of Aurora. Thirty (30) indicated they were a non-resident. Twenty-eight (28) said they were an employee member of the Department, and forty-nine (49) indicated they were a government official.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of People Submitting Commendation and Complaints</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident (81)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident (30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member (28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Official (49)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gender of People Submitting Commendations and Complaints

- Male (147) - 55%
- Female (101) - 38%
- Unknown Gender (18) - 7%

Reported Ethnicity of People Submitting Commendations and Complaints

- White (89) - 48%
- African American (38) - 34%
- Latino (7) - 3%
- Asian (0) - 0%
- American Indian (0) - >1%
- Arab (0) - >1%
- Unknown (124) - 15%
District and Bureau Discipline Report

During 2015, the Department completed and finalized nineteen (19) District / Bureau investigations. Each resulted in the Chief of Police ordering a Written Reprimand as discipline for the violation of one or more Department Directives. A Written Reprimand is permanent discipline that remain in the employee’s file for his/her career. The following is a summary of these cases for 2015.

Chief Metz and the Aurora Police Department recognize the individual members of the Aurora Police Department have a right to privacy in the contents of their personnel files and expect the contents of these files will be held in confidence by their employer. This expectation and right to privacy flows from the United States Constitution, the Colorado Constitution, the Colorado Open Records Act, Colorado Revised Statutes § 24-72-201, et. seq., the Colorado Criminal Justice Records Act, Colorado Revised Statutes, § 24-72-301, et. seq., the City of Aurora Personnel Policies and Procedures, and the Aurora Police Department Directives. While there is little, if any, public interest in investigations stemming from allegations relating to purely administrative matters such as the use of equipment, abuse of leave and the like, these matters are nonetheless provided below.

Further, the City of Aurora also maintains the right to withhold its deliberative process as confidential. The following summaries are included with these privileges of confidentiality in mind. The following summaries do not constitute a waiver of either the individual employee’s expectation of privacy in the contents of his/her personnel file, nor waiver of the City of Aurora’s right to withhold its deliberative process as confidential.

The Department has categorized these nineteen (19) cases as follows: Six (6) cases involved members not following Department policies for vehicle operations and/or the Department’s emergency response policy. Four (4) cases were for unsatisfactory performance. Three (3) cases involved issues of professional conduct. One (1) case involved department equipment. One (1) case involved the handling of evidence. Two (2) cases involved lawful orders. One (1) case involved incidents that require notification. One (1) case involved responsibility for preliminary investigations.

The nineteen (19) District/Bureau written reprimands involved twenty-six (26) members and were issued to sixteen (16) officers and three (3) agents.

These matters that resulted in written reprimands are summarized with more detail below.
1) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.1.3 Vehicle Operation.

While responding to an alarm at a car dealership the officer looked down at his MDC upon his arrival to the location. While looking down the officer drove his patrol car over a concrete island and ran over a sign. This caused damage to the sign and minor damage to the patrol car.

2) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 5.4.1 Incidents that Require Notification and Reporting.

While off-duty and in plain clothes, the officer became involved in an altercation with an unknown person on the highway in Denver. The altercation escalated to the point where the officer felt he was in imminent fear of serious bodily injury or death. The officer verbally identified himself as an APD officer, displayed his badge and pointed his duty weapon at the unknown person who eventually retreated back to his vehicle and drove away. The officer failed to report this incident as soon as practical to his chain of command.

3) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance.

While training in the Academy, the recruit officer failed 3 geography tests.

4) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance.

Since 2008 and Agent has been unable to work his caseload in an appropriate time, having many open and overdue cases. He has been counseled and taken off rotation for new cases many times. He has received a Corrective Action and an “Improvement Needed” on his evaluation. Despite all this, the Agent was not able to get his cases under control.

5) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.1.3 Vehicle Operation.

An Officer was driving routinely, ran a red light and collided with another vehicle. The accident was preventable.

6) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility.

A firearm was found by the cleaning crew at the Arapahoe County Courthouse in the women’s bathroom. The weapon was found on top of the toilet paper dispenser and a magazine of ammunition was on top of the firearm. Maintenance notified the sheriff’s department who then took custody of the items. At about the same time, an agent arrived home and realized the weapon was missing. The agent remembered leaving it in the bathroom at the courthouse. The agent then notified a colleague at the courthouse who in turn notified the sheriff’s office. The agent coordinated the recovery of the items with the sheriff’s office.

7) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance.
While training in the Academy, the recruit officer failed 3 geography tests.

8) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.1.3 Vehicle Operation.

While driving, the officer became distracted when running a license plate of the vehicle’s MDC. The vehicle drifted and struck a raised concrete median, flattening both left side tires, damaging them beyond use and consequently causing damage to the vehicle’s front end. A Command review determined this accident was preventable.

9) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 10.9.2 Harassment, 14.1.1 Lawful Order, and 14.3.2 Conduct Towards Superior and Subordinate Officer and Associates.

This officer confronted another officer in a hostile manner, which nearly came to blows, over an incident that took place the night before. The officers made physical contact with each other while traversing the staircase in opposite directions. This officer felt that physical contact may have been intentional due to an ongoing feud between the two officers. The officer’s sergeants intervened after a string of increasingly antagonistic e-mails. They were ordered to cease and desist their mutually provocative behavior and to comply with directives however, the behavior continued.

10) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 10.9.2 Harassment, 14.1.1 Lawful Order, 14.3.2 Conduct Towards Superior and Subordinate Officer and Associates and 17.2.2 Unauthorized Use of CAD and MDC Systems.

This officer was confronted by another officer in a hostile manner, which nearly came to blows, over an incident that took place the night before. The officers made physical contact with each other while traversing the staircase in opposite directions. The other officer felt that physical contact may have been intentional due to an ongoing feud between the two officers. The officer’s sergeants intervened after a string of increasingly antagonistic e-mails. They were ordered to cease and desist their mutually provocative behavior and to comply with directives however, the behavior continued.

11) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.6 Issuance of Equipment, Badges and Identification Cards.

The officer lost/misplaced her ID card, building pass and P.O.S.T ID card.

12) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance.

While training in the Academy, the recruit officer failed 3 geography tests.

13) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.2.8 Authorized Use of Police Pursuits.
The officer was dispatched to investigate a hit and run. Upon arrival, a witness pointed out the suspect vehicle as it passed the scene. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle and the suspect failed to yield and continued to drive around the neighborhood. Initially the suspect was driving at reasonable speeds but then drove the vehicle through a yard and nearly struck another patrol car. He then accelerated and began to flee. A sergeant aired on the police radio to “let him go” but the officer continued his efforts to pull him over. The sergeant again aired to “let him go.” The suspect made clear and unmistakable efforts to elude officers and the only charges at the time the suspect engaged in fleeing was traffic related and had not met the requirements to warrant a pursuit.

14) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 8.9.2 Responsibility for Handling or Depositing Evidence and Other Property.

Officers responded to a report of a suicidal party. The male was taken into custody. The officer took control of the subject’s cell phone, which had been removed from his hand by one of the other officers. As the subject was being led to an ambulance, and while in handcuffs, the subject began to resist. The officer set the subject’s cell phone down on the ground outside the residence to assist the other officers with the subject. The subject was transported to the hospital and officers secured the residence and left. The officer assumed someone else on scene would secure the phone but they did not. The officer was the last to have possession of the phone and it was the officer’s responsibility to ensure that it was properly secured and returned to the subject.

15) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility and 14.3.10 Reporting Responsibility.

The officer entered inappropriate and offensive narrative regarding the fire department into an official police record.

16) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 6.11.2 Responsibility for Preliminary Investigations and 8.10.11 Traffic Accident Reports.

The officer was dispatched to a call of an accident. Upon arrival he contacted the involved parties and inspected the vehicles. The officer estimated the damage to be less than $1,000 and encouraged the parties to exchange information. One of the involved parties contacted an agent, which is a neighbor and inquired about the handling of the accident. It was determined by the agent that the vehicle suffered major damage and, from the photographs, would require several thousands of dollars to repair. The officer did not properly investigate the accident and brought discredit to the Department.

17) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 6.11.2 Responsibility for Preliminary Investigations, 6.9 Domestic Violence, and 6.9.2 Enforcement Guidelines.

This officer was dispatched to a domestic violence complaint. He contacted the victim and interviewed her. During the interview, the officer gathered enough information to establish probable cause. But, it wasn’t until later when other officers were doing follow-up that it was discovered the primary officer’s investigation and report were severely lacking.
18) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.1 Routine Police Vehicle Operations.

This officer was involved in a preventable motor vehicle accident causing damage to a city owned vehicle when it struck a parking structure support pillar. This is the second preventable accident this officer has been involved in during a six-month period.

19) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility.

The detective sent an email to another organization that was inappropriate and hindered the working relationship between the detective and another member of the APD.
Formal Internal Investigations and Discipline Report

During 2015, the Department completed and finalized twenty-seven (27) formal internal investigations. The following is a summary of the cases resolved in 2015.

Chief Metz and the Aurora Police Department recognize the individual members of the Aurora Police Department have a right to privacy in the contents of their personnel files, including the results of formal investigations and incidents of discipline, and expect the contents of these files will be held in confidence by their employer. This expectation and right to privacy flows from the United States Constitution, the Colorado Constitution, the Colorado Open Records Act, Colorado Revised Statute, § 24-72-201, et. Seq., the Colorado Criminal Justice Records Act, Colorado Revised Statutes § 24-72-301. et. Seq., the City of Aurora Personnel Policies and Procedures, and the Aurora Police Department Directives.

Further, the City of Aurora also maintains the right to withhold its deliberative process as confidential. The following summaries are included below with these privileges of confidentiality in mind. The inclusion of the following summaries does not constitute a waiver of either the individual employee’s expectation of privacy in the contents of his/her personnel files, nor waiver of the City of Aurora’s right to withhold its deliberative process as confidential. In an effort to balance the privacy and confidentiality rights of the individual officers, retaining the deliberative process privilege associated with the decision making detailed below, while at the same time providing our citizens with sufficient information to evaluate the adequacy, thoroughness and impartiality of the Aurora Police Department’s internal investigation and disciplinary process, the following information is provided:

Summary

The Department conducted and resolved twenty-seven (27) formal Internal Affairs investigations in 2015 involving forty-five (45) department members. These members consisted of one (1) civilian, thirty-four (34) officers, one (1) agent, eight (8) sergeants, and one (1) lieutenant. The discipline included fourteen (14) suspensions without pay, five (5) written reprimands, and one (1) member was fined. Two (2) members resigned or retired before discipline was issued. One (1) member was terminated. The Department cleared twenty-two (22) members of any wrongdoing; either by findings of compliance, exoneration, or they were not sustained.
1) The Department initiated an internal investigation of 8 Officers and 1 Sergeant for possible violations of 1.4.11 Supervisor Responsibility: Accountability for Performance of Subordinates, 6.1.12 Incidents Involving a Bail Bondsman, 8.10.2 MDC Reports, 14.2.9 Constitutional Requirements, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 17.2.2 Unauthorized Use of CAD and MDC Systems. All members were Not Sustained.

Officers responded to a dispatched call of an armed, wanted party in a vehicle driving southbound on S. Parker Road. A high-risk stop was conducted on the vehicle. Two occupants of the vehicle were handcuffed and detained on scene. It was later determined that the reporting party was an agent of a bail bondsman and that neither of the occupants of the vehicle was the wanted party. Thirteen months later, a lawsuit was filed by the two occupants. After the lawsuit was filed, it was discovered that no documentation existed for the stop or the detention of the two occupants.

2) The Department initiated an internal investigation for possible violation of directives 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, 6.11.2 Responsibility for Preliminary Investigations, and 1.4.11 Supervisor Responsibility: Accountability for Performance of Subordinates. One officer was sustained for 6.11.2 and received a written reprimand. One officer was not sustained. Both sergeants were sustained on 14.3, 14.3.1, and 6.11.2 and both received a 10-hour suspension.

Two sergeants and two officers responded to a reported physical and verbal altercation. Once on scene the sergeants and officers learned that four people were involved included two off-duty Denver Police officers. The investigation revealed that all four of the parties had been drinking, a fight ensued, one of the DPD officers threatened the other with a handgun, and one of the parties left on foot while the other drove home. One drove back to the scene after APD personnel were on scene. An APD member drove the subject home where they discovered two young children sleeping and that they had been alone. It was decided that no charges would be filed at the time of the initial investigation.

3) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 8.9.2 Responsibility for Handling and Depositing Evidence. The member received a 40-hour suspension.

The Officer was dispatched to a report of a found handgun. The officer allowed the reporting party to keep possession of the weapon which contained a law enforcement only magazine. It was discovered later by another officer on an un-related call that the pistol was reported stolen.

4) The Department investigated a sworn member for possible violations of Department Directives 2.8 Duty Status of Members, 8.12.3 Requirements/Limitations of Sworn members Engaged in Secondary Employment, 8.12.4 Secondary Employment – Restrictions, 8.12.5 Secondary Employment – Selection Procedures, 8.12.6 Secondary Employment – Authorization Procedures, and 14.3.5 Neglect of Duty. The sergeant was sustained for violating 8.12.3 and 8.12.6 and he received a Written Reprimand.

The sergeant worked more than directives allowed in a 1-week period numerous times. He also failed to find a fill-in officer for a secondary employment job.
5) The Department investigated a sworn member for possible violations of Department Directive 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration and Standard Operating Procedure PAT 4.2.10 Cleanliness. The member was sustained on the SOP and received a Written Reprimand.

An officer checked out a marked patrol unit at the start of his shift and found what appeared to be vomit inside the vehicle. The mess was reported to a supervisor and a preliminary investigation was conducted. The last officer that occupied the vehicle offered an explanation for the mess, that it could have been from a bottle of food he discarded out the passenger window but missed and it fell to the floor causing the contents to spill out.

6) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 8.3 Court, 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 14.3.5 Neglect of Duty. The member received a 10-hour suspension.

During a 1 year period, on multiple occasions, the officer arrived late or called in sick when under subpoena from Aurora Municipal Court.

7) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 5.1.7 Other Unauthorized Firing of a Weapon Situations. The member received a 10-hour suspension.

Officer was in the process of cleaning his department issued rifle in the cleaning shed when he discharged his rifle one time into the cleaning bench. He had pressed the trigger during tear-down of the rifle and had failed to check the chamber for a live round. He did not intend to discharge the rifle. No other people were present when the rifle discharged and no one was injured.

8) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance. The member received a 10-hour suspension.

While contacting an at-fault driver in an accident, the officer informed the driver to get back to the military base by driving on the side of the road. The officer was also not familiar with Colorado Revised Statute regarding dependents of military personnel in regards to driver’s licenses.

9) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 6.11.2 Responsibility for Preliminary Investigations and 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance. The member received a Written Reprimand.

The officer responded to a nursing home to investigate a reported “indecent exposure.” The reporting party advised there was two incidents of sexual misconduct by the suspect. The officer spoke only with the reporting party and did not request or obtain victim or witness information which was available and necessary to conduct and efficient and reasonable preliminary investigation. The officer was able to locate the suspect but failed to complete a check of his criminal history. This routine step would have revealed a pattern of similar sexual misconduct. A trespass notice was issued when criminal charges should have been considered.

10) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.3 Professional Conduct and 17.5.8 Police Radio Protocol. The member received a 160-hour suspension.
The officer unknowingly had an open mic on his car radio. During a period less than a minute he was heard on the open mic saying several inappropriate words and phrases. The officer admitted to saying the phrases and words, but said he did not intend to have it heard on his open mic.

11) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.2.4 Intervention. The member received a 30-hour suspension.

While the sergeant was assigned to Internal Affairs as an investigator, he became aware of confidential information regarding an internal investigation that was being conducted on another sergeant. He then took it upon himself to call the sergeant at his residence and advise him he was being investigated.

12) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.4 Dissemination of Information. The member was not sustained.

This sergeant initiated a traffic stop on subjects possibly related to a political campaign. Later, the Chief’s office received phone calls from the media reference the stop in question.

13) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.6.5 Use of Department Equipment. The officer was fined $1,500.

The officer lost and never recovered her department issued MDC.

14) The Department investigated a sworn member involved in a shooting. This is standard practice in any officer-involved shooting. Directives reviewed for compliance were Directives 5.1.2 Authorized Use of Deadly or Potentially Deadly Force, 5.5.15 Ammunition, 5.5.16 Weapon Inspection and Registration, 7.3.2 Firearms Qualification, 7.3.4 Semi-Automatic Weapons Training, and 14.5.8 Critical Incident Drug/Alcohol Testing. The officer was found to be in compliance with all directives reviewed.

Officers conducted a traffic stop where the driver opened fire on two officers, critically injuring one. Officer then returned fire in defense of his partner’s life.

15) The Department investigated sworn members, 3 officers, 2 sergeants, and 1 lieutenant for violating Department Directives 5.3 Use of Physical Force, 5.4.9 Report Responsibilities of Supervisory Officer Notified, 8.10.13 Supervisory/Command Review of Reports, 14.2.9 Constitutional Requirements, and 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance. No members were sustained.

Three officers conducted a traffic stop on two individuals who were uncooperative with police. Officers took the suspects into custody. A hobble was used on one suspect but it was never documented by the first line sergeant or duty lieutenant.

16) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 5.3 Use of Physical Force. The member received 40-hours suspension and additional training.

The officer was involved in processing an arrestee at the Aurora Municipal Jail. The officer was tasked with completing the prisoner property inventory and the arrestee was uncooperative. The
Aurora Police Department

2015 Annual Awards, Commendations, Complaints, and Discipline Report

officer placed himself in a position of disadvantage that allowed the arrestee to kick the officer in the face. The officer responded by delivering an immediate punch to the arrestee’s face.

17) The Department started an investigation on a sworn member for possible violations of Department Directive 2.8.7 Fitness for Duty and Aurora Policy 3-27 Employee Medical Leave.

The officer medically retired before the investigation was concluded.

18) The Department investigated a sworn member involved in a shooting. This is standard practice in any officer-involved shooting. Directives reviewed for compliance were 5.1.2 Authorized Use of Deadly or Potentially Deadly Force, 5.5.15 Ammunition, 5.5.16 Weapon Inspection and Registration, 7.3.2 Firearms Qualification, and 14.5.8 Critical Incident Drug/Alcohol Testing. The officer was found to be in compliance with all directives reviewed.

Officers responded to a shots fired call. Upon arrival this officer was flagged down by a witness and pointed to an individual in an open courtyard of an apartment building. The officer observed the male subject fire a handgun numerous times. The officer made his presence known to the subject, who then turned toward the officer. Fearing for his safety, the officer fired one round at the subject striking him in the neck. The subject was apprehended and transported to the hospital.

19) The Department investigated sworn members, 2 officers, for violating Department Directives 6.11.2 Responsibility for Preliminary Investigations, 8.10.3 General Offense Reports, 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility. One member was sustained on 6.11.2 and 8.10.3. The member received a 10-hour suspension.

Officers responded to a disturbance between a landlord and a tenant. Officers deescalated the situation and cleared the call via CAD notes. No case report was taken. The RP called back the next day and spoke to a sergeant who determined more information needed to be added reference the call.

20) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration and 14.3.7 Leave, Illness and Injury. The member resigned before any formal discipline.

Officer was scheduled to work but called in sick and then was seen by a supervisor at a Bronco game that same night.

21) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 8.9.2 Responsibility for Handling or Depositing Evidence and Other Property, 14.3 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration. The member was sustained on directive 8.9.2 and received a written reprimand.

This officer made an arrest and lost a motor vehicle title which belonged to the arrestee.

22) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.1.5 Conformance to Law and 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility. The member received a 20-hour suspension.
This officer was issued a traffic citation by CSP. Subject pled guilty in court to a lesser charge which resulted in 8 points being assessed on his driver's license.

23) The Department investigated a civilian member for violating Department Directives 3.2.3 Crime Lab Section, 8.9.2 Responsibility for Handling or Depositing Evidence and Other Property, 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 14.3.2 Conduct Towards Superior and Subordinate Officers and Associates. The member was sustained on 8.9.2, 14.3, 14.3.1, and 14.3.2. The member received a 40-hour suspension.

This civilian responded to a crime scene to assist patrol and was rude and unprofessional.

24) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.1.6 Conformance to Directives, 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration, and 14.3.7 Leave, Illness and Injury. The member was sustained and received an 80-hour suspension.

This agent had requested a day off work and was denied due to minimum staffing and short notice. The agent called in sick anyways and admitted to being at a ski resort.

25) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 4.1.2 Seat Belts, 4.1.3 Vehicle Operation, and 8.12.2 Responsibilities of Sworn Members Engaged in Secondary Employment. The member was sustained and received a 10-hour suspension.

This officer was involved in a traffic accident while working an off-duty job and did not get the proper approval to use the vehicle during secondary employment.

26) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration and the City of Aurora Policy and Procedure Manual 4-2 C Just Cause. The allegations were unfounded.

It was alleged that a lateral police officer potentially engaged in misconduct during the hiring process for selection to the Aurora Police Department.

27) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance and Aurora Policy Manual 3-27 Employee Medical Leave. The member was sustained and was terminated.

This officer was on injury leave for longer than the allotted timeframe.