

# AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Annual Awards, Commendations, Complaints, and Discipline Report



2016

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*Nick Metz*

*Metro Division Chief*

*Vanessa Wilson*

*Deputy Chief*

*Paul O'Keefe*

*Compliance & Professional Standards Division Chief*

*Kevin Flynn*

*Operations Division Chief*

*Jim Puscian*

*Manager of Business Services*

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*15001 E. Alameda Pkwy Aurora CO 80012*

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## *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 Commander's Commendations. The three systems used to manage complaints and disciplines 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 is forwarded to the Internal Affairs Bureau Commanding Officer for preliminary review. If it is determined the allegation can be investigated at the Bureau/District level, the case will be forwarded to

the appropriate Commanding Officer. The Commanding Officer will assign the case to an appropriate supervisor in the Bureau/District and a preliminary investigation will be completed. If during the preliminary investigation, the investigator believes the allegation cannot be handled at the Bureau/District level, a request for investigation by the IAB will be completed and forwarded, through the complaint management system to the subject member's Division Chief.

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 discipline 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*

All requests for formal Internal Affairs investigations must be approved by the Chief of Police or designee. 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 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 695 sworn officers and 142 civilian employees (total 837). During 2016, the Department handled 235,188 calls for service from the public, arrested 12,214 suspects, issued 6,601 criminal summonses (non-custodial arrests) and issued 22,794 traffic citations (this excludes parking tickets and General Offense related traffic summonses).

## *Formal Department Awards*

During 2016, the Aurora Police Department presented 120 awards through the formal program. The Department did not present a **Medal of Honor** award. The Department honored 20 officers with the **Distinguished Service Cross**. The Department presented two **Purple Heart Awards**. The Department presented nine officers with the **Life Saving Award**. The Department recognized 19 officers with the **Meritorious Service Ribbon**. The Chief commended 41 officers and civilians with **Chief's Commendation Certificates**. The Chief presented three **Chief's Unit Citations**. The Department presented 15 citizens with the **Certificate of Appreciation - Citizens Award**. The Department presented four **Community Commitment Certificates**. The Department presented four **Excellence Awards**. The Department presented three **Innovation Awards**.

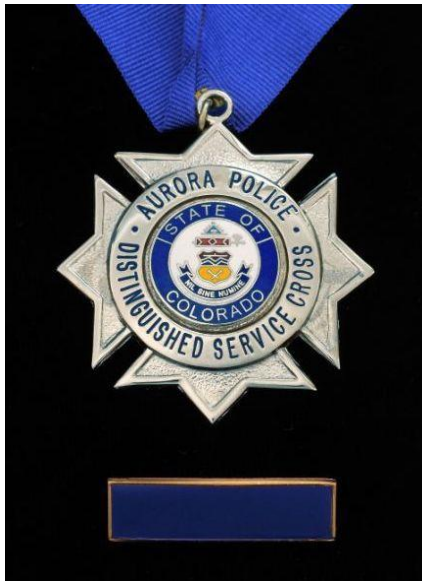
## Medal of Honor



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 2016.

## *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 20 **Distinguished Service Cross** awards in 2016.

### **Officer Dominic Marziano, Officer Michael Tilton, Officer Eric Waters**

On January 15, 2015 at about 2230 hours, masked gunmen robbed the Fast and Friendly convenience store located at 138 Del Mar Circle. Officer Matthew Milligan obtained a detailed description of the suspects and aired the information. Officer Eric Waters spotted a suspect with a mask getting into a nearby vehicle as a passenger. The vehicle sped away and headed east on 6th Avenue. The vehicle failed to pull over after Officer Dominic Marziano tried to stop it. A pursuit was authorized and proceeded east on 6th Avenue at speeds approaching 100 MPH. Lieutenant Lee Silver joined the pursuit as the second car and began calling it out. The suspects turned north on Tower Road off of 6th Avenue. This is a dirt road and a dead end with a parking area. Officer Marziano was joined by Officer Waters and Officer Michael Tilton. Officers pitted and pinned the vehicle. The driver remained in the car and ultimately surrendered without incident. The passenger climbed out a window with a handgun in his hand. The armed suspect continued to ignore Officers' commands as they advanced on him, leaving them no choice but to fire their weapons. Later, the suspect was pronounced dead at an area hospital. Lieutenant Silver expertly coordinated the crime scene and briefed the Major Crimes Unit on what had happened. Officer Milligan did an excellent job in continuing the investigation and arresting the driver of the vehicle.

### **Sergeant Dale Leonard**

On the evening of December 12, 2015, Shawna Allen, of the Aurora 911 Communications Center, answered a terrifying and frantic call from a mother reporting that both she and her adult daughter were being attacked by the daughter's boyfriend, who was armed with a knife. Dispatcher Brittany Jones communicated with dispatched officers. Officer Dale Leonard responded to 745 Kenton Street on the call of the stabbing. Officer Dale Leonard was one of the first officers to respond to the scene and he observed the suspect actively stabbing the daughter in the middle of the street with a large knife. The victim was fighting for her life as Officer Leonard approached to within several feet of the suspect, giving multiple orders that were ignored. Officer Leonard was forced to fire at the suspect striking him multiple times.



Officer Leonard and Officer Dan Clark removed the suspect from the victim, while Officer Declaire began performing life saving measures on the stabbing victim. Because of their efforts, the victim was able to arrive at the hospital alive, but unfortunately, she died from her wounds hours later. The seriously injured mother, who originally called 911, survived her wounds. The suspect was transported to a local hospital and pronounced deceased.

#### **Lieutenant Stephen Redfearn**

At approximately 1339 hours on May 9, 2016, it was reported to Aurora Police Dispatch that two suspects were shooting at each other in the intersection of E. 19th Ave and N. Akron St. Responding officers obtained descriptions of the shooters and a suspect vehicle that one of the suspects left in after the shooting. At approximately 1355 hours Lieutenant Steve Redfearn spotted a vehicle matching the description of the suspect vehicle near the intersection of E Colfax Ave and N Wabash St in Denver. Lt. Redfearn contacted nearby Denver Police Officers and they attempted to make contact with the subjects in the vehicle, which had parked next to a motel. As the vehicle stopped, a subject matching the description of one the shooters, exited the vehicle holding a gun in his right hand and started running away. Lt. Redfearn initiated a foot pursuit of the armed suspect. Lt. Redfearn lost sight of the suspect as the suspect ducked into the closed courtyard of the motel. Lt. Redfearn set up near where he had last seen the suspect. A few seconds later the suspect appeared at a full run towards Lt. Redfearn, still with a pistol in his right hand. Lt. Redfearn assessed the suspect as a threat to him and other officers in the area so he fired a single shot striking the suspect and causing him to drop the pistol. The suspect continued to flee and Lt. Redfearn ran after him. The suspect was taken into custody by APD and DPD officers. After the suspect was in custody, Lt. Redfearn went back to the suspect vehicle and assisted in taking two subjects still there into custody. Once all subjects were in custody, Lt. Redfearn remained calm while he directed officers to secure the scene, render aid to the wounded suspect and keep a hostile crowd at bay.

#### **Sergeant Matthew Brukbacher, Officer David Sanderson and K9 Draco, Officer Brian Ross, Officer James Benedict, Officer Alex Eisaman**

On November 5, 2016 at about 8:30pm, Sergeant Matthew Brukbacher, Sergeant Jay Van Kam, Officer Larry Bankston, Officer Blake Beasley, Officer Scott Benedict, Officer James Declaire, Officer Brian Ross, Officer David Sanderson with K-9 Draco, and Recruit Officer Alex Eisaman responded to a possible hostage situation at 5388 South Harvest Way. The officers observed a suspect holding his father hostage at gun point with a shotgun inside the living room of the house. Officers requested additional resources and a crisis entry team was formed. As notifications were being made, the suspect racked the shotgun while still holding his father at gun point. Based on this act and grave concern for the hostage, the crisis team entered the rear of the home through an open sliding door. This team was led by Sergeant Brukbacher and consisted of Officer Sanderson with Draco, Officer Ross, Officer Benedict, and Officer Eisaman. The suspect put the shotgun onto the couch just prior to officer contact. The suspect was safely taken into custody and the victim rescued with only minor injuries. The suspect was held on 2nd Degree Kidnap, 3rd Degree Assault on an At Risk Adult and Felony Menacing.

#### **Sergeant Darren Chamberland, Sergeant Brandon Samuels, Officer Robert Fowler**

On November 20, 2016, Sergeant Darren Chamberland requested extra officers to respond to Club Galaxy, 2025 Clinton Street, in anticipation of problems when the bar closed. The club was filled to capacity and the security officers had informed Sergeant Chamberland that they were expecting problems at the end



of the night. Sergeant Brandon Samuels and Officer Robert Fowler responded to the location to assist. At about 0155 hours, hundreds of people exited the club and were in the parking lot. Sergeant Samuels heard a verbal altercation occurring between several males, followed by three gunshots. Sergeant Samuels, Sergeant Chamberland, and Officer Fowler immediately ran towards the shooter. As they approached, Sergeant Samuels observed the suspect fire more gunshots. The male that the suspect was shooting at tackled the suspect to the ground. Hundreds of people were running from the area, creating a very chaotic situation. The officers approached the two men, who were on the ground fighting over the gun. Concerned for the safety of the people around them, the officers closed the distance and prepared to shoot the suspect at close range to end the situation. Officer Fowler saw an opportunity and fired his Taser at the suspect. This allowed Sergeant Samuels and Sergeant Chamberland to grab the two males on the ground. Sergeant Chamberland was able to grab the gun (a .45 caliber pistol) away from the suspect. The two Sergeants placed the suspect into custody.

**Officer Edward Clements, Sergeant Jacob Stull, Officer Jeremiah Miles**

On the snowy evening of November 30, 2015, Officer Edward Clements stopped to contact the occupant of an apparently disabled vehicle stopped on the northbound on-ramp of I-225 at East Alameda Avenue. During that contact, Officer Clements was violently attacked by a male who hit him in the head with a meat cleaver. Officer Clements received a laceration on his head that was approximately 4 inches in length and cut down to the bone of his skull. This injury caused massive bleeding and a severe risk of permanent disfigurement or death.

The suspect stole Officer Clements' police vehicle and intentionally tried to strike him with it. Officer Clements was able to gather his composure after the violent attack and radio all of this information to other officers. Officer Steven Garcia was the first officer to arrive after the attack and found Officer Clements next to the disabled car, near a suspect who remained on scene. Officer Garcia physically moved Officer Clements to better cover, then maintained control of the second suspect. Officer Darren Martinez responded to help Officer Clements and provided first aid and calmed him while waiting for an ambulance.

In the area of East Alameda Parkway and South Buckley Road, Sergeant Jacob Stull located the stolen police vehicle. Officer Jeremiah Miles was close behind the Sergeant. Sergeant Stull pursued the stolen car and made intentional vehicle to vehicle contact in the area of East Alameda Parkway and East Kentucky Avenue, successfully ending the suspect's attempt to flee. Sergeant Stull and Officer Miles confronted the suspect, who was holding an unidentifiable black object in his hands. This suspect ignored arrest commands and refused to drop the unknown object after exiting the stolen police vehicle. Fearing his escape and further violent assaults on themselves or others, Sergeant Stull and Officer Miles fired, stopping the suspect and preventing his escape into the Aurora community.

**Officer Erick Ortiz, Sergeant Cassidee Carlson, Officer Stephen Edwards, Officer Jeremy W. Jenkins**

On November 8, 2016, at about 11:20 AM, a suspect, Juan Ramos, drove to the area of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Peoria Street and shot his ex-girlfriend's new boyfriend. Witnesses on scene were able to identify the suspect's car. Members of the Department's Fugitive Apprehension and Surveillance Team (FAST) and the Strategic Response Team (SRT) located the suspect's house in Denver and set up on it while waiting for Denver Metro SWAT to arrive. Undercover Denver Police Department units also arrived to maintain surveillance on the house. An SRT element comprised of Sergeant Cassidee Carlson, Officer Erick Ortiz, Officer Stephen Edwards and Officer Jeremy W. Jenkins, sat in an unmarked truck down the street and

formulated a plan for an immediate assault of the suspect's vehicle if he should try to leave, coordinating with FAST Officers James Giordano and Emily Hitchings.

At about 11:50 AM, the suspect exited his house carrying an infant car seat and headed toward his car. Officer Ortiz started driving the SRT truck toward the suspect's house. Officer Edwards was in the front passenger seat, Sergeant Carlson was behind him and Officer Jenkins was seated behind Officer Ortiz. The suspect put the infant seat into his car. As the truck slowly approached the house and was about 100 feet away, the suspect identified that it was a police vehicle and armed himself. The suspect opened fire on the SRT truck, striking the front passenger door and the windshield. One round passed through the windshield and struck Officer Ortiz on the right side of his face. Sergeant Carlson and Officer Edwards engaged the suspect with gun fire and eliminated the threat. Officer Ortiz stopped the vehicle about ten feet from the suspect's vehicle and calmly exited the truck, letting everyone know he had been shot. Officer Jenkins and Sergeant Carlson took tactical positions on the house and suspect car.

Officer Paul Timmons, Officer Giordano, Officer Hitchings, and Denver Police Sergeant Bryce Jackson went to the aide of Officer Ortiz. They loaded Officer Ortiz into Sergeant Jackson's police car. Officer Timmons got in the back with Officer Ortiz to hold pressure on the wound while Officer Giordano held Officer Ortiz's hand and called out the car's location to coordinate road closures. They drove to the hospital escorted by Officer Hitchings.

## 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 **Purple Heart** awards in 2016.

### Officer Edward Clements

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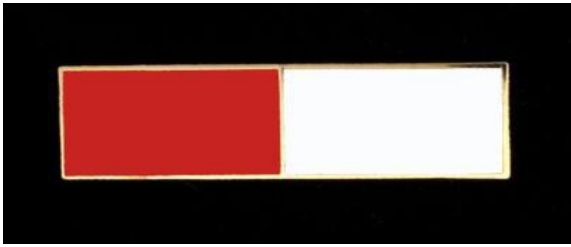
**Officer Erick Ortiz**

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## *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. To merit this award, the member's actions must be significant. Additionally, the award is only bestowed to the member 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 victim or victims, unless the victim or 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 nine **Life Saving** awards in 2016.

### **Officer Joseph Cornell and Officer Grant Peet**

On October 22, 2016, patrol was dispatched to In Town Suites, 2221 South Havana Street on the report of a stabbing. The reporting party indicated that he had stabbed another individual after being assaulted multiple times, and that the other individual had fled the scene in a sedan.

A short time after the initial contact Public Safety Communications received a Fire Assist call for service to 1001 South Havana Street Unit 120 for a male who had suffered a stab wound to the torso. APD patrol units responded with Denver Police and Denver Fire and confirmed this was the second subject involved in the original altercation and that the subject's vehicle was present on scene. Officer Grant Peet and Officer Joseph Cornell were the first officers into the apartment. Officer Peet applied direct pressure to the wound, while Officer Cornell obtained a plastic bag and used it to cover the hole that was creating a tension pneumothorax. Upon arrival of Denver Health paramedics, they took one look at the wound and advised the officers to keep pressure on it while they immediately loaded the patient into the ambulance and transported him emergent to Denver Health, where he immediately underwent emergency life-saving surgery for a collapsed lung.

### **Officer Thomas Starz and Officer Jason Weber**

On December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 1329 hours Officers Thomas Starz and Jason Weber were dispatched to the 14500 Block of East Ford Place on a call of shots fired. Dispatch advised that it was a drive-by shooting; the suspect had left in a white vehicle and the victim, Jalen Johnson, had a gunshot wound to the leg. When officers arrived they could see Mr. Johnson laying on the ground by the passenger side of a vehicle and several people surrounding him. As they got closer to Mr. Johnson they could see that he was bleeding and a tourniquet was on his leg, which was placed there by another citizen. Officer Starz placed a new tourniquet higher up on Mr. Johnson's leg to help stop the bleeding. Mr. Johnson was alert and talking and stated that he had also been shot in the stomach. Officer Weber was able to move Mr. Johnson's arm out of the way and lift his shirt when he observed a gunshot wound. Officer Starz was able to pack the

abdomen with gauze and held pressure until Aurora Fire Rescue arrived. Mr. Johnson was transported to Aurora South Medical Center where he went into surgery. After surgery and a few hours in ICU, Mr. Johnson was able to move to a room where he fully recovered.

The lifesaving 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 Joseph Duran and Officer Bridget Johnson**

On January 27, 2017, at approximately 0041 hours Officer Bridget Johnson was on routine patrol traveling eastbound on E. Alameda Ave. approaching S. Joplin St. when she observed a vehicle with its lights on which had apparently gone off the north side of the roadway and was at the bottom of an embankment. Officer Johnson went down the embankment and approached the vehicle and saw the driver whose eyes were open, but he was not blinking and he was unresponsive. Officer Johnson advised she could hear abnormal breathing upon initially contacting the man. Officer Joseph Duran also went down the embankment with Officer Johnson and observed the driver take a shallow breath, then did not take any subsequent breaths. Officer Johnson and Officer Duran then grabbed the driver and removed him from the vehicle. As they were removing the man from the vehicle he remained unresponsive. They placed him on the ground and it appeared he was not breathing at all. Officer Johnson then began chest compressions on the man and he remained unresponsive during the chest compressions for a period of approximately 15 to 20 seconds. Officer Duran saw the man blinking his eyes and mumbling. Officer Johnson and Officer Duran rolled the driver onto his side in the recovery position to attempt to help him breathe. Officer Duran began to slowly speak to the man as he regained consciousness. Rescue then arrived on scene and transported him to the Medical Center of Aurora where he had a full recovery.

#### **Sergeant Jason Pray**

On February 19, 2017, at approximately 11:32 hours, Sergeant Jason Pray responded to a COR-0 fire assist call at 3293 S. Truckee Way #101. Call notes stated, a 28 year old male was unconscious and not breathing. Sergeant Pray arrived on scene, assessed the patient at which time he found no pulse and learned that the male had a history of drug use. Sgt. Pray started CPR and continued approximately 69 compressions before getting a faint pulse on the male. AFD Station 10, C-Shift arrived and administered "Narcan." The patient was transported to The Medical Center of Aurora and treated by E.R. DR. Vangeti. The E.R. notes for the patient stated the patient was given Narcan "Post-Code." Dr. Vangeti advised Sergeant Pray's action was indeed "heroic" and contributed to saving the patient's life until Narcan could be administered.

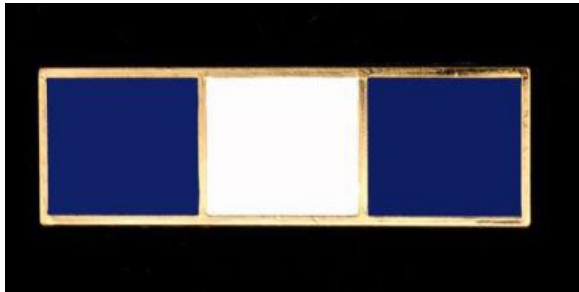
On February 19, 2017, at approximately 14:13 hours, Sergeant Jason Pray responded to a welfare check at 17240 E. Baltic Place. He arrived on scene and encountered a 56 year old female who tightly secured a thick industrial strength zip tie around her neck, cutting off her airway. Sergeant Pray reacted quickly and attempted to cut the zip tie free with scissors but was unsuccessful. AFD arrived and were requested to expedite their approach. Sergeant Pray wedged his finger underneath the zip tie to create the slightest bit of room, obtained a heavy duty pair of cutters and freed the zip tie from the woman's throat just as she went unconscious. Sergeant Pray and Officer Garcia were able to break her fall, preventing a head injury. Upon being softly lowered to the floor, the woman began to breath on her own and regained consciousness.



**Officer Brandon Cameron and Officer William Miller**

On March 12, 2017, at approximately 1606 hours Officers Brandon Cameron and William Miller responded to AMF Bowling Alley at 16700 E. Mississippi Ave. This was in reference to a medical assist call, where a 60 year-old male was passed out at the location. The male was unconscious and breathing very slowly. Upon arrival Officer Brandon Cameron and Officer William Miller noticed the male on the floor underneath the chairs. The male was later identified as Troy Hopkins. Mr. Hopkins was unresponsive, not breathing and his skin color was turning blue. Officer Cameron and Officer Miller moved Mr. Hopkins from under the chairs and immediately began chest compressions. Both officers continued chest compressions until Aurora Fire and Rescue arrived on scene. Mr. Hopkins was transported to Aurora South Medical Center. Mr. Hopkins was found to be in ventricular fibrillation. Due to the actions of the officers Mr. Hopkins has made a full recovery. The lifesaving actions of these officers shows a tremendous example of commitment to community, selfless service and teamwork.

## *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 19 **Meritorious Services Ribbons** in 2016.

### **Agent Keith Booton, Agent Steven Crowe, Agent Del Matticks, Agent Susan Wynn**

In January of 2016, a sex assault at gun point was reported in District 2. Based on a review of the report, Sergeant Herrera and Agent Matticks believed that this case might be the work of a serial rapist. Agents Wynn, Booton and Crowe were assigned to assist Agent Matticks in the investigation. Their collective work lead to the development of hard evidence including a DNA profile of the suspect. While conducting the investigation into the Aurora Case, Agent Matticks contacted surrounding jurisdictions to see if they had a similar crime pattern. He found that the Colorado Springs Police Department had two similar cases. Colorado Springs analyzed the evidence in their case and were able to identify a suspect based on fingerprints found at a crime scene. This suspect, in the military at the time and stationed in Colorado Springs, had applied for a concealed weapons permit. Once arrested, the suspect was quickly tied to the Aurora case. A search of the suspect's cell phone revealed that he kept videos of his assaults, and many victims still have yet to be identified. The suspect was arrested in February of 2016, preventing further brutal assaults.

### **Officer Cory Budaj, Officer Keith Burke, Officer Paul Seiwald**

On July 20, 2016, at 0922 hours, officers responded to the area of E. 2nd Pl. and N. Jamestown Way on the report of a male with a weapon. The reporting party stated a suspect had pointed a rifle at him while the victim sat on his porch. The male continued to wave the rifle around and was headed toward the direction of Vista Peak High School where football practice was being conducted. Officer Paul Seiwald came in to the area from the south and observed the suspect waiving the rifle around. Officer Seiwald had Officer Keith Burke and Officer Cory Budaj come in from the north. Officers Budaj Burke deployed their rifles. The suspect pointed his rifle in the direction of Officer Budaj and Officer Burke multiple times. Officer Budaj, a trained marksman using a scoped rifle, was able to determine that the suspect was holding his rifle by the muzzle. Officer Alscher went to the school to warn the football players of the situation, then took a position to the west of the suspect. As officers were giving the suspect orders, he put down the rifle but then would pick it up again. Officer Seiwald again ordered the male to the ground at which time Officer Burke and Officer Alscher took him into custody. Due to the communication on scene and the restraint and perseverance of the officers the incident was able to be brought to a close with no injuries and tragedy was avoided.

**Sergeant David Wells, Officer William Hummel, Officer Christopher Johnson, Officer Bryan Knox, Officer Brian O'Halloran, Officer David Pearson, Officer Max Schoolmaster**

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, James Draper, a suspect in a homicide, carjacked a vehicle in the 1400 block of Beeler St. Draper was later determined to be armed with a MAC 45 and a handgun. After the carjacking, Draper fired the weapons at people in the city. Officer Brian O'Halloran located the vehicle on Havana St. towards 6th Ave. and engaged in a pursuit. Officer William Hummel assisted in the pursuit and both officers were threatened by Draper with the MAC 45. The pursuit eventually ended at East Colfax Avenue and Yosemite Street after Denver Officer Jeffrey Jenkins intentionally rammed the vehicle. On scene, Sgt. Wells approached the vehicle and was able to grab the MAC 45 out of the vehicle. In the tense aftermath of the collision, Officers Brian Knox, Dave Pearson, Brian O'Halloran, William Hummel, Dave Johnson, Max Schoolmaster and Denver Officer Simeon Codo took Draper into custody after he refused to obey verbal orders. These officers are commended for their professionalism in pursuing and arresting this violent criminal with no one injured.

**Officer Steven Garcia, Officer Darren Martinez**

On the snowy evening of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Officer Edward Clements stopped to contact the occupant of an apparently disabled vehicle which was stopped on the northbound on-ramp of I-225 at East Alameda Avenue. During that contact, Officer Clements was violently attacked by a person who hit him in the head with a meat cleaver. Officer Clements received a laceration on his head that was approximately 4 inches in length and cut down to the bone of his skull. This injury caused massive bleeding and a severe risk of permanent disfigurement or death.

The suspect stole Officer Clements' police vehicle and intentionally tried to strike him with it. Officer Clements was able to gather his composure after the violent attack and radio all of this information to other officers. Officer Steven Garcia was the first officer to arrive after the attack and found Officer Clements next to the disabled car, near a suspect who remained on scene. Officer Garcia physically moved Officer Clements to better cover, then maintained control of the second suspect. Officer Darren Martinez responded to help Officer Clements and provided first aid and calmed him while waiting for an ambulance.

In the area of East Alameda Parkway and South Buckley Road, Sergeant Jacob Stull located the stolen police vehicle. Officer Jeremiah Miles was close behind the Sergeant. Sergeant Stull pursued the stolen car and made intentional vehicle to vehicle contact in the area of East Alameda Parkway and East Kentucky Avenue, successfully ending the suspect's attempt to flee. Sergeant Stull and Officer Miles confronted the suspect, who was holding an unidentifiable black object in his hands. This suspect ignored arrest commands and refused to drop the unknown object after exiting the stolen police vehicle. Fearing his escape and further violent assaults on themselves or others, Sergeant Stull and Officer Miles fired, stopping the suspect and preventing his escape into the Aurora community.

**Officer James Giordano, Officer Paul Timmons, Officer Emily Hitchings**

On November 8, 2016, at about 11:20 AM, a suspect, Juan Ramos, drove to the area of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Peoria Street and shot his ex-girlfriend's new boyfriend. Witnesses on scene were able to identify the getaway car. Members of the Department's Fugitive Apprehension and Surveillance Team (FAST) and the Strategic Response Team (SRT) located the suspect's house in Denver and set up on it while waiting for Denver Metro SWAT to arrive. Undercover Denver Police Department units also arrived to maintain surveillance on the house. An SRT element comprised of Sergeant Cassidee Carlson, Officer Erick Ortiz,

Officer Stephen Edwards and Officer Jeremy W. Jenkins, sat in an unmarked truck down the street and formulated a plan for an immediate assault of the suspect's vehicle if he should try to leave, coordinating with FAST Officers James Giordano and Emily Hitchings.

At about 11:50 AM, the suspect exited his house carrying an infant car seat and headed toward his car. Officer Ortiz started driving the SRT truck toward the suspect's house. Officer Edwards was in the front passenger seat, Sergeant Carlson was behind him and Officer Jenkins was seated behind Officer Ortiz. The suspect put the infant seat into his car. As the truck slowly approached the house and was about 100 feet away, the suspect identified that it was a police vehicle and armed himself. The suspect opened fire on the SRT truck, striking the front passenger door and the windshield. One round passed through the windshield and struck Officer Ortiz on the right side of his face. Sergeant Carlson and Officer Edwards engaged the suspect with gun fire and eliminated the threat. Officer Ortiz stopped the vehicle about ten feet from the suspect's vehicle and calmly exited the truck, letting everyone know he had been shot. Officer Jenkins and Sergeant Carlson took tactical positions on the house and suspect car.

Officer Paul Timmons, Officer Giordano, Officer Hitchings, and Denver Police Sergeant Bryce Jackson went to the aide of Officer Ortiz. They loaded Officer Ortiz into Sergeant Jackson's police car. Officer Timmons got in the back with Officer Ortiz to hold pressure on the wound while Officer Giordano held Officer Ortiz's hand and called out the car's location to coordinate road closures. They drove to the hospital escorted by Officer Hitchings.

## *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 41 **Chief's Commendation Certificates** in 2016.

### **Lieutenant Michael McClelland**

Lieutenant Michael McClelland served on the Aurora Police Department's Awards Board from 2009 through 2016 and has been the chair of the board since 2012. Lieutenant McClelland coordinated the awards nomination process from receipt to board approval and finally approval from the Chief's Office. He coordinated the annual awards ceremony, obtaining materials, vendor contracts and the venue for the event. In 2013, he coordinated with the special Century 16 Sub-Committee of the awards board on a dedicated awards ceremony for the response to the events of July 20, 2012. In addition to his normal duties, Lieutenant McClelland maintained records on award nominations and awards presented, and kept stock of medals and pins. Lieutenant McClelland also updated the Awards for Members Directives during his tenure.

### **Officer Ryan Marker**

On May 25, 2016, Officer Ryan Marker attended the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (M.A.D.D.) Award Ceremony. Officer Marker was bestowed with the Colonel Mark V. Trostel Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. This is the highest award that M.A.D.D. gives out at its annual awards ceremony. Officer Marker rightfully earned this award for making 594 DUI arrests in 2015, and for his continued dedication to educate the public on the dangers of drunk driving. Annually, Officer Marker makes more DUI arrests than any officer in the State of Colorado. In the eight years Officer Marker has been with the Aurora Police Department he has made 2,747 DUI arrests.

### **Agent Alan Shank, Officer Anthony Camacho, Officer Jared Lobato, Officer Jeffrey Robertson, Property Supervisor Rebecca Luna, Richard Nylan (IT), Deann Robertson (IT)**

Over the past two years the Property and Evidence Unit reviewed and tested property report Direct Entry into the Department's Records Management System with the goal of eliminating paper reports. After several months of testing and evaluating the Direct Entry process it was determined that by implementing Direct Entry, efficiencies would be gained and it would bring the department into compliance with nationwide best businesses practices for property and evidence.

After the decision was made to go to Direct Entry the problem of how to get department users trained was tackled by a very impressive team of officers. Officers Jeff Robertson, Jared Lobato, Tony Camacho, Agent Alan Shank, Property Supervisor Rebecca Luna and Richard Nylan from the city's IT Department all took on the task of training the members of APD. Several times they had to come in on their days and time off so the least number of officers would be inconvenienced while maximizing the number of officers trained, doing all of this in addition to their regularly assigned tasks.

The team demonstrated extensive knowledge in the process they were teaching while taking the initiative to significantly improve the administrative practices of the Property and Evidence Unit

It is important to recognize Deann Robertson, of the city IT Department, who has been instrumental in researching and recognizing many of the outdated processes as well as correcting the discrepancies.

Deann has spent several hours programming and testing new reports and processes to bring the system up to date and to bring the Property and Evidence Unit current with the best business practices. Deann has demonstrated ownership in this process while providing two-way communication between the Command Staff, Property and Evidence Technicians and the officers of the department. Deann went above and beyond when she helped train members of the department on the Direct Entry of property and evidence. Deann solicited volunteers to help in this endeavor when she was not able to do it herself and to ensure that the final product had been fully vetted.

**Officer Scott Brandon, Officer Javen Harper**

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, APD dispatch was notified of a hit and run crash involving two semi-trucks on I-70 at C-470. This is the jurisdiction of the Colorado State Patrol. Dispatch advised that a witness told them that the suspect vehicle was a white and red semi-truck with no additional information. Responding officers found that the driver of a semi that was stopped on the right shoulder had been out of the vehicle, had been struck and was seriously injured. That driver was transported to the hospital.

Officer Brandon saw the information for the witness in the CAD call notes and he called him. The witness said that he had given all of the information to the call taker as he followed the suspect truck to include the company name and numbers on the truck and trailer. These details were not in the call notes. Officer Brandon then called dispatch and asked them to listen to the call recording and get those details.

Once they got those details, Officers Brandon and Harper used the internet to find information for the leasing company for the truck, then the information for their dispatch and made contact with them. They learned that the truck was equipped with GPS and found that the truck was in the area of I-70 and Havana. A few more phone calls led to contact with the driver who gave Officer Brandon his location.

Officers Brandon and Harper contacted the truck driver. Their interview led to the driver admitting to crashing into the parked truck, though he did not know that he struck the other driver. CSP arrived and arrested the suspect driver for Felony Hit and Run.

As a result of the dogged investigation by these officers, a driver that caused life-threatening injuries to someone else was found and will be held accountable.

**Sergeant Graham Dunne, Sergeant Dave Wells, Officer Christopher Johnson**

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Sergeant Dunne and Officer Chris Johnson located a vehicle taken during a carjacking with a gun which occurred on January 15, 2017. The two officers attempted to contact the driver and passenger but the vehicle fled, leading the officers on a pursuit. Sergeant Dave Wells joined in the pursuit as an additional vehicle. During the incident, the officers attempted to terminate the pursuit several times by intentionally contacting the suspect vehicle. Each time the suspect was able to escape and continue fleeing. Officer Johnson changed radio channels and begin communicating with Denver while continuing in the pursuit. The officers successfully terminated the pursuit on WB I-70 at about Holly



by intentionally contacting the suspect vehicle. The suspect driver refused to exit the car and the door was locked. Additionally, he was still attempting to flee as he was revving the engine in an attempt to run from the stop. The officers approached the stolen truck and with guns drawn and began giving loud verbal orders. Sergeant Dunne, recognizing a potential crossfire, directed officers to safer locations. Officer Johnson broke the door window. The suspect initially had his hands up and when Sergeant Wells went hands-on, but dove his hands toward the center console which prompted Sergeant Wells to strike the suspect fearing Archuleta was reaching for the gun used in the carjacking. Archuleta was pulled through the window by Sergeant Wells and Officer Johnson. As he was being removed, he continued to struggle. Sergeant Dunne deployed pepper spray into the face of Archuleta also exposing Sergeant Wells and Officer Johnson. Without disengaging due to the pepper-spray, Officer Johnson and Sergeant Wells took Archuleta into custody while Sergeant Dunne held the passenger at gun point. It was discovered that Mr. Archuleta had two existing warrants for escape. The three officers, with indifference to their own safety engaged in a dangerous event. Their actions removed a dangerous criminal from the public.

**Lieutenant Charles Deshazer, Sergeant Graham Dunne, Officer Chad Berger, Officer Michael Foley, Officer Christopher Johnson, Officer David Johnson, Officer Bryan Knox, Officer Clark Orchard**

On October 17, 2016, at about 1303 hours, officers were advised of a robbery alarm from the Key Bank at 10502 East Arizona Place. Shortly after, a witness from the bank called dispatch to advise they had just been robbed. With the assistance of the Safe Streets Task Force, information was obtained that the suspect was in the area of the 700 block of South Alton Way near some detached garages. Officer Bryan Knox observed a white Ford van parked near some dumpsters on the north end of the detached garages. Officer Knox observed a black male leaving the dumpster area and enter the van. The van then drove south through the detached garages toward South Alton Way. Lieutenant Chuck Deshazer observed the white van enter the roadway and began to travel eastbound. He placed his marked patrol unit directly in the path of the van and began closing distance with the intent to pin the front of the van. It was clear the van was occupied only by the driver. At the last possible moment the driver quickly maneuvered the van around Lieutenant Deshazer's vehicle and was immediately pitted by Sergeant Graham Dunne. Officer David Johnson pinned the van from the rear while Officer Chris Johnson pinned the van from the front. Officer Foley and Lieutenant Deshazer, were now on foot with weapons drawn and ordered the driver out of the van. He was observed to be holding a white paper sack that he dropped out of the window and onto the ground. He then complied with orders, exited the van and was taken into custody without incident. He was later positively identified by the teller as the subject that had robbed her.

Officer Brian Dingwall responded to the bank and talked with the victim of the robbery. He was advised that the suspect had simulated a weapon during the robbery. After the suspect was taken into custody, Officer Clark Orchard and Officer Chad Berger responded to the dumpster the suspect was observed by and began to look in the bin for evidence. They located key evidence including currency assumed to be from the robbery. The quick actions of the officers involved resulted in a quick arrest of a dangerous suspect.

**Officer Chad Elliot, Officer Adam Roberts**

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at about 2257 hours, District 3 Officers were dispatched to the Kohl's located at 18307 E Hampden Ave. in regards to a shoplift complaint. While en-route to this call, the female suspect ran from store security and climbed a set of stairs at a nearby apartment complex. When she reached the

top of the stairs she brandished a knife and threatened to kill herself and possibly assault officers if she was touched.

Officers Chad Elliott and Adam Roberts responded to the scene. Officer Roberts deployed his assigned 40mm less lethal launcher. Multiple officers attempted to talk the female into surrendering, but she refused. At one point the female abruptly stood up and brandished the knife in the direction of officers. Officer Roberts fired a foam baton round from his 40mm launcher striking the female in the pelvis. She fell backwards but maintained control of the knife. As Officer Roberts and cover officers were ascending the stairs towards the female, Officer Roberts was able to reload the 40mm launcher and strike the subject with an additional round. This caused her to drop the knife and retreat behind a wall. Once officers reached the top of the stairs, the female had once again armed herself. Officer Elliott deployed his Taser and cover officers were able to subdue the female.

Due to the actions of Officers Elliott and Roberts, the female was taken into custody without the use of deadly force and without injuring herself. Officers Elliott and Roberts' quick action potentially saved the life of the subject and other officers nearby.

**Lieutenant Dana Hatfield, Acting Sergeant Todd Alscher**

On July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 0922 hours, officers responded to the area of E. 2nd Pl. and N. Jamestown Way on the report of a male with a weapon. The reporting party stated a suspect had pointed a rifle at him while the victim sat on his porch. The male continued to wave the rifle around and was headed toward the direction of Vista Peak High School where football practice was being conducted. Officer Paul Seiwald came in to the area from the south and observed the suspect waiving the rifle around. Officer Seiwald had Officer Keith Burke and Officer Cory Budaj come in from the north. Officers Budaj Burke deployed their rifles. The suspect pointed his rifle in the direction of Officer Budaj and Officer Burke multiple times. Officer Budaj, a trained marksman using a scoped rifle, was able to determine that the suspect was holding his rifle by the muzzle. Officer Alscher went to the school to warn the football players of the situation, then took a position to the west of the suspect. As officers were giving the suspect orders he put down the rifle but then would pick it up again. Officer Seiwald again ordered the male to the ground at which time Officer Burke and Officer Alscher took him into custody.

Due to the communication on scene and the restraint and perseverance of the officers the incident was able to be brought to a close with no injuries and tragedy was avoided.

**Officer Simeon Codo (Denver Police Department), Officer Jeffrey Jenkins (Denver Police Department)**

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, James Draper, the suspect in a homicide, carjacked a vehicle in the 1400 block of Beeler St. Draper was later determined to be armed with a MAC 45 and a handgun. After the carjacking, Draper fired the weapons at people in the city. Officer Brian O'Halloran located the vehicle on Havana St. towards 6th Ave. and engaged in a pursuit. Officer William Hummel assisted in the pursuit and both officers were threatened by Draper with the MAC 45. The pursuit eventually ended at East Colfax Avenue and Yosemite Street after Denver Officer Jeffrey Jenkins intentionally rammed the vehicle. On scene, Sgt. Wells approached the vehicle and was able to grab the MAC 45 out of the vehicle. In the tense aftermath of the collision, Officers Brian Knox, Dave Pearson, Brian O'Halloran, William Hummel, Dave Johnson, Max Schoolmaster and Denver Officer Simeon Codo took Draper into custody after he refused to obey verbal orders.

These officers are commended for their professionalism in pursuing and arresting this violent criminal with no one injured.

**Lieutenant Leland Silver, Officer Matthew Milligan**

On January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at about 2230 hours, masked gunmen robbed the Fast and Friendly convenience store located at 138 Del Mar Circle. Officer Matthew Milligan obtained a detailed description of the suspects and aired the information. Officer Eric Waters spotted a suspect with a mask getting into a nearby vehicle as a passenger. The vehicle sped away and headed east on 6th Avenue. The vehicle failed to pull over after Officer Dominic Marziano tried to stop it. A pursuit was authorized and proceeded east on 6th Avenue at speeds approaching 100 MPH. Lieutenant Lee Silver joined the pursuit as the second car and began calling it out. The suspects turned north on Tower Road off of 6th Avenue. This is a dirt road and a dead end with a parking area. Officer Marziano was joined by Officer Waters and Officer Michael Tilton. Officers pitted and pinned the vehicle. The driver remained in the car and ultimately surrendered without incident. The passenger climbed out a window and had a handgun in his hand. The armed suspect continued to ignore Officers' commands as they advanced on him, leaving them no choice but to fire their weapons. Later, the suspect was pronounced dead at an area hospital. Lieutenant Silver expertly coordinated the crime scene and briefed the Major Crimes Unit on what had happened. Officer Milligan did an excellent job in continuing the investigation and arresting the driver of the vehicle.

**Shawna Allen (Public Safety Communications), Brittany Jones (Public Safety Communications)**

On the evening of December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Shawna Allen, of the Aurora 911 Communications Center, answered a terrifying and frantic call from a mother reporting that both she and her adult daughter were being attacked by the daughter's boyfriend, who was armed with a knife. Dispatcher Brittany Jones communicated with dispatched officers. Officer Dale Leonard responded to 745 Kenton Street on the call of the stabbing. Officer Dale Leonard was one of the first officers to respond to the scene and he observed the suspect actively stabbing the daughter in the middle of the street with a large knife. The victim was fighting for her life as Officer Leonard approached to within several feet of the suspect, giving multiple orders that were ignored. Officer Leonard was forced to fire at the suspect striking him multiple times. Officer Leonard and Officer Dan Clark removed the suspect from the victim, while Officer Declaire began performing life saving measures on the stabbing victim. Because of their efforts, the victim was able to arrive at the hospital alive, but unfortunately, died from her wounds a short time later. The seriously injured mother, who originally called 911, survived her wounds. The suspect was transported to a local hospital and pronounced deceased.

**Sergeant Jay Van Kam, Officer Larry Bankston, Officer Blake Beasley, Officer James Declaire**

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at about 8:30pm, Sergeant Matthew Brukbacher, Sergeant Jay Van Kam, Officer Larry Bankston, Officer Blake Beasley, Officer Scott Benedict, Officer James Declaire, Officer Brian Ross, Officer David Sanderson with K-9 Draco, and Recruit Officer Alex Eisaman responded to a possible hostage situation at 5388 South Harvest Way. The officers observed a suspect holding his father hostage at gun point with a shotgun inside the living room of the house. Officers requested additional resources and a crisis entry team was formed. As notifications were being made, the suspect racked the shotgun while still holding his father at gun point. Based on this act and grave concern for the hostage, the crisis team entered the rear of the home through an open sliding door. This team was led by Sergeant Brukbacher and consisted of Officer Sanderson with Draco, Officer Ross, Officer Benedict, and Officer Eisaman. The

suspect put the shotgun onto the couch just prior to officer contact. The suspect was safely taken into custody and the victim rescued with only minor injuries. The suspect was held on 2nd Degree Kidnap, 3rd Degree Assault on an At Risk Adult and Felony Menacing.

#### **Sergeant Bryce Jackson (Denver Police Department)**

On November 8, 2016, at about 11:20 AM, a suspect, Juan Ramos, drove to the area of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Peoria Street and shot his ex-girlfriend's new boyfriend. Witnesses on scene were able to identify the getaway car. Members of the Department's Fugitive Apprehension and Surveillance Team (FAST) and the Strategic Response Team (SRT) located the suspect's house in Denver and set up on it while waiting for Denver Metro SWAT to arrive. Undercover Denver Police Department units also arrived to maintain surveillance on the house. An SRT element comprised of Sergeant Cassidee Carlson, Officer Erick Ortiz, Officer Stephen Edwards and Officer Jeremy W. Jenkins, sat in an unmarked truck down the street and formulated a plan for an immediate assault of the suspect's vehicle if he should try to leave, coordinating with FAST Officers James Giordano and Emily Hitchings.

At about 11:50 AM, the suspect exited his house carrying an infant car seat and headed toward his car. Officer Ortiz started driving the SRT truck toward the suspect's house. Officer Edwards was in the front passenger seat, Sergeant Carlson was behind him and Officer Jenkins was seated behind Officer Ortiz. The suspect put the infant seat into his car. As the truck slowly approached the house and was about 100 feet away, the suspect identified that it was a police vehicle and armed himself. The suspect opened fire on the SRT truck, striking the front passenger door and the windshield. One round passed through the windshield and struck Officer Ortiz on the right side of his face. Sergeant Carlson and Officer Edwards engaged the suspect with gun fire and eliminated the threat. Officer Ortiz stopped the vehicle about ten feet from the suspect's vehicle and calmly exited the truck, letting everyone know he had been shot. Officer Jenkins and Sergeant Carlson took tactical positions on the house and suspect car.

Officer Paul Timmons, Officer Giordano, Officer Hitchings, and Denver Police Sergeant Bryce Jackson went to the aide of Officer Ortiz. They loaded Officer Ortiz into Sergeant Jackson's police car. Officer Timmons got in the back with Officer Ortiz to hold pressure on the wound while Officer Giordano held Officer Ortiz's hand and called out the car's location to coordinate road closures. They drove to the hospital escorted by Officer Hitchings.

#### **Officer Michael Tilton**

In the days leading up to April 25, 2016, several armed robberies had occurred in Aurora and surrounding jurisdictions. The suspect in the robberies was armed with a handgun and was targeting convenience stores and gas stations. On April 25, 2016 the robberies continued with two more locations in District 1 being robbed. At 0438 hours Officer Michael Tilton observed a vehicle matching the robbery suspect vehicle and began following it. Officer Tilton advised that the vehicle was attempting to elude him and a pursuit was authorized. Officer Tilton and Officer Delbert Tisdale began to pursue the vehicle. The seventeen minute chase started in the neighborhoods along the Colfax corridor, south on Potomac Street from 11th Avenue, and east on 6th Avenue into District Two. Officers Stephenson Cary, Mark Moore, Cassie Longnecker, Ryan Marker, Sgt. Phillip Rathbun, and Sgt. Jeff Longnecker all joined the pursuit at that time. Speeds during the chase were as high as 100 miles per hour. The suspect vehicle made a u-turn after Airpark Blvd and drove head-on at pursuing officers. When the suspect vehicle got to Powhaton Road the driver lost control and crashed. The driver of the vehicle jumped out of the car and ran down

an embankment onto Interstate 70. Officers chased after the suspect and put themselves in grave danger, as they did not know if the suspect was armed and traffic was driving by at highway speeds. When the suspect ran from the car all of the officers chased after him except for Officer Longnecker who checked the interior of the suspect vehicle. She located a second suspect in the front passenger seat and held him at gunpoint until officers responded back to her location and took him into custody. Officer Tisdale did an outstanding job of calling this pursuit out. He was very calm and clear on the radio allowing others to easily understand his transmissions related to direction of travel, speeds, road conditions, and traffic congestion. This was a necessary and dangerous pursuit that all of these officers undertook in a very professional manner. The outcome of the incident resulted in both suspects being charged with multiple felony counts of armed robbery.

### **Sergeant Chris Amsler**

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 in an effort to build an organization that more closely mirrors Aurora's multi-cultural community. The RSC was also directed to identify 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 his duties in an unusually effective manner, Sergeant Chris Amsler was awarded a Chief's Commendation.

### **Officer Richard Hargrove, Officer Thomas Gallimore**

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, Officer Ricardo Hargrove and Thomas Gallimore responded to 17474 E. Temple Dr. in regards to a family disturbance. Christian Miller was upset at his mom, Linnea Miller, and punched a couple of holes in some walls inside the residence. Ms. Miller is a single mom and did not have the money or skills to fix the holes so Officers Hargrove and Gallimore asked if they could come in early on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, to show Christian how to repair drywall, which they did while paying for the materials themselves. The officers were able to establish a relationship with Christian and explained there are different ways to vent his frustrations while not damaging property or disrespecting his mother. Ms. Miller was very appreciative of the officer's efforts to help her and her son. This was a great example of the kindness our officers display on a daily basis and both officers received a Chief's Commendation.

## *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 three **Chief's Unit Citations** in 2016.

**Special Victims Unit: Sergeant Damon Vaz, Agent Lana Maddox, Officer Travis Lore, Officer Sandy Moreno, Officer Bobbi Jo Olson, Officer Leslie Roberts, Officer Jim Seneca**

In 2015, Colorado enacted new legislation regarding mandatory reporting of elder abuse in Colorado. With this new mandate the Aurora Police Department realized the need to create a new unit to deal with the influx of new elder abuse cases being reported. Thus, in September of 2015 a new unit was formed called the Special Victims Unit. Sergeant Damon Vaz was selected to lead the team. The members of the team were hand-picked, the majority of the positions coming from the Officer rank. The team was given the daunting task of writing policies, deciding how best to handle cases, reaching out to stakeholders, and educating the agency about the new legislation. In less than 2 years the Special Victims Unit has far exceeded the initial expectations set for them and have become the model team in the region for handling elder abuse cases. The team has successfully handled an abundance of serious cases involving elderly and intellectually disabled individuals. The entire team should be commended for their commitment to assisting those who cannot assist themselves and creating a much valued asset to the Aurora Police Department.

**Traffic Section DUI Unit**

On May 25, 2016, Officer Gomez and Officer Marker attend the annual Mothers Against Drunk Driving (M.A.D.D.) awards ceremony. Officers Gomez and Marker received the "Outstanding Team Dedication" award for DUI enforcement. In 2015, both officers made a combined total of 967 DUI arrests. This number of arrests is amazing considering that these were the only two officers assigned to the DUI team for the vast majority of 2015. This is the fourth year in a row that the Aurora Police Department DUI Team earned this prestigious award from M.A.D.D.

**Gang Unit: Detective Nate Meier, Detective Pete Szuch, Detective Pete Page, Officer Jonathan Dennis, Officer Brent Maksyn, Officer Jonathan McCants, Officer Doug Pearson, Officer Randall Ricks, Officer Eugene Van Dyk**

Members of the Gang Intervention Unit were involved in a complex investigation into a series of shootings which were linked by NIBIN and involved the same firearm. It was believed the suspects in these shootings were Byron Hendricks and Sheldon Long. Both have an extensive criminal history and are documented gang members. Everyone in the unit played their part in the eventual arrest of both subjects.

Detective Pete Page established probable cause for the arrest of both parties in a menacing case. Both subjects were involved in shootings in Denver and Thornton. Hendricks had an active warrant for a shooting in Thornton. Advanced investigative techniques were utilized in an attempt to locate Hendricks. Eventually both Hendricks and Long were captured.

Detective Pete Szuch led the shooting investigations. Through the efforts of the entire unit, several shootings were cleared and charges were filed relating to those cases. The vehicle used in several of the shootings was located and seized. This was exceptional work by the entire Gang Intervention Unit and they are commended for their hard work and efforts.



## *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 15 **Certificates of Appreciations** in 2016.

### **Kimberly Bond and Araceli Hernandez-Greco**

On January 14, 2017, in the wake of the tragic David Puckett case, an autistic and diabetic six year old boy ran away from his foster parents' house in the 4200 block of South Halifax Way. The boy had been missing for fifteen minutes before the police were called as his care takers tried to find him. Officers were not able to initially locate the child and additional resources were about to be called in when he came back home care of fifteen year old Kimberly Bond and 16 year old Araceli Hernandez-Greco. Kimberly and Araceli were driving in the area of East Quincy Avenue and South Picadilly Street and saw the young boy walking by himself. Concerned for his welfare, the young ladies stopped to check on him. After determining that he needed to go back home, they called Kimberly's mother who picked up the child and drove him home with them. Kimberly and Araceli did not know the boy and acted on their

### **AirLife Denver, Arapahoe County Coroner's Office, Aurora Fire Rescue, Aurora Public Schools, Cambria Hotel and Suites, Colorado Department of Transportation, Chik-Fil-A, Children's Hospital Colorado, Judge Shawn Day, Falck Rocky Mountain, Hinkley High School, M&M Towing, Ms. Brenda Peeples**

Officer Kevin Deichsel, Officer Carolyn Renaud, Officer Aaron Bunch and Department Videographer Jon Billingsley worked together with many outside partners to produce a powerful video based on the "Every Fifteen Minutes" Program. The program is designed to educate teens on the dangers of impaired driving by providing a dramatic real-life experience for students.

Over the course of more than a year, Officer Kevin Deichsel met with and solicited participation from numerous policy-makers, administrators and stakeholders in the community to support this presentation. He presented his idea to APD administration, City management, City Council, AFD and others who all supported his efforts. He then went to work getting other organizations throughout the city to help facilitate the multiple roles necessary in carrying out the program.

APD School Resource Officers began to work with the school administrators and students who would be the actors in the presentation; this also included participation with the student's parents who would be involved in the program, which includes:

- APD Traffic Officers respond to a "crash" and investigate
- AFD response to the "crash"
- M & M Towing to supply the crashed cars and clean-up after
- Arapahoe County Coroner's response and tour of their facility
- Falck Ambulance response and transportation of injured parties
- Health One Air Life response
- Children's Hospital treatment of injured parties
- APD's Victim Services Unit who helped with victim family notifications
- APD Volunteers
- Cambria Hotel and Suites to provide overnight accommodations for the students and families

- Chik-fil-A to provide food
- CDOT and MADD
- APD Video Services

Kevin completed all of this which necessitated the coordination of over one hundred people. He also reached out to the local news agencies to solicit coverage.

Officers Carolyn "C.J." Renaud and Aaron Bunch coordinated much of the activity that revolved around the school and students. This required working with the school administration, the selection of students to participate in the program, participating in the retreat, and coordinating other SRO's for notifications.

The program was presented on April 3rd and 4th with the "dead" students being removed from classrooms every minutes by the "Grim Reaper" (played by Sergeant Poole), SRO's and a mock crash and emergency response. The following day, a video was presented to the school.

The presentation has garnered great response from the community and Officer Deichsel is receiving requests from many people wanting more information on the program and inquiries as to when it may be presented again.

Because of their efforts, many people were able to learn the possible consequences of driving impaired or distracted without having to live through this actual scenario.

## *Community Commitment Certificate*

This may be awarded to members who, through their own efforts, display an unusually effective manner of employing the Aurora Police Department's community commitment philosophy.

The department presented four **Community Commitment Certificates** in 2016.

### **Officer Aaron Bunch, Officer Kevin Deichsel, Officer Carolyn Renaud, Videographer Jon Billingsley**

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## *Excellence Award*

This award is presented to a career service member who continuously seeks excellence in practice and often "takes it to the next level."

The department presented four **Excellence Awards** in 2016.

### **Administrative Technician Kellie Craft**

Kellie Craft provides tremendous support for the multiple teams that she serves. For her primary job with District 1, she keeps track of the budget, equipment, purchases, supplies, seizure fund requests and needs and all the other tasks that are expected of an Administrative Technician. Kellie is simply superb at everything she does. She is extraordinarily organized and efficient. She completed the city's fifteen month Advanced Supervision course and was co-president of her class. Kellie is the chair of the civilian committee and regularly meets with the Chief's staff about non-sworn member's needs. To address a lack of training available for non-sworn employees, Kellie created a non-sworn in-service that will be delivered beginning in the third quarter of 2017. Kellie is on the Department Awards Board, the Yearbook committee, serves

as a scribe on SWAT callouts and is on the Emergency Operations Center Logistics team. Her recent accomplishments include securing funding for a workout room in District 1, creating a de-escalation techniques poster, and revising the safety evacuation plan for the District 1 building.

Kellie does everything to the utmost of her ability. Anything less than perfection is unacceptable to her. If Kellie gets involved in a project the organization can rest easy knowing it will be done beyond anyone's expectation. There is only one thing that Kellie is so far incapable of doing, and that is saying "no."

#### **Administrative Specialist Ruth Brassell**

Ruth Brassell has been the Administrative Specialist for both the Community Resource Section and the Professional Standards Section concurrently since 2013. Over that period of time, she has sought and received additional responsibility serving both sections and initiatives. Among her duties outside of her normal job, she assists with the Citizen's Police Academy, the Teen Police Academy, the International Teen Academy, and the Senior Citizen's Police Academy. She assists with emergency operations in the Department Operations Center. Ruth has become a point of contact for Fred Pryor Seminars, allowing other employees the opportunity to attend discounted workplace computer training. Ruth helped in the creation of the Special Victims Unit, especially in data collection and analysis.

During her tenure in the PSS and CRS, Ms. Brassell has demonstrated that she is a critical thinker who recognizes areas for improvement for employees and citizens alike. She readily recognizes current areas for improvement and anticipates the ill effects if conditions do not improve. In this light, she is creative and relentless in her commitment to improve the work environment not only for herself but for others—she truly takes it to the next level—and it is a challenge to keep up with her.

#### **Administrative Technician Nancy Walker**

Nancy Walker has been assigned to District 3 as an Administrative Technician for nearly 4 years and has become a vital component to the efficient management of the district. Nancy does not just show up and put in her time, she is dedicated to the success of District 3 by constantly looking for ways to keep everything running smoothly and make others' jobs easier. She is friendly and responsive to everyone who works in District 3 or uses the various meeting rooms in the facility. Nancy recently demonstrated collaboration, creativity, and a desire to champion the positive work of others by creating a display for awards received by District 3 personnel. Typically these awards are presented in Patrol briefings or unit meetings and only the individual's team or watch learns of it. The display created by Nancy is located in the main hallway of the building and allows everyone to recognize excellence in action.

#### **Senior Crime Analyst Dawn Tollakson**

Senior Crime Analyst Dawn Tollakson routinely performs her duties above and beyond what is expected, taking what she does to the next level. She is a self-starter who applies her extensive knowledge in Crime Analysis and Law Enforcement Operations to solve problems quickly. Recent examples of her excellent performance involved several metro wide aggravated motor vehicle thefts. Working with Parole, she was able to place the suspect, Mr. Tremaine Spears at the scene of three motor vehicle thefts and other key locations via his ankle monitor GPS records. This information was pivotal in his arrest. Additionally Ms. Tollakson was instrumental in the identification of the Rich Boy Gang (RBG). She worked with the Gang Intelligence Unit to identify this group and its hierarchy, playing a key role in gathering and publishing information which resulted in several arrests. Ms. Tollakson handles a large workload, consistently being

proactive in identifying crime trends in the city and metro area, making positive suggestions on how to address these issues. She has established many networking contacts throughout the state, communicating regularly with them to address issues of mutual concern. Ms. Tollakson is a true professional who demonstrates her dedication on a daily basis. Her excellence in performance is a huge asset to the Aurora Police Department and the people we serve.

## *Innovation Award*

The innovation award recognizes a member who has demonstrated or accomplished a core component of the Aurora Police Department. Criteria include: suggesting or developing new work methods that increase productivity; developing an effective solution to an existing difficult problem; developing and implementing a plan for the good of the community; or, generating novel and valuable ideas and using these ideas to improve processes, methods, systems, programs or services for his or her team or department.

The department presented three **Innovation Awards** in 2016.

### **Property Technician Cathleen Craft**

As a Property and Evidence Technician with the Aurora Police Department Property and Evidence Unit, Technician Cathleen Craft has been instrumental in the implementation of a process to ensure the accurate tracking of Property Dispositions from Aurora Police members. The members review their cases and determine what evidence should be retained or which items are no longer needed for evidentiary purposes. After this information is returned to the technicians, they are able to see what outstanding items are remaining and set a date to have the members review these items at a later date. By setting date parameters and having the ability to review items on hand, we can dispose of items on a regular basis and reduce overcrowding in our storage locations.

Technician Craft created an excel spreadsheet to track the information returned from members regarding the disposition of property on a given case. The spreadsheet is broken down by type of item to be disposed and includes all pertinent information for the technicians to be able to review and pull the item for disposal. Technician Craft has set the spreadsheet up so that the disposition form returned by the members is accessible via a hyperlink from the spreadsheet. The spreadsheet is saved to our Property SharePoint page so all in the Unit can access it. Once property items that are ready to be disposed are added to the spreadsheet they are reviewed and approved by the Property Unit Supervisor as a measure of quality control. Prior to the creation of this spreadsheet, there was no organized method of tracking what items have received authorization for disposal which contributed to a backlog of items pending destruction.

Since the implementation of the spreadsheet, the technicians save time by having all information on hand to be disposed as well as location of the items designated for disposal and the authorization for disposal. This process has resulted in better communication between technicians and supervisors of the unit by decreasing duplication of work and organizing the disposal process. Technician Crafts' attention to detail, vast knowledge of computer programs, willingness to take on any project assigned, and innovative ideas will save the Property Unit man hours and in turn save valued monetary funds which can be earmarked for better departmental use.

**Administrative Specialist Deborah Burgess and Administrative Specialist Lisa McKown**

The Aurora Police Department's Court Liaison team receives approximately 25,000 subpoenas each year. Court Liaison staff, Lisa McKown and Deborah Burgess, were responsible to manually enter, date stamp and deliver the subpoenas to the 783 members of the police department. In June of 2016, Lisa and Deborah were instrumental in rolling out the new Colorado District Attorney's e-subpoena system for the State of Colorado Court system, a small fraction of all subpoenas issued yearly. Lisa and Deborah became department administrators for this new system and subsequently developed new policy and procedures for this newly acquired program.

After becoming proficient in this system, understanding the efficiencies and determining it would be more convenient for the officers to receive all subpoenas through the e-subpoena system, Lisa and Deborah approached the Municipal Court Administrators and the Deputy City Attorney about developing the same type of delivery system for Municipal subpoenas. After explaining the process and showing the efficiencies of the State court e-subpoena system, a new program was developed and now all subpoenas are being delivered to members of the department by e-subpoenas. This has allowed officers to determine in real time if they are needed in court. This has also resulted in a nominal decrease in court overtime, a positive impact on officers' personal lives and allows Lisa and Deborah to work on other tasks within the office.

Due to Lisa and Deborah's innovative suggestion and the development of new work methods resulting in increased productivity as well as time and monetary savings.

## *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 89 **Commander's Commendations** in 2016.

**Officer Chris Villanueva**

On July 29, 2016, several District 2 officers responded to a court order violation call at 14180 E Gunnison Place. A male party had been previously diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia and bi-polar disorder and was issued a court order on July 28, 2016, as a result of acting irrationally, walking around the house with a gas can, and threatening to burn the house down.

The male returned to the residence on July 29, 2016, in violation of the court order and, again, was behaving irrationally. His family members were able to safely exit the residence as he proceeded to barricade the doors of the residence. Due to the prior actions involving the gas can, the restraining order, and the family's concerns, Lt. Hatfield requested crisis negotiators respond to the scene. Officer Villanueva and several other negotiators responded. Officer Villanueva was the first to arrive and volunteered to be the primary negotiator. Officer Villanueva used his crisis negotiator training to build rapport with the male, which was very difficult due to his erratic behavior. The male eventually set a fire



inside the residence causing a small explosion. The male came out of the residence a few seconds later, unharmed, and surrendered to officers.

Officer Villanueva was awarded for his continuous efforts to engage the male who was experiencing a mental health crisis. Officer Villanueva's expertise as a trained negotiator averted a possible tragic ending to this incident.

**Sergeant Gene Salberg, Officer Scott Benedict, Officer Matthew T. Green, Officer Brian Ross, Officer Amber Roberts, Officer Joseph Hess**

On July 8, 2016, at approximately 2105 hours, Sergeant Gene Salberg and Officers Scott Benedict, Matthew T. Green, Brian Ross, Amber Roberts, and Joseph Hess responded to 4050 South Atchison Way concerning a report of a despondent individual who wanted APD officers to assist him in committing suicide. This was the second APD response to this address for the subject within the hour. During the first response, officers on scene discovered that the subject had barricaded himself in the basement and Sergeant Salberg made the decision to not go inside and force a potentially deadly confrontation. While en route to the address the second time, call notes indicated the suicidal subject had mixed some chemicals together in an attempt to kill himself by inhaling the fumes. The father of the subject reported the subject was outside of the residence sitting on his bicycle and stated the subject wanted APD officers to shoot him. Sergeant Salberg arrived on scene and deployed his less lethal shotgun while directing Officers Benedict, Green, Ross, Roberts and Hess to set up at the end of the street. Officers found the subject hiding nearby in some bushes holding two large kitchen knives; one pointed to his neck and the other to his chest. When confronted, the subject demanded that the officers shoot him. Efforts by these officers to diffuse the situation failed and numerous commands to drop the knives went unheeded. As the subject started to stand up, Sergeant Salberg fired his less lethal shotgun striking the subject twice, which incapacitated him. Due to their teamwork and quick actions, Sergeant Gene Salberg, Officer Scott Benedict, Officer Matthew T. Green, Officer Brian Ross, Officer Amber Roberts, and Officer Joseph Hess were able to safely take the subject into protective custody before he could harm himself or anyone else and likely prevented an officer involved shooting from taking place.

Sergeant Gene Salberg, Officer Scott Benedict, Officer Matthew T. Green, Officer Brian Ross, Officer Amber Roberts, and Officer Joseph Hess were awarded for the outstanding manner in which they performed their duties under extremely stressful circumstances.

**Officer James Salazar**

On October 06, 2016, PAR Officer James Salazar responded to a suspicious occurrence call located in the area of Southshore Parkway and East Ottawa Drive. As the investigation proceeded, a damaged/vandalized vehicle was located. A citizen contacted Officer Salazar and provided Officer Salazar with suspect information, as the citizen had witnessed the vandalism and took a picture of the three suspects. Officer Salazar determined that the suspects' vehicle was a reported steal out of Arapahoe County. Officer Salazar sent the photograph of the suspects to District 3 patrol officers who located individuals matching the suspects' description in the area. Officer Salazar took charge and properly completed a field show-up which led to the identification and subsequent arrests of the suspects. Additionally, Officer Salazar conducted interviews with the juvenile suspects and their respective parents to successfully solve and clear this case.

Officer Salazar was awarded for his proactive police work, excellent investigation and follow-up which resulted in the apprehension of three suspects and the clearance of this criminal episode.

**Officer Jason Moore**

On June 26, 2016, at 10:30 am, the Colorado State Bank and Trust at 15490 East Hampden Avenue reported an armed robbery. The suspect was described as a heavyset white male, approximately 40 years old, with brown-gray hair and bow legs; wearing a camouflage baseball cap, bright orange t-shirt, camouflage shorts and tennis shoes. Witnesses saw the suspect leave in a yellow colored taxi with green writing.

Officer Jason Moore responded from the area of Iliff Avenue and Chambers Road, and while en route, he spotted a yellow taxi with green writing turning from northbound Chambers Road onto westbound Iliff Avenue. Officer Moore caught up to the taxi and observed the taxi's backseat passenger matched the description of the bank robbery suspect. Officer Moore stopped the taxi and held the suspect at gunpoint. The suspect, upon seeing Officer Moore, exclaimed, "That was fast!" Officers took the suspect into custody and located a large amount of cash in his pocket at the time of arrest. The suspect subsequently confessed to robbing the bank.

Officer Jason Moore was awarded for his quick response and excellent perception and analysis that resulted in the apprehension of a dangerous criminal.

**Officer Amber Roberts**

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, Officer Amber Roberts observed a vehicle make several illegal traffic violations that began in the vicinity of East Iliff Avenue and South Buckley Road. Upon making a traffic stop on the vehicle and contacting the driver/suspect (Joshua Franklin), Officer Roberts observed what she thought to be the end of a handgun protruding from under the front passenger seat of the vehicle. Officer Roberts immediately removed Franklin from the vehicle. In doing so, Officer Roberts observed behaviors exhibited by Franklin that were indicative of him possibly being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Officer Roberts determined there was probable cause to arrest Franklin for DUI and Prohibited Use of a Weapon. A search of Franklin's vehicle led to the recovery of five firearms, a 75 round drum magazine, numerous ammunition magazines, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition for the aforementioned firearms. Further investigation by Officer Roberts revealed that prior to the traffic stop, Franklin was involved in a verbal altercation with his stepfather and threatened to harm him.

Officer Amber Roberts was awarded for her proactive police work, excellent perception and analysis, which resulted in the apprehension of a potentially dangerous and violent criminal.

**Officer Juan Gonzalez and Officer Don Wilcox**

On Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at approximately 1700 hours Officers Don Wilcox and Juan Gonzalez responded to the address of 1056 South Salem St. Unit 215 on a report of a welfare check. Call notes indicated that a 7 year old child was calling on behalf of her father who was unresponsive.

The male was subsequently pronounced deceased. Information was obtained that the male may have been deceased with his daughter present for an extended period of time. No other individuals were present in the unit during the day of the incident. Officers Wilcox and Gonzalez were extremely tactful

when gleaning information from the child. Contact was subsequently made with the mother of the child who responded to the location to take custody of the child.

Although not noted in the supplemental report, Officer Wilcox learned that the child had not eaten anything during the day in question. Officer Wilcox, without being prompted, left the location and purchased some food for the child with his own money. He returned back and stayed with the child and the child's mother until the coroner arrived.

Both Officers were commended on their response and demeanor while dealing with such a sensitive situation. Their actions while dealing with the family, specifically the child are a prime example of outstanding community relations.

#### **Officer William Hummel and Officer Patty Southwick**

For the second year in a row District 1 PAR Officers were tasked with putting together a community event at the new Stanley Aviation retail center. The event called Santa at Stanley involved APD Officers bringing Santa Claus to Stanley to meet with children. The event aimed to provide positive community interaction with the new businesses, families, and Officers. This year Officer William Hummel was tasked with organizing the event which was held on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The event was a huge success and much more involved than the prior year. Officer Hummel did an outstanding job of organizing many personnel, units, and equipment. He was even able to convince Officers Dan and Patty Southwick to be Mr. and Mrs. Claus. The response from the businesses and the community was overwhelmingly positive and reflected very well on the entire Aurora Police Department. Officer Hummel is commended for putting together such a great event.

#### **Officer Joshua Perrott**

On August 23, 2016, Officer Joshua Perrott was working District 1 when he advised he had possibly identified the shooting suspect reference APD Case # 2016-32336, which occurred at the 7-11 located at 2220 South Peoria Street, on the night of August 14, 2016.

Officer Perrott observed a red Chevrolet Impala with dark tinted windows in the vicinity of East Alameda Avenue and South Potomac Street. Officer Perrott was aware that the aforementioned incident involved a similar suspect vehicle. He observed a minor traffic infraction and took the opportunity to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle to further his investigation. He contacted the sole female occupant, positively identified her, and subsequently discovered that she could not legally operate a vehicle, he asked if she knew someone who could respond to the scene to operate the vehicle legally. The female advised that she could have her boyfriend, who held a valid driver's license, respond to operate the vehicle. The male subsequently responded and was positively identified through NCIC/CCIC and found to have a valid driver's license. Officer Perrott retrieved the email containing the BOLO of the shooting and determined the male depicted in the original bolo matched the description of the male he was currently in contact with.

Officer Perrott completed a detailed Field Interview Report and notified the Gang Intervention Unit. The information collected on scene, along with the body camera footage captured during the contact, lead the Gang Intervention Unit to identify the suspect reference the shooting incident. Because of Officer Perrott's pro-active policing and his willingness to further his investigation he developed critical

information that lead GIU Investigators to the suspect. Officer Perrott was awarded for his tenacious investigation, attention to detail and his willingness to go the extra mile to identify a shooting suspect.

**Officer Jeremy Stenersen and Officer Nicholas Brungardt**

On August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Officer Jeremy Stenersen and Officer Nicholas Brungardt responded to a report of a physical domestic. Dispatch advised that the female was being bitten and choked by the male suspect. Upon arrival, the male opened the door, saw the uniformed officers and slammed the door. The officers recognized the dangers associated with someone being choked and gave multiple orders to the male to open the door. The male refused and the officers then forced entry into the residence. The male was near the door attempting to hide. He was taken into custody after a brief struggle. The officers then conducted an investigation into the domestic violence incident and determined that the victim had indeed been choked until she lost consciousness. The case is significant in that the officers immediately identified that the facts for the elements of the newly established statute of 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Assault (strangulation). A follow-up interview with the victim by a district detective revealed that the victim was actively being assaulted when the officers were on scene. The detective commended the officers for not only their decisive actions in making entry given the exigent circumstances, but also the professionalism they displayed during a physical confrontation when taking the suspect into custody. The detective also noted the high quality of the officers' investigation and reports. It is the opinion of the officers' sergeant and the investigating detective that had Officer Stenersen and Officer Brungardt not forced entry into the home, the victim may have sustained much more serious injuries. There is no doubt that the officers' actions prevented this incident from becoming more dangerous for both the victim and her children in the home. The victim was very thankful to the officers for their actions and professionalism. The officer's conduct during this incident reflects highly on their level of professionalism and commitment to the safety of the community.

**Officer Rick Garcia, Officer Tim Jeffrey, Officer Jonathan Carelock, Officer Douglas Stark, Sergeant Steve White, Sergeant Alfred Roberson**

On July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016, officers responded to a reported bank robbery with shots fired at the Wells Fargo Bank. Upon arrival, officers learned that an armored car guard was reloading an ATM machine when he was shot at by a suspect during an attempted robbery and the guard returned fire. In all, 19 shots were exchanged with the suspect being struck once in the left arm. The suspect then fled on foot into an apartment complex, leaving a blood trail and dumping his costume and pistol along the route. Sergeants Alfred Roberson, Steve White, and Officer Douglas Stark were able to follow the blood trail to its conclusion. The trail ended at a hallway entrance to several apartments. Through the process of elimination, Officer Stark, Jonathan Carelock, and Tim Jeffrey searched two of the apartments and were able to clear them while allowing the families to evacuate. Officer Rick Garcia joined the entry team and the team was able to cover the apartment from the apartment across the hall. Orders were given at the suspect apartment for the occupants to step outside. After some time, a female and juvenile male came outside and confirmed that the suspect was inside the apartment. Further orders were made and the suspect peacefully stepped outside and was taken into custody by Officer Jeffrey. For their quick response, teamwork, and scene investigation, Sergeant Roberson, White, and Officers Stark, Carelock, Jeffrey, and Garcia were awarded a commander's commendation for their efforts that concluded in taking a dangerous suspect into custody.

**Agent Jason McDonald, Officer Paul Cancino, Officer Darwin Hanley, Officer Christopher Neiman, Officer Jonathan Dediemar, Crime Analyst Robbin Hemphill, and Crime Analyst Jamie Newsum**

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Officer Paul Cancino responded to the local Metro PCS cellphone store on an attempted robbery call. A black male and white female, possibly working together, tried to rob the business. The male pointed a handgun at the clerk demanding money, while the female pretended to be a customer and cased the business. The suspects ultimately left the store with no money since there was no money in the cash register at this time of day. Agent Jason McDonald retrieved surveillance video of the attempt, created still photographs of the robbers, and sent the photos to Crime Analyst Robbin Hemphill. Crime Analyst Hemphill created a crime BOLO for APD dissemination. Officer John Dediemar saw the BOLO and recognized the suspects from an earlier contact he had with them a year prior. Dediemar relayed his information to Crime Analyst Jamie Newsum. Crime Analysts Newsum and Hemphill were able to link the suspects to three other recent robberies. Agent McDonald reviewed mugshots of the two suspects and confirmed a match with tattoos listed on the males arrest record with tattoos which appear on the robbery video.

On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, the male and female suspects were seen walking in the 14900 block of E. Ohio Avenue by Officer Chris Neiman. Neiman recognized the male from earlier contacts and arrested him for an outstanding Arapahoe County warrant. On July 20<sup>th</sup>, Officers Murray Hanley, and Paul Cancino had arrested the female for trespassing at the Oakridge Apartments (just down the street from the Metro PCS robbery). Agent McDonald then obtained positive lineup ID's from the clerk in the robbery. While the male was still in jail, McDonald file a case charging him with Attempted Aggravated Robbery. Investigation is continuing on the female's role in the robberies. Due to APD's dedicated Crime Analysts, Patrol Officers, and Agents, and their thorough, watchful teamwork, a dangerous armed robber was apprehended.

**Officer Ashley Orr, Officer Everett Williams, Officer Katie Brugler, Officer Bridget Johnson, Officer Darren Martinez, Officer Frederick Lang, Officer Jacob Tubbs, Officer Daniel Madera, Officer Todd Alscher, Sergeant Tyler Reissland, and Sergeant Seth Robertson**

Officers responded to a family dispute involving a handgun at 17<sup>th</sup> and Norfolk. At the reported address, the reporting party was hiding underneath a vehicle. Officers extensively checked the area but were unable to find anyone or any evidence of the incident. Officers determined a better address and traveled to that area. As the first officers and sergeants arrived on scene, a suspicious male was observed standing in the street. Officers made contact with the male and were walking past a Mercedes parked in the street occupied by two persons. It was unknown if the vehicle or occupants were related to the call and the officers remained focused on the male in the street. Suddenly the Mercedes engine started and accelerated off the road, into a side yard, slamming into a tree. All of the officers' attention were then divided between the vehicle and the male. The officers separated into two groups to contact and detain all persons. As officers were doing this, two males were observed standing nearby watching police actions. The driver, James Draper, and passenger of the vehicle had no connection to the dispatched call but Draper was found to be a gang member with an extensive criminal history. When officers checked him, he was in possession of a handgun, six pounds of marijuana and four grams of cocaine. It was determined he was a convicted felon and was held with no bond as a special offender. The officers concluded the male on the street was the reporting party. When detained, he became belligerent and aggressive towards officers requiring officers to forcefully place him in a patrol car. He further refused to cooperate or speak with police about his original 911 call and was later criminally charged due to his

behavior with police. When contact was finally made at the correct address, one of the males watching police earlier was found to be the suspect of the original dispute. Officers proactively sought out other witnesses and evidence of the family dispute and were able to develop probable cause to charge the suspect with felony menacing and seize the hand gun involved. Throughout the course on the incident and investigation, officers and sergeants were confronted with two separate and potentially dangerous situations. Due to the diligence, teamwork, and professionalism of all officers involved, two separate felony case filings were charged and two handguns and an substantial amount of narcotics were seized.

#### **Officer Christopher Neiman and Officer Todd Alscher**

On May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016, dispatch aired a call of a family dispute with a party armed with a gun. Information aired that Jeramiah Brown had pointed a gun at the RP and was making delusional and paranoid statements. It was reported that Brown is going through a divorce and has recently started smoking meth again. The RP also reported that he had additional guns in the basement but did not know what types they were. While en route to the call, Officer Alscher took charge and made excellent command decisions in reference to needed information. Several officers arrived on scene and developed a secure perimeter around the house. Officer Alscher was then directed to attempt phone contact with Brown. Contact was made and Officer Alscher talked with Brown for several minutes. During that time Brown threatened to kill everyone and made several delusional, paranoid, and hostile comments. Officer Alscher remained calm and professional. Brown finally said he did not trust the Aurora Police Department and said he wanted the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office to respond and hung up. Officer Alscher was instructed to have another officer call him back and say he was from Arapahoe County. Officer Neiman then made phone contact representing himself as an Arapahoe County Deputy and convinced Brown that he was on his way and to follow the instructions of the officers on scene. Brown exited the house unarmed and was taken into custody without incident. An AR-15, a sawed-off shotgun, and 2 handguns along with several hundred rounds of ammunition were recovered. Officer Alscher and Neiman were commended for their professionalism and dedication to duty while handling this potentially dangerous armed party.

#### **Officer Candice Iovine**

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, officers responded to a domestic violence call at 1453 N. Norfolk Street. During the course of the investigation, they determined that there was probable cause to arrest a female. There was a short struggle between the officers and the female as she was being taken into custody. During this incident the female's seven year old son ran into the kitchen and picked up a 12" kitchen knife and began advancing towards the officers who were taking his mother into custody. He was stopped and the knife was taken away by an officer and another person present on scene. Officer Candice Iovine was reviewing this case as part of her duties as the PAR officer for that area (Area 14). Officer Iovine is involved in the Restoration Fellowship Hoops Park basketball camp which is held in June. She recognized that this might be a good opportunity to connect with the child in a positive way. She called the mother but the mother was initially upset that Officer Iovine was contacting her to talk about her son. When the mother learned that Officer Iovine was offering to help get the child into the basketball camp she was extremely grateful and almost tearful. Officer Iovine did a fantastic job of recognizing an opportunity to help a child who had witnessed his mother's arrest.



**Agent Christopher Barchetti, Officer Ed Brooks, Officer Patricio Serrant, and Officer Thomas Beach**

Towards the end of 2015, District 2 showed an increase in reported storage unit burglaries. This information was passed along to District 2 BIG Officers Ed Brooks and Patricio Serrant. They began researching the reports for similarities when they were contacted by District 2 Patrol Officer Thomas Beach in January 2016. Officer Beach relayed that he observed in several of his investigations that there was a common name, Eugene Forbes. He brought this information to Officers Brooks and Serrant who began the tedious task of reviewing all the reports, contacting the storage unit businesses, and linking Forbes to each storage unit where there was a reported burglary. Officer Brooks and Serrant developed an investigative theory on how these burglaries were occurring and developed the changing M.O. of Forbes. Officer Brooks and Serrant began identifying stolen property through Leads Online and contacting each victim of the known storage unit burglary and obtaining descriptions of the stolen property. They were then able to identify the pawned stolen property and where it was at. Their investigation led to a minimum of 24 storage unit burglaries in Districts 2 and 3 which were linked to Forbes and his associates. Detective Barchetti was assigned to oversee this growing investigation. He authored search warrants, arranged for the collection of stolen property, and for the arrest of Forbes. He and Officer Serrant interviewed Forbes who confessed to the majority of the storage unit burglaries and also to unreported burglaries. This investigation demonstrates how teamwork, information sharing, analysis, and good old fashioned police work ended up with multiple criminal counts on Forbes and his associates along with the recovery of thousands of dollars of stolen property.

**Officer Virgil Majors**

On October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Officer Virgil Majors proudly represented the Aurora Police Department in a discussion about police-community relations before the group Jack and Jill of American, Inc. The event was hosted by the Aurora Municipal Courts, more specifically Court Administrator Zelda Boyles, Ph.D., and the Honorable Judge Kris Colley. Jack and Jill of America, Inc., is a historically African American group whose aim is to shape the lives of young people by empowering them to become leaders. Dr. Zelda Boyles made this statement about the efforts of Officer Majors, "He did an exceptional job of answering the tough questions with tact, honesty, and compassion. He spoke of the value of giving respect and the benefit of the doubt to members of a profession that have had a long and turbulent relationship with our community. Additionally, he spoke candidly about the hazards of accepting information disseminated by social media as the truth. Officer Majors was an exemplary model of the City's core values. He had integrity; was respectful and professional; and treated each young person as a valued customer." In recognition of Officer Majors' on-going commitment to ensuring a two-way dialogue between the Aurora Police Department and members of the community he was awarded a commander's commendation.

**Sergeant Mike Hanifin and Lieutenant Darin Parker**

Sergeant Hanifin was assigned an Officer Involved Shooting that was not the typical OIS and had generated a considerable amount of media interest. Sergeant Hanifin was tasked with conducting a complete and thorough review of the case and not merely a "rubber stamp" of the previous legal process. This was an uncomfortable investigation for all involved. Lieutenant Parker and Sergeant Hanifin worked together on this case and they did an excellent job. Their review of the case and the work they did has strengthened the ethical reputation of the Aurora Police Department.



**Officer Steven Spanos and Officer Christopher Sloan**

On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, at approximately 1851 hours, officers were dispatched to the area of 12507 E. Mississippi Avenue on a report of two suspicious parties. The reporting party observed two males handling a rifle outside of the business. The two males were later observed walking into the Metro PCS store at this location, one of the males holding the rifle at his side. Based on the information provided, responding officers believed this to be a robbery in progress involving a rifle. Responding officers set up on all sides of the building with a perimeter securing it. Additional officers responded to block the exits and entrances and reduce the flow of traffic into the busy shopping center. Efforts were made to evacuate as many of the surrounding businesses as possible. An arrest team was set up outside the business with less-lethal options available. Officer's on-scene were able to see the males inside the business and clearly distinguish a rifle held at the side of one of the two males. Numerous phone calls were attempted at numbers for the business with no answer inside. The male with the rifle eventually left the business through the front door and orders were given. The male dropped the rifle but attempted to retreat back inside the business despite orders to remain outside. A less-lethal projectile was fired at the male who was not hit. The male complied with orders and was taken into custody. The second male inside the business was ordered out and taken into custody without incident. Investigation later revealed no crime was committed with the rifle which later was determined to be a pellet gun. All of the offices participating in this call were commended for their actions, professionalism, communication and teamwork.

**Officer Blake Beasley, Officer Sherrita Bishop, Officer Anthony Camerucci, Officer Chad Elliott, Officer Brett Iske, Officer Ralph Knight, Officer Virgil Majors, Officer Jeffrey Marsich, Officer Adam Roberts**

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, at approximately 1556 hours District 3 units responded to 22021 E Princeton Circle for what started as a civil complaint with a subject inside the residence destroying things. While responding to the call it was aired that the male subject inside was also wanted on felony warrants and listed as a high risk arrest for being armed in the past. Officer Iske and Officer Beasley arrived in the area first and contacted several occupants from the house. After a few minutes, several other occupants were able to get out of the house and speak with Officer Beasley. It was quickly determined that the subject had barricaded himself inside the upstairs bedroom. He stated he had poured a flammable liquid all over himself and the room. The subject was also believed to be armed with a handgun. Officer Beasley made phone contact with another female who was the only person left inside with the subject. The female stated she could leave the residence, but that could not be confirmed and she was not coming out. Officer A. Roberts and Officer Camerucci set up containment on the rear of the house. Officer Iske, Elliott, Knight, Bishop, and K9 Officer Marsich were set up at the front as an arrest/rescue team. Officer Majors arrived and assisted with containment and also securing the occupants who had got out of the house. The incident went on for several hours. Officer Beasley continued to make phone contact with the suspect and female inside. He did an excellent job keeping calm and speaking with them trying to gather information while SWAT was being called out. Eventually, Officer Beasley was able to talk with the female and get help in convincing the subject to come outside and give up. The subject came out a short time later and was arrested without incident. This was a volatile situation that went on for several hours and all the officers did an excellent job working as a team to come up with a tactical plan and keep the neighborhood safe.

**Agent Randy Carroll**

On July 20<sup>th</sup> through September 13<sup>th</sup> of 2016, a series of aggravated robberies were committed by an unknown suspect at two Albertson's Pharmacies located in Aurora. District 2 Detective Randy Carroll began actively working these cases and viewed surveillance videos, conducted interviews with victims and witnesses alike, prepared a suspect bulletin, and visited numerous Patrol shift briefings in an attempt to crack these cases. Additionally, Agent Carroll worked on having a tracking device strategically placed into a pill bottle so that the robber could be tracked if he were to strike again. On September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 1955 hours, the suspect committed his fourth aggravated robbery, and was unknowingly given the tracking device. After a brief standoff outside of his residence, the suspect was safely taken into custody. Agent Carroll later served a warrant on the suspect's residence, where additional evidence was located connecting him to the three previous robberies. Agent Carroll is to be commended for his hard work, perseverance, dedication and attention to detail in implementing steps in order to ensure a successful outcome with these cases. The arrest of a dangerous pattern robber is another prime example and outcome of Agent Carroll's professional work product, and reflects highly upon himself and the Aurora Police Department.

**Officer Brian Phipps**

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 1812 hours Officer Brian Phipps and Officer Virgil Majors were dispatched to a welfare check at 17886 E. Caroline Place. Officer Phipps arrived on scene and began a dialogue with the reporting party. Officer Phipps showed tremendous compassion and restraint while dealing with the reporting party. Officer Phipps was able to engage and build a rapport with the citizen when other officers could not. Officer Phipps demonstrated his exceptional ability to show compassion and dedication to the citizens of Aurora.

**Sergeant Michael Pitrusu and Officer Stephen Edwards**

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the TCF Bank at 16999 E. Quincy Avenue was robbed by a lone gunman of \$3,985.00. GPS trackers placed the vehicle traveling westbound on Quincy Avenue. The tracker began pinging in the area of area of South Parker Road and Peoria Street where Aurora Police SWAT was already conducting tactical training operations. Sergeant Michael Pitrusu and Officer Stephen Edwards along with other members of the SWAT team responded and immediately began searching for the GPS which was concealed in an unknown vehicle, as no suspect had been identified. Sergeant Pitrusu kept a moving perimeter as well as directing officers not to pursue alone behind a King Soopers, when the GPS momentarily went back behind the building. Officer Edwards was observing the area, when a lone civilian vehicle, a black Jeep Wrangler, had turned in a manner consistent with the GPS location. Unable to get a view of the driver, Edwards and Pitrusu followed the vehicle into an underground garage where the driver stopped and exited. Officer Edwards approached the Jeep in a manner later described by an FBI SWAT member on Safe Streets as "tactically perfect". Edwards then contacted the driver who was wearing business attire and not the clothing described by the bank employees. Edwards, unsure if he had a victim, witness or suspect stopped and searched the male. He escorted the male away while Sergeant Pitrusu conducted a search of the vehicle. As the driver walked away with Officer Edwards, he made a spontaneous statement "you got me", "I did it". Edwards arrested the driver who later confessed to two armed bank robberies using a loaded Glock 9mm which was later found with all the clothes worn and the money from the TCF Bank robbery. Because of the outstanding tactical response and written

documentation efforts put forth by both of the officers they were awarded a commander's commendation.

### **Sergeant Michael Douglass**

From July 18, 2016, through November 4, 2016, Sergeant Douglass inherited the responsibility to supervise and manage not only his own team of officers but Team 31 as well. During this four month period during the peak of summer and fall, Sergeant Douglass was often times the only supervisor working and as a result, he used very little leave time and as the only supervisor, he was unable to take leave when necessary to be present for his family. Sergeant Douglass displayed a positive attitude and proficiently navigated the many responsibilities of two supervisors to include: mentorship, leadership, interpersonal communication, briefing responsibilities, report approvals and management, training and vacation scheduling, and crime scene management. Sergeant Michael Douglass is hereby recognized and appreciated for his perseverance, dedication, and professionalism during this period.

### **Officer Gergerly Boros, Officer Katie Brugler, Officer Ed Clements, Sergeant James Gleason, Officer Cody Jones, Officer Jose Ortiz, Officer Ashley Rathbun, Officer Christopher Schipke, Dispatcher Kimberly Lewis, Dispatcher Paige McDowell, Dispatcher Jackie Sweeney-Rodriguez, Dispatcher Gabrielle Trollinger**

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016, between 0255 and 0329 hours, Aurora Public Safety Communications Dispatch received a series of 911 calls reporting armed robberies taking place along the 16000 blocks of E. Colfax Ave and E. 6th Ave. Three separate robberies, occurring approximately 15 minutes apart, were reported by multiple victims giving nearly identical descriptions of a suspect armed with a semi-automatic pistol. As PSCD call takers and Dispatchers obtained and broadcast minute-by-minute updates of the suspects' actions and movements, APD officers coordinated their efforts to track down and capture this career criminal while he was still actively engaged in his violent crime spree. If not for the officer's tremendous restraint and professionalism, what could have played out as a deadly-force encounter was resolved without injury. Their efforts resulted in the positive identification of the suspect, the recovery of suspects' weapon and mask, and the property taken. The actions of all involved exemplify the highest qualities of teamwork, communication skills, tactics, restraint, and performance under stress. In recognition, the Aurora Police Department Commander's Commendation was awarded to: PSCD CT Paige McDowell, PSCD CT Jackie Sweeney-Rodriguez, PSCD CT Gabrielle Trollinger, PSCD Disptacher Kimberly Lewis, Officer Gregely Boros, Officer Katie Brugler, Officer Edward Clements, Officer Michael Dobbins, Officer Cody Jones, Officer Ashley Orr, Officer Jose Ortiz, and Officer Christopher Schipke.

### **Officer Sheritta Bishop**

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 2316 hours, APD officers responded to the area of E. Iliff Ave and S. Buckley Road reference a just-occurred attempted armed robbery where the victim had been shot. Officers had been in the area approximately an hour earlier on an armed robbery involving two male suspects. Officer Bishop responded to the area and thoughtfully chose a route of travel where the suspects might be located. Officer Bishop did observe suspects matching the description of shooting suspects in the area of E. Asbury and S. Pitkin Street. Officer Bishop followed these suspects to a residence while simultaneously directing in other responding officers. At this address officers located and detained suspects. A field identification was conducted whereupon suspects were positively identified. Due to her ability to follow the suspects and maintain continuous visual surveillance, Officer Bishop was able to direct responding

officers to where evidence of these crimes had been dropped while suspects fled the crime to include a loaded Sig-Sauer handgun.

**Sergeant Tim Holt**

On January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 0215 hours a robbery was aired next to AFD Station 1. A victim had sustained injuries as a result of an assault. A suspect vehicle description was aired of a Silver Dodge Neon and at least two handguns were involved. Sgt. Holt observed the suspect vehicle on Colfax, getting on the north bound on-ramp to I225. He made a stop on the vehicle which pulled over. 4 subjects were in the vehicle and it was confirmed by officers at the scene that Sgt. Holt did in fact have the suspect vehicle. Once the suspects were properly secured, a show up confirmed that 3 of the 4 suspects had been involved in the robbery. Sgt. Holt observed a replica air gun revolver in the vehicle and blood evidence from the assault on the exterior of the vehicle. Due to his being alert to the suspect vehicle description, even though being far from the crime scene, three suspects were arrested and evidence of their crime secured.

**Officer Patrick Benda, Officer Nicholas Brungardt, Officer Joseph Duran, Officer Bridget Johnson, Officer Alfred Stenersen, Officer Jacob Tubbs, Sergeant Jake Stull, Sergeant Gregg Gallozzi**

On November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at approximately 0356 hours, officers responded to 18155 E Ohio Ave #102 on a call of a suicidal party who had locked himself in the bathroom with a knife and was also making threats that he was going to try to electrocute himself by dropping a plugged in curling iron into a bath tub was filled with water while he was lying in it. The party, identified as Miles Everett, did not live at the apartment. Upon arrival, Officers Benda and Tubbs immediately contacted the home owner, Starr Cornish, who advised that Everett was in the bathroom and that he has never lived in the apartment even though he is the father of her children. Cornish stated that when Everett came to the door, he had stuck a semi-automatic hand gun in his mouth and demanded to see the kids. Cornish stated that Everett then entered the apartment and started to damage her property, grabbed a kitchen knife and locked himself in the bathroom while making suicidal comments. Cornish stated that Everett was under the influence of alcohol. Sergeant Greg Gallozzi responded with straps to use to tie off the door to try to ensure that officers would not be injured. These straps proved to be an integral part of the call that allowed officers to maintain control of the call. Officer Tubbs and Stenersen were tasked with ensuring that the strap stayed in place so that we could control the ingress/egress into the bathroom. Officers Joe Duran and Pat Benda did an excellent job establishing communication with Everett who was initially very hostile with police, shouting his distrust of police as well as other profanities, and were able to keep Everett talking which eventually de-escalated the contact and led to a peaceful conclusion for this call. Officers Benda and Duran were an essential element in allowing Everett to vent and build trust that APD personnel. Officer Brungardt was tasked with collecting statements and consent to search forms from Cornish and seizing the fire arm that Everett had when he responded to the apartment. Officer B. Johnson was tasked with getting more resources to the scene in case the situation escalated. Everett was taken into custody without further incident for the following charges: Possession of Weapon by a Previous Offender, 1st Degree Criminal Trespass, and Criminal Mischief. All officers on this call worked together as a cohesive unit in order to gain this peaceful resolution to this two hour standoff with an armed and barricaded suicidal party. The professionalism and patience that were demonstrated by all officers involved was a true demonstration of the superior training and professionalism of the Aurora Police Department.

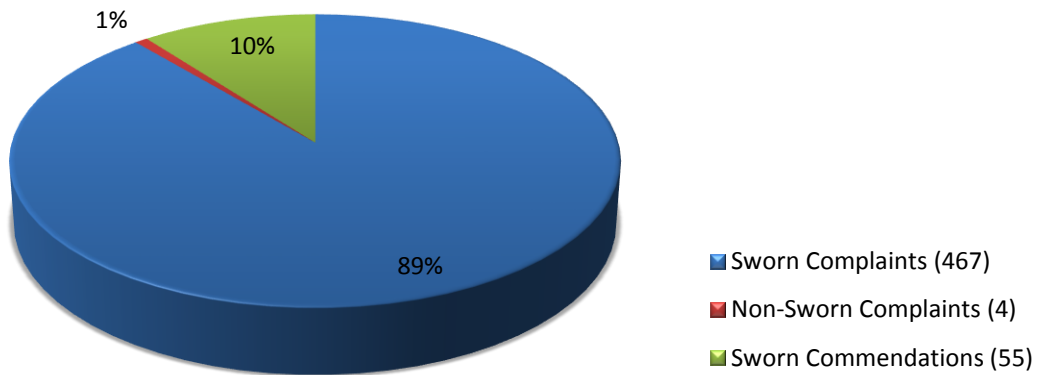
## *Automated Complaint and Commendation Report*

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 2016, there were 471 complaints received online or entered by a Police Department member that involved 467 sworn members and four non-sworn members.

Additionally, 55 commendations were received for sworn officers. There were zero commendations submitted for non-sworn members of the Department.

### **2016 Automated Complaints and Commendations**

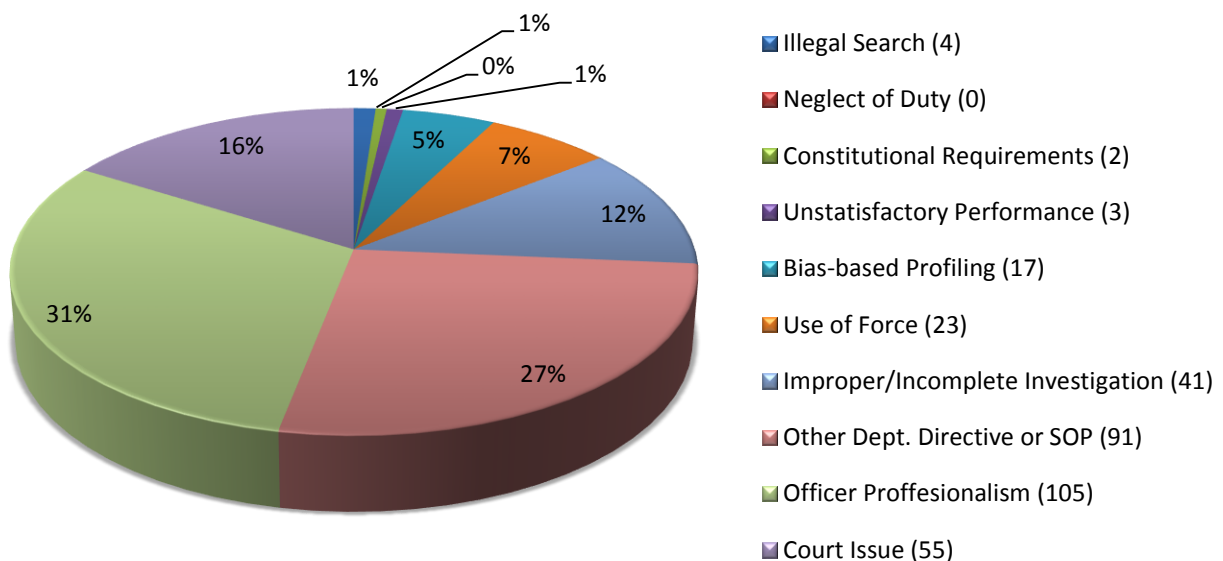


## Automated Complaints by Type

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

The system categorizes the complaints received during 2016, as follows: Four alleging an illegal search. Zero reported neglect of duty, 55 reported violations of court issues or missed court, two reported violations of Constitutional rights, three allegations of unsatisfactory performance, seventeen allegations of racial profiling, 23 reports of excessive use of force, 41 complaints of improper or incomplete investigations, 91 for other directives or SOPs not captured under the other types and 105 complaints of rudeness or professionalism issues.

### Complaints by Event Type

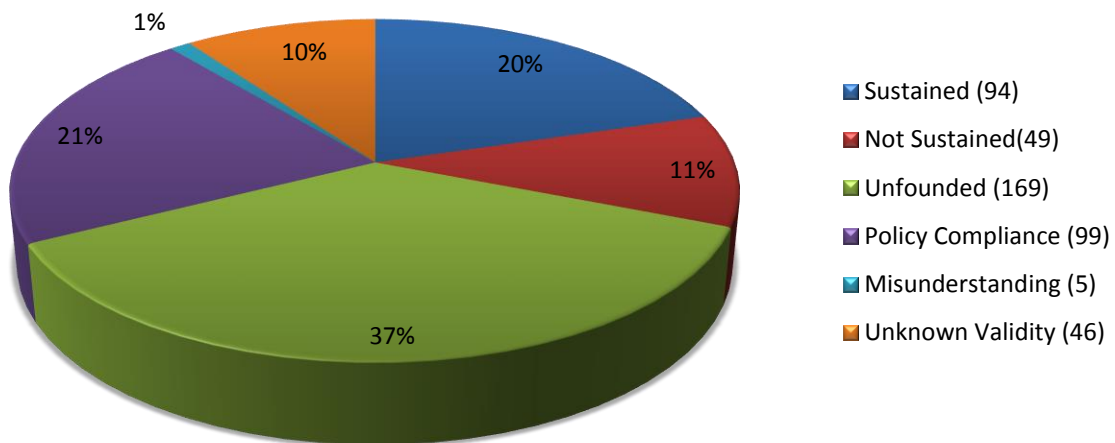


## *Automated Complaints by Validity*

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 94 were sustained, 49 not sustained, 169 unfounded, 99 within policy, five misunderstandings, and 46 unknown due to unresponsive complainants.

### Complaints by Validity



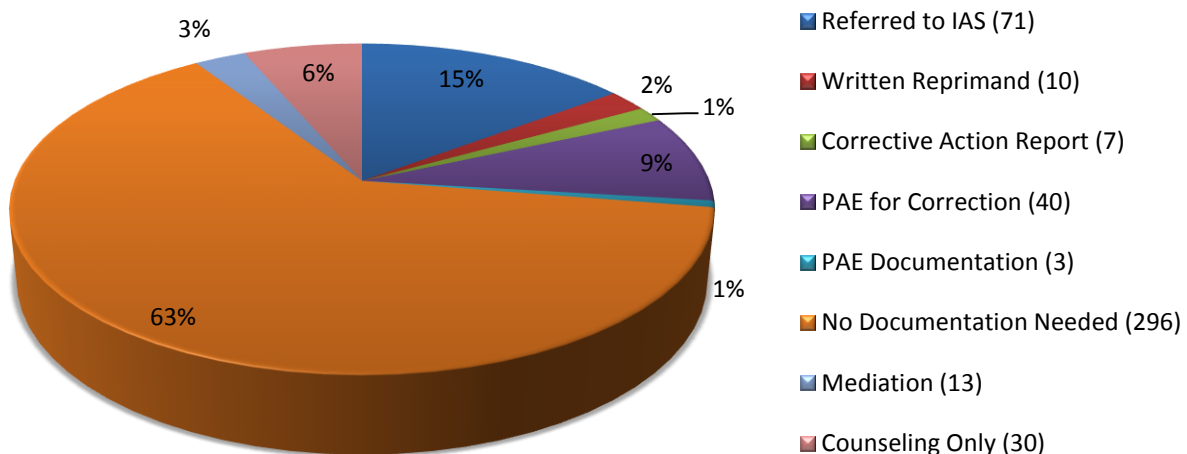


## Automated Complaints, Results

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 71 members. The Department issued 10 Written Reprimands for violations of Department Directives. A Written Reprimand is permanent discipline that may remain in the officer’s file for his/her entire career. The Department issued seven 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 concerns, measures taken to correct behavior, and potential consequences if the officer repeats the behavior. Supervisors issued 40 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 30 occasions the supervisors verbally counseled the officers. Thirteen complaints were referred to mediation. The supervisors completed three Performance Appraisal Entry reports that were to document the investigation only (nothing negative toward the officer). The Department concluded in 296 of the complaints that the complaint was not valid and that no documentation was needed.

### Automated Complainants - Results

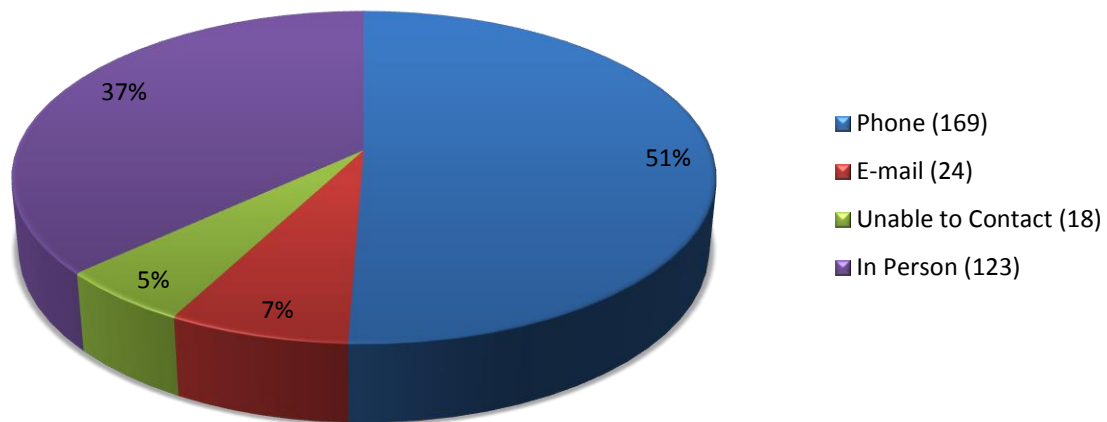


## *Automated Complaints, Follow Up Contact Method*

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 169 of the cases. The supervisors used e-mail 24 times. In 18 cases, the supervisor could not contact the complainant (anonymous complaint or attempted but unable to contact). The supervisor met the complainant in person 123 times.

### **Automated Complaints Follow Up Contact Method**

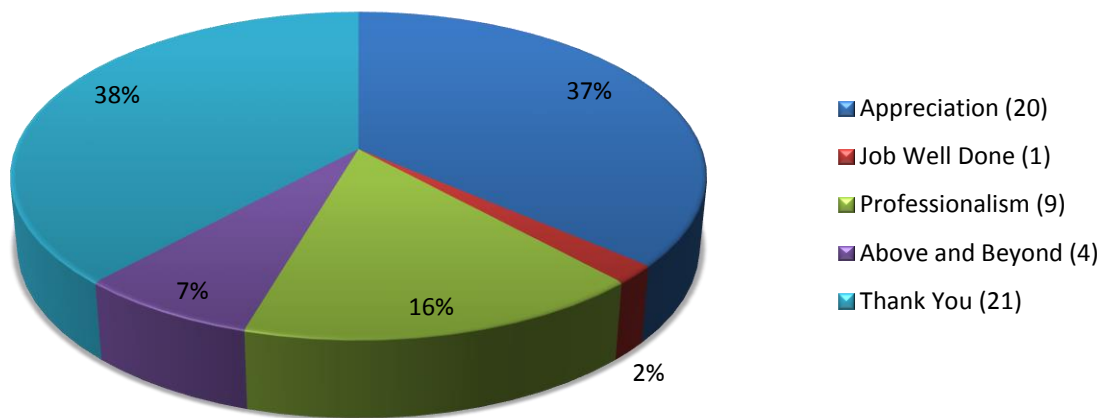


## *Automated Commendations by Type*

The system categorized the 55 commendations received during 2016 as follows:

20 citizen submissions expressed appreciation for the officer. One other reported a job well done. Nine submissions stated the officer was professional. Four reported the officer went above and beyond expectations and 21 expressed a thank you.

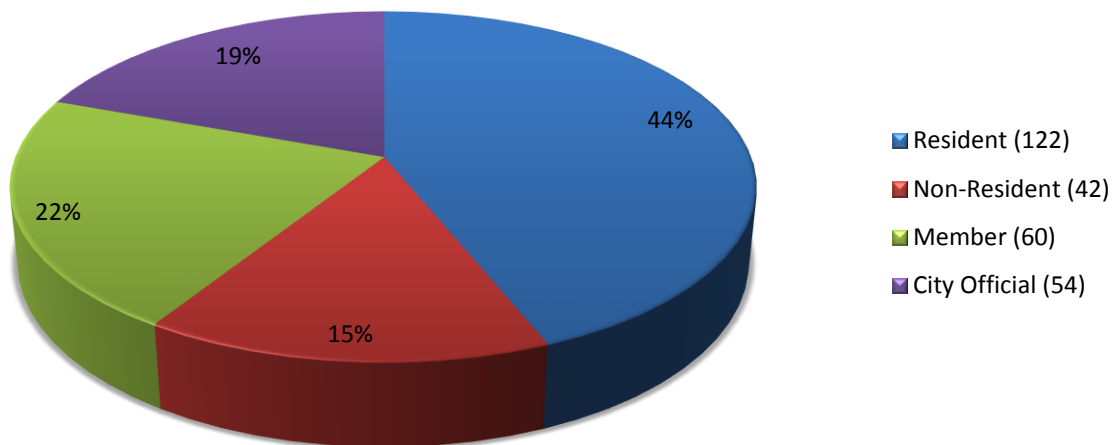
### **Automated Commendations by Type**



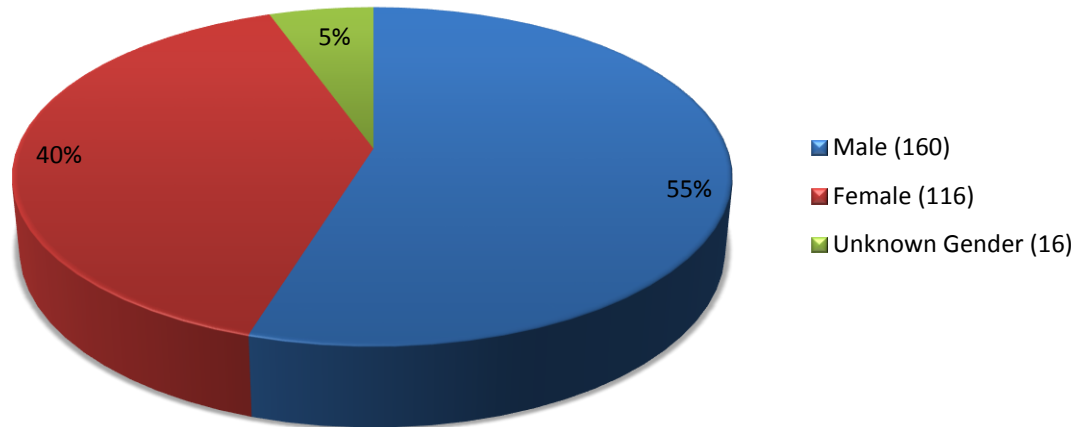
## *Automated Complaint and Commendation System, Miscellaneous Information on People Reporting*

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. 122 of the people submitting a complaint or commendation indicated they were a citizen of Aurora. 42 indicated they were a non-resident. 60 said they were an employee member of the Department, and 54 indicated they were a government official.

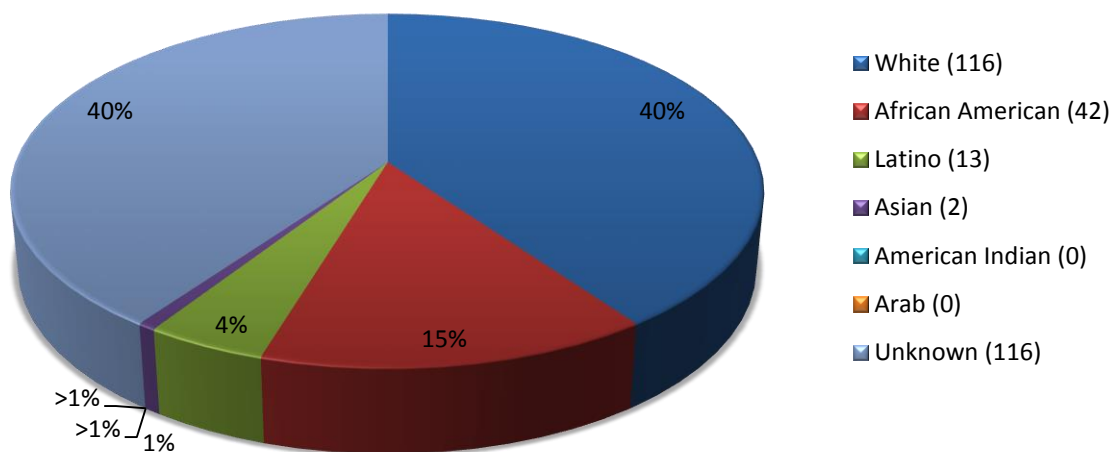
### **Type of People Submitting Commendation and Complaints**



## Gender of People Submitting Commendations and Complaints



## Reported Ethnicity of People Submitting Commendations and Complaints



## *District and Bureau Discipline Report*

During 2016, the Department completed and finalized 17 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 2016.

Chief Metz and the Aurora Police Department recognize 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 17 cases as follows: Two cases involved members not following Department policies for vehicle operations and/or the Department's emergency response policy. One case involved issues of professional conduct. One case involved department equipment. Three case involved the handling of evidence and/or property. Two cases involved lawful orders or obedience to orders. Two involved court issues. One case involved neglect of duty. Three cases involved unsatisfactory performance. Two cases involved unintentional discharge of a less lethal weapon.

The 17 District/Bureau written reprimands involved 17 members and were issued to 14 officers, one lieutenant, and two sergeants.

These matters that resulted in written reprimands are summarized with more detail below.

- 1) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.1 Obedience to Orders, Directives, and Laws.

This member violated an order given by the Chief of Police regarding communication with another city employee.

- 2) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.6.5 Use of Departmental Equipment.

This Officer ended his patrol shift and realized he was no longer in possession of his wallet which contained his department issued identification card.

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

The Officer conducted a traffic stop which resulted in an arrest of the driver of the vehicle. The Officer also issued a summons to the passenger for possession of drug paraphernalia (a syringe). During transport to the jail for the driver, the Officer heard something fall off the roof of his patrol vehicle but he did not stop to investigate. The Officer later learned that the syringe from the passenger and the arrestee's cell phone which he had placed on the roof his patrol vehicle, had fallen off his car during transport. The Officer returned to the scene and located the phone but not the syringe.

- 4) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.5 Neglect of Duty and 14.3.2.

- 5) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 8.3.4 Missed Duty Assignment - Court.

The Officer missed a scheduled DOR hearing. This was the Officer's third violation.

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

This Officer made an arrest on a DUI and placed the arrestee's cell phone on the back of his patrol car and forgot to retrieve it before transporting the arrestee to Detox. The cell phone was never found.

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

This Officer arrested a driver for a traffic violation. The Officer had placed the arrestee's cell phone and the wallet on the hood of his patrol vehicle and failed to retrieve it before transport. The cell phone was located later in the middle of the road however the wallet was never located.

- 8) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.1.1 Lawful Order.

An APA email was sent out to FOP members regarding invoicing members for current and past balances for the APA's fair share portion for contract negotiations. This member was the only FOP board member available and received an overwhelming amount of calls, texts, and emails from angry FOP members. This member contacted a division chief requesting to respond to the email from the APA and was directed to send a generic message asking members to check their private email accounts. This member instead sent a department wide email against what he had been directed to do.

- 9) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 8.14 Overtime Compensation, 8.14.1 Compensatory Time, and 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance.

Member failed to monitor a sergeant's Telestaff and allowed for the sergeant to accrue overtime and compensatory time on their days off.



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

While at the training academy this member failed numerous tests.

- 11) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 8.10.4 Supplemental Reports, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 16.4.3 Body-Worn Camera Operation.

While working a regular patrol shift as a single officer unit, this member conducted follow-up on a shooting case after being contacted by a subject on the shooting. This Officer made the decision to meet the subject without a cover officer and transported the subject for an interview. The Officer never activated his body-worn camera during the interaction or interview. The officer transported the subject back to the original meeting location and ended his shift that day and then went on vacation for several days without writing a supplemental report until he returned to work.

- 12) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 5.8.15 Unintentional/Negligent Discharge of a Less Lethal Weapon.

This officer unintentionally discharge his department issued Taser in the men's locker room of District 3.

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

Member was at the fuel pumps at the central shops. As he started to drive away he turned around to check that his back door wasn't opened and collided with the yellow painted barriers.

- 14) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 8.3.4 Members Appearing Late or Failure to Appear.

This Officer failed to appear for municipal court for the second time in a year.

- 15) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.2 Emergency Response and Vehicle Pursuits, 4.2.2 Adherence to Law during Emergency Response, and 4.2.3 Requirements and Restrictions of Emergency Responses.

Upon seeing a vehicle operating without headlamps, this Officer activated his lights and siren and proceeded through an intersection on a red signal light. The Officer entered so quickly that he did not observe a vehicle traveling westbound or give the westbound driver sufficient time to yield right of way thus causing a collision with your unmarked patrol vehicle. This was a preventable accident.

- 16) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 5.8.15 Unintentional/Negligent Discharge of a Less Lethal Weapon.

This officer unintentionally discharge his department issued Taser in the men's locker room of District 3.

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

## *Formal Internal Investigations and Discipline Report*

During 2016, the Department completed and finalized 46 formal internal investigations. The following is a summary of the cases resolved in 2016.

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 46 formal Internal Affairs investigations in 2016 involving 71 department members. These members consisted of two civilians, 56 officers, nine sergeants, two lieutenants, and two captains. The discipline included 18 suspensions without pay, 11 written reprimands, and three corrective actions. Five members resigned or retired before discipline was issued. The Department cleared 32 members of any wrongdoing; either by findings of compliance, exoneration, or they were not sustained.

- 1) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 8.3 Court, 14.1.7 Conduct Involving Moral Turpitude, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration, APM Policy 4-1 Employee Conduct, and APM Policy 4-2 Disciplinary Action. The member was not sustained on any directive or policy violations.

The member was arrested for a DUI in 2012 and had his driver's license revoked. Following his arrest, he worked various positions with APD that did not require that he have a license. In 2014, this member was re-assigned to patrol and questions arose about his performance. A decision was made to send the member through an FTO program again where he demonstrated several deficiencies in his performance.

- 2) 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, 5.1.6 Shooting at or from a Moving Vehicle, 5.5.15 Ammunition, 5.5.16 Weapon Inspection and Registration, 7.3.2 Firearms Qualification, 7.3.4 Semi-Automatic Weapons Training, 14.5.8 Critical Incident Drug/Alcohol Testing, and 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance. The member was sustained on department directives 5.1.2, 5.1.6, and 14.3.1. The member received a 180-hour suspension.

Following a traffic stop in Aurora where the suspect fled, several members of APD to include this member followed the suspect into Denver. Once the vehicle came to a stop in Denver, this member exited his vehicle and approached the suspect vehicle on foot. He stood at the driver's window and banged on the window giving the driver/suspect commands to exit the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle drove forward and fearing for his life the officer fired shots at the vehicle as it drove away.

- 3) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 8.10.3 General Offense Reports, 14.1.1 Lawful Orders, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, 14.3.2 Conduct towards Superior and Subordinate Officers and Associates, 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration, and 17.5.4 Police Radio Procedures. The member was sustained on 14.3.1, 14.3.2, and 17.5.4 and received a written reprimand.

This member took a call for service which had been pending in the queue for approximately 1 ½ hours. This member and a sergeant had an exchange about the call over a TAC channel and the officers comments were said to be disrespectful towards the sergeant. A report was submitted by the member into MRE but was later rejected and sent back for corrections. The report was said to be unprofessional in nature and contained opinions by the officer.

- 4) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.1.6 Conformance to Directives, 14.1.7 Conduct Involving Moral Turpitude, and 14.3.5 Neglect of Duty. The member resigned prior to any discipline.

While assigned to D3 patrol as a supervisor on day shift, this member was identified as not being available for calls for service. An initial inquiry was conducted without the member's knowledge which was subsequently sent to IAB for further investigation. While looking into the matter, the member found out about the possible investigation being conducted and spoke with his lieutenant about his performance. The member then suddenly put in his paperwork resigning from the department.

- 5) The Department investigated sworn members involved in a shooting. This is standard practice in any officer-involved shooting. Directives reviewed for compliance were 4.2.8 Authorized Use of Police Pursuits, 4.2.9 Pursuit Guidelines, 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, 14.5.8 Critical Incident Drug/Alcohol Testing. All members were found in compliance.

Following a robbery at a store in north Aurora, officers responded to the area and located a sedan possibly involved. Officers attempted a traffic stop but the driver fled. Once the pursuit ended, all three officers gave orders to the occupants of the sedan. The passenger of the vehicle jumped out of the window of the vehicle and was holding a gun in his hand. As he climbed over a fence to flee, he turned toward the officers and raised his gun in their direction. All three officers fired their weapons at the passenger.

- 6) 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 160-hour suspension.

This officer was arrested by an outside agency.

- 7) The Department investigated sworn members 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, 14.5.8 Critical Incident Drug/Alcohol Testing. All members were found in compliance.

An officer located a stolen vehicle, which had eluded officers on several occasions, in the parking lot of a 7-11 in north Aurora. Several officers responded to the area and entered the parking lot positioning their patrol cars around the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle began violently maneuvering his vehicle back and forth several times hitting a patrol vehicle behind him and the front of 7-11. The driver then put his vehicle in reverse toward one of the officers who was on foot behind the suspect vehicle. Two officers opened fire on the suspect who was struck six times and died from his wounds.

- 8) 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, 14.5.8 Critical Incident Drug/Alcohol Testing. The member was found to be in compliance with all directives.

Member responded to a report of a male party repeatedly stabbing a female victim in the street. He shot the party in order to stop the suspect from stabbing the victim.

- 9) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 5.8.15 Unintentional Discharge of a Less Lethal Weapon. The member received a 10-hour suspension.

During the course of an investigation, this member unintentionally discharged one bean bag round from the less lethal shotgun.

- 10) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.1.1 Lawful Order. The member was not sustained.

It was alleged that this member discussed an active IAB investigation with another member who was also witness on the case.

- 11) The Department investigated a sworn member involved in a shooting. This is standard practice in any officer-involved shooting. Directive reviewed was 5.1.7 Unauthorized Firing of a Weapon Situations. The member was sustained and received a 20-hour suspension.

Member was attempting to apprehend a motor vehicle suspect. He had his gun in his hand and he stumbled in the snow and unintentionally fired his weapon, striking the suspect in the abdomen.

- 12) The Department investigated sworn members involved in a shooting. This is standard practice in any officer-involved shooting. Directives reviewed for compliance were 4.2 Emergency Response and Police Vehicle Pursuits, 5.1.2 Authorized Use of Deadly or Potentially Deadly Force, 5.1.6 Shooting at or from a Moving Vehicle, 5.5.15 Ammunition, 5.5.16 Weapon Inspection and Registration, 7.3.2 Firearms Qualification, 14.5.8 Critical Incident Drug/Alcohol Testing. All members were found in compliance.

An officer contacted a disabled vehicle on the off ramp of I225 and when he was returning to his marked patrol car to arrange for a tow, one of the occupants of the disabled vehicle approached the officer from behind and struck him in the head with a large knife. The suspect then got in the officer's marked patrol car and attempted to run the officer over. The officer fired multiple rounds from his handgun before the suspect fled in the patrol vehicle. The injured officer gave several brief radio transmissions altering other officers of the situation. Another officer and a sergeant quickly located the stolen police vehicle and used a PIT maneuver to forcibly stop the vehicle. The suspect jumped out of the patrol car and pointed what was believed to be a handgun towards the officer and sergeant who then opened fire on the suspect who later died at the scene.

- 13) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.1.7 Conduct Involving Moral Turpitude, 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility, and 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration. The member was sustained on 14.3 and received a written reprimand.

While in uniform, on-duty, and driving a marked patrol car, member was involved in a verbal altercation with another officer and a court clerk.

- 14) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.3.2 Conduct towards Superior and Subordinate Officers and Associates. The member received a 20-hour suspension.

During briefing, this officer pulled a chair out from underneath another officer who fell and struck her head which resulted in a concussion.

- 15) The Department sustained a civilian member for violating Department Directive 4.3.2 Conduct towards Superior and Subordinate Officers and Associates. The member retired from the department before discipline was imposed.

While at the scene of a bank robbery, member had a poor attitude and made inappropriate comments to members of the Safe Streets Task Force.

- 16) The Department investigated sworn members for violating Department Directives 14.2.9 Constitutional Requirements and 5.3.1 Use of Physical Force. Members were not sustained.

Members responded to a residence on a welfare check and requested to search the residence. After consent was given the officers began to search the house and one civilian in the house became upset and asked the officers to leave. The civilian was placed in handcuffs and moved to the kitchen before eventually being transported for violating a protection order.

- 17) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility. Member received a 20-hour suspension.

Member kicked a security door while at court causing minor damage to it.

- 18) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 8.9.2 Responsibility for Handling or Depositing Evidence and Other Property. Member received a written reprimand.

Member took a male party into custody and misplaced his wallet which contained an estimated sum of \$740.00. Member believed the wallet may have been placed on top of the patrol car and it got lost when she drove away.

- 19) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.1.7 Conduct Involving Moral Turpitude. Member received a 40-hour suspension.

Member signed in another member for training who was not actually in attendance for the course.

- 20) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.1.3 Vehicle Operation. Member received a 30-hour suspension.

Member was travelling on Smoky Hill Road when a signal light turned red prior to him entering the intersection which triggered the photo red light camera. This was the member's fourth red signal violation in two years.

- 21) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance and APM 3-27 Employee Medical Leave. Member received a written reprimand.

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

- 22) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 5.1.1 Firearms Safety Rules and 5.1.3 Other Unauthorized Firing of a Weapon. Member received a 40-hour suspension.

This member hung his duty weapon from the clothes hook in the restroom and a round was unintentionally discharged causing damage to the ceiling.

- 23) The Department sustained sworn members for violating Department Directives 5.4.2 Incidents that Require Notification and Reporting, 5.3.1 Use of Force, and 14.2.9 Constitutional Requirements. One member received a written reprimand and one member received a 20-hour suspension.

This officer responded to a civil dispute where he attempted to remove a box cutter from one of the parties involved and when the party refused, the officer conducted a takedown of her. The supervisor on scene failed to report the use of force.

- 24) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.1.1 Lawful Orders. The member retired prior to discipline.

This member violated one or more of the mandated stipulations placed upon her pertaining to her on-going fitness for duty examination.



- 25) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 8.9.3 Depositing Evidence and Other Property. Member received a 10-hour suspension.

This officer responded to a call for service where a citizen found a drone in her backyard. The officer took possession of the drone, which was damaged, and put it in the trash compactor instead of into property.

- 26) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 6.11.2 Responsibility for Preliminary Investigations, 8.9.3 Depositing Evidence and Other Property, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 6.6.9 Detainee's Property. Member resigned prior to discipline.

This officer took a female shoplifter into custody where he located several hypodermic needles on her person. The officer disposed of the needles in the trash can at the jail and refused to assist detention officers with a strip search.

- 27) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 6.11.13 Collection, Preservation, and Use of Physical Evidence, 8.9.3 Depositing Evidence and Other Property, 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration. Member retired prior to discipline.

This officer submitted late reports for approval, improperly collected, stored, and processed criminal evidence and personal property, did not maintain proper chain of custody for criminal evidence, and incorrectly stated information in official police reports.

- 28) The Department investigated sworn members for violating Department Directives 7.3.2 Firearms Qualification, 8.1.6 Uniform and Equipment Regulation, 8.2.5 Records Management Reconciliation, 14.1.7 Conduct Involving Moral Turpitude, 14.3.5 Neglect of Duty, and 14.5.4 Alcohol Impairment. One member was sustained on 8.2.5 and received a corrective action. All other members were not sustained or the allegations were unfounded.

These officers and a sergeant were investigated for several allegations directed at how the unit was being ran.

- 29) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance and 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration. Member was sustained on 14.3.1 and received a 40-hour suspension.

This member made statements to his supervisor implying he had attended a personnel meeting with a subordinate which he did not attend.

- 30) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 8.9.3 Depositing Evidence and Other and 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance. Member received a 10-hour suspension.

This officer failed to properly log evidence into the Property and Evidence unit.

- 31) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 4.6.2 Issuing and Maintenance of Portable Radios. Member received a written reprimand.

This officer lost his portable radio after attending training at the academy.

- 32) The Department investigated sworn members for violating Department Directives 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility, 14.3.8 Police-Community Relations, and 17.2.2 Unauthorized Use of CAD and MDC Systems. Both members were sustained on 14.3 and 17.2.2. Both members received a written reprimand.

These members made inappropriate comments over the MDC.

- 33) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 6.11.2 Responsibility for Preliminary Investigations, and 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance. Member resigned prior to discipline.

This officer failed to complete a sufficient preliminary investigation.

- 34) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 6.6.9 Detainee's Property. The member received a corrective action.

This officer failed to place prescription pills from a prisoner into police property.

- 35) The Department investigated sworn members for violating Department Directives 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance, and 14.3.8 Police-Community Relations. Both members were sustained on 14.3.8 and received a 10-hour suspension.

These members interacted with staff at Arapahoe House during an attempt to locate a missing person and misunderstood laws pertaining to patient confidentiality and were rude to the staff and created a disruptive environment for the patients.

- 36) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.5.2 Controlled Substances. The member received a corrective action.

This member ingested two prescribed controlled substances while on duty and had not completed a Prescribed Controlled Substance Notification Checklist.

- 37) The Department investigated sworn members for violating Department Directive 14.3 Professional Conduct and Responsibility. The members were not sustained.

These members were seen in uniform at a local restaurant with their significant others and it was alleged that they were acting inappropriately throughout the course of their meal.

- 38) The Department investigated sworn members for violating Department Directives 4.2.8 Authorized Use of Police Pursuits, 4.2.9 Pursuit Guidelines, and 14.1.1 Lawful Orders. The members were not sustained.

Officers engaged in a police pursuit without justification and failed to obey a lawful order given by a supervisory officer.

- 39) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 5.8.15 Unintentional/Negligent Discharge of a Less Lethal Weapon. The member received a 10-hour suspension.

This officer unintentionally discharged a round from the less lethal shotgun.

- 40) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 5.3.1 Use of Physical Force, 5.8.7 O.C. Spray, and 14.2.9 Constitutional Requirements. The member was not sustained.

This officer allegedly unlawfully detained a subject and used physical force as well as deployed OC spray to arrest the subject.

- 41) The Department investigated sworn members for violating Department Directives 5.3 Use of Force, 14.2.9 Constitutional Requirements, and 14.3.8 Police-Community Relations. Both members were sustained on 14.3.8 and received written reprimands.

Both officers were discourteous in their contact with a subject and physical force was used to take the subject into custody.

- 42) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directives 6.11.2 Responsibility for Preliminary Investigations, 6.11.13 Collection, Preservation, and Use of Physical Evidence, and 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration. The member was sustained on 6.11.2 and 6.11.13 and received a 20-hour suspension.

This officer investigated a fight between two students at a high school. During the investigation, he became aware of a video recording of the fight but the video was never collected.

- 43) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.2.9 Constitutional Requirements. The member received a 40-hour suspension.

This officer unlawfully seized and transported a citizen to the jail without probable cause for a custodial arrest.

- 44) The Department sustained a sworn member for violating Department Directives 14.1.1 Lawful Orders and 14.3.3 Making a False or Untruthful Declaration. The member retired prior to discipline.

This member had a urine analysis test which resulted in a positive result for ethyl alcohol.

- 45) The Department investigated a civilian member for violating Department Directives 14.1.1 Lawful Orders and 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance. The member was sustained on 14.1.1 and received a written reprimand.

This member failed to obey a lawful order given by her supervisor.

- 46) The Department investigated a sworn member for violating Department Directive 14.3.1 Unsatisfactory Performance. The member was not sustained.

This officer did not maintain sufficient competency to properly perform his assigned responsibilities.