

AWARDS HONORING EXCELLENCE

Chatham County Police Department



Chatham County Police Department officers and employees are always held to the highest standard of our profession. But, there are extraordinary circumstances where the actions of our officers and civilian personnel deserve special recognition by our department and community.

The recipients of these awards were nominated by their department supervisors and peers, and selected by a Chatham County Police Department awards committee. These awards honor Chatham County Police Department officers and civilian employees who displayed outstanding heroism, compassion, and professionalism from August 1, 2019, through September 1, 2021.

We congratulate each of our award winners. We are proud of your service to the Chatham County Police Department and to the members of our community.

Life-Saving Medal

Officer Tyler Thorne



On March 1, 2021, Officer Tyler Thorne was dispatched to a call regarding a woman who was unconscious, unresponsive, and not breathing.

Officer Thorne was the first emergency responder on the scene, and immediately began CPR with the assistance of a witness on the scene. While Officer Thorne was administering chest compressions to the victim, she regained her pulse. She was still unconscious when EMS arrived, but was revived when paramedics administered NARCAN. Without Officer Thorne's quick actions, the victim may not have survived the incident.

For his heroic and life-saving actions, Officer Tyler Thorne was presented with the Chatham County Police Department Life-Saving Medal.

Life-Saving Medal

Corporal Bradley McClellan and Officer Brandon Walker



On August 21, 2021, Officer Brandon Walker responded to an EMS hot call. Initial reports from the caller indicated that an unconscious victim had fallen and hit his head. Upon arrival, Officer Walker found the victim lying in a pool of blood, not breathing and unresponsive.

Officer Walker moved the victim so he would be on a flat surface, and quickly realized the victim had a significant wound to his neck that was causing major blood loss, and that the wound was the result of a gunshot. Officer Walker relayed this information to dispatch, and Corporal McClellan responded to assist.

Corporal McClellan and Officer Walker began CPR, and the victim's chest began to rise and fall as he began to breathe on his own. The quick thinking and response of Officer Walker and Corporal McClellan saved this victim who was in grave danger from his injuries.

Once EMS arrived and the victim was transported, Corporal McClellan also assisted in locating and detaining the suspect in the incident.

For these heroic efforts, Corporal Bradley McClellan and Officer Brandon Walker were presented with the Chatham County Police Department Life-Saving Medal.

Medal of Distinction

Corporal Michael Day, Corporal Robert Edwards,
Corporal Lorin Young, Officer Danielle Pimental



On October 6, 2020, officers responded to a call about a man who was firing a gun near the intersection of Johnny Mercer Blvd., and Whitemarsh Island Drive. In addition to firing shots at the vehicles at the intersection, he had reportedly moved into a small shopping center area where he continued to fire his weapon.

Both patrol units and plain clothes detectives from the Criminal Investigations Division, who were in their office at the nearby precinct, bravely rushed to the scene without hesitation -- despite knowing the suspect was actively firing his weapon. The officers were able to approach the suspect and take him into custody within minutes of being alerted to the incident – and without anyone being injured.

For this act of selfless bravery and quick-thinking police work, the Chatham County Police Department Medal of Distinction was awarded to Corporal Robert Edwards, Corporal Lorin Young, Corporal Michael Day, and Officer Danielle Pimental.

Commendation Letter

Officer Erica McDade



On March 24, 2021, Detective Erica McDade responded as the lead investigator on a shooting case. During her investigation, Detective McDade's excellent and comprehensive work led to the discovery of trafficking amounts of drugs and a large sum of cash that could be tied back to the suspect.

This evidence was then turned over to the Savannah-Chatham Counter Narcotics Team for further investigation. Detective McDade did an outstanding job of gathering evidence that led to important investigative information that helped uncover crimes beyond the original shooting.

For her exemplary work, Detective McDade was honored with a Letter of Commendation.

Commendation Letter

Lieutenant William Sharpley and Corporal Parker Spivey



On August 24, 2020, Lieutenant William Sharpley and Corporal Parker Spivey responded to a call regarding a runaway teenager who suffered from a number of conditions, including Autism.

While searching the area, Corporal Spivey spotted a child run across a roadway. Even though the child did not match the initial description of the missing person, Corporal Spivey followed the child on foot until he disappeared into a wooded area. The child was located by Corporal Spivey a few minutes later laying in the marsh. While Corporal Spivey was able to calm the child, he and several other officers on the scene were unable to coax the child out of the marsh.

Lieutenant William Sharpley began a conversation with the child, and offered him his uniform shirt as a way to build a rapport with the child. After several more minutes of

talking, the child put on the uniform shirt and walked peacefully out of the marsh to officers and family members.

For their exemplary work, Lieutenant William Sharpley and Corporal Parker Spivey were each honored with a Letter of Commendation.

Commendation Letter

Corporal Jadon Whipple and Officer Marian Lemmons



On June 28, 2020, Corporal Jadon Whipple was dispatched to a call of a reported child molestation. Corporal Whipple's careful evidence collection and fingerprint processing allowed for a suspect to be quickly identified. The case was then assigned to Officer Marian Lemmons in the Criminal Investigations Division.

Detective Lemmons conducted a thorough investigation, and presented testimony to the Grand Jury that led to the indictment of the suspect. Detective Lemmon's testimony was described by an assistant district attorney on the case as "clear, concise, prepared and persuasive". The assistant district attorney went on to say that it was the best Grand Jury testimony he had witnessed during his time in office. The work by Corporal Whipple and Officer Lemmons resulted in a suspect being taken off the streets, and prevented further victimization.

For their exemplary work, Corporal Jadon Whipple and Officer Marian Lemmons were each honored with a Letter of Commendation.