Superintendent Honors Outstanding CPD Officers at Monthly Departmental Commendation Ceremony

CHICAGO – Superintendent Garry F. McCarthy presented awards today to outstanding officers at the Superintendent’s Monthly Departmental Commendation Ceremony. The event serves to recognize officers who have distinguished themselves and the Chicago Police Department by their exemplary bravery and praiseworthy deeds.

The event was held at Chicago Public Safety Headquarters, 3510 S. Michigan Avenue. Among the 333 awardees honored at this month’s ceremony were:

A Department Commendation was presented to Sergeant Jose M. Tirado, and Officers Sherod T Dent, and Christopher Maraffino.

Officers detailed to the Central Investigation Division were assigned to conduct a follow-up investigation regarding a fatal shooting. The victim of the shooting gave a dying declaration naming the offender who shot him. As a result of the declaration, an investigative alert was generated with probable cause to arrest the named offender. The officers were able to overcome the limitations of non-cooperative family members by gaining the trust of individuals aware of the offender’s location.

Officers learned the offender was en route to Arkansas and was known to always have several loaded weapons with him. Through use of various investigative techniques, The Officers were able to identify the offender’s rental vehicle and track his out-of-state location. Armed with this knowledge, the Officers obtained a warrant for the offender and coordinated with local law enforcement agencies to assist in his apprehension. By sharing photos, rental vehicle information, and the wanted subject’s possible mental state, the offender was located and placed into custody without incident. At the time of arrest the offender was in possession of two loaded weapons, a rifle, and a revolver. The offender was subsequently extradited back to Chicago and charged with First Degree Murder.

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A Lifesaving Award was presented to Officers Joel A. Lopez, and Jose A. Reynoso.

Harrison (011th) District Officers, while on a transportation assignment, pulled next to a vehicle and noticed the passengers were in a state of panic. Officers discovered a 10-month-old baby was choking inside the vehicle, and requested an ambulance. While waiting for the ambulance to arrive, the officers instructed the baby’s mother to hold the child face-down. The officers then performed infant CPR using an open palm on the child’s back. Moments later, the child became responsive and expelled an object that had caused the airway obstruction. The child was taken to Mt Sinai Hospital for treatment and was listed in good condition.

A Department Commendation was presented to Sergeant John M. Cannon and Police Officer Todd Mueller

Gang Enforcement Division Officers executing a search warrant in the Englewood (07th) District pursuant to an ongoing investigation, made forced entry into a single-family residence and began a tactical room by room search. During this time, Officers encountered a male subject now and a female companion in a bedroom. Next, the male subject, who was armed with a handgun, pointed it at an Officer. Officers detected the threat and decided that drawing their weapons and engaging in gunfire in the confined space might jeopardize the life of the female subject. Therefore, Officers sprung onto the male subject and used improvised control tactics to disarm the assailant.

Officers secured the male offender and recovered the loaded handgun. Further investigation lead to the discovery of a large quantity of narcotics. The offender was arrested and charges accordingly.

This Department Commendation is presented to Detectives Lorenzo J. Sandoval, James A. Scannell, Neil J. Evans, Curtis Thomas, William Galvan Jr., and Carolyn M. Okon

Area Central Detectives were investigating an incident involving an 88-year-old male victim was battered and robbed by two male assailants while waiting for a bus. The victim later died as a result of traumatic head injuries sustained during the incident.

Detectives worked doggedly and were able to retrieve a surveillance video of the incident. Armed with video evidence and additional information gleaned from the investigation, Detectives were able to identify one of the subjects. This subject was located and arrested and through skillful interrogation, the detectives were able to extract a nickname of the second offender. Further investigation, including the use of photo arrays, resulted in positive identification of the second offender, who was arrested shortly thereafter.

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