



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION SECTION

Congratulations to the Recipients of Department Awards for
the Week of 08 APR 2021.

	Rank	Last Name	First	Star#	Unit	Award
1.	Commander	Papaioannou	Chris	260	019	Life Saving Award
2.	Sergeant	Heger	Richard	1783	019	Life Saving Award*
3.	Sergeant	Levine	Aaron	2306	019	Life Saving Award*
4.	Sergeant	Slater	Jason	939	019	Life Saving Award
5.	Field Training Officer	Reppas	John	4279	019	Life Saving Award
6.	Explosives Technician I	Curry	Michael	6915	442	Life Saving Award
7.	Police Officer	Garza	Alex	16843	019	Life Saving Award
8.	Police Officer	Roman	Joel	16884	019	Life Saving Award
9.	Police Officer	Gill	Matthew	9812	019	Life Saving Award*
10.	Police Officer	Johnson	Nicholas	17653	019	Life Saving Award*
11.	Police Officer	Peci	Endri	10452	019	Life Saving Award
12.	Police Officer	Ahmeti	Faton	7790	019	Life Saving Award
13.	Police Officer	Biradar	Javed	9550	019	Life Saving Award
14.	Police Officer	Cooney	Farrah	19881	019	Life Saving Award
15.	Police Officer	Giovenco	Eric	5332	015	Life Saving Award
16.	Police Officer	Ploski	John	9738	019	Life Saving Award
17.	Police Officer	Martinez	Jose	5465	019	Life Saving Award
18.	Police Officer	Mills	Raheem	17939	019	Life Saving Award
19.	Police Officer	Barney	Jason	11095	019	Life Saving Award
20.	Police Officer	Lopez	Victor	16182	019	Life Saving Award
21.	Police Officer	Gill	Matthew	9812	019	Life Saving Award*
22.	Police Officer	Nelson	Melissa	8938	019	Life Saving Award
23.	Police Officer	Ramirez	Patricia	19632	019	Life Saving Award
24.	Police Officer	Angelo	Amanda	11107	019	Life Saving Award
25.	Police Officer	Nelson	Melissa	8938	019	Life Saving Award*
26.	Police Officer	Castro	Antonio	13202	019	Life Saving Award
27.	Police Officer	Villasenor	Armando	14202	019	Life Saving Award
28.	Police Officer	Mavrov	Georgi	3157	019	Life Saving Award
29.	Police Officer	Plekavic	Kyle	5444	019	Life Saving Award
30.	Police Officer	Mazzone	Matthew	9991	019	Life Saving Award
31.	Police Officer	Ploski	John	9738	019	Life Saving Award
32.	Police Officer	Wojtasik	Jay	17300	019	Life Saving Award
33.	Police Officer	Hanlon	John	3043	019	Life Saving Award

**Denotes multiple awards of the same type received during this ceremony*



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Life Saving Award #8126137 presented to Commander Chris Papaioannou

- On 20 December 2018, Commander Papaioannou was driving home from work when he observed smoke emanating from a residential home.
- The commander observed an elderly male resident through the front window sitting down.
- After a failed attempt to get the elderly man's attention, the commander forced entry in to the building and escorted him to safety while confirming nobody else was home.

Life Saving Award #8139315 is presented to Sergeant Aaron Levine, Sergeant Jason Slater and Police Officer Matthew Roben

- On 15 June 2020, officers responded to a call of an individual threatening suicide.
- The officers established a rapport with the individual and convinced him to come back to safety.
- The individual was treated and agreed to seek medical attention.

Life Saving Award #8133040 is present to Sergeant Richard Heger and Police Officers Matthew Gill, Melissa Nelson and Patricia Ramirez

- On 06 October 2019, Officers responded to an emotional distress call of a man threatening to jump 50 feet onto electrical tracks.
- The officers contacted the CTA to shut off power to the tracks and established a rapport with the distressed man.
- With continued reassurance and conversation, the officers were able to reach the man and bring him to safety.

Life Saving Award #8138589 is presented to Police Officer Georgi Mavrov

- On 05 August 2020, the officer responded to a person down.
- The officer observed an unresponsive male and quickly began CPR chest compressions.
- Due to the officer's quick response time, CFD was able to prepare a defibrillator and shock the unresponsive male and regain a pulse reading.



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Life Saving Award #8135676 is presented to Police Officers Amanda Angelo, Matthew Gill, Nicholas Johnson and Melissa Nelson

- On 26 February 2020, officers responded to a check the well-being of a possible attempted suicide.
- Upon arrival, the officers found the male bleeding profusely from his wrist and applied a tourniquet and bandage to stop the bleeding.
- Due to the officers' quick decisions, the man was transported to the hospital in good condition.

Life Saving Award #8124819 is presented to Sergeant Richard Heger, Field Training Officer John Reppas, Police Officers Alex Garza and Joel Roman

- On 27 Aug 2018, officers responded to an attempt suicide.
- The victim had related he was depressed and wanted to kill himself by jumping from his twenty-first floor window.
- Sergeant Heger immediately reached out of the window and grabbed the victim preventing him from jumping.
- Officer Roman and Officer John Reppas removed the screen to the adjacent window and grabbed the victim's leg.
- Due to the Sergeant and the officers' selfless and brave actions, quick thinking and teamwork, a citizen was unable to make good on his life-ending threats and received professional mental health services.

Life Saving Award #8125003 is presented to Police Officers Matthew Gill, Nicholas Johnson and Endri Peci

- On 23 Oct 2018, officers responded to a marine distress call of a woman in the water who was unable to swim.
- Victim had been in the water for an hour and was not able to get out of the water on her own.
- Officer Peci scaled the guard rail and reached down to assist the person in the water while Officers Johnson and Gill secured the victim by grabbing her arm.
- The victim was transported to a hospital where she was listed in good condition.



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Life Saving Award #8128426 is presented to Police Officers Faton Ahmeti, Javed Biradar, Farrah Cooney, Michael Curry, Eric Giovenco, John Ploski and Kamil Ratynski

- On 04 Mar 2019, Officers responded to an arson in progress call.
- Officers observed a torch set against the entry door of one of the apartment unit's on the 3rd floor.
- Officers knocked on doors and evacuated the building, while FTO Curry utilized a fire extinguisher to put out the flames from the door.
- Officers suffered smoke inhalation and were treated at the local hospital.
- Due to the brave and selfless acts of these Officers, no residents reported any injuries and were safely escorted to the ground level until the floor was deemed safe.

Life Saving Award #8129162 is presented to Police Officers Jose Martinez and Thomas Walsh

- Officers responded to a call of a fire where a fire had started to fill the 5th-floor hallway of an assisted living facility; filled with elderly people and others with special needs.
- Officers Martinez and Walsh began knocking on doors alerting the residents of the fire.
- The officers ushered the residents through the thick smoke to safety.
- These actions resulted in Officers Martinez and Walsh being hospitalized for smoke inhalation.
- Due to Officers Martinez and Walsh's selflessness, vigilance, and dedication to duty, many residents of this building were able to escape a deadly fire unharmed.

Life Saving Award #8129776 is presented to Police Officers Patrick Jones and Raheem Mills

- On 25 May 2019, Officers responded to a call of check the well-being, where they encountered a gravely injured victim in the alley.
- The injured victim was bleeding profusely and uncooperative while officers determined the source of the blood.
- The officers discovered that the injured person used scissors to cut his own wrist.
- The LEMART trained officers applied a tourniquet to the person's left arm which stopped the bleeding.
- The injured person was transported to the hospital and treated for his injuries.
- Due to the officers' dedication to duty, team work and training, a citizen's life was saved.



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Life Saving Award# 8130174 is presented to Police Officers Jason Barney and Victor Lopez

- On 20 Jun 2019, Officers responded to a call of a battery in progress outside of a bar.
- One subject suffered a deep stab wound to the arm and was not actively seeking treatment
- Officers Barney and Lopez immediately applied a tourniquet to the victim's arm to stop the bleeding
- Illinois Masonic nurse related that tourniquet application was absolutely the right thing to do, and that the subject's not seeking treatment could have been fatal

Life Saving Award #8137139 is presented to Police Officers Antonio Castro and Armando Villasenor

- Officers responded to a CIT situation where a mother related that her young daughter suffers from bi-polar disorder, was intoxicated and in crisis.
- Officers discovered the daughter had wrapped a wire around her neck and tied it to the railing of the balcony and jumped over the side of the balcony in an attempt to take her own life.
- Officer Villasenor immediately rushed down the stairs, cut the victim down and Officer Castro immediately called for an ambulance.
- The victim was transported to the hospital to be treated for her injuries and admitted for a mental health evaluation. Due to the quick action of the Officers, the life of a young woman in crisis was saved.

Life Saving Award #8139361 is presented to Sergeant Aaron Levine and Police Officer Kyle Plekavic

- On 05 Sep 2020, Officers responded to a call of a suicidal person.
- Sgt. Levine and Officer Plekavic encountered a distressed woman who made several attempts to enter the water; the officers used their bodies to block her attempts.
- Sgt. Levine and Officer Plekavic utilized their crisis intervention training (CIT) and ultimately saved the life of this individual.



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Life Saving Award #8140239 is presented to Police Officers Matthew Mazzone, John Ploski and Jay Wojtasik

- On 06 Oct 2020, Officers responded to a call of check the well-being of a woman that was spotted on top of a roof.
- Upon arrival, Officers encountered the distressed woman who related to the officers that she would let herself fall if they came any closer.
- The Officers acknowledged her warning, initiated a dialogue with the subject and were able to de-escalate the extremely precarious situation.
- The subject eventually agreed to climb down from the ledge and be taken to a medical facility for treatment. They demonstrated an exceptional recollection of their Department training and an utter devotion to the preservation of the sanctity of human life.

Life Saving Award #8140980 is presented to Police Officer John Hanlon

- Officer Hanlon who was off duty taking his dog to the vet across the street observed the fire coming from a nearby town home.
- He then observed a male hanging out a window trying to escape the flames.
- The male fell to the ground and Officer Hanlon observed this person to have a broken arm that was bleeding profusely.
- Using his LEMART training he saved the man's life by applying a tourniquet and then a pressure bandage to control the bleeding.
- The actions of this officer ensured that no loss of life occurred as they put themselves in danger to save human lives.



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MISSION STATEMENT

Ensuring recognition of those who, while in the commission of their duties, performed in an exemplary manner that contributed to the safety of the communities they serve.

STAFF DIRECTORY

ADMINISTRATION

Staff Member

Sergeant Carrie Cooney

Officer Elisabeth Andrade

Officer Marie Garcia Vega

Officer Sheena Green

Officer Noemy Sanchez

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