2013 Awards Banquet

Our department values integrity, employees, service, and work environment. A big part of our value statement has to do with the men and women of the Auburn Hills Police Department. We have a great group of employees with diverse educational backgrounds and life experiences that really makes this a great place to work. Our value statement states, “We value all who demonstrate self motivation, pride in work, performance, patience and willingness to cooperate with others,”

On May 15th we had the privilege of honoring our employees at our annual awards banquet. We recognized numerous employees for the excellent work they have done over the last year. Some of the highlights of the night included Sergeant Jeremy Stubbs and Officer Ivette Brown being awarded the “Chief’s Award” for their innovation and dedication on the successful use of the department’s social media program.

Detective Brian Martin was recognized as the 2013 recipient of the Auburn Hills Morning Optimist Club “Officer of the Year”. Detective Martin’s commitment to the mission of the department through his thorough investigations and attention to detail make him a deserving recipient this year.

Sergeant Rick Leonard was awarded a Department Citation for the actions he took while off duty in July 2012. Sgt. Leonard was up north at a family cottage when he observed a commotion on the lake. He immediately drove his boat over to the area and realized that a man had fallen under water and could not be located. Sgt. Leonard immediately jumped into the lake and retrieved the man from the bottom, in about 15 feet of water. Attempts were made to
save the man’s life, but unfortunately he did not make it. Sgt. Leonard demonstrated courage and selflessness by trying to rescue this man and for his actions was awarded a department citation.

Ms. Kelley Fortuna received a standing ovation from the audience when she was awarded a “Citizen’s Award” for her actions in December 2012. Ms. Fortuna was stopped to report an accident on South Blvd. and I-75. An Auburn Hills police officer arrived at the scene and was in the process of getting out of his car when he was struck on the driver’s door by another vehicle traveling the opposite direction. The officer sustained serious injuries from the impact. Ms. Fortuna remained calm and called 911 to report the crash. She retrieved the officer’s medical bag from the trunk and provided medical aid until EMS arrived. Ms. Fortuna stayed with the officer and helped him to also remain calm until help arrived. We are grateful for her actions that day and honored to recognize her with this award.

Numerous awards were handed out this night to other members of the department. Overall it was a successful event and is always a privilege to recognize our staff for all of the hard work they do. It is an honor to serve alongside the great men and women of the Auburn Hills Police Department.

“Honor earned, never given.”