

**DATE: December 8, 2014**

*The following citations were approved by the department's District and Division Review Panels and the Board of Awards Committee. The ranks of the officers are those held at the time of the request for citation.*

**Bravery Award:**

**Tpr. Bradley S. Cox, Tpr. Jonathan D. Henry, Tpr. Craig D. MacDonald, and Tpr. Jack A. Taeff** are receiving the Bravery Award for their heroic actions. On February 11, 2013, Troopers MacDonald and Taeff were searching the second floor of an abandoned house in the City of Detroit for suspects connected to a series of armed robberies, when they were fired upon by one of the suspects. While Troopers MacDonald and Taeff returned fire, Trooper Taeff received a gunshot wound to the leg. The troopers were unable to exit since the gunfire was between them and the stairs, forcing them to retreat to an upstairs bedroom. Troopers Cox and Henry, along with a Detroit Police Department officer, climbed the stairs in an attempt to provide cover for Troopers MacDonald and Taeff to retreat to the stairs, when gunfire erupted again. Troopers Cox and Henry returned fire, while Troopers MacDonald and Taeff were forced to retreat back into an upstairs bedroom. Once the gunfire ended, Troopers Cox and Henry yelled for the suspect to surrender with his hands up. When the hands of the suspect appeared, Trooper Cox advanced on the suspect while Trooper Henry covered him. After a brief struggle with the suspect, he was placed under arrest. Trooper MacDonald then carried Trooper Taeff out of the house to an awaiting ambulance. In awarding the department's Bravery Award, the Board of Awards recognizes that the brave and decisive actions of these troopers brought this dangerous situation to an end.

**Lifesaving Award:**

**Tpr. Leslie J. Rochefort** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On April 13, 2014, Trooper Rochefort responded to a medical emergency of a male who was unresponsive. Trooper Rochefort arrived at the scene and applied an automated external defibrillator (AED), which advised to administer CPR. He performed CPR for eight minutes while oxygen was administered by an officer from the Meridian Township Police Department. The subject was transported to the hospital where he was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit in stable condition. The quick efforts performed by Trooper Rochefort likely saved the man's life.

**Tpr. Eric S. Whitcomb** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of a child. On December 4, 2013, Trooper Whitcomb was dispatched to a scene where a child was not breathing. Immediately upon arriving, Trooper Whitcomb was handed the unconscious, lifeless child. After checking for a pulse, Trooper Whitcomb turned the child over and administered back blows. While re-checking for breathing, Trooper Whitcomb found that the child was again breathing and had regained consciousness. Thanks to the quick and effective actions of Trooper Whitcomb, the child survived.

**Tpr. Denis M. McGuckin** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On May 12, 2014, Trooper McGuckin responded to a medical emergency of a female who was having a seizure and not breathing. Trooper McGuckin found the female slumped back in the passenger seat of a vehicle with her eyes rolled back and her face turning blue. When Trooper McGuckin was unable to find a pulse, he removed the female from the vehicle and placed her on the ground. Trooper McGuckin began chest compressions and performed the head tilt/chin lift in an attempt to open her airway. He continued chest compressions while emergency medical personnel administered an IV and started using a breathing bag. After a short time, the female regained color and began to breathe on her own. Thanks to Trooper McGuckin's quick response, the female survived.

**Tpr. Douglas B. Kaiser and Tpr. Antonio J. Taylor** are receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On August 3, 2014, Troopers Kaiser and Taylor were responding to a scene of a suicide attempt involving a firearm, at which time deputies with the Saginaw County Sheriff's Office advised they were in pursuit of a vehicle believed to be driven by the suicidal subject. The sheriff's deputies stopped the vehicle and Troopers Kaiser and Taylor arrived on scene to provide back-up, where they found the subject covered in blood and bleeding profusely. Troopers Kaiser and Taylor immediately removed the subject's shirt and identified a gunshot wound. They applied bandages to both the entry and exit wounds and continued providing first aid until a life flight helicopter arrived to transport the subject to the hospital. If not for the quick actions of Trooper Kaiser and Trooper Taylor, it is likely the subject would have bled to death.

**Tpr. Nicole S. McGhee and Tpr. Zachary W. Tebedo** are receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On August 24, 2014, Troopers Kaiser and Taylor responded to a shooting in the City of Saginaw. Upon arrival to the scene, they

found a 15-year-old male lying on the ground in a pool of blood. Troopers McGhee and Tebedo identified two gunshot wounds on the subject, one near his knee and one on the upper thigh. Due to the massive amount of blood loss, Troopers McGhee and Tebedo believed the bullet had hit the femoral artery. They immediately applied a tourniquet above the wound on the victim's upper thigh. Once emergency medical service personnel arrived, the victim was air-lifted for advanced medical care. Thanks to Trooper McGhee and Trooper Tebedo's knowledge of first aid, the young man survived.

**Tpr. Michael E. White** is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On May 26, 2014, Trooper White was off-duty attending a church meeting when the bishop began choking while eating. The bishop was unable to speak and his face began to change color. Trooper White began administering stomach thrusts, dislodging the food and allowing the bishop to breathe again. Thanks to the quick and effective actions of Trooper White, the bishop survived.

**Tpr. William A. Brown** and **Tpr. Spence G. Fletcher** are receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On May 19, 2014, Troopers Brown and Fletcher responded to a vehicle crash that ended in the parking lot of a credit union. Trooper Fletcher found the driver of the vehicle unresponsive, not breathing, and without a pulse. With smoke emanating from the air bag area, Trooper Fletcher removed the driver from the vehicle to perform CPR and instructed a nearby sheriff's deputy to retrieve his AED. Emergency medical personnel arrived and began assisting, while Trooper Fletcher did a reassessment and noted the driver was still not breathing and did not have a pulse. While Trooper Brown maintained a c-spine hold and assured an open airway, Trooper Fletcher began chest compressions. Trooper Fletcher then applied the AED, which advised to deliver a shock and continue CPR. An ambulance soon arrived and transported the driver to the hospital where he was diagnosed with a massive heart attack. The quick and decisive actions displayed by Trooper Brown and Trooper Fletcher played a vital role in saving this man's life.

#### **Professional Excellence:**

Tpr. Trevin S. Antcliff  
Tpr. Michael D. Asbridge  
Tpr. Bradley D. Campbell  
Tpr. Douglas G. Hunt  
Tpr. Aaron M. McCormick  
Tpr. Jeffrey A. Miazga  
D/Sgt. Todd D. Petersen  
Tpr. Brian J. Siemen  
Tpr. Brett J. Sova  
Sgt. Aaron C. Sweeney  
Tpr. Andrew C. Young  
Sgt. Scott A. Ziesman

*The next Board of Awards Committee meeting is January 28, 2015.*