

MSP Official Bulletin: July 14, 2016

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 Awards

Sgt. Brian Keely (Rockford Post) and **Tpr. Carlos Fossati** (Wayland Post) are receiving the Bravery Award for their heroic actions in saving the life of another. On November 18, 2015, a suspect abducted his ex-wife from her place of work at gun point and held her hostage in a hotel room. The Emergency Support Team responded to the hotel and initiated negotiations using a cell phone. Within the first 30 minutes, a five-person Reactionary Team was assembled in the hallway of the hotel. The Reactionary Team heard a gunshot and a scream, at which time they performed a hostage rescue entry to save the victim. Upon breaching the door, the suspect fired on the entry team, striking Sergeant Keely in the ballistic vest. Sergeant Keely and Trooper Fossati continued to advance further into the room while returning fire, eliminating the threat. The victim was injured during the gunfire exchange, but was treated and survived. In awarding the department's Bravery Award to Sergeant Keely and Trooper Fossati, the Board of Awards recognizes that the courage and heroic actions they demonstrated undoubtedly saved the woman's life.

Meritorious Service Awards

D/Sgt. Mark Harris (Gaylord Post) and **D/Sgt. Mark Miller** (Cadillac Post) are receiving the Meritorious Service Award for their diligence during a very complex cold case investigation. In August of 1995, Vincent Adamczak went missing from his home in Manistee County; however, he was not reported missing until January of 2002. A number of interviews were conducted but a solid criminal case could not be made at that time. In 2012, Detective Sergeants Harris and Miller took on the task of re-viewing the case and continuing the investigation. They conducted countless interviews and re-interviews, gathered resources, and executed numerous search warrants scouring large parcels of property hoping to find any evidence from the 17-year-old case. Their efforts were successful and led to the discovery of human bone fragments in an area where brush had been burned for decades. This discovery substantiated an account of what was reported to have happened to the victim. Detective Sergeants Harris and Miller strategically planned their contacts with their three suspects to best leverage vital information about what had happened to the victim in 1995. In 2012, they had enough evidence to arrest one of the three suspects for the murder of Mr. Adamczak, but the prosecuting attorney was not comfortable charging the other two suspects at that time. Detective Sergeants Harris and Miller were undeterred and continued working to move forward with the prosecution of those responsible for the victim's death and succeeded in getting the Michigan Attorney General's office involved. Detective Sergeants Harris and Miller worked tirelessly with the prosecutor to prepare for trial and their diligence led to first degree murder convictions for two suspects and closure for the family of Mr. Adamczak.

Lifesaving Awards

Tpr. Curtis Sweedyk (Lansing Post) is receiving the Life-saving Award for saving the life of another. On May 28, 2016, Trooper Sweedyk came across a subject lying on the ground and stopped to investigate, discovering that the subject was unconscious and didn't have a pulse. Trooper Sweedyk immediately started chest compressions and continued until emergency medical personnel arrived. An automated external defibrillator (AED) was connected and a shock was delivered to the subject with no result. Trooper Sweedyk continued chest compressions until the subject was loaded into the ambulance and transported to the hospital. If not for the actions of Trooper Sweedyk, the subject would not have survived.

Sgt. John Duffy (2nd District HST) is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On October 28, 2015, while stopped at a traffic light, Sergeant Duffy observed that the first vehicle in line did not move after the light turned green. Several motorists began to sound their horns in an attempt to alert the driver, but the driver failed to turn and the light cycled back to red. When the light cycled back to green, the vehicle still did not move. At this time, Sergeant Duffy activated

his emergency lights and pulled behind the vehicle, which was a fully marked emergency medical services (EMS) vehicle. Sergeant Duffy discovered the driver was unresponsive behind the wheel and after failing to get her attention, he requested EMS.

Sergeant Duffy was unable to gain entry into the vehicle, due to the doors being locked. Sensing an urgency to get into the vehicle, Sergeant Duffy utilized his baton to break the rear window. Sergeant Duffy immediately checked the driver for vital signs and was unable to detect a pulse. Sergeant Duffy removed the driver from the vehicle and began CPR. EMS arrived on scene and assisted Sergeant Duffy with continuing CPR until advanced life support arrived to transport the driver to the hospital. It was discovered that the driver had suffered a heart attack, and if not for the actions of Sergeant Duffy, the driver would not have survived.

Tpr. Joseph McMillan and **Tpr. Patrick Miller** (Tri-City Post) are receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On November 11, 2015, Troopers McMillan and Miller responded to a call of a subject who had just shot himself. Upon arrival, the troopers found the subject lying in the road with a gunshot wound to his chest. The subject was in and out of consciousness, but was able to confirm to the troopers that he had shot himself. The troopers utilized the Asherman chest seal from their first aid kit to seal the wound. After treating the chest wound, troopers located the exit wound and packed it with trauma gauze and clotting agent to control and stop the bleeding. The troopers continued monitoring the subject until he was transported to the hospital. Thanks to the quick actions of Troopers McMillan and Miller, the subject survived.

Tpr. Robert Lee (West Branch Post) is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On May 17, 2015, Trooper Lee and Deputy Larry Eaton from the Gladwin County Sheriff's Department were dispatched to a report of a dog attack victim. Trooper Lee and Deputy Eaton found the victim covered in blood and having trouble breathing. They observed deep lacerations on the victim's hands, arms, and legs. Utilizing a first aid kit, Trooper Lee and Deputy Eaton applied direct pressure to the most severe lacerations, while continuing to survey the victim for additional life-threatening wounds. Emergency medical personnel arrived and transported the victim to the hospital where he underwent emergency surgery to repair the damage. If not for the actions of Trooper Lee and Deputy Eaton, the victim would not have survived.

Tpr. Ryan Dangl (Wayland Post) is re-ceiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On April 23, 2016, Trooper Dangl was dispatched to a medi-cal emergency. Upon arrival, Trooper Dangl checked the subject for a pulse and breathing, but was unable to detect either. Trooper Dangl began CPR and requested additional responding officers to bring an AED. Trooper Dangl continued CPR until the AED arrived and was attached to the subject. The AED advised a shock be administered and then for CPR to be continued. Trooper Dangl and a deputy from the Allegan County Sheriff's Department conducted five additional cycles of two-person CPR until emergency medical personnel arrived on scene. The subject began breathing normally and was conscious when moved to the ambulance for transportation to a local hospital. Thanks to Trooper Dangl's quick response, the man survived.

Sgt. Gary Wilson, Tpr. Adam Keasler, and Tpr. Jordan Tromp (Hart Post) are receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On February 8, 2016, Sergeant Wilson and Troopers Keasler and Tromp responded to a call of a subject who stated he was about to hang himself. The subject's vehicle was located on a two-track road behind his residence and officers began to follow a set of footprints in the snow. After traveling approximately 1/3 of a mile, the subject was located hanging from a pole with a rope tied around his neck. Trooper Tromp got to the subject first and immediately lifted him up to loosen the rope around his neck. Sergeant Wilson and Trooper Keasler cut the rope from the pole, and then helped secure the subject while lowering him to the ground. Sergeant Wilson was then able to carefully cut the rope away from the subject's neck. Soon after removing the rope, the subject coughed and began breathing. Trooper Tromp held C-spine, while Sergeant Wilson and Trooper Keasler located a mattress, bear skin rug, and a sleeping bag in a nearby cabin. These items were used to get the subject off of the snow and keep him warm to prevent shock from setting in. The officers monitored the subject's pulse and breathing while waiting for emergency medical personnel to arrive. Due to the remote location, Troopers Keasler and Tromp carried the subject out of the woods until they met a fire department vehicle that was able to transport the subject to a waiting ambulance. If not for the actions of Sergeant Wilson and Troopers Keasler and Tromp, the subject would not have survived.

Tpr. Michael West (Cadillac Post) is re-ceiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On August 14, 2015, Trooper West responded to the scene of a domestic assault where a mentally disturbed man was arguing with his family and turned violent. At one point, the suspect jumped onto the hood of his father's truck and smashed his arm through the windshield. Trooper West arrived on scene and contacted the father, who stated his son went crazy and was going to burn the house down. Trooper West approached the home and found the suspect sitting near the house, covered in blood. After issuing loud verbal commands, Trooper West handcuffed and secured the suspect. Trooper West discovered that the suspect's brachial artery was partially severed and he was losing blood quickly. After failing to stop the flow of blood with direct pressure to the wound, Trooper West utilized a tourniquet to slow the bleeding. Emergency medical personnel arrived and transported the suspect to the hospital as he began losing consciousness. Thanks to Trooper West's quick use of first aid equipment, the suspect survived.

Tpr. Daniel Bergsma (Sault Ste. Marie Post) is receiving the Lifesaving Award for saving the life of another. On September 30, 2015, Trooper Bergsma responded to a report of a man down. Upon arriving, Trooper Bergsma found the man un-re-sponsive, not breathing, and without a pulse. Trooper Bergsma and a deputy with the Mackinac County Sheriff's Department began two-person CPR. After a short time, the man took a few shallow breaths and CPR was stopped. A few minutes later, the man stopped breathing and again had no pulse. CPR was initiated again until emergency medical personnel arrived and connected an AED. The AED delivered two shocks unsuccessfully, so CPR was continued until the man could be transported to a local hospital. If not for the actions of Trooper Bergsma, the victim would not have survived.

Tpr. Brenda Hoffmann (SID-Narcotics-SOR Enforcement) is receiving the Life-saving Award for saving the life of another. On May 3, 2016, Trooper Hoffmann's neighbor knocked on her door while hold-ing her one-year-old grandson, who was not breathing and had turned blue. Trooper Hoffmann took the child from the woman and began providing back blows. After several blows, the child began to breathe and cry. Trooper Hoffmann set the child down and conducted a finger sweep of the child's mouth, but did not locate an object. The child was returned to his grandmother and advised to seek follow-up medical treatment. Thanks to Trooper Hoffmann's quick response, the child survived. ■

Professional Excellence:

Tpr. Patrick Gallagher
D/Sgt. Shane Criger
Tpr. Jeremiah Carlisle
Tpr. Bryan Fuller
Tpr. John Moore
Tpr. Devin Wilson
Tpr. Scott Taylor
Tpr. Timothy Moreno
D/Sgt. Sean Tinkle

Unit Citation:

D/Sgt. Jean Belanger
D/Sgt. Christopher Croley
Tpr. Ronald Baril
Tpr. David Cowen
Tpr. Michael Floriano
Tpr. Chris Lajimodiene
Tpr. Steven Lanctot
Tpr. Kevin Ryan
Tpr. Mack Schlicht

Tpr. Mitchell Stevens

The next Board of Awards Committee meeting is November 3, 2016.