



St. Louis County Police Department INFORMATION DIGEST

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NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN

During the month of December, please take a moment to remember Officer **Thomas G. Smith Jr.**, December 5, 1997, who made the ultimate sacrifice for the citizens of St. Louis County.

IN MEMORIAM

The St. Louis County Police Department lost a dear friend recently. Security Officer **John Bernard**, Bureau of Security Services, passed away on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. Our prayers are with his family and friends as we, too, mourn the loss of our comrade.

Colonel Patrick A. Twardowski Colonel Jerry Lee

WELL DONE

On Sunday, September 21, 2008, Police Officer **Clayton Fair**, City of Fenton Precinct, received a call for a larceny at an Aldi's store. The victim told Officer Fair that she left her purse, containing a ring, in one of the aisles of the store and someone stole it. The victim informed Officer Fair that the suspect then used one of her credit cards to purchase a TV at Wal-Mart. Officer Fair obtained information on the EBT card that was used by the suspect at Aldi's and obtained the identity of the suspect. Officer Fair seized video surveillance of the suspect at both businesses and further conducted a search of pawned merchandise and discovered the stolen ring at a local pawn shop. Warrant application was made with St. Louis County, which led to a five count warrant being issued on the suspect.

On Saturday, November 8, 2008, Sergeant **Mike Youngblood**, Affton Southwest Precinct, was off duty and traveling on the 7000 block of Telegraph Road when he observed a blue pick-up truck back into the garage of a vacant house. He also saw two subjects wearing masks exit the pick-up and close the garage door. Officers **Bill Govero**, **Michael Schira** and Sergeant **Jeff Hoots**, South County

Precinct, responded as the subjects were exiting the front door of the house. When they saw the police had arrived, they dropped the items they were carrying and ran towards a wooded area. The suspects evaded the officers until Dispatcher **Brian Goede**, Bureau of Communications, saw one suspect running near his home and reported his location. Officer **Christopher Most** responded and with PSD Goede's assistance, they took the suspect into custody. The pick-up truck in the garage and the methamphetamine production in the vacant home lead to the identity of the second suspect who was apprehended three days later by Officer **Kevin Funston**, Affton Southwest Precinct, on a suspicious person call.



On Monday, November 10, 2008, Officers **Danielle Durham**, **Elizabeth Berardi**, **Michael Torizzo** and **Mark Eberwein**, North County Precinct, responded to a burglary in progress. A neighbor was on the phone stating that a subject had just broken into her neighbor's house through a basement window. The officers observed the suspect running through-out the house but he would not leave the residence. As the suspect attempted to climb out the basement window he was apprehended. The suspect stated that he broke into the home looking for a Playstation stolen from him in a previous burglary.

On Thursday, November 13, 2008, Officer **John Williams**, North County Precinct, responded to an automobile accident, leaving the scene. Witnesses stated that they saw a red Mini Cooper hit and knock down their neighbor's mailbox before driving down the street. Officer Williams conducted an inquiry on the CrimeMatrix database for red Mini Coopers and discovered one had been issued a citation nearby the month prior. The address of the owner was nearby in Florissant and Officer Williams drove by and saw damage to the car. The owner was contacted and he admitted being in the accident.

MEDAL OF VALOR

On Thursday, November 20, 2008, Police Officers **Mark Berry**, **Chad Hinds** and **Sergeant Peter Morrow**, City of Fenton Precinct, and Officers **Doug Reiner** and **John Wilson**, Affton Southwest Precinct, each received a Medal of Valor Award at the 39th Annual Crusade Against Crime Recipient Luncheon.

COMMENDATIONS

Chief Lee presented Police Officers **Stephen Benko**, **Elizabeth Berardi** and **Charles Willis**, North County Precinct, each with a Commendation at the November 19, 2008 Police Board meeting concerning their actions on Monday, July 14, 2008, wherein they subdued an armed suspect inside a crowded classroom at a north county school. Officer **Joseph Percich**, North County Precinct, was presented a Commendation in recognition of multiple arrests within a six month period. Officer **Michael Gilyon**, Affton Southwest Precinct, was recognized for his actions on Friday, August 22, 2008, wherein he identified and apprehended a suspect carrying a fully loaded 12-gauge shotgun. Officers **John Wilson** and **Douglas Reiner**, Affton Southwest Precinct, were recognized for their actions on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, wherein they located and apprehended a dangerous armed suspect wanted for burglaries and a shooting. Officer **Derrick Fort**, MetroLink Unit, was recognized for his actions on Monday, August 25, 2008, when he prevented a distraught individual from taking his own life. Detective **Michael Williams**, Bureau of Crimes Against Persons, was recognized for recovering physical evidence that was used to successfully charge a suspect with child molestation.

Happy Thanksgiving!



AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to Public Safety Dispatchers **Sherrie Rabbitt**, **Jane Rogers** and **Richard Kranz**, Office of Information and Technology; Officer **Nicholas Payne**, North County Precinct, and Officer **Daniel Cunningham**, Metro Air Support, for recently receiving the Department's Award of Excellence for their outstanding performance of duty.

MISCELLANEOUS

Per General Order 02-33, Pay and Classification Practices, all employees with intent to resign or retire, must submit their written resignation through the chain of command to the Chief of Police a minimum of ten working days prior to separation. Retiring employees shall notify the Chief, in writing, through the chain of command a minimum of 30 days prior to separation. The retiring employee is responsible for notifying the St. Louis County Retirement Office a minimum of 30 days prior to the intended retirement date.

FROM THE CHAPLAINS

Hold yourself responsible for a higher standard than anybody else expects of you.