



CITY OF MISHAWAKA



Police Department
200 North Church Street
Mishawaka, IN 46544

David A. Wood, Mayor
Kenneth L. Witkowski, Chief

December 2, 2014

Mayor David A. Wood
Board of Public Works and Safety
City Hall - 600 East Third Street
Mishawaka, Indiana 46544

Re: Police Officers of the 3rd Quarter – 2014

Dear Honorable Mayor Wood and Board Members:

I am proud to announce Corporals Matthew Porter, Scott Robinson, Nathan Wojtysiak and Zach DeGeyter as recipients for "Officers of the Third Quarter."

• **Cpl. DeGeyter** of the Uniform Division on the Midnight Shift, was nominated by the Administration and is being recognized for the superb job he did in locating and apprehending several subjects that had broken into the Village Mart Marathon Station and stole cash from the register and numerous packs of cigarettes.

On **August 13, 2014**, at 2:45 am, while patrolling his beat, Cpl. DeGeyter observed 4 to 5 juvenile subjects walking in the street on Brykit. He stopped the subjects and spoke with them briefly. The subjects stated they were heading home to a residence on Brykit and pointed out a red house just down the street from the Village Mart at 12th and Brykit.

Later in the shift there was a burglar alarm at the Village Mart; however, dispatch advised to disregard the alarm per the alarm company. When the business owner came in to the business at approximately 4:00 am, he discovered the burglary. Cpl. DeGeyter watched the surveillance video at the store. It showed three young men break a window and enter the business. The video depicted one suspect at the cash register while two other suspects were shown putting cigarettes into some sort of bag. Cpl. Degeyter felt they resembled the juveniles he spoke with earlier in the night.

Emergency..... 911
Front Desk 574-258-1678
Investigative Division 574-258-1684
Records Division..... 574-258-1681

Chief 574-258-1683
Uniform Chief..... 574-258-1688
Traffic Division..... 574-259-2966
Fax 574-258-1690

The outside surveillance video showed the suspects run toward the nearby house indicated earlier by the juveniles. Cpl. DeGeyter and fellow officers contacted the homeowner. She was cooperative with police and allowed them to search her home signing a “consent to search” form.

A large amount of cigarettes were recovered throughout the house. Money was also recovered hidden inside the home. Four juvenile males and one adult male were brought to the police station to be interviewed. Ultimately, one adult and two juveniles were arrested in the Burglary.

Cpl. DeGeyter displayed good police instincts in this case. He shows self-motivation and determination on a daily basis and has proven to be a very proactive officer in his young career.

• **Corporals Porter and Robinson and Officer Wojtysiak** of the Uniform Division on the Midnight Shift, were nominated by their supervisor, Capt. Bob Wilson for the outstanding job they did in locating and apprehending a dangerous individual.

On **August 28, 2014**, dispatch advised that an armed robbery / aggravated battery were in progress at a residence in Mishawaka. Corporals Matt Porter and Scott Robinson and Officer Nathan Wojtysiak arrived at the scene and took up a perimeter around the home. Once doing so they observed a male subject exit the rear of the home. Cpl. Robinson, observing that the male subject was holding a silver handgun down at his side, then identified himself and ordered the man to drop his weapon and get on the ground. The male suspect then fled on foot down an alley way. Cpl. Robinson and Officer Wojtysiak, after advising other responding units, gave chase.

Cpl. Porter then arrived in the alley way and located the suspect who was running towards him. At this time all three officers then continued the chase. After several minutes they were finally able to apprehend the suspect.

These officers, when encountered with great personal risk to their own safety, acted with bravery and great personal restraint during this deadly force situation. They are to be commended for their actions during this incident.

On behalf of the Department and my Administration, I am proud and honored to present these four gentlemen “Officers of the Third Quarter” for 2014.

Sincerely,



Kenneth L. Witkowski
Chief of Police

KLW:cd

Personnel Files