



Scottsdale Police Department's Moments of Truth



Archived Issue
>>> April to June 2014 <<<

Taking time to make a child's day

I just wanted to take time and say thank you for this officer. My son Liam and I were walking into Walmart when Liam saw the police car and became really excited. The officer took notice and stopped his car right there on the spot. He turned his lights on and rang the siren (abbreviated siren) for Liam to see. He got out and handed my boy a badge and we took a picture. Long story short, I am glad there are still really good cops out there like **Officer Chris Matthews**. You run a tight ship my friend and I wanted to complement you guys on your community service. Have a great day. God bless!

Chris- thanks for taking the time to do the "small" things as they make a difference in how we are perceived in the community. Keep up the great work. Thanks. ~ Asst Chief Cocca

Letter from a grateful father

Captain Weller, Officer DeLash and all other Firemen, Law Enforcement Officers and 911 Dispatch Employees:

At approximately 4:20 PM yesterday time almost stopped. When I arrived home, I came upon my frantic 10 year old daughter screaming and begging me to call 911. While calling, she informed me that my 23 month old toddler fell in the pool. When I sprinted to the backyard, I saw Charlie lying by the pool blue, unresponsive, and not breathing. The scene was chaotic. Women were screaming and the neighbors were praying.

I can't remember her name (even though I asked) the 911 dispatch operator took control of the situation. I was so frantic; I couldn't remember my own address. She calmed me and told me to begin CPR on my unresponsive child. I had no idea what I was doing, but the operator calmly walked me through chest compressions and mouth to mouth. All I can remember saying is "please tell me they are on their way". After the second set of chest compressions, Charlie let out a wheeze and began moaning. At that point I heard sirens.

Officer DeLash was first on the scene and took control. He also drove my family to the hospital. Oh, and by the way, he was the last Officer to leave the hospital. What a god send!!! Everything is hazy, but it seemed like there were multiple fire trucks, ambulances and police cars. Everyone working together to stabilize Charlie. Also, treating me and my entire family with kid gloves. So respectful after the trauma we just endured.



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Charlie is the boy that each and every one of you had a hand in saving his life!!! I know yesterday was just another day of work in your line of business. But, you saved a life and saved a family. I will forever be indebted to the 911 dispatch operator who saved my son through my hands. She was an angel. Officer DeLash, I thank you for your compassion and your professionalism. In my book, you are a hero!!! From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank each and every one of you. Saying I appreciate you is the understatement of a lifetime. My son is alive today because of all of your actions!! Please forward this email to anyone who was involved on the scene yesterday. I just can't express my gratitude enough. Thank you for everything you have done and continue to do.

One officer commending another for stellar work

Sgt. Marmie,

I want to make you aware of the tremendous job that **Officer Jen Kinsey** did in assisting a grieving family at Scottsdale Healthcare – Osborn on the morning of April 28, 2014.

Earlier that morning, patrol officers were sent to a medical call where a 32 year old female and mother of 4 young children was found not breathing/non-responsive at home by her fiancé. All 4 of her children (11, 9, 6 years old and a (1) month old) were home when their mother was transported in full "code" to SHC-Osborn by PMT ambulance personnel.

Shortly after arrival at the SHC-Osborn emergency room, she was pronounced dead. As more of the victim's family continued to arrive at the hospital to grieve her sudden and unexpected loss, her mother and younger sister, literally with tears in their eyes, requested and insisted that I please try to contact SRO Jen Kinsey to have her respond to be with the family.

I was immediately able to make phone contact with Jen who, without any hesitation, responded directly to the hospital. The family was overcome with grief at this time and Officer Kinsey made herself fully available to them by remaining physically and emotionally close throughout the morning. This included arranging for, and being with the family during an extended viewing of the deceased by numerous family members including two of the children. Officer Kinsey remained there at the hospital with the family long after I cleared and our official investigation there was complete.

As I understand it, Officer Kinsey had no social relationship with this family outside of the schools. The deep trust this family had in Officer Kinsey to call her to the scene of a recently deceased loved one must have been forged by her professionalism and approachability throughout her years of work in the schools where this family attends.



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In my almost 20 years as an officer, I do not remember ever having witnessed a grieving family request a "cop", only known to them professionally, to be with them during such a personally tragic event such as this. She should be commended for this.

Incredible compassion in the face of a terribly sad situation. Thank you Jen for your kindness.

Officer Yamamori Steps Up

The house at 7532 E. McKellips has been vacant since the owner died approximately six years ago. With no family members to take ownership of the home it had fallen into disrepair and attracted transients that moved into a storage building in the back yard. The traffic and possible criminal activities became a real concern for the neighbors. Code Enforcement officials were in a quandary since there was no one to hold accountable for the house. Recently, an officer cited a transient for trespassing but the charge was quickly dismissed, since there is no victim. We met with Luis Santaella and Code Enforcement officials and Luis conceived a plan to do an emergency abatement, declare the house and storage shed uninhabitable and then board them properly and post notices. This will allow us to cite anyone found inside the structures under the new city code 36-21, which makes it unlawful to enter an uninhabitable building. Kelli took it a step further and researched tax records to find an investor that had paid previous tax levies. Investors can take ownership of abandoned properties simply by paying back taxes, essentially buying a home for just the price of back taxes. Kelli located and called the investor, encouraging him to expedite his foreclosure and take over the property.

Submitted by Sgt. Bryan Thomas

This is a great example of community policing by all involved!