

# QUINCY POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH MAY 2016



May 1, 2016

It is with great pleasure I announce that Officer Nickolas Eddy and Officer Curtis Werries have been selected as Employees of the Month for May 2016.

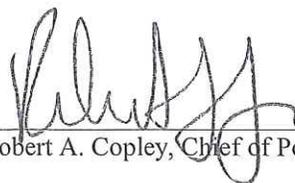
Officer Eddy joined the Quincy Police Department on July 1, 2013. He is a member of the Emergency Response Team. Officer Werries joined the Quincy Police Department on June 30, 2003. He is a Firearms Instructor, a member of the Emergency Response Team, and a member of the ILEAS Region 6/7 Weapons of Mass Destruction-Special Response Team. Both officers are assigned to Patrol on the Day Shift.

Officers Eddy and Werries were nominated for this recognition due to their life saving efforts on April 8, 2016. At approximately 11:38 a.m. that day the officers were dispatched to a residence of a subject threatening suicide. Their life saving efforts quickly turned into a physical altercation with the subject who was intent on taking his own life, even if it meant forcing the officers to do that for him.

When the subject called 911, he told the operator that he was going to hang himself in his garage. He also told the call taker that he wanted to take an officer's gun and shoot himself in the head; unfortunately, this vital piece of officer safety information was never relayed to the responding officers. Upon their arrival, the officers found the overhead garage door partially open. They looked under the door and could see the subject with a belt tight around his neck, barely able to maintain his footing on a tipped over ladder. After entering the garage, Officer Werries grabbed the subject by the waist and lifted him up while Officer Eddy cut the belt. Once the subject was free, he and Officer Werries fell to the floor. Upon hitting the floor, the subject attacked Officer Werries in an attempt to disarm him. Officer Werries successfully retained his handgun, but the subject made several more attempts, at one point getting his hand on the weapon itself. Officer Werries was able to maintain control of his handgun, and disengage just enough that Officer Eddy was able to incapacitate him with a Taser. The male was then taken into custody and transported to Blessing Hospital for evaluation.

The quick thinking and reaction of the officers to the initial suicide attempt saved the subject's life. Their actions, poise and measured response to the following attack, a furtherance of the subject's suicidal actions, also prevented what was clearly becoming a deadly force situation from ending as such. The fact that no one was injured in this incident is a direct effect of the abilities of these two officers.

Please join me in congratulating Officers Eddy and Werries as the Quincy Police Department's May 2016 Employees of the Month.

  
Robert A. Copley, Chief of Police