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Six Harrisonburg Police Officers Honored

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) is proud to share that six officers received awards on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 for their exceptional performance over this past year.

The first award was given by the Harrisonburg Chapter of the Kiwanis for Law Officer of the Year. Officer Rusty Driver, a 17-year veteran received this recognition for his informal leadership, training and dedication. Rusty is the consummate patrol officer, always there to assist and mentor new and veteran officers alike.

The Fort Harrison Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution also recognized and presented HPD officers with awards Tuesday night. The Law Enforcement Commendation and Medal was given to Lieutenant Chris Watson for his years of leadership, dedication and accomplishments. Detective Brooke Wetherell also received this award for her tireless work investigating the double homicide that resulted in the arrest of a likely serial killer. Also receiving the Life Saving Commendation and Medal were Lieutenant Charles Grubbs and Officer Isabella Stunda. These officers saved a citizen who overdosed on heroin and without their quick administration of NARCAN before rescue arrived, it's likely the victim would have perished. Finally, Officer Stephen Burrows received the Heroism Commendation and Medal for putting himself in harms way when the disgruntled boyfriend of a resident fired 13 shots into a home that Officer Burrows was standing in front of. Officer Burrows quickly pushed the female to safety, secured the home and immediately requested a shelter in place for the surrounding area.

"These officers exemplify the spirit of the Harrisonburg Police Department, selflessness, bravery, professionalism, and community first. I couldn't be more proud", said HPD Chief, Kelley Warner.

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