



## **The Cleveland Police Foundation is honored to recognize Community Engagement Officers Davonte Congress and Aarius Waters as the 2021 Police Officers of the Month**

Fifth District Community Engagement Officers **Davonte Congress** and **Aarius Waters** are advocates for community-police relations and continually address the needs of both the youth and elderly of their district.

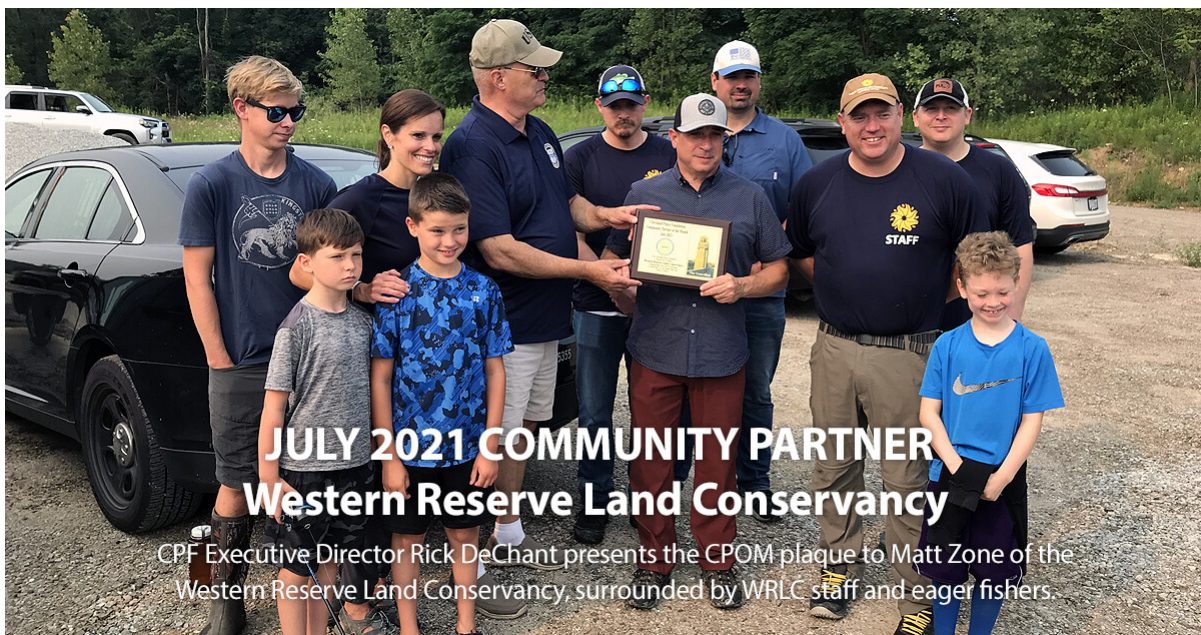
Reaching beyond the basic complaints from the members of the community, they make it their personal mission to connect these citizens with the vital city services and other resources they need. Additionally, they perform relentlessly to follow up and ensure the

safety, health and well-being of these vulnerable individuals. The CEOs also attend countless meetings but still make time for the local youth. The officers visit and interact with these young people who may be from time to time troubled, and leave a positive impact on this occasionally forgotten segment of our community.

When asked about these outstanding officers, District 5 Administrative Lieutenant Marcus Montanaro stated, "These officers are always there when needed and I would be honored if we could reward them with the Cleveland Police Foundation's Police Officer of the Month Award for what they do without being instructed and without looking for recognition. I also refer to a quote from J.C. Watts that applies to these officers which says, "Character is doing the right thing when nobody is looking."

It is because of their devotion and dedication to the community that they serve that the Cleveland Police Foundation is proud to name Fifth District Community Engagement Officers Davonte Congress and Aarius Waters as its **Police Officers of the Month for July 2021**.

[More about the Police Officer of the Month Program . . .](#)



## Proudly Announcing our July 2021 Community Partner of the Month, the Western Reserve Land Conservancy

The Cleveland Police Foundation was recently contacted about the 2021 Cops for Kids fishing event. Matt Zone, former Cleveland City Councilman and now Senior Vice President of the **Western Reserve Land Conservancy**, wanted to partner up with the CPF!

Matt's idea was to hold the Cops for Kids fishing event on the WRLC property in Burton, Ohio. Named the Blue Heron Preserve, the former sand and gravel quarry offers opportunities to fish for bass and bluegill. The event was held on Tuesday July 20, 2021



and was a total success! Cleveland Police Officers and kids recruited from the east and west side of Cleveland interacted and each kid caught a fish.

A big thank you goes out to Matt Zone and all of his staff members who attended from the Conservancy! They are looking forward to next year and a tentative date has been set.

Keith Sulzer, retired CPD Captain and CPF Liaison Consultant, states, "The Western Reserve Land Conservancy is a terrific organization that was instrumental in helping the Cleveland Police Foundation turn three abandoned lots on Parkview Avenue into the Officer Derek Owens' Memorial Park. Their understanding of how community and nature coexist in an urban area makes this organization invaluable to Cleveland!!"

It is because of their commitment and dedicated partnership to promote Community Policing that the Cleveland Police Foundation is proud to name the Western Reserve Land Conservancy as its **Community Partner of the Month for July 2021**.

[More about the Community Partner of the Month Program . . .](#)

## BOLO

AUGUST 30, 2021

[Greater Cleveland Chapter of NOBLE's Annual Golf Outing](#)

Stonewater Golf Club

OCTOBER 16, 2021

[2nd District's 21st Annual Baby Shower](#)

Held for the benefit of Providence House

1:00-4:00 PM

SEPT 17, 2021

[Ohio Heroes Golf Outing](#)

Remembering Det. James Skernivitz and  
Officer Brandon Stalker

[Registration](#) | [Sponsorship](#)

## In the News Around Town



## **Cleveland Police Welcome Cleveland Indians Pitcher James Karinchak**

A very busy day for Cleveland Indians pitcher James Karinchak, as he toured CPD Units to promote his Strike-Out fundraiser "Whiffs for Warriors" for The Cleveland Police Foundation! James Karinchak started at the Mounted Unit (where he rode a horse) and saw a training demo with the K9 Unit. Thanks to CPF Board Member Woods King III for being on hand to provide a great history of the Mounted Unit. CPF Community Partner Coordinator Bob Guttu presented James with a CPF T-shirt and a CPF miniature badge. James immediately changed into the T-shirt and wore it all day.

Next stop was Cleveland Police Headquarters where he met with Homicide, Crime Lab (where he got to shoot into the ballistics water tank) and the Police Museum. A stop was also made at the Chief's Office where Deputy Chief Joellen O'Neill presented James with a miniature Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame CPD guitar. Chief Williams could not join us as he was in a meeting with the US Marshalls but sent his thanks and regards.

From headquarters it was on to the Fifth District for a cookout, then the Third District (where Karinchak assisted with roll call), and Central Dispatch. The rank and file were very appreciative of the visits.

And every unit visited received a stack of the CPF Annual Campaign Vision '21 flyers for distribution to the rank and file. They also received a quick overview of the initiative from CPF Executive Director Rick DeChant.

Best of all, James Karinchak is donating \$50 to the Cleveland Police Foundation for each of his strikeouts. With 71 SOs to date, the total is now \$3550 with over \$1,000 donated

through the CPF website link by fans. To donate: <https://pledgeit.org/whiffsforwarriors>

Thank you, James and fans!!

## Cleveland Police Athletic League Presents Scholarships

A Cleveland PAL David Fahey Memorial Scholarship of \$2500 was given to Jacob Freeman while Justin Snider received the first CLE PAL James Skernivitz Memorial Scholarship in memory of Detective Skernivitz.

Both awards were presented by David Fahey's mother and retired police officer Jackie Ketterer at this year's Memorial Golf Outing held August 1. In order to receive the scholarships, the recipients must fit the following criteria: have a relative who is or was a law enforcement officer, participate in extracurricular activities, have excellent academic and attendance records, and be a CLE PAL volunteer.

Jacob is joining the Navy in a couple of weeks and Justin will be attending college in the fall. Congratulations and good luck in all future endeavors, Jacob and Justin!







## **The 147th Cleveland Police Academy Graduates!**

Friday, July 30, 2021, at 11 a.m. on Mall C Mayor Frank G. Jackson administered the oath of office to 34 graduates of the 147th Cleveland Police Academy. This was the first Cleveland Police Academy graduation to be held outdoors. It was live-streamed on the City of Cleveland's Facebook page.

The officers were selected following a Civil Service examination for the position of patrol officer. Candidates underwent several tests and a comprehensive background check before being offered conditional employment. As recruits they received over 1,100 hours of instruction in police tactics, criminal law, community diversity, bias-free policing and crisis intervention training. In addition, they received training specifically to prepare them to respond to the needs of the Cleveland community.

The newly sworn officers will be assigned to one of the five Neighborhood Police Districts across the city.



## Fishing Fun and Sun

The Blue Heron Preserve in Burton Ohio hosted kids from the West Side recreation centers as well as Cleveland Police Athletic League (PAL). Cleveland police officers from all five districts joined together and interacted with the kids in a positive way. Even though the humidity was sky-high and the temperature climbed, the bluegills and bass were biting and had a feast on the worms that were being cast at them!

Upon completion of fishing, the group enjoyed a box lunch and door prizes as well as a gift card award for the longest fish. As the kids departed, each was given a fishing rod combo, a tackle box, and the satisfaction of catching a fish!

A big thank you goes out to all the patrol officers and kids that took part in this event. Also helping out were Cleveland Councilman Brian Kazy, retired Sergeant Bob Kumazec from PAL, our Cleveland Police Foundation Executive Director Rick DeChant, board member Woods King and administrator Marilyn Jech. Finally, a big thank you to Matt Zone, Senior Vice President of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, and his staff for providing the venue and assisting big time at this event!

*Submitted by Bob Guttu, CPF Community Partnership Coordinator*





## **Cleveland PAL has some exciting news for boxing fans!**

Brook Park Recreation Center hosted the 2021 Cleveland Area Golden Gloves Tournament.

Novice female Danielle Cuculic fought like a warrior and won the 141 lb. novice female Golden Glove title! Josh Shorr won the 250 lb. sub-novice super heavyweight title, stopping his opponent in the third round. Colin Hall was runner up in the 141 lb. novice class, losing a close decision. Frank Brown was runner up in the 132 lb. open division, losing a razor edge decision. Our heavyweight Henry Anven lost due to an injury.

Congratulations to all the fighters and coaches for a job well done! Stay tuned for updates regarding upcoming events!

## **We get mail!**

### **#CONGRATSGRADS**

"Congratulations and good luck to all. Stay safe." - Steve Bre

### **#SAFETYFAIR**

"Thank you officers be careful be safe and thank you for your service." - Rosalie Howard

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# Safety and Crime Prevention Tips

*The Cleveland Police Foundation in partnership with the Cleveland Division of Police and the Ohio Crime Prevention Association presents these tips so residents can help to make our community safer.*

## Domestic Violence

No one deserves to be abused. Hopefully if you are being abused, you will be able to find a way to safely get out of the abusive relationship. However, the reality is that for many different reasons, some victims are not able to leave an abusive relationship once the abuse begins. If you're in a physically abusive relationship, please consider the following tips to help try to keep you and your children safe until the time comes when you are able to leave.

### During the Violence

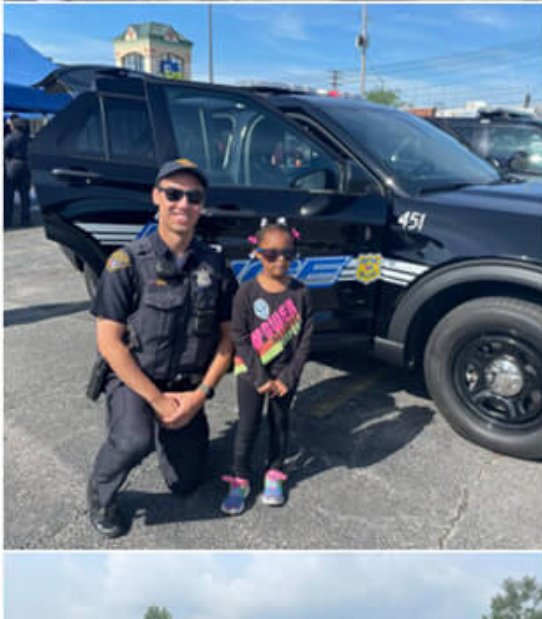
- The abuser may have patterns to his/her abuse. Try to be aware of any signs that show she/he is about to become violent so that you can assess how dangerous the situation may be for you and your children.
- If it looks like violence may happen, try to remove yourself and your children from the situation before the violence begins.
- Be aware of anything the abuser can use as a weapon. Keep any sharp or heavy objects that she/he may use to hurt you out of reach.
- Figure out where the "safer places" are in your home – the places where there aren't weapons within arm's reach. If it looks like the abuser is about to hurt you, try to get to a safer place.
- If the abuser does start to harm you, don't run to where the children are; the abuser may hurt them too.
- If there's no way to escape the violence at that moment, make yourself a small target. Dive into a corner and curl up into a ball. Protect your face and put your arms around each side of your head, wrapping your fingers together.
- Try not to wear scarves or long jewelry. The abuser could use these things to strangle you.

### Domestic Violence Series

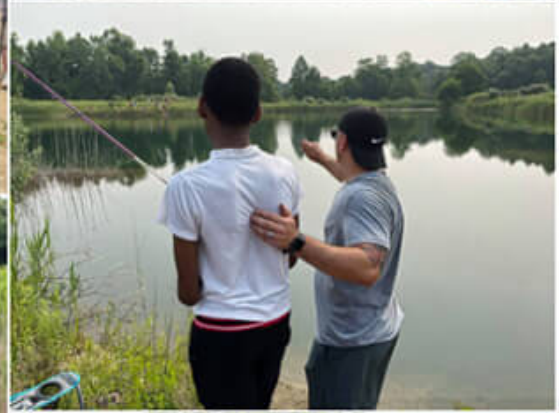
- [Part 1: Safety with an abuser](#)
- [Part 2: Plan for safety](#)
- [Part 3: Safety tips for those who have left their abusers](#)

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*Safety is everyone's business. Practice good safety measures. Stay alert; if you see something, say something.*











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**CPF on Facebook**

### The August 2021 *Partner*

*Contributors:* Angela Thi Bennett, Robert M. Guttu, Cleveland Division of Police and the Ohio Crime Prevention Association

*Co-editors:* Marilyn Jech, Kathy Smith



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Forward

*The Cleveland Police Foundation is the official charity for the Cleveland Division of Police and the only organization authorized to solicit charitable contributions on its behalf.*

*In addition to providing funding for youth and community outreach programs, community policing and engagement initiatives, safety & crime prevention programs, and supporting the members of the Cleveland Division of Police to help them better perform their duties, the CPF proudly supports the following charities in accomplishing their mission.*





*Contributions to the CPF are tax deductible under section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS Code.*

**Donate Here**

*Thank you for supporting the mission of the CPF.*

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