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The Cleveland Police Foundation is honored to recognize Detective T.J. Powell as the October 2021 Police Officer of the Month.

Cleveland Homicide Detective T.J. Powell recently decided to give back to his childhood neighborhood and community!

On his own, Detective Powell purchased and gave away one hundred backpacks to the neighborhood kids with miscellaneous school supplies and hand sanitizers. This kind gesture was well received by the children, and this event, among others that the detective has participated in, was a total success!

When notified that Detective Powell was a candidate for the Police Officer of the Month, now-retired CPD Captain

Keith Sulzer stated, "Detective T.J. Powell is a terrific father, cop, and mentor to many kids in the community. I've participated in several different events with T.J. at St. Francis. Detective Powell even went so far as walking a mile in high heels with me at a fundraiser against domestic violence for the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center, *Walk a Mile in Her Shoes*."

It is because of his dedication and devotion to his community that the Cleveland Police Foundation is proud to name Detective T.J. Powell its **Police Officer of the Month for October 2021**.

Nominated by Cleveland Police Foundation Executive Director Richard DeChant



More about the Police Officer of the Month Program . . .



The Cleveland Police Foundation proudly announces that the recipient of our Community Partner of the Month Award for October 2021 is the Hertz Cleveland Hopkins Airport Car Rental Company.

The Hertz Cleveland Hopkins Airport Car Rental Company has been a great partner for the Cleveland Division of Police First District over the past few years!

Jackie Hejduk is the general manager of the Hertz Airport and has led her fellow workers by volunteering and fundraising for numerous events in the First District. The team has offered assistance to our CPD officers to rehab a house for a woman who was living at "Laura's Home" and collected shoes to donate to The Hope Center for Refugees and Immigrants. The Hertz volunteer team also played a huge part in the recent school supply drive held at the First District. Currently, the team is collecting coats, hats, and gloves for a giveaway on November 13 at the First District station.

When asked about the Hertz Airport team, First District Community Engagement Officer Kerry Adams stated, "Jackie's team has been a great partner for the CPD First District and I believe Hertz Airport would be a perfect recipient for the Cleveland Police Foundation's Community Partner of the Month."

It is because of their dedication to the community and the Cleveland Division of Police that the Cleveland Police Foundation is proud to name Hertz Airport Car Rental as its **Community Partner of the Month for October 2021**.

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

PLEASE HELP US...

transform police culture to improve police community relations, and achieve a safer community for you and your family or business.

CONSIDER BECOMING A FRIEND

of the Cleveland Police Foundation, and receive some "cool" perks in appreciation for the support.

**Engage. Invest. Implement.****VISION '21 CAMPAIGN****Support Vision '21's Programs: Help the Police Help the Community**

Our mission is to strengthen the bonds between the Cleveland Division of Police and the citizens it serves, working together to make our city safer for all. To accomplish that goal, the CPF works proactively to support and invest in programs, community policing initiatives and engagement, events that foster stronger relationships between citizens and police officers, and police charities.

Your participation will make a direct impact on the future of our community and give you sense of pride knowing you are an official FRIEND of the Cleveland Police Foundation.

[More about the Friends program . . .](#)

In the News Around Town



Above & Beyond

One of our Cleveland Police Dispatchers Amanda Cline did what she does best – taking care of others!

Amanda, a 14-year veteran dispatcher, not only keeps our officers safe, she goes above & beyond to make sure kids in our community have a Halloween costume for eight years straight!

This year, Amanda partnered with Officers from the Third District, dispatchers from CPD, FIRE, & EMS, as well as the [Hpoa Cleveland](#) to make this happen. Donations will be made to area Domestic Violence shelters!

Special thank you to Lisa Fox from the Home Depot and Evelyn Badeas for their generous donation; also thank you to [The Cleveland Police Foundation](#) for facilitating this effort!

Fall Fun-Time with PAL



The **Cleveland Police Athletic League** partnered up with Tower City for a Halloween Happening. What a fantastic event! Tower City provided all types of fun entertainment, costumed characters, crafts, and of course loads of candy. Hundreds of kids came to Downtown Cleveland with their families for this Halloween treat.

Patrol Officer Jimmy Thomas helped pass out candy and had a great time with all the little kids who dressed up to trick-or-treat. Look forward as PAL hopes to make this an annual event – bigger and better next year!



Police K-9 Support Needed

The Cleveland Police K9 Unit was created in the spring of 1989 when 14 officers were selected to become members of Cleveland's first K9 Unit. Today, K9 officers are chosen based on their willingness to make a special commitment to the training and daily care of a Police K9 and by welcoming the dog into their home to live. A Police K9 handler must not only feed and care for their dog, but they are also required to practice daily exercises so that their dog will be well prepared at all times to meet any challenge which the team may be called upon to perform.

The K9 handler learns specific signals and verbal commands so the K9 understands not only what it is looking for during a search but how to signal its handler once the evidence or person has been found. The officer and K9 form a deep bond of communication and respect for one another while at work and at home.

The role of Cleveland's Police K9 Unit is: Community Relations, Evidence Location, Explosive Detection, Narcotics Detection, Officer & Citizen Safety and Tracking and Apprehensions.

Currently, the Cleveland Police K9 Unit does not have a training facility. As a result of this, handlers and their K9s train in local parks, empty buildings and sporadically go to Excel K-9 in Hiram, Ohio. This is not an ideal situation – not only does it take them out of the city they serve, but it also limits the amount of time they can spend training. To combat this, the Cleveland Police K9 Unit wants to build and maintain a training area within the City of Cleveland.

At this time, the City of Cleveland has given property to the K9 Unit within the perimeter of Cleveland Hopkins to build a training facility. The K9 Unit is asking for donations to assist them in purchasing the materials needed for the training facility as well as the upkeep of this area.

The Cleveland Police K9 Unit is looking for support in raising \$20,000 to purchase the following:

2 K9 A-Frames \$1,100

2 K9 Board Wall Jump \$500

Upkeep and maintenance \$3,000

2 K9 Adjustable Teeter \$350

2 K9 Car Door Jump \$600

1 K9 Catwalk \$900

3 K9 Dog Crawl \$1,500

1 K9 Platform Climb \$900

3 K9 Wall Hurdle \$1,900

2 Bike Suits \$3,600

Building supplies, as needed \$1,000

1 K9 Brick Wall Hurdle \$300

K9 Catch A-Frame \$900

2 K9 Chain Link Hurdle

\$400 1 K9 Dog Walk B

\$750 2 K9 Window Hurdle

\$600 3 K9 Picket Fence Hurdle

\$700 Rubber Mulch \$1,000

We appreciate your time and consideration in assisting us in helping us make this exciting opportunity become a reality! Questions? Please contact James Dunn (216-212-8282) or Sergeant Brian Allan.

Congratulations to the new Cleveland Police Law Enforcement Explorers!

The Law Enforcement Explorers Program is a cooperative effort with the Boy Scouts of America. It is directed toward young men and women who have completed the eighth grade, are between 14 and 21 years old, and interested in law enforcement careers. The youth are offered experiential learning with lots of fun-filled, hands-on activities to promote growth and development.





Citizens Police Academy Graduation

The Citizens Police Academy is a nine-week course for laypeople to learn about the workings of the Cleveland Division of Police. Participants visit the shooting range and Justice Center and hear outstanding speakers from within the CPD.

Attending the recent graduation ceremony were Cleveland Police Foundation Executive Director Rick DeChant and Community Outreach Coordinator Bob Guttu. To show their support, members of the Citizens Police Academy Alumni were also present.

Each graduate received a certificate and a gift bag. All members present were recipients of the Detective Jim Skernivitz Challenge Coin, donated by a generous giver. Following the ceremony, there were refreshments and fellowship among old friends!

Interested in participating in the Citizens Police Academy? Please call 216-623-5080 for more information.

Compassionate & Caring



Recently, Patrol Officers Salvatore Santillo and Shawn Wohl responded to a call for kids left home alone. Upon entering the residence with members of the Department of Children and Family Services, the officers found the three boys, ages 1, 3 and 6 confined to a single room in deplorable conditions. The children were placed with their grandmother while their mother, who had left them home alone for an undetermined amount of time, was arrested.

Since then, Officer Santillo and Officer Wohl have been making regular visits to see the boys at their grandmother's home. After PO Wohl shared the story on Facebook with an appeal for a few things, donations poured in. The officers were able to drop off toys, coats, clothing, school supplies, and diapers to the delight of Grandma and the three boys. The brothers are on the road to good health with stability and happiness!

Many thanks to all the generous donors of the community and a huge thank you to Officers Santillo and Wohl for exemplifying Cleveland's Finest.

Stolen Bike Replaced with Help from First District Police



Recently Hannah Shaub from Gracehaven, located on Brookpark Road in Cleveland sent me an email. Caleb, a young man with special needs, had his bicycle stolen in the area of West 140th and Lorain Avenue. Without hesitation, I contacted the First District Community Engagement Officer Kerry Adams for assistance. Her fellow CEO Juan DeJesus and other First District officers pooled their money and, along with funds donated by Target purchased the young man a new bike. Needless to say, Caleb was overjoyed!

This is true Community Policing and is just one example of what our Cleveland Police Officers do on a daily basis. Thank you to all the police officers and Target for your caring and compassion for Caleb, who will always remember the Cleveland Police and this special day!

Challenge Coins Still Available

Detective James Skerivitz

A 22-year veteran of the Cleveland Division of Police,
Detective James Skernivitz was a victim of gun violence

during an undercover drug operation ambush on September 3, 2020. "Skern" was also a member of the Honor Guard for 20 years and these coins honor his sacrifice.



The challenge coins are \$10 each. Please contact Bob Guttu at rguttu@clevelandpolicefoundation.org.

Thank you for remembering Detective Skernivitz and for supporting the Cleveland Police Honor Guard!

Cleveland Police Mounted Unit

The tradition of the Cleveland Police Mounted Unit has always been dear to the hearts of the community, as demonstrated by the outpouring of support over the past few decades. Officially established in 1911, the team has been in several presidential inaugural parades, helped with crowd control, and spreads good cheer and PR throughout the City of Cleveland.



To further reinforce the future of the Cleveland Police Mounted Unit, the Challenge Coins are for sale at the stables at 1150 East 38th St. in Cleveland for \$10. If you choose to have them shipped, the cost is \$15. Please message the unit with your information via their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ClevelandPoliceMountedUnit>

Thank you for your support of this Cleveland tradition!

We get mail!

#Halloween

"Excellent community service. Keep up the great work." - Leo Tully RE Halloween costume donations coordinated by Dispatcher Amanda Cline and her fellow dispatchers from the CPD, Fire & EMS; Third District Officers and HPOA Cleveland.

"What a great thing to do for this young man. CPD, you ROCK!" - Patricia Timoneri White
RE "Stolen Bike Replaced with Help from First District Police"

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.

Charitable Giving

The Ohio Attorney General offers the following tips regarding charitable solicitation/giving...

Develop a giving plan. Determine in advance which charities you want to support. Respond to unexpected or unwanted requests by explaining that you already have a giving plan in place or that you need written information to evaluate a request.

Research charities. Find out if an organization is registered with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, verify its tax-exempt status with the IRS's Exempt Organizations Select Check, and gather data from organizations such as the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance, Charity Watch, and Charity Navigator. View the organization's IRS Form 990 on Guidestar. Review program descriptions, expenses, compensation levels, and other details. Conduct a basic internet search to review a group's accomplishments or questionable activity.

Ask how your donation will be used. Keep in mind that some charitable giving requests come from professional solicitors who are paid to collect donations. By law, solicitors must identify themselves, and if you ask, they must tell you what percentage of your donation will go to the charity. (It may be only a small percentage.) Contact charities directly to find out how they use donations. Get information in writing. Compare a charity's materials with information you gather from other sources.

Watch for red flags. Be wary of high-pressure tactics, requests for checks made out to an individual (instead of a charity), charities with only a few people on their board, and people who are unable or unwilling to answer questions about their organization. Don't provide your credit card number or other personal information to callers who contact you unexpectedly.

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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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The November 2021 *Partner*

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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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