



The Cleveland Police Foundation is honored to recognize Patrol Officer Donna Brown as the November 2021 Police Officer of the Month.

Community Relations Officer Donna Brown has a real and genuine liking for the community and does all she can to enrich the communication between the officers and civilians!

PO Brown is attentive to the requests of various groups regarding crime prevention topics and presentations. When asked about Officer Brown's work ethics, her immediate supervisor Sergeant Tim Higgins stated, "Officer Donna Brown has taken exceptional ownership of meeting with several senior groups within the First District and her presentations have been well received. Officer Brown has acted as a liaison with many other Specialized Units providing them the opportunity to engage with members of the First District Community either at community meetings, senior living facilities, or the Westpark YMCA." Also commenting on Officer Brown's accomplishments was Patrol Officer Renee Collins who stated, "Officer Donna Brown loves to organize and work to gain compliance from our different units so they attend the Citizens Police Academy which she is in charge of. Sometimes she provides her own money to buy items needed to run the academy and she works well with the participants."

It is because of her dedication to the community and her profession that the Cleveland Police Foundation is proud to name Patrol Officer Donna Brown its **Police Officer of the Month for November 2021**.



The Cleveland Police Foundation proudly announces that the recipients of our Community Partner of the Month Award for November 2021 are Richard and Brenda Serrano.

Richard and Brenda Serrano have been longtime supporters of both the Fourth District community and the Cleveland Division of Police officers who work there!

This outstanding duo donates toys and other gifts during the holiday season to the kids in the Fourth District and assists the officers at many events. During the NFL Draft they provided food, Gatorade, and water to our officers, and always ask if they can be of assistance in any way during such events.

When asked about Mr. and Mrs. Serrano, CPD Community Engagement Officer Antonio Andino stated, "They have been longtime friends who have now become family because of their support of us and the Fourth District community. They have been doing this for several years and have never been recognized for their behind-the-scenes help and always ask how our officers are doing and if we need anything to let them know."

It is because of their commitment to the Fourth District community and the Cleveland Police officers who serve there that the Cleveland Police Foundation is proud to name Brenda and Richard Serrano as its **Community Partner of the Month for November 2021**.

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

Engage. Invest. Implement.

PLEASE HELP US...

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



VISION '21 CAMPAIGN

CONSIDER BECOMING A FRIEND

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



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

Mounted Unit Horses are Decorated



All, please say hello to CPD Mounted Unit horse, "Jim." He is sporting the new badge that the Cleveland Police Foundation purchased for him and the other horses housed at the Mounted Unit.

Sergeant Joe O'Neill expressed his appreciation of these gifts and for the support by the CPF of the Mounted Unit, one of the CPF's umbrella charities.

The impressive mount in this photo was named after one of the Cleveland Police Fallen Heroes, Detective Jim Skernivitz who was ambushed and murdered last year. What an honorable way to remember this well liked and hardworking dedicated officer.

Good luck "Jim" and wear that badge proudly, and thank you Detective Skernivitz for your service...you will never be forgotten!

Night at the Hoops

Cleveland PAL kids and their families were invited to a CAVS game on November 15!

Even though our Cleveland team fell short of victory, the fans that attended from the gym had a great time.



Besides the fun of the basketball game, each of the children received a \$25 gift card for the Cavaliers team shop (courtesy of the CLE PAL).

A special thank you to the Tickets for Kids organization for donating the tickets and providing food gift cards to Rally's for all those that attended.

And a special thank you to Dean Gallagher and crew who have supported CLE PAL for many years!

Executive Director Robert M. Kumazec, Jr., Cleveland Police Athletic League, 1300 Ontario Street, Cleveland, OH 44113, (216) 623-3360, clevelandpal.org, "EVERY KID NEEDS A PAL!"

Cleveland Police Help at Saint Augustine Hunger Center



A great job by Catholic Charities, [St. Augustine Hunger Center](#), and the hundreds of volunteers, including Feed the Need, that came out to feed 5,000 or more!!

Retired Sister Corita Ambros helped as well! Catholic Charities rolled out 15,000 meals between the St. Augustine Hunger Center in the Tremont neighborhood, three other sites, and meal deliveries.

Hungry recipients from the community relished turkey, candied yams, green beans, corn, dressing, and sweet potato pie!

Another wonderful example of community caring and Cleveland Police compassion!

Cleveland Police Athletic League Boxing Update

Old Angle P.A.L. boxing gym has been very busy over the last few months and we have some exciting fight updates to share with the fans.



On September 25 as we traveled to and competed in Pittsburgh, our 152 lb. female Golden Glove champ Danielle fought a tough fight but lost a close decision.

The following week on October 2, we traveled to Buffalo, New York. Our first fighter was 15-year-old Jaiden, at 125 lbs. He fought a great fight but unfortunately lost a very contested decision.

Our next fight of the night was our super heavyweight Golden Glove champ Josh, who lost to a referee stoppage (nose bleed). The final fight of the night was Danielle at 152 lbs. She showed a champ's heart and won a unanimous decision against a very game fighter!

On November 6 at the Historic Slovenian home in Cleveland, Josh, our super heavyweight Golden Glove champ, took to the ring again and scored a third round knockout against a very strong opponent from New York!

A big hurrah to all our Cleveland PAL contenders!

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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	Upkeep and maintenance \$3,000
2 K9 Board Wall Jump \$500	2 K9 Adjustable Teeter \$350
2 K9 Car Door Jump \$600	1 K9 Brick Wall Hurdle \$300
1 K9 Catwalk \$900	K9 Catch A-Frame \$900
3 K9 Dog Crawl \$1,500	2 K9 Chain Link Hurdle
1 K9 Platform Climb \$900	\$400 1 K9 Dog Walk B
3 K9 Wall Hurdle \$1,900	\$750 2 K9 Window Hurdle
2 Bike Suits \$3,600	\$600 3 K9 Picket Fence Hurdle
Building supplies, as needed \$1,000	\$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.

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!

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.



Tips from the Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program

It is estimated that about 33% of all households with children ages 18 and under have a gun in the home. It is very important that we make sure our children know what to do if they happen to find a gun either in the home or outside. Here are some tips from the Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program:

- STOP! – This first step is critical. Stopping first allows your child the time he or she needs to remember the rest of the following safety instructions.
- DON'T TOUCH – A firearm that is not touched or disturbed is unlikely to be fired and otherwise endanger your child or other people.
- RUN AWAY – This removes the temptation to touch the firearm as well as the danger that another person may negligently cause it to fire.
- TELL A GROWN-UP – Children should seek a trustworthy adult, neighbor, relative or teacher- if a parent is not available.

We as adults should teach these important points to our children and continue to go over them periodically so they understand that a gun is not a toy and can hurt them.

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

Stuff the Truck

Seen around town... CPF's Stuff the Truck Christmas event at Market Square Park with Skylight Financial and the Cleveland Police Dept.



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The December 2021 *Partner*

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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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