



Allegheny County Council

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Legislation Text

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Title...

Certificates of Recognition awarded to the Allegheny County Bureau of Police 2015 Patrol Officer of the Year and 2015 Detective of the Year awardees, and Patrol Officer and Detective Commendations issued in 2015.

Body...

Allegheny County Council is proud to present this Certificate of Recognition to Patrol Officer Greg Renko and Patrol Officer Bradley Bennett for earning the 2015 Patrol Officer of the Year Award from the Allegheny County Police Department. In 2015, Officer Renko and Officer Bennett made a traffic stop at the Pittsburgh International Airport and discovered the driver was in possession of more than \$28,000 in cash, a handgun, and marijuana. After a search warrant was issued, an additional \$7,000 in cash was recovered from the vehicle. The officers found the driver had a full extradition warrant from Erie, Ohio and was convicted of murder and other felonies in Michigan. He was originally sentenced to life without the possibility of parole in Michigan, however his sentence was vacated because he was a juvenile. He served 11 years of a 19-42 year sentence before being paroled. He was charged with weapons violations, false ID, drug charges and other violations. The arrest has led to multi-state charges as the driver is a known affiliate and mid-level drug courier of the gang named the "Latin Kings." Patrol Officer Renko's and Patrol Officer Bennett's actions are indicative of the level of character, training and experience which these officers possess and is indicative of the caliber of personnel employed by the Allegheny County Police Department. This Council offers its sincerest congratulations to Patrol Officer Greg Renko and Patrol Officer Bradley Bennett for earning the 2015 Patrol Officer of the Year Award from the Allegheny County Police Department.

Allegheny County Council is proud to present this Certificate of Recognition to Detective Jaison Mikelonis and Detective Timothy Capp for earning the 2015 Detective of the Year Award from the Allegheny County Police Department. Detectives Mikelonis and Capp investigated two separate marijuana drug trafficking organizations who were responsible for importing thousands of pounds of marijuana to Western Pennsylvania from California. Due to their efforts, approximately \$116,000 in cash was seized, approximately 40 pounds of marijuana and three firearms were recovered. One person was arrested for drug charges, criminal conspiracy and running a corrupt organization, and subsequently \$416,548 was seized. As the parallel investigation continued with the assistance of the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office and Federal DEA, a grand jury recommended charges be brought against several individuals, and as a result 14 people were indicted and later arrested. During the investigation of the drug trafficking network, approximately \$3.1 million dollars was seized along with 170 pounds of marijuana, several firearms and numerous assets. Detective Jaison Mikelonis' and Detective Timothy Capp's actions are indicative of the level of character, training and experience which these Detectives possess and

is indicative of the caliber of personnel employed by the Allegheny County Police Department. This Council offers its sincerest congratulations to Detective Jaison Mikelonis and Detective Timothy Capp for earning the 2015 Detective of the Year Award from the Allegheny County Police Department.

Allegheny County Council is proud to present this Certificate of Recognition to Patrol Officer William Gorman for receiving a commendation from the Allegheny County Police Department. On April 3, 2015, Officer Gorman came upon a vehicle at the Pittsburgh International Airport and was alerted by the driver that her 9-month old infant was choking. Utilizing his first aid training, Officer Gorman was able to clear the baby's airway and medical personnel subsequently found the baby to be in good condition. Officer Gorman's actions are indicative of the level of character, training and experience which this officer possesses and is indicative of the caliber of personnel employed by the Allegheny County Police Department. This Council offers its sincerest congratulations to Officer William Gorman for earning a commendation for a job well done.

Allegheny County Council is proud to present this Certificate of Recognition to Patrol Officer Keith McGann for receiving a commendation from the Allegheny County Police Department. On January 11, 2015, Officer McGann conducted a traffic stop while working at South Park District 2. During the stop, Officer McGann noticed numerous credit cards on the floor of the vehicle. Further investigation revealed a multi-state credit card fraud and forgery ring and led to the arrest of four suspects. Officer McGann's actions are indicative of the level of character, training and experience which this officer possesses and is indicative of the caliber of personnel employed by the Allegheny County Police Department. This Council offers its sincerest congratulations to Officer Keith McGann for earning a commendation for a job well done.

Allegheny County Council is proud to present this Certificate of Recognition to Patrol Officer Jeffrey Mohr and Patrol Officer Jeffrey Walker for receiving a commendation from the Allegheny County Police Department. These officers are currently assigned to operate the Police Academy Shooting Range. In 2015, they implemented many new changes to the firearms training for the Allegheny County Police Department. The changes have created a positive learning environment and an interest by other officers who were previously discouraged by firearms qualifications. In addition, they have created and renewed ties with other local police departments who utilize the shooting range. Officer Mohr's and Officer Walker's actions are indicative of the level of character, training and experience which these officers possess and is indicative of the caliber of personnel employed by the Allegheny County Police Department. This Council offers its sincerest congratulations to Officer Jeffrey Mohr and Officer Jeffrey Walker for earning a commendation for a job well done.

Allegheny County Council is proud to present this Certificate of Recognition to Detective Jason Costanzo for receiving a commendation from the Allegheny County Police Department. In 2015, Detective Costanzo investigated numerous suspected arson cases, involving deaths, severe injuries and/or considerable property damage throughout Allegheny County. His efforts helped lead to the confessions and arrest of the actors in many of these cases. Detective Costanzo's

actions are indicative of the level of character, training and experience which this Detective possesses and is indicative of the caliber of personnel employed by the Allegheny County Police Department. This Council offers its sincerest congratulations to Detective Jason Costanzo for earning a commendation for a job well done.

Allegheny County Council is proud to present this Certificate of Recognition to Detective Steve Hitchings for receiving a commendation from the Allegheny County Police Department. In 2015, Detective Hitchings participated in numerous Homicide investigations which were eventually solved. Of particular note were his efforts related to a homicide case in Shaler Township in which he obtained a confession from the actor. His investigative skills, dedication and strong work ethic stand out even to his fellow Detectives. Detective Hitchings's actions are indicative of the level of character, training and experience which this Detective possesses and is indicative of the caliber of personnel employed by the Allegheny County Police Department. This Council offers its sincerest congratulations to Detective Steve Hitchings for earning a commendation for a job well done.

Allegheny County Council is proud to present this Certificate of Recognition to Detective Gary Romano and Detective Thomas DeTemple for receiving a commendation from the Allegheny County Police Department. Detectives Romano and DeTemple have revitalized the County Police Department's Narcotics "Vice" Unit. At the request of local police departments, they have investigated suspected massage parlors, performed reverse sting operations, and identified prostitution areas. As a result, these Detectives have been successful with arresting 63 prostitutes in 2015 with a 100% conviction rate. In addition, they remain watchful for child prostitution and human trafficking related to prostitution crimes. Detective Romano's and Detective DeTemple's actions are indicative of the level of character, training and experience which these detectives possess and is indicative of the caliber of personnel employed by the Allegheny County Police Department. This Council offers its sincerest congratulations to Detective Gary Romano and Detective Thomas DeTemple for earning a commendation for a job well done.