



South Bethany Police
402 Evergreen Road
South Bethany, DE 19930
Phone (302) 539-3996 Fax (302) 539-7545

Troy M. Crowson
Chief of Police

September 8th, 2017

On behalf of the South Bethany Police Department and the Town of South Bethany, I would like to commend the outstanding performance of two of our officer's year to date. Cpl. Burton and Pfc. Hudson consistently go above and beyond to keep daily operations in the department running smoothly, while always keeping the members of the community their number one priority.

On Friday, March 3rd, 2017, Pfc. Hudson was on his last day of training at the NRA Handgun & Shotgun Firearms Instructor Class, in Pittsburgh, PA. While instructing a fellow student on the range during the handgun portion of this training, Pfc. Hudson noticed a different sound after his classmate fired. He immediately ceased all firing to check his classmate's weapon. Upon further inspection of the weapon, it was determined by the NRA instructor the bullet was lodged in the barrel, also known as a squib. While this is a rare event, it is also a dangerous one. Had Pfc. Hudson not stopped his classmate from firing that second round, it would have gone off behind this blockage, potentially causing an explosion resulting in serious injuries.

On this same day, while returning home from this firearms training in Pittsburgh, Pfc. Hudson happened upon a traffic accident on a highway, involving a tractor trailer and a passenger car. The driver of the car had sustained injuries to his head and seemed to be pacing back and forth in a panic. Pfc. Hudson, the first officer on the scene, immediately took control of this incident in a calm, direct manner. He was able to get all subjects involved to move to safe area while walking a witness through contacting emergency services and giving them all the information needed for a rapid response.

On August 7th, 2017 Cpl. Burton responded to a report of a vehicle collision with injury on Westway Drive in Sea Colony. Cpl. Burton arrived at the same time as EMS and observed a silver minivan in a ditch along the south edge of the roadway. The elderly male victim was operating the vehicle when he suffered a cardiac event which caused the vehicle to veer off the roadway and travel into the ditch. His grandson was in the vehicle with him at the time but was uninjured. As the victim was unresponsive, Cpl. Burton immediately assisted EMS with CPR by performing chest compressions on the victim until an ambulance arrived to transport the victim to the hospital. Because of Cpl. Burton's life-saving efforts during this incident, the male victim survived.

On March 12th, 2017 Pfc. Hudson responded to a medical call for a possible overdose/poisoning within South Bethany town limits. Upon arrival, Pfc. Hudson made contact with several females present, who advised they did not know what was wrong but their friend was in the bathroom upstairs. Pfc. Hudson observed a young female barely conscious lying in the



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bathtub. Her friends advised she had vomited. Pfc. Hudson held her on her side and supported her neck and head to maintain a patent airway. The female was not responding verbally and appeared to slip out of consciousness briefly. Pfc. Hudson advised medical units to hasten their response. Cpl. Burton then arrived to assist Pfc. Hudson as they both lifted her out of the tub and laid her on a flat surface. Cpl. Burton performed a sternal rub which resulted in a response from the female. When medical units arrived and took over the care for the female, Pfc. Hudson and Cpl. Burton continued the investigation in an attempt to obtain any information that would assist medical responders with a diagnosis or treatment. Cpl. Burton and Pfc. Hudson educated and subsequently cited 9 underage females that were present at the residence. While at the hospital, the female victim was intubated and stabilized. Thanks to Cpl. Burton and Pfc. Hudson's swift response and conscientious efforts, she not only made a full recovery, but was able to return home later the next evening.

It is irrefutable that the actions of these two officers have positively impacted and forever changed the lives of many and the citizens of South Bethany are fortunate to have such an admirable team always just a phone call away. Whether it be simply assisting someone on the side of the road to change a flat tire, or the heroic actions these officers have displayed, it's no secret that they are both dedicated to their duty to serve and protect the community.

In addition to their eagerness to help the community, Cpl. Burton and Pfc. Hudson both share a vast majority of the departmental duties. Both of these officers are certified instructors for our department, taking on the demanding task of making sure our entire department exceeds all training expectations in every area of law enforcement. From firearms and taser training, to handling all evidence obtained, and training all new officers in the field, it is evident that this department would not run as smoothly or efficiently without their help and they both deserve recognition for their consistent efforts.

Sincerely,

Troy Crowson
Chief of Police