



PALMER LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 591, Palmer Lake, CO 80133  Voice (719) 481-2934 Fax (719) 481-3338

On the date of February 25th, 2022, Officer James Gustav Bentley responded to a 911 call within the Town of Palmer Lake.

Officer Bentley was informed there was a home invasion in progress and the suspect was attacking the residents within the home with a machete. Officer Bentley arrived on scene within 5 minutes of initial dispatch. Once on scene, Officer Bentley made the life saving decision to enter the home prior to his cover arriving. A decision that was correct but not expected. Officer Bentley selflessly chose to accept the danger of a lethal force situation in order to save the lives of the victims within the home.

Officer Bentley entered and immediately engaged with the suspect going hands on and showing a high degree of controlled restraint under stress, choosing not to neutralize the suspect with lethal force. Officer Bentley's courageous actions saved the lives of three victims as well as the life of the suspect.

It is for these actions that I, Chief Jason Vanderpool, proudly award Officer James Bentley the Palmer Lake Life Saving Award.

