



POLICE DEPARTMENT

To: Chief Of Police W. Rhodes

From: Sgt. C. Thompson

Date: 07/17/2022

Ref: Recommendation for Commendation Award

Chief,

On June 14, 2022, at approximately 0402 hours, Sanger Police Officer Justin Stamps, badge number 774 was dispatched to the 1524 blk of N. Stemmons Fwy. This location is where Belz Rd. goes over Interstate I-35. Officer Stamps was dispatched to a welfare concern for a male who identified himself as John Wilson. Denton County Dispatch advised that the male was on the bridge crying and saying he was going to make a decision. At 0406 hours Officer Stamps located Mr. Wilson on the bridge visibly upset and crying while standing at the edge of the bridge. Officer Stamp's initial contact with Mr. Wilson was calm and professional. Officer Stamps approached Mr. Wilson and was able to get him to walk away from the edge of the bridge and engage with in conversation. Officer Stamps used outstanding active listening skills during his encounter with Mr. Wilson, allowing Mr. Wilson to "vent" while Officer Stamps guided the conversation in a safe direction and away from the thoughts of self-harm. Officer Stamps used his own personal experiences in life to relate to what Mr. Wilson was going through. Officer Stamps continued to provide positive solutions for Mr. Wilson to keep his mind moving away from suicidal ideations. Officer Stamps went as far as to provide Mr. Wilson with his phone number in the event Mr. Wilson wanted to ever reach out. Officer Stamps was able to talk to Mr. Wilson about the consequences of suicide without Mr. Wilson feeling like Officer Stamps was talking down to him. Mr. Wilson was reluctant to go to MHMR for evaluation at first. Officer Stamps was honest and up front with Mr. Wilson about his options and kept Mr. Wilson calm and talked him into making the decision to voluntarily go to MHMR for an evaluation. Officer Stamps then took it upon himself to see personally that Mr. Wilson received the help he needed by transporting him to MHMR himself. While transporting Mr. Wilson Officer Stamps stayed engaged in conversation keeping Mr. Wilson calm. Officer Stamps then went into MHMR with Mr. Wilson and ensured he was checked in and was seen by professionals.

It is my opinion after watching the body camera video and reading the call notes for EVENT # 220159340 that Officer Stamps used his mental health peace officer training





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by remaining calm in a stressful situation and talking to Mr. Wilson as a friend instead of an authoritative figure. Officer Stamps educated Mr. Wilson and provided positive reinforcement when Mr. Wilson began to doubt himself. I believe that Officer Stamps acted in a way that brings great credit upon the Sanger Police Department, and showed how compassionate police officers can be. Officer Stamps continues to lead by example during his short time with the Sanger Police Department and shows he genuinely cares about the community that he is a part of. I would like to recommend Officer Justin Stamps badge # 774 for a commendation award for his efforts and compassion while assisting Mr. Wilson who was clearly in a mental health crisis. Officer Stamp's dedication to the City of Sanger is motivation to not only myself but other officers within the department to be more than the guy who takes people to jail. Officer Stamps has shown a side of police work that is often overlooked and not recognized by others outside the department in which he works. As Officer Stamps first line supervisor I have had the privilege to watch Officer Stamps interact with several members of the community as well as officers within the Department. Officer Stamps is always willing to help out and the incident with Mr. Wilson in proof that Officer Stamps is willing to do whatever it takes to ensure someone in need of help is taken care of to the best of his abilities. I am proud to call Officer Stamps a member of the Sanger Police Department.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. Thompson", with the number "# 712" written to its right.

Sgt. C. Thompson
Patrol Supervisor
Sanger Police Department