



James D. Hinojosa
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HURON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY

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Everette Robbins
Director of Public Safety

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

To: Dispatcher Alexis Powell, Huron Township Department of Public Safety
From: Everette Robbins, Director of Public Safety
Re: Life Saving Efforts – Suicidal Person
Date: October 29th, 2018

On September 9th, 2018 at 4:14a.m., you received a 911 call from a Sumpter Township resident who told you he was planning to end his life. You immediately recognized the seriousness of the situation and began asking the person pertinent officer safety questions in a compassionate manner, which was an important factor in establishing trust. You were able to obtain that the individual had a weapon in his hand and no one there with him. As I listened to the call, it was clear that in a very short time, you were able to develop a rapport and mutual respect between this individual and yourself. You became his instant support system. At all times you kept your composure and were a calming influence on a tense situation. It is also important to not lose sight that this individual's life was not the only one in danger during this incident. It was impressive to listen to how quickly you were able to relay pertinent information to responding officers, which in turn gave them valuable officer safety information while responding to the incident. Based on your actions, he was safely able to receive the treatment he needed.

Our department received an email from Lieutenant Patrick Gannon of the Sumpter Township Police Department. In addition to passing along a thank you from he and his department, he also wanted to pass on a thank you from the individual whose life that we all believe you saved. The individual told Lieutenant Gannon that he in fact had every intention to end his life, but he now owes you his life for the way you treated him that night. As noted by Lieutenant Gannon in his email, it is not often enough that we hear that we saved someone's life.

Emergency Dispatchers regularly find themselves dealing directly with good people that are in their lowest moments. It is how we as public safety professionals treat individuals during these moments that will define our career as well as our relationship with those that we serve so proudly. Dispatcher Powell, the moments you spent listening to and helping this person more than likely saved his life, kept your officer's safe, and for that, I thank you.

Make no mistake, our dispatch staff are the ultimate front-line emergency responders who are ready to help at a moment's notice. Too often, they do not get the credit they truly deserve. It is important for you to know that your good deeds and excellent work are not going unnoticed. It is with great pride that I commend you for saving a life. I am proud to have you on our public safety team keeping the residents of Huron and Sumpter Townships safe. Personally, I am proud of your growth and the respect you have earned from all that wear our public safety uniform. Please accept my congratulations and thanks for a job well done!

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Robbins".

Everette Robbins
Huron Township Director of Public Safety

Cc: Supervisor David Glaab
Huron Township Board of Trustees
Personnel File

Dedicated to Serve and Protect