

The Hundred Club of DuPage County Supporting our law enforcement and firefighting personnel families

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Wood Dale Police Officers Honored with 2019 Award of Valor from the Hundred Club of DuPage County

Wood Dale, IL – The Hundred Club of DuPage County will present Wood Dale Police Officers Kevin Perez and Bryan Shelton their 2019 Award of Valor during its Annual Meeting and Valor Awards Dinner on October 30, 2019 at the Lisle/Naperville Hilton. The dinner recognizes first responders for their acts of courage and heroism.

On January 1, 2019 at approximately 10:30 P.M. a 911 hang-up call was received from a residence in Wood Dale. The dispatcher called back and learned that a subject in the residence was intoxicated, suicidal, and threatening to kill family members and himself. Over the course of two 911 phone calls, it was learned that the subject had moved to a bathroom in the house and was armed with a knife.

Officer Perez and Officer Shelton arrived on the scene and were able to speak to the parents of the subject. After gaining more information from the parents the officers approached the bathroom where the subject was located. The door was locked and the officers began making conversation with the subject. He informed them not to try and enter or he would stab them. He also said that he had a bomb and "other surprises" for the officers.

The officers continued to try and speak to the subject while the patrol Sergeant was attempting to get a certified negotiator to come out to the scene. At this time the subject stopped communication with the officers. After waiting 2-3 minutes the officers decided to force entry to the bathroom, worried the subject may be committing imminent harm to himself. One of the officers was armed with a Taser.

The subject was laying in the bathtub with a large knife in his hand. He was covered in blood from a deep cut he had made to his wrist. He attempted several times to get the officers to shoot him by flinching in their direction. After several more requests to shoot him along with suicidal statements, he began stabbing himself in the already open wound. At this time the officers deployed the Taser. While Officer Perez used the Taser to immobilize the subject, Officer Shelton removed the knife from the subject's grip and directed him to the ground. This occurred in the 5 second Taser activation. The subject was detained and transported to the hospital for evaluation.

The actions of the two officers in this situation were undertaken in the face of personal injury and risk to their life, and likely resulted in saving the subject's life as well.

"An act of valor is defined as an action above and beyond the call of duty; and when a person exhibits exceptional courage, extraordinary decisiveness, and presence of mind as well as unusual swiftness of action, regardless of his or her personal safety, in an attempt to save or protect human life", said Lisa Savegnago, President of the Hundred Club of DuPage County. "The actions Officers Perez and Shelton took to sacrifice themselves and serve their community are a testament to their devotion to duty. It's with great honor that The Hundred Club of DuPage County bestows the 2019 Award of Valor to Police Officer Perez and Officer Shelton."

About The Award of Valor

The Hundred Club Award of Valor is a life-long honor of law enforcement officers and firefighters chosen by their peers for heroic actions above and beyond the normal expectations of their duties and their jobs.

About the Hundred Club of DuPage County

The Hundred Club of DuPage County established in September 1982, is a private, non-profit charitable organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois. The Hundred Club of DuPage County offers assistance to families of law enforcement and firefighting personnel who have been killed, injured, or otherwise stricken while residing or working in the county. For more information about the Hundred Club of DuPage County, please visit <u>www.hundredclubofdupage.org</u>. There you can purchase tickets for the Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation.