

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - 2021 OFFICER OF THE YEAR

March 15, 2022

Dear Officer Baumgardner:

During the past 12 months, you were assigned 530 general incidents and you investigated 23 traffic accidents. In addition, you filed 27 felony/misdemeanor charges as well as 9 summary criminal violations. You issued 439 traffic citations and stopped another 20 motorists for various offenses. Clearly, you kept yourself busy in 2021.

Your productivity is outstanding given the fact that you spent over five months of 2021 acting as a Field Training Officer for our new officers. The duties of a Field Training Officer are vital to the future of this agency. The effort and time a Field Training Officer invests in a Probationary Police Officer is many times forgotten or overlooked. You were instrumental in the education and training of two new police officers in 2021.

The best example your work is while working as a Field Training Officer, on 02.12.21 you stopped a vehicle for making an illegal U-turn. The smell of marijuana emanated from the vehicle stopped. You and your trainee interviewed the driver and passenger of the vehicle. A search warrant was obtained to search the vehicle. The search led to the arrest of the driver and passenger for possessing prescription drugs that did not belong to them. An NYCRPD detective was able to use the information collected from your incident to lead to further arrests of your suspect for forging prescriptions to obtain narcotics in multiple jurisdictions across two counties.

Your Platoon Sergeant noted that you understand the Department's mission and put the Department's core values on display. An example of this is a citizen's commendation you received on 05.23.21. You were observed stopping your patrol to step out and toss a football around with some local youths.

This Department and Chief are very fortunate to have an officer of your caliber within its ranks. We are reminded that no person is ever forced to choose law enforcement as a profession. But, having made that choice, he is obligated to perform his duties and live up to its standards. You have met and surpassed this requirement.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, and with great personal and professional satisfaction, I congratulate and commend you as the 2021 Officer of the Year!

cc: Board of Commissioners
Personnel file