



KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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For immediate release:
KCSO news release #15-033 / 125 / 92 / 1

Monday, July 27, 2015

Citizens on Patrol

Sheriff's volunteer recognized by county commissioners

PORT ORCHARD, Wash. -- Something quite unexpected occurred during a routine business meeting in the county administrative building when Mr. Michael J. Kennedy, a Citizens on Patrol (COP) volunteer with the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, was honored by the Kitsap Board of County Commissioners with the ***Outstanding County Volunteer Award***, during board proceedings this evening in the commissioner's chambers.

The Award was presented to Kennedy by Sheriff Gary Simpson before the board of commissioners, fellow COP volunteers, guests and county residents participating in open forum government.

A resident of Central Kitsap, Kennedy was formally recognized for his leadership role as the COP Unit's training sergeant with more than 5,500 hours donated to the county. County officials estimate the value of his volunteer county service to have exceeded \$151,000!

As a COP Unit sergeant, he was responsible for coordinating the training of the 24 member-strong COP program. He assumed additional responsibilities by updating the unit's policy manual, organizing the unit's administrative files system and streamlining the prospective member application, selection and qualification process.

Kennedy has served as a COP volunteer for more than 10 years. He was voted COP of the year by his peers three times and has inspired the unit to function smoothly and with minimal supervision by sheriff's office personnel.

His positive attitude, work ethic and quality of work is an inspiration to all volunteers, and full-time agency employees.

The Citizens on Patrol volunteer program supports the sheriff's office by processing and impounding abandoned / junk vehicles, conducting vacation house checks while owners are away, performing residential security evaluations and educating the public about state law and county ordinances pertaining to motor vehicle parking.



Citizen on Patrol Volunteer Mike Kennedy is presented with the Kitsap Outstanding County Volunteer Award by Sheriff Gary Simpson, right, and Deputy Sheriff Schon Montague, Sheriff's Community Resource Officer, during a brief ceremony held Monday evening before the Kitsap Board of County Commissioners in the commissioners' chambers.

Following the presentation Commissioner Robert Gelder, board chairman, together with Commissioner Charlotte Garrido and Commissioner Edward Wolfe, praised the long-service commitment of Kennedy and his countless hours of service to the county, acknowledging that such dedication has an impact on county services that otherwise wouldn't be completed or even available, in many instances.

The commissioners paid tribute to the more than 4,000 community volunteers whose skills assist in the delivery of civic amenities, and the maintenance, upkeep and preservation of county parks and lands.

Persons interested in the Citizens on Patrol volunteer program will find additional information at: <http://www.kitsapgov.com/sheriff/volunteers/cop.htm>

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