

I would like to thank the Exchange Club for honoring these disciplines in public service on a yearly basis. I know it is appreciated by the Police officers that have been nominated this year as well as the present and past recipients of this recognition. It means so much to our employees particularly because it comes from a civic group that recognizes and has an obvious appreciation of what Police, Fire and EMS deal with on a daily basis.

There is much I can say about all of the nominated Police Officers this year as Cpl. Royce Williams and Officer Urbanczyk are deserving of the recognition by their peers for their efforts, unfortunately only one is selected and I will focus on this year's recipient,

First Class Patrolman Robert Grant.

Officer Grant was hired on December 1st, 2003. He underwent departmental training and then the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy from April through July of 2004. He was then assigned to Uniform Patrol working the third (or midnight) shift.

Early on it became apparent that Officer Grant was a very active Officer. He made such an impression that in May of 2006 the Police Department formed SOG, Special Operations Group, and Officer Grant was assigned to this 4 Officer group. Their task was to target high crime and problematic areas of the community and they were very successful. In October due to staffing issues and call load SOG was disbanded for the winter and he was reassigned to the third shift (MIDNIGHTS)

In a sampling of Officer Gants activity, Since January 1 of this year Officer Gant has been involved in 1235 traceable events, things like:

429 Traffic stops

12 burglary's in progress

8 shots fired calls

51 fights in progress

47 domestic disputes and 67 suspicious person calls along with the remainder of the 1235 events.

That doesn't leave much time for sitting at the doughnut shop.

He is the recipient of two life saving awards and three letters of commendation as well as Officer of the month.

Life Saving award

November 22nd 2005 11:45 pm He RESPONDED TO 827 Manhattan st. and discovered the residence engulfed in flames. Off. Grant and other Officers conducted a search of the home and removed two children and two adults.

Again

On August 7th, 2007 Officer Grant responded to a fire at 1622 Kentucky Street when he observed smoke to the north. Upon investigating he saw the residence at 1310 Kentucky was on fire. Without hesitation Officer Grant went to the scene of the fire. Officer Grant entered the residence and encountered

several adults scrambling to save their children as the house was engulfed in a very aggressive fire. As they exited the home Officer Grant went upstairs to rescue three children that were trapped by the smoke and flames. After carrying two of the children to safety Officer Grant returned to the residence for the remaining child. Without regard for his own safety he climbed through thick smoke and searing heat grasping the remaining child and carried the child to safety.

Officer Grant's act of bravery is a credit to his character and is in keeping with the highest standards established throughout the history of the Michigan City Police Department.

I am sure if you asked him you would receive the response that most public servants give, they don't view their actions as heroic or brave, they just reacted to someone needing help.

I along with you congratulate Officer Grant and his family for his acts of bravery and putting others that are in need before himself. Again we thank the Exchange Club for recognizing these public servants actions as being heroic or brave and recognizing them on a yearly basis through this awards process.