



NEWS RELEASE

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND



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For Immediate Release:

PFC CHARLES “JOSH” KELLEY SELECTED AS THE 2009 NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH OFFICER OF THE YEAR

The Ocean City Neighborhood Watch Association recently selected Police Officer First Class (Pfc.) Charles “Josh” Kelley to be the honorable recipient of the 2009 Ocean City Neighborhood Watch “Officer of the Year” award. Nearly 130 guests attended the event, which was held Monday, January 11, 2010 at the Elks Lodge on 137th Street and Coastal Highway. The Neighborhood Watch Association is made up of seven Ocean City neighborhoods including residents from Caine Woods, Caine Keys II, Montego Bay, Little Salisbury, Bayshore Drive, Edgewater Avenue and Sundowner Park.

Pfc. Kelley was born and raised on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. After graduating high school, he attended West Virginia University where he studied Wildlife Management. His education continued at Wor-Wic Community College, where he studied Business Management and Criminal Justice.

Perhaps one of Pfc. Kelley’s biggest accomplishments was his service in the United States Marine Corps. Aboard the USS Oak Hill during Operation Enduring Freedom, Pfc. Kelley was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Sergeant. His role as a Platoon Sergeant earned him the Navy Commendation Medal in Combat Operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Pfc. Kelley was deployed for nearly two years overseas where he served as a Communications Systems Specialist. He was discharged from the Marine Corps in May of 2008 where he obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant, after eight years of honorable military service.



Pictured Above: Neighborhood Watch Officer of the Year Nominees pictured with Chief DiPino: (from left to right) Sgt. Mark Paddock, Pfc. Josh Kelley, Chief DiPino, Dfc. Shawn Jones, Pfc. Andrew Yeager and Pfc. Aaron Morgan.

January 12, 2010

Quite often, citizens' hunches turn out to be valuable information to us. If you have information that you feel we should know, we encourage you to leave us e-mail. OCPCD@ococyan.com



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Pfc. Kelley returned to his education at Salisbury University and earned a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Interpersonal Communications & Conflict Resolution. In addition to completing his degree, Kelley completed two successful summers as a Seasonal Police Officer, before joining the Ocean City Police Department as a full-time Police Officer in July of 2006. Pfc. Kelly was Class Leader at the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy, achieved a perfect pistol score as the class High Shooter Award, earned the highest Physical Fitness Award, and received the Leadership Award for his service to the Academy.

Pfc. Kelley was promoted to the rank of Police Officer First Class in January 2009. He is active in the Training & Recruiting of seasonal Police Officers, an instructor at the entrance level and seasonal police academy as a member of the Drill & Discipline Team, and serves as a mentor to Officers within the department. Pfc. Kelley's "Hard-Charger" sense of Esprit de Corps keeps him motivated while actively involving himself as an Instructor in the Citizen's Police Academy, member of the R.A.A.M Enforcement, Plain Clothes Operations, Police Mountain Bike, and School Bus Special Enforcement.

Pfc. Kelley also volunteered and provided security during the 56th Inauguration of the President of the United States in Washington, D.C. in January of 2009. He is actively involved in the Marine Corps League, Toys for Tots Foundation, the Fraternal Order of Police, and the United States Marine Corps Executive Association. Pfc. Kelley is also a Marine4Life Hometown Link Liaison, an active member of his Neighborhood Watch Community Initiative, and actively supports the Wounded Warrior Project and Special Olympics. In addition to being a proactive patrol Officer, Pfc. Kelley has volunteered and actively participated in training to include, Asset Forfeiture, Homicide Scene Management, and Narcotics Interdiction.

Pfc. Kelley currently lives in Salisbury, Maryland with his wife, Renee, adorable daughter Gia, and their Yorkshire Terrier, "Pepper." When he is not working, he enjoys home improvements, cooking, hunting, fishing, and working outside. When asked how he felt about receiving the Neighborhood Watch Officer of the Year Award he stated, "I am truly humbled. It is very motivating to come to work for a community like Ocean City because of the residents in our Neighborhood Watch Association, along with the men and women in the OCPD."

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