



NEWS RELEASE

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND



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For Immediate Release:

OCPD DETECTIVE RECOGNIZED FOR "EXCEPTIONAL POLICE PERFORMANCE"

On Monday, September 14, 2009, the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association held their opening ceremony to kick off the 48th Annual Training Seminar in Ocean City, Maryland. During the opening ceremony, a presentation of awards were given to officers who have been an example of *Exceptional Police Performance*.

Ocean City Police Corporal/Detective James Schwartz was recognized for his outstanding work in narcotics investigation. Corporal Schwartz was a seasonal officer in 1997 with the OCPD, after which he was employed for 2 years with the City of Norfolk, Virginia Police Department before returning to the OCPD and becoming a full time officer in 1999. Corporal Schwartz is currently assigned as a detective in the Vice/Narcotics Unit of the Criminal Investigation Division.

During the nine years he has spent in Vice/Narcotics, Corporal Schwartz has been deemed an expert drugs/narcotics investigator. He is also a member of the OCPD Commendation Board and is a State of Maryland, court certified expert witness regarding Controlled Dangerous Substances. Corporal Schwartz has completed specialized Narcotics training from MCTFT, MAGLOCLIN, and the DEA.

Throughout his tenure in Narcotics, he has authored almost 50 Drug Search & Seizure warrants, initiated and supervised over 50 long term felony drug investigations, served as the primary undercover detective in dozens of undercover drug investigations and been involved in hundreds of drug arrests. In 2003 and 2008, Corporal Schwartz initiated pharmaceutical diversion investigations which resulted in the arrest of two local physicians. The two cases produced charges of several counts of prescribing prescription medication outside of common medical practice.

Corporal Schwartz has received over 17 interdepartmental recognitions for above average performance and was recently named OCPD Officer of the Year by the Ocean City Neighborhood Watch Association. He was the first vice/narcotic detective to receive this honored award. In 2005, Corporal Schwartz was involved in the seizure of 1 kilogram of powder cocaine with an estimated street value of \$100,000.

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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. OCPD@ococean.com



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In addition to Corporal Schwartz, five other individuals received awards for their service including:

"Exceptional Performance" in Private Security:

Mr. Frank Wagner, Director of Public Safety/ Towson Town Center

"Exceptional Police Performance" in departments with 25 or fewer sworn officers:

Corporal David Lewis, Sykesville Police Department

"Exceptional Police Performance" in departments with 26 to 125 sworn officers:

Corporal James Schwartz, Ocean City Police Department

"Exceptional Police Performance" in departments with 126 or more sworn officers:

Officer II Jeffrey Young, Maryland Transportation Authority Police

"Exceptional Police Performance" for a "Unit/Team/Collaboration"

Sergeant Kevin Ayd and Corporal Christopher Lamb, Maryland Transportation Authority Police

"Medal of Honor"

Police Officer 1st Class Dennis Chesgreen, Baltimore County Police Department

Congratulations to all of the award recipients. Below is a photograph of the award recipients. Corporal Schwartz picture has been modified in order to protect his identity.

