



Wausau Police Department

The Informer

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NOBILITY OF SERVICE

I have heard it said a lot lately that police signed up for this job knowing the risks associated with being a police officer. Almost always there is a negative connotation toward law enforcement in this statement. I have never experienced a more difficult time to be a police officer than right now. It seems that it is impossible to be "good enough" and that it is impossible to achieve some people's expectations.

Fortunately, there are a lot of people like me who recognize why you ACTUALLY signed up to do this job. It is because you want to serve. You want to be present in people's lives. To help people in their greatest time of need. You want to be there to support your community in the most dire moments. You want to improve the quality-of-life in our community.

Let's be clear about your commitment to service through the law enforcement profession. You make individual lives better as a result of the care and compassion you give. You strengthen the fabric of our community by demonstrating respect and integrity in every citizen interaction. You encourage,

inspire, console, empower, give strength, hold accountable, guide, and connect people in our community. You literally SAVE LIVES!

You do all of this because you are driven by service. Yes, you are aware of the risks that come with being a police officer. And I don't mean just generally aware; I mean intimately, traumatically, and painstakingly aware because of loss you have personally experienced. Yet you continue to return to work day after day, year after year. Because you are DRIVEN by the nobility of service to others.

I know you. I see you. I appreciate you. I believe in you. I trust in you. I love you.



Our strength and resolve are tested during moments of tremendous adversity. I know your character and it is strong. It is being tested right now. Reflect on your values and stand strong in them. Do not change the way you treat others in our community or your perception of the importance of your role within our community based on the adversity we are experiencing. Stand tall and strong. Be prideful in your chosen profession because your life is dedicated to improving the lives of others - even sometimes at great personal sacrifice. Like many others in our community, I am grateful for your service.

Chief Bliven



Officer Shawn Pierschalla taking time to clean and straighten up the residence of an individual in crisis that he responded to.

"Our life is shaped by our mind, for we become what we think." *Buddha*

"As a single footstep will not make a path on earth, so a single thought will not make a pathway in the mind. To make a deep physical path, we walk again and again. To make a deep mental path, we must think over and over the kind of thoughts we wish to dominate our lives." *Henry David Thoreau*

"It is not the strength of the body that counts, but the strength of the spirit." *J R R Tolkien*

"When my amygdala is telling me at this moment to go into fight or flight; one or the other, being all in or being all out... we need to be vulnerable to really listen, but also to courageously act at this moment in history." *Jack Hart*

Awards & Promotions

Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Pilot

The Wausau Police Department was recently approached by North Central Healthcare Center, for our assistance in addressing homelessness in Wausau with some assertive, focused resources. Several known homeless individuals in our community are also NCHCC clients. The vision includes intensive, full-time engagement with homeless persons by case management staff, in effort to keep individuals connected to and using NCHCC treatment and other resources. Those resources include housing that has been made available specifically for this initiative. NCHCC brought forth the short-term funding to pilot and explore this initiative, for a period of approximately 60 days, with desire to begin as soon as possible.



Officer Eric Lemirand

The Wausau Police Department will be supporting this pilot with an Officer dedicated to work along side NCHCC case management staff. Officer Eric Lemirand has been appointed for this temporary role, with project oversight support from Lieutenant Nathan Cihlar.

Homelessness continues to be a significant quality of life issue in Wausau, and will be high priority for our agency during this pilot. Many of you likewise have a great working knowledge of these specific individuals whom we will be seeking out, and your assistance and teamwork is critical to our overall impact! This pilot is our opportunity to help show what can be done with more focused resources, towards securing additional community and financial investment to sustain long-term solutions.

The details of operation, goals and procedures are still being worked on, and we look forward to sharing more of that with everyone in the near future.

Acknowledgements and Other News

Girl Scout Cookies



During the spring Girl Scout cookie sale, NCES - St Anne's girls collected donations of cookies for the Wausau Police Department. They dropped them off this month, and I can tell you, they didn't last very long! Our tummies thank you!

Retired Officer Passes



Detective Lieutenant Dale Tessmer passed away September 20th. Lt Tessmer worked for the Wausau Police Department for 30 years, from the mid 60's to the mid 90's. Our condolences to his family.

