

## **2008 Awards:**

**Meritorious Police Duty Second Class** is awarded to a member of the Department who in the performance of police duty has significantly contributed through the performance of good police work, leading to the arrest and apprehension of criminal offenders or to criminal investigations which lead to a successful conclusion. Recipients of Meritorious Police Duty Second Class receive a Blue-White bar for their uniform and a Mayor's letter of commendation.

An **Honorable Mention Certificate** is awarded to a member of the department who shall perform his routine police duties in an efficient manner and which is worthy of recognition but not eligible for one of the other citations. Recipients of this award shall receive a Letter of Commendation from the Mayor.

1. For their actions on March 20, 2008, an award of **Meritorious Police Duty Second Class** is presented to **Sgt. James Mitrione. Officers Eugene Sisto and Joseph DiBenedetto** are presented with an **Honorable Mention Certificate**.

On that date, officers received a report that a male had entered a wine store on 5<sup>th</sup> avenue where he stole \$60.00 in cash out of the register and placed several display items in his pocket. Sgt. Mitrione, who was assigned to a Con Edison detail at Lincoln and Fourth Avenues, heard the officers being dispatched to this incident. A preliminary investigation was commenced at the incident location and a suspect description and direction of travel was broadcast over the police radio. After Sgt. Mitrione received this information he walked from Fourth Avenue to Fifth Avenue and placed himself in a position where he was able to view all pedestrians walking north on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, towards him. A short time later a person fitting the description was observed by Sgt Mitrione in the area of the firehouse. Sgt Mitrione, keeping visual contact with the suspect, waited until there were no innocent bystanders in the area when he approached the suspect, ordered him to the ground and waited for other officers to arrive and arrest this individual for Petit Larceny, Criminal Mischief and Possession of Stolen Property.

2. For their actions on September 2, 2008, an award of **Meritorious Police Duty Second Class** is presented to **Sgt. Anthony Borsella and canine Dutch, Detective John Hynes, Officers Rita Mc Connell and Douglas Bornholz.**

On that date Pelham Manor Police Department requested assistance to investigate a report of two persons entering a house on Roosevelt Avenue, possibly removing jewelry and a laptop computer. At the time of this incident, most members of the Pelham Manor Police Department were investigating a major auto accident, with serious injuries at Plymouth Street and Jackson Avenue. Upon the arrival of Pelham officers on Roosevelt Avenue, a witness directed Det. Hynes and Officer Bornholz to the area where she saw the suspects flee. A search of the adjacent homes, for other possible break-ins and for the suspects was negative. Other Pelham officers set up a perimeter and assisted Det. Hynes and Officer Bornholz in conducting a block-by-block search. Det Hynes and Officer Bornholz subsequently found one suspect around the corner from where the crime took place hiding in the bushes on Park La. After this apprehension members of the New Rochelle PD and some Pelham Manor PD officers were now on the scene and assisting Pelham officers. The area was locked down preventing vehicles and/or pedestrians to enter the area. Sergeant Borsella and Dutch assisted by Officer McConnell begun a Canine yard-by-yard search for a second suspect. Dutch did start to track the suspect into a wooded area between Bolton Road and Priory La. As they were tracking through the yards on Priory La. a resident called and stated she observed a suspicious person running out from the bushes in her back yard. This same suspect was then seen running towards Pelhamdale Avenue when a chase of the suspect ensued. He was apprehended by responding officers. The suspect was charged with Burglary and Possession of Stolen Property.

3. For their actions on November 22, 2008, an award of **Meritorious Police Duty Second Class** is presented to **Officers Rita Mc Connell and Douglas Bornholz. Officer Danny Reddy is presented with an Honorable Mention Certificate**

On that date, officers were dispatched to investigate a Robbery where the female victim was punched and her purse stolen. Officer Reddy was the first to arrive at the incident location. He interviewed the victim and was able to get a suspect description of a black female wearing pink pajamas and a black hoodie. This suspect was last seen running towards Wolf's La from the train station. While canvassing the area Officers McConnell and Bornholz notice a female fitting the description walking over the footbridge on Sparks Avenue towards Mt. Vernon. Officers McConnell and Bornholz detained the suspect until Officer Reddy arrived with the victim and a witness, both of whom made a positive identification of the suspect. The suspect was placed under arrest for Robbery and the victim's property was recovered.

4. For her actions on November 22, 2008 at 2:10 am, an award of **Meritorious Police Duty Second Class** is presented to **Officer Rita Mc Connell**.

On that date and time Officer Mc Connell was on routine patrol in the area of Fourth Avenue and Second Street when she observed four male Hispanics running into a vehicle parked in the middle of the street and heard one of the persons running yell "go...go...go". Officer McConnell was able to pull up behind the vehicle, ascertain the plate number, notified headquarters of her observations, and activated her emergency lights in an attempt to pull over the vehicle. The vehicle took off at a high rate of speed traveling south on Fourth Avenue east on First Street and then south onto Wolf's La., passing stop signs, red lights and driving in a reckless manner. Aware that PMPD and WCDPS were conducting vehicle stops on Boston Post Road and Wolf's La, Officer McConnell notified them of her whereabouts and direction of travel. As Officer McConnell continued her pursuit, officers from PMPD and WCDPS set up a roadblock just south of Secor Lane on Wolfs Lane. As the pursuit approached the roadblock the vehicle being pursued drove over the curb and sidewalk and over an adjacent lawn nearly hitting two Pelham Manor offices who were part of the roadblock. Both officers jumped out of the way of the fleeing vehicle. The pursuit was terminated when it was determined it was unsafe to continue. The vehicle was lost on Boston Post Road in the Bronx. It was later determined that the suspects in this case had stolen some items from a parked vehicle on Fourth Avenue. Through the description of the vehicle and information gathered from Officer McConnell an investigation ensued leading to the arrest of two suspects charged with Petit Larceny and Criminal Mischief and a third suspect charged with Reckless Driving, Petit Larceny and Criminal Mischief.

An **Honorable Mention Certificate** is awarded to a member of the department who shall perform his routine police duties in an efficient manner and which is worthy of recognition but not eligible for one of the other citations. Recipients of this award shall receive a Letter of Commendation from the Mayor.

1. **Sgt. Anthony Borsella and Dutch** are presented with an **Honorable Mention Certificate** for their actions on July 19, 2009 at 1:10 am. At that time Pelham Manor Police requested canine support in investigating a report of a resident returning home to find an unknown person inside his house. A perimeter was set up and a canine search was conducted but was unable to locate the wanted person. After returning to his vehicle Sgt. Borsella continued his search and a short distance from the original location he observed a suspicious person exiting a wooded area. Sgt Borsella interviewed this person and held him until Pelham Manor Police arrived on the scene who in turn placed him under arrest and charged him with Burglary.
2. **Officers Rita Mc Connell and Douglas Bornholz** are presented with **Honorable Mention Certificates** for their actions on July 27, 2008. Officers Mc Connell and Bornholz were made aware of a foot pursuit of a suspect who without permission or authority had taken property from the Home Depot store in New Rochelle. Pelham Manor officers reported a male with a gray t-shirt and black shorts running in the area of Highbrook & Monterey Avenues. During the canvassing of the area Officer McConnell reported she observed the suspect run onto a grassy area where these two streets meet. After calling out her observation Officer McConnell continue the search when the suspect came out from hiding behind some bushes. Officer Bornholz climbed over a chain link fence and gave chase along with Officer McConnell. The suspect fled into a position where he was cornered and McConnell and Bornholz were able to catch and apprehend the suspect. He was handcuffed and held until the arrival of NRPD. He was charged with Petit Larceny and Possession of Stolen Property.
3. **Sergeant Daryl Jackson, Officers Christopher Casucci, Brian Hendrie and Paul Sousa** are presented with **Honorable Mention Certificates** for their actions on April 4, 2008. Officers were made aware that in the area of 205 Wolf's La a male black wearing a leather jacket was possibly passing counterfeit one hundred dollar bills. A quick response and comprehensive search of the immediate area by all officers involved led to the apprehension of the suspect. Further investigation and canvassing in the area revealed the suspect made other attempts to pass counterfeit one hundred dollar bills at three other locations. The suspect was charged with Possession of A Forged Instrument.

4. **Officer Jason Pallett** is presented with an **Honorable Mention Certificate** for his actions on October 14, 2008. While Officer Pallet was on routine patrol he observed a Metro North police vehicle with his emergency lights and siren activated traveling south on Wolf's La in the north bound lane. The Metro North officer appeared to be chasing a person who was running on foot attempting to evade the officer. Unknown of what crime was committed or the reason the Metro North Officer was chasing this individual, Officer Pallet exited his patrol vehicle, and begun a foot pursuit after the fleeing suspect. After repeated verbal attempts for the suspect to stop, to no avail, Officer Pallett caught him and forcibly placed him to the ground affecting a lawful arrest. The suspect was placed in custody and turned over to Metro North Police and was charged with Theft of Service.