



Charles T. Craft, Chief of Police
500 West Big Beaver Road
Troy, Michigan 48084
(248) 524-3443

Lieutenant Gerry Scherlinck, Public Information Officer
(248) 524-3447 Fax (248) 524-9023

NEWS RELEASE

April 20, 2005

The City of Troy Police Department Proudly Announces the 2004 Police Officer of the Year

Chief of Police Charles T. Craft announced that the selection for Police Officer of the Year for 2004 is **Police Officer Theresa Harrison**. This year's selection was the result of not only the consistent and outstanding service that Officer Harrison has provided throughout her career, but also her significant contributions to the youth of this community in her role as Adult Advisor to the Troy Police Explorer Post.

The Explorer Program is a Boy Scouts Of America sponsored endeavor that allows young people to experience various career venues that they might have an interest in pursuing as adults. The Police Explorers Program concentrates on leadership training, character and integrity development, team building, and communication skills, while exposing members to a wide variety of law enforcement functions. Critical components of the program are community service and volunteer activities. These activities include assisting at the many special and charitable events that are held in Troy every year. In addition to managing the parking function at the Troy Daze Fair, these activities include assisting at the annual Mulvihill Cup Charity Hockey Game, Police Memorial Day Ceremony, Troy Community Coalition Celebrity Night Dinner, Kiwanis Club Auction, the Troy Police Honor Guard Spaghetti Dinner, the VFW Holiday Food Drive, and the annual Troy Community Kaleidoscope event.

Adult Advisors are responsible for not only recruiting and training, but also the general development of the program and its activities. The most significant aspect of this role is the opportunity to become a role model and mentor for the young people who participate. Officer Harrison demonstrates a unique care and concern for the members of this program. The effectiveness of her impact is demonstrated by the success of those who graduate and successfully continue their educational endeavors at the college level. It has been most readily appreciated in the fact that two of her former Explorers are now sworn Police Officers with this department. Both are exemplary employees and on a daily basis, along with Officer Harrison, display the qualities the Explorer Program seeks to instill in its members.

Under her direction, the Explorer's membership has expanded from just seven members, to thirty-five. The popularity of the program continues to grow under her leadership, with more and more young people demonstrating an interest, regardless of their intentions to pursue a career related specifically to Law Enforcement.

In addition to her involvement with the Explorer Post, Officer Harrison volunteers a considerable amount of her time to work on the annual Mulvihill Cup Charity Hockey Game, which supports the Troy Police and Fire Benevolent Fund. She distinguished herself in the role of Juvenile Investigator, especially in the area of criminal sexual conduct investigation, during her tenure in the department's Youth Bureau. Officer Harrison is currently assigned to Uniformed Road Patrol. She is a Field Training Officer, wherein she is responsible for the vital task of training and mentoring new Police Officers.



Charles T. Craft, Chief of Police
500 West Big Beaver Road
Troy, Michigan 48084
(248) 524-3443

Lieutenant Gerry Scherlinck, Public Information Officer
(248) 524-3447 Fax (248) 524-9023

NEWS RELEASE

Officer Harrison began her career as a Police Officer in Troy in 1991. Prior to her service in Troy, she worked for the Oak Park Department of Public Safety and Lake Angelus Police Department. Combined, she has just over 19 years of sworn law enforcement service. Officer Harrison earned an Associates Degree in Law Enforcement and completed the Emergency Medical Technician Program at Oakland Community College. Officer Harrison has received numerous letters of appreciation and positive performance over her career from citizens and outside agencies. She received a Certificate of Recognition from the Women Police Officers Association of Michigan in 1995, and was honored as Young Officer of The Year by the Troy Jaycees in 1994. She has received 11 Letters of Commendation, as well as a Safe Driving Medal and Exemplary Performance certificate from the Troy Police Department.

Officer Harrison is married to Dan Harrison. She and Dan have an eight-year-old son named Joseph and a teenaged daughter named Andrea.

The Troy Police Department is proud to make this announcement. Police Officer of the Year is a prestigious and highly esteemed award. Officer Theresa Harrison espouses the qualities of professionalism, integrity, and character that this department prides itself on. Her enthusiastic and positive attitude not only contribute to the overall organization, but on a truly personal level, has a genuine impact on her peers and the individual citizens in the community she comes into contact with every day. Chief Craft and all the members of this organization would like to take this opportunity to reinforce our admiration and thanks for the contributions Officer Harrison has made to the department and community. The Troy Clawson Elks will honor Officer Harrison and her family at their Annual Law and Order Night on Wednesday, April 27, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. She will also be recognized and receive this year's Police Officer of the Year award at the annual Troy Police Department Memorial and Awards Ceremony that will take place at the San Marino Club at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 12, 2005.

Interview opportunities, as well as photographs will be made available by contacting Lieutenant Gerry Scherlinck at 248-524-3447.

The Michigan State Seal is centered at the bottom of the page. It features a figure holding a bow and arrow, with the word "MICHIGAN" written below it.

MICHIGAN