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## Village of Mount Prospect Police Department

911 E. Kensington Road, Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Officer Greg Sill  
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### NEWS RELEASE

#### 2022 Mount Prospect Police Department Awards



*Pictured L to R: Village Manager Michael Cassady, Deputy Chief Joseph Garris, Chief Michael Eterno, Officer Kyle Rice, Investigator John Napoleon, Officer Bartek Giera, Officer Andrew Lee, and Deputy Chief Anthony Addante*

Since 1982, the Mount Prospect Police Department has annually convened an Awards Committee, comprised of Supervisors, Patrol Officers and Investigators to select the department's "Officer of the Year". Additionally, the department also recognizes the officers that the Awards Committee determined were in final contention for the "Officer of the Year" as "Runners-Up". In order to be considered for the award, the officers must have consistently shown exceptional performance during the preceding 12-month rating period. The officer's ability to perform and conform to the standards of a professional police officer is pertinent to being nominated for Officer of the Year.



*With COURAGE we protect, with COMPASSION we serve.*

In 2020, the police department established the George E. Whittenberg Community Service Award, named after the Village's second Chief of Police who served the Village of Mount Prospect community for 33 years and was very community service oriented. The annual recipient of this award is a member of the Department who demonstrates exemplary service to the community throughout the year, above and beyond their assigned duties, reflecting positively upon the member and the department as a whole.

The 2022 award recipients were honored on Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

## **2022 "OFFICER OF THE YEAR"**

### **INVESTIGATOR JOHN NAPOLEON**

Investigator John Napoleon is a five-year member of the Mount Prospect Police Department and is currently assigned to the Investigations Section.

In making the selection, the Committee considered Investigator Napoleon's overall performance during the rating period and his passionate commitment to law enforcement. The Committee also recognized his positive attitude, reliability, teamwork, initiative, and professional work ethic, as just a few of the factors leading to his selection. The Committee recognized Investigator Napoleon's overall effort and involvement as an integral part of several noteworthy investigations and arrests during 2022. Investigator Napoleon led the investigation in one of the most complex financial crimes investigations in the history of the Mount Prospect Police Department, where he was able to seize over \$50,000.00 from a cryptocurrency wallet. The work Investigator Napoleon accomplished on that case has become a standard that area law enforcement partners have emulated. During the award period, Investigator Napoleon received two Departmental Commendations, two Honorable Mentions and four Citizen Letters. Investigator Napoleon was the "Officer of the Quarter" for the first quarter in 2022.

## **OFFICER OF THE YEAR/RUNNERS-UP (3)**

### **OFFICER BARTEK GIERA**

Officer Bartek Giera is a nine-year veteran of the Mount Prospect Police Department and is currently assigned to the Patrol Section.

During the award period, Officer Giera received three Departmental Commendations, one Citizen Letter and was one of the three "Officers of the Quarter" for the third quarter in 2022.

### **OFFICER ANDREW LEE**

Officer Andrew Lee is a five-year veteran of the Mount Prospect Police Department and is currently assigned to the Patrol Section.

During the award period, Officer Lee received three Departmental Commendations, one Citizen Letter and was one of the three “Officers of the Quarter” for the third quarter in 2022.

**OFFICER KYLE RICE**

Officer Kyle Rice is a two-year veteran of the Mount Prospect Police Department and is currently assigned to the Special Response Team.

During the award period, Officer Rice received four Departmental Commendations, five Citizen Letters of Appreciation and was one of three “Officers of the Quarter” for the third quarter 2022.

The Selection Committee cited the outstanding daily performance and attention to duty during the award-rating period as the factors that led to the selection of Officers Giera, Lee and Rice as Runners-up.

**2022 GEORGE WHITTENBERG AWARD RECIPIENT**

**OFFICER RACHEL RICHARDSON**

Officer Rachel Richardson was a five-year member of the Mount Prospect Police Department prior to leaving our department recently for a law enforcement officer position in another state.

In making the selection, the Committee considered Officer Richardson’s positive demeanor, her continued commitment to the community and her balance between work and the community during the rating period. The Committee recognized Officer Richardson’s contribution as a founding member of the Mount Prospect Police Department’s Peer Support Team, her focus and sharing of information on the subject of fitness and nutrition for officers, their families and other members of the Mount Prospect community, as some of the reasons for her selection.

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