



Toronto Police Service

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William Blair
Chief of Police

File Number:

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Ms. Valerie Todd
Projects Manager
Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators
2323 St. Laurent Blvd.
Ottawa, Ontario L1G 4J8

Nomination: Sergeant Jack West
Toronto Police Service
54 Division- Traffic Unit
41 Cranfield Road, Toronto
Ontario, M4B3H6

Dear Ms. Todd:

With regard to the CCMTA'S Police Partnership award nominations for 2009-2010, I would like to nominate Sergeant Jack West of the Toronto Police Service.

Sgt. West has been a member of the Toronto Police Service since October 1st 1974. Throughout his career Sgt. West has worked in various units including District Traffic Units, Primary and Community Response Units and the Toronto Police College. No matter what unit he has worked in he has always made it a priority to make his community a safer place to live.

He joined the Toronto Police College teaching staff in 1995 and was an instructor where he developed and facilitated law enforcement training programs for 13 years. Sgt. West specialized in the Traffic Generalist training for new and seasoned officers. In February 2008 he returned to the field and is presently in charge of the Traffic Unit at No. 54 Division.

His dedication to teaching traffic related subjects to the officers of the Toronto Police Service and its community, along with his knowledge of the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, won him the title of "Traffic Guru" of the Toronto Police Service.

Over the years Sgt. West has worked with the Ministry of Transportation and sat on many different committees in the development of safety regulations for motorists across Canada. He was a member of the Ontario Traffic Conference of Ontario from 2004 to 2007 and named President in 2008. This organization saw the need for a coordinated effort to improve traffic management in Ontario by drawing together the knowledge and expertise of those in the field of Enforcement, Engineering and Education.

Sgt. West is also a past member of the Ontario prosecutors' Association of Ontario and the author and editor of two previously published books titled "The Ontario Highway Traffic Act for Law Enforcement Officers". These publications from Carswell Canada provides a focus on evidence that Ontario police officers and those involved in the pursuit of law with a comprehensive quick reference guide to the most common Highway Traffic Act (HTA) offences.

In February of 2008, when Sgt. West took over the Traffic Office at 54 Division, he was given the task of developing programs and organizing the activities of the Traffic Officers assigned to the division, to improve community safety. He has embraced the position, creating more meaningful and challenging tasks for all his assigned officers.

He created new and challenging ways to address traffic problems in a busy City. For example, he recognized the need to have barriers erected in one of the busiest and highest collision intersections in Toronto to keep students safe at a local school and followed up with City officials until the barrier was put in place.

Sgt. West also identified the need to have traffic officers take ownership of high collision intersections and so he assigned each officer an intersection to monitor and had them make suggestions on improving the intersection through re-engineering and enforcement. By focusing on perceived and actual traffic concerns, through education, enforcement and project initiatives, as well as through partnerships with community stakeholders, Sgt. West's objective was to change aggressive driver behaviour and increase compliance with the Highway Traffic Act

The Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (R.I.D.E.) program remains a key deterrent against drunk driving. R.I.D.E. spot checks are conducted year round in 54 Division, with an emphasis placed on holidays and long weekends and special events when higher volumes of traffic and opportunities to drink and drive are present.

On Feb. 21, 2009 Sgt. Jack West organized the first joint police services R.I.D.E. spot check in Toronto. Over 40 Police Officers from Toronto Police, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Ontario Provincial Police and MADD Canada (Mothers Against

Drunk Driving) partnered for this event on the Bloor viaduct, as well as simultaneous spot-checks on Pottery Road and Broadview and Eastern Ave. in Toronto. This event brought officers from other services who work in Toronto and other jurisdictions together in a very visible way and for a very important cause. This event was a great success which received significant media attention ensuring thousands of drivers got the message that all Police Officers take this issue seriously and will continue to work cooperatively in the fight against drinking and driving.

Since that first joint services R.I.D.E. spot check, Sgt. Jack West has hosted three other joint services spot checks and continues to raise awareness to reduce impaired driving.

But Sgt. West doesn't stop there.

On May 14th 2009 he joined with the City of Toronto By-Law Enforcement unit to conduct Taxi Safety inspections and on September 17, and October 15, 2009 he invited the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Environment for a Heavy Truck Safety Inspection day.

This not only addressed the issue of ensuring the trucks and their loads, which travel on our roads every day are safe, but gave younger less experienced officers an opportunity to learn from the Ministry of Transportation Inspectors on what to look for when inspecting heavy trucks. On this date over 138 trucks were inspected and 6 were removed from service and 47 drivers were issued Provincial Offences notices.

On November 27th 2009, Sgt. West held another joint services R.I.D.E. Spot Check and invited the Ontario Provincial Police, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, MADD Canada and the MPP for York Centre, Mr. Monte Kwinter.

Sgt. West believes that by creating a partnership with all levels of government, other Municipal agencies and police services throughout Canada we will have a better chance of obtaining better legislation to not only combat the dangers of drinking and driving but to obtain standardized regulations throughout Canada.

Sgt. West also lectured over 470 senior citizens regarding the dangers of crossing a street mid-block and gave the "Dare Devil" presentation to many other groups.

In the month of September, 2009 Sgt. Jack West engaged the community in a cyclist safety campaign and involved the Toronto Police Mounted Unit. During this campaign cyclist safety pamphlets were issued to drivers and cyclists, followed later that month by strict enforcement of the Highway Traffic Act.

Jack West continues to encourage and motivate our law enforcement officers and road safety officials to perform their duties with enthusiasm and due care. This year he continues to make a difference by going above and beyond the call of duty in the area of traffic safety.

Thank you for your consideration,



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