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The son of a counselor and a musician is the Burleson Police Department's Rookie Officer of the Year.

Officer Tim Mabry, 25, was awarded the honor at the annual police banquet Feb. 17.

Mabry has been with the department less than 19 months, but "his skill and knowledge of the job is that of a 15-year veteran officer." That's how the Rookie of the Year was described in the nomination letter written by Sgt. Diron Hill.

"His level of activity and his results are extraordinary. He works hard from the beginning of his shift to the end and many times way past the end of his shift. He is every supervisor's dream employee," the sergeant said. "He does not complain when asked to do trivial tasks. Even though he doesn't have a lot of experience, other officers will at times ask for his advice and guidance because Officer Mabry takes the time to make sure he is up to date on procedures and laws."

The Kingman, Ariz., native earned a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice-law enforcement/public administration-policy analysis in 2008 from Stephen F. Austin State University, where he was also very involved in the Kappa Alpha Order and Order of Omega. While in college, Mabry did an internship with the Nacogdoches County Attorneys Office and an internship with the Nacogdoches Police Department's White Collar Crimes. Mabry plans to pursue a master's degree in the very near future.

The honoree was hired by the Burleson Police Department in March 2009 and graduated from the North Texas Council of Governments Regional Police Academy in 2009.

"I applied with Burleson because I found that the department takes a professional stance when it comes to performing their duties as police officers," Mabry said. "The department is small enough that it affords the opportunity to investigate crimes to the fullest extent while operating in the patrol function. And, the camaraderie associated with a smaller department was appealing, and is a wonderful perk."

The job is about more than skill. It is also about attitude. The sergeant described Mabry as "fair, honest and he serves this community with honor and integrity. He has a genuine concern for the welfare of the citizens."

The Rookie of the Year has two older sisters and an 8-month-old Labrador Retriever/Golden Retriever named Scout.