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He is quick and eager to learn. That is one of the traits that earned Officer Brandon Wichman the Burleson Police Department's Rookie of the Year honors at this year's awards banquet.

Wichman was hired in November 2010. The 27-year-old Euless native attended North Lake College, Tarrant County College and Community College of the United States Air Force.

According to the nomination, "from the beginning, this officer was quick and eager to learn. While in field training, it was rare to have to tell him anything twice. When a mistake was made, the problem was always corrected. That eagerness did not fade after he was released from training. He is often the first to volunteer for any assignment and is quick to help other officers."

The award winner's background gave him the tools to be a good officer. He has served for more than seven years as a United States Air Force honor guardsman, Air Force Security Forces, and staff sergeant.

Wichman wanted to work in Burleson because "it is a great community, has great leadership, and there are great co-workers." As he gets more experience, the Rookie of the Year wants to get involved with the SWAT team, bicycle patrol and honor guard.

According to the nomination, Wichman "actively patrols his district and learns what belongs and what doesn't belong. He has a good eye. He comes to work and continues to learn and grow as an officer and as a dependable member of the department and the community."

The Rookie of the Year said it takes "patience, the ability to empathize and being able to remain objective" to be a good police officer.

The entire department has served as the rookie's mentor. Wichman credits his family for his work ethic and being able to think quickly on his feet.