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Six lifesaving awards, almost a dozen commendations, and four awards for meritorious conduct were presented at the Burleson Police Department's annual awards banquet. More than half a dozen employees were also recognized for their years of service to the department.

The top awards went to Officer of the Year Chaz Garrett, Rookie Officer of the Year Andrew Prieskorn, Supervisor of the Year Bob Sherman, Civilian Employee of the Year Katlyn Martin, Most Outstanding Community Policing – Officers Jonathan Gomez and Mark Pate – and the Ofelia Blair Character Award - Citizens On Patrol Assistant Coordinator Vicki McElroy.

Inv. T. Catron was recognized with a lifesaving award for performing the Heimlich maneuver on a patron at Outback Steakhouse.

Garrett, officers B. Wichman and S. Bartlett and Sgt. C. Bastible were honored with a lifesaving award for their handling of a suicide call. Katlyn Martin was also honored for saving the life of a suicidal person.

Police commendations went to Sgt. R. Hall and Officer R. Collard for their quick response to a robbery call at the EECU. Officer B. Glass earned a commendation for calling in a suspicious vehicle, that turned out to be stolen, as he was driving home from work. The officer followed the vehicle until it was stopped by Fort Worth Police.

Communication specialists Trina Keeton and Verla Myers were commended for their role in finding a missing person who has Alzheimer's. Martin and Maria Gonzales, also a communications specialist, were commended for the professional way they handled a shots fired call at a home. No one was injured and the shooter was arrested.

Garrett and Officer J. Byrom earned a commendation for being able to diffuse a situation involving a man who fought officers after they found him asleep at the wheel of a running vehicle.

Sgt. J. Trumble and Catron were commended for aiding in the response and recovery process when Cleburne was hit by a tornado.

Meritorious conduct awards went to Karen Goodman, Desire Norman and Steve Haas, records; and Sgt. R. Crum, administrative sergeant. The department recognized them for their role in raising money and organizing a team for the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Burleson (Goodman); positive attitude as a front line person for those who walk into the police department (Norman); work with the City's Emergency Operations Center (Haas); and work with the department's computers, internal affairs, and the red light camera program.

Honored for their years of service to the Burleson Police Department were sergeants Sherman and Crum for 20 years; Sgt. Trumble, 15 years; Senior Administrative Assistant Lisa Cauthern and Inv. M. Owen, 10 years; and officers T. Brown and S. Bartlett, five years.

Honored for Safe Driving were Sgt. Trumble and Sgt. Hall, nine years; Officers R. Petty and Collard, six years; and Officers T. Fowler, Gomez, Pate and T. Mabry, three years.