

Report to / Rapport au:

**OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD
LA COMMISSION DE SERVICES POLICIERS D'OTTAWA**

22 July 2019 / 22 juillet 2019

Submitted by / Soumis par:

Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service / Chef de police, Service de police d'Ottawa

Contact Person / Personne ressource:

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SUBJECT: LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

OBJET: LETTRES DE MENTION ÉLOGIEUSE

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de services policiers d'Ottawa prenne connaissance du présent rapport à titre d'information.

BACKGROUND

Attached for the information of the Board are excerpts from letters of appreciation / thanks received from the public since the last regular meeting for services rendered by members of the Ottawa Police Service (OPS).

Date Received: 17 June 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Special Events team

Excerpt from letter: Thank you to the police officers who escorted our Nation Rising protest along downtown Ottawa's streets today. Like last year, they were 100 percent professional and ensured everyone's safety and a meaningful protest for us. We appreciate your excellent service.

Date Received: 20 June 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Gareth English

Excerpt from letter: My car was hit while parked on a downtown street and I wanted to send my best wishes and compliments to Constable Gareth English, who attended. I was not present when the accident occurred and Cst. English was very proactive in making sure I had all the information required to complete the necessary reports, and get insurance coverage for the accident. I thought my incident was handled in a very professional manner and I appreciated the support, empathy and quick follow-up provided. It was an example of what police services should strive to achieve in terms of community engagement and due diligence for record keeping purposes.

Date Received: 23 June 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Michael Briggs

Excerpt from letter: Constable Michael Briggs arrived to help my wife keep her horse calm, as well as herself, after her car wheel became loose and she had to pull over on a busy road. His presence slowed down most traffic while I arrived with a tow vehicle from home. He was very helpful, kind and reassuring to both myself and my wife.

Date Received: 25 June 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable David Brennan

Excerpt from letter: I wish to cite the excellent, professional, and compassionate assistance of Constable David Brennan after he was dispatched to pick up a missing minor. He quickly assessed the situation and took action to ensure the minor was given the treatment she needed and taken to safety. I understand from the minor's father that he stayed with her for a long time at CHEO and made sure she had the assistance and care she needed. I volunteer with an Inuit program called Alluriarniq helping women leave sex work and human trafficking. It is not the kind of treatment that they often receive, so I am delighted to know what is possible as exemplified by Cst. Brennan. I was very impressed that he knew of services specific for Indigenous women.

Date Received: 28 June 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Sergeant Carl DeJong

Excerpt from letter: Sergeant Carl DeJong quickly knew how to defuse a potentially dangerous encounter in my home today. Congratulations are in order! I also know that he is not the only one to be commended in the performance of police duties. Unseen heroes abound in Ottawa's Police force. We salute you for your great work and may

God bless all and keep you safe in the outstanding performance of your duties!

Date Received: 4 July 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Francois Perron

Excerpt from letter: I was pulled over by Constable Francois Perron after he observed me holding my cell phone while driving. I just wanted to compliment him on his professional and courteous demeanor, tone and approach. I feel bad that he had to waste his time pulling me over for my irresponsibility. I know he had a job to do and he did it very well. He was a great representation of the Ottawa Police Service.

Date Received: 5 July 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Mark Miller

Excerpt from letter: We are visiting from Calgary and I met an officer this morning who is an excellent Ambassador for your police service and the City of Ottawa. Constable Mark Miller was patrolling on Sparks Street and he chatted with me as we made our way down the mall. He was personable and engaging as we bantered about my Nordstroms shopping bag and my contribution to the local economy. We talked about all the restaurants and patios and Cst. Miller offered up a recommendation for my husband and me. While engaging in a conversation with him, it was also clear that he was keeping an eye on what was going on around him. We have had a wonderful time in our Nation's Capital and are grateful to the women and men like Cst. Miller who work hard to keep us safe.

Date Received: 5 July 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Chris Robblee

Excerpt from letter: I wanted to write and thank Chris Robblee for helping me during a stressful time; my husband had gone missing for two hours. Chris was very patient, understanding, reassuring and professional - all qualities which helped to mitigate the rising panic that I was feeling. I'm sure I came across as quite incoherent and hysterical and he was able to make some sense out of my ramblings. I want to sincerely thank him for the way in which he handled this situation.

Date Received: 8 July 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Sergeant Craig Roberts

Excerpt from letter: Two years ago I was having trouble trying to handle my grandmother and her driving; it was getting a little out of control and creating a danger to the public, so I reached out to you guys and ended up filing a police report. Sergeant

Craig Roberts got back to me and assured me that everything was being done that could be done, and I could tell that he was sincere and he gained my complete trust. In December I was presented with an entirely different set of family issues; my younger cousin was involved with some bad people and had been drugged and sexually assaulted, and became suicidal after the incident. Thank goodness that the Ottawa police arrived at my aunt's residence in time to stop her from jumping off the roof. I did not know what to do to help her, so I reached out to Sgt. Roberts, who I remembered to be a genuinely good person -- and to be honest, I kind of expected him to not care since I had been a bit of a jerk. He got back to me the next morning and put me in contact with support services that totally changed my life. Thank you so much!