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For immediate release

**FORT WORTH POLICE OFFICERS' AWARDS
FOUNDATION HONORS EXEMPLARY SERVICE**

Fort Worth Officer Byron Wylie was named Officer of the Year for 2015 at the 64th Annual Awards Dinner on Thursday, June 2, 2016 at the City Club of Fort Worth. Official host was the Fort Worth Police Officers' Award Foundation. Platinum sponsors included the Robert S. & Joyce Pate Capper Charitable Foundation, Karen & Larry Anfin, Bell Helicopter, BNSF Railway Foundation, QuikTrip Corporation, R4 Foundation, and The Miles Foundation.

The honor for Commander of the Year went to Lieutenant Christine Demore. Officer William (Billy) Mitchell was honored with the Dwayne Freeto Service with Respect Award.

Other award nominees and award winners in their respective areas of assignment are:

Central Northwest Command

Officer Rene Frias ** Winner

Officer Drew Hernandez
Officer Donald Lancaster
Officer Dillon Maroney
Officer Lawanda Saunders
Officer Jamie Slagle
Officer Byron Wylie

Southeast Command

Officer Damon Cole
Officer Thomas Dugan
Officer Aaron Garcia
Officer James Ramsel ** Winner

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Specialized Units

Detective Chris Fearneyhough ** Winner

Detective Amelia Heise
Officer Christopher Jones
Officer Domingo Martinez
Detective Stephanie Phillips
Officer Jennifer Russell
Officer Marcus Russell
Officer David Scott
Officer William Snow
Detective Kyle Sullivan
Officer Margaret Terry
Officer Michael Valdez

Supervisor of the Year

Sergeant Brandon Hill ** Winner

Sergeant John Phillips
Sergeant Donald Tatom

Commander of the Year

Lieutenant Christine Demore ** Winner

The Officer of the Year commendation follows.

Officer of the Year, 2015 and Amon G. Carter Award Recipient - Officer Byron Wylie

Officer Byron Wylie is a professional who has proven to all what police work is all about.

It was January 29, 2015, when Fort Worth 911 dispatch received a call from the mother of 40-year-old Grady Wendell King. He had locked himself in his room and she was worried he might be having a medical emergency.

Officer Byron Wylie, along with Sgt. Shane Drake and two other officers, arrived on the scene. Police had been at this address before as King had a record for previous incidents.

With the officers by her side, Grady's mother knocked several times without a response. Officer Wylie announced himself, and when his announcement was greeted by silence, Sgt. Drake instructed his men to force the door open.

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King did not respond to their questions. Instead, he reached under the sheet, pulled out a gun, and fired multiple shots within the tight confines.

Sgt. Drake was hit in his abdomen and Officer Wylie stepped forward, selflessly putting himself between his wounded sergeant and King. As a gunfight erupted between King and the officers, Officer Wylie moved Sgt. Drake into an adjacent bedroom and then quickly returned to the intense firefight where he helped his fellow officers shoot and mortally wound the suspect.

The whole gunfight lasted less than a minute.

Thankfully, Sgt. Shane Drake would recover from his wounds with Officer Wylie's quick thinking and courage.

Officer Wylie's calmness under pressure, and concern for officer safety, not only his own, but those with whom he works is exceeded only by his selfless sacrifice and his marksmanship.

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