



FORT WORTH
POLICE OFFICERS'
AWARD FOUNDATION

Contact: Kate Lattimore
817-546-8169
kate@pavlikandassociates.com

May 27, 2014

For immediate release

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

Fort Worth officer John Bell was named Officer of the Year for 2013 at a special VIP dinner on Tuesday, May 27, 2014. The dinner was hosted by the Fort Worth Police Officers' Award Foundation. It was held at the Fort Worth Club.

The honor for Commander of the Year went to Captain Michael Baldwin.

Other personnel honored as outstanding in their area of assignment are:

Central Northwest Command

Officer Andy Morquecho winner**

Officer Drew Hernandez

Officer Jeffrey Tyler

Officer Joshua VanBrunt

Southeast Command

Officer Marty Stone winner**

Officer/NPO Vincent Brown

Officer Orlando Donovan

Officer Robert Fenner

Officer/NPO Doyal Gilbert

Officer/NPO Rodney Gilbert

Officer Richard Hoepfner

Officer Brian Hoover

Officer Chad Kingston

Officer/NPO Thomas Schmidt

Officer Robert Scott

Officer/NPO Allen Speed

Officer Steve Wong

(cont.)



FORT WORTH
POLICE OFFICERS'
AWARD FOUNDATION

Specialized Units

Detective William Paine winner**

Officer John Bell
Detective Jerardo Cedillo
Detective Christopher Daniels
Detective Jonathan McKee
Officer Matthew McMeans
Detective Thomas O'Brien
Detective Dani Paine
Detective Ernest Pate
Officer William Snow
Detective Francisco Solano

Supervisor of the Year

Sergeant Thomas Busker winner**

Sergeant Steven Enright
Sergeant Clay Hays
Sgt/Det Troy Lawrence
Sergeant Tanya McMath
Sergeant Richard Mendoza
Sergeant Kenneth Pierce
Sergeant Matthew Weber

Commander of the Year

Captain Michael Baldwin winner**

Lieutenant James Driver

Officer of the Year, 2013 and Amon G. Carter Award Recipient - Officer John Bell

In January 2013, **Officer John Bell** was shot multiple times when he encountered an armed suspect who was hiding inside a junked pickup truck on the lot of an automotive shop. The suspect had recently fled from Haltom City Police who were attempting to arrest the suspect for narcotics trafficking. Although he was initially struck in the eye, this officer stood his ground and managed to return fire on the suspect, who subsequently died. He lost a finger and has not regained his sight in the injured eye. Officer Bell is a 31-year veteran of law enforcement,

(cont.)



FORT WORTH POLICE OFFICERS' AWARD FOUNDATION

having served 10 years with the Cleburne Police Department prior to coming to work at the Fort Worth Police Department. Assigned to the traffic division as a motor officer for the past 9 years, he is an active member of the "Beat the Heat" program which is sanctioned by the FWPD.

Officer Bell always volunteers to take and display his marked police drag car to many of the community events in our city to promote safety and community service. He does so at his own expense.

Officer Bell is tough as nails, having served in the US Army Special Forces during the Vietnam War. He is also kind hearted and caring. He has the gift of gab and the ability to make friends with just about anyone regardless of age, gender, social status, race, or religion.

Congratulations to Officer John Bell, winner of the Amon G. Carter award and 2013 Officer of the Year.

###