

2006 Florida Cities of Excellence Awards Program ▶ Nomination Form

Category (Please check one) See Award Criteria for more information. Please print or type. One nomination per page.

FLORIDA CITY OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Name of Municipality Nominated _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY SPIRIT AWARD

Name of Municipality Nominated _____

Nominated Project _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

MAYOR OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated Detective Christopher Newman

Title Detective Department Fort Police Dept.

Nominated by City of Fort Pierce
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY CLERK OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY FINANCE OFFICIAL (DIRECTOR OR OFFICER) OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

CITY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Name of Individual Nominated _____

Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

[OVER]

Person Completing Nomination Form

Please print or type.

Name Dr. Eugene G. Savage
Title Chief of Police
Government City of Fort Pierce
Address P.O. Box 1149 Fort Pierce, FL 34954
Telephone Number 772.461.3820 Fax 772.568.6867
E-mail Address Chief@FPPD.org

Nomination Certification

This nomination has been voted on and approved by a majority of the city council/commission.

Signed 
Deputy City Clerk

The judges will use the narrative and supportive information to select the award winners. Nominators/nominees are asked not to contact the judges directly.

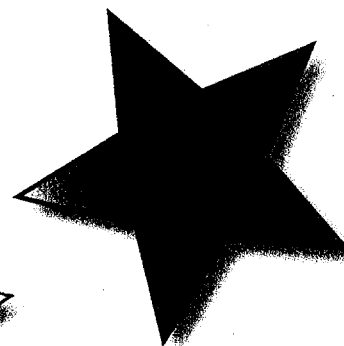
Narrative

In the narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominee. Please type (or print in black ink), up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

Supportive Information

Up to 10 pages of supportive information (newspaper clippings, photographs, letters from constituents, etc.), on 8-1/2" x 11" paper (single-sided) may be provided. Please do not include videotapes, DVDs, CDs or Power-Point presentations.

Submit nominations by **August 18, 2006**:
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Attn: Florida Cities of Excellence
301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 (32301)
P.O. Box 1757
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757





"Determined to Make a Difference"

Eugene G. Savage, Ph.D.
Chief of Police

CITY OF FORT PIERCE

Florida



Police Department

As Chief of Police of the Fort Pierce Police Department, nominating Detective Christopher Newman as our candidate for the category of City Employee of the Year carries with it an overwhelming amount of pride. Detective Newman, a K-9 detective assigned to the Crime Suppression Unit, had a banner year as it relates to crime solution. Although his efforts were heralded by local news media, more notably is the fact that they will go down in the annals of this city's history and was recognized by the department, TASER International, the Florida Police Chief's Association, The One Hundred Club and the American Legion.

During the last six months of 2005, the bulk of Detective Newman's time and attention was focused on investigating, coordinating and executing what turned out to be one of the largest prostitution busts in the history of the department. The investigation began with a tip Detective Newman received in July 2005 that female South American illegal aliens were being brought to the United States and forced into prostitution to work off their debt. Newman's outstanding efforts led to six search warrants; 14 arrests, including seven men, five women and one juvenile; the seizure of more than \$77,000 and the confiscation of five vehicles, a pistol and shotgun, as well as a large quantity of condoms and numbered tickets. The successful sting crippled the well-organized \$2 million-a-year

crime ring that had been in operation for at least three years in Fort Pierce. In all, the busts yielded 22 felony charges and six misdemeanor charges. The ringleader, who was in charge of the St. Lucie County arm of the statewide crime ring, was also among those who were arrested. He has since been prosecuted on federal charges and is currently serving a seven-year sentence. Many of the others arrested face federal charges and have provided critical information that has launched a subsequent investigation into the resurrection of the prostitution ring by someone else, under the direction of the ringleader now serving time. Detective Newman is also in charge of this newest investigation, while he wraps up the initial case.

It took meticulous, logistical planning on the part of Detective Newman to gather the evidence, which at one point included covertly tailing a vehicle, used to remove prostitutes from the Fort Pierce brothel on Sundays, that led officers on a zigzagged trek across the state. Detective Newman was able to garner the support needed to secure the search warrants and devise a method for 30 law enforcement officers to simultaneously serve the warrants on the five Fort Pierce residences identified as part of the prostitution ring. The prostitution ring involved an intricately devised uniform operation. Though the five women arrested said they were prostitutes of their own free will and getting paid for their services, Detective Newman believed the latter to be highly unlikely.

The investigation also revealed that the local brothel had connections in South and Central America, Mexico, Chicago and New Jersey. Because of the magnitude and far-reaching implications of the prostitution ring, the investigation captured the interest of

U.S. Immigration, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The investigation has become a joint effort between the four agencies, a move, which stemmed from the excellent and intuitive work performed by Detective Newman in the investigation of the prostitution ring.

As if the prostitution investigation was not time consuming enough, Detective Newman found time to be proactively involved in other major crime solving events. During the initial stages of the prostitution ring investigation, Detective Newman was summoned to assist with another case that garnered much attention and ignited an uproar in the Fort Pierce community. On August 22, 2005, police were investigating the murder of a Hispanic male found lying near North 27th Street and Okeechobee Road. Initially, detectives didn't have any suspect information. The suspects stomped and kicked the victim, shattering his skull resulting in his death. Because of the brutal nature of the crime, the community responded with an outpouring of support and tips. Detectives began receiving good solid leads and were able to develop a list of possible suspects. The Crime Suppression Unit joined the search and within a day all the suspects were apprehended. Detective Newman was an integral part in the search and apprehension of the five young males, but more specifically, he was responsible for locating a suspect who fled the area. All five young men were charged as adults and are being tried.

When the Detective Newman received the tip about the prostitution ring, he was heavily involved in a 10-week summer Gang Task Force initiative that began June 2, 2005 and culminated on August 14, 2005. The joint-effort with another agency was designed to

reduce street crime and violence in the summer months while young people were out of school. The initiative, primarily staffed by the Crime Suppression Unit, including Detective Newman, was successful in curtailing crime during a time when crime tends to rise in the city. Detective Newman occasionally led the weekly operations, which resulted in the arrest of more than 700 individuals, 70 percent of which the Crime Suppression Unit was credited with making, completion of more than 600 field interview cards and the issuance of more than 200 citations. The information gathered during the initiative has aided the department in developing an intelligence database, which has helped to solve and prevent crimes.

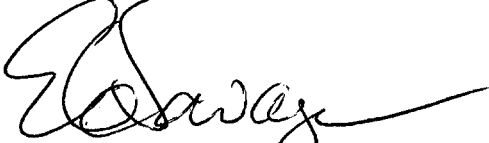
With all that Detective Newman encountered in 2005, he can add to his list of accomplishments saving the life of two individuals. On October 19, 2005, Detective Newman came across two Fort Pierce residents involved in a violent exchange. The suspect, who had knocked the victim unconscious with a metal cane, continued to strike the victim in the head area. The victim sustained a deep cut on the left side of his chin and several teeth were knocked loose during the incident. Detective Newman believed the suspect would have killed the victim had he not intervened. While Detective Newman would have been justified in using deadly force in this situation, he opted to end the violent confrontation with the use of the Taser. If Detective Newman did not have the Taser as an option, the use of his firearm would have been the only other reasonable reaction to the suspect's actions. His quick thinking saved the two lives that night, the victim and the suspect's. For using the Taser to save a human life, Detective Newman

received the John C. Cover Medal from TASER International and the department's life-saving medal.

Detective Newman is frequently sought by his peers for advice and guidance on cases they are investigating and looked to as leader in the department's six-man Crime Suppression Unit. He is eager to assist and never too haughty to assume the role of a team player, which is one of the primary reasons why he is highly respected within the department.

With unequivocal support from all members of the Fort Pierce Police Department, it gives me both pride and esteem to nominate Detective Christopher Newman for the City Employee of the Year.

Sincerely, I am

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Savage", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eugene G. Savage, Ph.D.
Chief of Police