



CITY OF LAWRENCE  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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DANIEL RIVERA  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Mayor Commends Officers  
August/September Officers of the Month Recognized**

**October 12, 2016, Lawrence, MA-** Lawrence Police Officer Timothy Yerian and Lawrence Police Detective Shaun McLellan were recognized by Mayor Daniel Rivera and Police Chief James Fitzpatrick as Officers of the Month for August and September respectively as a result of their exemplary job performance in their duties to the City of Lawrence. “I am proud of the work that these officers have done for our Police Department,” said Mayor Daniel Rivera. “Detective McLellan and Officer Yerian’s actions set an example of the hard work our officers do on a daily basis to keep our community safe, and I am thankful to have their professionalism and expertise on our force.”

**Officer Yerian was awarded Officer of the Month for August** as a result of his fast acting saving the life of a prisoner who attempted suicide. Officer Yerian was working as the booking officer in the police station when he heard a prisoner in distress. At that time, Officer Yerian entered the cell and gave the prisoner initial medical care until EMT’s and paramedics arrived. “Had Officer Yerian not acted as quickly as he did, the victim may not have survived his injuries,” said Police Chief James Fitzpatrick. “The professionalism that Officer Yerian displayed is an example of the caliber of policing the community can expect from the Lawrence Police Department.” Officer Yerian was also awarded a Life Saving Award and a Divisional Commendation for his actions that day.

**Detective McLellan was awarded Officer of the Month for September** as a result of his fast acting in the apprehension of a male armed with a firearm. In Detective McLellan’s commendation letter, Lieutenant Michael McCarthy states, “Detective McLellan, the suspect confronted you in a dark alley and pointed his firearm at you. Instead of employing deadly force you were able to flush him out where assisting officers were able to apprehend him without incident. The restraint you employed that day, when faced with a deadly force situation, may have saved a person’s life.”

“Detective McLellan set an example for not only the Lawrence Police Department, but our society as a whole,” said Police Chief James Fitzpatrick. “During a time where Police Officers across the country are struggling with deadly force issues, Detective McLellan consciously chose not to use deadly force and was able to apprehend the suspect without incident. Detective McLellan’s actions that day are an example of our police department’s daily efforts to keep our community out of harms way.”

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