



# Cheyenne Police Department

415 W. 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001  
<http://www.cheyennepd.org>



*Protecting the legend...*

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Cheyenne Police Officers Recognized for Outstanding Achievements**

CHEYENNE, Wy — On Wednesday, April 21 the Cheyenne Police Department (CPD) held its annual awards ceremony recognizing outstanding employee achievements during 2020. Awards were presented in 14 categories to 70 CPD employees, including Officer of the Year, Specialty Officer of the Year, Civilian of the Year, and Volunteer of the Year.

The awards ceremony was held at the Cheyenne Public Safety Center with City officials, officers, members of the department and family members in attendance.

More than 80 awards were presented, with some officers receiving multiple recognitions for their exceptional work last year.

“This is an opportunity to take a few moments and personally recognize the contributions that our employees make,” said Chief of Police, Mark Francisco. “We are extremely proud of their commitment and dedication to Cheyenne.”

The Officer of the Year award was presented to Officer Hutchinson for demonstrating superior leadership and compassionate service to the citizens of Cheyenne. Throughout the year, Officer Hutchinson was recognized by members of the public for his professionalism and excellent communication skills.

The Specialty Officer of the Year award was given to School Resource Officer (SRO) Horne for his work with school staff and students at East High School (EHS). Throughout the year, Officer Horne addressed the majority of the Safe2Tell tips at EHS. In 2020, East High School had 83 Safe2Tell tips to investigate compared to the next highest number of tips, 46.

“Officer Horne communicates with students in the building, parking lot, at events, and in the classroom setting. He has an open-door policy and students seek him out to express concerns and to just talk,” said SRO Sgt. Gay. “Officer Horne listens to students and they understand he is here to help and support them.”

Four officers; Officer Cover, Officer Smith, Officer Howe, Officer Peterson, were also presented the Lifesaving Award for saving a domestic violence victim.



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Five civilians were also recognized for their actions. The Civilian of the Year Award was given to Jennell Webster, the Department's Evidence Manager, for showing exemplary leadership and improving both physical and digital evidence storage practices.

Civilians in the Records Department; Jamie Sweeney, Kristi Powers, Mary Tucker, and Tiffany Marzluf were awarded for their work to implement the FBI mandated NIBRS federal reporting system. NIBRS improves the methodology used in compiling, analyzing, auditing, and publishing crime statistics.

The Volunteer of the Year award was given to Nancy Cruff, who logged 649 volunteer hours with the CPD. Cruff joined the Citizens on Patrol (COP) program in 2019 and immediately began volunteering for some of the most difficult and time-consuming tasks.

Officers were also awarded for firearms proficiency with the top shot going to Officer Norris and physical fitness awards were given to five members who scored above 85% on PT tests. Unit Citations were given to five teams that excelled during specific incidents, of one which prevented the abduction of an 8-year old girl.

“While 2020 was a difficult year for all, our department continued to show resiliency, adaptability, and commitment to providing the best service to our community,” said Capt. Jared Keslar. “What our employees have accomplished means so much more than what we can convey in a simple plaque or certificate, we want to share our appreciation for the selfless work they do each day.”



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## 2020 Cheyenne Police Department Awards

Officer of the Year - *Officer Hutchinson*

Specialty Officer of the Year - *Officer Horne*

Civilian of the Year - *Jennell Webster*

Volunteer of the Year - *Nancy Cruff*

Lifesaving Award - *Officer Cover, Officer D. Smith, Officer Howe, Officer K. Peterson*

Meritorious Service Award - *Officer Eddy, CSO McLean, CSO Smyth, Officer Warren, Tressa Wellman*

Chief's Award - *CSO Sgt. Frankhouser*

Top Shot - *Officer Norris*

Longevity Awards – *Officer Veniegas (10 years/SWAT), LCSO Deputy Shawn Puente (5 years/SWAT), Officer S. Smith (5 years/K9 Unit), Officer Sutton (10 years/FTO), Officer S. Smith (5 years/FTO), Officer Stalo (5 years/Bomb Squad), Paul Edner (15 years/Citizens on Patrol)*

Commendation Awards - *Officer Andren, Officer Hedum, Officer K. Peterson, Officer Lewis, Officer M. Webster, Officer Miles, Officer Norris*

Fitness Awards - *Detective Fahling, Detective Fernandez, Detective Morgan, Officer Horne, Officer Veniegas*

Unit Citation - *Detective Fahling, Detective Morgan, Officer Hutchinson, Officer Wiltjer, Officer Young, Sgt. Peete*

Unit Citation - *Officer Glasby, Officer Huff, Officer Koepfel, Officer Maule, Officer Remers, Officer Ryan, Officer Sekerka, Officer Vapenik*

Unit Citation - *Officer Cover, Officer Freeman, Officer Hayden, Officer Zabriskie*

Unit Citation - *CSO Bolkovatz, CSO Driver, CSO Hibbens, CSO LeBlanc, CSO McLean, CSO Smyth, CSO Wiseman*

Unit Citation - *Jamie Sweeney, Kristi Powers, Mary Tucker, Tiffany Marzluf*