

# 2016 Spring Calendar



**B**oulder  
Police  
Department  
2015 Annual Report

# Making a Difference

Most police officers find satisfaction in helping people. They love the excitement of the job and not knowing what each day will bring. Boulder Police Officers value the work they do, take pride in their efforts and know that making a difference in the lives of others is fulfilling in ways other career paths might not be. Our mission statement, "Working with the community to provide service and safety," encompasses the values the city embraces, and the department plays its part to help maintain Boulder's reputation as one of Colorado's finest communities.





**Policing** is a challenging, yet rewarding profession. At the Boulder Police Department, we continually strive to provide the best service possible, including being accountable and responsive to our community's needs. As I reflect back on 2015, I believe one of our most important accomplishments was our outreach efforts to enhance community policing.

This past fall, we set up tents at all of the city's recreation centers, offered refreshments, shared ideas and answered questions with interested community members. We distributed surveys which were also available on our website, giving people an opportunity to be candid with their thoughts and responses about our police department. Overall, we were very pleased with the results of that feedback.

We continue to engage and educate our younger residents with programs, such as Camp-911, our two week Youth Academy, Explorer Post and Safety First for teens. In October, police department employees played soccer with 50 kids and young adults, as we partnered with FC Boulder to build community through soccer.

We've been successful in getting body cameras deployed to officers. There have been a few bumps along the way, mostly associated with technology issues, but we believe these cameras will be an important tool as we strive for ways to be more transparent and keep the community safe.

Along with other county agencies, we implemented Text-to-911. This service can be used to text dispatch in an emergency when calling 911 is not possible. "Call if you can, text if you must."

We were able to gain some much needed office space in our building when the Boulder Fire Department administrative staff moved offices. Our hard-working maintenance staff has remodeled the area and several of our divisions moved to larger offices. It also allowed for an expansion of our exercise room and sleeping quarters for officers.

We were grateful when BPD Officer Janet Hinkle, who was killed in a car accident while traveling to training in 1977, was added to the Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial. She was only 23 years old at the time of her death.

Our accomplishments are many but we know there is more work to be done. We wish everyone happiness and prosperity as they head into the New Year!

*GT*  
 Greg Testa  
 Chief of Police

MARCH 2016						
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27	28	29	30	31	1	2

*In 2015 we had 95 contacts from people expressing thank you messages and commendations to individual employees, and to the department as a whole. This was far greater than the number of complaints received.*

# Award Winning Work

A photograph of two women smiling. The woman on the left is wearing a dark blue police uniform with a patch on her shoulder that says "BOULDER POLICE". The woman on the right is wearing a blue button-down shirt and has her arm around the shoulder of the woman in uniform. They are both looking towards the camera.

Officer McNalley was the recipient of the 2015 Beth Haynes Award for her continued service at a level of excellence. She was nominated for this award by Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN). The nomination letter stated "...Officer McNalley has consistently gone above and beyond in her response to domestic violence cases. Her knowledge of complex domestic violence dynamics, her thoroughness in assessing and investigating these incidents, and her ability to develop a rapport with victims and advocates all merit admiration and recognition from the community. Officer McNalley has a demonstrable history of service to the victims of domestic violence and their families. Advocates and victims who have worked with Officer McNalley consistently provide positive feedback about her. Victims who have had ongoing contact with her report that she is approachable and compassionate..."

In addition, Officer McNalley was the Boulder Police Officer's Association 2015 Officer of the Year. She received this award for her continued service at a level of excellence as demonstrated by her actions. She was instrumental in the apprehension of a serial burglar who was implicated in over 40 known burglaries (many of them occupied buildings) in the city of Boulder. Due to the diligence of Officer McNalley, the burglar is currently behind bars awaiting trial. And, Officer McNalley led the department in the creation of a new Explorer Post. This career-oriented program serves as a platform for young adults who are interested in a future in the field of criminal justice



**The** Beth Haynes Memorial Award was established in 1994 following the tragic loss of Officer Beth Haynes of the Boulder Police Department. On April 16, 1994, Officer Beth Haynes responded to a domestic violence call. The man held a friend at gunpoint during a terrifying car ride and then tried to blast his way into his ex-girlfriend's apartment. Police raced to the scene and when Officer Haynes confronted the crazed man in the parking lot, a shoot-out occurred and the 26-year-old officer was killed. Moments later the gunman committed suicide.

This is the only county-wide award nominated by law enforcement officers and victim advocates and voted on by their peers. The Beth Haynes Memorial Award is viewed as one of the most prestigious annual awards given in Boulder

County. BPD 2015 nominees were Detective Sergeant Tom Dowd, Officer Sterling Ekwo, Officer Beth McNalley, Officer Colleen Wilcox and Officer David Zimmerman. Officer McNalley received the award.

Law enforcement officers are nominated for the award based on the following criteria:

- History of service to victims
- Knowledge of the dynamics of domestic violence and proper investigative techniques
- Guidance provided to fellow officers on domestic violence issues and cases
- Networking and problem solving around domestic violence issues with other agencies



**Detective** Kipp Euler is the Boulder Police Officer's Association 2015 Detective of the Year. He received this award for the unselfish performance of his duties, often going above and beyond in order to assist victims and co-workers.

Detective Euler's persistence and diligence investigating auto thefts and vehicle trespasses paid off when he was able to link three dozen open investigations to a group of individuals. This was a complex investigation that took a lot of time, coordination, and plenty of crime scene processing.

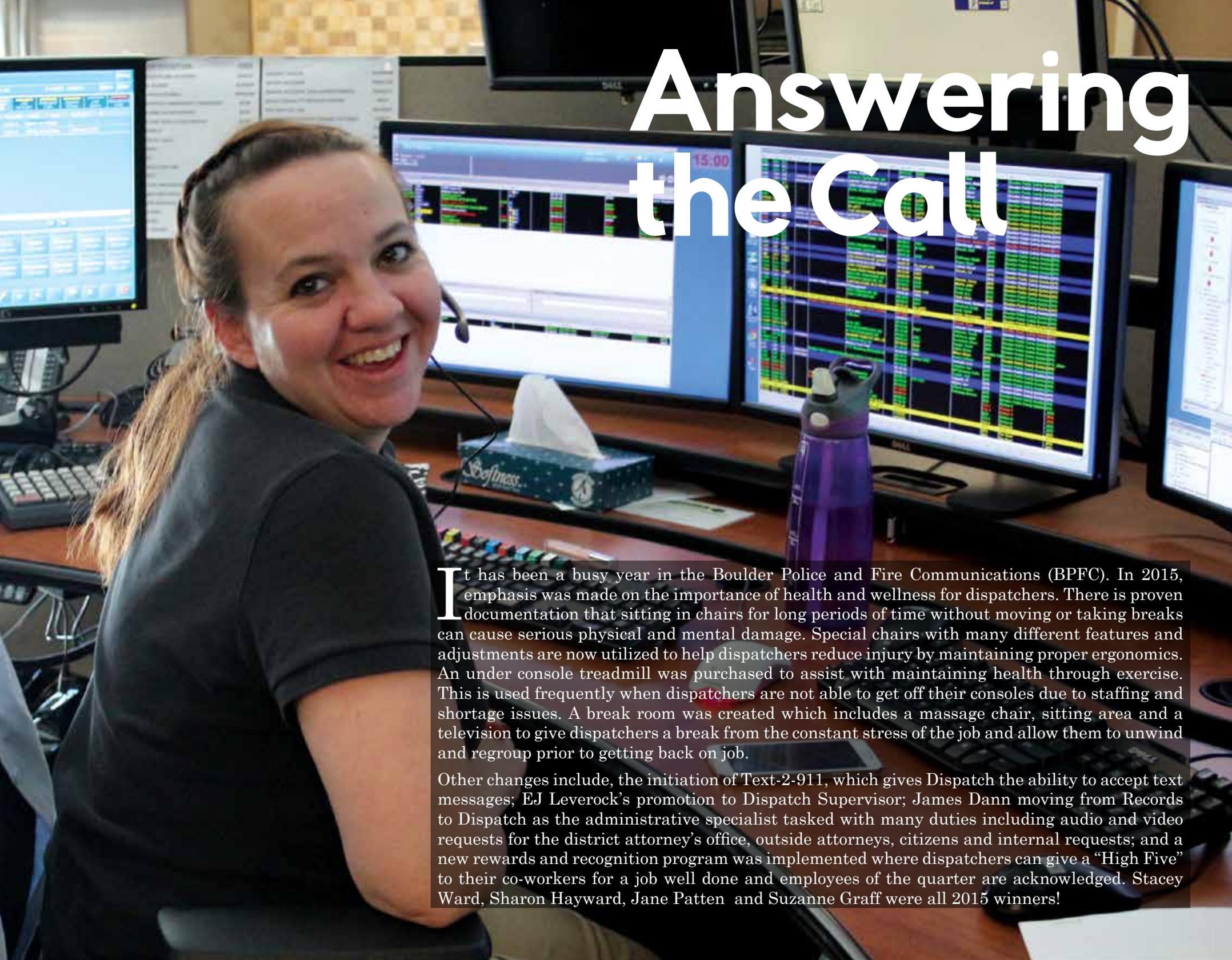
Detective Euler has touched the hearts of multiple families by going above and beyond. In May, Detective Euler had the gut wrenching task of investigating a missing tuber that drowned in Boulder Creek.

The brother of the victim took the time to write the following: *Thank you so much for being my first point of contact. I*

APRIL 2016						
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*appreciate all of the time you spent with me on the phone. I treasured every update you had about my brother. I am so grateful for the time you spent with us hiking the trails and river side looking for him. I appreciate your help and concern dealing with my other family members, the press, and taking the time to drive me back to the hotel. I will always remember your kindness and professionalism you showed to us.*



A woman with long brown hair, wearing a dark grey polo shirt and a headset, is smiling and looking back over her shoulder at the camera. She is sitting at a workstation with multiple computer monitors. The monitors display various data tables and graphs. A purple water bottle and a tissue box are on the desk. The background shows more computer equipment and a wall with a yellow and white checkered pattern.

# Answering the Call

It has been a busy year in the Boulder Police and Fire Communications (BPFC). In 2015, emphasis was made on the importance of health and wellness for dispatchers. There is proven documentation that sitting in chairs for long periods of time without moving or taking breaks can cause serious physical and mental damage. Special chairs with many different features and adjustments are now utilized to help dispatchers reduce injury by maintaining proper ergonomics. An under console treadmill was purchased to assist with maintaining health through exercise. This is used frequently when dispatchers are not able to get off their consoles due to staffing and shortage issues. A break room was created which includes a massage chair, sitting area and a television to give dispatchers a break from the constant stress of the job and allow them to unwind and regroup prior to getting back on job.

Other changes include, the initiation of Text-2-911, which gives Dispatch the ability to accept text messages; EJ Leverock's promotion to Dispatch Supervisor; James Dann moving from Records to Dispatch as the administrative specialist tasked with many duties including audio and video requests for the district attorney's office, outside attorneys, citizens and internal requests; and a new rewards and recognition program was implemented where dispatchers can give a "High Five" to their co-workers for a job well done and employees of the quarter are acknowledged. Stacey Ward, Sharon Hayward, Jane Patten and Suzanne Graff were all 2015 winners!

*“Every time we call them, they have been here right away. It’s been great.”*

**2015** brought an increase in calls and calls for service for everyone in the department. Dispatchers handled 216,108 phone calls, an increase of 12,168 from 2014. Officers saw an increase in calls for service, from 47,534 in 2014, to 53,677 in 2015. Our Accident Report Specialists responded to 3,703 calls for service, 138 more than 2014. Animal Control answered 6,859 calls for service in 2015 compared to 6,241 in 2014. The top five calls for service 2015 were traffic accidents, animal complaints, medical calls, welfare checks and noise complaints.

Response times improved in 2015 to 5:47 from 6:32 in 2014. These times include the time the call is picked up, until an officer arrives on scene.



## Department Statistics

- In 2015, Boulder Police handled one murder which was cleared with an arrest. This is consistent with 2014.
- There were 39 reported sex offenses in the City in 2015 and 60% of these were cleared. In 2014 police handled 40 cases.
- Twenty-five robberies were reported in 2015, compared to 28 in 2014.
- There were 171 assaults in 2015 compared to 176 in 2014. 83 percent of these were cleared in 2015.
- Boulder Police took 427 burglary reports in 2015. In 2014, there were 486 burglaries reported in the city.
- In 2015, officers handled 2,207 larceny (theft) cases and in 2014 there were 2,137.
- Vehicle thefts were at 123 in 2015, compared to 113 in 2014.
- Police took 15 arson reports in 2015 and 28 in 2014.
- The total clearance rate for Part I Crimes (serious crime including aggravated assault, homicide, rape, robbery, etc.) overall in 2015 was 29%.

*“I wanted to see some crime stats and was delighted to learn about the webpage.”*

## MAY 2016

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29	30	31	1	2	3	4



# Joining the Team



The Boulder Police Department, like most law enforcement agencies has a rigorous hiring process. As a person progresses, it becomes more difficult and more stressful. Applicants undergo lie detector and psychological testing, endure extensive background investigations and participate in an interview with Management Staff. Some people might wonder why one would put themselves through this, knowing there a possibility of failure. But those in law enforcement know the rewards are many.



One of the rewards of police work is the satisfaction of catching the bad guy. Such was the case when one of Boulder's more prolific burglars was arrested after victimizing numerous people in over 40 burglaries and attempted burglaries in six months. Nick Duskin, age 31 was arrested in his Aurora home on October 7, 2015 where officers recovered thousands of items they believe he stole. His method was the similar in all of the cases where he would enter homes by cutting or prying screens off of unlocked windows and doors and would jump from second stories when confronted by residents.



*Dear Boulder Police Officers,*

*Thank you for your service. Thank you for doing a tough job and making a positive impact on to our communities. Thank you for being everyday heroes. You are appreciated.*

*May God bless you.*

## JUNE 2016

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26	27	28	29	30	1	2



# Targeting Great Teamwork

A person wearing a ghillie suit, which is a type of camouflage clothing made of artificial grass and twigs, is lying on the ground and aiming a rifle. The person's face is partially visible through the suit. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green grass and other people in the distance.

In July of 2015, Boulder Police enjoyed some interactions with the University of Colorado football team. The teams worked together and experimented with different scenarios including defensive tactics, officer safety situations where they had to make life and death decisions, and an introduction to our SWAT team. It allowed the athletes a different way to engage with police and participate in a collaboration of partnership.

Deputy Chief Johnson said “The goal today was to have a positive and fun interaction with the football team and let them see a little bit about what police officers do every day and ... the teamwork aspects that are involved, all the training and commitment that goes into doing the work we do and how that relates to exactly what they do every Saturday and more than anything we’re just looking forward to having a great time with the football program and helping build a positive relationship between CU athletics and the Boulder Police Department.”



**The** Boulder Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team is made up of 26 operators, seven hostage negotiators, three medics, two technical service operators, two assistant commanders and three team leaders who are members of either the Boulder Police Department or University of Colorado Police Department.

To belong on this elite team, you must have a minimum of three year's

experience and undergo a rigorous battery of interviews, physical agility and written testing. Members of this unit are required to make a three year commitment and participate in 250 hours of specialized training per year. Sniper members receive an additional 4-6 hours.

The SWAT team responds to high risk calls and is typically utilized for two to three call-outs per year and two to three high risk warrant service operations per year. In addition, they are involved in large venue events and assist with things like crowd control and dignitary protection.



**In** June of 2015, eleven students between 14 and 18 years of age, participated in the first two week Youth Academy. Participants received an in-depth look at what law enforcement really is, along with some hands on training.



JULY 2016						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

*Dear Boulder PD,*

*To all the brave men & women working fearlessly to keep us safe. You will never know how much you are appreciated.*

*Thank you!*

# Celebrating our Achievements

A photograph of two women smiling at an awards ceremony. The woman on the left has blonde hair and wears glasses and a light blue top. The woman on the right has dark hair and wears a patterned top with a large circular medallion. In the background, other people are visible, including a man in a black t-shirt with a skull logo. A blue streamer is visible on the left side of the image.

**E**ach year, the Boulder Police Department applauds the accomplishments of its employees and community members who help solve crime during our annual Awards Ceremony. The most prestigious award is the Medal of Honor given to those department members who perform acts of courage or heroism where they risk their lives during the performance of their duties. The Medal of Valor is presented to those who distinguish themselves by bravery under unusual, complicated or hazardous conditions where they risk personal danger and use excellent judgment to accomplish a specific mission. The Medal for Livesaving is given to members who save the life of another person using extraordinary actions. A Purple Heart is awarded to employees who are killed or seriously wounded at the hands of an offender or while saving a life. The Superior Tactics and Response (STAR) award is given to those who use exceptional tactics, decision-making or skills, to resolve a critical incident where no one incurs serious injury. The Award for Excellence is given to members who consistently perform their jobs at a continued level of excellence. The Police Chief's Certificate of Commendation is for employees who demonstrate exceptional initiative while performing an expected task in an extraordinary manner. Our Unit Citation is awarded to an identified group such as our SWAT or Traffic Division, who display exemplary teamwork in support of the department mission. Our Citizenship Award is given to community members who assist the department going above and beyond their normal civic responsibility.

**Awards** were presented to the following department and community members in March and November.

**Award for Excellence**

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Adrienne Campos | Mike Heath         |
| Ian Compton     | Barry Hartkopp     |
| Tom Dowd        | Elizabeth Leverock |
| Kipp Euler      | Michael Marquez    |
| Darren Fladung  | Beth McNalley      |
| Ashly Flynn     | Stephanie Ragland  |
| Kurt Foster     | Keith Steinman     |
| Heather Frey    | Susan Townley      |

**Medal for Lifesaving**

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Patrick Compton | Nathan Smith |
|-----------------|--------------|

**Superior Tactics and Response Award**

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Adrian Drelles   | Abel Ramos     |
| Dillon Garretson | Ryan Scheevel  |
| Zach Hogan       | Colleen Wilcox |
| Courtney Parker  |                |

**Citizenship Award Nominees**

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Anton Comas-Bacardi | Joe Piaskoy       |
| Michael James Doak  | Scott Perry       |
| Francisco Hernandez | Roxanna Rodriguez |
| Jackie Peller       |                   |

**Chief's Commendation**

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Sharon Hayward  | Alan Marschke |
| Andrew Heaton   | Brad Snedeker |
| Robin Holdstock | Scott Sloan   |
| Marina LaGraves |               |

**Unit Citation**

EDGE



**In** November of 2015, members from a German television station visited the department to speak with our marijuana Officer Bev Bookout and others, to learn about Boulder's philosophies and laws on marijuana after it was legalized in Colorado in 2012. Many cities in Germany are proposing similar laws in a country where marijuana regulation is already somewhat lax; possession is decriminalized, but there are no legal dispensaries.



**AUGUST 2016**

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

“I was surprised at how great a job they did, amazing.

You're doing a great job, I feel really safe in Boulder.”

# Achieving Our Goals



The police department challenged some of Boulder's local youth to a soccer game in October at Foothills Community Park. FC Boulder (a local youth soccer club) supplied the equipment and some staff to help make everything run smoothly. Boulder Police Department officers and other staff participated in the soccer game, served refreshments and helped to make this a fun family event. This was also an opportunity for the kids and their parents to ask questions and have a chance to get to know some of our police officers and others who work for the department. Participants were given a free t-shirt and the event was deemed a huge success by everyone involved.



One of the Police Department's goals in its most recent Master Plan was to enhance our community policing efforts. In 2015, police officers participated in outreach events where they greeted community members at local recreation centers. They shared ideas and received feedback on how we can improve our commitment to provide Boulder residents and visitors with the highest level of customer service.



## SEPTEMBER 2016

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25	26	27	28	29	30	1



# Making the Time

*Working with the community  
to provide service and safety*

A photograph of three women smiling at a community event. The woman on the left is wearing a black witch hat and a black top. The woman in the center is wearing a pink wig with blue bunny ears and pink sunglasses. The woman on the right is wearing a black sequined hat and a red hooded garment. In the background, there are trays of food on a buffet table.

**M**any agencies use volunteers to fill important jobs in different capacities and Boulder Police are no different. From performing clerical duties, compiling statistics and making customer service phone calls, our volunteers are a vital part of the police department. Their support allows employees and officers to concentrate on their primary responsibilities and is a great way to give back to the community. Victim Advocates are also volunteers who make a one-year commitment to provide crises intervention by phone or in person to victims of crime and survivors of tragedy. They offer emotional support and help find needed resources for those involved in crises. They may have shifts where they are on call 24-hours a day, seven days a week, must attend 40 hours of training, be available for short-term follow-up with victims and attend monthly support and continuing education meetings.



**Marina** LaGraves, one of BPD's Victim Advocates received the Chief's Commendation for her work helping a family whose son was killed in an automobile accident in Mexico. She was able to provide translation and support with Mexican government officials so the family could find some peace and understanding in their time of need.

*“We have continued to work with both Larry and Marina, and they have both been an incredible source of help and support. We have met twice with Marina to translate the police report we received as well as contacting the funeral home in Mexico. She completely cut through a week's worth of stalling and red tape that the US Consulate Office in Monterrey had not been able to do. ...Plus, Marina has given us her love and spiritual support. She is an amazing gift to us.”*

**OCTOBER 2016**

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5



**In** October of 2015, Detective Sergeant Tom Dowd, traveled to Cuba as part of the Boulder's Sister City delegation. His trip included visits to a variety of cities including Havana, Guantánamo and Santiago de Cuba. They visited local art and archaeology museums, historic colonial preservation sites, National Parks, the U.S. Embassy, a provincial art school and a medical clinic. Sgt. Dowd traveled with 12 other members of the delegation and was one of the few who spoke Spanish. Much of Sgt. Dowd's work with



the Boulder Police Department has been working with the Latino community and this trip was one more way he broadened his experience and expertise with that community.



# Caring for All



**O**n November 20, 2015 animal control officers responded to a call of a raccoon with a peanut butter jar stuck on his head in the area of Elmer's Two Mile path. Upon arrival, officers observed the adult raccoon helplessly sitting in a tree approximately 15 feet off the ground. The jar had obviously been stuck on the raccoon for some time as there were no food remnants inside the jar, however, it appeared full of humidity from the raccoon breathing. Officers quickly developed a plan to attempt to remove the plastic jar from the raccoon's head without causing further injury or harm. One officer was able to use a net with an extension rod to keep the raccoon from climbing the tree out of reach; meanwhile the second officer was able to climb a short distance up the tree and use mechanical tongs to clasp onto the jar. The plan worked. Officers were able to coax the raccoon into position and grab the jar. With a little help from the raccoon, the jar was pulled off. The raccoon came down the tree and ran away unharmed.

*“The Animal Control Officer got right back to me. I feel safe, the BPD is responsive and proactive.”*



## NOVEMBER 2016

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*“We wanted you to know that your animal control officer has been great to work with, we felt you needed to know that he is professional, knowledgeable, and responsive. We felt you needed to know that he represents the department well!”*

# Bringing Good Cheer

A photograph of a police officer in a dark uniform, smiling warmly at a young girl with long brown hair. The girl is also smiling and looking down at something she is holding. They are in a brightly lit room with a green and white striped wall and a door in the background.

**B**oulder Police Department members participated with 30 other agencies and over 250 police officers to hand out Christmas presents to children spending time at Children's Hospital in Denver. Organized 13 years ago by Aurora Police officer Jim Seneca, after his battle with leukemia, this event allows officers from many different agencies to gather together and enjoy something positive. Along with handing out toys during the holidays, this group provides emotional and financial support for those families dealing with serious health issues.

Officer Sue Bareklow commented, "It was great when the child smiled when they saw us in uniform with a toy." She said Code Enforcement Officer Georgette Johnson has a great singing voice and joined in with a young man named Andrew, to sing the Beatles song "I Want to Hold Your Hand" which made his face "light up." Georgette said, "This was my first time doing this event. I was amazed with all the wonderful and dedicated people. I was so overwhelmed that at times brought tears to my eyes."

Officer Stephanie Ragland who helped organize Boulder's participation this year remarked, "I enjoy participating in Cops Fighting Cancer because it is truly a touching and humbling experience to spend time with and give to children and their families in a time of need. Nothing can compare to seeing a child's face light up when a police officer walks up to them and hands them a gift."



## DECEMBER 2016

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*“We have always been supporters of the police. We feel you perform a necessary and dangerous job with very little reward! We just wanted you to know how very much we appreciate our police!!!”*



# Getting out of Traffic



This year there were mixed emotions as we celebrated the retirements of several of our employees. Officer Ralph Smith, 31 years; Officer Bob Wands, 35 years; Dispatch Administrative Assistant Karen Luebke, 27 years; Accident Report Specialist Jan Noyes, 20 years; Detective Sergeant Rob Bustrum, 35 years and last but certainly not least, Officer Larry Gibson, 24 years. We envy him the most as he finds his retirement dream home in Hawaii.

Chief Testa,

Hello. Most people these days have nothing but complaints about police. I am writing to compliment your department and its officers. On Friday night, November 6th, my wife and I were involved in a traffic accident at the intersection of 30th and Arapahoe. We had just arrived in Boulder for a weekend trip and were headed out to get something to eat. We were unfamiliar with the area and I made a left turn through the intersection believing I had the right-of-way when I probably didn't - leading to the collision.

Your department's officers were quick to the scene. They were very professional. I was highly impressed with how efficient they were in routing traffic around the area and closing roads. The officer who handled our case was E. Dimond. However, there was a sergeant on duty that night, too, who was extremely professional and even gave us a ride back to our hotel. He was reassuring to us and made us feel better. I don't remember his name. Please pass on our thanks and respect to your fine department.

## JANUARY 2017

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In 2015, BPD handled 3,593 accidents; 236 of those involved bicycles and pedestrians. This was up from 2014 when there was a total of 3,449 accidents; 243 involving bicycles and pedestrians. In 2015, officers made 570 driving under the influence (DUI) arrests. This is less than 2014, when there were 583. BPD is pleased to report there were no fatal accidents within the city limits in 2015. There was one in 2014. Officers issued a total of 11,038 traffic summons in 2015 and 12,530 in 2014.



Photo courtesy of the Daily Camera

# Carrying the Torch



The Boulder Police Department has been a long standing participant in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. This is a running event, where officers and athletes run the Flame of Hope to the opening ceremonies of our local Special Olympics competition. Nationally, this event generates more than \$51 million dollars for Special Olympics programs. Special Olympics provides year-round sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities and gives them a chance to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage and make new friends. Boulder Police also don aprons in December at the Tip-a-Cop event to help raise money and awareness for this very important cause. All of their tips are donated to Special Olympics of Colorado.



**Each** year, the Boulder Police Department offers Safety First for Adults and a separate class for teens. This free program is designed to provide safety tips to teens and adults with cognitive and/or developmental disabilities who live and work in the community. Some of the topics reviewed in the classes include decision-making skills, street-smart safety, home security, fire prevention and safety and tips on calling police. Safety First is taught by Boulder Police Officers using lectures, small groups and hands-on activities. These classes also give police officers and class participants a chance to interact and build trust.



*Dear Sir:*

*I would like you to know how much my Granddaughter has enjoyed and looked forward to the Safety Classes each and every Thursday after school. The officers have been extremely patient, informative, kind and understanding.*

*Now whenever we drive past the Station, Madison tells me that she has friends that work in the building and are police officers.*

*It would be nice to see this program taken out to the schools for all the kiddos to participate, but in the meantime, please make sure this program stays operational for a long time.*

*When this is offered next year, we will definitely sign up.*

*Thank-you  
- Linda*



## FEBRUARY 2017

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