

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2, 2015



Contact:

Diana L. Klink
757.514.4104
757.359.1845

Tim Kelley
757.514.4103
757.871.3039

SUFFOLK EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR OF THE YEAR NAMED

SUFFOLK, VA (April 2, 2015) Emergency Communications Operator (ECO) Beth Gayle has been named the 2014 Suffolk ECO of the Year. ECO Gayle will be recognized on April 18, 2015 at the Hampton Roads Telecommunicator's Banquet for her outstanding work and dedication to the Suffolk Police Department and citizens of Suffolk.

ECO Gayle began her employment with the Suffolk Police Department on December 20, 1993. She was recently nominated by her peers for this award for her overall work and dedication to the Emergency Communications Center. ECO Gayle is the Reverse 911 Administrator, VCIN Instructor and a Certified Training Operator (CTO). She is currently working diligently towards getting the City of Suffolk Communications Center certified with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

ECO Gayle often fills in as a supervisor when the shift supervisor is out.

She was also highlighted by her peers for working with others to share her knowledge and experience. It was noted that ECO Gayle maintains a calm demeanor while taking 911 calls no matter the situation.

The week of April 12th through April 18, 2015 has been designated National Telecommunicator Week. In 1991, a Congressional resolution designated the second full week in April each year as National Telecommunicator Week. Since this time, public safety agencies nationwide have recognized Telecommunicators, dispatchers, communication operators and radio control personnel for the pivotal role they play in public safety.

Public safety dispatchers provide a critical service to the community and all emergency personnel while performing their duties with integrity, quality, accountability and respect. As the first person on the scene of nearly every crime, fire and medical emergency, the 9-1-1 dispatcher continues to be an invaluable resource for agencies of all sizes.

###