

Collin County Going the **Extra Mile (GEM)** Recognition Form

Honoree's Name: Raymond D. Durrett
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Honoree's Job Title: Animal Services Officer

Department: Animal Services

Years of Service with the County: 8

Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award including dates:

On Thursday night 9-03-15 around midnight, Raymond Durrett and Andrew Tracy received a call for a steer that was out of control. Upon arrival, they learned that the owner of the steer had been trampled by his animal and was being transported to the hospital by ambulance, with a compound fracture to his leg. The steer had transitioned from "flight" to "fight" mode as the owner and his friends had chased the animal over a period of several hours and miles. Prior to his injury, the owner was able to throw a rope (tied off to a truck) around the steers' head and anchor it with approximately 20 feet of slack. The animal was thrashing, charging, and ramming our cattle panels as the officers set up around it. To complete the round pen they started to close the gap between two sections of cattle panels, at which time the steer became even more aggressive. He went from one end of the corral to the next, ramming the panels and flinging them around with Raymond, Andrew, 2 police officers, and several firefighters still attached to them. Raymond, a police officer, a firefighter, and Andrew were on the weakest link in the corral and the steer suddenly broke through that side; which sent panels flying and people scrambling. The steer broke through and pushed the panels on to Andrew and then the steer rammed Andrew. As this happened the rope that was tied to it swept Andrew's feet out from under him and he hit the ground with the steer on top of him. He was unable to go any further as the rope was anchored to the truck. At that point, the steer was in a frenzy, bucking and kicking as well as trying to ram people. Andrew was still on the ground and trying to regain his

footing. At this point Raymond placed himself between Andrew and the steer. While he did this he was very calm and urged Andrew to get up several times. All of this happened in a matter of seconds. Due to Raymond's quick thinking, courage, and selflessness in placing himself in harm's way, he was able to save a coworker from injury or worse. The steer was eventually tranquilized, captured and taken to the shelter without further incident.

Approved by elected official or department head on the 8th day of Sept, 2015

Clarence Daugherty

Signature of Elected Official
Or Department Head

Clarence Daugherty

Printed Name