

Collin County Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Recognition Form

Honoree's Name: Erin Whitfield

Honoree's Job Title: Assistant Dispatch Supervisor

Department: Sheriff's Office

Years of Service with the County: 13.5

Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award including dates:

On February 6, 2014, Sheriff's Deputies responded to a pursuit which started in Princeton and ended in McKinney. The suspect had stolen a vehicle in Frisco, traveled to Princeton where he approached a citizen while brandishing a rifle and telling the citizen he needed leave the area. Princeton PD was dispatched to the call, which quickly turned into a pursuit. The suspect dumped the stolen vehicle in a field off FM 1461, McKinney PD's jurisdiction. A total of 38 Police Officers and Deputies from 7 different agencies responded to and assisted with this call. Along with several Officers from McKinney Police Department.

Dispatch Supervisor Erin Whitfield took over the Dispatch duties for this incident. Erin was able to assist the Commander with organizing the Officer's post, advised the Officers of terrain they were going to be encountering when searching for the suspect, coordinated information with the other Dispatch Center's involved in the incident and ensuring that information was given to the Officers on scene; confirming schools were locked down which were in the area of the incident, and taking detailed call notes. The stress involved in handling a situation like this is very high; during the incident the Dispatcher cannot take a break, eat, or split their attention with anything other than the incident. At any time you can have several officers asking for different things or information and it is the Dispatcher's job to do them all as quickly as possible.

Erin performed her duties during this incident with accuracy, speed, and professionalism. While others in the Dispatch Center assisted Erin where they could, Erin had the responsibility of the call and did a superb job.

Approved by elected official or department head on the 11th day of FEB, 2014



Signature of Elected Official
or Department Head

TERRY C. Bass

Printed Name