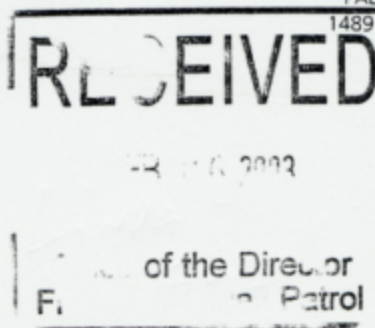




MADD

Activism | Victim Services | Education™



Mothers Against Drunk Driving
PALM BEACH COUNTY CHAPTER
1489 North Military Trail, Suite 201
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Phone (561)683-5888
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January 31, 2003

Colonel Christopher Knight
Director
Florida Highway Patrol
Neil Kirkman Building
2900 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Colonel Knight,

Today we awarded the Florida Highway Patrol the "Have a Heart for MADD" Award for 2003, due to the enormous support we have received from the Patrol over the years. We also awarded individual certificates to those FHP members who have contributed their valuable time and assistance to us. We are so grateful for all the help that so many of your employees have given us. The relationship between MADD Palm Beach County and the Florida Highway Patrol goes back more than 20 years, and it gets better each year.

I am enclosing a copy of the press release for the award. Pembroke Burrows is going to try to get the certificates for Max Shell and Ron Rossow to their widows. He also took some digital pictures at the ceremony, which I am sure he would share with you. John Cataldo had a giant replica of the \$500 check that the Command Officers Association so generously donated to MADD. We were very touched by this contribution.

Thank you for continuing the leadership tradition of those before you, and fostering the dedication and professionalism in your agency. We look forward to a long and beneficial relationship with the Florida Highway Patrol.

Sincerely,

Deborah L. Beck
Captain, Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco
MADD Board Member

Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Palm Beach County Chapter, is pleased to announce that the Florida Highway Patrol has been selected to receive our "HAVE A HEART FOR MADD" Award for the year 2003.

Beginning in 1981, when Ken and Linda Berg had the task of studying Palm Beach County and completing the application in order to receive the MADD charter, the Florida Highway Patrol was there with their expertise and dedication.

Lt. Max Shell contributed countless hours on and off duty toward the research effort. His knowledge, professionalism, and dedication to the MADD cause made our research a success and we received our charter. Lt. Shell arranged for the Bergs to ride with their DUI Unit to see the problems of the violent crime of drinking and driving first hand. As a victim, in your heart, you know what you want to do, but you have no knowledge what to do or how to do it. Lt. Shell was invaluable to our quest of getting drunk drivers off the road. It was a great loss to MADD and Palm Beach County when Lt. Shell lost his courageous battle with cancer. MADD will always remember Lt. Shell and feel very fortunate to have known him.

Chief Jim Howell came to our organization next and without his professionalism, expertise, kindness and endless hours of donated time, our chapter could not have made it through the hard times when we thought we would have to close our doors due to lack of funds. Jim kept our spirits up and gave us a light at the end of the tunnel. His participation with the Victim Impact Panel helped us to produce one of our most successful programs, which has saved countless lives. Chief Howell spoke on our Victim Impact Panel for 5 years and was one of our most effective speakers. He and his wife Judy volunteered to hand write our "We Care" cards when we had no office staff. Many, many times we called and asked him to speak for us – he never said no. He even postponed leaving for vacation once until he spoke at one of our meetings. We owe a big thanks to Jim and Judy.

Lt. Ron Rossow was a remarkable man. He supported our cause and always made sure we were involved in the DUI checkpoints. When we had no volunteers to attend the checkpoints, he would personally come by our office and pick up MADD handouts to make sure our message got out. It was with great sadness and a sense of loss that we learned of Lt. Rossow's untimely death. It was a privilege to have counted Lt. Rossow as a friend of MADD. MADD and Palm Beach County lost someone very special.

There may not be words tall enough to describe Lt. Pembroke Burrows. We have called Lt. Burrows numerous times and he was always eager to assist; his assistance continues to help us fight the violent crime of drunk driving. Lt. Burrows always made the MADD volunteers feel we were an important part of the DUI checkpoints and always insured the news media knew we were involved with DUI checkpoints. Lt. Burrows has a wonderful ability to get things done and done well!!

Sgt. Richard Davis came to our Board meetings for many years and educated our members on law enforcement issues related to DUI's. His knowledge has helped us to be involved in community projects and organizations that helped MADD continue its mission. Sgt. Davis donated many hours to ensure our law enforcement awards luncheon was a success each year.

Lt. John Cataldo has supported MADD for many years. When we needed information and were not sure where to go, we called John. He has always accepted our calls with a professional and positive attitude. His support and assistance have made it possible for MADD to continue our fight against drunk driving. When Sgt. Davis was unable to continue assisting the Board, we called John and asked for support from the Florida Highway Patrol. He promptly had Sgt. Perry Allen contact MADD. Lt. Cataldo's time and attention to MADD's mission is greatly appreciated.

Sgt. Perry Allen is presently following the proud tradition of his fellow officers. His professionalism, dedication, knowledge, kindness and willingness to provide assistance is beyond reproach. We look forward to his assistance in the coming years.

MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING OF PALM BEACH COUNTY WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL FOR ALWAYS HAVING A HEART FOR MADD.