

July 26, 2004

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Colonel Christopher A. Knight  
Neil Kirkman Building  
2900 Apalachee Parkway  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Officer Ricardo Valdez (#1428)

Dear Colonel Knight:

On July 20, 2004 I was the driver of a SUV with four other women and an infant boy. All women are mothers as well as one mother-to-be. We were visiting a friend of ours who lives on Tilly Hawk Lane in Brooksville, FL and just had a baby two weeks ago. I had a flat tire on a dirt road in this rural area and called AAA. Lo and behold, Officer Ricardo Valdez arrived this rainy day and saw we needed help.

Knowing that AAA may take a couple hours to arrive to change the tire, he changed the tire for us. In this time where officers have so much more responsibility for national security, it was the time and effort he contributed to help us get back on the road timely and safely.

I want you to know what a gentleman he was with his manners, kindness, and courtesy. He went beyond the call of duty to assist us and is to be commended for his dedication and hard work. We are so thankful for his kindness.

Please forward this to his supervisor so he/she will know Officer Valdez sets the standards.

Sincerely yours,



Linda A. Tutwiler

cc: Captain Celesta Tharpe  
11305 N. McKinley Drive, Tampa, FL 33612