

April 3, 2019

Trooper Daniel A. Cole  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop C  
11305 North McKinley Drive  
Tampa, Florida 33612

Dear Trooper Cole:

Congratulations for being selected as the recipient for the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for January 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Wednesday, January 16, 2019, you observed a traffic crash at the intersection of Park Boulevard and 40<sup>th</sup> Street North, in Pinellas County. This crash involved a passenger vehicle versus a motorcycle. You immediately positioned your patrol vehicle to secure the victim's safety and assessed the victim's injuries. You called for EMS and identified the fact that both of the victim's legs had been amputated.

You were able to apply a tourniquet to one leg and instructed a bystander to retrieve an additional tourniquet from your patrol vehicle, which you applied to the other leg. You stabilized the victim and conversed with him to assist with maintaining consciousness until Pinellas County EMS arrived on the scene. The victim was transported to Bayfront Medical center for treatment for his injuries and ultimately survived. Your quick application of the tourniquets was instrumental in saving the victim's life.

Due to your quick thinking and dedication to serving the State of Florida, you saved a life. You exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper and you are to be commended for your actions and prompt response.

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File

April 29, 2019

Trooper Joshua Wright  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop H  
2100 Mahan Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Trooper Wright:

Congratulations for being selected as the co-recipient for the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for February 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Saturday, February 23, 2019, you and Trooper Craig Vollertsen responded to assist the Monticello Police Department (MPD) and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in locating a kidnapping suspect and a female victim who had been taken from a motel against her will. The suspect's vehicle was located, with fresh blood throughout the backseat of the vehicle. Investigative information determined that the victim may have been dropped off at a location nearby and one of the suspects was with the victim. You both arrived to where the suspect was believed to be and observed a fresh blood trail leading from the driveway up the steps and into the house.

Trooper Vollertsen entered the home to locate the victim and suspect and found the victim on the bathroom floor with serious injuries. Trooper Vollertsen and the MPD cleared the house and located the suspect hiding in a closet. As the MPD Officer approached the suspect he fled the closet and jumped out of a bedroom window. You were outside of the residence and pursued the fleeing suspect, who actively resisted and evaded you on foot. Using the least amount of force necessary to capture the suspect, you deployed your TASER, however the probes did not connect. You continued pursuing the suspect and you were able to effectively deploy the second cartridge, making the suspect fall to the ground.

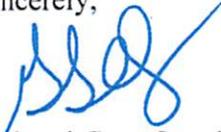
Once the suspect was secured, Trooper Vollertsen returned to the victim and provided medical aid until EMS arrived on scene. The victim went in and out of consciousness from being severely beaten and was unable to speak. The scene was then turned over to Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for investigation and the suspect was turned over to them for charges.

You and Trooper Vollertsen were instrumental in stopping a violent crime in its progress. Trooper Vollertsen assisted in recovering the victim and assisting in medical care until the victim could be attended to by emergency medical services, while you engaged in a foot pursuit of the suspect and were able to apprehend him. Because of both of your actions the victim was rescued before she suffered further injuries and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office was able to fully investigate and charge the suspect for the violent crime.

Trooper Joshua Wright  
April 29, 2019  
Page Two

Your actions exemplify what is to be a Florida State Trooper. You and Trooper Wright are commended for a job well done and your attention to your duties and responsibilities as a Florida Highway Trooper.

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File

April 29, 2019

Trooper Craig Vollertsen  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop H  
2100 Mahan Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Trooper Vollertsen:

Congratulations for being selected as the co-recipient for the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for February 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Saturday, February 23, 2019, you and Trooper Joshua Wright responded to assist the Monticello Police Department (MPD) and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in locating a kidnapping suspect and a female victim who had been taken from a motel against her will. The suspect's vehicle was located, with fresh blood throughout the backseat of the vehicle. Investigative information determined that the victim may have been dropped off at a location nearby and one of the suspects was with the victim. You both arrived to where the suspect was believed to be and observed a fresh blood trail leading from the driveway up the steps and into the house.

You entered the home to locate the victim and suspect and found the victim on the bathroom floor with serious injuries. You and the MPD cleared the house and located the suspect hiding in a closet. As the MPD Officer approached the suspect he fled the closet and jumped out of a bedroom window. Trooper Wright was outside of the residence and pursued the fleeing suspect, who actively resisted and evaded him on foot. Using the least amount of force necessary to capture the suspect, Trooper Wright deployed his TASER, however the probes did not connect. Trooper Wright continued pursuing the suspect and he was able to effectively deploy the second cartridge, making the suspect fall to the ground.

Once the suspect was secured, you returned to the victim and provided medical aid until EMS arrived on scene. The victim went in and out of consciousness from being severely beaten and was unable to speak. The scene was then turned over to Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for investigation and the suspect was turned over to them for charges.

You and Trooper Wright were instrumental in stopping a violent crime in its progress. You assisted in recovering the victim and assisting in medical care until the victim could be attended to by emergency medical services. Trooper Wright engaged in a foot pursuit of the suspect and apprehended him. Because of both of your actions the victim was rescued before she suffered further injuries and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office was able to fully investigate and charge the suspect for the violent crime.

Trooper Craig Vollertsen  
April 29, 2019  
Page Two

Your actions exemplify what is to be a Florida State Trooper. You and Trooper Wright are commended for a job well done and your attention to your duties and responsibilities as a Florida Highway Trooper.

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File

June 12, 2019

Trooper Rachel M. Palfy  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop C  
11305 North McKinley Drive  
Tampa, Florida 33612

Dear Trooper Palfy:

Congratulations for being selected as the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for March 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Monday, March 25, 2019, you were on patrol when you observed a passenger car parked and unattended with the motor running and the windows rolled down. You stopped and got out of your vehicle and saw a male wearing sunglasses, a hoodie and gloves crouched down between two vehicles. The subject advised that the vehicle belonged to a friend and he was looking for his buddy's girlfriend's apartment. While you were there you detected a strong odor of raw cannabis from the interior of the vehicle. A second male approached you and advised that the vehicle was his. Due to the odor of narcotics and the males' suspicious actions, you requested routine back up.

Once back up arrived, you detained both subjects for a narcotics investigation and searched both subjects. You discovered 14 grams of raw cannabis and powder cocaine. Once you arrested the subjects, one made a spontaneous statement about breaking into vehicles in the apartment complex. Upon conducting a probable cause/search incident of the subject's vehicle, you discovered burglary tools, numerous women's purses and prescription bottles that did not belong to either of the subjects you had in custody.

You requested assistance from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office not knowing how many vehicle burglaries had occurred or if the Sheriff's Office had any active investigations. Once they arrived, it was determined that four vehicles were burglarized by the subjects you had detained.

Due to your attention to detail and taking quick law enforcement action, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office was able to clear several unsolved vehicle burglaries and the victims were able to get their property returned. Your actions exemplify what is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Trooper Palfy  
June 12, 2019  
Page Two

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File

June 24, 2019

Trooper Randy Rojas  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop L  
Troop L Building 9330  
Lake Worth Service Plaza  
Milepost 94, Florida's Turnpike  
Lake Worth, Florida 33467

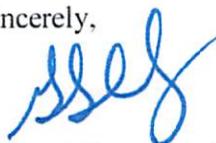
Dear Trooper Rojas:

Congratulations for being selected as the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for April 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Sunday, April 7, 2019, you were on patrol when you observed a Road Ranger attending to a distressed male that was suffering from a medical emergency. With the help from the Road Ranger, you removed the male from the driver seat and onto a flat surface. You assessed the subject and determined he had no pulse and was not breathing. You radioed for EMS to respond and began CPR. You continued CPR until Trooper Vanel Pettigny arrived on scene with an AED instrument. The AED pads were positioned on the subject's chest and the instrument detected a pulse. The AED instrument instructed you both to continue CPR. Shortly thereafter, Ft. Lauderdale Fire and Rescue arrived and transported the male to Broward General Hospital, where he made a full recovery.

Due to your actions, you most likely saved a life. Your actions exemplify what is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File

August 5, 2019

Trooper Kimberly Garcia  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop L  
Troop L Building 9330  
Lake Worth Service Plaza  
Milepost 94, Florida's Turnpike  
Lake Worth, Florida 33467

Dear Trooper Garcia:

Congratulations for being selected as a co-recipient for the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for May 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Friday, May 31, 2019, you responded to the scene of a two-vehicle crash on State Road 9 and Gateway Boulevard. While conducting your crash investigation, a secondary crash occurred causing a vehicle to travel from the roadway and onto the left inside shoulder. As a result, the Road Ranger assisting you in the crash was struck by the vehicle. Shortly after the crash, Trooper Austin Parent arrived on scene. You and Trooper Parent immediately performed a quick medical assessment of the Road Ranger. Seeing the Road Ranger had a broken leg and was losing a large amount of blood, you and Trooper Parent immediately applied a tourniquet on the leg and stopped the bleeding.

Due to yours and Trooper Parent's quick, decisive, and lifesaving actions, the Road Ranger survived. You and Trooper Parent are a true asset to the Florida Highway Patrol. You and Trooper Parent are true assets to the Florida Highway Patrol and exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File



August 5, 2019

Trooper Austin Parent  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop L  
Troop L Building 9330  
Lake Worth Service Plaza  
Milepost 94, Florida's Turnpike  
Lake Worth, Florida 33467

Dear Trooper Parent:

Congratulations for being selected as a co-recipient for the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for May 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Friday, May 31, 2019, Trooper Kimberly Garcia responded to the scene of a two-vehicle crash on State Road 9 and Gateway Boulevard. While she was conducting the crash investigation, a secondary crash occurred causing a vehicle to travel from the roadway and onto the left inside shoulder. As a result, the Road Ranger assisting her in the crash was struck by the vehicle. Shortly after the crash, you arrived on scene. You and Trooper Garcia immediately performed a quick medical assessment of the Road Ranger. Seeing the Road Ranger had a broken leg and was losing a large amount of blood, you and Trooper Garcia immediately applied a tourniquet on the leg and stopped the bleeding.

Due to yours and Trooper Garcia's quick, decisive, and lifesaving actions, the Road Ranger survived. You and Trooper Garcia are true assets to the Florida Highway Patrol and exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Spaulding', written in a cursive style.

Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File



September 11, 2019

Sergeant Roger Thomas  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop G  
7322 Normandy Boulevard  
Jacksonville, Florida 32205

Dear Sergeant Thomas:

Congratulations for being selected as the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for June 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Saturday, June 22, 2019, you responded to a vehicle versus pedestrian traffic crash on Phillips Highway and Shad Road, in Duval County. The pedestrian was crossing the road in a non-designated crosswalk and sustained critical injuries during the traffic crash. Due to the female's critical condition and the lack of ability to determine her identity, you advised the investigating Trooper to attempt to identify the female by utilizing their state issued Rapid ID, which didn't produce a positive hit. The investigating Trooper also tried to obtain the female's identity with her fingerprints, but they were not on file in the NCIC/FCIC data base.

You worked beyond your assigned midnight shift for the next few days to identify the female so you could notify her family of her status. Ultimately, you were able to go to the female pedestrian's mobile phone carrier law enforcement liaison and you were able to contact her aunt. The aunt was able to identify the female as her niece, whom she had raised since she was six months old. The aunt advised you that she was a troubled seventeen-year-old who had a history of running away from home and she was possibly involved with a sex trafficking ring out of Lakeland, Florida.

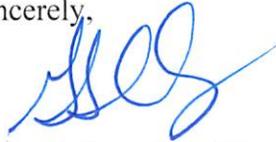
Shortly after getting off the phone with the aunt you were contacted by the Lake County Sheriff's Office. They advised you that they were working with the Department of Children and Families and they were collectively investigating the female's involvement in a sex trafficking ring that was moving young women from city to city around the state of Florida. You contacted the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and coordinated their involvement with the Lake County Sheriff's Office and the Department of Children and Families.

Sergeant Thomas  
September 11, 2019  
Page Two

You performed in an exceptional manner above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that the female pedestrian was positively identified, that her aunt was properly notified of her injuries, and her location at Jacksonville Memorial Hospital. You also made it your mission to ensure the Lake County Sheriff's Office, the Department of Children and Families, and the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office were unified to safeguard the female, while they continued to investigate the criminals that had been exploiting her.

You exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper and you are commended for a job well done.

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File



September 23, 2019

Trooper Christopher Garrand  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop C  
11305 North McKinley Drive  
Tampa, Florida 33612

Dear Trooper Garrand:

Congratulations for being selected as the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for July 2019 for your actions during a single month.

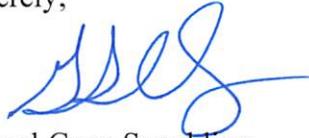
On Sunday, July 7, 2019, you responded to a call about a suspicious vehicle parked at the top of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. Upon your arrival, you were advised that a female driver had a gun and was threatening to kill anyone “who comes closer” to her. At one point during your negotiations with her she attempted to commit “suicide by cop”. She stated “fine, let’s do this, I’m going to shoot you in 3, 2, 1” and then raised her arm abruptly holding an aluminum can. You were able to use great restraint based upon your quick observation that she was not holding a gun and was actually holding an aluminum can. Once the female driver realized you did not shoot her, she made an attempt to jump off the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. You rushed to her and brought her safely to the ground from the bridge wall.

On Saturday, July 20, 2019, you were dispatched to a hit and run crash where one of the vehicles had been reported stolen. During your response to the crash, you were advised a witness was following the vehicle that had fled the scene. When you overtook the vehicle, the driver refused to stop and fled. You initiated a pursuit, which you were able to terminate by using a Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT) maneuver. The driver of the vehicle was apprehended on several felony charges.

You performed in an exceptional manner going above and beyond the call of duty to prevent a suicide. In addition, due to your quick and decisive actions you were able to catch a felon. You are a true asset to the Florida Highway Patrol and exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Trooper Garrand  
September 23, 2019  
Page Two

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File



October 14, 2019

Trooper Bryan Miettinen  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop J  
10041 Daniels Parkway  
Fort Myers, Florida 33913

Dear Trooper Miettinen:

Congratulations for being selected as the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for August 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Wednesday, August 21, 2019, you were enjoying an afternoon boating with your family and friends. At approximately 2:00 p.m. a loud crash was heard, and you observed a large group of jet skis. You responded to the gathering and as your boat got closer, you observed a male sitting on the back of a jet ski holding another male, that was unconscious. After pulling the unconscious male to your boat and assessing his condition, you found no pulse. You removed his life vest and you and one of your guests that was a nurse, began performing chest compressions. You utilized a two-way radio to summon other emergency personnel. The boat was piloted ashore to meet with the rescue unit and the unconscious male was transferred to them.

Your immediate actions and willingness to perform your duty as a First Responder, both on duty and off, reflects the agency's mission statement of Courtesy, Service and Protection. You are a true asset to the Florida Highway Patrol and exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Spaulding', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File

December 4, 2019

Trooper Joseph K. Marcum  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop A  
6030 County Road 2321  
Panama City, Florida 32404

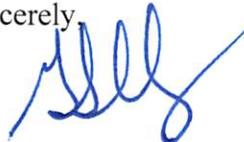
Dear Trooper Marcum:

Congratulations for being selected as the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for September 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Wednesday, September 18, 2019, you were on routine patrol on Scenic Highway near the I-10 overpass, when you observed a male subject who had tied a sheet around his neck and was in the process of tying the other end to the bridge. You attempted to establish a dialog with the individual as he made his approach. The subject stepped over the concrete barrier and made a move to jump over the overpass. You, in an immediate effort to prevent the subject from leaving the bridge, grabbed the subject and struggled with him until you were able to gain control of him and pulled him back over the concrete barrier wall. You then transported him to West Florida Hospital for a psychological evaluation where he was Baker Acted and left in the care of medical professionals.

Your dedication to the citizens of Florida was demonstrated that day. If you had not been patrolling and cognizant of your surroundings, this incident could have had a different outcome. You are a true asset to the Florida Highway Patrol and exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Sincerely,



Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File



December 17, 2019

Corporal Rudy Regis  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop E  
1011 N.W. 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33172

Dear Corporal Regis:

Congratulations for being selected as the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for October 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Sunday, October 13, 2019, you were providing traffic control and working off-duty police employment at Hard Rock Stadium during a Miami Dolphins game. After the game, a driver experienced a medical emergency and collided with another vehicle and a pedestrian. The driver then drove into a canal and the vehicle became fully submerged under the water. You immediately responded and entered the water without hesitation with the help from others present and Lieutenant Luis Darcia. After several attempts, the driver was extricated from the vehicle and taken to a nearby hospital in critical condition.

You are to be commended for your immediate response to a significant incident and heroism for entering the canal to save the driver. Your dedication to the citizens of Florida was demonstrated that day. You are a true asset to the Florida Highway Patrol and exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'GSS', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File



January 6, 2019

Trooper Angel Luna  
Florida Highway Patrol - Troop A  
6030 County Road 2321  
Panama City, Florida 32404

Dear Trooper Luna:

Congratulations for being selected as the Florida Highway Patrol *Trooper of the Month* for November 2019 for your actions during a single month.

On Sunday, November 10, 2019, you were flagged down by a female. She advised you that her house was on fire and her son was still inside the residence. As you approached the front of the house you realized due to the intensity of the flames, you could not enter from there. You went to the rear of the house and located a window to the son's bedroom. You were able to break the window and began to call the boy's name, giving him verbal commands until he made his way to the window where you were waiting. You assisted him out of the window and helped him to safety away from the residence. You administered first aid on his minor injuries and stayed with the boy until Escambia County Fire Department and Emergency Medical Service arrived.

Due to your quick and unselfish actions, you saved the boy's life. You are to be commended for your immediate response to a significant incident. Your dedication to the citizens of Florida was demonstrated that day. You are a true asset to the Florida Highway Patrol and exemplify what it is to be a Florida State Trooper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'GSS', is written over a faint, larger signature that appears to be 'Gene Spaulding'.

Colonel Gene Spaulding  
Director  
Florida Highway Patrol

GSS/mes

cc: Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director  
FHP Executive Staff  
Troop Commanders  
Personnel File