

Public Safety Police Services Names Sergeant John DeYoung as 2013 Police Officer of the Year

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 2013 HOLLAND POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Public Safety Chief Matt Messer announced that Sergeant John DeYoung has been named the 2013 Police Officer of the Year. Sergeant DeYoung was chosen by the Command Staff after being nominated by his peers for this prestigious award. Sgt. DeYoung started with the department as a police cadet in 1992 while he was attending Calvin College. After attending Calvin College for two years he transferred to Grand Valley State University where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice after graduating from the GVSU Police Academy. In 1994, DeYoung was hired as a fulltime police officer assigned to the patrol division.

Sergeant DeYoung has been a significant part of the training program at the department serving as a firearms instructor, control tactics instructor, field training officer and Special Enforcement Team member. Sergeant DeYoung spent time in the Criminal Investigations Division as a detective as well as a police evidence technician.

In 2003, DeYoung was promoted to Sergeant and in 2010 was assigned to the West Michigan Enforcement Team where he serves currently as a supervisor in charge of the gang team. Sgt. DeYoung has received commendations for his role in various investigations most recently for his role in the Federal ATF investigation that led to the federal indictments of 31 gang members.

Sgt DeYoung is married and he and his wife live in the Holland-Zeeland area and they have two children.

(no picture is being released due to his current assignment)

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