

HDPS Victims Services Unit receives state award

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Michigan Sheriffs' Association – Victim Services Award 2011

The Holland Department of Public Safety Victim Services Team was awarded the Michigan Sheriffs' Association "Victim Services Unit of the Year Award" at the Sheriffs' Association Fall Training Conference on October 9, 2011 in Lansing.

The unit was nominated for this award by Allegan County Sheriff Blaine Koops. This is the first time that the state-wide award has been presented to a municipal victim services team.

Our victim services unit consists of 16 members and has been in existence since 1997. The unit responded to over 400 total incidents, including 28 events in 2010. They have continued to be a substantial part of our response to victim needs and community relationship building.

We view this team as part of our community policing efforts and are thankful for them representing our organization with their unique ability to provide a comforting and helpful environment for families in need.

Their care, compassion, and dedication toward victims of tragic events throughout our community has proven again and again to be of immense value to all involved.

Not only does this team provide support and comfort for victims, they also provide an opportunity for our officers and firefighters to focus on their task at hand and to devote their attention to an accident scene or a criminal investigation.

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