

The Troopers involved in this incident were awarded a **Unit Citation**.

Sergeant Clanford Pierce, Trooper First Class Kevin Mulry, Trooper First Class Kevin Eklund and Trooper Daniel Mainiero On April 7, 2007, at 9:11 p.m., Troop C received a call from a woman who left her boyfriend's house because he said he was going to kill himself. The woman said she observed her boyfriend pulling out a rifle.

Sergeant Pierce, TFC Mulry, TFC Eklund and Trooper Mainiero responded to the multi-family residence, quickly got all other occupants out of the house and established a perimeter. Troopers made telephone contact with the man and were able to lure him outside of the residence.

Once outside, Troopers encountered the man and there was a brief stand-off. After a few tense moments, the subject surrendered, at which time he was transported to a local hospital. Once inside of the house, Troopers discovered numerous guns and swords. They also determined that the subject had begun cutting himself in his upper torso prior to exiting his residence.

These Troopers received a **Unit Citation** award.

Trooper First Class Mark Gendron and Colchester Constable Robert Labonte On March 24, 2007, at 10:39 p.m., **TFC Gendron** and Constable Labonte responded to a report of a despondent Colchester man who had fled his residence after retrieving a loaded pistol and making suicidal statements to his family.

TFC Gendron and Constable Labonte were able to locate the man's vehicle in a secluded parking area in Lebanon. Upon their arrival, the man activated the high beam lights on his vehicle in an attempt to diminish their view. **TFC Gendron** and Constable Labonte obtained the man's cell phone number and contacted him. The man refused to exit his vehicle, said that he had a loaded firearm in his possession and made further suicidal statements. **TFC Gendron** and Constable Labonte were able to convince him to exit the vehicle and surrender to Troopers at the scene. He was taken into custody without injury to himself or any Troopers.

TFC Gendron and Constable Labonte were awarded with a **Unit Citation**.

Sergeant Christopher Guari, Detective Scott Edwards, Detective Theodore Parker Trooper First Class Noah Gou-

veia, Trooper Jeffrey McDermott & his K-9 Zeus, Trooper First Class Thomas Fabian, Trooper James Matlock, Mashantucket Pequot Police Officers Steven Smith and Ryan O'Connell On Dec. 12, 2006, State Police was asked by the Lincoln Rhode Island Police Department to be on the lookout for a male homicide suspect who drove a sports car and who might be armed, dangerous and suicidal. **Detective Scott Edwards** of the Foxwoods Casino Unit notified Troop E desk **Trooper Matlock** and the Casino Unit that the suspect may be near the casino driving the sports car. Troop E was then advised by the Casino Unit that Officer Smith located the vehicle in a casino garage.

Officer Smith, assisted by Officer O'Connell, secured the area around the suspect's vehicle, closing it off to motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic until responding Troopers could arrive. **TFC Gouveia** reported to **Sergeant Guari** that the suspect was in the vehicle and was moving. **Sergeant Guari** requested that Officer O'Connell use his vehicle to block the suspect vehicle, as **TFC Gouveia, Detective Edwards, Officer Smith, Trooper McDermott & his K-9 Zeus, Detective Parker and Sergeant Guari** tactically surrounded the suspect vehicle and ordered the suspect out of the vehicle. The suspect was secured and detained.

TFC Gouveia built a rapport with the suspect while transporting him to Troop E. Once in the troop's interview room, **TFC Fabian** took detailed notes, allowing **Trooper Gouveia** to maintain rapport with the suspect, leading to the suspect's confession in the murder of a Rhode Island woman.

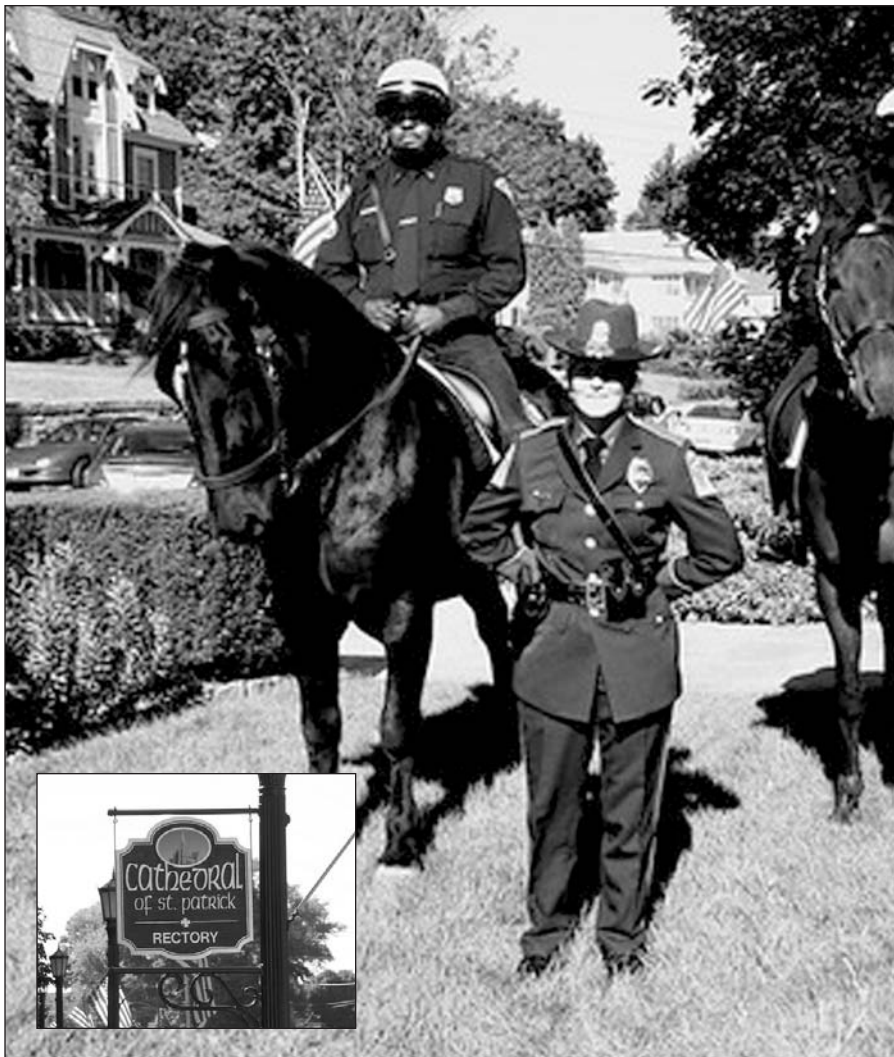
All involved in this incident earned a **Unit Citation** award.

State Police Dispatcher Kathleen Farley Dispatcher Farley has served with distinction at Troop K in Colchester for 30 years. Although the job duties involve complex communications equipment, maintaining radio contact and taking countless telephone calls, Dispatcher Farley continually goes above and beyond the call of duty. In addition to being a voice of reason during urgent 911 calls, Dispatcher Farley takes seriously her role in the State Police family. Dispatcher Farley organizes the Annual Troop K Children's Christmas Party, coordinating the location, goods, crafts, gifts and a visit from Santa Claus. She also assists with the Troop's Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Day Pond State Park, dressing as the furry animal associated with that holiday. In addition, Dispatcher Farley shares in the fun and festivities at the Annual Troop K community-based Halloween Party.

Dispatcher Farley was named **Dispatcher of the Year**.

Annual Blue Mass Honors Those Who Have Given So Much

By Liz Mugavero, Norwich Bulletin Photos by Phill Twomey, Four County Catholic



Blue, sunny skies dawned over a bittersweet celebration of family and those lost in the line of duty at the Seventeenth Annual Diocesan Mass for Law Enforcement Personnel at the packed St. Patrick's Cathedral.

"This day is to pay respect to all deceased officers, to honor them and all law enforcement," said **Trooper First Class Victor Lenda, Jr.** of the Montville State Police and chairman of the Blue Mass Committee. "We still feel the families' pain and we like to do what we can to help them through that."

Trooper Lenda said the mass was a celebration of life. "Our families are a vital part of what we do, and we have to show respect and thank them. If it weren't for my spouse and all the other spouses, we wouldn't be able to do what we do every day."

Representatives from the Connecticut State Police, Department of Correction, Department of Motor Vehicles, Hartford, East Hartford, Fairfield, New London, Willimantic, Norwich and Groton police departments attended. A color guard and drum band opened and closed the ceremony.

"The Most Rev. Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich, celebrated the mass. During his homily, Rev. Anthony J. Bruno said the day's theme was recognizing heroes. "It's easy to identify them by their blue Superman uniforms," Bruno said. "Every badge from every department says hero. That badge loudly and proudly proclaims that officer swore to give 100 percent, even at the cost of his or her own life, to protect me and the community, when they don't even know my name."



Eugene Sullivan of Norwich, a retired Connecticut State Police Captain, has been attending the mass yearly. "It's a great way to honor all who have given so much to this nation and this state," he said.

Karen Buchert of Norwich attended for the first time to honor her father, **Sergeant William Buchert** of the Connecticut State Police Statewide Narcotics Unit. Buchert died

20 years ago of leukemia. "This is a great healing process for me, because I've never gotten over my father dying," Buchert said. "Being here with some of his fellow officers is a great bonding experience. I'm just so proud my dad was an officer, and we're so honored to be here." Looking around at fellow officers and their families, Burchert's pride and awe was obvious. "This is just, wow," she said. "It's a great feeling." □

26 Troopers Promoted to Sergeant At Connecticut State Police Ceremony

Submitted by TFC Bill Tate, Public Information Office

The Connecticut State Police promoted 26 Troopers to Sergeant during a ceremony at the State Police Training Academy.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner John A. Danaher III and Colonel Thomas Davoren, Commanding Officer of the State Police, formally promoted 26 Troopers to the rank of Sergeant during the ceremony.

The following persons were promoted:

Sergeant Wilfred J. Blanchette III

Sergeant Blanchette was transferred from Trooper in the Eastern District Major Crime Squad and begins his new assignment at Troop K in Colchester. During more than six years as a Trooper, Sergeant Blanchette has earned two Lifesaving awards, a Meritorious Service award, an Outstanding Service award and a Unit Citation award. Sergeant Blanchette holds a bachelor's degree and previously served 10 years in the Ledyard Resident Trooper's Office.

Sergeant Kevin Boulrier

Sergeant Boulrier was promoted from Trooper First Class/Detective in the State Police Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit and will now be assigned to Troop A in Southbury. As a Trooper for more than 12 years, Sergeant Boulrier earned a Lifesaving award and a Meritorious Service award. He previously served four

years of active duty in the Air Force and is a veteran of Operation Just Cause in Panama and Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

Sergeant Kenneth A. Cain

Sergeant Cain was promoted from Trooper at Troop G in Bridgeport and has been assigned to Troop I in Bethany. During more than six years as a Trooper, Sergeant Cain earned State Police awards for Lifesaving and for Meritorious Service. He is a graduate of the University of New Haven.

Sergeant James Canon, Jr.

Sergeant Canon was promoted from Trooper First Class in the Central District Major Crime Squad and will now be assigned to the Internal Affairs Unit. In more than a decade as a Trooper, he has earned an award for Meritorious Service and four Unit Citation awards. Sergeant Canon is a graduate of Western New England College Law School and is a member of the Connecticut Bar.

Sergeant Michael Davis

Sergeant Davis was promoted from Trooper First Class at Troop G in Bridgeport and has been assigned to Troop I in Bethany. In 13 years of service to the State Police, Sergeant Davis earned a Unit Citation award. He previously served on the Statewide Narcotics Task Force. Sergeant Davis earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut.





Sergeant Eric Dency

Sergeant Dency was promoted from Trooper First Class in the Joint Terrorism Task Force and has been assigned to Troop I in Bethany. As a Trooper for 15 years, Sergeant Dency earned an Outstanding Service award and two Unit Citation awards. He previously was assigned to the Statewide Narcotics Task Force and the Windham Heights Task Force.

Sergeant Karl Golden, Jr.

Sergeant Golden was promoted from Trooper First Class and is being transferred from his present assignment as Harwinton Resident State Trooper to the State Police Internal Affairs Unit. In 18 years of service to the State Police, Sergeant Golden has earned an award for Meritorious Service and a Unit Citation award. He previously served as a DARE instructor, a Field Training Officer and in the Western District Major Crime Squad. He is certified State Police motorcycle operator.

Sergeant Greg Guerra

Sergeant Guerra was promoted from Trooper First Class in the Traffic Services Unit to Troop G in Bridgeport. He has been a State Trooper for more than a decade. Sergeant Guerra holds a bachelor's degree from Quinnipiac University.

Sergeant Douglas Hall

Sergeant Hall was promoted from Trooper First Class and will remain in the Special Licensing and Firearms Unit. He has been a Trooper for more than 12 years and earned a State Police Unit Citation award. He also earned a Police Officer of the Year award from the Tolland State's Attorney's Office in 2006.

Sergeant Todd Harbeck

Sergeant Harbeck was promoted from Trooper First Class at Troop

E in Montville and has been assigned to Troop F in Westbrook. In more than seven years with the State Police, Sergeant Harbeck has earned awards for Outstanding Service and for Meritorious Service. He holds a bachelor's degree from Rhode Island College and previously served in the West Warwick, RI Police Department.

Sergeant Todd Harmon

Sergeant Harmon was promoted from Trooper First Class at Troop C in Tolland and will now be assigned to Troop D in Danielson. A Trooper for nearly 11 years, he has earned a Unit Citation award. Sergeant Harmon previously served as an Ellington Resident Trooper and was in the Army Reserves.

Sergeant Michael Hassett

Sergeant Hassett was promoted from Trooper First Class and most recently served as East Haddam Resident Trooper. He will be assigned to Troop E in Montville. As a Trooper for more than a decade, he has earned a Meritorious Service award and a Unit Citation award. He has served as a Field Training Officer & as a DARE Officer and is a U.S. Army veteran.

Sergeant Robert Janco

Sergeant Janco was promoted from Trooper First Class and will be transferred from his present assignment as North Canaan Resident Trooper to Troop L in Litchfield. In more than 14 years as a Trooper, Sergeant Janco earned a State Police award for Outstanding Service. Sergeant Janco was previously assigned to Troop L in Litchfield. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut.

Sergeant James Keeney

Sergeant Keeney was promoted from Trooper First Class at Troop K and has been assigned to Troop E in Montville. During his 17-