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### Alexandria Chamber Honors Public Safety Heroes

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA – Twenty public safety personnel will be recognized on April 26 at the 2017 Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Foundation Public Safety Valor Awards Luncheon to be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

The program, presented by Inova Alexandria Hospital, will recognize acts of valor and life-saving actions performed by police, fire, and sheriff deputies during incidents occurring in 2016.

With a focus on strengthening trust and collaboration in the City while continuing to reduce crime and increase the safety of Alexandria’s citizens, the Valor Awards demonstrate the community’s commitment to honoring those who protect us every day.

According to Joe Haggerty, President & CEO of the Chamber, “We are proud to honor those personnel who ensure that our communities are safe for current and future generations of Alexandrians, and who continue to engender a culture of trust between public safety and the citizens they are sworn to serve.”

The honorees for 2016 are as follows:

#### Alexandria **Sheriff’s Office**

Deputy Valarie Wright	Bronze Medal
Deputy Charlie Winstead	Bronze Medal

#### Alexandria **Police Department**

Officer Patrick Kunz	Lifesaving Award
Officer Stephen Riley IV	Lifesaving Award
Officer Joel Hughes	Certificate of Valor
Officer Hayden Johnson	Certificate of Valor
Officer Daniel Watts	Lifesaving Award
Officer Steven Matthews	Certificate of Valor
Officer Matthew Wilson	Certificate of Valor
Officer Yuriy Mikhin	Lifesaving Award
Officer Johnny Larios	Lifesaving Award
Officer Daniel Reeve	Lifesaving Award

Sergeant Jesse Meekins	Certificate of Valor
Officer Matthew Parker	Certificate of Valor
Sergeant Patrick Taylor	Certificate of Valor
Officer Osama Sharif	Certificate of Valor
Officer Alex Shin	Certificate of Valor
Sergeant Michael Rodriguez	Lifesaving Award

**Alexandria Fire Department**

Firefighter/Medic Kaandra Wilson	Life Saving Award
Fire Marshall Andrea Buchanan	Certificate of Valor
Deputy Fire Marshall Joe Zarkauskas	Bronze Award

For information and to make reservations to attend the Valor Reception, please visit [www.alexchamber.com](http://www.alexchamber.com).

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*Formed in 1906 by a group of local business leaders, the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce seeks to ensure a climate that grows and strengthens businesses in Alexandria, Virginia, and provides a voice that advocates on the behalf of members. For more information, visit [www.alexchamber.com](http://www.alexchamber.com)*

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