

Strongest Link in the Chain **Nomination Form**

Nominee Name: **Emily Blackmon**

Department: Police Department

Your Name: Stacy Beckom

Department: Police Department

Date Submitted: February 22, 2016

Is this monthly nomination? Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes, which month **February 2016**

Is this an annual nomination? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, which year

Department Director Signature _____

Reason for the Nomination

Using the program criteria, explain in detail why the employee deserves to be recognized as the *Strongest Link in the Chain*. Use a separate sheet if necessary.

With great honor and appreciation, I would like to submit Patrolman Emily Blackmon of the Griffin Police Department for consideration of the City of Griffin's "Strongest Link in the Chain" for February 2016.

Since Emily's career with the Police Department started, she has maintained the highest level of job dedication and quality of work that can be expected. She completed the Field Training Program with exemplary marks and constant improvement in her job knowledge and performance. This program was completed near the end of 2014, making 2015 her first full calendar year being a City employee. From a firsthand viewpoint of being a coworker and trainer of Emily, I have seen countless instances that would qualify her for this award, some highlights of which are noted below.

On March 21, 2015, an apartment fire call came out at Poplar Grove Apartments, located at the corner of 12th and Meriwether Streets. Emily was the first public safety personnel on scene, before the Fire Department and EMS. Emily did not hesitate to enter the apartment building and ensure that all occupants of each apartment were aware of the danger and assisted them with a safe evacuation of the building. The Fire Department arrived, and the incident was handled with no injuries to any party and minimal property damage.

In the first half of 2015, Emily was selected to be Griffin PD's nominee for the "Rookie of the Year" award, which is presented by the office of District Attorney Scott Ballard. The D.A.'s office accepts nominations from several agencies and counties in the district for this award. Emily was honored on May 5, 2015 by WINNING this award for the entire district. A highlight of this award was from an incident on November 30, 2014, in Emily's FIRST month of being on her own, where she was the first to respond to a sexual assault of a deaf/mute woman. These types of calls are very sensitive, often complicated and very difficult for even seasoned officers. Emily was able to secure valuable evidence at the scene, communicate with the victim in her limited capacity, and the case was ultimately cleared with the identification and arrest of the suspect. Her initial response and handling of the scene and victim made this possible.

During Emily's time on A Shift in the early part of 2015, she came in contact with a young boy in The Villages of Carrington, on a juvenile problem call with him causing issues and acting out with his family.

Typically this type of juvenile problem call is handled initially and often forgotten, however Emily did not just handle the immediate issue. Over the next month, Emily also followed up with the family and the young boy, taking time with him, helping him with various issues at school and at home, which resulted in a very positive reaction in his home life. This type of conduct was above and beyond the call, and provided this family with a very positive image of the City of Griffin.

Emily's attendance record for the year is also beyond reproach, as she only called in/took 2 full sick days in the entire calendar year (09/04/15 & 10/13/15), and only 39 additional hours of sick time for partial shifts. It should be noted that ALL of this time was taken between the months of September and October when her children were very ill, and subsequently caused Emily to be sick as well, and needing to take them/herself to the doctor. This reflects that a streak of the first 8 months and a total of 10 out of the year, Emily never took any time off other than planned vacation or holidays, often working at times that she was in fact sick, but came in anyway.

In December of 2015, Emily had a positive encounter with a young boy that resides on 3rd Street, who was not going to have much of a Christmas this year due to unfortunate circumstances. At this point, Emily merged her professional and personal lives by getting a few friends together and pooling donations. Emily used her own funds, along with her friends, and purchased the boy a nice shirt and an Android Tablet for Christmas, which she presented to him with a card on December 26, 2015.

The final and most prominent of highlights took place the very next day, December 27, 2015. Emily was on patrol and was flagged down by a civilian on D.F. Fuller Drive. Emily then witnessed an unresponsive older man lying on the ground. Emily checked the man for a pulse and was unable to locate one. Emily immediately notified dispatch to have EMS on the way and quickly initiated CPR on him. For the next several minutes, Emily provided aid to him with the assistance of a civilian, and did not cease rendering this aid until EMS arrived and took over the scene. At this point, a pulse was located and the man's condition stabilized. Emily went to the hospital to get an update on his condition and followed up with the man's family to provide them with as much information as possible. It is without a doubt that Emily's quick thinking and swift action saved this man's life.

As you can see, Emily Blackmon has demonstrated the highest standards in her work ethic, job knowledge and abilities, attitude, attendance, and has provided the citizens of Griffin with the highest quality of service, far beyond what is required. I would humbly request she be considered for this award as a recognition of her continued hard work, dedication and positive image she reflects for the City, not just in these incidents, but each day she comes to work.

Respectfully submitted,

Inv. Stacy Beckom
Griffin Police Department

Human Resources Use Only:

Previous discipline in last 12 months _____

Final Rank _____ HR Signature _____