



NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

April 14, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Two Newark Police Officers Honored by Knights of Columbus

At a recent ceremony held at Holy Family Church, the St. Michael Council #4548 of the Knights of Columbus recognized two Newark Police Officers for achievements during the third and fourth quarters of 2009.

Det. Fred Nelson was named Knights of Columbus Officer of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2009 for his investigation of a murder that began when the Newark Police Department was contacted about a body discovered in Carney's Point Township, NJ. The Carney's Point Police Department and Salem County Prosecutor's Office began the investigation, but had reason to believe the murder occurred in Newark. Det. Nelson assumed the investigation, which was both lengthy and complicated. The geographic area of the investigation included Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and New York. It included the acquisition and search of numerous hotel records, broadcasts of statewide and regional requests for information, the collection of physical evidence, and dozens of interviews—with some of the subjects being incarcerated prisoners. Ultimately, Det. Nelson was able to establish probable cause that Leonard Taylor had shot Sven Hinds in the head three times while inside a room of the Super 8 Motel on Main St. Taylor has been charged with Murder First Degree and is awaiting trial.

Cpl. Andrew Pagnotti was honored as Knights of Columbus Officer of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2009 for his actions during a traffic stop that led to considerably more serious charges. Cpl. Pagnotti stopped a car for the offense of not having working taillights. A computer check showed the driver's license was revoked. A further check of the driver's criminal history by Cpl. Pagnotti revealed a history of drug arrests. Cpl. Pagnotti decided to question the driver further and removed him from the car. In doing so, Cpl. Pagnotti saw that the operator was armed with a loaded handgun. Cpl. Pagnotti took the defendant into custody and removed the gun. When dealing with the car's passenger, Cpl. Pagnotti discovered he was in possession of marijuana. When the passenger was searched further, 10 bags of marijuana were found hidden in his shoe. The driver was charged with Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon, Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited, and traffic offenses. The passenger was charged with Possession with Intent to Deliver Marijuana.

The Knights of Columbus have sponsored the Newark Police Officer of the Quarter Award since 1991, and have made 76 award presentations. "On behalf of the entire police department, I extend sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Knights for their continued support and recognition of Newark Police Officers," said Police Chief Paul M. Tiernan.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

KofC

MICHAEL CO...

4548

FLA...

St. Michael, Council #1518
Knights of Columbus
Palmer of the Quarter
Awarded to
CPL. ANDREW FAGIOTTO
for October, 2009

St. Michael, Council #1518
Knights of Columbus
Palmer of the Quarter
Awarded to
DR. FREDERICK NEUMAN
for October, 2009

AL WAZE
DIRECTOR
ST. MICHAEL'S COUNCIL #1518