

PRESS RELEASE

City of Tifton Detective Receives Exchange Club of Tifton's Officer of the Year Award



Figure 1: Detective Torres receiving Officer of the Year Award from the Exchange Club of Tifton

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TIFTON, Ga. – Tifton Detective Roberto Torres Jr. received the Exchange Club of Tifton's recognition as Officer of the Year on February 3, 2025.

Each year, the Exchange Club of Tifton highlights first responders through their Public Safety Awards program.

The Exchange Club of Tifton stated, "The Public Safety Awards program is one of the favorites of the club. We feel it is so important to recognize and honor those who are risking their lives daily to keep this community safe."

Detective Torres was presented the Officer of the Year Award by Public Safety Award Chairman Brent Conner.

Detective Torres began his law enforcement career in 2013 with the Tift County Sheriff's Office and joined the Tifton Police Department in January 2022. Over his career, Detective Torres has shown dedication and perseverance in his work.

Since transitioning from patrol to investigations, Detective Torres has been instrumental in solving numerous cases with some significant challenges. Among his notable accomplishments, he played a critical role in resolving the tragic, previously unsolved murder of a 22-month-old infant. His collaboration with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation was pivotal in identifying and apprehending the offender.

Detective Torres also successfully assisted in prosecuting gang members in the Tifton area that were involved in various criminal activities. His collaborative efforts extended to assisting neighboring agencies, and he has helped identify suspects involved in crimes beyond Tifton's jurisdiction.

In addition to these achievements, Detective Torres led the investigation into a string of high-value bicycle thefts targeting hotel guests in Tifton. His determination and persistence resulted in the perpetrator's arrest and the recovery of stolen property.

Tifton Police Chief Steve Hyman remarked, "Detective Torres' commitment to our department and community has impacted the Tifton Police Department and our residents. His work is a testament to his unwavering commitment."

Detective Torres completed specialized training in crimes against children to further enhance his expertise. This training proved vital during his investigation of a school-related threat of violence, where his swift actions ensured the safety of students and staff.

The Tifton Police Department provides, with cooperation of the public, effective and efficient protection of life, individual liberty and property of all people within the City of Tifton. To learn more about the Tifton Police Department, please visit: www.tifton.net/202/Police