



## FLORISSANT POLICE DEPARTMENT

A tradition of *service*, a legacy of *excellence*  
Timothy J. Lowery, Chief of Police

# NEWSLETTER / PRESS RELEASE

Office of the Chief of Police, Timothy J. Lowery

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### For Immediate Release:

#### **TWO FLORISSANT POLICE OFFICERS PRESENTED WITH THE NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD FROM THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS 12<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COMMANDER KEN ALLISON**

FLORISSANT, MO- Florissant Police Chief Tim Lowery is pleased to announce that the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4105 awarded two Florissant Police Officers, Kimberly Berry and Freddie Lee, the National Public Service Award for creating a mentoring program within the Ferguson-Florissant School District.

Officer Kim Berry and Freddie Lee are two of the department's School Resource Officers and are both veterans of our Armed Forces.

Both Officer Berry and Officer Lee recognized the need for "at risk" youth to have a more positive interaction with law enforcement, and they met with the principal of Combs School and proposed a mentoring program. The proposed program called for the school to identify approximately 12 "at risk" students (Kindergarten thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade). Officers Berry and Lee then met with the kids for the length of the school year for one hour a week. The program was capped off with a field trip to the police station and a "pizza party" thrown by Officers Lee and Berry. Both officers donated their own time to mentor the kids and money to purchase snacks for the kids each week, including the year end pizza party.

The 2015-2016 school year was the first year that the officers instituted the program and it was a tremendous success. The Combs School faculty also reported the mentored students' behavior at school had improved greatly and that the kids looked forward to their weekly meetings with Officer Berry and Officer Lee.

With the help of Police Chief Timothy Lowery, the Florissant VFW Post 4105 nominated these Police Officers for the National VFW Public Service Award. Officer Lee and Officer Berry finished in the top two for the State of Missouri. The State Department of

the VFW forwarded their nomination to The National Headquarters where they were both awarded The National Public Service Award signed by The Veterans of Foreign Wars National Commander in Chief, Brian Duffy. Officers Berry and Lee were also recognized by the Ferguson-Florissant School district for their outstanding job with the program.

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