

Officer Sarah Popham

Receives the Hero award for displaying great courage, taking swift action, and placing the lives of others before her own.

On August 21, 2022, Officer Popham responded to a call at a local residence. Once on scene, a gunman opened fire and struck both her and a civilian.

Officer Popham, despite having been struck in the arm, immediately escorted the victim to safety and rendered aid to the civilian's injury. Officer Popham was able to keep the victim calm while relaying suspect, vehicle, and weapon descriptions as well as the direction the shooter was traveling. Even after Officer Popham was relieved of rendering aid to the civilian, she remained on scene to provide security in case the offender returned.

Officer Najee Watson

Receives the Valor Award for displaying great courage in the face of danger.

On December 29, 2022, Officer Watson attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle. The suspect refused to stop and Officer Watson continued his pursuit until the vehicle stopped and the offender exited the vehicle and proceeded to flee on foot. Officer Watson continued his pursuit and the suspect exposed a handgun and proceeded to fire multiple shots at Officer Watson. Officer Watson was struck twice but continued to provide a description of the shooter over his radio.

Jason Allen / Adam Richardson

Receive the Courageous Citizen Award for displaying bravery. Facing an unsafe situation at significant risk to their own personal safety. They put Officers Watsons life at a higher priority than their own.

On December 29, 2022, Mr. Allen and Mr. Richardson heard gunfire and immediately investigated. Without knowing if the gunman was still in the area, Mr. Allen called out to Officer Watson to assess his status and without any concern for their own safety both Mr. Allen and Mr. Richardson responded to Officer Watson to provide medical aid.

After assessing the injury, Mr. Allen saw the need for another tourniquet and returned to his residence to obtain a belt. Mr. Richardson stayed with Officer Watson to keep him calm while help was in route. Mr. Richardson began questioning the whereabouts of the suspect. Mr. Allen returned and formed a makeshift tourniquet. Both men worked together to keep Officer Watson calm and apply the belt to Officer Watsons leg.

They both demonstrated heroism in the face of danger, thereby earning the respect and admiration of the City of Bryan Council and community.