

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Dr. Kim Swanson for Florida Crime Prevention Association's 2015 Crime Prevention Practitioner of the Year.

Kim returned to the Crime Prevention Unit in 2014 after spending 10 years on the road assigned to road patrol. Kim started at our agency in crime prevention serving in senior services starting our TRIAD/SALT unit and helping in the Public Information Office. In 2014 Kim decided she wanted to return to Crime Prevention and since returning has quickly become a leader within the unit. Kim continually conducts research on all crimes occurring in the area and nation-wide, including the latest crime prevention news and updates, the latest frauds and scams affecting our large senior population, as well as staying on top of identity theft trends so she can effectively educate the members of her community groups and organizations. She regularly shares a treasure trove of information with her colleagues, and has created many new programs for our agency. She has eagerly taught her fellow crime prevention practitioners the new programs, and has worked diligently to get the word out about crime prevention within our community.

After spending several years working a detail at one of our local emergency rooms she wrote a thesis on workplace violence in the medical field focusing on hospitals. Then when she returned to the crime prevention unit she created a workplace violence prevention program for the medical community. She is in the process of working with the security teams of each of our 4 large hospitals as well as our 1 smaller hospital and several assisted living facilities and nursing homes. As word spreads about this program, calls from others in the medical field and senior living services are requesting this valuable information as well.

In addition to the program above she co-developed the Identity Theft of the Deceased after discovering that each year the identities of 2.5 million deceased Americans are used to fraudulently open accounts. To help educate people on this form of identity theft she partnered with several funeral homes around the county to present this to their clients. Since holding these seminars we have seen an increase in individuals reporting that after they followed the tips given to them during our presentations, they discovered their loved one's identity had been compromised. With our assistance, these family members have eventually been able to correct and restore the identity of their deceased loved one.

During the 2014/2015 year she has conducted over 350 crime prevention programs comprised of over 70 Neighborhood Watch meetings, 60 identity theft/frauds and scams meetings, and over 30 workplace violence seminars. The remaining 190 seminars are comprised of a variety of women's self defense classes, personal safety, residential security, business security and business watch, security surveys, CPTED surveys, CarFit events, bank robbery prevention, and many others.

Kim is very much a team player and can always be counted on by her superiors and her co-workers to step in and step up anytime a need is presented to her, often rearranging her personal schedule in order to fulfill the unmet needs of the unit. In addition, she recently finished the doctoral program and now holds her PHD in Business Administration: Criminal Justice. She can now be addressed as Dr. Kim Swanson!

Without a doubt, Kim meets and exceeds every nomination criteria for the Crime Prevention Practitioner of the Year Award. I am extremely fortunate to have her on our Crime Prevention team, and find her more than deserving of this prestigious recognition.

Sincerely,

Stacey

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