



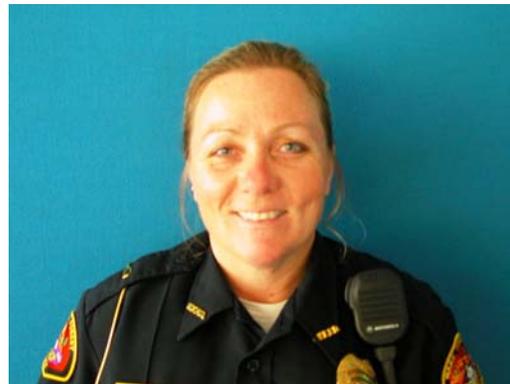
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GURLEY NAMED CIT OFFICER OF THE YEAR

WAKE FOREST, NC – June 19, 2012 – The Wake Forest Police Department recently named Officer T. Gurley as the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Officer of the Year.

A specialized law enforcement program, the CIT is a partnership between 17 Wake County law enforcement agencies, Wake County Human Services, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness. The initiative is designed to develop a more effective, compassionate, and safer approach to interacting with people suffering from a mental illness or developmental disability crisis.



The CIT provides 40 hours of specialized training to sworn law enforcement officers. The training helps officers identify individuals in a mental health crisis and utilize effective techniques to deescalate crisis situations. As a result, there are fewer incidents of incarceration of persons with mental illness for misdemeanor charges, and fewer injuries to both officers and individuals with mental illness. In Wake County, more than 500 officers have been certified.

Each law enforcement agency in Wake County selects its CIT Officer of the Year.

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For more information about the Town of Wake Forest, contact Public Information Officer Bill Crabtree at (919) 435-9421 or bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov.