



Stockton College Names Sgt. Tracy Stuart As Police Officer of the Year

College's First K-9 Officer Also on Homeland Security Regional Task Force

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Galloway, NJ - Sgt. Tracy Stuart of The Richard Stockton College Police Department was named Officer of the Year at the Board of Trustees meeting July 10.

Sgt. Stuart, Stockton's first K-9 officer, and her partner, Hemi, graduated from the New Jersey State Police Explosives K-9 Scent School in 2011 after becoming a team earlier that year. Officer Stuart and K9 Hemi have served on the Office of Homeland Security's Regional Task Force, NJ Detect and Render Safe, since graduating from scent school.

Sgt. Stuart began her career with The Richard Stockton College Police Department in September 2007. She grew up in Plainfield, NJ and now lives in Barnegat, Ocean County.

Officer Stuart was instrumental in organizing and advising the Stockton Neighborhood Watch, which has increased in size annually with her leadership. Her proactive and community-oriented approach to police work were cited as factors that led to her becoming the department's first K-9 Officer.

Officer Stuart is also a Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) instructor and provides training to the campus community each semester.

Sgt. Stuart and K-9 Hemi have maintained a vigorous training schedule to maintain the

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-Continued from Page 1-

level of excellence expected from a K-9 Team. She was able to advance K-9 Hemi's training resume by obtaining a dual certification as an explosives and tracking K9.

Officer Stuart's many accomplishments and contributions have recently earned her the position of Sergeant of Student Services Administration.

"Sgt. Stuart exemplifies the professional law enforcement officer that The Richard Stockton College Police Department and The Richard Stockton College Community are honored to acknowledge as Officer of the Year," said Lieut. Cynthia Parker, who is serving an interim police chief and who presented the award to Stuart, along with President Herman Saatkamp.

Caption information for third photo, in which all participants are facing forward:

Sgt. Tracy Stuart, center, receives the Officer of the Year Award from Lieut. Cynthia Parker, left, interim police chief of the Richard Stockton College Police Department, and President Herman Saatkamp.

Click link for images: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/stockton.edu/sets/72157634585480390/>

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