



# Upper Darby Township Police Department

Office of the Superintendent of Police

**Date:** October 18, 2023

**To:** All Police Personnel

**From:** Timothy M. Bernhardt  
Superintendent of Police *T.M.B.*

**Subject:** Outstanding Employee – Third Quarter 2023

After reviewing the nominations, the committee has selected **Officer Maura O'Connell #143** as the recipient.

The supervisors of the 3rd squad nominated Officer Maura O'Connell as the employee of the quarter. Officer O'Connell is a Haverford High School and Cabrini College graduate. Officer O'Connell was a great athlete playing basketball at both levels.

Officer O'Connell was hired by the Upper Darby Township Police Department in April of 2021, starting her career in the patrol division. Officer O'Connell is professional, intelligent, proactive, and an excellent street cop. She requires little supervision, and her paperwork typically needs no correction. When handling a job, she goes above and beyond what is normally required. Officer O'Connell is not just a squared away Officer; she is also a great team member of the squad. She is quick to step up for the less than favorable assignments, such as guarding a prisoner or crime scene, transport, etc. In doing this, she never requests anything in return.

Within the last year, her supervisors approached Officer O'Connell about becoming a Field Training Officer (FTO). This was an easy decision for them; however, she was initially apprehensive and unsure if she was ready for it. In her typical fashion, she stepped up to the plate and agreed to do so. She took this role seriously and has since excelled at being an FTO.

A recent example that highlights Officer O'Connell's police work is as follows:

On September 5<sup>th</sup> at 2005hrs, Officers were dispatched to the area of Long Lane & Walnut Street for a pedestrian robbery with a firearm. While responding, Officer O'Connell observed an occupied parked black sedan in the immediate area. She further observed a male changing out of his shirt in the front passenger seat and then observed him exit the passenger side and get into the driver's seat. Instead of immediately stopping the vehicle, she used sound tactics and continued watching the vehicle. It pulled out of the parking spot and then proceeded to commit motor vehicle violations. While following the vehicle, she received information that the vehicle was recently used in connection with several robberies in recent days. The operator of the vehicle exited the vehicle and was stopped by Officer O'Connell. The victim was transported to the scene and positively identified him as the actor involved in the robbery. As a result of this stop, a total of (4) separate robberies were cleared.

This is just one of many of Officer Maura O'Connell's exemplary incidents which she completes on a daily basis. It is our honor to nominate Officer O'Connell for the employee of the quarter.

Because of your professionalism and dedication to duty, you are recognized as Outstanding Employee for the Third Quarter of 2023.