

Damascus American Legion honors the 2020 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

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At its first meeting since the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions were eased, on May 10, Damascus Post 171 honored Montgomery County Police Department Sgt. Kevin Holmes with the Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award. Post Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Green made the presentation.

Sgt. Holmes, the leader of a Special Assignment Team, planned and directed operations that dramatically reduced automobile car thefts in his district and resulted in 15 arrests. During a rash of daytime burglaries in one community of the county, Sgt. Holmes led his team in identifying, catching and arresting the burglar in the act. After receiving information that a dangerous murder suspect was believed to be in his operational area, Sgt. Holmes set up a surveillance plan that enabled his team members to identify and then takedown the suspect safely without use of major force.

A Marine Corps veteran and former Sheriff's Deputy and Gaithersburg policeman, Sgt. Holmes has been in law enforcement since 1996 and a member of the Montgomery County Police Department since 2002. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree and is well on his way to earning a master's. Because of his excellent leadership and intelligent planning and safe execution of those plans, Sgt. Holmes has contributed significantly to a safer environment for the citizens of Montgomery County.

At the same meeting, Montgomery County Legion Commander Cliff Bergstresser recognized Sgt. Holmes as the County-level Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, and he is a contender of the same award in the Southern Maryland District.

Story by: PPC George Bolling, COL U.S. Army (Retired)