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PRESS RELEASE
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2013 BILLY WILKINS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Lieutenant James Beaver of the Greenville County Sheriff's Office and Master Deputy Leslie Daniel of the Pickens County Sheriff's Office were presented the 2013 Billy Wilkins Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement by Retired U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge William W. Wilkins, Jr. today in ceremonies held in Greenville and Pickens County.

The presentation of this award began in 1984 in honor of former Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Billy Wilkins, and is presented to individual law enforcement officers who have exhibited outstanding attributes in performance of his or her duties both in the field and in the courtroom.

Greenville Sheriff's Office Lieutenant James Beaver

James Beaver was born and raised in Miami, Florida. While a student at the University of Central Florida, his part-time work with a security business led to an interest in law enforcement. In November 1989, James was hired as a deputy with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office as a Uniformed Patrol Deputy. Because of his attention to detail and ability to bring stressful situations to a peaceful conclusion, he was promoted to Master Deputy in January 1994. While serving as a Master Deputy, James expressed an interest in, and was assigned to, the SWAT team. In January 2001, he was promoted to Lieutenant. In September 2004, he was assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division (CID). Shortly after joining CID, James served as the lead investigator on the case involving the murder of well known Greenville businessman Jim Cochman. Under his leadership, two individuals were arrested and convicted of the murder. In 2004 Lieutenant Beaver was promoted to SWAT Commander. As leader of the team, he was responsible for developing new tactics, training techniques, and acquiring updated equipment for the Sheriff's Office.

As is evident throughout his twenty-three years of dedicated service, Lieutenant Beaver is a valuable asset to the Greenville County Sheriff's Office.

Lieutenant Beaver is member of Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church. He and his wife, Andrea, have three children.

Pickens County Sheriff's Office Master Deputy Leslie Daniel

Master Deputy Leslie Daniel has been with the Pickens County Sheriff's Office since 1990 where she was hired as a detention officer. She worked her way up to Investigator and is currently serving as a School Resource Officer at Daniel High School.

As a school resource officer, Leslie has great rapport with students, teachers and the school administration. It is this rapport that allowed Deputy Daniels to be a pivotal part in solving the recent murder of a Clemson student. Leslie's superior investigative skills led to a break in the case that resulted in the arrest of all the suspects.

"Leslie Daniel has been an outstanding School Resource Officer at Daniel High School", stated School Principal Danny Merch. "She has been a wonderful addition to our school. She has a passion to help students. Her relationship with the students, teachers and community allows us to solve many problems and to provide a safe school environment. The faculty overwhelmingly voted Leslie Support Employer of the year. She makes our school a good place to work. I am so pleased Leslie works with me."



Solicitor Walt Wilkins, James Beaver, Judge Billy Wilkins



Solicitor Walt Wilkins, Sheriff Rick Clark, Leslie Daniel, Judge Billy Wilkins