



# Mayoral Recognition

I hereby formally recognize and commend Officer Jake Whitley and Officer Mikayla Hodge for their exemplary actions during a critical domestic violence incident on June 14, 2023, at the Holiday Inn on Main Street, Waterville.

Upon receiving a distress call, Officer Whitley promptly arrived on the scene, where he found a female victim in grave danger, being strangled by a male assailant. Demonstrating remarkable courage, Officer Whitley intervened, risking his own safety to save the victim. Despite facing violent resistance from the assailant, who attempted to disarm him, Officer Whitley maintained his composure.

Officer Hodge, recognizing the urgency of the situation, quickly arrived to assist Officer Whitley. Together, they subdued the assailant using a Taser and OC spray, ensuring the safety of the victim. Officer Hodge also displayed exceptional awareness by coordinating medical assistance for the injured woman, who was subsequently transported to the hospital for serious injuries.

Thanks to their swift and decisive actions, the assailant was charged with multiple serious offenses, including Aggravated Attempted Murder and Domestic Violence Aggravated Assault.

Now therefore, I, Michael Morris, as Mayor of Waterville, Maine, on behalf of the City Council, and the residents of Waterville do hereby recognize:

**Officer Jake Whitley**  
&  
**Officer Mikayla Hodge**

for their bravery in putting their own lives at risk to save another.

In Witness Whereof, I do hereby set my hand and seal this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, two thousand and twenty-four.

  
Michael Morris, Mayor

