



MIKE DEWINE

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Cuyahoga Falls Police Department



Sergeant
Todd Shafer



Patrol Officer
Trevor Ford



Patrol Officer
Joel Moledor



Patrol Officer
John Neforos

*Distinguished Law
Enforcement Valor Award*

**Sergeant Todd Shafer
Patrolman Trevor Ford
Patrolman Joel Moledor
Patrolman John Neforos
Patrolman Sean Sheets**



Patrol Officer
Sean Sheets



Sergeant
Martin Rogers



Patrol Officer
Cheryl Desko



Patrol Officer
Dawn McIlvain

*Distinguished Law
Enforcement Meritorious
Service Award*

**Sergeant Martin Rogers
Patrolwoman Cheryl Desko
Patrolwoman Dawn McIlvain**

“You’ll be in our prayers always,” Cuyahoga Falls family members wrote in thanking eight officers who responded to their home the night of Feb. 16, 2014.

The ex-boyfriend of a family member fired two rifle rounds through the back door of the residence and entered the home. His former girlfriend, who had been in the kitchen, ran upstairs to warn the rest of the family. Her father headed downstairs and confronted the intruder, telling him to leave the home and then joining his family in the attic to wait for police.

Knowing that shots had been fired but not the suspect’s whereabouts, officers searched and secured the perimeter before entering the home. Sergeant Shafer and officers Sheets, Neforos, Moledor, and Ford entered while Sergeant Rogers and officers Desko and McIlvain maintained the perimeter.

Officers were entering the basement when Officer Sheets spied the suspect behind the furnace and warned the others that the man had an AK-47 pointed in their direction and a pistol in his other hand. They ordered him to drop his weapons and, without reply, he turned the pistol on himself and pulled the trigger. He was transported to Akron City Hospital, where he died.

“All of the officers who responded that night showed incredible bravery, whether in the home or remaining on the perimeter with a gunman at large,” Chief Jack Davis said in nominating his

officers for this award. He noted that the suspect had brought along extra ammunition, wire ties, and protein bars, raising suspicions that he could have been intending a standoff or kidnapping.