



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

2015 Distinguished Law Enforcement Valor Award



**Officer Joseph Edwards IV
Officer Nicholas Lombardi
Cleveland Division of Police**

Even after being shot at, bitten and bruised, two officers managed to bring a felon to justice.

On Jan. 21, 2015, while on patrol, officers Edwards and Lombardi received information from other patrol officers that shots had been fired during a burglary and that the suspect fled in a gold pickup truck. A few minutes later, officers Edwards and Lombardi saw a truck matching the description and began to follow it.

The truck stopped in a driveway and the driver got out and started walking toward the house. Officers Edwards and Lombardi ordered the man to return to his truck. The officers attempted to pat him down for weapons, but he wouldn't keep his hands on the truck. Officer Lombardi attempted to put the suspect's hands behind his back and he began to struggle. The suspect pulled out a gun and fired inches from Officer Edwards' head. Officer Edwards fell but then jumped up to help get the suspect in handcuffs.

Both officers had to be treated at the hospital. Officer Edwards had burns on his face, a bite mark on his hand, damage to his eye and cuts. Officer Lombardi had bruises on his head and cuts on his hands.

“Even though Officer Edwards was momentarily stunned and obviously injured, he had the wherewithal to collect himself enough to get back in the fight to ensure that his partner was assisted in subduing this dangerous felon,” said Captain Jennie Socha.