

Utah County Employee of the Month, June 2013
Don Holden Rockwell - Deputy Sheriff III
Sheriffs Office

On March 15, 2013 Lehi Police were dispatched to a residence on a report of a suicidal female. Responding officers searched the home and found that the suicidal female had left the residence. Approximately 11 minutes later, Utah Valley Dispatch advised that a female subject was on the 600 East overpass and was threatening to jump onto I-15.

Deputy Holden Rockwell responded to the area and observed the female subject standing on the outside of the chain link fence, facing Interstate 15. Deputy Rockwell and the responding Lehi Officers assessed the situation and took immediate action. Deputy Rockwell risked his own life, and placing himself in harms way, went over the chain link fence and grabbed the female, pulling her to safety.

To the average Deputy or Police Officer, this might not seem like such a big deal. It is an example of what most of us just assume is part of the job. Far too often brave and courageous acts performed by Deputies go unnoticed or unrecognized. For this reason and a few others that I will explain, I am nominating Deputy Holden Rockwell for Employee of the Month.

It has been my privilege to supervise Deputy Rockwell. Although he has been part of our team for only a short period of time, he has already made an impression upon his co-workers and the citizens of Eagle Mountain. Within a week of beginning his assignment in Eagle Mountain, I received a letter from a citizen thanking the Sheriff's Office for the assistance and professionalism that Deputy Rockwell exhibited on a call for service.

Deputy Rockwell serves as my DIC (Deputy In Charge) and is responsible for helping to clear daily reports and making decisions in my absence. Deputy Rockwell thrives in this assignment. He is self motivated, hard working and experienced. As a supervisor, I appreciate his professionalism and sound judgement. Deputy Rockwell has only been employed by the Sheriffs Office for two short years. However, he has distinguished himself through hard work and dedication.

I owe a great deal of gratitude to Deputy Rockwell. Since moving to our team, he has assisted by shouldering part of the responsibility for much of the administrative work that I face on a daily basis. At times, the amount of reports to clear can seem overwhelming. It has not been uncommon to arrive at work after a long weekend shift and have 50 reports to clear. There have been days where I felt like I was only treading water, with as many reports waiting to be cleared at the end of the day as there was when I began my shift. Deputy Rockwell has gone above and beyond what I have asked of him. He has drastically reduced the number of reports waiting to be cleared. This has streamlined the clearance process and allows the reports to be moved through the system and disseminated to the proper division or agency in a much timelier manner. This in turn, has allowed me to get out into the field and work shoulder to shoulder with the deputies.

For this and many other reasons that I have not mentioned, I would like to publicly thank Deputy Holden Rockwell and it is with pleasure that I nominate him for Employee of the Month for June, 2013.

Submitted by Sergeant Cory Wride