

Report to / Rapport au:

**OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD
LA COMMISSION DE SERVICES POLICIERS D'OTTAWA**

24 April 2023 / 24 avril 2023

Submitted by / Soumis par:

Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service / Chef de police, Service de police d'Ottawa

Contact Person / Personne ressource:

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SUBJECT: LETTERS OF COMMENDATION – April 2023

OBJET: LETTRES DE MENTION ÉLOGIEUSE – avril 2023

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

**Que la Commission de services policiers d'Ottawa prenne connaissance du
présent rapport à titre d'information.**

BACKGROUND

Attached for the information of the Board are excerpts from letters of appreciation /
thanks received from the public since the last regular meeting for services rendered by
members of the Ottawa Police Service (OPS).

DISCUSSION

Date Received: 14 March 2023

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Brendan Chase

Excerpt from Letter: Thank you, Constable Brendan Chase, so very much for your
patience and compassion with me. My family and I are extremely grateful for your help. I
am nowhere near feeling better but now have additional resources for much-needed
help. Keep up the great work. You are very much appreciated.

Date Received: 20 March 2023

From: Member of the public

OPS members: Sergeant Jeff Aylen, Constables Abdullahi Ahmed, Wayne Clayton, and Curtis Hebert

Excerpt from letter: In the early morning Sergeant Jeff Aylen and his partner presented themselves at my door to execute the unenviable task of informing my wife and I that our daughter had died a few hours earlier. They did so with the utmost of professionalism and empathy and provided us with the information they currently had, and made themselves readily available in the hours and days that followed to answer any queries we had. Over the next 10 days or so, I had numerous interactions with Constable Curtis Hebert, who likewise, demonstrated professionalism and compassion, as we conversed about the circumstances surrounding my daughter's death. During those days I also interacted with Constables Wayne Clayton and Abdul Ahmed. They also reflected the professionalism and concern that clearly is part of the Ottawa Police Service. I know more than most about how much police services care about keeping citizens safe, often in very trying and dangerous circumstances. I also know that these efforts don't get the public credit that is so richly deserved. Please accept my family's deepest appreciation for the manner that these OPS members have executed their duties on my family's behalf in recent days, and for the extraordinary service-wide efforts each and every day in keeping our community safe.

Date Received: 31 March 2023

From: Member of the public

OPS members: Constables Paul Cahill and Dan Patton

Excerpt from letter: When I looked out of my office window I noticed one of your unmarked, black F-150's belonging to the traffic unit. Obviously, it caught my attention so I watched! The officer slow-rolled down the road and seemed to stop at every parked vehicle along the way. We believe there are questionable garages operating in our neighbourhood. This officer seemed interested and took the initiative to check things out. It was really nice to see. For that reason I am hoping you can pass on my thanks!

Date Received: 31 March 2023

From: Member of the public

OPS members: Constables Satara Stephens and Trevor Lindsay

Excerpt from letter: I'm writing this as a long overdue thank you to two members of your team. Last year, I found myself in the midst of a mental health crisis and in desperate need of help. After stumbling into the offices of my apartment building, someone (thankfully) called 911 and subsequently Constables Satara Stephens and Trevor Lindsay arrived on scene and began trying to assist me. I was in a deeply frightened

state and having an existential crisis and these officers were wonderful. What I will always remember about them is that they both seemed deeply concerned for me and my safety and their sole intention seemed to be to help me out and figure out what the issue was. Their calm demeanour truly helped to make sure the situation didn't escalate. During my stay in the emergency room they were tasked with watching over me and I felt a great deal of empathy and compassion from them. I know it's a thankless job at times, and the police are more often than not demonized due to the bad apples, but I needed to express my gratitude for their actions that day. Thank you!