

# QUINCY POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2018



September 1, 2018

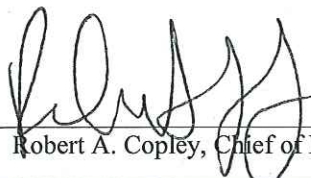
It is with great pleasure I announce that Officer Jessica Sparks has been selected as Employee of the Month for September 2018.

Officer Sparks joined the department on October 14, 2014. She is currently a Patrol Officer assigned to the Power Shift. Officer Sparks was a police officer with the Hannibal (MO) Police Department for two years prior to coming to Quincy. She was selected as Employee of the Month in December 2014 and July 2016. She is a CPR/AED/First Aid Instructor, a Narcan coordinator, a member of the Honor Guard, and a Field Training Officer.

Officer Sparks was nominated for this recognition due to her stellar work on August 19, 2018. At 0040 hours that date Officer Sparks was driving to police HQ to end her shift when she observed a vehicle driving in the wrong lane of traffic. She conducted a traffic stop and found that the driver appeared to be impaired. Officer Sparks conducted standardized field sobriety tests, leading to the arrest of the driver for DUI. Through further investigation she found that the driver did not have permission to drive the vehicle in which he was stopped. She contacted the owner of the vehicle and discovered that he believed his car was outside his residence and was completely unaware that it had been stolen. The owner of the vehicle did not even know the arrestee. Officer Sparks returned the stolen vehicle to the owner, finished her DUI processing, and lodged the driver in the Adam's County Jail for Theft Over \$10,000 (but less than \$20,000), DUI, and Improper Lane Usage.

Officer Sparks is a very proactive and motivated officer. She leads the department in DUI arrests and traffic stops. This particular stop was an excellent example of what a simple traffic stop can lead to. Officer Sparks successfully removed a dangerously intoxicated driver from our streets and solved a vehicle theft that had not yet even been reported by the victim. It is solid police work to solve a reported crime and make an arrest, but solving a crime before it is actually reported moves the bar much higher.

Please join me in congratulating Officer Jessica Sparks as the Quincy Police Department's September 2018 Employee of the Month.

  
Robert A. Copley, Chief of Police