

# QUINCY POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AUGUST 2017



August 1, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

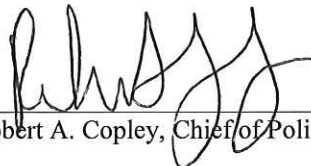
It is with great pleasure that I announce Officer Zach Bemis has been selected as Employee of the Month for August 2017.

Officer Bemis joined the department on September 14, 2015. He attended Western Illinois University and graduated with a Bachelor's of Business Degree in May 2012. Officer Bemis graduated from Police Training Institute on December 17, 2015. In addition to his patrol duties, Officer Bemis is a member of the Crisis Intervention Team. He received the Quincy Police Department Patrol Officer of the Year Award for 2016. In addition, he was Employee of the Month for April 2017.

Officer Bemis was nominated for this award due to his work on an Aggravated Battery investigation originating on July 7, 2017. On that date, officers responded to a disturbance at 7<sup>th</sup> and Cedar. During the investigation, officers found that a man had been severely beaten in the street by a group of subjects. Officer Bemis located the victim and after talking to him and other witnesses it was determined that they were afraid to make a statement for fear of retaliation by the suspects who were the victim's neighbors. The victim was transported to Blessing for treatment of serious injuries. Later, Officer Bemis learned that the victim had a change of heart and wanted to make a statement regarding the incident. Officer Bemis went to the ER and learned that the victim had suffered broken ribs and a collapsed lung as a result of the attack. Officer Bemis met with the victim and obtained a complete statement. Officer Bemis then quickly conducted more follow-up and created a photo line-up. The victim positively identified a female as one of his attackers and identified a male as the suspect who stood by actively encouraging the attack. After developing probable cause, Officer Bemis contacted IDOC and obtained a Parole Warrant for the male who had very recently been released from prison on parole. Officer Bemis then worked with his fellow shift mates to locate and arrest the female for Aggravated Battery and the male for the Parole Warrant. Both were lodged in jail on the offenses. Officer Bemis completed more follow-up and additional line-ups providing enough evidence for the States Attorney to later charge the male with Mob Action.

Officer Bemis' diligence and perseverance with this case is just one example of the excellent work he does to help keep the community safe. His attention to detail on this case led to the arrest of two dangerous subjects who are off the street and in jail where they belong.

Please join me in congratulating Officer Bemis for being selected as the Quincy Police Department's August 2017 Employee of the Month.

  
Robert A. Copley, Chief of Police