

### **Cecilia Eaton For Wellington Top Firefighter**

Cecilia Eaton was the first Peruvian female to begin work as a firefighter for Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. Her story is quite extraordinary. At the young age of 15, she felt drawn to the local hometown volunteer fire station in Peru where she was born and raised. At first the fire station was a good way to get out of the house and become more independent, but it didn't take long for her to get really interested in becoming a firefighter. Back then, females were not allowed to spend the night in the firehouse, but they made an exception for Cecilia. Having made her bed for that first overnight in the firehouse was all for nothing as she never saw her bed that night. A large movie theater fire and an extended brush fire call kept her and her team up all night long. She was hooked. Fast forward to the early 90s and the outbreak of terrorism that had become widespread in Peru. Her father moved to the states and slowly was able to move the family her one by one. Cecilia spoke no English when she arrived at age 21 but she knew that she wanted to be a firefighter. She began ESAW classes and learned English by working the casinos on cruise ships as a blackjack dealer. She eventually attended Broward Fire Academy for fire school and EMT classes at Broward Community College and despite the language barrier, was able to successfully become certified to work. She began work as a Palm Beach County Firefighter in 2001.

Cecilia spent her entire fire rescue career in the distinct team of Special Operations starting in 2001. She went on to master all of the Special Operations' disciplines, achieved Paramedic certification and ultimately achieved the rank of Captain in 2019. She is the only female Driver/Operator to have ever been assigned to Special Operations. Last year, Cecilia was selected by the Training Division to lead Recruit Academy Class # 83. She has since then asked to come back to lead future recruit classes. Cecilia has always been one of the key females in our department sought after to recruit and speak with females outside of the fire service who might be discerning a career. She has been an active participant in the recruitment processes for our department having served on interview panels and scrutinizing new candidate evaluations. She is a front running candidate for the Training Division's Recruit Academy Probationary Recruit Manager position. Lastly, she is the loving and devoted wife to Captain Adam Eaton and mother to a son and daughter. One thing Cecilia has done as a company officer is to take a personal interest in caring for the elderly that we run calls on, often times following up with their children or other family members to assure that they receive follow up and attention. This is a regular course for her during the day-to-day operations in her firehouse.

BC Kenneth Wooldridge

I'd like to nominate Lt. Jason Haythorn (Sta 30/C). Lt. Haythorn has been assigned to the Wellington station for several years and is one of my go-to guys for precepting newer employees and new paramedics. Recently he has taken on a mentorship role helping groom a future Lieutenant who is a member of his crew. His work ethic and attention to detail is impeccable. Lt. Haythorn has responded to several note-worthy calls during his tenure at station #30 and serves the residents and visitors of Wellington with the utmost professionalism and care. Lt. Haythorn is a member of the AHIMT and has deployed to several large-scale incidents and disasters over the past several years.

Please accept my nomination for Lt. Haythorn.

**Troy Dichard, EMT-P, FP-C, CCP-C**  
**EMS Captain • 2nd Battalion • C-Shift**  
**Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue**

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**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**District 8 - Wellington**

**TO:** Wellington Public Safety Committee  
(Via Chain of Command)

**DATE:** April 13, 2023

**FROM:** Sergeant Michael Donovan *MD*

**SUBJECT:** Top Cop Nomination – Detective Timothy Barbusio #9087

Tim Barbusio is a Detective with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office in District 8 - Wellington. He is a Detective that encompasses every single attribute that comes to mind when you reflect on the title of "Top Cop". He is professional, he is dedicated, he is effective, and he continues to stand out in his community, in his agency, and in his unit, over and over again.

Detective Barbusio brings over 35 years of experience to the Law Enforcement profession, 3 of the most recent years in Wellington, where he also calls home. In those 35 years, Tim's superior investigative skills has set him apart from his peers. Because of this, he is well known inside our agency but his reputation is equally outstanding amongst external agencies as well. He is known as a go-to resource and readily offers his knowledge and assistance to innumerable local, state and Federal agencies. His knowledge and willingness to support other Law Enforcement entities in their investigations is second to none and his relationships with other agencies is invaluable.

Within the scope of his career, Tim worked as the lead detective on the Auto-Theft Task force in the City of Lake Worth. The task force quickly became a leading resource to agencies county and state-wide. His contributions to these complex investigations were exemplary and advanced the standard by which other law enforcement agencies investigated these crimes. Also, during his time as a detective, Tim was singly instrumental in change to protocol that affected all police investigations statewide. He discovered, at the time, that booking photos were only taken when a criminal was entering the correctional facilities and not when they were exiting, sometimes decades later. This made it extremely difficult to identify and prosecute repeat offenders based on outdated pictures. Detective Barbusio headed up the change to this protocol that still stands today. It has undoubtedly increased the apprehension and prosecution of many career criminals and made a tremendous contribution to making our streets safer for our good citizens. Detective Barbusio continually carries the heaviest case load of the detectives in his unit and even with such, he is assiduous in his detail to every investigation, he is the first to lend assistance whenever asked, and he never falters to be a leader amongst his peers and colleagues.

In 2022, Detective Barbusio initiated 65 long term financial cases. One of the major cases is a bail bond scam that was first reported by a Wellington resident that has lead to victim's being located throughout the United States. Detective Barbusio is partnering with Local and Federal Agencies with the intention to bring the suspects to justice.

Detective Barbusio has a true passion for investigative excellence, suppression of crime and exceptional service to the community. The totality of these superior attributes makes me more than proud to nominate him without reservation for an award and title that he has long exemplified and truly deserves, the prestigious "Top Cop" award.

**PALM BEACH COUNTY**  
**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**RIC L. BRADSHAW, SHERIFF**



**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**District 8 Road Patrol**

**TO:** Robert Humphrey, Lieutenant District 8  
Executive Officer

**DATE:** May 22, 2023

**FROM:** Matthew DeJoy, Sergeants District 8,  
Road Patrol

**SUBJECT:** Deputy Sheriff Jeff Taschner Wellington Top Cop

DS Taschner consistently leads in traffic stops and citation issuance. From Jan of 2022 until May 2023, he has stopped over 1,552 vehicles and issued 2135 citations, 138 written warnings and several verbal warnings. He has arrested 38 people for driving without a licenses, 29 for driving on a suspended Drivers Licenses, 26 people for Reckless Driving, and 13 for Careless Driving. He also investigates traffic complaints in the school zones and in the neighborhoods. This forward leaning posture changes the way drivers drive on the roads. This is why, I am recommending DS Taschner for Deputy for this award.

Traffic enforcement numbers do not depict the interaction environment with the driver and the grievous driving acts. The following synopsis are a few explanations of DS Taschner's traffic stops.

On 3/10/2023 at 1645 hrs. DS Taschner while working Speed and Aggressive Driving Grant witnessed a 2014 Nissan Sports car traveling at a high rate of speed and operating in an aggressive manor cutting in and out of traffic. The vehicle narrowly missed the vehicle in front of it. He followed the vehicle and navigated the heavy traffic in order to stay with the aggressive driver. The traffic stop was conducted south of Old Hammock Way and 441. He made contact with the driver who expressed, he was late and was having a really bad day. The Deputy explained to the driver that his careless speeding, reckless driving pattern, and disregard for other drivers could cause someone to get hurt. DS Taschner then issued citations for Careless-Aggressive Driving, and failed to signal when changing lanes. This was an example of a young driver with no regard for the safety of others driving on the Village of Wellington Roads.

On 03/11/2023 at 1238 hours, while conducting speed enforcement on Forest Hill Blvd DS Taschner observed a Silver Mazda Hatchback driving at a high rate of speed eastbound on Forest Hill Blvd near Block Island Rd. His Laser device and Locked in at 76MPH. The Driver who was 20 drove the vehicle turning right onto Westhampton Circle and continued at a very high rate of speed. The radar device clocked the Mazda at 56MPH in a heavily populated neighborhood, where children often play. A Traffic stop was conducted at 12413 Westhampton Circle. The driver had a Florida Permit and was driving alone without a licensed driver 21 and older. The driver was cited for the following Traffic Violations Careless Driving – Aggressive, Speeding Criminal w/ Court Date issued, Violation of his issued Permit and his car was picked up by his family member.

On 03/14/2023, DS Taschner was patrolling the Forest Hill Blvd at Wellington Trace and observed a 2019 Silver Honda traveling at a high rate of speed. The Honda was driving in and out of traffic with complete disregard for life of others around them. The radar indicated that the speed was 67mph in a 40mph Zone. The driver advised they were wrong but was late for work. The following citations were issued; Reckless Driving 316.192(1)a w/ criminal court date, driver no seatbelt 316.614(4)b and failed to signal when changing lanes 316.155(1)

On 3/15/2023 at approx. 1515hrs. DS Taschner was conducting Speed enforcement just west of Panther Run Elementary School during School Zone 20 MPH speed limit. He observed a Black BMW SUV traveling East at a high rate of speed and cutting in and out of the slower traffic inside the school zone. A traffic stop was conducted and he made contact with an adult white female. She was very abrasive with her answers and did not wish to comment when she was asked general question. DS Taschner explained to her the reason for the stop and she refused to acknowledge the deputy. She received 4 Traffic Citations and 2 were Criminal Court dates.

I am recommending DS Taschner for this award for all of the effort, job knowledge, high level of performance and professionalism he displays during these traffic encounters.