

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

**RIC L. BRADSHAW, SHERIFF**



**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**DISTRICT 8- WELLINGTON**

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

**DATE:** June 1, 2019

**FROM:** Sgt. Christopher Caris #6229

**FILE:** D/S Jennifer Baker

**SUBJECT:** Wellington's Top Cop Nomination- D/S Jennifer Baker # 7829

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D/S Jennifer Baker has been employed by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office for approximately fifteen (15) years and has been assigned to District 8's (Wellington) Community Policing Unit for approximately three (3) years. Prior to her current assignment in Community Policing, D/S Baker began her career working at the airport for approximately one year before being transferred to road patrol in Wellington almost thirteen (13) years ago to date.

During her tenure on patrol, D/S Baker was the go to person on her squad when dealing with any juvenile issues or developing a rapport with the residents in the community. In mid-2016 D/S Baker was selected to join the Community Policing Unit and began her partnership with the Village of Wellington Community Services Division. D/S Baker immediately began a close working relationship with Community Services and hit the ground running in learning all of the residents within the community policing sites. All of the members of Community Services admire and respect D/S Baker I have witnessed first-hand at several community events such as Back to School, Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Summer Camp that the residents and their children ask for D/S Baker by name when they don't see her around at an event. D/S Baker will interact knowing almost all of the local residents by name as well as their personal story. D/S Baker has also acquired quite a reputation out on the streets when helping with personal issues on a non-Judgmental basis. An example would be a child having issues with their parents or parents having issues with their children. She is a great mediator and usually helps control the situation to where it doesn't escalate into something more serious.

In April 2019 D/S Baker was nominated and received the award for Deputy of the Month for Wellington for an act that went above and beyond the normal scope of her duties. The following is a brief synopsis of the nomination. D/S Baker met a young lady, shortly after she joined the Community Policing Unit, at a community outreach through the Goldenrod site when the lady was pregnant in 2016. This young lady had an extremely rough childhood and suffered many types of abuses as a young child. D/S Baker was able to develop a relationship and would help this young woman from time to time throughout the years in the CP site. On April 6, 2019 D/S Baker was contacted by this young lady because she had no one else to speak to as she was homeless. The young lady explained that she had hit "rock bottom" and didn't know where to turn. She was living on the streets, had no family, and no way to care for her two year old child. D/S Baker immediately reached out to some of her professional contacts/organizations to solicit housing assistance as well as get her into a program at Vita Nova

Center. While waiting for housing, D/S Baker provided significant financial assistance and paid for a hotel room at the Royal Inn motel in Royal Palm Beach utilizing her own finances. D/S Baker continued to fund the hotel room for the young lady until she was able to secure some type of housing through the Vita Center. D/S Baker was able to mentor this young lady and assisted her with filling out job applications. D/S Baker was also inspirational in getting the young woman into a church setting for assistance as well as potentially getting the young lady baptized. D/S Baker was instrumental in the young woman obtaining a job, relocating to a house with a roommate, and successfully completing a 90 day program. The young lady was eventually baptized at a local church.

On a personal note, D/S Baker shows up to work every day with a positive can do attitude and is always willing to assist her co-workers whenever they need assistance without being asked. D/S Baker can never say no to anyone and is always the type of deputy that doesn't want to receive recognition for her work or actions. In fact, D/S Baker never spoke to anyone about her involvement with helping this homeless woman and it was D/S Poritz who found out about it and wanted to recognize her for going above and beyond the normal scope of her duties. Without hesitation, it is an honor and privilege to work with and supervise D/S Baker.

Based on her positive accomplishments, long tenure in the Village of Wellington, and going above and beyond the normal scope of her job assignment, I hereby nominate D/S Jennifer Baker as a recipient for Wellington's distinguished "Top Cop" award.

Thank you for your time and consideration for this nomination, and please feel free to contact me in person or by phone if I can be of any further assistance or answer any additional questions.

**Personal Information:**

Royal Palm Beach Resident/Homeowner

Married to retired PBC Fire Rescue Battalion Chief

Mother to 4 children of which 2 are step-children

Relocated from California to Florida

Employed with PBSO for approximately 15 years