

---

August 9, 2021

Dear Delta Township Police Department,

About a year ago, a few of your officers were called to my house. It was that evening I realized the impact that a few people can make in a time of crisis. I don't remember names, but I will always cherish the acts of true leadership and love I witnessed that night.

Here is the backstory to this event. My former boyfriend [REDACTED] had been struggling with depression and addiction throughout his life. I had been with him for three years. He was a good man who had gotten lost and turned to self medicating to try and fix the problems he felt he could not face. One night three of your officers were called to my house. At that point, my boyfriend had turned on himself. The officers responded quickly and were ready to help. Your men were able to talk him down so he was in a better state of mind before they took him to the hospital. The officers made sure he knew he wasn't just an addict but he was a human worthy of life and getting sober. That was one of the biggest gifts I think he ever received. The officers looked at him and gave him a chance. They treated him like any other man, unlike many others had in his past.

The next day he was out of the hospital and said something I will never forget. "They treated me like I was human, I can't wait to be able to call them and tell them I am clean." I wish words could explain how I felt when he told me that. It was like I finally had the man I loved back, because three officers took the time to show compassion to a lost soul.

The hardest part about this is that on August 30, he passed away. The year anniversary is coming up and I wasn't sure how I wanted to handle it. While trying to decide what to do in his memory I started thinking about who had been an important part of his life. Sadly, he didn't have many people. Then I thought, he did have your officers. The men who helped him up when he was in need. His death has been the hardest thing I've had to endure in my life. But, I still think about the hope in his eyes after

talking to the officers. It may have been just a call for your men, but to us it was a gift. The time they took to help us is something that now brings me comfort in this horrific situation. I have promised myself to always advocate for and educate others about addiction. One day, I hope I'm able to have a comforting impact on someone, just as you have done for me. I will always hold these officers in a special part of my heart and I know [REDACTED] did too.

Enjoy this small gift of gratitude. Thank you for going above and beyond in this situation. Your dedication and support to our community is never unnoticed!

Sincerely and Gratefully,