



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Department of Criminal Justice Training

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DOCJT RECOGNIZES, AWARDS OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

RICHMOND, Ky. – The Department of Criminal Justice Training recognized several employees for their outstanding contributions to the department and Kentucky’s law enforcement community.

In November, instructors Larry Sennett and Gina Smith were named the 2012 Instructors of the Year. This is the first time that the award has been presented to more than one individual.

Sennett, who has served as an instructor in the Investigations Section of the Advanced Individual Training Branch for the past five years, has been instrumental in developing and expanding the investigations course offerings. Sennett helped develop the Kentucky Criminalistics Academy, and his knowledge, skill and experience have made the KCA courses a dynamic and desired training for Kentucky’s crime scene investigators. More recently, Sennett researched and wrote a 40-hour course on forensic mapping, using the Total Station. His course put a new spin on the familiar equipment by teaching officers how to use the Total Station for crime-scene mapping, in addition to accident reconstruction.

Smith, an instructor in the Physical Training and Defensive Tactics Section of the Skills Branch has proved an outstanding role model for recruits in her dedication to physical fitness and passion for helping recruits reach their personal and professional goals while at the academy. She develops lesson plans specifically to prepare officers for the demanding challenges they will face in their careers and with a knowledge of the importance physical fitness and defensive tactics play in the ability of officers to do their jobs in a safe manner.

In addition to teaching in PT/DT, Smith also frequently teaches in the Firearms Section and has been designated a lead instructor and safety officer for many ropes courses during AIT classes.

The 2012 Administrative Specialist of the Year Award was presented to Jody Plummer in the AIT and Leadership branches. Plummer willfully took on the new assignment of coordinating, assembling and distributing the 2013 Schedule Book, incorporating it seamlessly into her previous workload. In addition, she was also given the task of entering and deleting added or cancelled classes in DOCJT's TASS system for the training division. Plummer's attention to detail, ability to communicate, knowledge of agency functions and cooperative nature allowed her new assignments to be completed in a timely and professional manner.

In light of the thorough Report on Kentucky Constables published in November, the 2012 Teamwork Award was presented to the group of individuals who worked diligently to compile, analyze, define results, design, proof and publish the final report. The effort required extra time – including weekends – as well as skill by all involved to complete the mission outlined by the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet secretary. The Teamwork Award recipients were: Rachel Lingenfelter, Edliniae Sweat, Abbie Darst, Allison Harrison, Diane Patton, Kelly Foreman, Trang Baseheart, Shannon Sanders, Jim Robertson, Ande Godsey, Sharon Davis, Tammy Richardson, Kris Bowerman and Richard Putnam.

DOCJT instructor Jerry Huffman was honored at a retirement ceremony on Dec. 12, 2012. Huffman began his career at DOCJT in June 1999 and has served in the In-Service, Patrol/Traffic, Professional Development, Basic General Studies and Evaluation sections. He was named 2004 Instructor of the Year and was promoted to a law enforcement training section supervisor in 2008. Huffman also created the family night for recruit classes, which focuses on preparing law enforcement families for what to expect from their loved ones' law enforcement careers. Huffman is the pastor at Tates Creek Baptist Church in Richmond and is married with five children and four grandchildren and two on the way.

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