

To The VFSAAA Board,

07-17-12

I respectfully submit Detective Michael F. Flaherty of the Charlottesville Police Department for consideration for the Paul Ferrara Crime Scene Officer of The Year for 2012. In the last year Detective Flaherty was the lead case agent for the Yeardeley Love homicide and subsequent trial which garnered extensive national attention. His devotion to duty and calm in the face of immense media presence was exemplary. In the Lewis Mallory case involving several shootings he provided detailed shooting reconstruction testimony which proved of great value during the trial. He was recognized as a Shooting Reconstruction expert in Circuit Court during this trial.

During this last year Detective Flaherty has reformed our training directives and policies due to our need to train several new Evidence Technicians. He is always at the forefront with the technicians providing ready advice and expertise. Detective Flaherty has also authored our revised Death Investigation policy, co-authored our Sexual Assault Response policy and is a member of our Sexual Assault Response Team. During this last year he also formulated a training seminar with the University of Virginia Police Department providing them with the same detailed training our new evidence technicians receive. He also serves the Forensic Science Academy as a grader quite often.

Detective Flaherty goes out of his way to assist our general detectives with proper submission of Requests for Lab Analyses and any and all other needs they request. Detective Flaherty also goes well beyond the norm staying apprised of each and every case, maintaining excellent communication as well with our Commonwealth Attorney staff.

Detective Flaherty has a rare combination of not only being an excellent crime scene investigator but also the drive to train new officers to carry on for the future. His drive and dedication to the field of forensic investigation and training combined is what sets him apart from the norm. Your consideration of this nomination is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Detective Sergeant Steven L. Dillon
Supervisor
Charlottesville Police Forensic Unit