



**Certificate of Merit – Sergeant George Hensley,
Officers Paul Wathen, Ryan Nielsen and Chris Odom**

Mesquite, TX – April 18, 2016 – The Certificate of Merit is awarded to police employees for outstanding or superior performance in any assignment over a prolonged period of time. Such performance is to be clearly defined as exceptional, placing them well above other officers or civilian of equal rank or grade.

Sergeant Hensley currently supervises the Mesquite Police Department’s DWI program, while Officers Paul Wathen, Ryan Nielsen and Chris Odom currently lead the department in DWI arrests. These officers are also instrumental in the education of new recruits in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing courses and in-service SFST refresher courses.

In 2015, Sergeant Hensley was instrumental in implementing a new process for obtaining DWI blood draw search warrants. This new process proved to be more effective and efficient allowing officers to get back on the street more quickly. Over the past three years, the Mesquite Police Department’s DWI arrests have steadily increased due to the improvement in the program.

The Mesquite Police Department is proud to recognize Sergeant George Hensley, Officers Paul Wathen, Ryan Nielsen and Chris Odom with the Certificate of Merit.