



Hilliard Division of Police

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Hilliard officer named Central Ohio's 'Top Cop' MADD awards Ofc. Bright for getting impaired drivers off the road

HILLIARD, OHIO — If you're an impaired driver, one Hilliard officer — specifically — is your worst nightmare.

Officer Kyle Bright was selected as Central Ohio's "Top Cop" during the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) annual Awards of Excellence Law Enforcement Recognition banquet on Thursday.

MADD reached out to dozens of police departments throughout the region asking them to nominate an officer who best represented MADD's mission to "end drunk driving, help fight drugged driving, support the victims of these violent crimes and prevent underage drinking."

"Today is not about criminals apprehended and crimes prevented," said Columbus police Sgt. Brooke Wilson, a speaker at the event. "It's about lives saved."

Bright, who joined the Hilliard Division of Police in 2004, was nominated for the award by his supervisor, Sgt. John Higgins.

"He has been instrumental in assisting other officers with high level OVI cases by guiding officers with the intricate nature of writing search warrants for blood draws and investigating traffic crashes that involve OVI drivers," Higgins said.

A member of the Division's Traffic Safety Unit, Bright has received additional specialized training in the detection and apprehension of impaired drivers. He is one of few Hilliard officers certified in the prestigious Driving Impaired Criminal Enforcement (DICE) program.

Bright exhibited much of his knowledge when an injury crash occurred in December 2015. An impaired driver tried to pass several other cars on a curve and hit a vehicle traveling in the opposite direction head-on. Bright diligently conducted the investigation, gathered important evidence, applied his advanced training and ensured the at-fault driver was indicted for Aggravated Vehicular Assault and convicted of the crime.

Bright also serves as a member of the Division's Accident Investigation Team and is a Field Training Officer — an opportunity to train and develop new officers in the proper procedures of OVI detection, processing and prosecution. He was named the Field Operations Officer of the Year in 2013.