



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Lindenhurst Police Department Receives 2018 First Responder Innovation Award

Lindenhurst, Illinois – On Wednesday, October 17, 2018, the Lindenhurst Police Department was presented with top honors at the 2018 First Responder Innovation Awards program presented by the Lake County Municipal League. The Lindenhurst Police Department won the highly competitive award for their innovative Elderly Residents in Need, or E.R.I.N., Program.

The E.R.I.N. Program was created earlier this year by Lindenhurst officers Sandy Rapey and Mike Kirkpatrick. With the intent to strengthen and sustain community partnerships, the program provides assistance and support to the senior population in Lindenhurst. The program utilizes officers and volunteers from the community to help seniors with tasks such as yard maintenance, snow removal, and small home repairs. Lindenhurst officers also provide well-being checks/home visits and make daily phone calls to the seniors in the program. Lock-boxes are also provided to the seniors which would enable first responder access in case of an emergency.

“The Lake County Municipal League was honored to receive such a high caliber of applications from police and fire departments throughout Lake County,” stated Mandi Florip, Executive Director of the Lake County Municipal League. “We are incredibly appreciative to the Lake County First Responders for implementing groundbreaking programs that not only ensure the safety of our residents, but also create efficient, cost-effective ways to meet, and exceed, the needs of our community.”

“This program has been successful due to a collaborative effort from our officers, volunteers, and community members. Everyone in the program is committed to making a difference in the community. They should all be proud of this recognition and for

making an impact in the lives of our seniors,” said Lindenhurst Police Chief Thomas Jones.

If you are interested in learning more about the E.R.I.N. Program, or if you’re interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact the program coordinators at (847) 356-5400 or visit the website at www.lindenhurstil.org.

About The First Responder Innovation Awards Program

The Lake County Municipal League's First Responder Innovation Awards program is designed to recognize exceptional, innovative and extraordinary achievement in first responder programs or efforts and initiatives that benefit police and fire as professions. The awards program also facilitates an exchange of information and experiences to build capacity for police and fire departments and jointly celebrate successful programs that could benefit other departments and their communities.



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