

News from the Somerset County Sheriff's Office

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January 16, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sheriff's Office Holds Swearing-In Ceremony

SOMERVILLE – A swearing-in ceremony was recently held for two Sheriff's officers and two Somerset County corrections officers. Presentations also were made during the ceremony, which was held in the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders Meeting Room located in the county Administration Building.

Retired Judge Samuel Chiaravalli administered the oaths of office to Sheriff's Officer Nicholas Fazio, Sheriff's Officer Peter Kocsi, Corrections Officer Brian Mattox and Corrections Officer Richard Reedy Jr.

Officer Fazio joined the Somerset County Sheriff's Office as a cadet in 2005. While working as a cadet, he earned an associates degree in Applied Science in Law Enforcement from Raritan Valley Community College. A resident of Hunterdon County, Officer Fazio entered the Somerset County Police Academy on Jan. 14.

A resident of Hunterdon County, Officer Kocsi was valedictorian of his graduation class at the Somerset County Vocational and Technical High School. Prior to joining the Sheriff's Office, Officer Kocsi worked as electrician in the county Facilities & Services Division. He graduated from the Somerset County Police Academy in December.

Corrections Officer Mattox graduated from Middlesex High School and earned a degree in Networking Technology from the Computer Learning Center. Prior to joining the Sheriff's office, Officer Mattox worked in the alarm security industry. He graduated from the Somerset County Police Academy Corrections Class in December.

Corrections Officer Reedy graduated from Middlesex High School and earned a bachelors degree in Criminal Justice from Kean University. He graduated from the Somerset County Police Academy Corrections Class in December. Officer Reedy has been a firefighter and company officer with the Middlesex Borough Fire Department for 8 years.

During the ceremony, Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano recognized Sheriff's Officer Andrew Klein, who received an Excellence Award from the Somerset County Police Academy for graduating at the top of his class in December.

Sheriff Provenzano also presented Patriot Awards to three officers who had been deployed to Iraq for military operations. The awards were presented to Sheriff's Officer Louise Prete, Staff Sergeant, New Jersey Air National Guard, deployed to Iraq from July through October 2007; Sheriff's Officer Scott Jepsen, Corporal, U.S. Marine Corp, deployed to Iraq from June 2005 through May 2006; and Corrections Officer John Pineiro, Corporal, U.S. Marine Corp, deployed to Iraq from September 2006 through April 2007.

"The Somerset County Sheriff's Office is proud of Officers Prete, Jepsen and Pineiro, and members of all branches of our armed forces, who unselfishly and courageously serve our country," said Sheriff Provenzano. "We are proud to support our troops."

After returning from Iraq, Officer Prete and Corrections Officer Pineiro each presented Sheriff Provenzano with an American flag and a certificate to recognize the Somerset County Sheriff's Office as a supportive employer of those serving their country. The flag presented by Officer Prete was flown aboard an F-16C from Balad Airbase in Iraq and bestowed by the Green Mountain Boys of 332d Air Expeditionary Wing. Pineiro's flag was flown in Al Asad, Iraq, over Military Police Company, 3rd Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment.

For more information, contact Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano at (908) 231-7140.

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A swearing-in ceremony was recently held for two Somerset County Sheriff's officers and two corrections officers in the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders meeting room. Joined by Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano, center, the officers are, from left to right, Sheriff's Officer Peter Kocsi, Sheriff's Officer Nicholas Fazio, Corrections Officer Brian Mattox and Corrections Officer Richard Reedy Jr.



Corrections Officer John Pineiro, left, presents an American flag with a certificate to Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano from Military Police Company, 3rd Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment, in recognition of the Sheriff's Office being a supportive employer of those serving their country. Serving as a Corporal in the U.S. Marine Corp, Officer Pineiro was deployed to Iraq from September 2006 through April 2007.

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