

Meeting Date
July 12, 2016



AGENDA	
Section	Awards
Item No.	I.C

AGENDA REPORT
 BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT:	Recognition of Parks and Recreation employee Eddie Reininger for his heroic actions in halting a purse snatcher.
DEPT/OFFICE:	Community Services Group / Parks and Recreation Department

Requested Action:
 It is requested the Board of County Commissioners recognize Eddie Reininger for his courageous efforts in stopping a purse snatcher on April 15, 2016.

Summary Explanation & Background:

Edward (Eddie) Reininger, Parks Equipment Mechanic for South Area Parks Operations, was driving by the Walgreens on Wickham Road on his day off. He witnessed a woman lying on the ground and a man fleeing on a bicycle with a purse. Eddie chased after the robber, shoving him off his bicycle, recovered the purse and returned it to the woman. Eddie later positively identified the suspect, aiding in the arrest of the suspect.

Eddie Reininger demonstrated selflessness and compassion for a robbery victim by intervening without regard to his own personal safety. His actions reflect favorably on himself and Brevard County. Eddie clearly deserves recognition as "Brevard's Best."

Clerk to the Board Instructions:

Exhibits Attached: Brevard's Best Award nomination

Contract /Agreement (If attached):	Reviewed by County Attorney	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	PR	<input type="checkbox"/>	↓
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County Manager	Assistant County Manager,	Jack Masson, Parks & Recreation Department Director jack.masson@brevardparks.com; 633-2046
Stockton Whitten	Assistant County Manager, Venetta Valdengo 	



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July 13, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jack Masson, Parks & Recreation Director

RE: Item I.C., Presentation Recognizing Eddie Reininger for his Heroic Actions

The Board of Commissioners, in regular session on July 12, 2016, acknowledged presentation recognizing Eddie Reininger for his courageous efforts in stopping a purse snatcher on April 15, 2016.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

Tammy Rowe, Deputy Clerk

/dt

cc: Venetta Valdengo



Brevard County



Excellence in Action

Name of Award Brevard's Best

Nominee Eddie Reiningger Dept./Location Parks and Rec South Area - Wickham Park

Nominator Jack Masson Phone 321-633-2046 Dept./Location Parks and Rec Director

(See back of Form for instructions and award criteria)

Reason(s) for Recommendation: (use additional sheets as necessary)

See attached.

PROGRAM CRITERIA STATEMENT

To commend the STARS in our Organization for extraordinary employee efforts, consistently superior performance, and/or excellence in action.

Nomination Meets Criteria Statement

Jack Masson
Nominator's Signature

6/17/16
Date

FORWARD TO REVIEWER

REVIEWER'S COMMENTS:

Meets criteria Does not meet criteria

Date Reviewed: 6/22/16

[Signature]
Reviewer's Signature

Forward to:

Supervisor	Department Director (or Designee)	County Manager	Human Resources
Job Well Done Award	Extra Mile Award Pulling Together Award Excellence in Customer Service Bright Idea Award	Exceptional Cooperation Award Brevard's Best Award Diversity Workforce Achievement Award Volunteer Service Award	Safety Effectiveness Award Employee Service Award Retirement Recognition

Justification for Award of “Brevard’s Best”

to

Eddie Reininger



Brevard County Parks and Recreation Equipment Mechanic Eddie Reininger who foiled a robbery, tackled the suspect and made a positive identification that resulted in an arrest (Eddie is in the middle).

On April 15, 2016, Eddie was on leave shopping for parts to make a home repair. As he passed the Walgreen’s near Wickham and Eau Gallie Blvd, he heard screaming and saw Carolyn Sparks lying on the ground while a man holding a bicycle stood over her. As Eddie drove by, he saw in his rearview mirror the man fleeing on a bicycle with the woman’s purse and a man running after him. Eddie did a quick U-turn and chased down the man with the purse. When he got close enough, Eddie stopped his truck, jumped out and grabbed the man, tackling him to the ground. As he hit the ground, the man dropped the purse which Eddie promptly recovered. Eddie returned the purse to Mrs. Sparks, called the Melbourne Police Department and provided a description of the man to the responding officer.

While being interviewed by police, Eddie made a positive identification of the suspect, which with other witness statements, led to the arrest of the perpetrator. When Mrs. Sparks learned about Eddie’s actions, she went to Wickham Park to personally thank him for his heroic effort.

Eddie demonstrated selflessness and compassion for a robbery victim by intervening without regard to his personal safety. His actions reflect favorably on himself and Brevard County. He clearly deserves recognition as “Brevard’s Best”.

The responding MPD officer's report is attached below.

MELBOURNE POLICE DEPARTMENT
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

NARRATIVE Continuation Page 2 of 2

(Last, First, Middle)

DEFENDANT/JUVENILE: LETTIERE BRIAN

AGENCY REPORT NO.

MP160024769

OBTS NO.

On, April 15th 2016 I Officer Stewart, responded to the Walgreen's located at 1350 N Wickham Road, to a report of a robbery. Upon my arrival I made contact with Carolyn Sparks, who stated she had just left the Walgreens and walked to her car, and as she opened the car door, a man grabbed her purse and started to run away with it. Sparks said that she screamed, and as the man ran away with her purse which was slung over her shoulder by a strap, she was dragged to the ground causing minor abrasions to her arm. I should be noted that Sparks is and elderly female 76 years of age. Sparks stated that the man then rode away on a black bicycle.

I spoke with Edward Reninger, who saw the robbery occur and began to chase the man, and shoved him, knocking him off of the bicycle and causing him to drop the purse. Reninger said he then picked up the purse and returned it to Sparks in the Walgreens parking lot. Reninger provided a sworn audio/video statement and stated he could identify the man if he saw him again. Reninger described the suspect as a white male with short hair, and wearing a set of gold colored teeth. Reninger was transported by Officer Ferguson to 2681 Sadler Ln. to conduct a show-up, where he positively identified Bryan Lettiere as the man he witnessed commit the robbery.

I spoke with another witness, Edith Bowers, who also saw the robbery occur. Bowers stated she heard Sparks scream and observed the male push Sparks to the ground and take her purse, and ride away on a black bicycle. Bowers provided a sworn written statement and also conducted a show-up, where she positively identified Bryan Lettiere as the man she saw commit the robbery.

Sparks stated she did not get a good look at the male, but saw him ride away on a black bicycle. Sparks said the purse cost her over \$200 and she had a wallet inside with an unknown amount of cash inside it, along with various credit and debit cards, a pair of sunglasses valued at over \$100, and other various items, that were all returned with the purse.

Bryan Lettiere was arrested and transported to the Melbourne Police Department for booking, where he was turned over to the Brevard County Sheriff's Office without incident.

Officer's Signature

Officer's Name PRINTED

Off. Stewart

COURT FILE

STATE ATTORNEY

SHERIFF'S RECORDS

JAIL

LAW ENFORCEMENT

DEFENDANT'S COPY

Clerk 126