



TEMPLE TERRACE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

POLICE OFFICER HONORED WITH STATEWIDE AWARD

TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – (7/19/12) – Temple Terrace Police Officer Adam Lebovitz has been selected for the 2011 “*Lee McGehee*” *Police Officer of the Year* award by the Florida Police Chief’s Association (FPCA).

The award was presented last week during the FPCA Summer Conference in Fort Lauderdale. Officer Lebovitz was chosen in the category of medium-sized agencies (31-75 sworn officers). The award recognizes exceptional achievement in any police endeavor, including extraordinary valor, crime prevention, investigative work, juvenile programs and more.

Lebovitz was honored for his brave actions last fall. On Oct. 5, 2011, while off duty attending a wedding ceremony in Ohio, Lebovitz suddenly heard a man shout that he had been stabbed, and then observed two people engaged in a physical altercation in the pool area of the Stay Bridge Suites.

During the altercation, one of the subjects had broken a beer bottle and was using the jagged glass to repeatedly stab the victim in the torso as they fought in the facility’s hot tub. Disregarding his own safety, Lebovitz ran over and grabbed the attacker, maintaining control over him and preventing further injury to the victim. While restraining the attacker, he also gave instructions to witnesses on how to provide first aid to the victim until local police arrived. It was later learned that the victim had sustained a punctured lung, as well as multiple lacerations to the chin, face and torso.

Chief Erik Niehaus of the West Chester Police Department in Ohio later said the department likely would have been dealing with a homicide, if not for the brave and decisive actions of Officer Lebovitz.

Lebovitz, 26, joined the Temple Terrace Police Department in January 2011 and is assigned to the department’s Patrol Division.

The “Lee McGehee” Police Officer of the Year award is named for the late Lee McGehee, a former chief of police for the City of Ocala and former director of the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute. He passed away in 2000.

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