



THE GREATER BETHESDA
CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE



ANNIVERSARY



THE ANNUAL CHAMBER AWARDS



OCTOBER 29, 2020

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October 29, 2020

Welcoming Remarks

Anna Behnam, Behnam & Associates, Chair of The Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce

Breakout Networking

Police Officer of the Year Award

Presented to Officer III Sean Petty

Excellence in Corporate Leadership

Presented to Bean Bag Deli & Catering

Breakout Networking

Raffle Prize

Closing Remarks/Adjourn

THE ANNUAL CHAMBER AWARDS

Police Officer of the Year Award

At the discretion of the Commander of the 2nd District Police Station, this award is presented to the police officer who best exemplifies the Police Department's Motto: PRIDE – Pride, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Excellence.

Recipient: Officer III Sean Petty



Officer Sean Petty is a ten-year veteran of the Montgomery County Police Department and for many years was a member of the 2nd District Community Action Team. Over his career he has built a solid reputation for his work ethic and dedication to the department's mission of providing the highest quality of police services to our community.

In January of 2019 members of the 2nd District Community Action Team received a drug complaint from an apartment manager off Tuckerman Lane. Officer Sean Petty volunteered to handle the complaint and met with the apartment manager. From this first meeting Officer Petty determined that the apartment was being fraudulently rented and that the individual responsible had defrauded the property management company out of thousands of dollars.

Officer Petty began to slowly, but methodically, build a criminal investigation into the renter. The investigation was extremely complex and would have challenged a more seasoned Fraud investigator. Officer Petty collaborated closely with Federal, State, and Local law enforcement agencies throughout the course of the fourteen-month investigation. Over the course of the investigation, Officer Petty identified forty-six individuals who were victims of identity theft, four apartment complexes here in Montgomery County that were victims of fraud and six additional apartment complexes in neighboring jurisdictions who were also victims of fraud.

Officer Petty authored nineteen search warrants, twenty-two State's Attorney's subpoenas, seized two vehicles, seized over \$8,800, recovered hundreds of items of evidence, and charged several individuals and co-conspirators with additional felonies and misdemeanors for their participation in this fraud scheme. Three of the defendants have plead guilty in Montgomery County Circuit Court, while the others await their court dates.

I am incredibly proud of the hard work and tenacity that Officer Petty displayed as he investigated this case. His dedication and sheer efforts to bring justice to the victims in this investigation exemplified the highest standards of service to the community.

It is our privilege to present the Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce Officer of the Year award to Officer Sean Petty.

THE ANNUAL CHAMBER AWARDS

Excellence in Corporate Leadership

The Excellence in Corporate Leadership award is presented to a progressive and forward-thinking business entity that is a member of the Greater Bethesda Chamber. The receiving organization has supported the mission and vision of the Chamber in an extraordinary way without fail and is always there as a foundation for the community and the Chamber.

Recipient: The Bean Bag Deli & Catering

Founded in 1977, this family owned and operated business has been a stalwart leader in the greater Bethesda area for 44 years. In 1980, they opened their downtown Bethesda location, joined the (at the time) B-CC Chamber of Commerce, and have been involved members ever since.



The Bean Bag has always been community focused. As a small business, it has not always been possible to write checks to charitable organizations or for fundraisers, but the company has found ways to give back regardless. They would regularly offer to cater at a discount, provide gift cards as raffle prizes, and put together gift baskets for silent auctions.

Robyn Parks and Mitchell Wool, who took over the business from their parents, are both graduates of Leadership Montgomery's CORE program. Through Leadership Montgomery, they found themselves even more connected to the nonprofit community, and their involvement went up exponentially. They now offer a 10% discount to all nonprofits, and pride themselves on their ability to work with any budget to provide a wonderful event. These policies have allowed The Bean Bag the opportunity to both give back to the nonprofit community and grow their business.

During COVID-19, The Bean Bag has continued with their community engagement. Knowing that times are even harder for nonprofits, they have increased their catering discounts for those organizations. Since the start of the crisis they have been providing free coffee for first responders, and they have joined a program to provide lunches to hospital workers. Over the course of the pandemic, they have provided approximately \$5,000 worth of lunches to hospital workers in Montgomery County.

Their long history, their dedication to the greater Bethesda area, their participation in the Chamber, and their generosity toward the nonprofit community are all markers of true leadership. It is our privilege to present the award for Excellence in Corporate Leadership to The Bean Bag Deli & Catering.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO
OFFICER SEAN PETTY

&

THE BEAN BAG!