



Police Department
CHIEF JOSEPH T. CLARK



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 06/03/09

SUBJECT: TCPD Communications Officer Shannon Corbitt Named Telecommunicator of the Year in Texas

The Colony Police learned this week from Ms. Patti Cross at DENCO 911 that one of our communications officers has again been recognized as a Telecommunicator of the Year in Texas. Two years ago Ms. Tracy Trevino was recognized, and this year Ms. Shannon Corbitt has been recognized as Telecommunicator of the Year, along with eight others across the state. The award is presented to an individual telecommunicator in recognition of their exemplary handling of a specific 911 call for emergency assistance.

Ms. Corbitt was nominated for a call she handled from a local resident who did not speak English and that had a burglar within her home. Ms. Corbitt using a language line operator gave instructions to the caller who was inside an upstairs master bedroom and heard the intruder come into her home. While taking the initial call, she arranged for the translator, determined what was occurring and dispatched police units. The caller advised the suspect was inside her home and coming upstairs toward the bedroom she was in. Ms. Corbitt had the caller go to the bathroom and lock the door, and finally had her hiding in a bathroom closet, while waiting for police units to arrive. The caller was obviously upset, and Ms. Corbitt calmed the caller the entire time, and at times instructed her not to speak and remain very quiet so the suspect would not detect her presence when the suspect was in the master bedroom. Ms. Corbitt passed on the suspect's activity to the responding police officers. When officers arrived, she had the caller remain in the closet until the house was secured and the police came and got her, keeping her on the phone the entire time. When police entered the home, the suspect fled the master bedroom and hid in the attic, not knowing someone was present in the home that had called and was giving the police direction. Because of

Ms. Corbitt, the caller remained safe and the suspect was apprehended with no one harmed.

Ms. Corbitt will be recognized for her outstanding performance at an awards luncheon held in Houston at the Omni Hotel, August 26, 2009. Ms. Corbitt has many years of experience with The Colony Police Department and is a fine professional example of all of our communications staff. We believe we have some of the best communication officers in the state protecting our citizens and this second state recognition illustrates that. Congratulations Communication Officer Corbitt!

Joseph T. Clark
Chief of Police