

THE HEART SAVER INSTITUTE

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July 9, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to recognize the efforts of two security staff members at St. John's University in Queens, NY. On July 3, 2008, a 24-year-old guest of the school was playing basketball on the campus court when he went into a Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Upon being notified by the students with whom this young man was playing, Public Safety Officer Stephen Ptacek immediately responded and began performing CPR.

After Officer Ptacek had performed CPR for approximately two minutes, Sgt. John Amodeo arrived at the scene with one of the campus's AEDs. Sgt. Amodeo took over the breathing and compressions while Officer Ptacek readied the AED. The AED very quickly analyzed and instructed the rescuers to deliver a shock, which was done immediately.

The victim responded very quickly to the shock, and was converted back to a normal rhythm before Emergency Medical Services arrived to transport the victim to the hospital.

The victim had suffered an authentic cardiac arrest, and is receiving further care from a cardiologist. However, if not for the quick actions of these two gentlemen, this young man would have surely died.

I consider it a privilege to commend these two officers, Sgt. John Amodeo and Officer Stephen Ptacek, for a job well done. We hope that there are more Good Samaritans out there who are willing and able to perform such heroic efforts when the time comes.

Robert J. Kammerer
Technical Director

"An Organization For The Promotion Of Heart Saving Techniques"

www.theheartsaver.com

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St. John's Guardian Angels

On July 3, 2008 at 18:03, a young 24-year old male guest of St. John's University collapsed while playing recreational basketball at resident's village. The other players notified security right away. The first to respond to the scene was Public Safety Officer Stephen Ptacek. Officer Ptacek found the victim to be unconscious, unresponsive and not breathing; he promptly began to perform CPR. Sgt. John Amodeo arrived at the scene approximately two minutes later with the HeartSine Samaritan Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) and emergency oxygen. He took over the compressions and breathing for Officer Ptacek. Officer Ptacek assumed responsibility for the setup of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and the positioning of the two chest electrode pads. During that time, the officers reported a condition consistent with agonal breathing; Sgt. Amodeo reported a "gurgling" sound with the victim's release of the rescue breaths. The officers allowed the AED to analyze, and received a "shock advised" prompt. It was later discovered through the download of the AED's memory that the victim was indeed in ventricular fibrillation (cardiac arrest or CA). The officers delivered the shock, and immediately resumed CPR maneuvers as per the AED's instructions until the rescue squad arrived. At this time, the emergency medical technicians administered their own emergency oxygen, removed the chest electrode pads of the aforementioned AED, and then placed the pads of their defibrillator on the victim. The victim was then transported to Mary Immaculate Hospital and was later transferred to Long Island Jewish Hospital and had an Implanted Cardiac Defibrillator (I.C.D) surgically inserted and was discharged from the hospital on July 10, 2008. Once again, quick action and well-trained Good Samaritans saved another life. Well done by all.

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