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## NEWS RELEASE

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### RECRUITS GRADUATE MONMOUTH COUNTY POLICE ACADEMY

**Freehold:** Sheriff Shaun Golden is pleased to announce the graduation of 32 newly sworn law enforcement officers from the Monmouth County Police Academy. On December 16, the last day of training, 18 recruits of the 99th Basic Course for Police Officers and 14 recruits from the 50th Basic Course for Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers received their police training commission certifications. An official ceremony was scheduled to be held at the Monmouth County Police Academy on Dec. 18 but was canceled due to the winter storm.

“These fine men and woman demonstrated their commitment to law enforcement by persevering and successfully completing this intense training amid the many challenges they had to meet as a result of the pandemic,” said Sheriff Golden. “Becoming a member of law enforcement is a great privilege, since there is no higher responsibility, than maintaining public safety. I’m proud of their accomplishments and commend all for a job well done.”

Both classes, which were combined due to COVID-19, consisted of 20 weeks with 780 hours of training and run through the Monmouth County Police Academy. The Basic Course for Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers has full police powers while on duty.

All the recruits trained in patrol concepts, defensive driving, professional development, weaponry and unarmed defense, criminal investigation, ethics, emergency medical care and physical training, along with a host of other courses.

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As a result of training through the pandemic, lectures and presentations were set up in large classroom settings, with adequate distance apart. The recruits and training officers wore face coverings and followed proper protocol at all times.

Upon successful completion of the police training commission approved curriculum, the officers are well prepared to serve their respective law enforcement agencies.

“Through their strong commitment, hard work and dedication during these difficult times, we can be sure that the graduates will serve our residents and communities well, as they begin successful careers in law enforcement,” said Monmouth County Prosecutor Christopher J. Gramiccioni.

“These selfless men and women have committed their professional lives to serving in public safety and I applaud them,” said Freeholder Lillian G. Burry, liaison to the Monmouth County Sheriff’s Office and member of the Police Academy Board of Directors. “Their extensive training and personal character leave them well-prepared for a career in law enforcement and we are truly grateful for their efforts.”

“I would like to thank each of the new police officers for their selfless dedication and service to their community,” said Freeholder Director Thomas A. Arnone. “Please know that you will always have the support of the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders.”

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### **AWARD RECIPIENTS INCLUDE**

#### **Academic Award**

Joseph P. McGovern/50<sup>th</sup> SLEO II  
Sea Bright PD

#### **Marksmanship Award/Outstanding Award**

Nicholas M. Racanelli/99<sup>th</sup>BCPO  
Stafford Township PD

#### **Physical Training Award**

Gordon J. VonSchmidt/99<sup>th</sup>BCPO

Stafford Township PD

**Traffic Officers Association Award**

Nicholas Massaro/50<sup>th</sup> SLEO II  
Keyport PD

**Merit Award**

Jeffrey T. Lewandowski/50<sup>th</sup> SLEO II  
Spring Lake PD