



# New Britain Police Department

125 Columbus Boulevard  
New Britain, CT 06052



## **Chief William Gagliardi**

Press Release

2/8/12

Subject: Officer of the Year

Sergeant Tracy Baden, an eighteen year veteran of the New Britain Police Department, has been awarded "Officer of Year by the Connecticut Association of Women Police (CAWP). Sergeant Baden will be formally honored at an awards banquet sponsored by the CAWP on March 22, 2012.

Sergeant Tracy Baden is the supervisor of the Youth Bureau, a very busy unit within then the NBPD Criminal Investigation Division. Sergeant Baden has served in this capacity since 2004. In the Youth Bureau Sergeant Baden leads a team of four detectives who investigate crimes committed by or against children. The majority of the Youth Bureau's work involves investigating the physical or sexual abuse of children.

Sergeant Tracy Baden has been recognized for her leadership, investigative excellence, and her commitment both to the agency and the community. Sergeant Tracy Baden's accomplishments are numerous. Sergeant Tracy Baden was hired in 1994 and served as a Patrol Officer until January 1999. Sergeant Baden was elevated to Acting Detective in 1999 and was assigned to the Youth Bureau. In 2001 Sergeant Baden was promoted to Detective. In 2004 Tracy Baden was promoted to Sergeant and took over the supervisory duties of the Youth Bureau. Sergeant Baden is also a long standing member of the New Britain Juvenile Review Board (JRB).

Sergeant Tracy Baden also is a member of a team of area juvenile sexual/physical assault investigators which meets monthly at Farmington PD. At times Sergeant Baden provides training for this team as well. Sergeant Tracy Baden has been a member of the Central Connecticut Multi-Interdisciplinary (MIT) Team since 2001. She has served as member of the team's executive committee upon becoming since 2004 and in 2011 was appointed the Chairperson for the team.

Sergeant Baden is a POSTC Certified Instructor and has instructed countless officers in the NBPD and other agencies across the state. Sergeant Tracy Baden instructs academy recruits and recertification training in the following areas: Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and Neglect, Hate Bias, Juvenile Law and Human Trafficking.

Sergeant Baden was recently trained as an instructor on the topic of Minimal Facts for First Responders hosted by The Governor's Task Force on Justice for Abused Children. As a result

she also became POST certified to instruct Minimal Facts for First Responders (Police and DCF). Sergeant Tracy is also certified to present Minimal Facts training to school staff, day care providers, therapist, counselors, and other clinical providers.

In the community, Sergeant Baden has been also proven her high level of commitment. For the past several years Sergeant Baden has been the Law Enforcement trainer for the YWCA SACS (Sexual Assault Crisis Service) volunteers, providing instruction in Police Response to Sexual Assaults for all SACS volunteers.

Approximately twice a school year Sergeant Tracy Baden organizes community meetings with the Superintendent of Schools, Deans of Discipline, School Security Officers, Juvenile Probation and Parole Officers, Juvenile Detention Officers, the SRO's and Youth Bureau detectives to discuss any school related problems, gangs, and trends. Plans of how to deal with these issues are discussed at these meetings hosted by Sergeant Baden and held due to her initiative.

Sergeant Tracy Baden has also applied for and has been awarded grants to the benefit of the community and the City of New Britain. For three consecutive years Sergeant Baden has secured an OPM Juvenile Justice Grant which supports a program she created to build a bridge between the New Britain Police Department and local residential facility for adolescents. In this program run by Sergeant Baden, police officers interact with the adolescent residents and staff from the adolescent facility. Sergeant Tracy Baden meets with the kids weekly during which time they interact with them in various ways such as sports, board games, movies, or even baking. Once a month Sergeant Baden organizes and participates in off grounds activities with the children and staff at that facility. These activities have included roller-skating, laser tag, bowling etc.

Sergeant Tracy Baden has also been observed to be an outstanding investigator. Sergeant Baden is a "Working Sergeant" as she not only supervises the work of her detectives, but she is also assigned cases of abuse or neglect to investigate.

The entire New Britain Police Department congratulates Sergeant Baden for this well-deserved honor and is proud of all she has achieved.

A/Captain James Wardwell  
Criminal Investigation Division  
New Britain Police Department