**Award of Valor (Public Safety Officer Borden Sarasota Memorial)**

**Plaque and $100 Amazon Gift Card**

Sponsored by Critical Arc

On May 16, 2023, Officer James Borden responded to a call for service for a combative patient that medical staff needed to administer medications to. Officer Borden remained on standby while medical staff attempted to administer medications. The patient retrieved a flashlight from her purse and began swinging it at the nurse. Officer Borden intervened and secured the patient and flashlight without injury to the patient or medical staff.

Once medical staff had administered medications to the patient, Officer Borden remained on standby in the room. The patient retrieved a metal knife with a serrated edge off her dinner tray, gripped the knife with a closed fist, holding it above her shoulder with the blade pointed towards staff and Officer Borden. The patient then began advancing towards Officer Borden with the knife still raised above her shoulder. Officer Borden secured the patient’s wrist and was able to successfully remove the knife from her grip without injury to staff, the patient or himself. It should be noted that Officer Borden was unarmed, acted quickly, decisively and without hesitation.

Officer Borden started with the Sarasota Memorial Hospital Public Safety Department, February of this year, and quickly gained knowledge and confidence to be successful in his role. Officer Borden reacted without hesitation, putting himself at risk to protect staff and to keep the patient safe. Officer Borden showed confidence, courage, and bravery, honoring the SMH Public Safety mission statement to “Protect Those That Heal”.

For his bravery and quick actions Public Safety Officer James Borden is hereby awarded the 2023 IAHSS West Central Florida Chapter award of Valor. Congratulations!