**Award of Valor (Public Safety Lieutenant Crook BayCare)**

**Plaque and $100 Amazon Gift Card**

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During the month of July 2023, Lieutenant Crook was approached by an individual in the lobby of St. Joseph’s Hospital in Tampa. The individual handed him a note and said I want you to have this. Lieutenant Crook opened the note and read it. The note said, “I don’t want to hurt anybody else. I have a knife and I want to harm myself.”

The individual turned around, walked outside of the lobby, and sat on a bench. Lieutenant Crook followed him outside and called for assistance from TPD and clinical staff. While waiting for additional support, Lt. Crook began to have a dialogue with him. He was finally able to establish a rapport with the individual and was able to deescalate the situation in such a way that the individual voluntarily surrendered the knife to Lieutenant Crook. Lieutenant Crook facilitated the provision of care that the individual needed and was able to get him transported to the Emergency Department for a mental health evaluation without incident or harm to himself or anyone else.

BayCare Public Safety officers are unarmed. Lieutenant Crook not only saved the life of this individual, but he also put himself in potential peril while doing so.

Lieutenant Crook is a dedicated security professional who repeatedly goes above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that his job not only gets done, but gets it done properly. For his bravery in this situation and ability to save this patient without causing harm to the patient or anyone else, Lt. Stu Crook is hereby awarded the 2023 IAHSS West Central Florida Chapter award of Valor. Congratulations!