

## **Life Saving Award Officer William Edwards**

On Sunday September 21, 2009, Officer Edwards was patrolling his assigned zone when he observed a vehicle parked on the second floor of the Broward County Library parking garage. Officer Edwards recognized the vehicle from a previous encounter from several weeks earlier. Officer Edwards approached the vehicle and spoke with the driver who said "You should leave, I'm going to end it all." Officer Edwards observed the driver was holding a gun pointed at his chest. Officer Edwards retreated to cover and requested assistance.

Members of the Plantation Police Department's Crisis Response Team arrived on the scene and tried to establish communications with the suicidal driver. Before officers could intervene, they heard a single gunshot from the vehicle and then saw the vehicle door open.

Officers were able to move to the vehicle and secure the person and the gun so Plantation Fire Department paramedics could begin medical treatment. The suicidal man was taken to Broward General Medical Center for treatment of the gunshot and professional treatment. He is expected to survive.

Had Officer Williams not been so diligent it is probable that the man would have shot himself and bled to death. Officer Edwards's actions clearly enabled the man to receive immediate medical attention and eventual professional help. For these reasons he is awarded the Life Saving Award.