

THE SOURCE

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SHELBY TWP.

Police Department honored as 'best dressed' in North America

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The North American Association of Uniform Manufacturers and Distributors recently recognized the Shelby Township Police Department as the "best dressed" department in the nation with fewer than 100 officers.

"This latest recognition for our Police Department is representative of all facets of their operations since Chief Robert Shelide has been in charge," Township Supervisor Richard Stathakis said. "Chief Shelide has inspired and empowered his officers in a way that is inspiring to everyone living and working in Shelby Township."

Shelide said he was ap-
 proached earlier this year by representatives from Nye Uniform, a Grand Rapids-based vendor that works with the Police Department, and urged to enter the NAUMD's "Best Dressed" contest.

"It didn't take us long to answer," he said. "We said yes, we're up to the challenge. I discussed it with Deputy Chief Coil and we decided it would be tasked to Sgt. Jeff Daniel, who is in charge of our uniform command."

"However, Sgt. Daniel is also burdened with being our traffic commander, which is the busiest position we have, and so he had to delegate (the responsibility) to Sgt. Jeffrey Bellomo, who took over the project (in February) and worked on it for about a month."

During that period, Bellomo organized a professional photograph showcasing the various uniforms worn by members of the department. The photo was submitted to the NAUMD, which selected the Shelby Township Police Department in May as the "best dressed" department in North America with a staff between 50 and 100 officers.

"(Shelide) empowered Sgt. Bellomo with this initiative, and Sgt. Bellomo took that opportunity all the way to a nation's best rating," Stathakis said.



SEAN DELANEY – THE SOURCE

Shelby Township Police Sgt. Jeff Daniel and Sgt. Jeffrey Bellomo stand proudly with the photo that won the department recognition as being the "best dressed" police department in the nation with fewer than 100 officers.

"This is further proof that, when we support our officers, firefighters and employees, they are capable of greatness."

Mat Schimmel, a sales manager for Nye Uniform, presented the award on June 29 to Shelide, Daniel, Bellomo and Coil.

"Nye Uniform would like to congratulate the Police Department, the township supervisor, the Board of Trustees, the deputy chief and everyone involved,"

Schimmel said. "For us, this is a major accomplishment. For a smaller department to essentially beat out everybody, it means a lot."

According to NAUMD President Neal Waters, the Public Safety Best Dressed Awards are presented annually to police, fire and sheriff uniform programs in the United States. Independent judges evaluate the submissions based on appearance, functionality for the job, and use of

technology and innovation to determine the best overall uniform programs.

"A well-designed uniform program is distinctive, balances authoritative with approachability, while balancing the need for comfort and functionality for the public servants who wear it," Waters said.

In addition to recognizing the departments, the award also recognizes the distributors and manufacturers involved in the program.

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